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VOL. 26, NO. 24

SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 14, 2018

DECEMBER SUNRISE/SUNSET: 14 7:08 • 5:38 15 7:08 • 5:38 16 7:09 • 5:38 17 7:10 • 5:39 18 7:10 • 5:39 19 7:11 • 5:40 20 7:11 • 5:40

Santa Claus Is On His Way

submitted by Anita Force Marshall

Be on the lookout for Santa Claus, who is making a special visit to the island on Sunday, December 23, thanks to the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club. The Santa Run was started 45 years ago by islander Dick Muench, who is the only founding member remaining of the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club. He had implemented a similar program in Syracuse, New York.

"I thought it would be a great idea to start down here," said Muench. "About 13 years ago, in honor of the holiday's meaning, we started helping Tom Louwers and Friends Who Care by delivering presents to seniors and children on their list, and it has become a really great thing for our community, and everyone – no matter what age – remembers Santa's visit for years to come."

If you'd like to have Santa visit your



Santa will be on his toes delivering lots of gifts to island residents

home while he's on the island, Kiwanis would be happy to schedule a delivery to your special someone, young or old.

Bring the wrapped present or presents

file photo

to Sanibel Fire Station #1, located at 2351 Palm Ridge Road, any time before 5 p.m. on Sunday, December 23.

Make sure each gift has the name,

address and phone number of the recipient clearly written. You may also include a brief note about the person; Santa would appreciate some insight into how well-behaved they have been. This helps Santa personalize his message.

If the gift is being delivered to a condominium unit, detailed address instructions are requested, including a map to show the exact location of the unit in the complex.

Once all the presents are received, elves will sort them into six routes and the deliveries will be made between 6 and 8 p.m. on Sunday, December 23. There are six Santas, each with a different route and each one has an elf and a driver. In the course of the busy night, the six Santa teams make about total 125 stops, with each team doing about 10 stops per hour.

"The driver is in charge of the route, the elf is in charge of the presents and Santa is in charge of the smiles," said Muench. "We hope people will have their cameras ready to capture that memory."

When he visits, Santa will wish the

continued on page 6

Chamber Renovations Completed

by Jeff Lysiak

After a couple of months operating out of a smaller building, the staff and volunteers of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce have moved back into their former facility, which recently underwent a massive renovation project that will bring the structure and its amenities into the 21st century.

The Francis P. Bailey, Jr. Visitor Center, located at 1159 Causeway Road, re-opened last Friday afternoon just in time to celebrate the Sanibel Luminary Holiday Stroll. Benchmark General Contractors performed structural work on the two-story building while Omni Experience installed the technological upgrades.

"When you compare this with the old visitor center, it's night and day," said John Lai, chamber president. "What we were hoping to accomplish with this renovation was two things. First, bring the visitor center into today's technology. And second, keep the coastal cottage feel of this building intact."

According to Lai, the \$200,000 renovation project includes:

Adding 27 5K digital monitors for



John Lai demonstrating how to use one of the new interactive touch-screens

photo by Jeff Lysiak

members to promote their businesses via video, slides or still images;

Adding four touch-screen information kiosks, with local maps, trip itinerary-building programs, and the ability to send that information to visitor phones and email addresses;

Installing a new color scheme – powder blue and white – throughout the first floor, which also includes a large

continued on page 9



Deborah Chase from Norris Furniture with mural artist Pam Brodersen

photo provided

THE TWELVE Designer DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

*On the 14th December
Santa gave to me:*

Elegant rings by Doves

*On the 15th day
Exquisite collections
from Kabana*

- 16th day Santa resting closed
- 17th The Henderson Collection
- 18th The Mazza Company
- 19th Charles Krypell
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- 23rd Beny Sofer
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Magical Luminary For Preschoolers



Hunter Bailey brought his whole list to share with Santa photos provided



Layla Reigert smiles for a picture with Santa and then were greeted by Santa with a booming "Ho, Ho, Ho!" Santa listened to all the children's requests for Christmas and posed for plenty of pictures. It was an amazing night for the youngsters.*

The Luminary Holiday Stroll on the islands was a hit for locals and tourists alike. The students of the Children's Education Center of the Islands sang carols on the steps of Periwinkle Place Shopping Center



Evette, Evanee and Evelyn George tell Santa that their family has been extra good



Ewan Neve was grinning from ear to ear



Grayson Hayes shares a moment with Santa



Turner Zimmerman shared his love with Santa



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Captiva Island Historical Society

Looking Back: Bayview Hotel



Bayview Hotel

photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives

This week's image is Bayview Hotel, later called The Fisherman's Lodge, the Captiva Hotel and The Captiva Lodge, depending on who the owner was at the time. It was built by FA Lane in stages from 1911 to 1915. It burned in 1948.

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

Visit the Captiva Island Historical Society website www.captiva-island-historical-society.org/archives/research to view many more images to bring you closer to Captiva.*

Churches/Temples

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

The Reform Jewish congregation has Friday Shabbat services at 7:30 p.m. (7 p.m. from May to Sept.) in Fellowship Hall of Sanibel Congregational UCC. Rabbi Stephen Fuchs, President Alan Lessack. www.batyam.org, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 579-0296.

HISTORIC CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

The Rev. Dr. John N. Cedarleaf Services every Sunday 11 a.m. November 11, 2018 thru April 28, 2019. 11580 Chapin Lane, Captiva, 472-1646.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Sunday 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Wednesday evening meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading room open, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (November through March), Friday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (summer hours). 2950 West Gulf Drive, 472-8684.

SANIBEL FELLOWSHIP, sbc

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

SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

9 a.m. Traditional in the main sanctuary, 11 a.m. Childcare available at all services. 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684.

SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Ellen Sloan, Rector. Saturday Eucharist 5 p.m. Sunday Eucharist 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. (until May 20). Tuesday Morning Prayer 9 a.m. Wednesday Healing Eucharist 9 a.m. Prayer and Potluck first Wednesdays 6 p.m. Taizé Service third Wednesdays 6 p.m., www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

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



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The Community House presents the second of its
COMMUNITY INTERESTS SERIES

Monday, December 17 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Red Tide - What are we doing?
What should we be doing?**

YOU ask the experts

A panel discussion with those on the front line of our water issues.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend

Attention all SCA members:
Come early 6:30 p.m. for members reception.
Enjoy a beverage and preferred seating.

We need YOU and YOUR questions

\$5 donation suggested



The Community House
SANIBEL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Telephone: (239) 472-2155 • 2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957
info@SanibelCommunityHouse.net • www.SanibelCommunityHouse.net

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Mary, Joseph and Jesus

photo provided

Christmas Performance At Sanibel Church

The community is invited to see the Christmas story come alive in a presentation with drama and music at Sanibel Community Church on Sunday, December 16 at 6 p.m. There will be new and traditional songs of Christmas as you witness the Christmas message unfold before you

in the dramatic presentation, entitled *A Christmas Awakening*. Following the performance, there will be a time of fellowship under the stars and Christmas lights in the courtyard. Tables will be filled with treats, and the air will be filled with songs of Christmas to celebrate the season.

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

Service Offers Hope During Holidays

Community members and friends are invited to a service of Shadows and Hope this holiday season on Sunday, December 16 at 4 p.m. at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. The church offers this annual service as a space to retreat from the frenzy of the Christmas season with others who are at times finding it difficult to find the "merry" in Christmas, whatever the reason. The lights and carols accompanying constant wishes of "Merry Christmas" can leave some feeling as if there is no place in these weeks for their struggles or pain. This service offers a place where those are accepted and welcomed.

This is not a mournful or sad service. It is a quiet service, which acknowledges pain and struggle as part of the season. Hymns, prayers and poems will be shared. There will also be an opportunity for those who wish to light a candle in remembrance of a loved one or in recognition of personal struggle.

The service will be held in the sanctuary at the church, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way. It will be followed by a light dessert served afterwards in Fellowship Hall.

For more information, contact the church office at 472-0497.

needs ages 14 and older, hosted by local churches in all 50 states and across the globe all on one night. SCC is proud to be a part of this worldwide movement that God is using as a catalyst to change how culture embraces people with special needs and to rally the church worldwide to stand up for those who are differently abled.

Night to Shine is sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. It is anticipated that the event will take place in 700 locations this coming February, including Sanibel, Cape Coral and Naples. Over 90,000 special guests will be celebrated and more than 175,000 volunteers will be registered to assist. For more information on the movement, visit <http://www.timtebowfoundation.org/index.php/night-to-shine/>.

Guest and volunteer registration is now now for the Sanibel location at www.swfnighttoshine.com.

The entire night is free for guests and their parents/caregivers and includes prom night attire, entry on a red carpet, crowning as a king or queen, music, dancing, dinner and a Tim Tebow gift bag.

From page 1

Santa Claus

entire household a Merry Christmas and will personally deliver gifts to each special someone. In the past, some of the deliveries have occurred at large parties where a chair is ready for Santa once he arrives, where he will sit and talk to guests.

If you are celebrating Christmas on the island and if you have children, grandchildren or grandparents staying at your house who would love a visit from St. Nick, Kiwanis can help you make their holiday memorable.

"I really enjoy seeing all the kids' smiling faces – they get so excited about seeing Santa," added Muench. "People always tell me how special Santa's visit was to their loved ones. It's so much fun for everybody, including Santa."

For questions or more information, call Dick Muench at 472-2812.

Registration Now Open For Night To Shine

Sanibel Community Church (SCC) is joining over 500 churches around the world already registered to host Night to Shine 2019 simultaneously on Friday, February 8. Night to Shine is a prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ
Presents

A HOLIDAY SEASON OF SERVICES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 • Fourth Sunday in Advent

7:45 a.m. Chapel Worship Service
9:00 a.m. Blended Worship
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
5:00 p.m.

ANNUAL LIGHTHOUSE BEACH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
Carols, Candles, the Christmas Story
A free-will offering will benefit F.I.S.H. and The Salvation Army

9:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30 • BELL SUNDAY
7:45, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. worship in our Sanctuary

SANIBEL
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED
CHURCH
CHRIST

2050 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957
(239) 472-0497
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Children's Service & Pageant
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Christmas Day

10:00 in the morning
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The Rev. Dr. Ellen Sloan
2304 Periwinkle Way • Sanibel
[239] 472-2173 • www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org

Auxiliary Holds Bake Sale For FISH



From left, Sarah Hird, Maria Espinoza, Kim Radloff and Michaela Hickey photo by Jeff Lysiak

Members of the American Legion Post 123 Ladies Auxiliary held a two-day bake sale on October 26 and 27, dedicating proceeds from the sale to FISH of SanCap. Last week, three members of the group presented a \$1,000 check to FISH Food Pantry Manager Maria Espinoza.✽

Holiday Fun Days At Rec Center

The Sanibel Recreation Center invites students to chill out with friends and have some frosty fun during this year's winter break. Highlights include on-island field trips, crafts, games and a variety of frozen holiday treats.

The schedule will consist of three Half-Day Fun Days and eight Fun Days this year. Half-Day Fun Days are available to families seeking child care on school half days; these days are included at no charge for children currently enrolled in the After School program. Note: there will be no Fun Days on December 24, 25 and 31 and on January 1.

The Half-Day Fun Day program operates from 12:10 to 5:30 p.m. and full Fun Days will operate from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Enrollment is available for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Each child will need to bring a swim suit and towel, and his or her own lunch for the day. Register in advance and receive the "early bird" rate. For more information, contact the City of Sanibel Recreation Department at 472-0345.

Half-Day Fun Day dates are Wednesday through Friday, December 19, 20 and 21. Early bird rates for members are \$30 and non-members

are \$40; call for deadlines. Regular rates are \$36 and non-members are \$48.

Full Fun Day dates are Wednesday through Friday, December 26, 27 and 28 as well as Wednesday through Friday, January 2, 3 and 4 along with Monday and Tuesday, January 7 and 8. Early bird rates for members are \$30 and non-members are \$40; call for deadlines. Regular rates are \$36 and non-members are \$48.

The Sanibel Recreation Center is located at 3880 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Daily, weekly and annual memberships are available. For more information, visit www.mysanibel.com.✽

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Planning Commissioner Steps Down

by Jeff Lysiak

After more than a dozen years on the Sanibel Planning Commission, including the last four-plus years serving as chairman of the seven-member panel, Dr. Phillip Marks officially announced that he is stepping down during Tuesday's meeting.

"It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve on the planning commission and later be elected to chair," said Marks, who moved with his wife, Susie, to Sanibel in 2003. "With the loss of my wife, Susie, over two years ago, I have decided to move to Shell Point but keep a strong relationship with Sanibel and all its amenities, cultural vitality and friends made over the past decade and a half."

According to Sanibel's city charter, all members of the planning commission must be full-time island residents. Dr. Marks noted that the real estate closing date on his house is December 19, thus requiring his resignation.

A native of Arkansas, Dr. Marks graduated from Tulane University with both a bachelor's degree and doctorate. He served as a flight surgeon with the United States Air Force and practiced medicine in California for more than 35 years. During his residency in anesthesiology at the University of Southern California Medical Center, he earned the Resident of the Year Award from the Guedel Society.

In addition to his service with the city's planning commission, Dr. Marks serves on the Community Housing and Resources (CHR) Board of Directors. He is a master gardener, fisherman and avid reader.

During his farewell remarks to his fellow commissioners, Dr. Marks called the planning department's relationship with the city council, City Manager Judie Zimomra and her staff "harmonious and productive." He also promised to continue to support the island's nonprofits, library and community organizations.

"I have learned so much about how our wonderful city operates efficiently and openly, with a superb city staff,



Surrounded by his fellow Sanibel Planning Commission members and Councilwoman Holly Smith, Dr. Phillip Marks, seated center, was presented with a framed certificate of appreciation and a Notice To Stop Work order from his colleagues

photos by Jeff Lysiak

city council and volunteers," he added. "Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the planning commission."

Vice Chair Dirk deWerff, who last month announced his intention to retire as a member of the commission, thanked Dr. Marks for his strong leadership. "We all respect you and respect your decision," he said.

After several other commissioners offered their well wishes, Councilwoman Holly Smith presented Dr. Marks with a certificate of appreciation while Roy Gibson, senior planner for the city, delivered a Notice To Stop Work order, given to longtime planning commission members upon their retirement. Signed by all nine members of the planning department, the document saluted his "stewardship of Sanibel's Vision Statement" and his invaluable assistance to colleagues and friends everywhere.

Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, all those in attendance at MacKenzie Hall gave Dr. Marks a standing ovation.*



Dr. Phillip Marks receives a certificate of appreciation from Councilwoman Holly Smith

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Reduced Subdivision Plan Gets Approval

by Jeff Lysiak

The development permit application to subdivide a 4.56-acre West Gulf Drive property, which was originally intended to be separated into four individual parcels, was unanimously approved during Tuesday's Sanibel Planning Commission session after the applicant reduced the proposal to three individual parcels.

In a continuation of the public hearing from last month's meeting, City Planner Benjamin Pople and attorney Steven Hartsell, speaking on behalf of property owners Swanson Family Investments, LLC, presented the revised application for the now undeveloped lot at 3869 West Gulf Drive. On November 13, a lengthy discussion on the matter – along with several neighboring residents who spoke in opposition to the initial minor subdivision proposal – concluded with the applicant voluntarily reducing the division of the property from four parcels to three.

The main objection to the proposed four-lot subdivision was the narrow (78.22 feet) width of each parcel, which would likely not allow a residence that conforms with the rhythm and harmony of the neighborhood to be constructed. In the surrounding West Gulf Drive neighborhood, most parcels range from 95 to 115 feet in width.

Pople delivered a brief staff report,

during which he stated the revised subdivision plat proposed three parcels of equal 104.7 feet in width. "With proposed lots at nearly 105 feet in width, planning staff has no concerns about the lot widths constraining design and construction of residences that could be incompatible with or that could interrupt the West Gulf Drive neighborhood's existing development pattern," the staff report reads, in part.

Hartsell had no objections to the staff report, noting that his clients would accept the 12 recommended conditions for approval.

During public comment on the application, resident Bob Holder voiced his concerns that the subdivision plan had been reduced "under duress." He challenged that legally, and without a structural proposal before them, the commission should have been required to approve the original four-lot subdivision application.

Commission Chair Dr. Phillip Marks explained that occasionally, commissioners aren't always in agreement with the planning department's staff report, and that public comment on matters before them are taken into consideration. Fellow Commissioner Chuck Ketteman also noted that at last month's meeting, the panel "did not reach a conclusion to deny the application," only offering the applicant an opinion that any structure proposed for the parcels would likely not conform with (Land Development Code) 86-43.

Later, Vice Chair Dirk deWerff made a motion to approve the revised development permit application, which was seconded by Dr. Marks before being approved, 7 to 0.✪

Friends Who Care Needs Volunteer Gift-Wrappers

Friends Who Care, Inc. has been collecting Christmas gifts for children and adults in need on the islands. Volunteers are now needed to help with gift-wrapping at The Community House on Tuesday, December 18 at 2 p.m. and on Wednesday, December 19 at 9 a.m. Adults only; please bring your own scissors.

Many volunteers have joined in the gift collection program, through the Sanibel Post Office, Sanibel Fire and Rescue District, Sanibel City Hall, Shell Islands Garden Club, ABWA, Bailey's General Store, The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, The Sanctuary Golf Club, Center 4 Life, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Bank of the Islands, Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ and Zonta. The local service clubs, Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary, have contributed funds in support of the organization. There is also continued support from many of the local realtors and churches. Other contributions are given from private individuals who donate their time and efforts to make the holiday season brighter for children and adults.

The Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club will host its annual Santa Run on the

evening of Sunday, December 23, delivering the wrapped gifts to children and seniors on the islands.

For more information, call Tom Louwers or Kitty Slocum at 472-5152.

Friends Who Care, Inc. has been assisting island residents since 1983 on an anonymous basis through information from local churches, schools and individuals in the community.✪

From page 1

Chamber

mural created by Sanibel artist Pam Brodersen.

"We did the last big remodel of the building back in 1986," explained Mark Anderson, Benchmark founder and president. "Of course they've done a few tweaks here and there over the past 30 years. But it was time for this to be done – certainly this building is the front door to this community. I'm proud to be a part of it."

"And we came in on time and on budget," said Lai, who noted that the technology upgrades will assist the chamber in its efforts to enhance the visitor experience while moving towards a "green goal" initiative. "By sending our information to their phones or email addresses, we'll be distributing fewer brochures, which will eliminate up to 50 percent less paper."

Open 365 days a year, the Francis P. Bailey, Jr. Visitor Center is utilized by more than 160,000 tourists annually.✪

CHRISTMAS AT SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH



A CHRISTMAS AWAKENING MUSICAL DRAMA

Sunday, December 16, 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary
See the Christmas story unfold before you in drama, Bible readings and song. In this "fresh approach" to present the familiar story of Christmas, hear new and familiar songs which tell the story.
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CHRISTMAS WEEKEND

Sunday, December 23

Family Friendly Worship Services

8 a.m. - Traditional in the Historic Chapel
9 a.m. - Contemporary In The Sanctuary
11 a.m. - Traditional in the Sanctuary

Christmas
Eve Services

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday Evening, December 24

Four Services Of Worship

4 p.m. - Contemporary Service & Kids Moment
6 p.m. - Contemporary Service
**8 p.m. - Traditional Service with Choir
in the Sanctuary**
**11 p.m. - Traditional with Communion
in the Historic Chapel**

Shepherds with their flocks visit at 4, 6 & 8 p.m.
A special offering will be received at all four services for our fellow neighbors who can use a little extra help during the Christmas Season.

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Community House

Business Member Spotlight

The December Business Member of the Month is The Grog Shop, which has signed on as a patron level sponsor. The Sanibel Community Association thanks The Grog Shop team for their support and encourages islanders and visitors to patronize the fine wine, spirits and cigar store in Bailey's Center.

Yoga Classes

Yoga classes have begun and are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The first class, for all levels, begins at 10 a.m.; Chi yoga follows. Cost is \$20 for members and \$18 for guests. For more information, call or visit the website.

Indoor Mini Golf

Indoor mini golf will be open Wednesday, December 26 through Saturday, December 29 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Play 18 holes for \$3 per person. Refreshment will be available.

Hole sponsors include: Maughan Law Group, Billy's Rentals, Bailey's General Store, Mike Kelly, John B. and Jerry's Enterprises. Additional sponsors include: Tom Louwers, Pfeifer Realty Group, Bill Schecker, Carlos Menendez, The Timbers, Captiva Cruises, Dorado Property Management, Doc Ford's, Periwinkle Place, Cathie Lewis, Steve and Mandy Greenstein, Jensen's Twin Palm Marina and Jensen's on the Gulf.

Sponsorships are still available at \$150, which gives you 20 free passes.



Resident Chef Jarred Harris teaching a kids cooking class photos provided

A Night To Remember

The Sanibel Community Association will host its 1927 gala, A Night to Remember, on Friday, January 25 beginning at 6 p.m. It will be a red carpet event with fine dining in The Community House that family, friends and neighbors built nearly a century ago.

Sponsors include: Tommy Williams, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, Bank of The Islands, and Heidrick & Co. Insurance. Sponsorships are still available. Call or visit the website for details.



Kids cooking classes are held on the first Monday of each month

Bourbon Dinner With Loretta Paganini

Loretta Paganini will host the Raw and Finished Bourbon Dinner with Emil on Saturday, January 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. Learn the value of finishing by comparing: Angel's Envy bourbon (finished in port wine barrels); Jefferson Reserve bourbon (raw) and finished in rum barrels; Belle Meade bourbon (raw) and sherry (finished); Whistle Pig Old World finished rye (a blend finished in Sauternes, Madeira, and port barrels). Cost is \$125 per person. Sign up online or at the office.

Black History Display

The Black History display opens Wednesday, January 2 in the Great Hall.

It will hang through Sunday, February 10. This exhibit is part of a traveling exhibit from the Florida Museum of History.

Kids Cooking First Mondays

The next kids cooking class will be held on January 7. Classes are held on the first Monday of the month from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Additional dates are February 4, March 1, April 1 and May 6. Young chefs will learn fundamental nutritional cooking skills, basic kitchen awareness and food preparation. Students will explore different cultures using nutritious whole foods. Cost is \$50 per session or \$175 for four classes when paid in advance. Register online. Scholarships are available, thanks to the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, as well as private individuals. To help provide scholarships, call Teresa at 472-2155.

Shell Crafting

Shell craft lessons are held at 10 a.m. on Mondays. All ages are welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult. Shell Crafters are on site until 1 p.m. on Mondays for those who would like to view or purchase their work.

Honey For Sale

Honey is for sale, harvested from the hive on site, as well as mango chutney, made from locally grown mangoes. Holiday spiced pumpkin chutney is coming soon.

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

American Legion Post 123

UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER/ATTIRE PARTY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 6 P.M.



Come One, Come All

It's that time of year for some holiday cheer at American Legion Post 123 on Sanibel. We will have a potluck, so feel free to bring a dish to share. There will be live music, a 50/50 raffle, awards for the best and worst Ugly Christmas attire and, of course, Jell-O shots. Bring yourself, your friends and that Ugly Christmas sweater. Hope to see you there!

American Legion Post 123 is located at Mile Marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road

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'Ding' Darling Announces 2019 Film Series Lineup

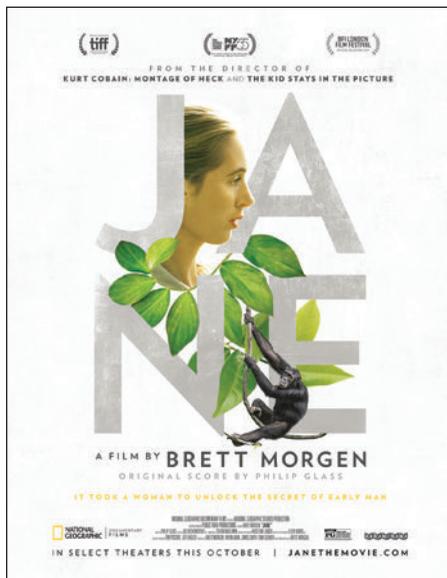
The 7th annual "Ding" Darling Wednesday Film Series kicks off its biweekly showings this winter with a schedule of seven films that explore natural facets from plastic impact and pythons to sea turtles and Jane Goodall.

