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This Holiday Season

# Island Sun

Luminary  
Holiday Stroll

Sanibel • Friday, December 6  
Captiva • Saturday, December 7  
5:30 to 9 p.m.

VOL. 27, NO. 23

SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 6, 2019

DECEMBER SUNRISE/SUNSET: 6 7:02 • 5:36 7 7:03 • 5:36 8 7:04 • 5:35 9 7:04 • 5:36 10 7:05 • 5:37 11 7:06 • 5:37 12 7:06 • 5:37

## Luminary Festival And Holiday Stroll This Weekend

by Jeff Lysiak

Island residents and visitors wishing to immerse themselves in the holiday spirit can accomplish that goal this weekend as the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce will host its 35th annual Luminary Festival on Sanibel this Friday, December 6 and on Captiva this Saturday, December 7. Both evenings are filled with special, seasonal activities and run from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

“Luminary Holiday Stroll is a community-wide holiday event that brings together residents, visitors, businesses and organizations, promoting goodwill and community spirit,” the chamber announced. “As you ‘stroll the trail,’ look for the many fun places to stop and enjoy. There will be Santa visits, photos with Santa, a live nativity scene, music and activities for the entire family. Our goal is to offer recognition to island businesses and encourage local shopping while



One of the island’s Luminary Festival traditions is attending A Walk Through Bethlehem, the recreation of a live nativity held on the campus of Sanibel Community Church photo by Jeff Lysiak

providing a fun-filled evening for family and friends.”

To begin the weekend, stop by Sanibel Community Church to attend the Holly & Ivy Bazaar, running from noon to 8

p.m. Lunch will be served from noon to 2 p.m. and includes walking tacos, hot dogs, soup, Key lime pie and cheesecake.

The bazaar features a variety of handmade crafts including small

decorated Christmas trees, wreaths, crosses, ornaments, jewelry and fashion accessories. There will also be a bake sale from noon to 6 p.m. with many items to continued on page 12



The Captiva Holiday Village Golf Cart Parade returns this Saturday, December 7 to the streets of downtown Captiva photos by Jeff Lysiak

## Captiva Golf Cart Parade To Honor McCarthy

by Jeff Lysiak

This weekend, one of the time-honored traditions of the season – the Captiva Holiday Village Golf Cart Parade – will return for its 10th

anniversary, with this year’s procession is dedicated to longtime community leader Paul McCarthy, who passed away in 2016.

According to Denice Beggs, a local realtor and longtime parade participant, McCarthy was instrumental in making the golf cart exhibition one of the island’s most popular holiday happenings.

“We wanted to make this year’s 10th annual parade a tribute to Paul,” said Beggs. “And we are inviting all of the



Two years ago, The Santa Babies performed a dance routine for the judges

past winners to not only participate this year but to bring their trophies with them. We’re going to take a group picture with all of the past winners.”

The Captiva Holiday Village Golf Cart Parade will be held, rain or shine, this Saturday, December 7. Beginning at 2 p.m., decorated holiday-themed golf carts – along with their riders dressed in holiday-themed costumes – will line up near the entrance of South Seas Island Resort. All teams will be photographed for judging

following check-in at 2:30 p.m. The entry fee of \$20 will be donated to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF).

“I think Paul would be thrilled that the money raised this year will be going to SCCF. It was one of his favorite organizations to work with because they do so many worthwhile things on the islands,” said Bob Randolph of Captiva Cruises. “Paul really loved the golf cart parade... he loved anything fun where

continued on page 6

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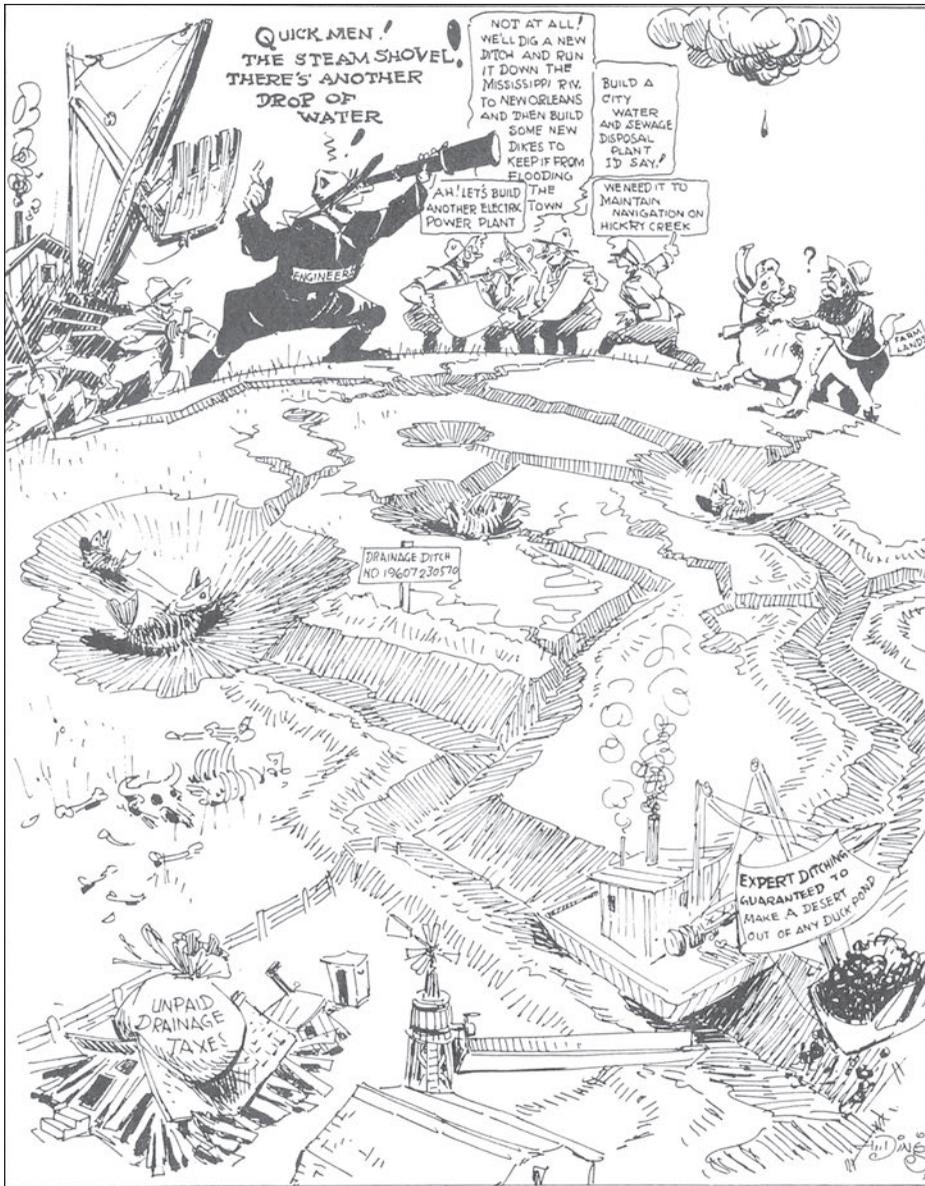
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*Our Engineers Plan Water Uses For Everything Except Nature's Objectives*

image provided

## From The Pen Of 'Ding' Darling

A clear example of the prescient nature of the political cartoons created in the early 20th century by Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling, this one, titled *Our Engineers Plan Water Uses for Everything Except Nature's Objectives*, foretold the reality of losing water resources. Like many of his Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoons, in its complexity it pokes fun at a number of political blunders – from the dikes of New Orleans to draining important wetlands.

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on December 1, 2020, take a look back at Darling's cartooning philosophy: "Every cartoon should have a little medicine, a little sugar-coating, and as much humor as the subject will bear."

In partnership with the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), the *Island Sun* is celebrating the 75th anniversary of the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge by honoring its roots in the noble profession of newspaper editorial cartooning.

Through December 1, 2020, the refuge's official anniversary, this newspaper will be running a monthly historical editorial cartoon penned by Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling, who twice won the Pulitzer Prize for his thousands of cartoons that appeared in the *Des Moines Register* in the early 1900s, syndicated in 150 dailies across the country.

To learn more about Darling, his work and his legacy, watch future *Island Sun* issues for this monthly feature. For more information about the refuge's 75th anniversary celebration, visit [www.ding75.org](http://www.ding75.org).\*

Email your editorial copy to:  
[press@islandnews.com](mailto:press@islandnews.com)

# CHRISTMAS AT SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH DECEMBER EVENTS 2019

## WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM

Thursday, December 5, 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Friday, December 6, 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Step back in time to the night of Jesus' birth.

The Historic Chapel is transformed into the town of Bethlehem. A wonderful interactive experience.



## COURTYARD LUMINARY CELEBRATION

Friday, December 6, 5 to 9 p.m.

Great parking, free food and drink, petting zoo, games for children and live music all night long! Stroll through a beautiful extravaganza of luminary lights celebrating Christ Jesus the KING!



## HOLLY & IVY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Noon to 8 p.m.

The Bazaar with many handcrafted items, jewelry, tools and bake sale, with lunch available. A fabulous Silent Auction with many items from local businesses and more, bids close at 8 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS IS JESUS CANTATA A CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR!

Sunday, December 8

at the 9 and 11 a.m. services.



## THE SYMPHONIC MASTERSINGERS "CHRISTMAS ON SANIBEL"

Sunday, December 15,

Sing-Along, 5:30 p.m. & Concert, 6 p.m.

Join us for unforgettable music celebrating the Christmas season. The concert is free; however, a love offering is received

for CHR (Community Housing and Resources) of Sanibel. A reception with refreshments follows the concert.



## CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE Tuesday Evening, December 24

### Services of Worship in the Main Sanctuary:

4 p.m. – Contemporary Service With Kids Moment

6 p.m. – Contemporary Service

8 p.m. – Traditional Service With Choir

A special offering is received at all three services for our fellow neighbors who can use a little extra help during the Christmas Season.

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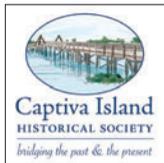
Christmas party

photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives

Captiva Island Historical Society

## Looking Back: Christmas Party

This week's image takes you back to the Captiva Fire Control District's Christmas party at the Captiva Civic Association in 1996.



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 website at [www.captivaishistoricalociety.org/archives/research](http://www.captivaishistoricalociety.org/archives/research) to view many more images to bring you closer to Captiva. ✨

## Churches/Temples

### ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Father Dean Nastos, Orthos Service Sunday 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy Sunday 10 a.m., Fellowship Programs, Sunday School, Bible Study. [www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org](http://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 Barry Fulmer. [www.batyam.org](http://www.batyam.org), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 732-780-2016.

### HISTORIC CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

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

### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Sunday 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Wednesday afternoon meeting 4:30 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. Stephen LeBar, Interim Senior Pastor Sunday Worship: 8 a.m. Traditional in Historic Chapel; 9 a.m. Contemporary and

Children's Church in Main Sanctuary; 11 a.m. Traditional in Main Sanctuary. Childcare available at all services. [www.sanibelchurch.com](http://www.sanibelchurch.com), 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684

### SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, Sr. Pastor. The Rev. Deborah Kunkel, Associate Pastor. Sunday worship: chapel service at 7:45 a.m. Full service at 9 and 11 a.m. with Sunday school and nursery care provided, [www.sanibelucc.org](http://www.sanibelucc.org), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 472-0497.

### ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

### ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Alan Kelmereit, Priest-in-Charge Saturday Eucharist 5 p.m., Sunday Eucharist 8 and 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Tuesday Morning Prayer 9 a.m., Wednesday Healing Eucharist 9 a.m., Prayer and Potluck 1st Wednesdays 6 p.m., Taizé Service 3rd Wednesdays 6 p.m. [www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org](http://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](mailto:ryi39@aol.com), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 433-4901. ✨



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Henry Peterson with the famous turkey flag photos provided

## Record-Breaking Numbers For Turkey Drop

The 4th annual Turkey Drop to benefit Harry Chapin Food Bank was held on November 20 on Sanibel's east end. Community members came out in force to deliver frozen turkeys and non-perishable food baskets to be delivered to the food bank in time for Thanksgiving.



Sandy Peterson loading turkeys

Spearheaded by Henry Peterson, along with his wife Sandy, the drive was a record-breaker, with 1,786 pounds of turkeys and "sides" donated for the food bank.

"We are so grateful to them, and the residents of Sanibel for all the Thanksgiving food," said Meg Madzar, event and food drive coordinator of Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida.

If you would like to sponsor or help out with 5th annual Turkey Drop in 2020, contact Henry Peterson at 395-2476.\*

## Historical Village Holiday Toy Exhibit

The Sanibel Historical Museum & Village is displaying an exhibit of antique and vintage toys now through the holiday season. All the village's buildings will display a variety of vintage and antique toys that are part of the museum's collection.

"Part of our reason for having this display now is that we are not able to have our traditional Luminary celebration due to the construction at our next-door neighbor, BIG ARTS," said Executive Director Emilie Alfino. "We regret that we cannot offer our free admission event as we normally do during Luminary afternoon. The parking situation will not allow it. We will resume our usual Luminary festivities next year."

Most of the museum's toy collection will be on display in each of its nine vintage buildings. From handmade to store-bought, the display features what children of the 1900s wished for: dolls and dollhouses, trains, boats, cars, books, games, and other collectibles.

"Toys appeal to people of all ages," Alfino said. "Not only are they poignant reminders of youth, they convey fascinating glimpses into the values, styles and technology of earlier areas."

The Sanibel Historical Museum and Village is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours take place at 10:30 a.m.



Raggedy Andy and tea set photo provided

and 1:30 p.m. at no additional charge, depending on docent availability. The Sanibel Historical Village is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS) and there is handicap access. Admission is \$10 for adults over 18. Members and children are free.

The museum will remain open during the BIG ARTS construction project. Parking and access for village guests and volunteers will be available throughout the construction period. Signage is in place to direct visitors.

For more information, call 472-4648 during museum hours or visit [www.sanibelmuseum.org](http://www.sanibelmuseum.org).\*

From page 1

## Golf Cart Parade

people got together on Captiva and had a good time."

The parade will begin at 3:30 p.m., passing along Captiva Drive to Andy Rosse Lane, where the procession will head towards the beachfront. Heading back towards Captiva Drive, the procession will then make its way to Chapin Lane and Wiles Drive before turning back onto Captiva Drive and returning to the starting line. Parade participants and viewers are invited to attend the post-parade awards presentation party at South Seas' Sand Dollar Plaza.

Awards will be presented for the best

commercial, non-commercial and Best In Show. Members of the public are invited to vote for their favorite decorated golf cart in the People's Choice Award. Vote for your favorite entry online at [www.Facebook.com/SouthSeasResortVillage](http://www.Facebook.com/SouthSeasResortVillage). Photos of all entries will be posted shortly after the conclusion of the parade. On Tuesday, December 10, the winner will be announced.

Prizes will be provided by the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce, South Seas Island Resort, Tween Waters Inn Island Resort and Sunny Island Adventures at South Seas Island Resort.

For entry forms or for information on rental carts, call Sunny Island Adventures at 954-850-9240.\*

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# City Buys Bank Building For Use As Senior Center

by Jeff Lysiak

Taking a big step towards fulfilling a promise made to the Island Seniors, the Sanibel City Council unanimously approved the purchase of a commercial property – located at 2475 Library Way – that will be dedicated towards the future home of the city’s new Center 4 Life facility.

On Tuesday, members of the council voted 5 to 0 to appropriate \$1,890,000 for the purchase of the Library Way property, currently occupied by Sanibel Captiva Community Bank. “The funds for this amendment are being provided by an interfund loan from the general fund to the capital acquisition fund,” Resolution 19-080 reads, in part. “Repayment to the general fund is expected in full when the debt proceeds for the Center 4 Life purchase and remodel are received.”

The Island Seniors group had requested that a new facility be provided for its expanding membership, programs and activities. A number of plans for a new building – as well as plans for refurbishment and renovation of its current facilities, which are limited in available onsite parking spaces – have been presented to council over the past several years.

During deliberations on the subject, each member of the council weighed in on taking advantage of the opportunity to purchase the property, which happens to be located adjacent to the current Center 4 Life building.

“Having a senior center is essential to this community, and it’s just fortuitous



During Tuesday’s Sanibel City Council meeting, a proclamation recognizing the 75th anniversary of the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge was read. Here, members of the council are joined by refuge employees, volunteers and members of the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society

photo by Jeff Lysiak

that the property is located exactly where it needs to be,” said Councilman Jason Maughan. “We’re getting two birds with two stones that also fulfills the promise made by members of this council (to the Island Seniors).”

“What was once thought to be an impossible dream is finally going to happen,” added Vice Mayor Mick Denham.

Councilman Richard Johnson, who described the current conditions at the city’s Center 4 Life building as “deplorable,” said that the island’s senior citizens deserve much better. “I think nothing but good comes out of this,” he added. “This is the right direction for us to go in as a community.”

While no formal plans for the new

Center 4 Life building have been proposed, Mayor Kevin Ruane explained that a two-story facility has been suggested for the site and that the former building will be removed to provide additional parking space for Island Seniors to use.

“I can assure everyone that your taxes won’t go up,” said Ruane, addressing some of the concerns shared by people who have discussed the matter with him personally. “In fact, they may go down.”

“I’m looking forward to seeing this come to fruition,” added Councilwoman Holly Smith.

According to terms stated within the resolution, the closing on the property will be completed before the end of December.

“I’m thankful and proud to be part of the team that made this happen,” said

Denham following the unanimous vote.

In other business, councilors approved the reappointment of three members of the city’s planning commission – Chuck Ketterman, Matthew Kirchner and Karen Storjohann – whose new terms will commence on January 9, 2020 and expire on January 9, 2023.

Also, during the monthly water quality report, Holly Milbrandt of the city’s department of natural resources stated that according to the latest red tide report – conducted by the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Marine Laboratory and Sanibel Sea School – there have been a reduced number of dead fish seen on Sanibel’s beaches as well as respiratory illnesses reported over the past week.✧

# Revised Shared Use Path Policy Approved

by Jeff Lysiak

Following a lengthy discussion on an ordinance that would prohibit certain vehicles from using the city’s shared use path system, members of the Sanibel

City Council approved an amended policy that permits Class 1 pedal-assisted eBicycles on the pathways but would not require permitting such vehicles nor restrict island businesses from renting them.

More than an hour of Tuesday’s council session was dedicated to Ordinance 19-011, which stipulates that “no operator shall drive a motor vehicle, micromobility device, motorized scooter, moped or other vehicle other than by

human power upon a bicycle path, sidewalk or shared use path, except for crossing incident to appropriate access to adjacent property.” The prohibition would not apply to a public officer or employee in the performance of duty, or to a person operating a motorized wheelchair or similar other power-driven mobility device operated by a person disabled for mobility purposes.

Initially, the ordinance also required that all persons operating a Class 1

electric assisted bicycle would have to obtain a non-transferrable permit from the city, which would also require a \$20 one-time fee along with proof of ownership. It had also prohibited local businesses from renting Class 1 eBikes that intended to use the city’s sidewalks, bicycle paths or shared use paths.

However, the latter two policies were omitted from the final document after several members of the audience

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## Catholic Women Raise Funds

The first meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Catholic Women was held at Sanibel Arms West on November 21. The group's guest speaker, Carlton A. Cleveland, spoke on Immokalee Fair Housing (IFH). Cleveland's message was the significance of quality housing for farmworkers' families and how when children are in safe homes, they are happier, healthier and perform better in school.

Following his presentation, the newly formed organization raised \$4,600 to donate to IFH.

Sanibel-Captiva Catholic Women are not affiliated with St. Isabel Parish or the Diocese of Venice. Their next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 5 at Sanibel Arms West.

For more information, contact Dottie McGovern at 481-5950.✳



Sanibel Catholic Women at the November meeting photo provided

## Community House

### Art Journaling With Paulette

Explore different techniques while creating a four-page spread on Monday, December 9 from 2 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$45 for members and \$55 for guests.

### Christmas Cards With Kim

Experiment with watercolor and heat embossing to make three Christmas cards on Tuesday, December 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. For ages 12 and older. Cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for guests.

### Weather And Wildlife

Learn what the changing weather patterns are doing to wildlife and its habitats on Thursday, December 12 at 7 p.m. All are welcome; donation suggested.

### Holiday Craft Bazaar

Vendor tables at \$30 each are available for the Holiday Craft Bazaar, to be held on Saturday, December 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Crafters, artists, chefs, knitters, authors, jewelers, beauty product manufacturers, game and toys creators are welcome. There will be no admission charge for shoppers. Call 472-2155.

### Culinary Social

On Saturday, December 14 at 10 a.m., learn how to make holiday chutneys. Participants will receive an eight-ounce chutney to take home. Cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for guests.

### Yupo With Anita Helen Cohen

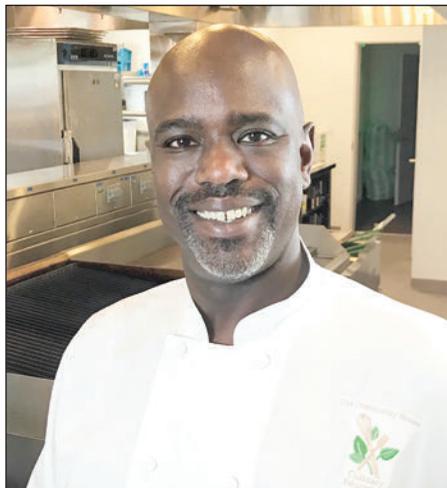
Watercolor on Yupo with Anita Helen Cohen on Monday, December 16 from 1 to 4 p.m. Learn how to paint a beach scene with watercolor on a new surface. Experience is helpful but not necessary. Cost is \$45 for members and \$55 for guests.

### BIG ARTS Current Events

The BIG ARTS Current Events group meets from 10 a.m. to noon on Mondays and Wednesdays.

### Community Social

The next community social will be



Make holiday chutney with Chef Jarred Harris on Saturday, December 14

photo provided

Curry Night on Tuesday December 17 beginning at 6 p.m. Reservations are suggested as seating is limited. Cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for guests. Adult beverages and desserts will be available at additional cost.

### Sanibel Yoga

Sanibel Yoga classes are offered on Tuesdays with Vinyasa at 10 a.m. and Gentle Yoga at 11:15 a.m. On Thursdays, yoga for all levels is held at 10 a.m. and Gentle Yoga at 11:15 a.m. Cost is \$18 for members and \$20 for guests.

### 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. Cost is \$3 to \$5 per project, supplies provided. Shell Crafters are on site until 1 p.m. on Mondays for those who would like to view or purchase their work.

### Honey, Pickles And Jellies

Locally harvested honey is for sale, as well as chutneys, pickles and jellies made by Chef Jarred Harris.