First up on January 9, *RiverBlue* examines the impact of the fashion industry on water quality. One of the season's highlights, *Jane*, on March 6, tells the story of Jane Goodall and her extraordinary work in the once male-dominated field of chimpanzee research.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge hosts the free film showings in the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center with sponsorship from Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts. Seating is limited and on a first-come basis.

Following are the season's scheduled films. All films begin at 1 p.m. A short discussion will follow each film to allow visitors to gain more from their documentary-viewing experience by listening to other people's points of view and analyzing what they just watched. For full descriptions of the films, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series.

January 9 - *RiverBlue*



The documentary *Jane* features never-before-seen footage of Jane Goodall's work image provided

- January 23 - *Untold Stories: Sanibel I*
 - February 6 - *A Plastic Ocean*
 - February 20 - *Saving Sea Turtles: Preventing Extinction*
 - March 6 - *Jane*
 - March 20 - *Invasion of the Giant Pythons*
 - April 3 - *Saving Atlantis*
- To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit www.dingdarling.society.org or contact Executive Director Birgie Miller at 472-1100 ext. 4 or by email at dingdarlingsociety@gmail.com.✧

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you Sanibel and Captiva residents and visitors. Thank you Sanibel and Captiva businesses, foundations, organizations and municipalities. Thank you Sanibel and Captiva volunteers. FISH of SanCap cannot say thank you enough for your generous support of our mission, programs, services and workshops to benefit our island neighbors, workers and visitors.

At FISH, our vision is to enrich the lives of everyone on Sanibel and Captiva islands through an array of food programs, island based workshops, social services and helping hands. FISH answered nearly 15,000 requests for services in 2017, and that number will surely increase for 2018. Many requests are for those seeking resources, medical equipment and transportation, while others have come across hard times, requesting temporary emergency financial assistance. FISH is for everyone, and prides itself on being able to respond to every call or inquiry to the agency, 365 days per year. FISH could not continue to provide the many programs, services and workshops that they do without the support of the entire community.

The generous donations of cash, food, in-kind services and time go a long way to help FISH bring much needed services to Sanibel and Captiva islands. These donations have made a real difference in the lives of our neighbors and visitors. Thanks to the community, FISH can

continue to help our neighbors navigate through disastrous times (red tide/blue-green algae), through times of crisis (medical emergencies, job loss), through self-improvement actions (continuing education scholarships, tutoring, youth scholarships) and so much more. Our neighbors' successes are yours too, and we hope you are proud of your achievements.

If you are not familiar with FISH of SanCap, stop by the walk-in center, 2430 Periwinkle Way, for a tour so you can meet the staff and see firsthand how the agency works to better the community. If you would like to stay up-to-date with what's going on at FISH, sign up for the newsletter at www.fishofsancap.org.

Again, thank you for all you do for FISH of SanCap.✧

Shoes And Socks For Veterans Drive-Through

On Sunday, December 16 from 2 to 4 p.m., there will be a drive-through at Bailey's General Store to drop off shoes and socks for homeless veterans. The goal is to receive 200 pairs of shoes; work boots, sneakers and dress shoes. The collection is coordinated by Sanibel Shoes for Homeless Veterans.

Bailey's General Store is located at the corner of Periwinkle Way and Tarpon Bay Road. For more information, call Dan Perkins at 973-687-4826.✧



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Schinus terebinthifolia
Photo by Paul L. Redfearn, Jr.



Schinus terebinthifolius
Photo by Shirley Denton

Brazilian pepper berries

City Of Sanibel Vegetation Committee

How To Control The Invasive Brazilian Pepper

If you are a long time resident or visitor to Sanibel, most likely you know about Brazilian pepper, while those with less history may not. If you are unfamiliar with the plant, here's what you need to know about this infamous plant.

Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) is considered a Category I invasive plant by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, and is one of the most

photos provided

aggressive invasive exotic plants in Florida infesting over 700,000 acres. Its' dense canopy shades out other native species, and it invades the aquatic and terrestrial habitats of the wildlife that depend on the land and water for their survival.

In the 1990s, a city-appointed committee studied habitat issues in conjunction with the development of the Sanibel comprehensive surface water management system. The conclusion was that Sanibel's wetland habitat had decreased significantly since the 1950s due to fire suppression, Brazilian pepper and other hardwood invasion, and a decreased wet season water table. Thus, in 1996, Sanibel City Council adopted The Brazilian

Brazilian pepper tree

Pepper Eradication Program with a goal to rid the entire island of this invasive exotic plant. Over the years, the program, combined with new policies and systems to manage surface water as well as the prescribed burn program, has resulted in the near elimination of this invasive pest. However, it is an ongoing battle.

If you are driving around Fort Myers in the winter, and you see beautiful red berries, it is probably Brazilian pepper. As you can imagine, those bright red berries are very attractive to birds and mammals who act as perfect dispersal agents. Thus, Brazilian pepper will continue to be an occasional nuisance. Be vigilant and prevent its spread.

Since plant identification can be challenging, here's what you should look for: Brazilian pepper is a shrub or small tree which can grow up to 40 feet. There are male and female plants, but only the female bears fruit. The leaves are alternately arranged with 1- to 2-inch long, elliptical and finely toothed leaflets. The serrated leaves are reminiscent of the wild rose leaves up north. The mid-rib of the leaf is reddish, and flower clusters which are white and 2 to 3 inches long, appear from September through November. The fruit is clustered and initially green,

becoming bright red when ripe (usually by December). This timeframe distinguishes this non-native plant from native vegetation which generally blooms and bears fruit in the spring through fall. If you crush a leaf of the Brazilian pepper, it smells peppery or like turpentine, but be careful since it is a relative of the poison ivy family, and therefore, its sap can cause an allergic reaction.

In order to successfully control Brazilian pepper, all Brazilian pepper tree stumps must be treated with an appropriate herbicide. In most cases, a product containing the active ingredient triclopyr is the best choice for controlling Brazilian pepper; however, the methods of application may vary depending on the maturity of the pepper being treated. Mature trees should be cut as close to the ground as possible. Within five minutes, herbicide should be applied to the cambium (living tissue just inside the bark). Small seedlings or re-sprouts may be hand pulled or treated with foliar treatment. Brazilian pepper can be removed from developed property without a permit; however, a vegetation permit is required to remove pepper from a vacant parcel.

Brazilian pepper made its way to

continued on page 16

Sanibel Shoes for Homeless Veterans



We kicked off year two of Sanibel shoes and socks for homeless veterans and, within the first week, we added additional drop-off sights.

Below are places that offer a drop-off box to deposit shoes and socks.

THE ORIGINAL CENTERS:

**Bailey's General Store • The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club
American Legion Post 123**

NEW ADDITIONS:

**The Community House • 2173 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel Fire & Rescue District on Palm Ridge Road
Sanibel Public Library • 770 Dunlop Road
FISH of SanCap • 2430-B Periwinkle Way**

We will continue to collect shoes and socks from now until the Sunday before Christmas. If you want to give veterans the opportunity to get a job, bring dress shoes, work boots or sneakers and socks to one of the drop-off centers.

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Non-native fish-tail sword fern was introduced to Florida as an ornamental. It belongs to the same genus as the very popular native wild Boston fern. photos by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart Fish-tail Sword Fern

by Gerri Reaves

Non-native fish-tail sword fern (*Nephrolepis falcata*) is a member of the wood fern family and belongs to the genus, *Nephrolepis*, as do many of Florida's native ferns.

Perhaps the most familiar *Nephrolepis* of those natives is wild Boston fern (*N. exalta*), also called sword fern, the most

plentiful native fern in the lower half of the state.

The nursery industry's fern market is dominated by *Nephrolepis* species, and numerous cultivars have been developed.

Fish-tail, like the other members of the genus, are epiphytes, or air plants. Thus, they can grow on tree limbs, in crevices, or on the ground.

This native of the Philippines was introduced to Florida in the 1920s and 1930s as an ornamental.

It became popular because of the forked or fish-tail-like ends of the flat divided fronds, a distinguishing feature.



The ends of the pinnae fork one to three times for a frilly fish-tail effect

Sometimes the plant is double- or triple-forked, an effect that gives it another common name, fancy frill.

The pinnae, or leaflets, are serrated and yellow-green.

The round sori, or clusters of spore-producing organs, appear along the edge of the pinna's underside. It grows 2 1/2 to 3 feet tall.

While fish-tail has escaped cultivation

and quickly spreads via rhizomes, root-like horizontal stems, it has not become invasive.

Nevertheless, this fast-growing frilly fern might be best enjoyed as a pot plant or a hanging basket.

In fact, its cascading effect is attractive on a tall stand or in a hanger. Yet another common name, weeping sword-fern, refers to this cascading effect.

The fronds can be used in flower arrangements.

It has a variety of uses in traditional medicine.

Ferns excel at creating a beautiful tropical look in the garden – and they are low maintenance besides.

But the popularity of *Nephrolepis* species has spurred the development of so many hybrids and cultivars that a problem has resulted: their similarity to native ferns makes it easy to confuse the non-natives with the natives.

Thus, non-natives are sometimes sold as natives.

When choosing ferns for your yard, consider including only native ones. A nursery specializing in native plants can advise you on the best species for your yard's soil, moisture and light conditions.

Sources: *The Ferns of Florida* by Gil Nelson, www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu, and www.researchgate.net.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.*

From page 14

Brazilian Pepper

Florida from South America in the mid-1800s and is native to Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil. It was brought here as an ornamental plant, and its brilliant green foliage and bright red berries are often used in Christmas decorations. The introduction of Brazilian pepper to south Florida serves as another cautionary tale of why non-native plant and animal species can be so detrimental to the environment. In 1996, along with the Brazilian Pepper Eradication Program, Sanibel City Council enacted legislation regulating seven other invasive exotic plant species – air potato, earleaf acacia, exotic inkberry, java plum, lead tree, mother-in-law's tongue and melaleuca. These eight are the worst of the invasive exotics on Sanibel, and may not be intentionally planted or transplanted on Sanibel. When applying for any city

development permits, conditions of the permit require removal of these eight plants in perpetuity.

The vegetation committee hosts free plant walks from November to April at city hall to view and discuss the use of native plants. All are welcome.

To view pictures of the Invasive Exotic Plants Worst of the Worst or the city's *The Alien Invasion* brochure, visit www.mysanibel.com/Departments/Natural-Resources/Vegetation-Information/Exotic-Vegetation/Other-Invasive-Exotic-Vegetation.

The Natural Resources Department section of the city's website, www.mysanibel.com, offers information on 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 committee also offers free native plant tours. For more information, call 472-3700.*

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Woodring 100th Anniversary Exhibition Coming To 'Ding' Darling



Historic photographs by Charlie McCullough chronicle the Woodring home and family on Sanibel Island photo courtesy www.charliemcculloughphotography.com

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Woodring home, now encompassed within JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge boundaries, the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) will partner with the Woodring family for a two-month Woodring 100th Anniversary Exhibition in the admission-free Visitor & Education Center auditorium.

The exhibition's free public unveiling will take place at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, January 23. At 10 a.m., as part of a seated program, nationally renowned Teddy Roosevelt repressor Joe Wiegand will make a guest appearance, and Ralph Woodring will recount stories about growing up in the home and on the island. Another presentation will take place at 3 p.m., with a free showing of the WGPU film *Untold Stories: Sanibel I* at 1 p.m.

Through March 25, the exhibition will feature historic black-and-white images by the late Charlie McCullough, a professional photographer and neighbor to the Woodrings, and artifacts from the Woodring home and the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village that chronicle the landmark and the family's life on Sanibel. Costumed museum docents will be on hand to interpret exhibits on the morning of January 23.

During the exhibition, the Refuge

Nature Store will be selling copies of McCullough's book *Sanibel Memories* and sets of note cards featuring his historic photographs starting in the 1930s. Profits from Nature Store sales benefit refuge education and research projects.

The "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society and Lee County Conservation 20/20 collaborated in acquiring the 6.56-acre Woodring Point property in 2013 with funds raised by a DDWS capital campaign and through funds from the 20/20 program. The refuge manages the Woodring Point property as part of the "Ding" Darling complex.

"We are thrilled to host this temporary exhibit, which will demonstrate the deep history represented by the Woodring Point property and the strength of partnerships in preserving island history and wildlife habitat," said DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller.

The following sponsors are making the Woodring 100th Anniversary Exhibition possible: Gold Level – Mike and Terry Baldwin, Mark and Gretchen Banks, Jim and Patty Sprankle, Ralph and Jean Woodring, Bailey's General Store; Silver Level – The McCullough Family, Mitchell's SandCastles, Pfeifer Realty Group, Sanibel Historical Museum and Village, and Tarpon Bay Explorers.*

inventiveness, skill or simply a way to catch more fish, people seem to love fly tying," said Executive Director Dr. Bruce Neill. "We hope fishermen and creative types alike will join us for this fun evening."

The workshop will be held at Sanibel Sea School's flagship campus, located at 455 Periwinkle Way. No advance registration is required, and \$20 admission may be paid at the door.*

Fly Tying Workshop

On Friday, December 14 from 7 to 9 p.m., Sanibel Sea School will host a fly tying workshop for all skill levels. Equipment and supplies will be provided, and local experts will be available to provide instruction and tips.

"Whether it's the camaraderie,



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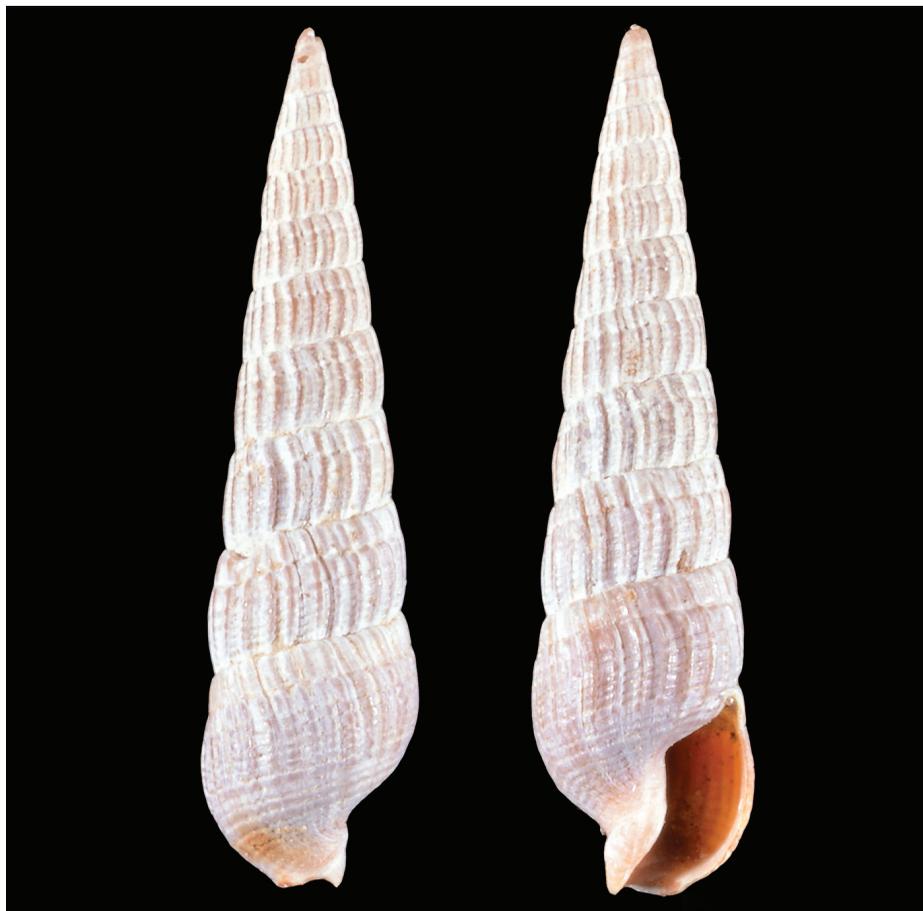
by José H. Leal, PhD, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum Science Director and Curator

The Fine-ribbed Auger, *Terebra protexta* (Conrad, 1846), is the second most

common species among the four species of the auger family Terebridae found on Sanibel and Captiva. Its shell is very similar to that of the more common Eastern Auger, *Terebra dislocata*, but differs from this latter by its smaller size (about 25 mm, or one inch), slightly flatter whorls, usually more numerous ribs and less marked incised sub-sutural constriction. Its color is grayish to grayish-brown, or rarely grayish-purple. The species is found alive in mud or sand flats. Learn more about this species and other local mollusks at www.shellmuseum.org/southwest-florida-shells and www.shellmuseum.org/blog.

Shell Museum Events

See truly giant shells. Watch a live Tank Talk. Take a daily beach walk. Check out our family programs. We are the only natural history museum



The Fine-ribbed Auger, *Terebra protexta*, from Sanibel

photo by José H. Leal

in North America devoted entirely to shells. Drop by and let us inform and inspire you. Visit www.shellmuseum.org or call 395-2233.

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

Shells Found



Karelle Potts photo provided

Karelle Potts from Great Falls, Montana discovered a large lightning whelk and shark's eye while shelling at Lighthouse Beach on a sandbar at low tide. Potts and her husband, Steve, have been visiting Sanibel for many years and always look forward to shelling our wonderful beaches.*

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A Few Hours Can Make All The Difference



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Things can and do change by the day or even hour when it comes to winter fishing in Southwest Florida. This up-and-down pattern is typical of this time of year,

making timing everything when it comes to catching certain species of fish. This week we experienced some of the best catch-and-release snook action in the days just prior to another strong cold front moving through. During the periods of south wind as a front approaches, our snook fishing can be as good as it gets. This proved very true with back to back days of catching several snook over 30 inches along with lots of other snook.

Then, the first day after a cold front, we are blasted with strong northerly winds and cold morning temperatures. With our low temperatures in the high 40s behind this last cold front along with gusty winds, most anglers stayed off the water for at least one full day before temperatures gradually improved. Plummeting water temperatures brought our wide open snook bite to a complete halt in just a few hours and making our fishing all about sheepshead and drum

for the next couple of days.

While fishing with one of my oldest clients, Nick Basilio, and his son visiting for a few days from Pennsylvania this week, we were faced with a morning trip during the passing of a cold front. With this being the only day, they were able to go on the trip but my expectations were a little low due to the weather. Hopefully, our water temperature would hold in the low 70s for at least a few hours so that we could catch snook close to home and hide from the 20 to 30 mile per hour winds.

Working in our favor though was a extreme low tide that bunches these snook up in deeper warmer water. While heading out in the dark to get shiners, the conditions were rough, and you could noticeably feel the air temperature was falling. The bait came easy enough after chumming for about 15 minutes and, with a blacked-out live well, I suddenly felt much better about our chances of having a decent trip.

Hiding in deeper mangrove-sheltered channels around St James to stay out of the direct wind, we caught over 50 snook on the four-hour morning trip. Along with snook up to 26 inches, we caught jacks of all sizes, small grouper and five keeper mangrove snapper. The morning continued to get colder by the hour and, at roughly 11 a.m., the water temperature dropped below 70 degrees and the snook just stopped feeding. A few hours either way during these passing cold fronts of winter can make all the difference in the world. The pattern of the weather's ups and downs will continue all winter long and require the juggling of trips to keep everyone happy.



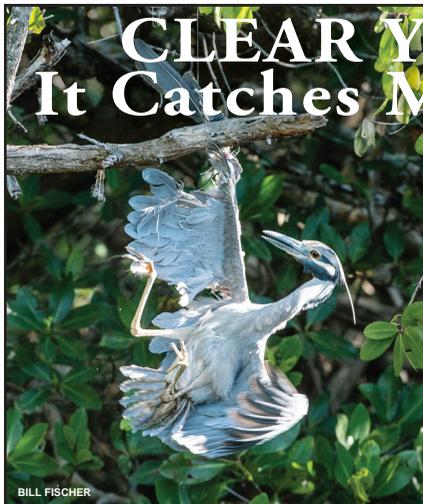
Gary Biltgen with a big snook caught while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell prior to cold front photo provided

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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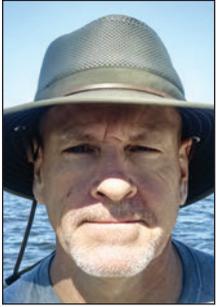
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Dave Doane

CROW Case Of The Week:

Royal Tern



by Bob Petcher

A royal tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) is a seabird that is roughly the size of a crow. It is distinctive by its shaggy black crown and orange dagger-like bill.

Royal terns do not dwell in

trees. Rather, they set up camp in nest scrapes – shallow depressions in the ground. Interestingly, juvenile royal terns leave these nests within one day of hatching and congregate in a group called a crèche. These crèche nurseries will include most all of the chicks within a particular community and sometimes hold thousands of young terns ranging from two days to 35 days old.

On November 26, a royal tern was rescued from the Sanibel Causeway and brought to CROW. The bird was reportedly sitting along the roadway and did not move when approached. At the clinic, veterinarians checked the bird over for injuries, but did not find any by palpating, or feeling, the bird's wings and legs. They did note that the bird had some neurological deficits such as hind limb paresis, mild ataxia and decreased cloacal tone to go along with mild abrasions on its left hock.

The bird was started on a treatment

plan for brevetoxicosis, or red tide poisoning, which included fluid therapy and GI protectants.

"We commonly see that the gastrointestinal tract is affected due to the neurologic effects of the red tide toxin," said Dr. Kyle Abbott, CROW veterinary intern. "The neurotoxin results in the intestines not having normal motility and the gut becoming stagnant. The gastrointestinal protectant medications help treat this while we are getting the intestines to start mobilizing again."

The day after admittance, veterinarians noticed the tern's right wing was droopy. The bird was anesthetized and full x-rays were taken. The radiographs revealed the bird to have a fracture of the shoulder girdle (coracoid and scapula) that was deduced to be due to some form of blunt force trauma.

"The abrasions were likely a result of the same trauma as what caused the fractures, or it could have been from the tern stumbling due to effects of the red tide," Dr. Abbott said. "With an injury like a fracture there is always the potential for underlying red tide toxicosis to cause neurologic signs and result in them flying into a car. This tern initially had mild neurologic signs consistent with being affected by red tide as well as the shoulder girdle fractures."

The patient was placed in a body wrap, and its treatment plan was amended for the injury.

"The body wrap remains in place for the first two weeks or so to allow for the shoulder to build up enough tissue to help stabilize the joint and fractures,"



Patient #18-4377 in a body wrap prior to being humanely euthanized due to a fractured shoulder's inability to heal properly

photo by Brian Bohlman

said Dr. Abbott. "In this tern's case, there were two fractures, and the joint was very unstable. Due to the severity of the fracture, a body wrap may be needed for longer."

After the weekend, more x-rays were taken of the shoulder injury. The results were not great.

"Tern species need perfect flight to succeed in the wild with the extreme diving they must do to catch fish," said Dr. Abbott. "When new radiographs were taken, they showed that the healing process was not going well

for the shoulder. The shoulder had changed to a position where healing was unlikely and the prognosis became poor. Unfortunately, we made the difficult decision to humanely euthanize the tern."

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

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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 the Visitor Education Center at 472-3644 ext. 229 or reservations@crowclinic.org. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Daily presentations are offered at 11 a.m. only. Wildlife Walk hospital tours are offered on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

Friday, December 14, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Friday, December 14, 11 a.m.,

adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Why Animals Come to CROW (daily presentation).

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.

Monday, December 17, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – CROW Case of the Week (daily presentation).

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, December 18, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Virginia Opossums (daily presentation).

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

Wednesday, December 19, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Wednesday, December 19, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Wildlife Rescue 101 (daily presentation).

Have you ever come across wildlife in "distress" but did not know the

appropriate steps to help? Florida is home to more than 700 terrestrial animals and other invertebrates, and they all depend on our sustainable recreational practices to survive. From posturing to vocalizations, animals communicate in a variety of ways and, at times, indicate their need for human assistance. Whether it is deterring visitors from feeding birds on the beach or detaching a pelican from fishing line in the mangroves, this program will cover wildlife rescue assessment as well as handling techniques.

Thursday, December 20, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Thursday, December 20, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Birds of Prey (daily presentation).

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



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THIRSTY THURSDAY HAPPY HOUR

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Middle school photo contest participants with bank, refuge and school staff

photo provided

Photography Contest Winners Announced

The Sanibel School's middle school nature photography contest concluded with an awards ceremony and reception on December 7. This annual school event is a partnership program of the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife

Refuge and Bank of the Islands, which provides medals, cash prizes and exhibition space for the contest. The partnership also extends to Cypress Lake Middle School and Edison National Bank in Fort Myers.

Prior to the awards ceremony, the students visited the refuge with their photography instructor at The Sanibel School, Dr. Terrie Kielborn-Jennings. The lessons continued back in the classroom where Dr. Kielborn-Jennings then taught the students how to enhance their photography using computer software, and

to name their finished pieces creatively.

Ranger Monica Scroggin emceed the event to showcase all the students' artwork at the refuge Visitor Education Center.

Bank of the Islands' vice presidents Willy Ocasio and Rob Lisenbee presented award medals and \$100, \$75 and \$50 cashier's checks to the top three student photographers. The honors went to:

First place – Eighth grader Amanda Cohen for *Sunny Side Up*

Second place – Seventh grader Jessika Laborde for *Catching a Morning Snack*

Third place – Seventh grader Lydia Whalen for *Wasps of the Death Star*
 "We love sponsoring this contest and are always amazed at the quality of the photos," said Ocasio. "We invite all islanders to see them displayed in our Sanibel bank lobby in the new year."

Beginning January 2, Bank of the Islands will host the exhibit of all the student photography in its Sanibel office lobby, located at 1699 Periwinkle Way. Every student participating in the contest will receive a \$1 U.S. Mint gold coin from the bank when they visit the photo display. Student photographers and other visitors are invited to have a freshly baked cookie while viewing the exhibit.✱

Sea School Offers Free Beach Walks

Sanibel Sea School will offer two free guided beach walks during the month of December. The organization's marine science educators will lead walks on Saturday, December 22 and Saturday, December 29 from 9 to 11 a.m. to explore what has washed ashore. They will talk about any interesting organisms and objects found on the beach, share some basic shell biology and answer any questions you might have.

Meet at Sanibel Sea School's flagship campus, located at 455 Periwinkle Way, at 9 a.m. These walks are free and family-friendly; no reservations required.

For more information, visit www.sanibelseaschool.org.✱

Community Housing & Resources is excited to announce our new fundraising series **GIVE BACK WEDNESDAYS #GBW**

COMMUNITY HOUSING and RESOURCES

SUPPORT CHR

SUPPORT LOCAL THIS WINTER

The following Sanibel businesses will be offering a donation to Community Housing & Resources that is funded by you walking through their door and shopping local! Each participating business—including amazing restaurants, resorts, retailers and your community grocer—has selected a date that they will be hosting the GBW fund raiser and donating a portion of their proceeds to CHR.

So, make plans to eat out, shop and play at these generous local businesses on Wednesdays this winter and support CHR.

<p>NOV 14</p> <p>Sanibel Island, Florida</p>	<p>NOV 28</p> <p>Sanibel Island Bar & Grille</p>	<p>DEC 5</p> <p>SPECIAL WINE TASTING IN-STORE</p>
<p>DEC 12</p>	<p>DEC 19</p> <p>SANIBEL ISLAND</p>	
<p>JAN 9</p> <p>OLDE SANIBEL SHOPPES INCLUDING</p>		
<p>JAN 16</p> <p>Sanibel Island, FL</p>	<p>JAN 23</p> <p>island fusion cuisine</p>	<p>JAN 30</p>

NOV 7, DEC 5 AND JAN 2—JOIN US FOR WINE WEDNESDAYS
 On the first Wednesday of each month, a portion of all Wine Sales at Bailey's General Store will be donated to CHR!

Successful Fundraiser For Conservation

Coastal Keepers held a second rendition of its annual fundraiser, The Launch, on November 17 at The Community House. The well-attended celebration included dinner and drinks, silent and live auctions, and a 50/50 raffle. All proceeds from the event will support local conservation initiatives on Sanibel and Captiva.

Guests at The Launch learned about Coastal Keepers' mission, accomplishments and goals for the coming year. Current Coastal Keepers conservation initiatives include Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) and the newly-released I'm A Coastal Keeper, created to inform the community of current environmental issues, raise awareness of solutions and empower individuals to make choices in support of the environment.

In 2018, the Strawless On Sanibel initiative was successfully completed with the passing of a plastic straw ordinance on Sanibel. In the coming year, with the combination of new and



continuing initiatives, Coastal Keepers hopes to continue to help conserve this sanctuary island.

Coastal Keepers operates as a branch of Sanibel Sea School to create and implement conservation initiatives that promote and improve the future of marine resources, and coastal heritage. To learn more, visit www.sancapcoastalkeepers.org.

Coastal Keepers would like to thank the following supporters for making The Launch possible:

Bailey's General Store, Bruce and Evelyn Neill, Chip and Nancy Roach, Dan Hahn Custom Builders, Inc., Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille, *Island Sun* newspaper, Jensen's Twin Palm Resorts, Mary Lou Bailey, Sam Galloway Ford/Lincoln, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, Sanibel Design Center, LLC, Soon Come, Inc., The Brooks Family, The Szymanczyk Family, Tim Smith Brick Pavers, LLC, and Traders 2.*

Optimist Club Raffle Drawing December 18

On Tuesday, December 18, the Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club's annual Island Temptations raffle will be held at The Timbers/ Sanibel Grill at 5 p.m.

Donations are \$10 per ticket, or two for \$20. Two raffle winners will each receive many gift certificates donated by some of the islands' finest restaurants, and most are good for a year.

Each winner can expect about \$700 worth of gift certificates. Ticket donations help the Optimists' many charities for youth, such as college scholarships, recreation center programs and support through other island charities.

The following restaurants have provided certificates:

American Legion Post 123, Bailey's. Blue Giraffe, Cheeburger Cheeburger, Cip's Place, Clam Shack, George & Wendy's, Great White Grill, Joey's Custard, Lighthouse Café, Over Easy Café, Paper Fig Kitchen, The Pecking



Order, Sandbar Restaurant, Sanibel Café, Sanibel Deli & Coffee Factory, Sanibel Fish House, Sweet Melissa's, Tidewater Bistro, The Timbers, Totally Baked and Traders.

Island Temptations raffle tickets are available at the Sanibel Café. Look for sales outside of Bailey's General Store and The Timbers/Sanibel Grill. Tickets will also be available just before the drawing at the Sanibel Grill and from Optimist Club members on the islands.

Winners do not need to be present. For more information, call Randy Carson at 699-8739 or Richard McCurry at 292-4631.*

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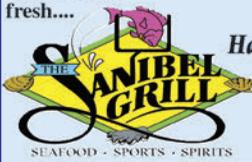
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Peanut Brittle Chocolate Truffles

- 6 ounces peanut brittle, finely crushed
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 4 ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 4 ounces dark chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- Pinch of sea salt

In a small saucepot over medium heat, bring heavy cream to a simmer. Remove from heat and pour into a bowl with the chocolate chips. Tightly cover with plastic wrap for 10 minutes to melt the chocolate. Uncover and add the vanilla, stirring until completely smooth. Place in refrigerator for at least 3 hours in order to set. Using an ice cream scoop or small spoon, scoop out small amounts of chocolate and roll into balls (disposable latex gloves are helpful during this step). Next, roll the truffles into the crushed peanut brittle (or coating of your choice). Place onto a parchment lined baking



Peanut Brittle Chocolate Truffles

sheet and chill to set. Serve at room temperature. Store in an air tight container in the refrigerator for up to 1 week.

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

Fresh From Florida tip... these truffles can be rolled in additional items such as crushed cookies, flaked coconut, or cocoa powder.✪

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.

Traditions on the Beach at Island Inn has live entertainment on Friday with Woody Brubaker and Marvilla Marzan. Dusk performs on Saturday. Woody Brubaker plays on Sunday. Dusk returns on Wednesday. On Thursday, it's Barbara Dexter.

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

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Families can have their picture taken on the beach with Santa

photo provided

Adventures In Paradise is offering Santa's Dolphin and Wildlife Cruise on Christmas Eve. Bring the family and hop aboard one of the three 45-foot Corinthian Power Catamarans, *Dolphin Waters*, *Sun Princess* or *Miss Paradise* as they cruise among the dolphins to visit with Santa where he'll be waiting on Picnic Island with gifts for all the children. Along the way, you can sightsee and learn about the mangrove islands and estuaries where the Calusa Indians once

called home.

Cruises will depart at 10 a.m. on Monday, December 24 and return at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$45 per adult and \$35 per child; reservations are limited. Tickets can be purchased by calling 472-8443 or by visiting www.AdventuresInParadise.com.

Adventures In Paradise Cruises depart from "G" dock at Port Sanibel Marina, located just off Sanibel at 14341 Port Comfort Road.*

Full Moon Paddle And Social Hour With Ocean Tribe

by Kealy McNeal

Ocean Tribe Paddlers organizes a meet-up each month for paddling enthusiasts to enjoy the community of a group paddle, share tips and ideas, and meet new friends to paddle with. On Saturday, December 22, we will be exploring the mangroves around Bowman's Beach. The group will depart at 5:30 p.m. from the Bowman's Beach kayak launch. Those interested in joining the paddle can bring their own paddle craft, or borrow one from us. To reserve a loaner, email oceantribepaddlers@sanibelseaschool.org. Sunset will be at 5:41 p.m. and we will paddle under the light of the full moon. We recommend bringing a flashlight or headlamp.

We expect this paddle to last approximately one and a half hours. We will be returning to the launch site around 7 p.m. Be sure to visit the Ocean Tribe Paddlers Facebook page for any weather-related updates. We will post about any schedule changes at least one hour prior to the event.

Join us for a social hour after the paddle at Doc Ford's Rum Bar and Grille on Sanibel. This is a great opportunity



to chat with like-minded people after spending quality time together on the water.

Our Ocean Tribe Paddlers community is open to everyone, and your first event is free. After that, we request that you purchase a membership via our website.

*Ocean Tribe Paddlers is a club that helps the Southwest Florida paddling community better explore, enjoy and understand the ocean. Visit www.oceantribepaddlers.org or follow on Facebook to learn more.**

Tea Tasting At The Homestead

Florida wild basil, Thai basil, purple basil, lemon basil... who knew there were so many varieties of basil?

On Wednesday, December 19 at 11 a.m., Dee Serage-Century will host an informal gathering at the SCCF Native Landscape and Garden Center to taste basil and tea grown at the Bailey Homestead Preserve, located at 1300 Periwinkle Way.

There will be five species of culinary basil to taste and plants to purchase. Try a cup of Yaupon holly and Roselle tea. The native Yaupon holly is the only North American plant containing caffeine. Roselle is also known as Florida cranberry. Take home some basil for your porch herb garden and small bags of Tea for Two.

No reservations are required and all are welcome.*



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SHELLMUSEUM.ORG/BEACH-WALK

Groundbreaking For New Center At Lovers Key

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service recently joined former Florida Rep. Matt Caldwell, the Friends of Lovers Key State Park (FOLKS) and other local representatives for a groundbreaking ceremony announcing the construction of the new Welcome and Discovery Center at Lovers Key State Park.

The park's citizen support organization, FOLK, was instrumental in helping to secure funding for the center, which is expected to be completed in 2020. DEP received \$4 million in state funding to construct the facility, and FOLKS will provide an additional \$1.5 million for interior enhancements. The nearly 4,000-square-foot elevated Welcome and Discovery Center will feature a community room with seating for 75 visitors, exhibit discovery hall, bookstore, office space, wildlife viewing areas, covered teaching porch, storage rooms, access ramp and catering kitchen.

"The Welcome and Discovery Center shows what can happen when motivated people decide to do something important for Florida's residents and visitors," said Florida State Parks Director Eric Draper. "The center



Welcome and Discovery Center will feature an exhibit hall and wildlife viewing areas photo provided

will connect people to the area's unique natural and cultural resources in new ways. We hope the community will join in supporting the center and Lovers Key State Park with time and money."

"As the second most popular park in the best state park system in the world, the addition of a thoroughly modern visitors center will be a welcomed

addition," said former Florida Rep. Matt Caldwell. "Lovers Key plays host to millions of visitors each year, which present millions of opportunities to educate others about the unique natural blessing we enjoy in Southwest Florida."

"It was some nine years ago that FOLKS took up the challenge of assisting the Park and in leading the

way in the creation of a visitor center building for Lovers Key," said FOLKS President Richard Donnelly. "Little did we realize then the fundraising difficulties and setbacks that were to arise in achieving that goal, but that being said, one can understand the genuine satisfaction and pride that the FOLKS board now feels as we see the ground about to be turned over, signifying the realization of a remarkable dream – the new Welcome and Discovery Center for Lovers Key State Park."

"The Welcome and Discovery Center will be an engaging facility, providing opportunities for visitors to discover more about the unique habitats and wildlife found within the park, identify what they saw during their time at the park and find inspiration for conserving our public lands for generations to come," said Lovers Key State Park Manager Katie Moses. "The centralized location of the center will provide a wonderful community gathering place for visitors to begin their journeys to exploring and discovering all the different recreational opportunities in the park."

Lovers Key State Park encompasses 1,442 acres between Fort Myers and Naples, and is comprised of four barrier islands – Lovers Key, Inner Key, Black Island and Long Key. The park offers 2.5 miles of white sandy beaches on the Gulf of Mexico and a variety of recreational opportunities, including wildlife viewing, fishing, kayaking and swimming.✪



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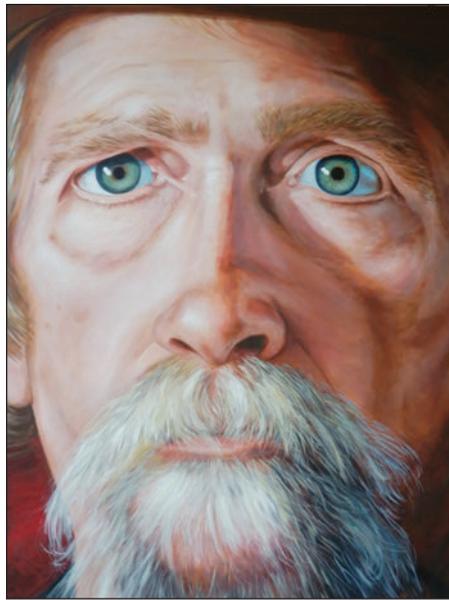
Artists Sought For All Florida Juried Exhibition

The Alliance for the Arts is seeking Florida artists to submit their work to the 33rd annual All Florida Juried Exhibit. This award-winning show is the Alliance's longest-running exhibition and features pieces created by artists working in a wide variety of media from all over the state of Florida.

The opening reception will be Friday, March 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. The juror will be on hand to present awards including \$1,000 cash for Best In Show, a second place gift certificate, \$100 cash for third place and Jurors Choice Award(s) of Alliance for the Arts membership(s).

Categories for entry are sculpture, painting (including oil, acrylic, collage, water color and mixed media), photography, prints and drawing. An entry may consist of one to three works. All entries must be submitted online no later than January 28. Artists can download the prospectus and submit their work online at www.artinlee.org/allflorida2019.

A conversational walk and talk through the gallery with the artists and juror will be held on Saturday, March 9 at 10 a.m. during the Alliance GreenMarket. Receptions and talks are open to the public and do not require tickets or reservations. While gallery admission is free, a \$5 suggested



Inside by Dirce Kennedy image provided donation keeps Alliance programming affordable and accessible. The show closes on March 30.

This year's juror is Lynn Whitelaw, the founding director and curator of the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, located on the Tarpon Springs Campus of St. Petersburg College. Whitelaw's curatorial efforts have resulted in over 140 exhibitions shown at Hillsborough Community College, the Tampa Museum of Art and the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art.

The exhibition is sponsored by Elemental Stone and Waterworks. For more information, call 939-2787.*

Art In Flight Exhibit Opens At Airport

For the last 13 years, the Alliance for the Arts and Lee County Port Authority have partnered on a project called Art In Flight, which brings art to the public spaces and the millions of travelers at Southwest Florida International Airport.

The current Art In Flight: My Florida exhibit, which features the creative perspective of 30

Florida artists and what it means to them to call Florida home, will be on display from December through May on Concourses B and D at the airport. The show will come to the Alliance for the Arts main gallery in June.

Participating artists include Robert Allen, Elisabeth Arena, Jolie Black, Juli Bobman, Annette Brown, Stacey Brown, Martin Casanova, Donna Chase, Patrick Conolly, Lillian Coury, Betsy D'Jamoos, Lisa Duritsch, Alane Enyart, Lydia Fogaras, Janet George, Ehren Gerhard, Imani Gibbs, Julie Griffin, Megan Kissinger, Mariapia Malerba, Deborah Martin, Ellen Miller, Caren Pearson, JT Phillippe, Whit Robbins, Dorothy Salcedo, Erik Schlake, MiMi Stirn, Carla Wormington Messerli and Beverly Yankwitt.

"Art inspires and activates our imaginations," said Alliance exhibitions coordinator Krista Johnson. "This exhibit makes it possible for people to experience art every day and promotes Lee County's colorful and cultural vibe."

Southwest Florida International Airport is located at 11000 Terminal Access Road in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.artinlee.org/rsw2019.*



Sunset Play by JT Phillippe

image provided

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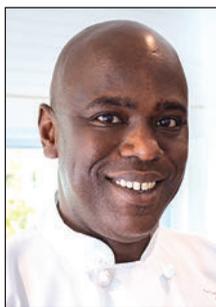
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The Community House

The Pistachio



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

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

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

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

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

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

Here is a simple recipe to try.

Pistachio Ice Cream

- 1 cup unsalted pistachios (shelled)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 cups half and half
- 1/2 tsp. almond extract
- 4 egg yolks
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3/4 cup unsalted pistachios (shelled and coarsely chopped)

Method

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

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

Place the egg yolks and cream in a

mixing bowl and mix until well blended.

Gradually ladle the hot half and half mixture into the yolk and cream mixture.

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

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

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

American Legion Post 123

American Legion Post 123 is having a fish fry this Sunday, December 16 from noon to 8 p.m. Barbecued ribs and chicken are on the menu the following Sunday, December 23 from noon to 8 p.m.



An Ugly Christmas Sweater/Attire contest and party will be held on Friday, December 14 beginning at 6 p.m. There will be a potluck, live music, prizes for best and worst sweaters, 50/50 raffle and drink specials.

There is collection under way for non-perishable food items for FISH of SanCap. Drop off during regular operating hours.

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.

Every Monday night beginning at 5 p.m., the 8 Ball Pool League is in play.

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

American Legion Post 123, located at Mile Marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road, 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.*

Top Ten Books On The Island

1. *Reckoning* by John Gresham
 2. *Wife* by Alafair Burke
 3. *Florida* by Lauren Groff
 4. *Less* by Andrew Sean Greer
 5. *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver
 6. *Summer Wives* by Beatriz Williams
 7. *Once Upon a River* by Diane Setterfield
 8. *Leopard at the Door* by Jennifer McVeigh
 9. *Target Alex Cross* by James Patterson
 10. *I, the Sanibel Sunset Detective* by Ron Base
- Courtesy MacIntosh Books and Paper.*

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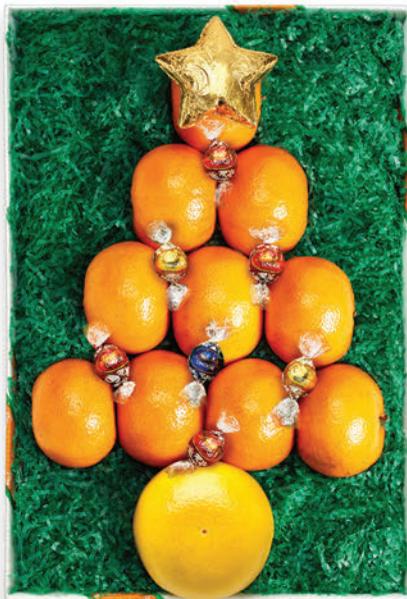
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Book Review

The Reckoning

by Di Saggau



John Grisham's *The Reckoning* is a powerful, surprising novel. Set in Clanton, Mississippi, the mythical setting of *A Time to Kill*, the book is set in 1946 when World War II hero Pete

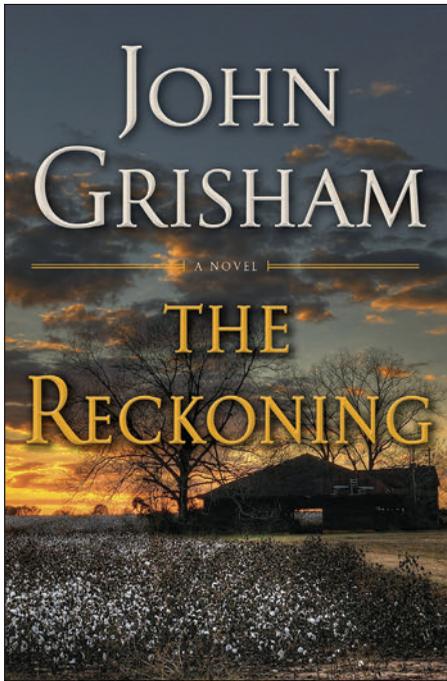


image provided

pages are filled with scenes of war, and we understand how it can change a man. It definitely is not complimentary to General Douglas MacArthur. Grisham's research is impressive. The third part centers around Pete's children, Joel and Stella, figuring out why Pete murdered the pastor and their mother's own mysterious end.

We don't get an answer about why Pete killed the pastor until the final three pages of the book and, even then, it's a surprising twist that you would not

Banning returns home a changed man: a decorated World War II hero and the patriarch of a prominent family, a farmer, father, neighbor and a faithful member of the Methodist church. Then one cool October morning, he rose early, drove into town, walked into the church and calmly shot and killed his pastor and friend, the Reverend Deter Bell. As if the murder wasn't shocking enough, Pete's only statement to the sheriff and lawyers, to the judge and jury and to his family, was, "I have nothing to say." This isn't a spoiler alert, it's clearly explained in the front cover of the book and in all the reviews.

The book is about what made Pete do such a thing. It's broken up into three parts. The first part really grabs you because you want to know why he killed the pastor. Even when facing the electric chair, he won't explain. The second part details his experiences in World War II, including the Bataan Death March. The

have guessed on your own. The question of why Pete Banning killed Dexter Bell remains prevalent throughout the entire book, so much so that you want to move quickly to the final pages to get that answer. That's something I never do, but I was tempted.

Grisham knows how to hold a reader's attention, and he does a solid job of portraying a Southern town at a particular moment in time, touching upon various social issues as the book progresses. He takes us from the

Jim Crow South to the jungles of the Philippines during World War II; from an insane asylum filled with secrets to the Clanton courtroom where Pete's defense attorney tries desperately to save him. I like what *Entertainment Weekly* had to say about *The Reckoning*. "With every new book I appreciate John Grisham a little more, for his feisty critiques of the legal system, his compassion for the underdog, and his willingness to strike out in new directions." ✨

School Smart

by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP



Dear Shelley, I've heard that kids with ADHD can be taken off their medication during school vacations and summer breaks. My 9-year-old daughter

started taking medication for her ADHD in August. I'm considering taking her off for Christmas vacation but I'm not so sure. Please help me understand some of the pros and cons to this idea.