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

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# What's Happening At The House

MONDAYS

10 am Shell Crafter Lesson  
Limited Seating

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

10 am & 11:15 am Sanibel Yoga

MON. DECEMBER 9

2 pm Art Journaling w/ Paulette

TUES. DECEMBER 10

1 pm Christmas Card making w/ Kim

THURS. DECEMBER 12

7 pm Threat to Wildlife &  
It's Habitats Talk

SAT. DECEMBER 14

9 am - 4 pm Holiday Bazaar

We are currently looking for vendors  
with homemade goods

MON. DECEMBER 16

1 pm Watercolor on Yupo w/ Anita

MINI GOLF

THURS. DECEMBER 26 4 - 7 pm

FRI. DECEMBER 27 9 - 7 pm

SAT. DECEMBER 28 9 - 7 pm

We are currently looking  
for Mini Golf Sponsors

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The Community House  
SANIBEL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

(239) 472-2155

email [info@sanibelcommunityhouse.net](mailto:info@sanibelcommunityhouse.net)

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From left, Shawn Allison, Abbey Allison and Dave Dust

photo provided

## Church Offering Jazz Lessons And Carols Program

On Sunday, December 15 at 3 p.m., Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ (SCUCC) will offer a new and different approach to a Christmas season service entitled Jazz Lessons and Carols. The program, which will be held in the sanctuary, will include jazz arrangements of Christmas songs, readings from a variety of sources and a chance to sing favorite carols.

All are welcome to attend and are invited to have refreshments afterwards in Fellowship Hall. While there is no charge, there will be a free-will offering.

Saxophonist and vocalist Shawn Allison, pianist Abbey Allison and guitarist Dave Dust – all local professional musicians – will present upbeat pieces,

ballads, and other Christmas music with the jazz twist the congregation enjoys at the church's blended services at 9 a.m. each Sunday. Shawn Allison will lead the carol singing, which will feature familiar Christmas songs.

Also participating in the service will be the Rev. Dr. John H. Danner.

The trio has chosen readings from sources including Christmas sermons by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Archbishop Oscar Romero, and Christmas poems by Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou. There will be selections by other poets, orators and theologians as well. The readings will emphasize Christmas miracles, peace and the joy of the season.

Drawing on their diverse musical backgrounds, since January of 2017 the trio has brought an organic mix of musical styles to SCUCC's blended services. They tailor their music to each week's message and find inspiration for their selections in jazz, folk, rock, gospel and classical music.

The result is unique service music that pays tribute to traditional sources while presenting a fresh take on those sources.

The group loves playing and working together and is excited to offer this special service to the community during the Christmas season.

"Every year, we're reminded of all of the fantastic holiday poems and writings there are, and we have all these great jazz Christmas arrangements we hardly ever get to use," said Abbey Allison. "The idea of presenting them together in one service is very exciting."

SCUCC is located at 2050 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel, across from the main entrance to Periwinkle Place Shopping Center. For more information, call 472-0497.✳

## CARD OF THANKS

The Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club thanks the following performers, sponsors and supporters for their generous donations of funds and time provided for the very successful presentation of this year's Sanibel Blues and Jazz Fest, held on November 3.

The wonderful performers who made the day:

Matt Schofield  
Sean Chambers  
The Marty Stokes Band  
Johnny Jensen

The major sponsors for the event were: Bailey's General Store (host), George and Wendy's Seafood Grille, Island Insurance Services, and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank.

Other sponsors included: Doug and Sherry Gentry, The Timbers Restaurant and Fish Market, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, Island Taxi, Doc Ford's Rum Bar and Grille, Sanibel-Captiva Beach Resorts, The Sanibel Café, Over Easy Café, John Grey Painting, The Wolter Group, Billy's Rentals, Barefoot Charley's Painting, West Wind Inn, Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's, *Island Sun*, Floral Artistry, Mon Reve Lawn Care, and Billy's Bikes.

Many thanks also go to the City of Sanibel and the Breeze Newspapers. Special thanks are due to the many volunteers who helped with many tasks: Stan Howard, Marty Stokes, Joni Stokes, Sal Dickinson, Mel Suran, Carol Suran, Karen Turner, Sandy Shephard, Vicky Richardson, Dani Howard, Avery Renshaw, Marit Hansen, Rachel Stokes, Joey Garofano, Mike Valdes, Steve Neville, Amy Espisito Brown, Allen Fiske, Mary Morse, Kathy Lear, John LaPadula, Linda Tedeschi, Mark Morse, Allen Dunham, June Brunton, Warren Brunton, Frances Steger, Mark Steger, Michael Macray, John F. Jones, Mark O'Brien, Maria O'Brien, Lois Luber, Gary Dille, Ellen Scrivner, Peter Scrivner, Becky Woodward, Dan Alton, Matt Davis, Christopher Davis, Randy Carson, Stacy Grinnel, Dave Quesser, Jim Stevens, Billy Kirkland, Jim Burke, Rick Borg, Andrew Ginipro, Andre Arensman, Julie Arensman, Daisy Arensman and Ben Arensman.

Donations from the Fest will go to Community Housing and Resources (CHR), the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, and to the Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club's many activities for kids, especially for the six current college scholarships.✳

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Kristina Podlasek, third from right, and other group members delivered funds to Mexico Beach, Florida after Hurricane Michael photo provided

## Students Partner With Sea School For Disaster Relief

submitted by Leah Biery

Kids Care Disaster Relief, a nonprofit organization founded by a group of thoughtful young people, will partner with Sanibel Sea School to raise funds for Hurricane Dorian victims on Green Turtle Cay in The Bahamas.

Kristina Podlasek, a middle school student at Canterbury School in

Fort Myers, started the project after experiencing Hurricane Irma firsthand, then seeing the devastation caused by Hurricane Michael in the news.

"My goal is to raise money after any disaster that hits, and to have children who are interested help out," she said.

The group creates items such as bracelets and artwork, then sells them at various events and locations around Southwest Florida, as well as online. Business sponsors provide funding for supplies and mailing, so all funds raised through purchases benefit disaster victims directly.

Podlasek has been a camper and a

volunteer at Sanibel Sea School, and heard about the organization's efforts to help Hurricane Dorian victims. She quickly noticed an opportunity for collaboration and arranged for Kids Care Disaster Relief to set up a table at Sanibel Sea School's Luminary Stroll event on Friday, December 6. Podlasek and other group members will be there selling their goods and answering questions about how to support those in need.

"We definitely recommend stopping by to say hello, but if you're not able to come in person, we have a website and a display at The Island Cow as well," she explained.

Sanibel Sea School's family-friendly Luminary Night event will begin at 5:30 p.m. at 455 Periwinkle Way. There will be drinks, snacks, cookie decorating, s'more roasting, building tours and fun for guests of all ages. To learn more about Kids Care Disaster Relief and support the project online, visit [www.kidscaredisasterrelief.com](http://www.kidscaredisasterrelief.com).\*

## Landscaping Workshop

A Florida Friendly Landscaping class will be held at the Sanibel Public Library, located at 770 Dunlop Road, on Tuesday, December 17. The workshop will teach the nine principles that guide Florida friendly landscaping in Lee County. Each principle is covered in class, so participants can apply what they learn to their own landscape. Among the topics will be plant selection and placement, efficient irrigation, proper mulching and fertilizing to obtain a beautiful, healthy and sustainable yard.

This is a two-hour class, running from 1 to 3 p.m., and there is no admission charge. Sign up for tickets online at [www.eventbrite.com/e/florida-friendly-landscapingworkshop-sanibel-tickets-79064984497?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/florida-friendly-landscapingworkshop-sanibel-tickets-79064984497?aff=ebdssbdestsearch).\*

From page 1

## Luminary

choose from including decorated cookies, homemade jams, pickles, cakes, breads, muffins, fudge and buckeyes.

Later, experience the true meaning of Christmas at A Walk Through Bethlehem, staged from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Sanibel Community Church. The living recreation of the ancient holy city features a bustling marketplace filled with shoppers, beggars and Roman guards, plus the humble stable where Jesus was born. The interactive experience is located in the Historic Chapel on the church campus, located at 1740 Periwinkle Way. Admission is free.

Also on Friday evening, Cottages to Castles will be open to receive guests and celebrate the holidays at its 2427 Periwinkle Way office. Stop by and say hello, have a red velvet cupcake, along with Judy's famous Reindeer Droppings and Reindeer Punch; Sanibel Vacations, located at 2330 Palm Ridge Road, will offer complimentary drinks and refreshments along with live music and giveaways; Adventures In Paradise/AIP

Outfitters, located in Tahitian Gardens Shopping Center at 2019 Periwinkle Way, promises stunning holiday decorations along with free Champagne and hors d'oeuvres.

At Periwinkle Place Shopping Center, located at 2075 Periwinkle Way, do some holiday shopping at more than 25 boutiques, galleries and local retailers. On Luminary Night, plenty of festive surprises will be found around the gardens dressed in holiday lights and decorations. From 5:45 to 6 p.m., the choir from Children's Education Center of the Islands (CECI) will perform, followed by pictures with Santa from 6 to 7 p.m. and live music with The Malibu Duo and Megan Rose Duo.

In Bailey's Center, located at 2477 Periwinkle Way, the Al Hamme Octet will perform two sets of live music beginning at 6 p.m. in front of Bailey's General Store while Joey's Custard will include a special Drawing with Santa activity; Sanibel Sea School, located at 455 Periwinkle Way, offers snacks and refreshments, cookie decorating, s'mores roasting, a screening of the film *Artifishal*, tours of its recently updated building, and fun and games for all ages.

The following night, Captiva will come alive under dark skies illuminated by tens of thousands of colorful holiday lights along Captiva Drive and Andy Rosse Lane, plus plenty of special treats offered at various businesses.

On December 7, the South Seas Island Resort 6th annual Captiva Holiday Stroll will feature Jimmy Buffet Coral Reefer Band's Peter Mayer performing live music from 8 to 9:30 p.m. on the Marina Walk in the Yacht Harbour Marina. The resort is located at 5400 Plantation Road on Captiva.

"This holiday season marks the 20th anniversary of singer-songwriter Mayer's widely acclaimed Christmas tour, Stars & Promises," a South Seas press release announced. "For the past 30 years, Mayer has performed and recorded with Jimmy Buffett's Coral Reefer Band and shared the stage with a variety of artists such as Paul McCartney, James Taylor, Dave Matthews, Paul Simon and Ringo Starr."

People attending Captiva Holiday Stroll can admire the picturesque marina illuminated with thousands of holiday lights and festive decorations. The celebration will also feature island style "ice skating" (aka sock skating), entertainment including face painting, stilt walking, juggling and balloon artists, holiday movie favorites playing in Yacht Harbour Marina, arts and crafts including picture frame and ornament decorating with the help of Santa's elves, photos with Santa as well as festive treats such as snow cones and s'mores.

Open to the public, admission to Captiva Holiday Stroll - including the Peter Mayer concert - is \$10, with proceeds benefitting Captains for Clean Water. Tickets can be purchased the day of outside Harbourside Bar & Grill; no charge for children ages 12 and under. Additionally, Harbourside Bar & Grill will be open to non-resort guests who would like to dine during the Holiday Stroll. For more details, call 472-5111 or visit [www.southseas.com](http://www.southseas.com).\*

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From left: Mike Ciccarone, trombone; Mary Zitnik, trumpet; Bill Loeb, tuba; Liz Piscioffo, trumpet; and Claudia Burns, French horn photo provided

## Island Brass To Perform At Luminary Festival

As you stroll this year's Luminary Holiday Trail on Friday, December 6, stop by Olde Sanibel Shoppes, located at 630

Tarpon Bay Road, for some refreshing new takes on traditional holiday music.

Sanibel's own Island Brass will perform updated arrangements of time-honored holiday favorites, such as *Jingle Bells*, *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*, *We Three Kings*, *Jolly Old St. Nicholas* and others beginning at 5:30 p.m. on the veranda next to Island Paws. ✨

## ANNIVERSARY

Barry and JayL Solomon recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary vacationing in Ashville, North Carolina. They now reside at Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Myers. JayL is a former volunteer at CROW and Barry has the distinction of currently serving his 17th year as an employee at the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce. ✨



Barry and JayL Solomon

photo provided

## Mastersingers Holiday Concert At Sanibel Church

The Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers, with Artistic Director Shannon Arnold, is making the holiday season merry with concerts around Southwest Florida this month.