Jesse S, Cape Coral

Jesse,

Parents of children who take stimulant medication for ADHD often wonder whether their kids should take a "drug holiday" during the summer months. A drug holiday, or what clinicians call a structured treatment interruption, is a deliberate, temporary suspension of medication. Since children with ADHD don't need to perform academically during school vacations and summer break, parents wary of side effects often seize the opportunity to take kids off their regular regimen of Ritalin, Adderall or other drugs for ADHD. On the other hand, some parents are very wary of an interruption in medication and fear that their children's behavioral problems will rebound, making them too difficult to handle.

There are certainly pros and cons for prescribing a drug holiday. Sometimes a doctor will prescribe a drug holiday in order to evaluate a child's progress and determine if medication treatment is still indicated. Another concern is that there

is some evidence that taking stimulant medications can affect a child's physical development early on in the treatment course – an effect parents hope to mitigate with a summer drug holiday. For some kids what's most noticeable, and most concerning, is weight loss due to the fact that the medications suppress appetite. If kids are eating far too little and it becomes an issue, child and adolescent psychiatrist Alan Ravitz, MD, suggests it may be appropriate to go off the medication. It is important to note, however, that another study last year showed that in children followed for 10 years, into adulthood, there were no differences in height or weight between those who had taken stimulant medications and those who hadn't.

Conversely, Dr. Ravitz recommends against drug holidays unless there is a compelling reason for them as the data shows that children with ADHD who stick with their treatment program year-round reap better results than those who experience interruptions. That's because it's a misnomer to think that ADHD affects only their performance in school. "Kids who are being treated for ADHD do better in more than just the classroom," Dr. Ravitz says. "Medication has to do with managing behavior in a variety of different circumstances." Children's social behavior and emotions are still developing in the summer months; they still have to get along with family and friends and function effectively in-group activities like sports and day camp.

Overall, a parent should consider how a drug holiday would affect her child's well-being. Because ADHD affects social development as well as academic performance, the conservative approach is to avoid disrupting the prescribed treatment plan, says Dr. Ravitz. However,

continued on page 35

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BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series

Lean On Pete

by Di Saggau



The BIG ARTS Monday Night Movie for December 17 is *Lean on Pete*, a story about the search for family. The main character is Charley, a 16-year-old kid (Charlie Plummer), who is distraught after the sudden death of his lackadaisical single father. He runs away looking for his only other known relative. That journey of 1,000 miles is undertaken in the company of a worn-out racehorse, named Pete. Plummer gives a quiet, powerful performance.

Charley heads out for Wyoming where he believes his aunt lives. Along the way, he encounters several people on whom he must rely for help. This includes the sleazy but kindhearted horse trainer (Steve Buscemi) who gives Charley a job and from whom the boy ultimately steals Pete. There's a motherly jockey (Chloe Sevigny) and an alcoholic drifter (Steve Zahn), who shares advice about surviving on the street.

Each of these characters provides the support system Charley is looking for. He has to take it where he can find it. The impulse to be nurtured, loved and to find a shoulder to lean on, is strong. The film argues, so is the equally human desire for someone or something, if only a horse, to lean back on us. *Lean on Pete* runs 121 minutes.



image provided

Moderator for the evening is Nancy Carlile.

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

Programs At Sanibel Library

As Sanibel Public Library continues the next phase of its remodel project, parts of the library are being renovated as the facility is open for normal operating hours.

Shell Islands Garden Club members donate their time and talent to add beauty to the library. In addition to their monthly floral display at the circulation desk, club members have also decorated a birdhouse-themed Christmas tree, which is on display at the library.

The weekly children's schedule runs through December 27.

Geared specifically for children in fourth through sixth grade, the After-School Clique will meet on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. The group will be crafting, building and playing, with books and a snack.

Storytime for preschoolers and their caregivers will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. This program helps develop pre-reading skills through songs and stories.

The After-School Crew for children in kindergarten to third grades will meet at 3 p.m. on Thursdays. Books, crafts plus a snack will be provided.

If you love dogs and books, you can read to Bessie, a bearded collie and trained reading education assistance dog. At 3:45 p.m. on rain-free Thursday afternoons, signup on-the-spot; program finishes by 5 p.m.

Weekly children's programs are listed on the library's online calendar.



Experience virtual reality at the library

photo provided

No registration is required for children's weekly library programs. The library will be closed on December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday.

On Friday, December 28, experience the *Apollo 11 Lunar Mission in Virtual Reality*, a recreation of the events which took place in the summer of 1969. This 10- to 20-minute virtual reality experience is for ages 10 and older. Registration is required due to session length. Call 472-2483 to set up a time between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

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

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Zonta Club Hosting Women's Film Festivals



LUNAFEST celebrates the work of women filmmakers

image provided

submitted by Sue Denham

On Tuesday, January 22, the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva will host LUNAFEST, a women's film festival and fundraiser dedicated to bringing women together, raising awareness about women's issues and highlighting female filmmakers. The films will be shown from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Community House, 2173 Periwinkle Way.

Begun in 2000 by the founder of LUNA nutritional bars, Kit Crawford, LUNAFEST is a traveling film festival that features female talent in all aspects of filmmaking and across society. The short films range from animation to fictional drama and cover topics such as parenting, immigration, racism and sexism as well as personal stories. Funded by LUNA – the Whole Nutrition Bar for Women – the initiative has so far raised more than \$3 million for nonprofits across the U.S. and Canada.

LUNAFEST is one more way Zonta

seeks to bring local women together, said Carol Gestwicki, who heads the Zonta club's service and advocacy team. "We want to encourage community awareness of women's issues as well as their talents as film makers."

Proceeds from LUNAFEST benefit the Zonta Foundation of Southwest Florida, which distributes grants to local organizations that assist and empower women and girls, and Chicken & Egg Pictures, a nonprofit associated with LUNAFEST that supports women nonfiction filmmakers whose works bring about social change.

Tickets for are \$20 and are available at www.lunafest.org. Neighboring Zonta clubs also will be hosting LUNAFEST events: the Fort Myers club on January 23 at the Alliance for the Arts, Fort Myers; and the Cape Coral club on January 19 at Gulf Coast Village in Cape Coral.

For more information, visit www.zontasancap.com.✱

BIG ARTS Corner

Workshops And Seminars

BIG ARTS is offering the following workshops and seminars:

Experimental Mixed Media with Bea Pappas – Wednesdays, January 2 to 23, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Open Studio: Decorative Painting with Sally Parsons – Wednesdays, January 2 to March 27, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (will not meet January 16, February 20 or 27).

Experimental Mixed Media with Bea Pappas – Thursdays, January 3 to 24, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Photography, Beginner, with Denny Souers – Thursdays, January 3 to 24. First class, 9 a.m. to noon; classes 2, 3 and 4, 7 a.m. to noon.

Intermediate Tap with Bobby Logue – Fridays, January 4 to 25, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Hip Hop/Jazz with Bobby Logue – Fridays, January 4 to 25, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

Life Drawing, Open Studio, Non-Instructed with Carol Rosenberg – Fridays, January 4 to 25, 9:30 a.m. to noon or 12:15 to 2:45 p.m.

Paint with Friends, Open Studio, with Jane Hudson – Wednesdays, 1 to 4 p.m.

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

From page 32

School Smart

there are no hard and fast rules on this issue; ultimately, decisions should arise from a conversation between the family, the child and health practitioner. Consultation with the child's physician is paramount to the safety of your child when considering the issue of a drug holiday.

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.✱

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Highlights From CROW's 50th Anniversary Celebration



The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) held its 50th Anniversary Celebration on December 2. Around 300 people attended for an opportunity to learn about the work of the wildlife clinic over the last five decades, meet animal ambassadors and costumed friends, and play carnival style games. Tanya the turtle and Racquel the raccoon were on hand to greet guests and offer a slice of birthday cake. photos provided



Kara Penner, 4, of Ontario, Canada tries her luck with one of the carnival style games



Visitors got the chance to meet Bashful the Virginia opossum, along with other animal ambassadors



Marco Medina, 10, of Fort Myers uses a microscope in the Be a Wildlife Veterinarian exhibit



Steve Garner, a seasonal resident from Roselle, Illinois learns about wildlife using the interactive kiosks at CROW



From left, AJ, Anthony and Melanie Aracri of Sanibel making reusable T-shirt tote bags to help reduce their use of plastic bags



Cadence Wilson, 6, of Cape Coral shows off her skills at the bean bag toss



Visitors learning about native versus invasive species through CROW's live animal exhibits



From left, Cordelia Smith, 5, Kara Penner, 4, Maya Penner, 6½, and Tabitha Smith, 8, get their picture taken with CROW's costumed friend, Racquel the raccoon

Avid Sheller Gives Back, Shares Love For Islands

by Jeff Lysiak

With the holiday season in full swing, islanders may be looking for some unique ideas for gifts that not only satisfy the needs of both the giver and recipient, but also help support some worthy local causes.

One such idea is Island 4 Island bracelets, which were created with the motto "Charity Around The Wrist" for a very good reason: 20 percent of every bracelet sold is being donated to the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) and the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum.

"As a third generation shell seeker, when the water crisis hit our islands, I kept thinking there must be something I could do to help," said Michael Gillmore, who co-founded Island 4 Island with Vickie Cassady.

When doing research on successful fundraisers, Gillmore stumbled upon Lance Armstrong, the world famous cyclist whose Live Strong silicone bracelets raised money to support people affected by cancer. To date, more than 80 million Live Strong bracelets have been sold.

"But with those bracelets, you buy one and you're done," said Gillmore. "With Island 4 Island bracelets, you get your first bracelet that contains our central message, plus you have



Shelling expert Michael Gillmore wearing some of the bracelets he is selling

photos by Jeff Lysiak

an opportunity to purchase more bracelets... we call it a chance to 'layer your love for the islands.'

The bracelets are made with durable cord materials - available in a variety of colors - which come attached with several styles of pendant attachments in silver and bronze. These include locally collected seashells, seaglass in a rainbow of color choices and Amalfi Coast sea pottery. Additional styles and pendant choices are frequently being added to the variety of bracelets available.

According to Gillmore, each bracelet



Detail of Island 4 Island bracelets

is silversmithed in Bali before they are shipped to Sanibel for assembly. "That's the idea behind our name - one island helping another."

Launched in October, Island 4 Island bracelets became an immediate sensation. To date, the business has handed out nearly \$1,000 each month to the Sanibel nonprofits.

"Since so many people on the island care for wildlife and are concerned about water quality, we thought this might offer a good opportunity to help," said Gillmore, who noted the company has already expanded into offering

necklaces. "The more layers of bracelets they add, the more they share their love for Sanibel and Captiva."

Upon receiving their first donation from Island 4 Island, CROW Executive Director Linda Estep commented, "It is with your support that CROW is able to fulfill its mission - saving wildlife through state of the art veterinary care, research, education and conservation medicine."

Available for purchase via the Island 4 Island Facebook page, bracelets are priced between \$26 and \$120. For more information, send an email to island4island@yahoo.com.*

Middle And High School Student Enrollment

Middle and high school officials of the School District of Lee County are inviting prospective students to attend upcoming open houses before the start of student enrollment for the 2019-20 school year. Dates and times can be found on the district's open house calendar at www.leeschools.net/calendars/open_houses.

Parents of incoming sixth grade and ninth grade students are advised to visit the schools in their zone because each one has unique programs or learning opportunities that may interest or attract your child.

Student enrollment for the 2019-20 continued on page 39



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Art Vibe Celebration Draws Crowd To BIG ARTS



BIG ARTS held a reception, entitled Art Vibe, on December 1 to celebrate the opening of two gallery exhibits; *Altered Realities* and *Hand Made: the Art of Ceramics*. The evening of art, food, wine and music was a rousing success, with over 400 people in attendance. BIG ARTS extends its thanks to event sponsors, the LAT Foundation and Lee Tauck.

photos provided



Linda Vroegindewey with her piece *Bone Fish*



Marcy Calkins with her piece *Art Times 3*



Deborah Butler, center, with Loretta Corbisiero and Vasilis Drakos and their piece *Spiritual Truth*



Jay Lana with his piece *Ride Eternal*



Richard Johnson and Bailie Johnson



Kate Skales Band entertained the crowd



Jordan Weisberg of Point Ybel Brewing Co. pouring his award-winning locally brewed beer



Lee Tauck and BIG ARTS Executive Director Lee Ellen Harder



Bailey's General Store provided some of their favorite wine selections



Marilyn Hedlund photos provided

Bold Move by Marilyn Hedlund

Abstract Artist To Speak At League Meeting

submitted by Renée Chastant

Award-winning artist Marilyn Hedlund will be the guest speaker at the next Sanibel Captiva Art League meeting on Thursday, December 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. at The Community House.

Hedlund is an accomplished and award-winning artist who joined the art world on Pine Island in the 1990s. She has studied extensively in Southwest Florida and France, developing a wonderful, impressionistic style. Her abstracts are symphonies of color and energy. The artist explained that she paints because “it expresses my moods. It helps me relax – and I love color!”

A long-time member of the Alliance for the Arts in Fort Myers, Hedlund joined their teaching staff in 2016. She

teaches fine art acrylics and especially enjoys working with new artists.

“I really enjoy encouraging artists, especially beginners who are often afraid. It’s a thrill to give them direction and see them progress,” Hedlund said. “Artists stimulate one another. We learn from each other, as well as from teachers.”

All Sanibel Captiva Art League meetings are free and open to the public.

The Community House is located

at 2173 Periwinkle Way. For more information about art league shows, activities and membership, visit www.sancapart.com.✪

From page 37

Enrollment

school year is open January 14 to March 1. Incoming ninth grade students currently attending a district middle school will receive a pre-printed application by January 14 to enroll online. Incoming sixth grade students currently attending a district elementary school will receive their pre-printed application to enroll online by January 22. Pre-K students already attending a Lee County public school or who took advantage of the early registration period will receive their pre-printed application to enroll online by January 28. Most elementary schools do not hold an open house but instead invite parents and prospective students to call and schedule individual tours.

Although application mailings are staggered, all students may enroll in person at any time during the student open enrollment period. Students new to the district must enroll in person.

Students who wish to enroll in an advanced program such as IB, AICE or arts program need to have their applications turned in by February 1. Acceptance or denial letters will be mailed out on Friday, February 14.

Students who enrolled online will learn their school assignment online March 15. School assignment letters for students who enrolled in person will be mailed out on March 22.✪

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From left, Judie Zimomra, Holly Smith, Kevin Ruane, Mick Denham and Chauncey Goss offering a warm round of applause after Sanibel was designated gold status as a Bicycle Friendly Community
photos by Jeff Lysiak



Councilwoman Holly Smith, third from left, with members of the Sanibel Bicycle Club

City Earns Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Award

by Jeff Lysiak

For the third time this decade, the League of American Bicyclists has chosen to recognize the City of Sanibel with a Bicycle Friendly Community Award, bestowing the organization's second highest designation – gold – at a ceremony held last Thursday afternoon at the Lighthouse Beach Park picnic pavilion.

Back in 2010, Sanibel was awarded the bronze designation by the Bicycle Friendly Business program, which was elevated to silver in 2014. At the time, the city was one of only four Florida municipalities to be awarded the silver status. Currently, only Sanibel and The Villages (located in Sumter County) have been recognized with the prestigious gold designation in the Sunshine State.

On December 6, members of the Sanibel City Council – including Mayor Kevin Ruane, Vice Mayor Mick Denham, Councilman Chauncey Goss and Councilwoman Holly Smith – joined several city workers, business owners and more than 15 members of the Sanibel Bicycle Club as the honor was officially announced.

“We invest heavily and systematically into our shared use path system as a city-wide alternative to motorized transportation,” said Ruane. “We are fortunate to have many partners who support the city's efforts to focus on the health



About 40 citizens, city employees, business owners and bike club members attended the announcement ceremony

benefits and safety of biking on Sanibel. To have our collective efforts recognized nationally as one of the nation's premier programs is a source of community pride for Sanibel.”

The idea behind the island's network of “hike and bike” trails was created in 1972 by the Sanibel Bike Path Committee. The committee's four original members were Grace Whitehead, Mariel Goss, Sherry Vartdal and Starr Thomas. In 1976, the first 2.5 miles of Sanibel's paths were built along Periwinkle Way, with \$10,000 of seed money from the original Sanibel Bike Path Committee and a matching grant from the Florida Department of Transportation. Today, the city has more than 25 miles of paved shared use paths and eight miles of natural surface paths.

In 2009, the city adopted the Shared

Use Path Master Plan, and developed a program to annually expand and improve path safety. As a bikeable and walkable community, the City of Sanibel promotes and encourages biking to community events.

The Sanibel Bicycle Club was founded in 1994. Since then, the club has partnered with the city on a variety of path improvements and amenities.

Back in July, the city completed construction of the Bowman's Beach Shared Use Path, a vital pedestrian connection linking the Sanibel-Captiva Road shared use path into Bowman's Beach Park.

This project was completed with funding assistance through the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Recreational Trails Program. The city is responsible for maintaining 26.06 miles of shared use path.

Recently, the city completed an extensive repair project due to damages caused to the path system by Hurricane Irma. In addition, the paths are inspected annually for necessary repairs and the 2018 Shared Use Path Repair Project included 73 different repair sites in the amount of \$92,330.

Tom Sharbaugh, Sanibel Bicycle Club liaison to the City of Sanibel, expressed his delight in the announcement of Sanibel's gold status. “The Sanibel Bicycle Club congratulates the city for their commitment to developing and maintaining the Sanibel shared use path and their support for other cycling amenities and services on the island,” he said. “Without their efforts, Sanibel would not have achieved gold status as a Bicycle Friendly Community. Our club is

continued on page 16B



(FROM TOP LEFT) STEVE BROWN, FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN - AL HANSER, CHERYL GIATTINI, CEO - TERRY IGO.
 (BOTTOM LEFT) GEORGE HEISLER, GINNY FLEMING, HANK HUMPHREY, JIM PIGOTT, VIRGINIA STRINGER, CHUCK KETTEMAN.

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From left, Sanibel City Council members Mick Denham, Kevin Ruane, Holly Smith and Chauncey Goss photos provided

Mayors Join Be Kind Initiative

by Jeff Lysiak

Be kind in thoughts, actions and words to all people. That's the simple message behind a new initiative – Be Kind – which continues to spread to communities large and small across the country.

The Be Kind campaign was created by Virginia-based artist Gini Bonnell, who painted the simple message on a small wooden board in honor of World Kindness Day. She sent more than 1,400 identical copies of the sign to individuals, schools and businesses around the world in hopes of creating “a movement of kindness.”

Eventually, several high profile people – including Richmond, Virginia Mayor Levar Stoney – began having their pictures taken with the sign, which were posted online via social media platforms Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Here in Southwest Florida, Bonita Springs Mayor Peter Simmons was informed of the initiative by friend and former special education teacher Jan



City of Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson and Legislative Assistant Kim Harris

Farrington. In turn, he brought the idea up at a recent Florida League of Mayors meeting, where several colleagues – including Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane – became intrigued by the simple yet powerful message.

“It seems like there’s too much negativity in the world today,” said Ruane. continued on page 8B



From left, Fort Myers Beach Town Council members Bruce Butcher, Joanne Shamp, Tracey Gore, Dennis Boback and Anita Cereceda

CROW Executive Director To Retire

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) and its board of directors have announced that Executive Director Linda Estep will retire effective at the end of the year.

"It was a very tough decision for me to make, but I am confident it is the right one," said Estep, who has served as the organization's executive director for the past four and a half years. "I am excited for the future of CROW and plan to participate actively in a volunteer capacity."

Since becoming the executive director in July 2014, Estep has helped CROW grow as an organization and state-of-the-art wildlife hospital. By working to increase awareness and support through the community, she has helped increase the annual operating budget by nearly 60 percent, allowing the hospital to improve the medical care for Southwest Florida's wildlife through research and conservation medicine.

Under Estep's lead, CROW also initiated an endowment fund to ensure a future of care for native and migratory wildlife. Improvements to the Visitor Education Center, including live animal exhibits and live feed cameras of the hospital and treatment areas, have



Linda Estep photo provided

made CROW one of the top places to visit on Sanibel.

"Linda's love for wildlife is truly inspiring to everyone around her," said Dave Nichols, president of the board of directors. "Her leadership at CROW will be greatly missed by the employees, students, volunteers and CROW supporters who have had the opportunity to work with her."

A successor has been chosen by the board of directors, but has not yet been named due to current employment.*

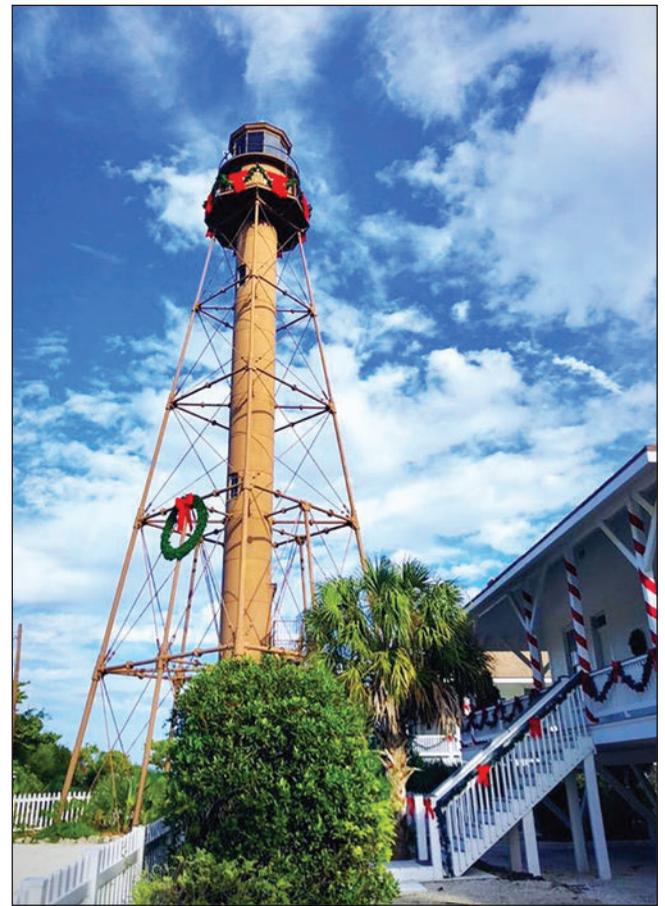
Lighthouse Decked Out For Holidays

For the 12th consecutive year, the Sanibel Lighthouse and adjacent caretaker's cottages have been decorated with holiday decor by the employees of the Department of Community Services. Built in 1884, the Sanibel Lighthouse is an enduring symbol of the island community and a world-recognized icon.

The Sanibel Lighthouse was placed on the National Register of Historical Places in 1974. In 2010, ownership of the lighthouse, two caretakers' cottages and 44.7 acres were transferred to the City of Sanibel by the federal government.

As a holiday gift to the community, the city staff places the green garland and red bows upon the lighthouse. Additionally, both of the adjacent Lighthouse Caretaker's Cottages have been decorated with garland, bows and wreaths for the holiday season.

Decorations will remain on the lighthouse and cottages until January 9.*



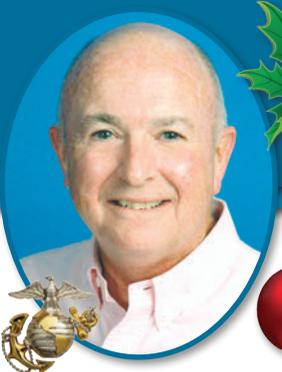
The Sanibel Lighthouse

photo by Judie Zimomra

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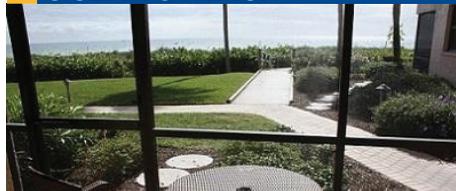
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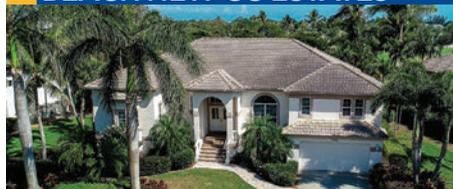
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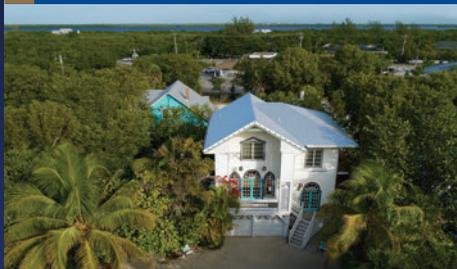
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Gifts In Need For Friends Who Care



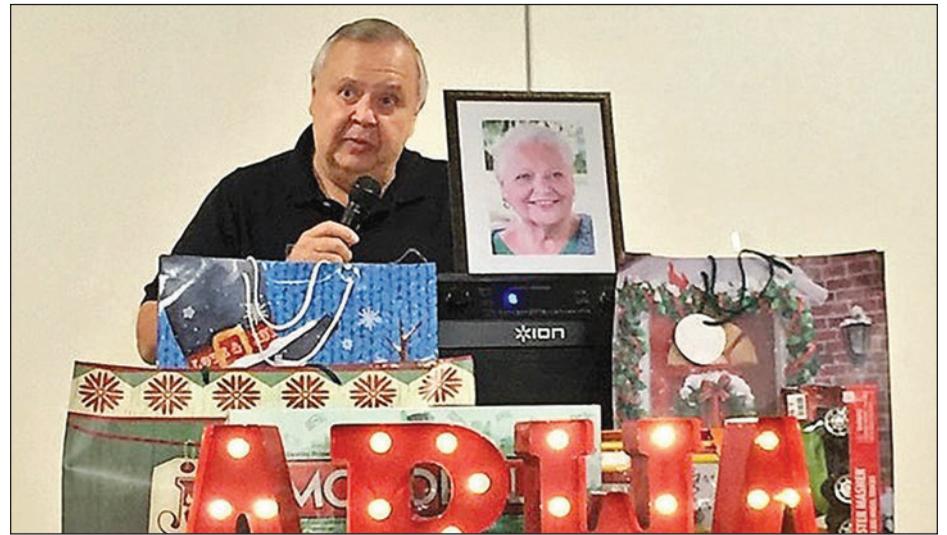
Bank of the Islands' Willy Ocasio and Darrin Grotrian with the Angel Tree photo provided

Bank of the Islands is asking its customers and island neighbors to contribute unwrapped Christmas gifts for needy children in the community. All islanders are invited to choose an ornament from the Angel Tree available in the Sanibel branch lobby, located at 1699 Periwinkle Way. Each ornament will indicate the age of a boy or girl hoping to receive a gift this holiday season.

"We're so happy to be partnering

again with Friends Who Care on this special holiday gift drive," said Bank of the Islands Vice President and Sanibel/Captiva Office Manager Willy Ocasio. "They have been quietly helping neighbors in need for more than 30 years."

Volunteers with Friends Who Care will gift-wrap all donations prior to Christmas. Gifts may be dropped off any time through Friday, December 14. For more information, call 472-7211.*



Tom Louwers with a photograph of his late wife, Theresa photo provided

ABWA Adds Guest Speaker

The American Business Women's Association of Sanibel and Captiva will feature Friends Who Care at the Tuesday, December 18 lunch meeting. Tom Louwers, CEO, leads Friends Who Care, Inc. in memory of his wife Theresa, who founded the organization in 1983 and was an active member of ABWA.

Friends who Care supports children and adults in crisis situations year-round, working anonymously through information from local churches, schools, the City of Sanibel and local organizations. Community holiday contributions are collected, sorted and wrapped, then

delivered at the annual Kiwanis Santa Run. Last year's drive served 150 children and their families with toys, gift cards and holiday meals.

To contribute with ABWA, attend the lunch meeting on December 18 and bring a gift card, toy or check. Networking starts at 11:30 a.m. at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa, with lunch and the speaker from noon to 1 p.m. The luncheon speaker is Melissa Rice, executive director of Community Resources and Housing (CHR), and a partner of Friends Who Care. RSVP at info@ABWASanibelCaptiva.org or register for \$20 at <https://ABWASanibelCaptiva.Eventbrite.com>.

To volunteer for Friends Who Care, contact Tom Louwers at 472-5152.*

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Commemoration Of Historical Captiva Building

submitted by Molly Downing

Sunny, temperate weather offered a perfect setting recently for the event that commemorated the over 113-year-old building that now houses the offices of McCarthy's Marina. Pops Randall built the structure as a house for himself and his wife in 1905. The dock on the property was known as City Dock, where steamers brought passengers and goods to the island. Little is currently known about the couple, but they were one of only three associated with the property. The next owners were Andy and Dessa Rosse, who lived in the house, and ran a store and popular bar at the end of the dock that adjoined the property. McCarthy's Marina is the third entity to inhabit the building.

Jenny and Robert Rando, and Brad and Leslie Junghans, the owners of McCarthy's Marina since Paul McCarthy's death, planned a reception to celebrate the rich history of the property. The Captiva Island Historical Society donated a plaque to honor the centennial of the building. Tom Libonate, president of the board of directors, presented the plaque, followed by board of directors member



From left, Leslie Junghans, Brad Junghans, Ron Rosse, Bob Rando, Jenny Rando, Tom Libonate and Kristie Anders

photo provided

Kristie Anders' comments on the history. Bob Rando followed with his appreciation of the stories around the

building, and thanked the historical society and the attendees at the event. Everyone then enjoyed lunch,

catered by Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's, thanks to the generosity of the marina owners.*

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Situated on a private dead-end road and bordered by US Fish wildlife, this direct boating access cottage on Sanibel is a true gem. With the property to the west being un-buildable owners are ensured the ultimate privacy in perpetuity. Only 20 homes in this quaint community and it is just a short bike ride or walk to Bowmans beach. Fully mitigated with a current report available. This property is also being sold turn key with a few exceptions. The tile roof was replaced in 2015 and provides excellent insulation while the cross flow windows keep the home nice and cool. Priced at land value this home will go quickly. Sliders are impact glass.

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Steve Greenstein, executive vice president of The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, and Emilie Alfino, executive vice president of the Sanibel Historical Village photo provided

Platinum Sponsor Of Historical Village Gala

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company will be a platinum sponsor of the Sanibel Historical Village Gala on February 19. The theme of the gala is An Evening on the Old Algiers, and it will be held at The Community House from 6 to 10 p.m.

"The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company has enjoyed a long and enriching relationship with the Sanibel Historical Village," said Steve Greenstein, executive vice president at the trust company, as

well as a board member at the village. "We are honored to partner together once again to bring this season's programs to residents and visitors alike."

The gala will include a buffet dinner and dancing, as well as opportunities to learn about the fascinating history of the Algiers river boat that once sat on the beaches of Sanibel. Tickets can be purchased online at www.sanibelmuseum.org or by calling 472-4648.

"We are grateful to the trust company for its generous support of our event," said Emilie Alfino, executive director of the historical village. "They have demonstrated strong support not just for the village but for the entire island

community. They make Sanibel a better place."

The Sanibel Historical Village is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Full guided tours take place at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at no

additional charge, depending on docent availability. The village is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS) and there is handicap access to the buildings. Admission is \$10 for adults over 18; no charge for members and children.✪

Contract Awarded For Restoration Plan

The Lee Board of County Commissioners recently voted to award a contract to an engineering firm to develop an ecosystem restoration plan for the Bob Janes Preserve near Alva. The contract, awarded to Soil and Water Engineering Technology, Inc., is to identify projects to improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities at the preserve.

The Bob Janes Preserve, which includes 5,620 acres, was purchased in 2006 as a Conservation 20/20 preserve. The preserve includes tributaries that flow to the Caloosahatchee Estuary, which is subject to a State of Florida Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) due to total nitrogen levels.

The preserve has large areas of ditched, drained and cleared lands that were previously altered for cattle grazing and other agricultural activities prior to its acquisition as a preserve. Natural surface water flow patterns have also been disrupted, so increasing on-site water storage and treatment will provide water quality benefits by reducing nitrogen levels.

Due to the size of the preserve, the

approved \$228,285 contract is to evaluate and identify potential improvements. Subsequent phases will depend on the findings and recommendations

For more information on Lee County Natural Resources' efforts to protect and improve water quality, visit www.leegov.com/naturalresources/waterquality.✪

From page 2B

Be Kind Initiative

"As a society, it seems like we've kind of lost our way a little. So we're trying to make this initiative go viral. All we ask is that mayors across the United States take a photo of them holding the Be Kind sign and post it online."

In addition to Simmons and Ruane, several other mayors from Lee and Collier counties – including Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson, Fort Myers Beach Mayor Tracey Gore and Naples Mayor Bill Barnett – have joined the cause.

"I certainly hope other leaders around the country will join us," said Simmons in his Facebook post on December 4, adding the hashtag #BeKind to his message.

"We'll try to take this viral throughout the state and see how far it goes," added Ruane. "Especially this holiday season, it would be nice to see more people be kind."✪

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THE ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION, INC

The Island Water Association, Inc. (IWA) is soliciting applications for candidates to serve on its Board of Directors.

IWA is a non-profit member-owned utility governed by a five-member Board of Directors. Directors must be IWA members or an official representative of a condominium or other IWA corporate member, legal residents of Sanibel or Captiva, and be present at such residence a minimum of six months each calendar year.

Directors are elected for a term of two years and may serve a total of three consecutive two-year terms. Board meetings are typically held monthly. All Directors serve without compensation. Directors will be elected by the Membership at IWA's Annual Meeting to be held on April 8, 2019.

This year four Director seats will be up for election. Paul Garvey will be retiring from the Board after having completed his third two-year term. Current Board Members Dennis Berry and Ken Kouril will stand for re-election for their second two-year terms; Jeff Springer, appointed last September to fill a vacated Director position, will stand for election to fill the remaining one-year term of that Director.

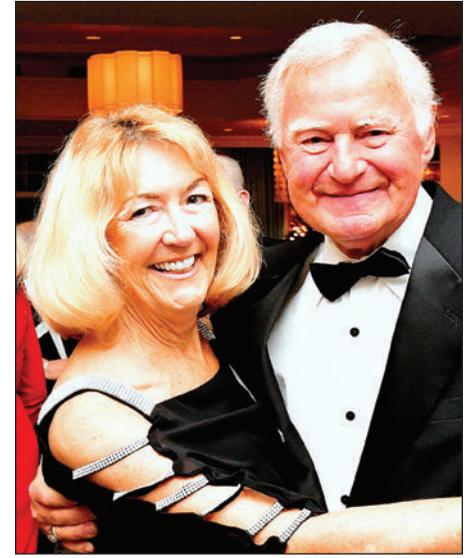
Interested candidates should contact Karen Warrick, IWA Interim General Manager at (239) 472-2113, ext. 125 or via e-mail at karen@islandwater.com for further details. All applications must be received by January 8, 2019.



From left, hosts George and Lynne Campean, Harvey and Nancy Padewer, and Patsy and Hubert Whitaker photos provided



James and Maggie Davis



Char and Earl Koops

Island Cotillion Hosts Holiday Dance

The Island Cotillion conducted its annual Holiday Dinner Dance at The Sanctuary Golf Club on December 6. More than 100 members danced to the spirited music of Cahlua & Cream at the black-tie event.

The Island Cotillion is made up of Sanibel residents who enjoy dancing. It has two formal dinner dances and one informal dance each year.

For more information about the Island Cotillion, call Julie Boyd at 395-0464. ✨



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Rotary Happenings



bags on Sanibel and Captiva, guiding Luminary festivities on both islands. In appreciation, Carney and the club received this wonderful thank-you note from John and Denice Beggs, realtors on Captiva: "I just want to thank you all again. Captiva was aglow with joy, fun and community spirit the entire day yesterday. You all made it possible. Hopefully even more businesses will join next year. You all are much appreciated."

Rotary volunteers are also getting ready to host a day of mini golf at The Community House. Starting on December 26 and running through December 29, The Community House will put down an indoor 9-hole mini golf course, primarily for the youngsters, but the young at heart can play the course too. Rotary will be course-wrangers on December 27. Come join us; it's fun.

On December 7, Sanibel-Captiva Rotary had our last club assembly for this calendar year. We are now going full throttle planning for next year, but before that got started, Rotarian John Schwandke presented a Paul Harris Award (Paul Harris was the founder of Rotary) with two sapphires to Claire Beckman. This award is in recognition of Beckman's outstanding contributions and commitment to Rotary, both in service and financial support. She is a truly dedicated members of Rotary

submitted by Shirley Jewell

It is a busy end of the calendar year for everybody. Holiday parties abound, and this year's Rotary holiday party was absolutely exceptional. Every detail of the party was perfect, thanks to our Rotarian hosts, Rachael Tritaik, Joleen Raho and John Raho. The music set the tone for a wonderful and warm evening. We ate, we sang and we had fun. At the end of the evening, we were gifted with a very special holiday present prepared by Joleen and a merry group of elf friends. It was a Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

Rotarians also like to light the way for our island communities to have a joyous holiday. For the last 23 years, Rotarian John Carney has led an amazing group of club volunteers in placing luminary

International. Congratulations, Claire.

In planning for next year, arts and crafts fair guru Scot Congress announced that the 2019 Rotary Arts and Crafts Fair will now be called the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Arts and Crafts Festival, and will be held on February 16 and 17. There is a slight name change because, along with the juried arts and crafts booths, there is an outstanding silent auction area, Rotary hat and shirt sales, a showcase for Rotary's global and local programs, and the an exceptional food court on the grounds. It's one stop shopping with the best of everything. Mark your new calendars.

In 2018, the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Arts and Crafts Fair net proceeds of around \$100,000 were transferred to the Rotary Club of Sanibel and Captiva Trust (giving arm of our club), enabling it to disburse this amount during our new grant cycles.

Chairman of the Rotary Trust, Bill Rahe, went through the changes this year to our new grant process. Grant applications are now only accepted twice a year; fall and spring. The date for Rotary's spring 2019 grant requests will be announced in February. Rahe said that \$63,000 of trust funds were distributed during the 2018 fall grant cycle, including a \$15,000 payment on the club's \$75,000 pledge to the Sanibel Community Association during their capital campaign for renovations of The Community House.

The Rotary Trust holds close to \$40,000 for the spring grant cycle, along with an additional \$10,000 being reimbursed for matching fund projects

from District 6960, and \$10,000 held for college scholarships.

Rotarian Charlie Emerson gave all of us a pep talk about sales of advertising space in the tabloid-style festival grounds guide and business banners. All of us should go out and thank the businesses who buy ad space in the tab or buy festival business banners. This type of support, along with businesses that donate items to the silent auction, make a difference in the success of the fair. The tab is not only a festival grounds guide but provides information on what Sanibel-Captiva Rotary does at home and around the world, guided by our six areas of service, improving lives of others.

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

Young Professionals Holiday Party

The Young Professionals Association of Sanibel & Captiva will host its Christmas networking party on Wednesday, December 19 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Casa Ybel Resort, located at 2255 West Gulf Drive on Sanibel. There will be a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres.

This event is free and open to all young professionals. Guests are encouraged to bring their colleagues and introduce them to the networking group. Don't forget your business cards.*

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Children's Hospital Recognized

For the third year in a row, Lee Health's Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida has been named a Top Children's Hospital by The Leapfrog Group. Only 13 children's hospitals in the country – three in Florida – earned this prestigious distinction, which highlights each hospital's highest commitment to safety and quality care of children. Only three children's hospitals in the country have ever been recognized by Leapfrog for three consecutive years.

"We are honored to receive this recognition for the third year in a row. Thank you to all of the professionals who work tirelessly to create a safe and comfortable environment for the children and families in our community. We look forward to continuing to provide compassionate and quality health care for years to come," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, Lee Health president and CEO.

The selection of Top Children's Hospitals is based on the results of the 2018 Leapfrog Hospital Survey. Performance across many areas of hospital care is considered in establishing the qualifications for the award, including inpatient care management, medication safety, and infections and injuries. The rigorous standards are defined in each year's Top Hospital Methodology.



From left, Cristie Travis, Ashley Tait-Dinger, Armando Llechu, Susan Ryckman, Dr. Emad Salman, Dr. Alex Daneshmand and Leah Binder photo provided

Since moving to its new state-of-the-art facility next to HealthPark Medical Center in 2017, Golisano Children's Hospital has received multiple national accolades. In addition to being honored by Leapfrog for three consecutive years, the hospital was named as the Most Beautiful Hospital in the U.S. by Soliant, a national health care staffing agency, earlier this year.

"Our hospital was built around the health care needs of the children in

our community, and it's an honor to consistently be named among the top children's hospitals in the nation," said Armando Llechu, chief administrative officer, Golisano Children's Services. "Our mission is to keep children as close to their homes as possible, and this endorsement shows that parents can be confident their children are also receiving safe and high-quality care. To earn this prestigious award three years in a row reflects our continued commitment to

maintain these high standards."

This announcement comes on the heels of three Lee Health hospitals receiving "A" grades on Leapfrog's Fall 2018 Hospital Safety Grades report card last month. Gulf Coast Medical Center, Cape Coral Hospital and Lee Memorial Hospital all received the highest possible grade. HealthPark Medical Center received a "B" grade, missing the top mark by just .03 points.✪



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CHR Give Back Wednesday Events

Community Housing and Resources (CHR) thanks the community for their support at Give Back Wednesday (#GBW) fundraisers. Recent events were held at Sanibel Bean, Sanibel Sunglass Company and The Jac Island Bar and Grille. Participating establishments donate a portion of the day's proceeds to the affordable housing program.

CHR depends on community support and donations for over 40 percent of its annual operating budget.

The next Give Back Wednesday fundraiser will be held on December 19 at Sanibel Café in Tahitian Gardens shopping center.*



From left, Mona Strasser, Eric Carlson, Melissa Rice, Eve Alves, Nick Williams and Diane Silhavy

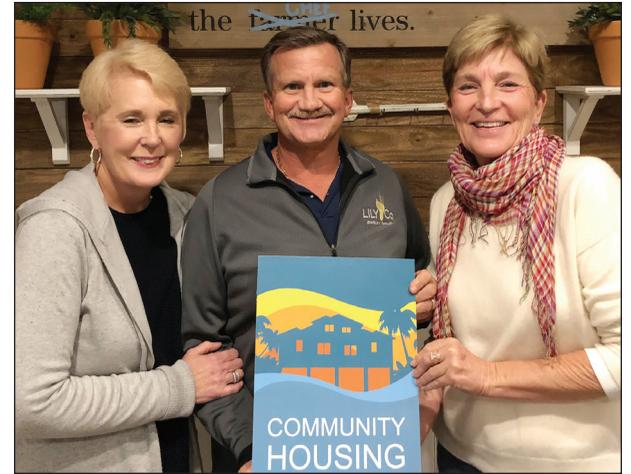
photos provided



From left, Lisa, Matt and Bob Miller



Benjamin and Liliana Werner



From left, Sharon and Dan Schuyler with Karen Bell



From left, Diane Silhavy, Neil Peck and Kevin Greten



From left, Doreen Ruane, Birgit Peck, Linda Gunn and Marcie Day



Pam Miller and Jerry Edelman



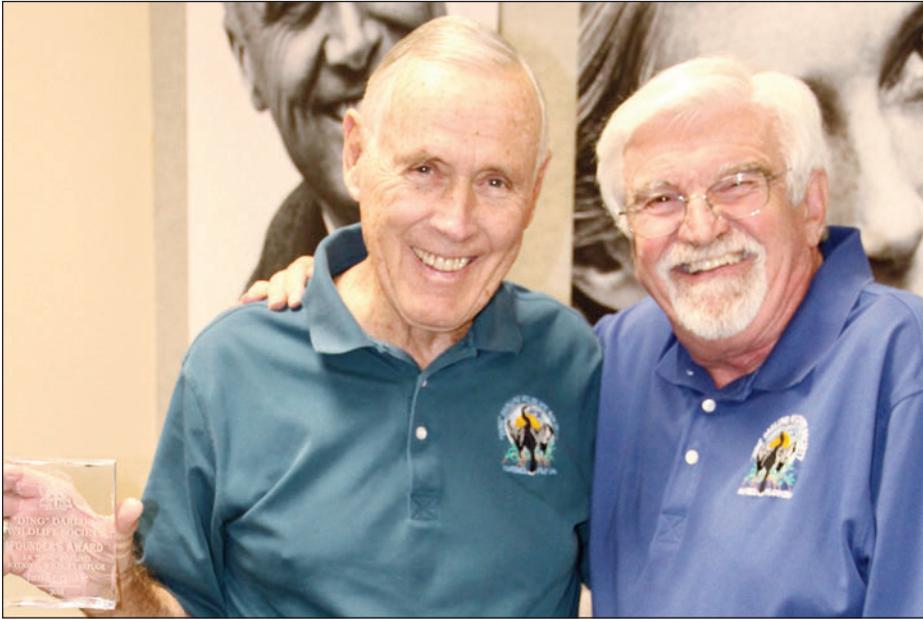
Maryanne Daly and Tom Miller



From left, Eric Carlson, Melissa Rice and Mona Strasser



From left, Sherry and Doug Gentry with Steve and Jackie Royka



Jim Sprankle with his Founders Award and "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society President Mike Baldwin photos provided

New Board Announced At Annual Meeting

At the annual meeting of the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society - Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) on December 5 at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, the general membership elected two new members to the board of directors, David Jeffrey and Dick Levinson, and re-elected one, Sarah Ashton. The society also presented two awards at the meeting.



David Jeffrey



DDWS 2019 officers, clockwise from top left, president Mike Baldwin, treasurer Bill Valerian, secretary Wendy Kindig and vice president Sarah Ashton

tracts. He is now working with DDWS past president John McCabe on acquisitions fundraising.

For the past few years, Levinson has been the volunteer steward of the Buck Key path, having led the push for its 2004 restoration. He has had a 40-year career in finance and is currently the senior partner in a New York investment management firm.

DDWS president Mike Baldwin presented a departing award to retiring board member Jim Hall and a Founder Award to emeritus board member Jim Sprankle. The award, in its second year, recognizes DDWS members who have made vital contributions to the success of the society. Past recipients include Millie Ford, Marilyn Kloosterman, and Bill and Jeanne Rankin.

At a short meeting following the annual meeting, board members elected officers for the 2019 year: president Mike Baldwin, vice president Sarah Ashton, secretary Wendy Kindig, and treasurer Bill Valerian.

To view the 2017-18 DDWS annual report, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/about-us.*

Once the vice president of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Jeffrey later served as chairman of David Jeffrey Associates, which provided training programs for international financial institutions; and director of the investment firm, The Jeffrey Company.

Now retired, Jeffrey is emeritus trustee and former chair of the board of trustees of the nonprofit educational organization, New Jersey SEEDS. He has been on the boards of trustees of various nonprofit organizations, including Americans for Campaign Reform and Design Art Technology Massachusetts.

Jeffrey and his wife Hope spend summers in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, and winters on Captiva. An avid bird photographer, he has been visiting "Ding" Darling for many years and recently mounted a photography exhibit there. He was instrumental in the restoration of the refuge's Buck Key paddling trail after Hurricane Charley.

Levinson and his wife Pat have been coming to the islands for more than 30 years and now divide their time between North Salem, New York and Captiva. A former trustee of the North Salem Open Land Foundation, Levinson led several campaigns to acquire ownership or conservation easements on several

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Top 5 Year-End Gifting Questions



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

When giving gifts this festive and generous time of year, there's a lot of confusion about the gift tax rules, so I thought that we could review a few of the more common ones together:

5. Are Gifts Taxed as Income?

It depends on how much you've given already! Typically, gifts are not taxed as income. Let's say that you make a cash gift to your daughter Suzie of \$15,000. Does she have to declare that gift as taxable income on her Form 1040 income tax return? No, she doesn't. When we talk about "gift tax,"

we are referring to the transfer taxes – the estate and gift taxes. A transfer tax is a tax imposed on the donor – not the recipient – on the value of the gift. But there is also an annual exclusion of \$15,000. This means that a donor can make a gift of \$15,000 to anyone and it is not enough to require the filing of a gift tax return. Suppose a donor makes a gift of \$100,000 to daughter Suzie. Now the donor has to file a gift tax return reporting the \$100,000 transfer. Does the donor pay gift tax at this time? The answer is – it depends. If the donor has consumed his lifetime exemption (today that exemption is \$11.2 million, which is increasing to 11.4 million) then he does not actually pay gift tax. Instead, he has consumed a part of his lifetime (and death) exemption.