The area's premier choral ensemble will conclude their holiday performances

with the popular Christmas on Sanibel at Sanibel Community Church on Sunday, December 15 at 6 p.m. The ensemble will be accompanied by piano, organ and a brass quintet. There is no admission charge for this concert, which has become an island holiday tradition. The church will take up a collection to benefit Community Housing and Resources (CHR) on Sanibel.

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way, next to Jerry's Market. ✨



# Sanibel Historical Museum & Village Announces Its First TWILIGHT TALK OF 2020

## January 15

### About Community-CHR's 40th Anniversary At The Community House. Program begins at 7:00 p.m.



The history of Sanibel becoming a city and CHR! CHR formed in 1979 as a nonprofit to address the growing need for affordable housing on Sanibel. It was in 1983 that an ordinance was passed by the city that established the Affordable Housing program, and CHR was designated as the city's housing foundation.

Hear about what this all means for the Sanibel community and its residents.

**Call 472-4648 for tickets - \$10 per person.**



Plant Smart

# Shoestring Fern

by Gerri Reaves

**N**ative shoestring fern (*Vittaria lineata*) is a member of the shoestring fern family and one of the state's most common ferns.

Its natural habitat includes pinewoods, hammocks and swamps, where it typically grows on the trunks of cabbage palms, particularly at the base.

Like many other ferns, orchids and bromeliads, it is an epiphyte, or air plant. Epiphytes are not parasites, but they depend on a host plant as a platform from which to gather nutrients and moisture.

At first glance, this species resembles dense tufts of long hanging grass blades, thus another common name, grass fern. Other common names are ribbon fern and beard fern.

The very short stems are branched, creeping and scaly.

The narrow pendulous fronds are dark green, shiny and under-curved. Undivided and as long as three feet, they are very narrow – only a half-inch or less wide.

Reddish brown sori, or spore sacs, appear in two grooved lines on the undersides of fronds near the edges.

This fern prefers shade and moist conditions and is not drought-tolerant.

It can be used as a hanging plant and can be propagated by division.

The Seminoles used it to treat



Native shoestring fern is an epiphyte and commonly grows on the trunks of cabbage palms photo by Gerri Reaves

# Spirit Tree Donations Benefit Shell Museum

**I**n The Garden – Sanibel's Retail Garden Center and Outdoor Showroom has a spirit tree that benefits local nonprofits. The olive tree was chosen because it represents love and charity. Spirit tree donations from December 1 to 31 benefit the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and Education Foundation.

Canvas spirit tree tags can be purchased at the garden center gift shop for \$5 each. Purchasers can write well-wishes or blessings on the tags and attach them to the tree. All tag sales will be donated to the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and Education Foundation. In The Garden will match all tag sales.

“As a nonprofit, our ability to educate, advocate and research depends on public support,” said Dorrie Hipschman, executive director of the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum. “Donations allow us to continue our mission to connect people with the natural world and to develop environmental stewards both locally and globally. Because of the enormous generosity of the Sanibel community, we are adding a living aquarium to our existing extensive shell collection. This work could not be accomplished without our community partners!”

“The national shell museum is a nationally accredited natural history museum that increases knowledge of and appreciation for mollusks and their shells using collections, programs and expertise to inspire learning, support scientific research, and tell the story of mollusks and their importance to our ecosystem,” said Lisa Walsh, owner of RS Walsh Landscaping and In The Garden.

In The Garden is located at 3889 Sanibel-Captiva Road, across from The Sanibel School. It is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call 395-5859.✧

depression and senility by boiling it to make a potion or using it in a steam bath.

Sources: *The Ferns of Florida* by Gil Nelson, *Guide to the Common Epiphytes of Florida* by Bruce Holst, *The National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida* by Peter Alden et al., [www.efloras.org](http://www.efloras.org), and <http://wildsouthflorida.com>.

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# Magical Childhood Creek



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

The weather during

Thanksgiving week was as good as it gets in Southwest Florida.

Waterways were busy with boaters and fishermen alike getting out during the holiday to enjoy the water. The slow, gradual warmup of our water temperature made the fishing improve everyday. Redfish and snook were our main targets. Redfish action has been on fire on what seems like either tide, while the better snook bite has been happening a little later in the morning as the water temperature slowly warmed.

I did catch fish all over the southern sound this week, but after finding fish in one magical creek from my childhood, I returned to it almost daily. This is the first time this winter I've found one of these creeks with fast-moving currents and clean clear water that's just loaded up with fish. Many of these narrow feeder creeks that connect smaller bays can be amazing during our colder winter months. This creek was a hot spot all week long. The redfish action was impossible to ignore along with an

exciting sight-fishing for snook once it warmed up.

Trying to get into this creek, which is protected by a sandbar, was challenging during the big minus low tides we experienced this week. Two days in a row, I had to get out of the boat and push it across this super shallow hump as I was not patient enough to let the tide come up. Once in the creek, the water is plenty deep no matter how low the tide was. During the first few hours of the low incoming tide, the redfish bite was amazing and the water so clear that you could see the fish.

The more time I spent in this creek, the more snook I began to see. We did manage to catch a few on free-lined shrimp. As conditions warmed later in the week, I knew I had to find some live shiners to take in here. Waiting until late morning, we slid into the creek and immediately saw the snook I'd been watching for the past few days. After pitching a few live shiners along the edges, it did not take long until the whole creek was filled with snook chasing and feeding on the live bait. We baited up and sight-casted, and the snook exploded on the surface. It was the best snook bite I have been on in quite some time. It made having to push the boat across the bar all worthwhile.

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



Brian Little from Ohio with a snook caught and released with Capt. Matt Mitchell

photo provided

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CROW Case Of The Week:

## Eastern Cottontail Rabbit



by Bob Petcher

The eastern cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*) is the most common cottontail rabbit in the country. Mainly, these long-eared mammals range from reddish brown

to gray in color, but they all feature the distinctive "cotton ball" tail for which they are named.

Eastern cottontail rabbits tend to live in fields and meadows, or on the outskirts of farms. However, they are known to adapt to human habitats. Females give birth in shallow ground nests.

Each year, hundreds of baby eastern cottontail rabbits are admitted to CROW's wildlife hospital. Reasons for admission include predator attacks or being found by a person's cat or dog, but many of these bunnies are brought in by mistake after being found without an adult rabbit around.

"We get baby bunnies (both eastern cottontail and marsh rabbits) throughout the year in Florida, but in general the height of baby season is spring into summer. In the past month alone, we have admitted over 50 baby bunnies to the clinic," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW staff



**These eastern cottontail bunnies are being raised by CROW staff and volunteers until they are old enough to be released**

photo by Brian Bohman

veterinarian. "Of the 50 bunnies admitted in the past month, approximately half of them were abducted, meaning they were unintentionally rescued when in fact they didn't require any medical intervention and needed to be left in the care of their parents. The rest of the baby bunnies are usually admitted for trauma sustained by predator attacks."

Mother rabbits only return to their nest, usually a shallow burrow lined with grass and fur, during the dawn and dusk hours so as not to attract predators to their babies. Twigs placed in an "X" over the entrance to the burrow will show if the

mother has returned overnight, as she will push them aside to enter. Rabbits leave the nest when they are just three weeks old, so even a seemingly small rabbit with its eyes open and ears standing up is self-sufficient and does not need assistance.

"Rabbits are crepuscular, different than nocturnal, which means they are most active at dawn and dusk, and that's when they visit the nest to care for the babies," said Dr. Bast. "They do not stay at the nest during the day to avoid attracting predator attention to the nest site. Because of this, well-intentioned people often mistake an unattended nest of babies

as being orphaned."

CROW officials took in a pack of baby rabbits recently. The bunnies were not injured, and there is no knowledge as to where they were found.

"These babies were taken to a drop-off site with no information left as to the rescue site, which made a re-nesting attempt impossible. They are otherwise healthy, and are being raised by our rehabilitation staff and foster volunteers until they are old enough in a few weeks to be released," said Dr. Bast. "Baby rabbits grow up quickly, but their best chance of survival is always with their true parents."

Finders need to make sure these little animals are in need of help.

"If there is evidence of obvious injury: blood, history of predator attack, then the babies need medical treatment. If they appear healthy, but you want to check to make sure the mother is taking care of them, you can place light sticks on top of the nest or a circle of flour around the nest – these items will be disturbed the following day if an adult is returning to the nest," said Dr. Bast. "If you have any questions about whether or not a baby needs care, please call us at CROW and we can help determine the appropriate action to be taken."

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

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Shell Of The Week

# Three-Ridged Lucine



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

**M**easuring about 7 mm (about 0.28 inch), *Cavilinga blanda* (Dall, 1901) is

another small local member of the family Lucinidae. The outline of its shell is oval, but skewed to one side, with the shell beak pointing in an anterior direction. The shell color is white, its surface is glossy, bearing a sculpture of regular commarginal lines. The internal lining of the valves is sometimes “delaminated,” flaking off. Not commonly found, possibly because of its small size. The shell illustrated was collected by Susan Hewitt on Blind Pass, Sanibel, in December 2014. Read more about local mollusks and their shells at [www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide](http://www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide) and [www.shellmuseum.org/blog](http://www.shellmuseum.org/blog).

**Shell Museum Events**

The museum is closed for renovations while we build your new aquarium. The aquarium is scheduled to open in early 2020. See construction



The Three-ridged Lucine, *Cavilinga blanda*  
updates at [www.shellmuseum.org](http://www.shellmuseum.org).  
The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is located at 3075

photo by José H. Leal

Sanibel-Captiva Road. Call 395-2233 or visit [www.shellmuseum.org](http://www.shellmuseum.org).

# American Legion Post 123



American Legion Post 123 is serving barbecued ribs and chicken this Sunday, December 8 from noon to 8 p.m. There will be a fish fry the following Sunday, December 15, from noon to 8 p.m.

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

The 9 Ball pool tournament begins at 5 p.m. on Monday nights.

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.

New American Legion eligibility dates are November 11, 1918 through present. All veterans are welcome to become a member. Contact Tim or Randy at 472-9979.

If you have a flag that needs to be retired, you can 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.

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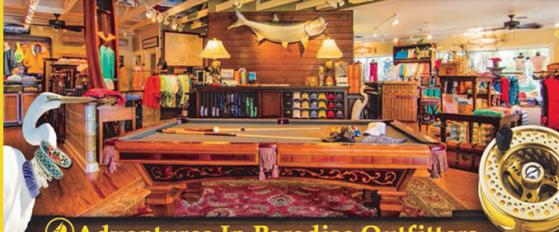
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# CROW Calendar Of Events



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](mailto:reservations@crowclinic.org). Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Daily presentations and Wildlife Walk hospital tours are offered Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

**Friday, December 6, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, \$25 per person, advance registration with payment 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 6, 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.

**Monday, December 9, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, \$25 per person, advance registration with payment 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.

**Monday, December 9, 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.

**Tuesday, December 10, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, \$25 per person, advance registration with payment 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.