4. Is Paying Someone's Medical Expenses a Gift?

Not if paid properly! In my example of making a gift to Suzie above, assume that your daughter Suzie has medical expenses of \$20,000 that you would like to help her out with. You've already given her the \$15,000 but she needs that for her necessities. Can you gift additional amounts to pay for her medical expenses without having to file a gift tax return consuming more of your exemption? Yes, you can, provided that you make the payment directly to the medical provider. If you were to give Suzie another \$20,000 to pay her doctor bills, then you would have to file a gift tax return. If instead you made the payment directly to Suzie's doctors and hospitals, then the payment is considered gift tax-free.

3. Is Paying Someone's Educational Expenses a Gift?

Typically not! If Suzie has a \$20,000 tuition bill, you are able to gift her \$15,000 plus her tuition, provided that you pay the educational institution directly as you would have a doctor or hospital in the previous example.

2. Must the Gift Be Completed Now?

Suppose that you have some valuable artwork in your home. Knowing that you might have a taxable estate when you die, and that the valuable artwork is only going to add to the tax liability, you decide to gift that artwork to your children. First, remember that if you make gifts above \$15,000 in value, you are consuming your estate tax exemption anyway as you will have to file a gift tax return reporting the transfer. In any event, you take those yellow sticky post-it notes to post on the back of each piece of art – "This painting now belongs to Junior." You leave the paintings on your wall. Under IRS rules, you have not made a completed gift because you have not actually lost dominion and control over the asset. The painting must actually leave your residence to be considered a completed gift.

1. Can't I Just Sell the House for \$1 to Avoid Taxes?

Nice try, but this one won't work! You can't sell assets for \$1 to avoid gift and

estate taxes. Some believe that they can outsmart the IRS by "selling" assets at an amount below fair market value to avoid the gift tax rules. Assume that Tom "sells" his rental house valued at \$225,000 to his daughter Suzie for \$100. Here, Tom has made a taxable gift in the amount of \$224,900, which is the difference of the fair market value of the property less the amount that Suzie actually paid for it. How do you determine the fair market value? Some assets – like stocks and bonds – have a ready market that is easily determined. Others – like real estate or family business interests – require you to engage the services of a qualified appraiser who can issue an appraisal report that must be attached to the gift tax return. I've seen instances where individuals instead obtained a realtor's price estimate report to justify a transfer value. It's been my experience that the IRS doesn't consider realtor's listing reports or price estimates to be a qualified report. When the IRS doesn't consider it to be a qualified report, then they (the IRS) are free to determine what they believe to be the accurate fair market value, usually resulting in the assessment of additional tax.

I hope that this helps you when you play Santa Claus this year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

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Children's Hospital Receives 2,000 Storybooks

Since opening the doors of the new building in May 2017, Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida has served as a beacon of quality health care for children in Southwest Florida. Its opening – and the capital campaign that helped make the hospital possible – inspired many in the community to support its mission through their time, talents and treasures.

One Southwest Florida author was so moved by the hospital's presence and its impact on the community, he's penned an inspiring new children's book all about a sick child and his little red wagon – the vehicle used frequently to transport young patients through Golisano Children's Hospital.

On December 12, Sanibel author Dan Perkins and Admiral Scott Logan – a longtime supporter of the children's hospital and collaborator with Perkins on the book's publishing – unveiled the new book, titled *Timmy and the Little Red Wagon* and will donate 2,000 copies to the hospital.

"The experience of a child's visit to a hospital can be a scary event," said Perkins. "But the experience and the warmth at Golisano puts everyone at ease. I kept thinking I could help continue to break down those fears through a book, just another way to help make the ordeal not so frightening."

Logan, a longtime Sanibel resident, has been a frequent supporter of SanCap Cares, the annual fundraising initiative for the children's hospital in the Sanibel and Captiva communities. A few years ago, SanCap Cares raised awareness and funds for the Little Red Wagon Fund, used to support Southwest Florida's most critical pediatric health care needs. Logan was taken by the name of the fund and usage of the decades-old kids toy in the hospital setting.

"A little red wagon is so ubiquitous during childhood. Generations of kids have used them, and everyone seems to have fond memories of theirs," said Logan. "When I heard how Golisano uses these wagons – to transport sick children around the hospital – I was amazed. What a great thing to do for these kids. Instead of gurneys or wheelchairs, they bring a piece

continued on page 18B

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Trust Company Supports Captiva Historical Society

The Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) is well-known for its programs designed to educate, enlighten and entertain islanders and visitors on the island's history. The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company is the season presenting sponsor of those programs.

"It is with gratitude that the Captiva Island Historical Society recognizes The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company for their continuing and generous support, which helps us defray the cost of this season's programs," said CIHS Board President Tom Libonate.

The next program is a double-feature movie night on Wednesday, January 16 with the showing of CIHS Captiva Memories documentary series: Volume IV *Artists & Authors* and Volume IV *South Seas: Captiva's Enduring Paradise*. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with complimentary refreshments and a cash bar at The Community House, 2173 Periwinkle Way. The program will be at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and seating is limited.

Programs began in November with Launch, Lunch and Look, a cruise to Boca Grande for a private buffet lunch and docent talk at the historic Gasparilla Inn. Recently, CIHS partnered with McCarthy's Marina for a dedication of the century-old Pops Randall House at



Front from left, Robin L. Cook, trust company executive vice president; Tom Libonate, CIHS board president; and Phyllis Gibson, trust company vice president. Back from left, Mary Jane Vinson, CIHS events committee co-chair; Mike Boris, CIHS treasurer; and Molly Downing, CIHS secretary. photo provided

City Dock, also known as Andy Rosse's and McCarthy's Marina.

Future programs and ticket information can be found at www.captivastrandhistoricalsociety.org.

captivastrandhistoricalsociety.org.

"The Captiva Island Historical Society does important work by preserving and interpreting the history

of the island and providing education about the remarkable people and events that have shaped its past," said Al Hanser, trust company chairman.*

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J. Brendan Ryan, CLU, ChFC, MSFS

There are precious few ways to guarantee an income for life, which should be the goal of every retiree for at least a major part of one's retirement income.

Of course, there is Social Security and states' defined-benefit pension plans. And there are non-governmental defined-benefit pensions, including those for public employees. But more and more, defined benefit plans are being reduced and even replaced by defined contribution plans, such as 401(k) plans, defined-contribution pensions and 403(b) plans. In these plans, employers do not guarantee the final benefit payout and can thus better control their cost commitment to the plan.

And there is the income annuity. This contract, issued only by life insurance companies, guarantees that, once a client starts a life or joint-life annuity, a regular check will arrive, be it monthly, quarterly, or whatever the client selects, in the mail or bank account for the rest of the one or two lives.

I firmly believe in income annuities. And in that belief, I am in good company.

In recent years, Congress has shown its favor for retirement-income guarantees. And a recent New York Life survey of retirees revealed that nine out of 10 of them believed that younger generations should set up an income plan that mimics a pension.

How can an insurer take a lump sum from you and guarantee that, however long you live, the payments will continue?

The insurer bases its guarantees on mortality tables, which express the average life expectancy of people for each age. And they apply these calculations to a large pool of clients so that the "law of large numbers" can be effective. Some people of a given age will eventually die short of their life expectancy, and some will die after the average expectancy.

When someone dies sooner, that is before getting back his or her full share of the reserve pool, a "mortality credit" (also known as a "longevity credit") is created. This is the part of the reserve backing up their income guarantee that the client will not get because they did not live long enough. Those credits are applied to the reserves of other clients who do outlive the average life expectancy. That is how long-livers can continue to receive their annuities' lifetime guarantee without bankrupting the insurer.

Insurers regularly create updated mortality tables to reflect the phenomenon that life expectancy is getting longer and longer.

Many people think that annuities are bad deals because of the risk of dying too soon and losing a large part of the sum that they paid in. But despite the preceding discussion about mortality credits, it is possible to hedge one's bet.

There are other payout options besides that which simply guarantees to send a check just as long as the person lives or for the joint lives of two persons.

The most frequently chosen option in my experience is "life with 10 years certain." This pays as long as the client lives; but if the client does not live at least 10 years, the balance of the first 10 years' payments are made to the named beneficiary.

The same guarantee can be added to a joint-life annuity and would kick in if neither of the two annuitants lived for the first 10 years of payments.

Instead of a guaranteed period of 10 years, the client could have the payments guaranteed for 15 years, etc. I have never seen this guarantee extend beyond 30 years, but I suppose that it is possible.

The more guarantees that are added to the payout, the lower the amount of the payment.

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

grants through the state of Florida and Lee County. The clinic also accepts self-pay and insured patients as well.

The community is invited to learn more at the MAT Clinic open house at the Evans Avenue campus on Tuesday, January 15 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

"We are thrilled to bring this much-needed service to our community," said SalusCare President and CEO Stacey Cook. "Research shows that a combination of medication and therapy can successfully treat substance use disorders and, for many, can help sustain recovery." For more information, call 275-3222.

From page 1B

Bicycle Award

proud to be long-standing partners with the city in making our community's cycling resources safe and welcoming for residents and visitors."

Prior to the announcement, Chauncey Goss shared some of his personal memories of the infancy of Sanibel's shared use path system.

"I recall it was a really nice community effort," said Goss. "I remember as a kid riding in a bicycle rodeo in order to raise money for the path. We rode this big loop - from The Community House, up to Casa Ybel Road, down Tarpon Bay Road and back to The Community House - and got pledges for completing the loop."

The League of American Bicyclists announced 61 new and renewing Bike Friendly Communities last week. "We applaud these communities for making bicycling a safe and convenient option for transportation and recreation," said Bill Nesper, executive director at the League of American Bicyclists. "We are encouraged by the growing number of leaders who see bicycling as a way to build more vibrant, healthy, sustainable and connected communities and be a part of the solution to many complex challenges faced at both the community and national levels."

Additional information about the Bike Friendly Community program is available online at www.bikeleague.org/bfa.

New Treatment Clinic To Open

SalusCare's Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) clinic will open on Monday, December 17 at the 3763 Evans Avenue campus in Fort Myers.

Medication Assisted Treatment is treatment for opioid addiction disorders that includes the use of medication along with counseling and other support. The clinic treats individuals age 18 and older who meet criteria for substance use disorders such as opioids and alcohol.

The clinic will be led by addiction psychiatrist Dr. Zaheer Aslam who will supervise a psychiatric advanced practice registered nurse and other medical staff. In addition, the clinic will be staffed by licensed clinicians and care coordinators to link patients with community resources, provide case management and needed therapy. The clinic will operate Monday through Friday, and patients are seen by appointment. Treatment is funded by several sources, including

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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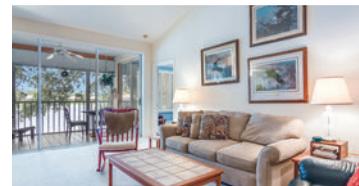
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 FRIDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 76 Low: 70	 SATURDAY Cloudy High: 71 Low: 65	 SUNDAY Partly Cloudy High: 69 Low: 63	 MONDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 72 Low: 65	 TUESDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 67 Low: 59	 WEDNESDAY Scattered Rain High: 70 Low: 61	 THURSDAY Scattered Rain High: 66 Low: 60
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Redfish Pass Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:27 am	11:48 am	7:12 pm	None
Sat	5:51 am	12:22 am	7:47 pm	12:36 pm
Sun	7:29 am	1:45 am	8:20 pm	1:23 pm
Mon	9:03 am	2:51 am	8:52 pm	2:08 pm
Tue	10:24 am	3:44 am	9:23 pm	2:50 pm
Wed	11:32 am	4:32 am	9:56 pm	3:29 pm
Thu	12:33 pm	5:17 am	10:31 pm	4:05 pm

Point Ybel Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	3:32 am	11:50 am	6:17 pm	None
Sat	4:56 am	12:24 am	6:52 pm	12:38 pm
Sun	6:34 am	1:47 am	7:25 pm	1:25 pm
Mon	8:08 am	2:53 am	7:57 pm	2:10 pm
Tue	9:29 am	3:46 am	8:28 pm	2:52 pm
Wed	10:37 am	4:34 am	9:01 pm	3:31 pm
Thu	11:38 am	5:19 am	9:36 pm	4:07 pm

Punta Rassa Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:00 am	11:34 am	6:37 pm	None
Sat	5:16 am	12:16 am	7:22 pm	12:36 pm
Sun	7:08 am	1:50 am	8:03 pm	1:34 pm
Mon	8:26 am	2:48 am	8:43 pm	2:20 pm
Tue	9:41 am	3:40 am	9:25 pm	3:02 pm
Wed	10:49 am	4:31 am	10:07 pm	3:48 pm
Thu	11:40 am	5:20 am	10:45 pm	4:37 pm

Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	6:37 am	2:04 am	9:22 pm	3:04 pm
Sat	8:01 am	3:38 am	9:57 pm	3:52 pm
Sun	9:39 am	5:01 am	10:30 pm	4:39 pm
Mon	11:13 am	6:07 am	11:02 pm	5:24 pm
Tue	12:34 pm	7:00 am	11:33 pm	6:06 pm
Wed	1:42 pm	7:48 am	None	6:45 pm
Thu	12:06 am	8:33 am	2:43 pm	7:21 pm

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.

The Center 4 Life will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday, as well as Monday and Tuesday, December 31 and January 1 for the New Year's holiday.

Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald & 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 for discussion on Wednesday, January 9 at 2:30 p.m. is *The Great Alone* by Kirstin Hannah.

“Alaska, 1974. Unpredictable. Unforgiving. Untamed. For a family in crisis, the ultimate test of survival.”

– Goodreads

Line Dancing Classes – Tuesday, December 18 at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members. Join the group for an hour of fun. The instructor will review dance steps then turn up the music for dancing. Bring a friend.

The Magic of the Keys – Tuesday through Thursday, January 22 to 24. Cost is \$574 for members (per person, double occupancy); \$844 single. Non-members are \$599 (per person, double occupancy); \$869 single. Includes round trip transportation, two nights at the Hyatt Place in Marathon, five meals (two breakfasts, two lunches and one dinner), Schnebey Winery tour

and tasting, and lunch, full day in Key West with private tram tour and all-day hop-on/hop-off privileges, and tour of Dolphin Research Center. Advance registration required on a first come basis.

Games

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

Bridge – Monday and Wednesday. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m.; the game begins at 1 p.m.

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

Hand & Foot – Thursday at noon.

Hearts – Friday at 12:30 p.m.

Kayaking on Tuesdays

December 18 at 8:30 a.m. (weather permitting). There is space for 16 people on eight two-person kayaks and limited space for those who own their own kayaks. Island Seniors, Inc. will provide kayaks, paddles and life jackets. Bring water, a small snack, sun screen, bug spray, sunglasses, towel, hat and change of clothing. Cost is \$5 for members and \$20 for non-members. Advance registration is required.

Fitness Classes – Island Seniors, Inc. members pay \$4 per class, visitors pay \$10 per class. Annual membership is \$20. Sanibel Recreation Center members must show their membership card to attend. Fitness class schedule is as follows:

Happy Hour Fitness – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m. Keep your brain fit and your heart, lungs and muscles strong. Hand weights, stretch cords and your body weight will be used. The format is 40 minutes of cardio, 20 minutes of balance exercises, core strength, flexibility exercises and mat work. Athletic footwear is required.

Connie DeCicco is the instructor

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

Cardio, muscle strengthening and flexibility training with hand weights, stretch cords, chairs and stability balls. Athletic footwear is required. Mahnaz Bassiri is the instructor.

Power Hour Fitness – Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m. Hand weights, stretch cords, stability balls and mats are used. Improve core strength and balance. Athletic footwear required. Mahnaz Bassiri is the instructor.

Gentle Yoga – Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Stretch, tone and strengthen while improving flexibility, proper alignment and circulation. Bring a towel. Kim Kouril is the instructor.

Chair Yoga – Tuesday and Thursday at 11 a.m. Similar to gentle yoga but all poses are done in a chair. Kim Kouril is the instructor.

For more information, call 472-5743 or stop by the Center 4 Life, located at 2401 Library Way on Sanibel.*

From page 14B

Storybooks

of childhood to the hospital to make children feel more at home.”

Logan thought there was a good story to tell, and he brought the idea last year to his friend and fellow Sanibel resident, Perkins. Perkins had just completed his first self-published children's book titled *Peter the Little Irish Seal*. Logan told him if Perkins would write a book about a little red wagon, he would help publish it. Amanda Cross, co-founder of SanCap Cares, provided the guidance and

encouragement to Perkins and Logan to make this project a reality.

Perkins got to work, telling a tale of Timmy, a boy who loved his little red wagon and eventually passes it on to his own son. Cameron, Timmy's son, finds out he has to go to the hospital for tests, and immediately gets scared. But he's put at ease thanks to his dad and grandfather, who bring his favorite little red wagon to the hospital.

“I must admit, I had never heard of using wagons in hospital, but it's an amazing idea,” said Perkins. “This is why I wrote this book.”

Perkins even consulted with Golisano Children's Hospital medical staff and child life specialists to make sure the telling of his tale was medically accurate and true-to-life.

The Logan Family Foundation funded the printing of the book, and the first run of 2,000 copies will be donated to Golisano Children's Hospital. The hospital has a library and book give-away program for children during their stay. The books help give kids a break from boredom and provide a pleasant distraction – and the patients can take them home when they are discharged.

Perkins and Logan know that Timmy and Cameron's story doesn't end here. They hope to print more copies in the future – selling some, but only to raise more funds so they can donate more to the children's hospital.

“It's our goal that every child who is admitted to the hospital will receive a copy of this book,” said Perkins.

To learn more about *Timmy and the Little Red Wagon* or how you can support Golisano Children's Hospital, contact Jeff Muddell at jeff.muddell@leehealth.org.*



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Christmas Gift Donations Sought

The Heights Center is seeking organizations and individuals to participate in the annual Harlem Heights Community Gift Drive. Individuals, businesses and philanthropic groups are asked to donate new, unwrapped gifts for local children. Gifts are needed for more than 800 children, ranging in age from newborns to 17.

Suggested donations are gifts under \$25 including Legos, dolls, art sets, footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, remote control cars, tea sets, action figures, board games, coloring books and crayons. Personal items needed include pajamas, jewelry, body lotion and spray, soaps, hair accessories and wristwatches. Donations of gift cards from Target, Kmart or Walmart are appreciated. Monetary donations can be made at www.heightsfoundation.org/donate.

The gifts will be distributed at The Heights Center on Saturday, December 15 from 10 a.m. to noon. Each child will visit Santa, have cookies and hot chocolate, and make Christmas crafts, while their parents choose gifts for their children.

"This holiday season will again be challenging for many families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood," said Kathryn Kelly, president and CEO of The Heights Foundation. "This is a great opportunity to bring joy to the



Make a child's Christmas brighter with a donation to The Heights Center photo provided

children of our community. We are thankful for the generous support of our neighbors."

Items can be dropped off at The Heights Center, located at 15570

Hagie Drive in Fort Myers. Toys will be collected through 6 p.m. on Friday, December 14.

Volunteers are needed to assist with set-up and at the event.

Organizations and individuals interested in participating can contact Melissa Barlow at 482-7706 or melissa@heightsfoundation.org. All donations are tax deductible.*

Red Sox Spring Training Tickets Now Available

A limited number of tickets are still available for the Boston Red Sox 2019 Spring Training season beginning February 22 at JetBlue Park at Fenway South in Lee County.

Fans can purchase tickets for most home games at JetBlue Park online at www.redsox.com, by calling 877-RED-SOX9 or by visiting the JetBlue Park Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Hearing impaired fans may call the Red Sox TTY line at 617-226-6644.

Starting February 22, the team will play a total of 17 home games, including 16 Grapefruit League games and the traditional college game against the Northeastern University Huskies.

Pitchers and catchers hold their first workout on February 13. The first full squad workout will take place on February 18. Workouts are free and open to the public.

The 2019 season is the Red Sox' eighth at JetBlue Park at Fenway South. For more information, visit www.mlb.com/redsox/news/2019-spring-training-schedules.*

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It's Bowling Time Again, But Not The Indoor Type



by Ed Frank

It's time to go bowling again, and I'm not talking about the sport of hurling a ball down an indoor alley.

Saturday kicks off (a pun) of 40 bowl games, six this Saturday, with the bowl schedules running all the way to January 26 for the Senior Bowl.

Should you not become bleary-eyed watching all this football, not even including the conclusion of the National Football League schedule, you might be happy to know that the NCAA recently approved the addition of three more bowl games in the next two years.

The natural question is why more bowl games?

An increase in the bowl lineup in 2015 allowed five-win teams to be bowl eligible and, since then, five teams with 5-7 records have participated, the reasoning being there just were not enough teams with 6-6 records or better to fill all the bowl slots.

The obvious reasoning for the increase is the five-letter word, money.

A 2016 report commissioned by the Football Bowl Association said the 41 bowl games at that time generated a combined economic impact of \$1.5 billion – ranging from \$12.6 million to \$93.7 million per bowl. The study defined economic impact as money spent in a local community for hotels, food and other costs. It does not include ticket purchases.

A bowl brings football fans into a community where many of whom have never been previously with hopes that they will return again.

We often laugh why a team with a 5-7 record is invited to a bowl. But consider these facts:

Stadiums wouldn't be half-filled at the end of the regular season if a team didn't have a chance to go to a bowl.

It allows teams three additional weeks of practice, and most coaches have a bonus in their contracts for playing in a bowl.

Not all conferences agree on 5-7 teams going to bowl games. The Pac 12 prohibits 5-7 teams from accepting bowl invitations.

At this time, it's not certain the bowl lineup will be expanded to 43. If it is,

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who was the last NL player before the Marlins' Giancarlo Stanton in 2017 (59 home runs) to hit 50 or more home runs in a season?
2. In 2017, Boston's Chris Sale became the fastest pitcher to reach 1,500 strikeouts in major-league history (1,290 innings). Who had been the fastest?
3. How many times did the Minnesota Vikings make the playoffs in the 10 seasons (1991-2001) being coached by Dennis Green?
4. Who was the last men's basketball player before North Carolina's Joel Berry in 2016-17 to score at least 20 points in back-to-back NCAA championship games?
5. How many games did the Washington Capitals win in their inaugural NHL season of 1974-75?
6. The Russian men's soccer team won how many games in its World Cup history (1994-2014) before its two-victory run in the 2018 World Cup?
7. Who was the first British boxer to win an Olympic gold medal and a professional world title?

ANSWERS

1. Prince Fielder belted 50 home runs for the Brewers in 2007. 2. Kerry Wood of the Chicago Cubs reached 1,500 strikeouts in 1,303 innings (1998-2010). 3. Eight of the 10 seasons. 4. UCLA's Bill Walton, in 1972-73. 5. The Capitals won only eight of 80 games (they also had five ties). 6. Two (one win each in 1994 and 2002). 7. James DeGale won the IBF super middleweight title in 2015.

Chicago and Myrtle Beach are likely destinations.

Next week, we'll discuss the multi-million dollar payoffs to the four teams vying for the National Championship – Alabama, Clemson, Oklahoma and Notre Dame.

The Miracle In Miami

If you didn't watch the end of last Sunday's Miami Dolphins vs. New England Patriots game, you missed unquestionably the most exciting game-ending play of this season and perhaps any season.

Although it's been replayed time and time again on television, you can search for it on the Internet.

With Miami down 30-27 on their own 31-yard line and only 7 seconds remaining, New England was defending for a "Hail Mary" pass. Instead, Miami quarterback Ryan Tannehill threw quickly to Kenny Stills who ran 14 yards and pitched back to DeVante Parker who ran five more yards and pitched back to Kenyan Drake who weaved 50 yards in and out of Patriots defenders for the winning touchdown.

The 66,087 fans, half-filled with Patriots fans, cheered as if they had won the Super Bowl.

The unbelievable ending kept the 7-6 Dolphins hopes alive for the NFL playoffs.*



From left, Stephanie Wegman, Katie Hansen, Jo Brasher, Colleen DePasquale, Rose Yates, Pam Korecky, Pam Korecky, Samira K. Beckwith, West McCann, Bob Sheehan and Jeff Brown photo provided

New Hope Chest Resale Store

Friends of Hope Healthcare and members of the local Fort Myers business community gathered to celebrate the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting at the newest Hope Chest resale store in Fort Myers.

Featuring an array of upscale designer-brand clothing and accessories, home furnishings, antiques and unique collectibles, the resale store is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

In addition to the new Hope Chest at 14540 S. Tamiami Trail in South Fort Myers, shoppers can visit Hope Chest at the Crossings at 28520 Bonita Crossings Boulevard and the North Fort Myers Hope Chest at 13821 North Cleveland Avenue.

Proceeds from Hope Chest benefit unfunded programs and services of Hope Healthcare, which provides exceptional care and support to individuals and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey.

For more information about volunteer opportunities or donating items to the Hope Chest resale stores, call 482-4673 or visit www.hopehcs.org.*

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ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Kingfisher Real Estate

The top producers at Kingfisher Real Estate for the month of November were: Valerie Tutor, top selling agent; and Mary Bondurant, top listing agent.*



Valerie Tutor



Mary Bondurant

VIP Realty Group

The top agents and sales teams at VIP Realty Group for the month of November were: Susan Dunn, top sales; Lynda and Kit Traverso, top listings; and Deb Smith, top producer.*



Susan Dunn



Deb Smith



Kit and Lynda Traverso

John Naumann & Associates



Kimberly Powers



Larry Hahn



Debbie Hahn



Nancy Finch

The top producers at John Naumann & Associates for the month of November were: Kimberly Powers, top listing agent; Larry and Debbie Hahn, top listing team and top sales team; and Nancy Finch top sales agent.*

Tree Of Lights Honors Loved Ones



Trees of Lights at a local business

photo provided

The Hope Hospice Tree of Lights tradition offers a way to commemorate loved ones while providing essential funds for those in need of hospice care and bereavement support.

In each Hope Care Center, a Tree of Lights will be adorned with white paper butterflies designated "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one by \$30 donors. Along with having a butterfly placed on the tree of their choice, \$60 donors will also receive a keepsake metal ornament engraved with the Hope Hospice logo.

In addition, with a gift of \$300, a dedication stone will be engraved with the donor's personal message and placed in one of Hope's Tribute Gardens.

To learn more or make a donation, visit <https://donate.hopehcs.org/treeoflights>. For more information, call 482-4673 or visit www.hopehcs.org.

Hope Hospice is a not-for-profit health care organization dedicated to providing care and comfort to every individual and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey.*

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Doctor and Dietician

Staying Active Year-Round On Sanibel



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

One of the mottos of our Caring Medical clinic is “Keeping People Active for Life!” Living year-round on Sanibel through the hot and humid months proves a bit challenging regarding exercising outside. (BTW, we enjoy meeting many of our fellow exercisers out there on the multi-use paths. You inspire us too!)

The heat and humidity make running, even walking outside, more challenging. Exercise has many benefits, especially as we age. If we do not keep moving as we live into our 60s, 70s, and 80s, we are headed to a nursing home. Studies show that once you lose the ability to ambulate two blocks, your chance of

needing nursing home care increases seven-fold. Enhancing and preserving mobility helps maintain our ability to function, as well as improves our physical and psychological well-being. Working on cardiovascular, strength and balance aspects of health will maximize long-term function, maintain balance, prevent falls and keep the mind strong.

If the weather is too hot for our comfort level, we need to adjust our exercise regimes. We realize that our pace slows in the heat, we require more fluids, electrolytes and carbohydrates in our diets, and we may need to find other ways to stay active. Some suggestions include changing from walking/running-focused activities to other activities such as lap swimming, pool running, bike riding, indoor treadmill running or walking, rec center classes, combination workouts that include walking with weights, or exercise regimes in the pool. It is amazing what fun it is to do strength and running exercises in your pool. Check out www.fluidrunning.com or Google “water workouts,” and you will find a lot of great ideas. Remember, sitting is now the new cigarette smoking. It can kill you. Let’s get up and get out there. See you on the paths!

*This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics has two locations: one in Oak Park, Illinois, and one in Fort Myers. It was established in 1991 by Ross Hauser, MD, and Marion Hauser, MS, RD. They can be reached at info@carimgmedical.com.**

Superior Interiors

Downsizing

by Trinetta Nelson



Many individuals and families are choosing to downsize and simplify their living spaces. For some, the responsibility of their larger home and yard has become daunting.

Whatever the reason, this decision usually brings on the task of cleaning out and getting rid of what may have been some special treasures but are now just accumulated “stuff.”

As years go on, collections, mementos and trinkets tend to slowly pile up. As the process of sifting begins, create four piles: “throw out,” “donate,” “keep,” “possible.” The key to this process is to keep it moving fast; the longer you look at something, the better the chance that

you will want to keep it. Utilize the one second rule to decide which pile. Ask yourself the question...why?

If planning to move into a smaller space and retain some furniture, list the pieces in order of importance. If cuts must be made later down the road, all you need to do is refer to this list.

After the cleaning out, the fun part of preparing the new home begins. Some choose to completely restart when downsizing: new everything to change it up. Whether you take this route or hold on to some special pieces, a decorator can be there to make the process an easier, even more rewarding one. Discuss how you will be living moving forward, what will work and what won't to meet your needs. When consulting with clients who are moving from a lifelong home to a smaller abode, it is best to measure the must-keep furniture pieces and create an accurate floorplan to be certain the pieces will actually fit into the new space.

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

Personal Training Sessions Offered At Rec Center

If you are you looking to take your overall health and wellness to the next level, sign up for a personal training session with one of Sanibel Recreation Center's experienced and certified trainers. Sessions are available on Tuesdays between 2 and 7 p.m. and on Saturdays between 1 and 4 p.m. Cost is \$80 for a one-hour session for members and \$106 for a one-hour session for non-members. Please visit us at the Sanibel Recreation Center, 3880 Sanibel Captiva Road, or call our front desk at 472-0345 to schedule your personal training session.

Clients can choose from two trainers for their personalized session. The first trainer, Kate Bush, has been certified through the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM) since 2003. Her passion is training older individuals to continue doing what they love for as long as possible without injury. Bush helps her clients achieve this by focusing on posture, strength and flexibility using a number of tools, including body weight, the TRX suspension trainer, kettle bells and ViPR. Her additional certifications include TRX Suspension Training Course, TRX Rip Training Course, Precision Nutrition Level 1 and The BioMechanics Method Corrective Exercise Specialist Course. Bush will be available on Tuesdays between 2 and 7 p.m.

The second trainer, Ginger Brien, has been certified through the Aerobics and Fitness Association of America (AFAA) since 1990. Her goal is to inspire one person at a time to find enjoyment in exercise. Brien utilizes a variety of equipment and training methods to accomplish this with her clients. Her additional certifications

include TurboKick, Les Mills Bodypump, Bodyflow and CX WorX, PEAK Pilates, Fittour, Silver Sneakers, TABATA Bootcamp, Piloxing and Schwinn Cycling. Brien will be available on Saturdays between 1 and 4 p.m.

The Sanibel Recreation Center is located at 3880 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Daily, weekly and annual memberships are available. For more information, visit www.mysanibel.com.*

Candlelight Vigil December 21

As a tribute to at least 30 homeless individuals who have lost their lives while living on the streets or in shelters in Lee County this year, the Lee County Homeless Coalition will host its 22nd annual Candlelight Vigil on Friday, December 21 at 6 p.m. The community is encouraged to gather on the steps of the Old Lee County Courthouse located at 2120 Main Street in Fort Myers to mourn those who have passed. The memorial event is also intended to educate and inspire the public to support the community's need for more affordable housing, shelters, living wages and accessible health care.

The vigil will include remarks by Lee County Homeless Coalition Executive Director Janet Bartos and William Rodriguez, past board chair. An opening prayer will be presented by Bishop El Johnson of New Life Worship Center. Taps will be performed by Harvey Charter, Commander Victor Paul Tuchman Post 400 Jewish War Veterans. Music will be provided by New Life Worship Center Choir.

The Lee County Homeless Coalition is a nonprofit organization comprised of community and faith-based service providers, local businesses, people who are currently experiencing or who have experienced homelessness and other advocates committed to ending homelessness.*

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dearRPharmacist

Body Creams That Won't Cause Cancer



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: I'm going to make you fall in love with body butters today. They are completely natural and insanely easy to make. You can add essential oils to make it smell lovely and then

apply as liberally as you like without fear that your moisturizer will irritate your skin, provoke cancer, or disrupt your estrogen and thyroid hormone (termed endocrine disruption). This is a great gift for yourself or to your friends for occasions.

Let's face it, keeping your skin glowing and supple is no easy task, which is why most people turn to lotions to hydrate the skin. It's instantly soothing. It's not just women who seek soft supple skin either, many men use shaving creams that dry their faces, or they have dry elbows and heels.

Don't let the beautiful bottles trick you, there are thousands of toxins in the beauty industry, and many popular lotions and creams have questionable if not serious harmful effects on your body.

Sadly, price does not dictate purity, these are found in both cheap and expensive products. For example, paraffin is a petroleum-derived compound that essentially coats your skin with a thin plastic covering. Parabens are used as preservatives but might impact your cell's ability to divide properly and disrupt normal hormone production. Many popular expensive skin creams contain antifreeze (propylene glycol) and still others contain silicone, another compound I feel is best avoided. The worst, in my opinion, are the perfumes because those could expose you to a thousand different weird chemicals that are hard to unglue from your cells. My point is there are hundreds of scientific papers

suggesting a correlation between cancer incidence and potent chemicals found in cosmetics, perfumes and skin care products.

Body butters can be made naturally by using cold-pressed extracts of either beans, seeds, or nuts. These nourishing formulas will remain solid at room temperature, but once applied, they melt into your skin. The best body butters contain healing oils that are whipped into cream. I'm thinking of cocoa, cupuacu, almond oil, coconut oil, pumpkin seed oil and jojoba oil.

Creating homemade body butter out of these oils is actually a straightforward simple process that you can do with a friend or daughter. Obviously, you can buy nice body butters today online and at retail boutiques.

To fully enjoy them, just dab on your fingers and rub it where you most need moisture, like your knuckles, hands, knees or heels for example. You can put it all over if you want. Body butter is intended to be concentrated so a little goes a long way.

Once you experiment with making homemade body butter, you'll never want to go back to conventional lotions. Making body butters at home is a fun way to bond with the kids and ensure purity in your skin care regimen. Sign up for my free newsletter at www.suzycohen.com, and I'll email you the recipes so you can make your own Whipped Pumpkin Spice Body Butter and also Jasmine Lemongrass Body Butter.

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.

Overeaters Anonymous

If food is a problem for you, Overeaters Anonymous can help. Meetings are held in Room 132 at Sanibel Community Church on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and on Fridays at 4 p.m.

For more meeting information, visit www.southwestfloa.org.

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way.✱

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy

Q: I have such a difficult time (and have my entire life) setting healthy boundaries with others. Then I feel resentment after I get taken. How can I go about setting healthy boundaries?

A: Setting boundaries makes for healthy and balanced people. Perhaps you never learned to set healthy boundaries because you wanted to get approval and please others. Maybe you were worried that you would let someone down, but what did that do for you? In an extreme situation where you are being used, abused, lied to and totally taken for granted, you can certainly stop all contact and communication with that person who is harming you.

By setting that "rock solid boundary" you are letting the other person know you are choosing not to put up with their behavior any longer. You have to not worry that you will disappoint someone, in fact, it's ok if you do. How many times were you disappointed, left out, ignored, stomped on and so on? Learn to practice saying 'no.'

When someone else asks you to

do something, you can respond with something like this: "let me get back to you," or "I simply can't." Be a broken record if you have too: "I have to think about it." Then, tune in to your own emotions. What was your gut reaction? If your answer is not an enthusiastic 'yes, I want to do that,' then it's probably a 'no.' It gives you time to think about what you really need. You will realize that first sense that you had as a child, and you do for yourself, not them. Tune into your own intuition and decide what really matters to you.

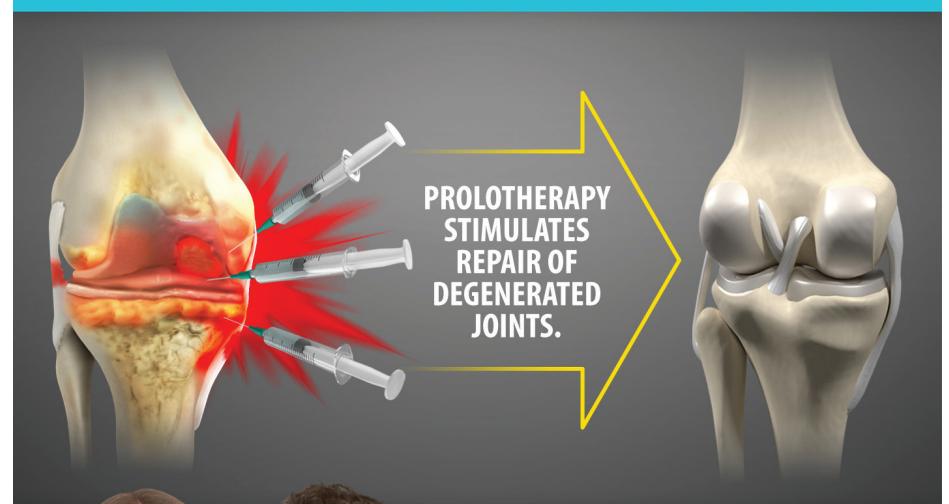
Once you set healthy boundaries with others, you won't be drained, so hold your ground and practice extreme self-care for you.

Upcoming event: Katie Gardenia will join me in leading a workshop, titled Disempower Energy Vampires Who Surround You and Reclaim Yourself Through the Art of Resilience, on Saturday, January 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Tween Waters Island Resort and Spa on Captiva. Cost is \$195 before January 10, which includes lunch and beverages. The admission fee can be mailed to: Constance Clancy, P.O. Box 82, Snowmass, CO 81654. RSVP to: drconstanceclancy@gmail.com.

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

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Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Planning Department	472-4136
Library - Sanibel	472-2483
Library - Captiva	239-533-4890
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Post Office - Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
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Sanibel Community Association	472-2155
Center 4 Life - Senior Center	472-5743
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Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
BIG ARTS - Barrier Island Group for the Arts	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	277-1700
Lee County Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Naples Philharmonic	597-1111
The Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
Sanibel Music Festival	336-7999
Sanibel-Captiva Art League	sancapart.com
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Symphonic Chorale of SW Florida	560-5695
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
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CHR Community Housing & Resources	472-1189
Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva	274-5900
COTI Committee of the Islands	coti@coti.org
CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife	472-3644
Democratic Club of the Islands	Demclubislands@gmail.com
Disabled Am Vets #108 (San-Cap Rep Ted Tyson) Help 211	984-5920
FISH OF SANCAP Neighbors Helping Neighbors	472-4775
FISH. OF SANCAP 24-hr service	472-0404
Sanibel Island Fishing Club	472-8994
Horticultural Society of the Islands	472-6940
Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva	472-8334
Kiwanis Club	677-7299
League of Women Voters	sanibelLWV@gmail.com
Lions Club, Jeff MacDonald	302-521-1158
Master Gardeners of the Islands	472-6940
MOAA - Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie	395-9232
Newcomers	472-9332
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

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press@islandsunnews.com

PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Sasha And Ditto

Hello, my name is Sasha. I am a 1-year-old female Australian cattle dog mix whose stunning good looks and sparkling personality would make me a great addition to any home. I am presently working on my leash manners and sit and stay with the fabulous team of volunteers. With any dog adoption, you can continue training at the ABC4-K9 facility. Every adoption comes with four weeks of obedience training for just \$60.



Sasha ID# A762590

My adoption fee is Pick an Ornament from \$15 to \$50

Hi, I'm Ditto. I'm a 13-year-old male domestic shorthair who is LCDAS' longest-term feline resident, and nobody knows why! I am quite the charmer. As you can see, I will dress up for a night out on the town. My charming personality goes along with my good looks. I would be quite the affectionate companion as well. I would love to

spend the holidays with a family of my own.

LCDAS is reducing pet adoption fees for the lucky families that find their perfect match this month. Just pick a door on the Countdown to the Holidays calendar to reveal a reduced adoption fee ranging from \$50 to as low as \$15.



Ditto ID# A754462

The adoption fee for all pets includes: spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, flea treatment, deworming, heartworm test for dogs six months or older, feline aids and leukemia test for cats, a Lee County license for pets three months or older, microchip pet ID, and a 10-day health guarantee. The total adoption package is valued at more than \$500.

The shelter is open to the public Monday through Saturday at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For information, visit Lee County Domestic Animal Services at www.leegov.com/animalservices or call 533-7387.*

Haven on Earth Animal League

Lily And Sylvia

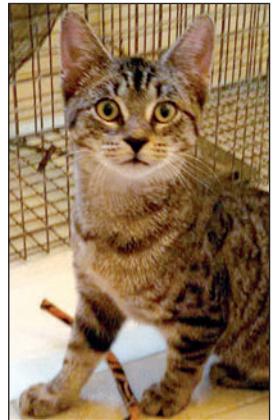
Hi, I'm Lily! I'm a beautiful 2-year-old female tabby with a white bib. I have been fully vetted and brought up to date on all vaccines. My adoption fee is \$100. Come see me at Petco in Gulf Coast Town Center.

Hello, I'm Sylvia. Aren't I just adorable? I'm only 6 months old and a very sweet little girl. I'm currently staying with a foster family and would really like a home to call my own! My adoption fee is \$100 which includes vaccines and spaying.

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



Lily



Sylvia

PAWS Of Sanibel

Brava And Lucy

Two very unusual and beautiful sisters are up for adoption. One is tortoiseshell cat with white or calico features, while the other is a dilute tortoiseshell.

These photos do not do them justice, as they are much more adorable in person. Adopt one, or keep them together and adopt both. They are four and five months old. They come with complete vet check-up, all shots, tests, wormed, treated with flea preventative and spayed. Call Pam at PAWS at 472-4823 to adopt one or both.*



Brava



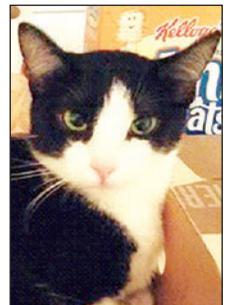
Lucy

Sonny And Cher

This is Sonny and Cher. Some of you may remember them. Three years ago, four kitties, the momma and three kittens were trapped between the Sunset Beach Resort and Lantana condominium on West Gulf Drive. All were adopted (Lana, Tanner, Sonny and Cher) to lovely people. However, Sonny and Cher's mom has reached a time in her life when she feels she must move in with family over on Pine Island. Unfortunately, in addition to her granddaughter being allergic, her son operates a business out of his home that is directly on Pine Island Road and the doors are always opening and closing, so it's not safe for kitties. These are very special kitties, and need to be together forever. Call Pam at 472-4823 if you can give these sweethearts a new home.*



Sonny



Cher

PUZZLES

Answers on page 29B

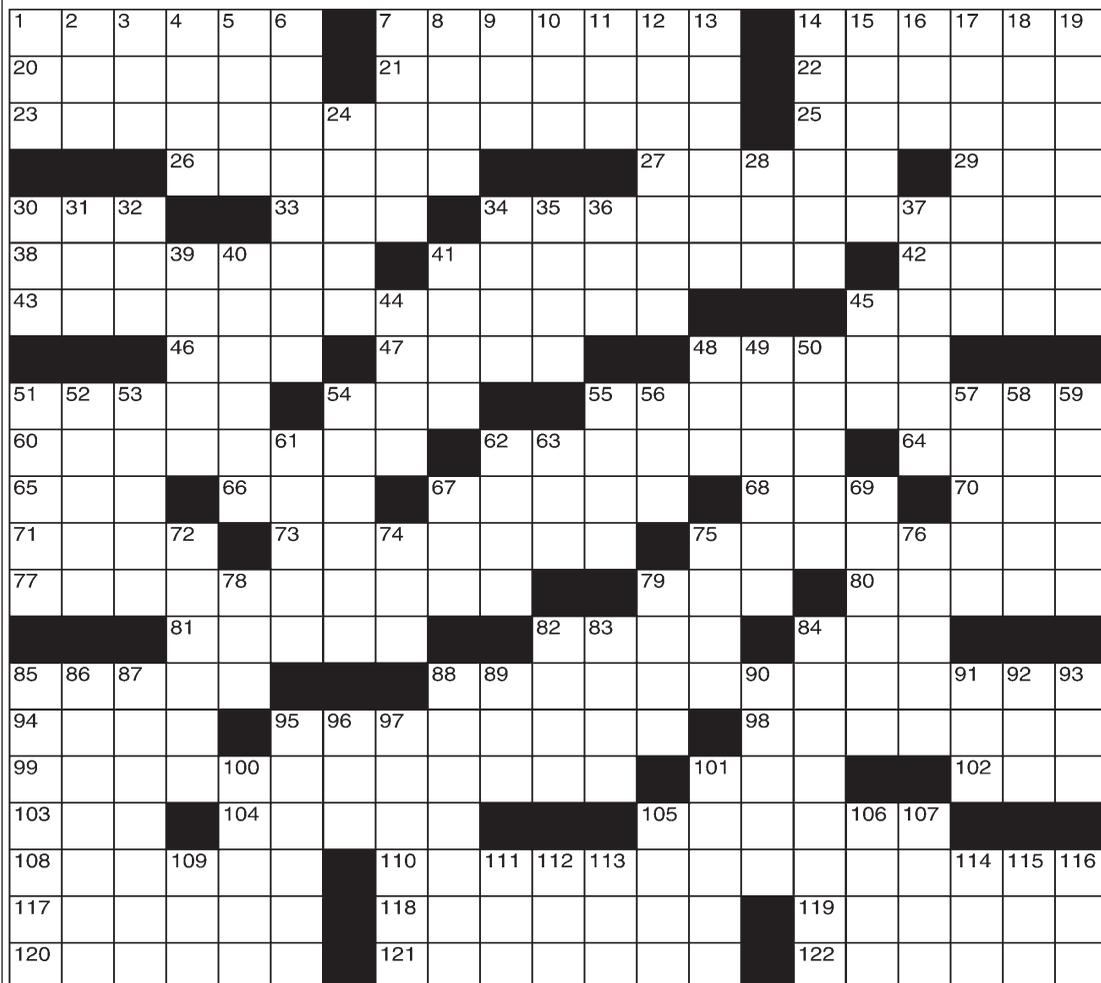
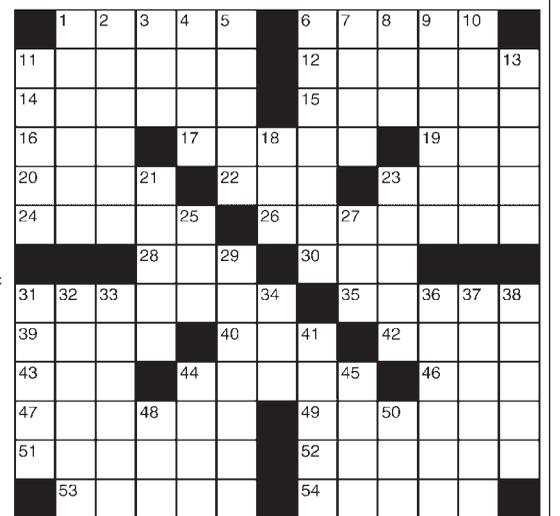
Super Crossword