**Tuesday, December 10, 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.

**Wednesday, December 11, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, \$25 per person, advance registration with payment 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 11, 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 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 12, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, \$25 per person, advance registration with payment 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 12, 11 a.m.**, adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under: no charge – Patient Profiles: Owls of Southwest Florida (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, specifically the five species of nocturnal hunters known as owls. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.✪

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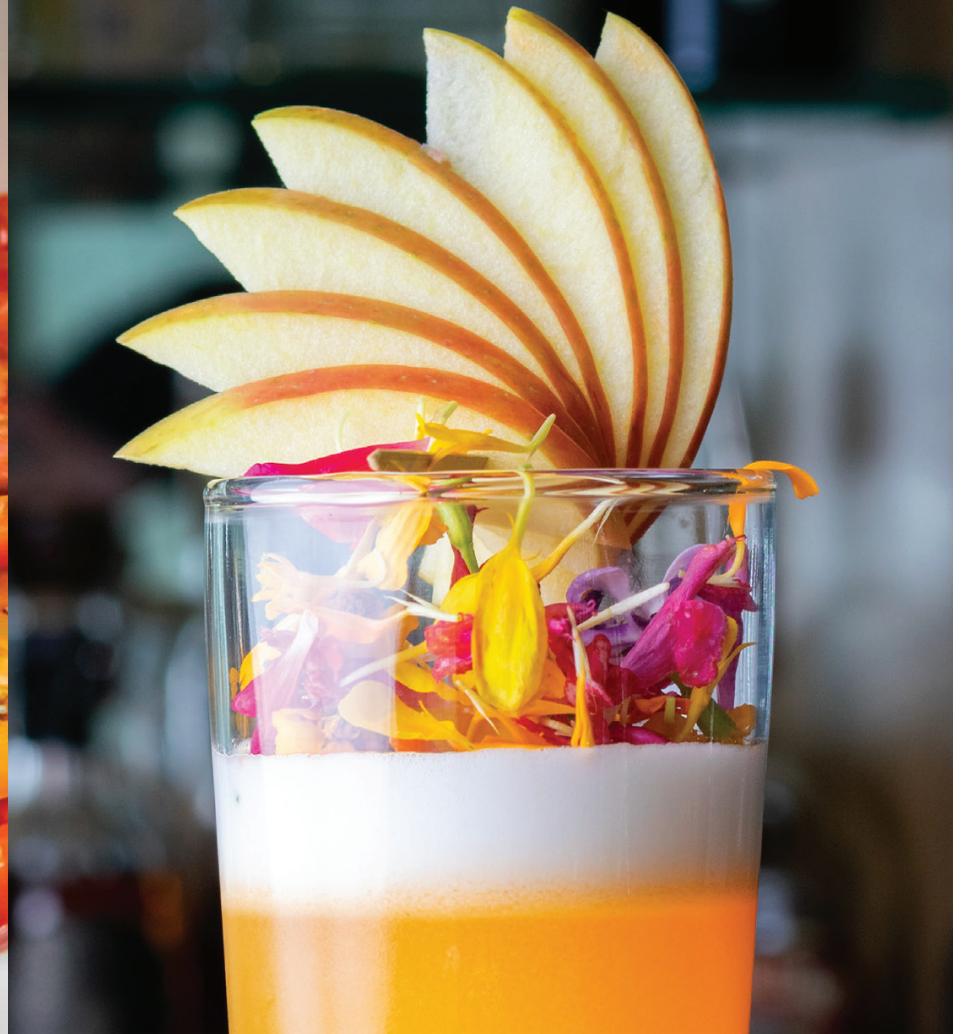
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## Entries Sought For High School Photo Contest

The 7th annual “Ding” Darling-Theodore Cross High School Photography Contest kicked off October 1, with a deadline of January 15, 2020. High school students in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry counties are invited to compete for prizes that include a Canon digital SLR camera package, chartered class trips to the refuge, and copies of *Waterbirds: Portraits and Anecdotes from Birding Adventures* by contest namesake, the late Theodore Cross.

Cross, who lived part-time on Sanibel, marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; advised the Johnson and Nixon administrations on anti-poverty programs; wrote the influential book *Black Capitalism*, among others; played a prominent role in President Obama’s election; and created Birders United – a birding website that ranked legislators according to their record of bird protection support.

Late in life, Cross decided to indulge his love for birds and photography and traveled the world to collect stunning portraits and stories to chronicle his adventures. He shot often at JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel, and a number of the images in his book reflect his love for the refuge. Cross published *Waterbirds* in 2009 at age 85; he passed away shortly after



Jackson Morgan Mytnik took first place in the 2019 high school contest with his burrowing owl photograph photo provided

that in February 2010.

NPR’s *All Things Considered* called Cross’ collection of 179 images and countless anecdotes “spectacular.” *The New York Times* described it as “part visual encyclopedia, part memoir.”

“The Theodore Cross Family Charitable Foundation has made possible this contest with a generous grant to the ‘Ding’ Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS),” said Birgie Miller, DDWS executive director. “We couldn’t be more thrilled

that they wanted their donation used in this way for a seventh year.”

“We are so happy to be supporting a contest in my father’s name, a contest that will get our youth involved with nature by looking at it – as my father so loved doing – through a camera lens,” said daughter Amanda Cross.

Digital image entries can be shot from any outdoor venue in the state of Florida. A writing component to the contest requires entrants grades nine through 12 to submit a 100-word description of the “moment” captured and how it reflects what nature and wildlife mean to the photographer.

Guidelines and prize information are posted at [www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/photo-contests](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/photo-contests). Call DDWS at 472-1100 ext. 4 for more information.

All entries and personal information must be submitted in digital format to the email address [ddhsphotocontest@gmail.com](mailto:ddhsphotocontest@gmail.com). Submit your full name, high school, grade and an original photograph that you took of nature and/or wildlife in the open outdoors. Include a title for the photograph and a written description (minimum 100 words) of the “moment” captured and how it reflects what nature and wildlife mean to you. You and your entry must comply with the following requirements:

High school students attending schools in Lee, Collier, Hendry, Glades and Charlotte (Florida) counties in grades nine through 12 may enter the contest.

Only digital images are accepted and may be taken with any camera, including smartphones.

Images must be submitted in JPEG format and must have a size of at least 2000 x 1500 pixels or resolution of 2 megabytes.

The photograph must be taken of nature and/or wildlife in the open outdoors in the state of Florida, which may include parks, refuges, backyards and other open spaces.

Panoramic photos are not allowed. Filters, cropping, enhancements and borders are permitted. However, adding any elements not existing in the original

scene will not be allowed. Judges, at their discretion, will disqualify any photos that appear to be manipulated beyond these guidelines.

Each participant may enter up to two photos but is eligible to win only one award.

Judging will be anonymous. Do not put your name or anything that will identify you on your photograph.

There are three judges: A refuge staff person, a professional photographer and a resident of the five-county region.

Judging criteria: Technical excellence (sharpness, lighting, composition, exposure);

Creativity;

Explanation of photograph (minimum of 100 words).

All photos will become the property of the society. Photos may be used by the society in any way with appropriate credit.

After the images have been submitted electronically, they will be printed out for judging. The winners of the contest will have their images matted and displayed in the “Ding” Darling Visitor & Education Center.✧

## Morning Paddle At The Refuge



by Kealy McNeal

On Thursday, December 12, the Ocean Tribe Paddling Club will host a morning paddle along the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge Wildlife Drive. We will

paddle on the preserved waterways and enjoy the beautiful scenery and wildlife that call the refuge home. Sanibel is the winter home for several migratory birds including the white pelican. “Ding” Darling is known to have several white pelicans hanging out along the drive.

Those interested in joining us can meet at the first kayak launch point on Wildlife Drive at 8:45 a.m. The paddle will begin at 9 a.m. The launch point is after the first water control structure, about half a mile after the toll booth. Those joining that don’t have an annual pass will need to pay \$5 per motorized vehicle to enter the park. The paddle will last approximately one and a half hours. Participants are invited to bring their own vessel, or a limited number of loaner vessels can be reserved in advance by contacting [oceantribepaddlers@sanibelseaschool.org](mailto:oceantribepaddlers@sanibelseaschool.org). Any weather related updates or schedule changes will be posted on the Ocean Tribe Outfitters Facebook page at least one hour prior to the event.

*Ocean Tribe Paddlers is a branch of Sanibel Sea School that helps the local paddling community better explore, enjoy and understand the ocean. Visit [www.oceantribepaddlers.org](http://www.oceantribepaddlers.org), or follow on Facebook or Instagram to learn more.*✧



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- Five Spiced Butter Poached Lobster Tail • Spumante
- Japanese Style Grilled Octopus & Tuna • Zinfandel

#### COURSE FOUR - Choice of:

- Venison Loin • Syrah
- Wagyu Tenderloin • Nebbiolo

#### COURSE FIVE - Choice of:

- Chocolate Mousse Trio • Solera
- Grilled Lemongrass Pound Cake • Reisling

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# Oceanographer Featured Guest At SCCF Lecture

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) will host "Her Deepness," Dr. Sylvia Earle, who along with Jane Goodall, is considered to be one of the most important conservationists of our time. A legendary oceanographer, Earle will be the guest speaker at SCCF's 2nd annual Paul McCarthy Lecture at The Community House on February 7. Doors open at 5 p.m. for light bites and refreshments. The lecture will begin at 5:30 p.m.

"I met Sylvia while doing international policy work on fisheries and she truly is a force of nature. She's hands down the most powerful voice for marine conservation of our day," said SCCF CEO Ryan Orgera. "We are very fortunate to have her share her wisdom and insight on Sanibel."

Earle will share her knowledge and passion for the oceans as well as her perspective on the future of the cherished Southwest Florida waterways.

The McCarthy lecture series was conceived by the Boler Family Foundation, which underwrites the speaker fees and expenses, as a way to honor a dear family



Sylvia Earle photo provided

friend, Paul McCarthy, founder of Captiva Cruises and an active presence on the islands for years. February 6 would have been McCarthy's 68th birthday and those who knew him can attest that he would be happy to have Earle on the islands.

A *National Geographic* explorer-in-residence since 1998, Earle was the first female chief scientist of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In 1998, she was named by *Time Magazine* as its first Hero for the Planet. She is also part of Ocean Elders,



Sylvia Earle swimming with a sea snake photo courtesy KQED

a group dedicated to protecting the ocean and its wildlife.

Having grown up in Dunedin, Florida on the gulf coast, Earle is deeply concerned about coastal waters. One of Earle's most poignant statements is, "We need to respect the oceans and take care of them as if our lives depended on it. Because they do."

Earle currently leads Mission Blue to unite a global coalition to inspire an upwelling of public awareness, access and support for a worldwide network

of marine protected areas. Called Hope Spots, they are intended to safeguard the living systems that provide the underpinnings of global processes, from maintaining biodiversity and yielding basic life support services to providing stability and resiliency in response to accelerating climate change.

The Florida Gulf Coast is one of her designated Hope Spots.

Tickets are available online at [www.Eventbrite.com](http://www.Eventbrite.com). Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students.\*

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Justin Proctor is overseeing the trail project

photo provided

## Improvement Project Under Way At Preserve

While the SCCF Nature Center is being renovated, the organization is taking the opportunity to carry out a Trail Reinterpretation Project on the adjacent Erick Lindblad Preserve. This 212-acre preserve boasts four-plus miles of walking trails that remain open during the renovations.

The trails are notorious for their serenity, biodiversity, observation tower and views of the Sanibel River. In September, SCCF CEO Ryan Orgera hired Justin Proctor, who has a master of science degree in natural resources from Cornell University, to serve as special projects manager and asked him to oversee the trail project.

"Justin has worked extensively across the Americas as a scientist, educator and conservationist, and is a great fit for this project," said Orgera. "These trails are a key early component to SCCF's history. We are taking the time to really enhance the experience and education they offer."

Proctor, who moved to Sanibel with his wife, Marisol, in the spring of 2018, has become attached to the ecological value of the trails.

"What makes this trail network special is how incredibly wild it is," said Proctor. "As soon as you step out there, you're in the heart of our island's best natural landscapes. You can't help but want to walk along slowly and quietly in anticipation of what wildlife you might find around the next corner. Our goal with this project is to keep that ambiance, but improve the educational impact of the experience."

Some of the many planned improvements include: new, engaging interpretive signage along all of the trails; new, easy-to-interpret maps at major trail junctions, as well as low-impact modifications to these junctions to facilitate smoother navigation; and new structures and upgrades to existing structures that will offer better viewing

and connectivity with the wildlife and landscapes.

Proctor said, "While on the one hand we're thinking hard about innovative ways to engage new generations of trail users, on the other hand we are also interested in keeping the history of these trails alive. A highlight of this project has been meticulously reading through older accounts of these trails to see what features were exciting when the trails were first created in the 1970s, and then finding ways to keep those elements alive."

Sanibel enthusiasts might be familiar with George R. Campbell's 1978 book, *The Nature of Things on Sanibel*, in which Campbell devotes a chapter to describing these very same trails, entitled, *A Day in the Life of the SCCF Wetlands Sanctuary*. From detailed descriptions of specific strangler fig trees to precise measurements of tiny sand mounds created by antlions on the forest floor, Campbell doesn't miss a thing along the way.

"Campbell claimed – and I believe him – to have walked 350 miles on our trails over the course of two years because of his ceaseless fascination with what he'd find out there. I think that's a great depiction of how easy it is to become enamored with the plant and animal life along these trails, and our hope is that you will share the same feeling when you're out there," said Proctor.

When you come out to walk the SCCF trails, be sure to pick up a map from the kiosk area at the entrance to the trails. These maps are being updated continuously as modifications to the trails are being made. Visit the website for updates at [www.sccf.org](http://www.sccf.org).

"We have a lot of really neat ideas that will be materializing over the coming months, and we are very much looking forward to sharing those with our community. Thank you for your patience as we see these projects through to completion," said Proctor.

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation is dedicated to the conservation of coastal habitats and aquatic resources on Sanibel and Captiva and in the surrounding watershed.✪

## Concert Series Musical Cruise



Uproot Hootenanny

photo provided

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) is partnering with Captiva Cruises for a musical voyage, titled Pine Island Sounds, on Sunday, December 15. Proceeds will support the vital water quality research of SCCF's Marine Lab, Southwest Florida's premier marine research facility.

The cruise will include an on-the-water performance by SCCF's favorite string band, Uproot Hootenanny. A picker's paradise, this four-piece band features some of South Florida's top string instrument players. From bluegrass classics to Irish-folksy vibes,

Uproot Hootenanny has a certain charm that has all ages leaving the show with a smile.

Only 100 tickets are available on the double-deck *Lady Chadwick*, which features a full bar, snacks and an open-air deck. Guests will depart from McCarthy's Marina at 4 p.m. and cruise until the sun sets. Tickets are \$60 and include light snacks and one complimentary beverage. Boarding guests will receive a "First Drink's on Us" voucher made possible by an anonymous donor.

Reserve by calling 472-2329 or online at [www.sccf.org](http://www.sccf.org).✪

## Refuge Winter Season Programs Begin In January

JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge will offer daily free tours and programs for the winter season. The seasonal calendar begins on Monday, January 6 and runs through Sunday, April 19.

Daily programs begin at 8:30 a.m. and include such diverse activities and topics as "Ding" the Man, Beach Walk, Endangered Species and Indigo Trail Walk.

Special this year, in honor of the refuge's 75th anniversary, the "Ding" the Man program takes place every Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Visitor & Education Center to survey the life of Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling through never-before-seen memorabilia and tales of his groundbreaking achievements in the realms of editorial cartooning and conservation.

Long before there was a refuge named "Ding," the cartoonist won two Pulitzer Prizes, started the Federal Duck Stamp Program and designed the first stamp, and pushed for the creation of the Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge, which now bears his name.

"We are excited to tell this important story, because so many don't realize our deep-seated origins," said Supervisory



Learn more about JN "Ding" Darling and his work at a free weekly program

photo provided

Refuge Ranger Toni Westland, who will present the program. "Our full range of programs promises something for all ages."

For a full look at programs, tours and descriptions, visit [www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/free-refuge-programs](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/free-refuge-programs). Free educational programs are made possible through support from the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS).✪



Osprey in flight

## Ospreys Coming Back For Season

submitted by James Schnell, The International Osprey Foundation

“They’re coming back... at least we hope they are,” said Susan Tucker, president of The International Osprey Association (TIOF) based on Sanibel Island.

This is the time of the year when the skies of Southwest Florida begin to be filled with the familiar cries and aerial acrobatics of our region’s iconic bird, the osprey. They return to our area in two waves. The first to arrive to their familiar nests are the non-migratory resident ospreys of the

photos provided

southern Florida coasts. They are followed one to two months later by the migrating population from their summer habitat on the rivers and lakes of South America. It is a timeless ritual dating back to the origin point of the osprey species 15 million years ago in North America.

Tucker is concerned. Just as Floridians voted convincingly last fall for decisive action in favor of improving our water quality, so too did the ospreys. They voted en masse to abandon waters contaminated with blue green algae, red tide and seemingly endless waves of dead fish.

Ospreys are prime sentinels of water quality and their message to us was loud and clear. Evolution has finely tuned their reproductive systems not to produce chicks without the availability of adequate



A pair of ospreys

nourishment from healthy fish.

Tucker’s teams of two dozen nest watchers have been monitoring osprey nests since 1983.

She explains that the nests of Sanibel and Fort Myers Beach have yielded an average of 120 fledged chicks annually over the last decade, a stark contrast with the 26 chicks fledged in the 2018-19 season.

Nesting season runs approximately January through May, but the adults arrive earlier to claim and prepare nest sites.

Tucker urges all of us who have interest to watch the skies and their local nests for the next several months. Ospreys live their lives in our full view. They build their nests, mate, parent their young, and train them to survive and thrive in an increasingly

threatened ecosystem. Watching this fierce bird of prey delicately tear tiny strips of freshly caught fish and gently feed them to days old downy feathered chicks, and then also soar in spectacular aerial combat defending their nests and young against predatory eagles, is a privilege and high adventure.

Just as Tucker and her nest monitors will be watching, she encourages us to be citizen scientists, observing and enjoying. They’re coming back. Watch and listen. What will be the ospreys’ message to us this year?

Visit [www.ospreys.com](http://www.ospreys.com) for more information on ospreys or TIOF. To volunteer as a nest watcher or to report a nest needing maintenance, email [tiof@outlook.com](mailto:tiof@outlook.com).

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Island Currents

# Following The Island Currents



by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

Well, I heard it's cold up north, and there's snow flying in places. Looks like we've all made good decisions in being on the islands right now.

Sanibel and Captiva are looking especially festive, and there's lots going on to celebrate the season. Both islands will be glowing more than usual this week with luminary candles, music and more. Sanibel's Luminary Holiday Stroll takes place on Friday, December 6, and Captiva's is on Saturday, December 7, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Captiva will also host the annual golf cart parade the same day. More information is available in most island businesses.

And if you have an event to attend or gifts to buy during the holiday season, you may be searching for something special. Shopping abounds on both islands, and a visit to Tahitian Gardens Shopping Center on Periwinkle Way may fill your needs.

Two great shops making a conscious effort to carry brands that give back to charitable causes are especially worth a peek. They both offer merchandise that's perfect for casual, comfortable living.



Colorful sandals by Taos are among the many shoe choices at Sanibel Sole

photos by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

Sanibel Sole, of course, has a wide selection of shoes. (Get it? Sole?) It also stocks gift items, souvenirs and women's and men's apparel for island activities. (I bet you could rock most of these things up north, too.)

According to store manager Cathy Hackney, lots of new items will be arriving over the next month.

"It will be a bit of a surprise for us," Hackney said about arriving merchandise, with a note of anticipation in her voice.

Some of the store's most popular shoe lines include Vionic, Taos, Keen, Teva and Birkenstock, which Sanibel Sole carries as the island's exclusive retailer.

"All our shoes are good for people.

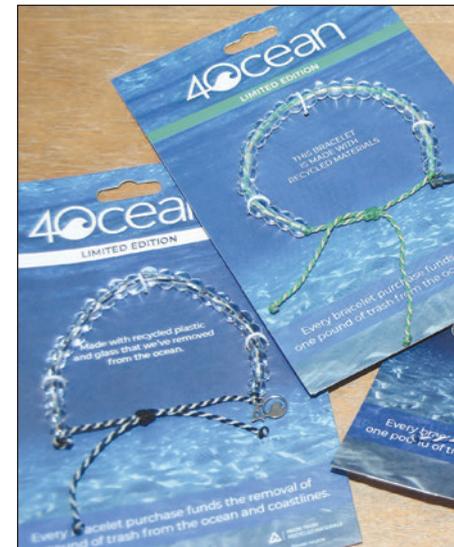
They have arch support; if you're looking for shoes that take care, we have shoes for all ages," Hackney said.

She especially likes clothing from Columbia for their fun and functional dresses.

"You can roll them in a ball and they still look good. They're great for travel," she added.

Some of these lines give a percentage of sales to charity. For example, athletic recovery sandal line Oofos supports breast cancer research, and 4 Ocean bracelets helps clean plastic out of oceans around the world while also donating 10 percent of sales to conservation efforts.

"These bracelets are made out of



Many lines at Sanibel Sole donate to charities, including 4 Ocean bracelets

recycled plastic that they have picked up out of the ocean," Hackney said, pointing to bracelets of various colors that support a range of causes. Proceeds from a green corded version go to restoring and protecting mangroves and estuaries, while other colors protect polar bears, sea turtles and Orca whales. "And yes, they do clean (waters) off of Sanibel and Lee County."

Sanibel Sole also carries sunglasses, jewelry, bathing suits, scarves and other accessories.

"We carry a lot of good products," Hackney added. "We're just a lot of fun here. We're more fun than most stores, and that's what customers tell us."

Sanibel Sole is located at 1979

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Manager Rose Bergskaug, right, and Liz Lynes love showing customers their favorite items at Synergy

**Life is Good T-shirts are available at Synergy**

favorite line in the store," Lynes said.

Visitors from New England may recognize Synergy, as it also has stores in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. (I've been to the North Conway, New Hampshire location, and I have to say, I prefer Sanibel, especially at this time of year.)

"We're the beach place. It's a pleasure to be here," said Bergskaug.

The store radiates a good vibe, (maybe that's Life is Good talking) and there's so much to choose from on the racks. Fun sweatshirts, cozy loungewear, great hats and even jewelry are among the colorful merchandise.

One of the brands that is "selling

like hotcakes," according to Bergskaug, is the stylish slip-on women's shoe by Ilsa Jacobsen. They come in a range of colors, and are perfect for walking or other activities. (I know this personally, as I have three pairs, and they are incredibly comfortable.)

Another top line that supports charity is Alex and Ani. Jewelry comes in various themes with proceeds going to over 50 different nonprofit partners.

Jewelry featuring Sanibel and Captiva nautical charms from Chart Metal Works is also very popular. The line supports many charitable organizations. "It makes a great gift," noted Bergskaug.

Merchandise in Synergy is reasonably

**Holiday themed merchandise is available now at Synergy**

priced, and there's often a sale going on.

"We have nice, diverse merchandise in here. And that's what everybody loves," Bergskaug said. "We have unique things. That's what makes us unique and that's what brings back our return customers."

Synergy is located at 1981 Periwinkle Way. For more information, visit [www.synergysportswear.com/sanibel-island-fl](http://www.synergysportswear.com/sanibel-island-fl) or call 395-5353.

Until next time, have fun in the island currents!