PUNCH LINES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fistfight "souvenir"
 - 7 Fish groups
 - 14 Yasir of the Middle East
 - 20 Actress Mumford
 - 21 Fine-meshed nylon cap
 - 22 Go to the polls again
 - 23 Certain room decor adhesive
 - 25 Gives a heads-up
 - 26 Baseball's "Georgia Peach"
 - 27 Hindu mystic
 - 29 Mobster's gun
 - 30 Spot's sound
 - 33 Ending for plug or play
 - 34 It may be worn under a tennis shoe
 - 38 Hitchcock film of 1940
 - 41 Clichés
 - 42 Trickster of Norse myth
 - 43 Ramones' debut single
 - 45 In the — of (during)
 - 46 "— So Shy" (1980 hit)
 - 47 Bluish-black sour fruit
 - 48 Check casher, say
 - 51 — boom
 - 54 Hurt
 - 55 Slimy pest in a flower bed
 - 60 Does some needlework
 - 62 Penniless people
 - 64 Pop singer Turner
 - 65 Fracas
 - 66 Lead-in to mo or pitch
 - 67 Blackjack call that's apt for this puzzle's theme?
 - 68 "— the ramparts ..."
 - 70 Roker and Pacino
 - 71 Nevada city
 - 73 Trouser lines
 - 75 Hand-held seizing tool
 - 77 Sleeve feature with a link
 - 79 Transaction in 71-Across
 - 80 Wants badly, with "for"
 - 81 Eddie — (clothing chain)
 - 82 Above
 - 84 Luau bowlful
 - 85 End in — (go unresolved)
 - 88 Innate sense of time
 - 94 Pieces of pizza?
 - 95 Actor Tatum
 - 98 Acorn maker
 - 99 Solar system component
 - 101 He cried "I pity the fool!"
 - 102 Little guy
 - 103 Luau accessory
 - 104 Perfect thing
 - 105 Small river craft
 - 108 Messing up
 - 110 Ability to influence a campaign, perhaps
 - 117 Loath (to)
 - 118 Not in time
 - 119 Come out
 - 120 One hunting
 - 121 Appalachian range
 - 122 Get canines
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Handful of
 - 2 Imitating
 - 3 "My mama done — me ..."
 - 4 Buoyant tune
 - 5 Kids' guessing game
 - 6 Tail-fanning birds
 - 7 Brand of cat food
 - 8 Low- — meal
 - 9 In vogue
 - 10 Man-mouse middle
 - 11 Put- — (hoaxes)
 - 12 Disclose accidentally
 - 13 Plastered
 - 14 Pal of Athos and Porthos
 - 15 Antique
 - 16 "— Maria"
 - 17 Permanently
 - 18 Tears into
 - 19 Aid in self-diagnosis
 - 24 Like icecaps
 - 28 Eroded
 - 30 Hedge fund whiz
 - 31 Roman Cath., e.g.
 - 32 DOJ agcy.
 - 34 Jason's ship of myth
 - 35 "It wasn't meant —"
 - 36 Managed care gp.
 - 37 Most furtive
 - 39 Set of values
 - 40 Brno natives
 - 41 Tolling thing
 - 44 Sister and wife of Osiris
 - 45 Guys
 - 48 Lead-in to 52-Down
 - 49 Clever
 - 50 "Pro" replies
 - 51 Neck wrap
 - 52 Get via Amazon, e.g.
 - 53 Not a single person
 - 54 Pronto
 - 55 Supporters of canines
 - 56 Oafish sort
 - 57 Fibbing sorts
 - 58 Not aflame
 - 59 Breathes in quickly
 - 61 Yale of Yale University
 - 62 Singer Edith
 - 63 It spits out bills, briefly
 - 67 Pajama-clad mag founder
 - 69 Latch again, as a door
 - 72 Like some safe runners
 - 74 South, in Spanish
 - 75 — diagram (math image)
 - 76 Remorse
 - 78 Raven sound
 - 79 Tennis champ Björn
 - 82 Electric co., e.g.
 - 83 Bottled (up)
 - 84 Blood part
 - 85 Funnel-shaped flowers
 - 86 Merit
 - 87 Career completer
 - 88 Flowering
 - 89 Hanoi-to-Beijing dir.
 - 90 Major vessel
 - 91 Moon, e.g.
 - 92 Co. leader
 - 93 B minor, e.g.
 - 95 Coot
 - 96 Go in haste
 - 97 Makes fit
 - 100 Light wash
 - 101 Middle Ages weapons
 - 105 Nosh
 - 106 Highest point
 - 107 "—'s Gold" (Peter Fonda film)
 - 109 Bug a lot
 - 111 Brit's john
 - 112 Sort
 - 113 Mai —
 - 114 Leftover bit
 - 115 "Blech!"
 - 116 Informal shirt

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Yard activities
 - 6 Measuring device
 - 11 Wig
 - 12 Show up
 - 14 Hang around
 - 15 Vocalist
 - 16 Big bother
 - 17 Formal pronouncements
 - 19 Yoko of music
 - 20 Spill the beans
 - 22 Bear hair
 - 23 Coaster
 - 24 Black-and-white movie, e.g.
 - 26 90210, for one
 - 28 Always, in verse
 - 30 Mongrel
 - 31 Sways from side to side
 - 35 "Gone With the Wind" star
 - 39 Look lasciviously
 - 40 Three-man vessel?
 - 42 Intend
 - 43 Grazing area
 - 44 Filleted
 - 46 Suitable
 - 47 Identify
 - 49 Sarcastic remark
 - 51 Stag's lack
 - 52 With malice
 - 53 Butcher's wares
 - 54 Keglers' venue
 - 52 Tainer
 - 9 51-Across of a sort
 - 10 Tied
 - 11 "The Republic" man
 - 13 Wear away
 - 18 Since, slangily
 - 21 Belgian city
 - 23 "Get lost!"
 - 25 Conger or moray
 - 27 Boxer
 - 29 Cutting responses
 - 31 "Look Homeward,
 - 32 Anti-elderly bias
 - 33 Quick look
 - 34 Baltimore newspaper
 - 36 Snoopy, e.g.
 - 37 Boutonnieres' sites
 - 38 Access
 - 41 Watch-crystal holder
 - 44 Ernie's pal
 - 45 Prima donna
 - 48 — long way (last)
 - 50 Diarist Anais
- DOWN**
- 1 Large beer glass
 - 2 Golfer Palmer
 - 3 Schlep
 - 4 — out (supplemented)
 - 5 Helvetica lack
 - 6 Stomach-related
 - 7 Met melody
 - 8 Grecian con-



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

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

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Behavior | Company | Excuse | Humor |
| Book | Day | Food | Luck |
| Breeding | Deal | Fortune | Morning |
| Cheer | Evening | Friday | |



"Mom says to show my report card to you — she's already got a _____."
answer on page 31B

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the CAPITAL letters below to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word to complete the gag!

- Berate: STEANCH [] [] _____
- Concern: GRADER [] [] _____
- Courier: DRAHLE [] [] _____
- Argue: TEABED [] [] _____

TODAY'S WORD

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

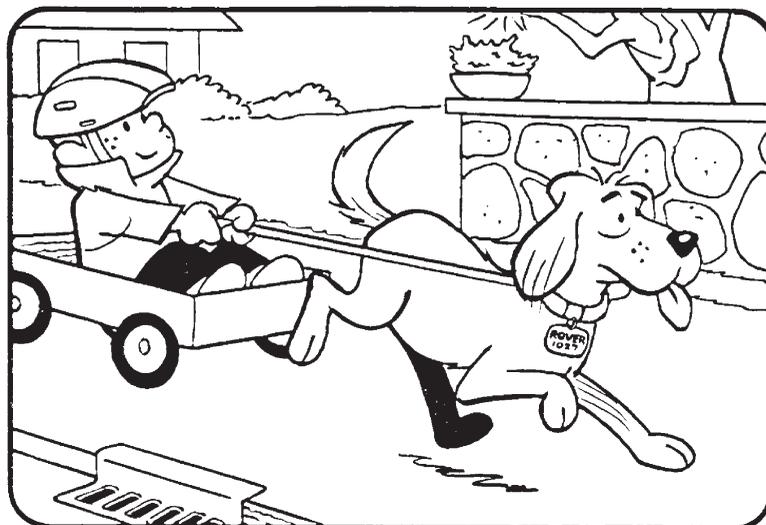
SUDOKU

To play Sudoku: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (the same number cannot appear more than once in a row, column or 3x3 box.) There is no guessing and no math involved, just logic.

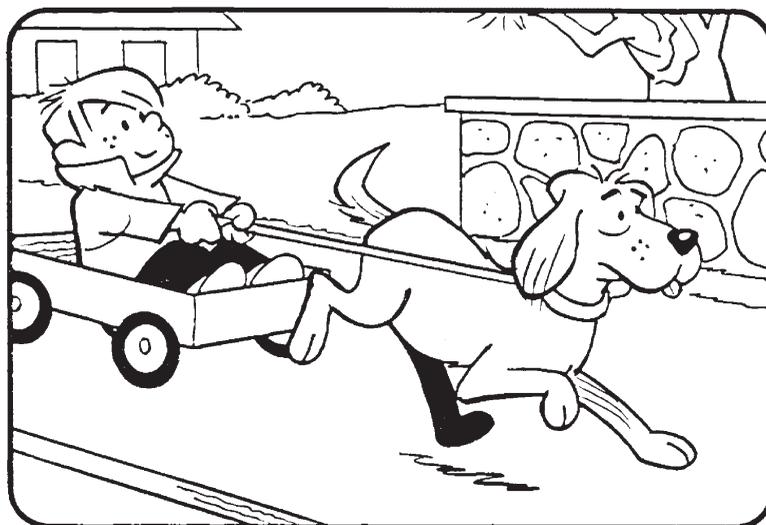
answer on page 29B

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Helmet is missing. 2. Drain is missing. 3. Tail is shorter. 4. Flower pot is missing. 5. License tag is missing. 6. Tongue is smaller.

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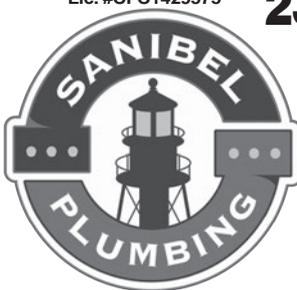
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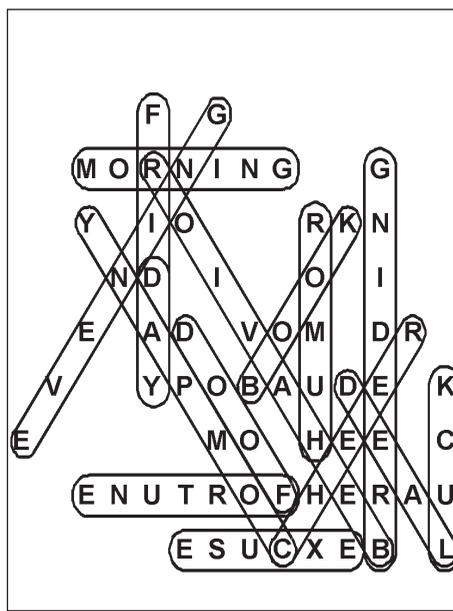
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 EER CUR
 WAGGLES GABLE
 OGLE TUB MEAN
 LEA BONED APT
 FINGER ZINGER
 ESCORT EVILLY
 MEATS LANES

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

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HELP WANTED

NEW AVEDA BEAUTY SALON

Now hiring all positions
 Sanibel Outlets
 Apply in person or
 Call 239-590-9952
 11/30 ★ 12/21

PT RETAIL SALES

Enthusiastic part time retail sales associates, experience required. Tolls paid.
 Amy Jo's Boutique and
 Amy's Something Special .
 E-mail resume to: sanibelamy@gmail.com.
 11/30 ★ 12/14

JERRY'S FOODS SERVERS & BARISTAS

Part Time Evening And Weekend Front End Associates Needed. Looking for energetic, personable, and fun individuals, with open availability Monday through Sunday.
 If interested call and ask for John, Norm Sarah 472-9300.
 1700 Periwinkle Way
 5/6 ★ TFN

GARAGE SALE

YARD SALE

Comforter set, decorative pillows, pictures, Lenox pieces, Christmas items, ornaments, storm shutters for patio doors, large tile saw. Saturday 12/15, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 9209 Kincaid Court, Sanibel
 Please no early birds.
 12/14 ★ 12/14

Shore Fishing: Don't Harm The Fish



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Landing a big fish from the beach can be hard on the fish. Dragging a fish up onto the sand if you're going to release it is not an option as it usually damages or kills the fish. Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it. The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.

you lift it out of the water – and do it quickly.

Before releasing, revive the fish while holding it in the water; moving it slowly back and forth so water goes over its gills. The fish will let you know when it's ready to swim off.

Florida just recently changed the regulations on fishing from shore. Florida residents as well as out of state visitors need a fishing license to fish from shore.

If you want a picture with the fish, support it as

My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2018

Aries (March 21 to April 19) Careful, Lamb. Don't let your generous nature lead to some serious overspending as you contemplate your holiday gift-giving. Your social life kicks off into high gear by week's end.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) A positive attitude helps you weather annoying but unavoidable changes in holiday plans. Aspects favor new friendships and reinforcement of existing relationships.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Demands on your energy level could be much higher than usual as you prepare for the upcoming holidays. Be sure to pace yourself. Friends and family will be happy to help.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Don't allow a suddenly icy reaction from a friend or family member to continue without learning what caused it -- and what can be done to restore that once warm and caring relationship.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) A relationship seems to be unraveling, mostly from a lack of attention. It might be a good idea to ease up on whatever else you're doing so you can spend more time working to mend it.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) New facts emerge that not only help explain the recent rift with a trusted colleague, but also might provide a chance to wipe the slate clean and make a fresh start in your friendship.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) A family member's personal situation is, fortunately, resolved in time for you to get back into your hectic round of holiday preparations. An old friend might bring a new friend into your life.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Pace yourself in meeting holiday pressures and workplace demands to avoid winding up with a frayed temper and a Scorpion stinger that lashes out at puzzled kith, kin and colleagues.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) A financial matter requires close attention. Also, news from a trusted source provides the means to help sort out a long-standing state of confusion and put it into perspective.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) This is a good time to reinforce family ties. Make it a priority to assess and resolve all outstanding problems. Start the upcoming holiday season with a full measure of love.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) Don't be pressured into a so-called solid-gold investment. Wait until the holiday distractions are over. Then take a harder look at it. You

might find that the "gold" is starting to flake off.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) A former friend might be trying to heal the breach between you by using a mutual friend as an intermediary. Best advice: Keep an open mind despite any lingering bad feelings.

Born This Week: You have a way of saying the right thing at the right time. Your friendships are deep and lasting.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was Kurt Vonnegut, one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, who made the following sage observation: "There is no reason why good cannot triumph as often as evil. The triumph of anything is a matter of organization. If there are such things as angels, I hope they are organized along the lines of the Mafia."

- If you received all of the gifts in the song *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, you'd have 364 presents.

- The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas is an apt time to consider the word "crapulous," which means "sick from excessive eating or drinking."

- Ireland's Porterhouse Brewing Company has what might seem to be an unlikely hit on its hands: the Oyster Stout. During the brewing process, raw oysters are shucked directly into the conditioning tank. This unlikely combination is popular, though, selling out quickly whenever it's available.

- Those who study such things say that while shaving, a person removes about as much skin as hair.

- As the holidays approach and you're out shopping for gifts, you might want to keep this in mind: According to survey results, siblings are the worst holiday gift-givers, getting the lowest marks from 21 percent of respondents. However, they weren't far behind in-laws, who were rated the worst by 20 percent.

- Unless you're from Central Florida,

you've probably never heard of the small town of Ocoee. So you might be surprised to learn that during World War II, Ocoee earned the distinction of sending more men, per capita, to serve in the military than any other town in the United States.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

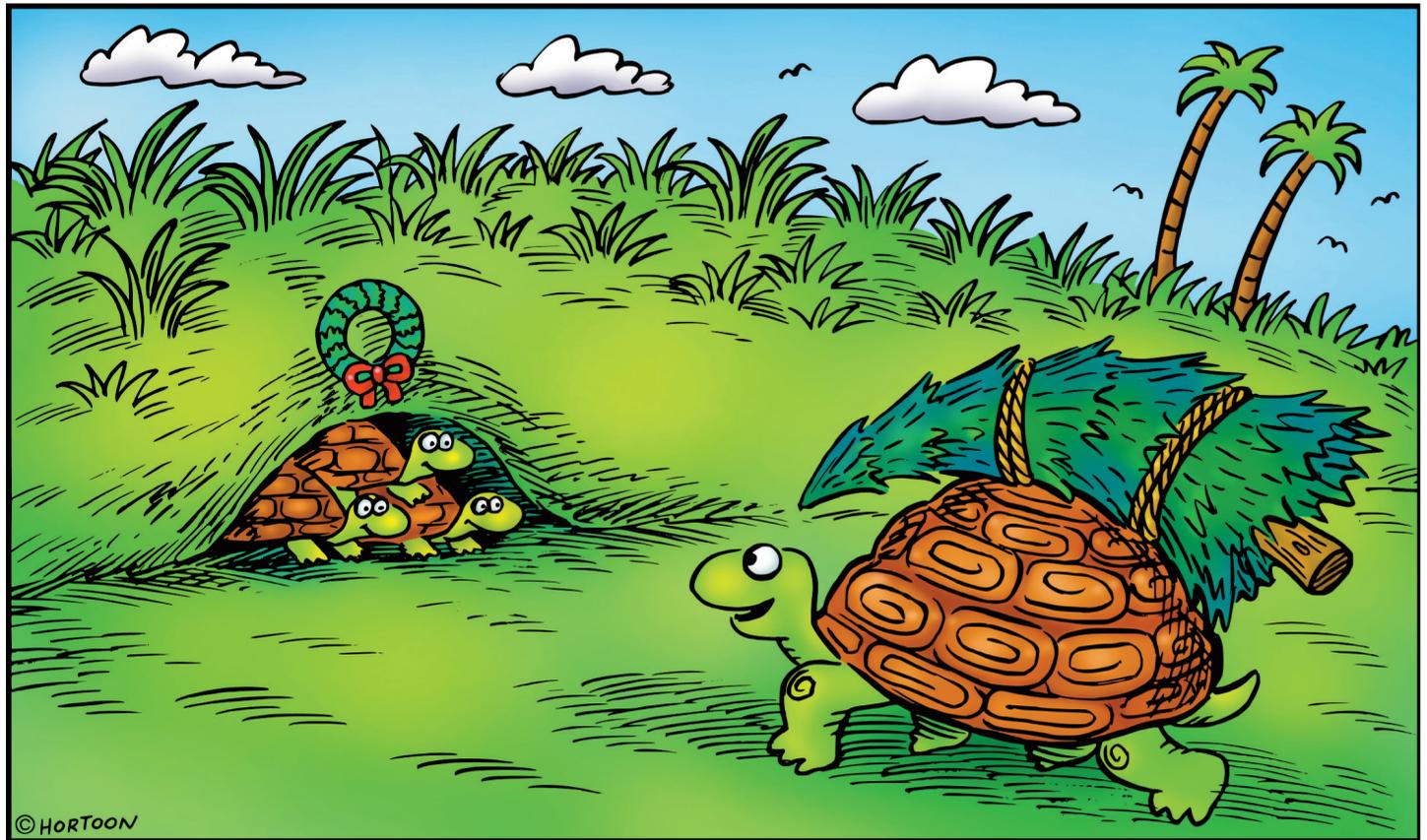
"Fame is very agreeable, but the bad thing is that it goes on 24 hours a day." – Gabriel Garcia Marquez

SCRAMBLERS

1. Chasten; 2. Regard;
3. Herald; 4. Debate

Today's Word
HEADACHE

HORTOONS



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Bonita Beach	Bonita Springs	2012	4,474	\$5,745,000	\$5,250,000	3
Southport On The Bay	Bonita Springs	2007	4,704	\$2,990,000	\$2,650,000	249
Bay Woods	Bonita Springs	2001	5,085	\$2,749,000	\$2,699,000	513
Fairview Isles	Fort Myers Beach	2016	2,492	\$1,599,000	\$1,500,000	287
Siesta Isles	Fort Myers Beach	1986	3,832	\$1,269,900	\$1,172,500	155
Rio Vista	Fort Myers	1988	5,685	\$949,000	\$780,000	368
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2017	2,431	\$828,000	\$735,000	97
Lake Murex	Sanibel	1971	2,302	\$797,000	\$750,000	262
Tamarind Trace	Estero	1999	2,664	\$795,000	\$785,000	34
Sanibel Shores	Sanibel	1987	2,371	\$749,000	\$717,000	79



Sanibel Arms West #E2 - \$874K furnished



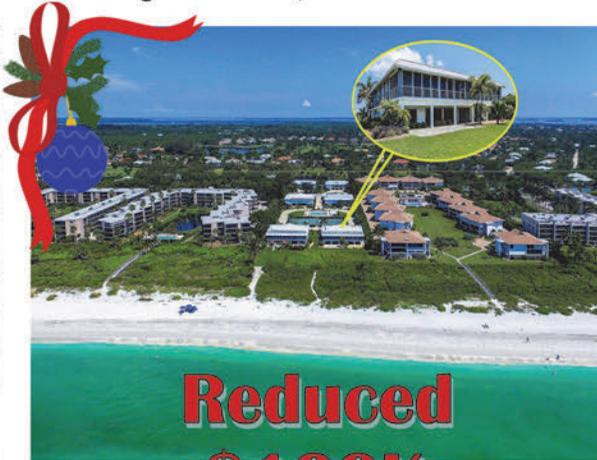
Signal Inn #4 - \$499.9K furnished



Pointe Santo #C43 - \$1.125M furnished



Captains Walk #B2 - \$239K furnished



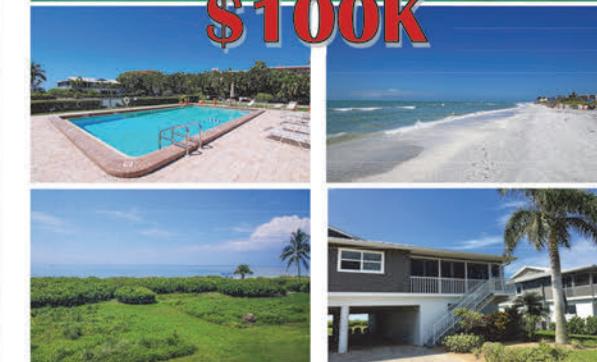
**Reduced
\$100K**



Coronado, Gulf Harbour carriage home - \$499K



9270 Kincaid Ct lot in Belle Meade - \$149K



**1351 Middle Gulf Dr
Moonshadows #2C - \$1.595M furnished**



9441 Peaceful Dr lot in Gumbo Limbo - \$249K



As The SanibelSusan Team reflects on 2018 & the holiday season, we are thankful for the work we do, where we do it, relationships developed, & new friendships made. This year after an unusual summer & fall, we especially are grateful & just sent donations to four island organizations that need help carrying out their missions supporting the people & things we cherish about the islands. Please accept holiday wishes from all of us at The SanibelSusan Team. We hope you too will support Coastal Keepers, CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife), F.I.S.H. of San-Cap, & SCCF (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation).

Susan Andrews
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Broker/Owner
NAR Hall of Fame, Eco-Broker®
Certified, e-Pro®, RSPS
(Resort & Second-Home Property Specialist), SCIS (Sanibel & Captiva Islands Specialist), TRC
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Realtor®
Sales Associate, Office
Manager, Closing Coordinator



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Realtor®
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Elise Carnes
Notary,
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**Happy
Holidays**

Sanibel
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More info & real estate blog at SanibelSusan.com