*Kathy Kurtz Ferrari is a journalist who splits her time between Captiva and the Boston area. If you have any questions or comments, email [Kathy.islandsunnews@gmail.com](mailto:Kathy.islandsunnews@gmail.com).*



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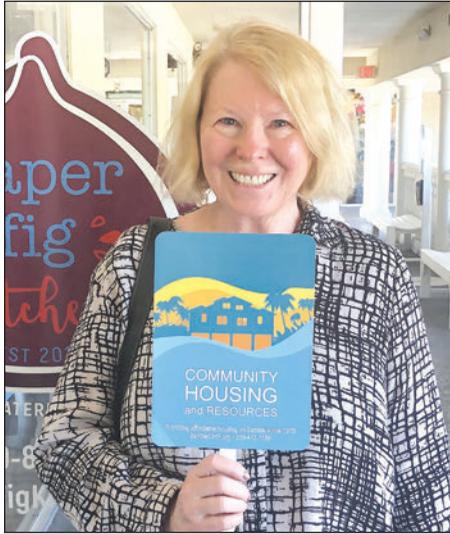
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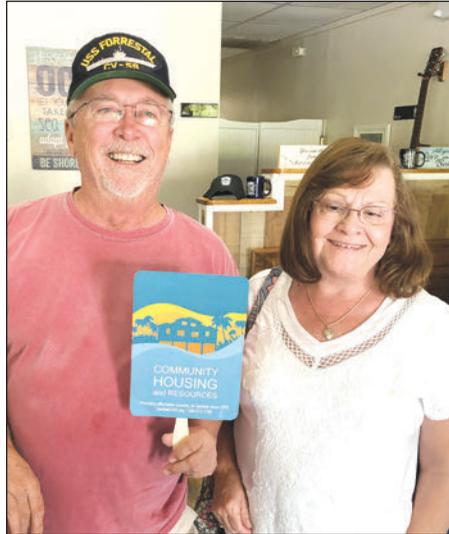
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# Highlights From CHR Give Back Wednesday At Tahitian Gardens



Ann Cooper photos provided



Mike and Linda Veteran



From left, Dorothy Sawyer, Debra Butler, Karen Zimmerman and Bea Pappas



Ed Hendrick



Audrey Stewart



From left, Evan DuPont with Calli, Baillie and Richard Johnson



From left, Richard McCurry, Pat Greenwald, Julie Kasper and Carina Gabriel



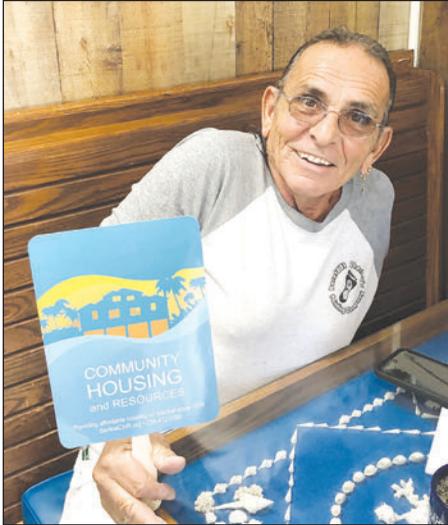
From left, Kate Fizer, Jane Hudson and Lynn Quigley



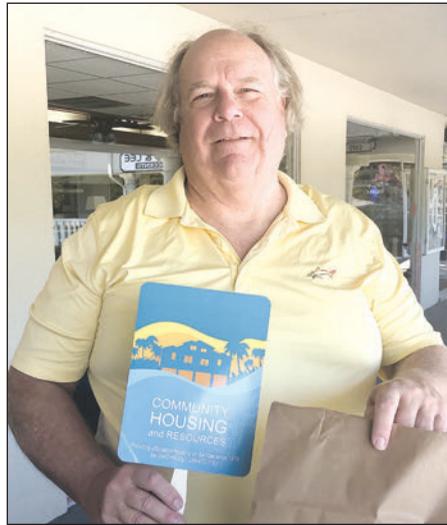
Cynthia Smith and Mary Bondurant



Mitch Orr



"Barefoot Charley" Ball



Ed Holden



From left, Maria Cardle, Ann Moeder, Shirley Schulz and Nancy Clare



From left, Mary Ann Gilhooley, Carole Fallon, Shirley Bohnert and Joan Sperry



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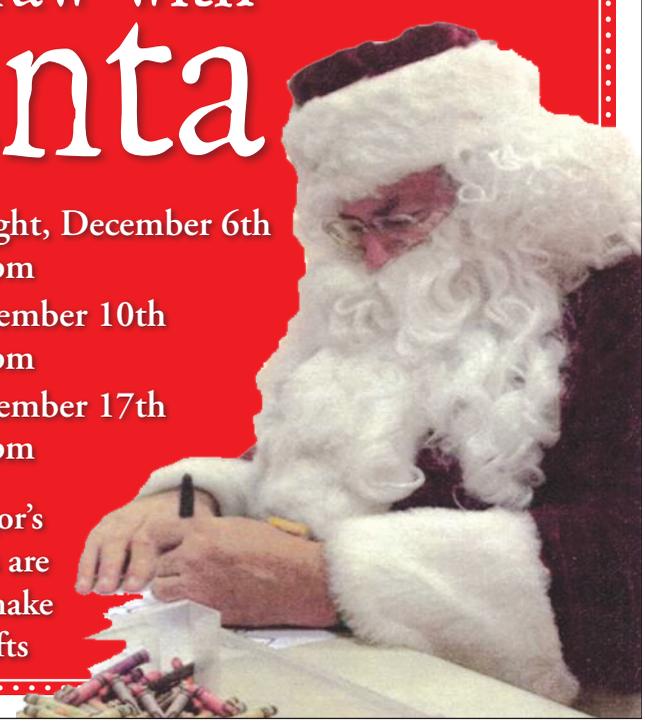
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SMALL ICE CREAM ON US...  
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6 pm - 8:30 pm
- Tuesday, December 10th  
5 pm - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, December 17th  
5 pm - 7:30 pm

Doug MacGregor's children's books are also available, make great holiday gifts





**Shrimp Succotash and Spicy Corn Cakes**

Shrimp Succotash  
 1 pound peeled shrimp  
 1 large tomato, diced  
 1 ear sweet corn, cut off the cob  
 2 tablespoons olive oil  
 1 tablespoon finely chopped garlic  
 1 tablespoon seafood seasoning  
 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
 1/2 cup scallions, chopped  
 Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

Heat the olive oil in a heavy skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Saute corn for 5 minutes, then add tomatoes, garlic, shrimp, and seafood seasoning and continue to cook for 2 to 3 more minutes. Stir in 1/2 the scallions and cook for 1 minute. Remove from pan and spoon over flatbread, sprinkle with remaining scallions.

Spicy Corn Cakes  
 1 large bell pepper, diced fine

**Shrimp Succotash and Spicy Corn Cakes**

2 cups self-rising cornmeal  
 2 tablespoons sugar  
 2 cups milk  
 2 large eggs  
 1/3 cup jalapeño, seeded and chopped  
 1/4 cup scallions, chopped  
 Butter or corn oil for frying  
 In a large bowl mix together cornmeal, sugar and salt. Add in bell peppers,

scallions, jalapeños, eggs, and milk and mix until well blended. Let the batter rest for 10 or 15 minutes. Add oil to just cover bottom of skillet and heat over medium-high heat. Spoon even amount of mixture into skillet and cook 3 or 4 minutes (you will see air holes). Flip and cook until golden brown. Serve warm with the succotash.\*

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

**LIVE ON THE ISLANDS**

**Cielo** has live entertainment with pianist and vocalist Scott McDonald Tuesday through Sunday.  
**Island Cow** has live entertainment on Friday with Dan Confrey. Peter Redpath plays on Saturday. Dan Confrey returns on Sunday.  
**The Jac Sanibel Island Bar & Grille** has live entertainment on Friday with The Wildlings. Renata Band plays on Saturday. The Flying Hasselhoffs perform on Tuesday. The Po Boys play on Wednesday. On Thursday, it's James Prather.  
**Traders Coastal Cuisine** has live entertainment Tuesday and Thursday with Danny Morgan and Friends. Chris Workman plays on Wednesday.

*Restaurant owners/managers, please email or fax any changes to your entertainment schedule to [press@islandssunnews.com](mailto:press@islandssunnews.com) or 395-2299.\**

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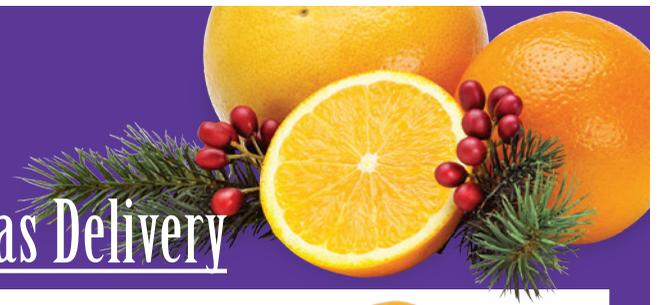
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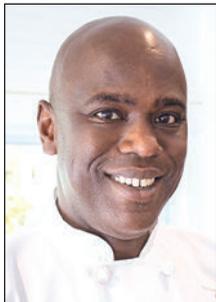


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The Community House

# Sugar Alternatives



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

Eating healthy can be challenging, especially if you have a sweet tooth. Processed sugars are in the vast majority of foods we consume, therefore, alternatives should be considered. The cornerstone of healthy eating is to replace processed foods with whole foods.

The average American consumes 400 to 600 calories a day from processed sugars. This is the biggest contributor to the obesity problem the country has.

These are five natural sweeteners that are healthy, tasty alternatives to refined sugars and easy to use in your favorite recipes.

Raw honey is my favorite sugar substitute and it's a superfood. (1tblsp. = 60 calories)

Palm or coconut sugar is another good substitute. This sugar is made from the sap of several different types of palm tree. It contains iron, zinc and

potassium. (1tblsp. = 50 calories)

Maple syrup is excellent as a sweetener. It contains manganese, calcium, potassium, and is rich in antioxidants. (1tblsp. = 52 calories)

Stevia is a plant that is native to South America. The leaves of the plant are twice as sweet as sugar. It's used to support healthy blood sugar levels and to promote weight loss. (1tblsp. = 0 calories)

Dates are a very good natural sweetener. The seed or stone of the fruit has to be removed and the flesh pulverized to a paste to make them usable in recipes. Dates are loaded with potassium, iron, copper, magnesium and vitamin B6. (1tblsp. = 70 calories)

Here is a simple recipe to try:

### Granola

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup coconut oil
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 cup sliced almonds
- 1 cup raisins or other dried, chopped fruit

Method

Heat the oven to 300°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Place the oil, honey, cinnamon and salt in a large bowl and whisk to combine.

Add the oats and almonds, then stir to coat.

Spread the oat mixture onto the prepared baking sheet. If the mix is clumpy, use a spatula to press it onto

the pan.

Bake for 20 minutes, stirring halfway through. The granola is ready when golden brown and the almonds have toasted – it will still feel wet coming out of the oven but will dry as it cools.

Remove from the oven and place the baking sheet on a wire rack then sprinkle on the raisins or fruit and mix well. If you want clumps of granola,

press the granola together before it cools, which will help it stick together. Cool completely before storing.

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](mailto:kitchen@sanibelcommunityhouse.net) or call 472-2155.\*

## New Year's Eve Bash To Be Held At The Dunes

Ring in the new year with The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club at their New Year's Eve Bash featuring live music by Danny Morgan. The party will be held on Tuesday, December 31 beginning at 7 p.m. with cocktails; a cash bar will be available. At 8:15 p.m., a plated dinner will be served.

Cost is \$80 per member or \$95 per non-member; pricing includes dinner and one house glass of sparkling wine for a midnight toast.

The menu includes a baby arugula salad with Granny Smith apples, dried cranberries, pistachios and strawberries, Germaine Coffee dinner rolls with butter rosettes and a choice of entrees:

Char grilled bone-in filet mignon with an herbed lobster ragout

Herb crusted Chilean sea bass with a kiwi lime relish

Twin lobster tails with clarified butter Pan seared airline chicken stuffed with spinach and Boursin cheese

wrapped in prosciutto

Choice of desserts includes sea salt caramel cheesecake or double layer chocolate cake.

Call 472-3355 to make your reservation.

The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club is located at 949 Sand Castle Road on Sanibel.\*

## Top 10 Books On The Island

1. *Shell Shocked* by Jennifer Schiff
  2. *What Happens in Paradise* by Elin Hilderbrand
  3. *Warning* by Anonymous
  4. *Minute to Midnight* by David Baldacci
  5. *Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah
  6. *Nine Perfect Strangers* by Liane Moriarty
  7. *Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes
  8. *Run Away* by Harlan Coben
  9. *Nothing to See Here* by Kevin Wilson
  10. *Dead Ex* by Jane Corry
- Courtesy MacIntosh Books and Paper.\*

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## Noted Author To Release New Historical Novel

Since his 1990 retirement, following a 32-year career at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel, Charles LeBuff has written 12 books and co-authored three others. His writing career has actually spanned 70 years



Charles LeBuff

– his first brief note was accepted for publication in a scientific journal at age 14. LeBuff's many other journal-published papers that followed were on various biological subjects and written in a technical context. Their publication spanned the nearly seven decades, until the last in 2016.

All, except the first two of his books, are still in print. When he and island historian Betty Anholt finished their best-selling collaboration, *Protecting Sanibel and Captiva Islands: The Conservation Story*, in 2018, LeBuff considered his avocation as a practicing author to be over. Then, like many others who love to read and write, he got another idea. This concept evolved into the historical novel, *The Audubon Warden*.

Although fiction, *The Audubon Warden* adheres to a factual storyline as it presents the difficult and deadly work which these early wildlife officers faced on a daily basis. These wardens saved the plume birds from imminent extinction and some died doing it. Audubon Warden Columbus McLeod was murdered locally in 1908. He joined the first, Guy Bradley, who was killed by feather thieves three years earlier at Flamingo in today's Everglades National Park. These men were the

earliest of Florida's wildlife conservation martyrs.

The time period of *The Audubon Wardens* is set during the Great Depression; at a time Southwest Florida was still wild and nearly totally lawless. LeBuff was once a federal wildlife officer with concurrent state enforcement authority himself. He drew on his keen knowledge of the region and personal experiences as this book gradually came together.

*The Audubon Warden* will be officially released on Wednesday, December 18 at MacIntosh Books and Paper, located at 2330 Palm Ridge Road on Sanibel. A meet-the-author and book signing is scheduled between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.\*

## Art Under The Stars Gallery Stroll

Three of Sanibel's fine art venues are hosting an Art Under the Stars reception on Thursday, December 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. Participating this year are Tower Gallery, Hirdie Girdie Gallery and Suncatchers' Dream.

Tower Gallery is home to over 25 local artists who will be present to meet and talk with guests. New artists to the gallery this season include Katie Gardenia, David Ruhe, Kathleen Dennison and Kelly Morrison.

Tower Gallery is located at 751

Tarpon Bay Road, open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Hirdie Girdie Gallery is a local artists cooperative featuring a variety of styles and media. All of the art has been created by members and guest artists.

Hirdie Girdie Gallery is located at 2490 Library Way.

Suncatchers' Dream is located in Olde Sanibel Shoppes, next to Over Easy Cafe. This unique shop is filled to the rafters with island treasures. From suncatchers to jewelry, you'll find an assortment of gifts and souvenirs. The shop is the exclusive carrier of the Dune jewelry line.

Suncatchers' Dream is located at 630 Tarpon Bay Road, Suite 2.\*

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## THE AUDUBON WARDEN

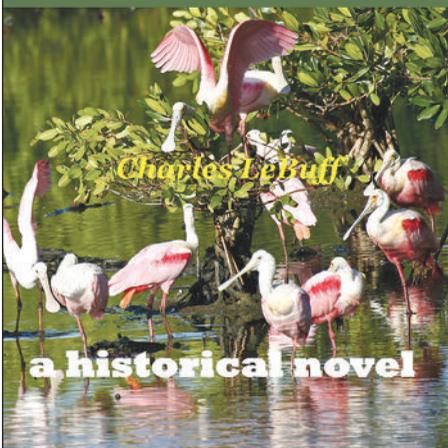


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# Homeschoolers Get Cooking



Restaurateur Bridgit Stone-Budd, center, teaching a group of homeschool/virtual school students how to prepare miniature chicken pot pies. Students are, from left, Keiran Kerscher, Sofi Lee Varmuza, Addison Sprecher, Sam Kupsaw and Owen Davidson. photos provided by Jeff Lysiak

Just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday, 10 students enrolled in Sanibel's homeschool/virtual school group completed a three-day course on preparing entrees, side dishes and desserts.

According to Bridgit Stone-Budd, a local business owner who shared her knowledge of professional food preparation for the past dozen years, students who participate in the homeschool/virtual school group – guided

by parent leader Milissa Sprecher – study a variety of lessons both in a classroom setting and via field trips. Last week, Stone-Budd hosted the students at her restaurant, The Pecking Order.

"When I go to The Sanibel School, I teach the eighth grade graduating class how to make a meal from our menu... usually rice and beans and our cilantro jalapeno sauce," said Stone-Budd, who taught lessons at the school on November 12 and 14. "I also talk to them about entrepreneurship and running their own

## Shared Use Path

filling MacKenzie Hall expressed their opposition to them.

Resident and Planning Commission Vice Chairman Roger Grogman stated that the additional regulation requiring all eBike vehicles to be registered with the city would be an unfair burden on Sanibel citizens. "It just doesn't make sense," Grogman said,

adding his objection to prohibiting local businesses from renting those vehicles. "This is a bad road to go down."

Councilwoman Holly Smith also read into the record a letter received from Tom Sharbaugh of the Sanibel Bicycle Club, which stated that while the club's membership approved the proposed ordinance in general, it opposed the registration requirement and rental prohibition.



From left, students Ali Lynn and Jonah Costa learn from baking expert Ginny Wagner how to make Brookies

business. I suggest putting 'hard time in' first with other businesses for a few years to learn which business model they think works best."

On the morning of November 22, the group visited the Palm Ridge Road eatery for a "hands-on" lesson, working together with Stone-Budd and some of her employees for two hours.

"We made our chicken pot pies and Brookies for dessert," she said. "While we cooked, we discussed what works and what doesn't work when running your own restaurant."

As part of her lesson, Stone-Budd also shared stories about her successes as well

as her failures. But more importantly, she talked about why it's important to give back and get involved in student education.

"Especially since we are a small island and a close-knit community, I love getting involved with the future of our island. How cool would it be to walk into a restaurant some day in the future and have one of these kids running it?" added Stone-Budd. "I believe that the kids and the adults can live here all of their lives, doing their thing and not really know about many of the local businesses. So, personally, I truly appreciate the opportunity."✧

"I can tell you that no matter what we do, somebody's not going to be happy," said Mayor Kevin Ruane.

More than a dozen residents and business owners testified during public comment on the matter. Among their concerns raised were adequate lighting and maintenance along the shared use paths, bicycle rider behavior – including speeding – among short-term visitors during season and increased path usage overall.

Billy Kirkland told members of the council that since he began renting Class 1 eBikes two years ago, not a single accident or negative incident has been reported. His bike rental business, which has a fleet of 11 eBikes, provides safety information and rider education. It also monitors vehicle performance which, according to Kirkland's records, average 9 to 13 miles per hour.

Following some additional debate, Vice Mayor Mick Denham made a motion to approve the ordinance as written, but with the removal of both the registration requirement and rental prohibition. "We have enough evidence and have had enough input that we can make a decision today," he said after City Attorney John Agnew asked if the council preferred a revised policy to be presented at next month's council meeting.

Council voted 5 to 0 in favor of Denham's amended ordinance.

At the city council's January 7 meeting, City Manager Judie Zimomra will present staff recommendations for new signage to be placed along the city's shared use path system.

### Leaf Blower Policy Passes

In other business, council unanimously approved an ordinance restricting the use of gas powered leaf blowers for commercial purposes between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, along with seven federally recognized holidays. Councilman Jason Maughan, who initially proposed the legislation earlier this year, stated that the restriction brings the policy in to more "socially reasonable hours."

During public comment, resident Mike Rembrandt, who operates a landscaping business on the island, said the new policy would eliminate six hours of productivity every week from his business. He stated that while his staff begins working at 7:30 a.m., they don't run their gas powered leaf blowers until after 8 a.m. and they have never received any complaints about the noise. "This is gonna put a burden on us," he noted.

Resident Jeff Simpson complained that the ordinance does not adequately address the pollution issue of gasoline powered landscaping equipment while fellow resident Maryann Bell argued that lawn mowers are still allowed to operate during earlier hours than the new policy allows, and that without prohibiting gas powered leaf blowers, air quality will continue to be impaired.

Maughan's initial proposed ordinance suggested banning all gas powered leaf blowers, however, the technology of similar electronic powered devices has not yet advanced to a level compatible with professional landscaping businesses. He stated that a restriction could be implemented in the future.✧



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Florida scrub jay

photos by Rick Bunting

## Audubon Lecture Series Announced

A visual introduction to Florida's only endemic bird, the Florida scrub jay, will kick off the annual Sanibel-Captiva Audubon lecture series. Lectures will be held on Thursday evenings in January and February, commencing on January 9 at the new, earlier starting time of 7 p.m. at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. All are

welcome to attend. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. and parking available at The Community House as well as across the street in the Herb Strauss Theater parking area. A \$10 donation per attendee is appreciated with proceeds after costs being used to promote conservation on Sanibel and in Florida.

This year's lineup also includes Sanibel-Captiva Audubon lecture favorites, Rick Bunting and Dr. Ken Meyer as well as SCCF's Audrey Albrecht. For more information, call Bill Jacobson at 395-1878 or visit [www.san-capaudubon.org](http://www.san-capaudubon.org).

January 9 – Brash, Boisterous &



Roseate spoonbills in flight

Blue – Meet the Florida Scrub Jay. Jacqui Sulek, chapter conservation manager of Audubon Florida, will introduce you to the Florida scrub jay, Florida's only endemic bird. Unfortunately, its population has declined 90 percent in the past 50 years. Learn about the Florida scrub jay and what is being done to sustain the remaining population of this charismatic ecosystem indicator.

January 16 – Climate & Birds: Their Future & Ours. Like canaries warned coal miners of dangerous conditions, Audubon Florida Executive Director Julie Wraithmell will explain how birds

are harbingers of the changing climate. Learn the latest in predictions about what the climate future holds for North America's birds, what symptoms Florida is experiencing and how you can help Audubon address this threat.

January 23 – Tracking Shorebirds Through Banding. Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Coastal Wildlife Manager Audrey Albrecht will cover the history and origin of bird banding, the many methods of trapping and marking shorebirds, and the invaluable data gained as a result. Featured will be

continued on page 36



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## Book Review

# The Turn Of The Key



by Di Saggau

I love a good psychological thriller, and Ruth Ware delivers in her latest novel *The Turn of the Key*. The book opens with a young woman, Rowan Caine, writing to a lawyer to say

that she did not kill anyone. The letters continue to grow and tell the story. Rowan stands accused of murdering one of the four children in her care while she was a nanny. Which child died under her care? What brought Rowan to Scotland for the nanny job? What events led up to the fateful event? These are the questions that are slowly answered.

The book is about a nanny alone in a Scottish estate that appears to be haunted, and children who aren't at all what they seem. Rowan was unhappy in her job at a London daycare center, so she answers an ad for a live-in nanny for architects Bill and Sandra Elincourt. The salary offered is very generous. Rowan discovers that four predecessors in the position have all walked off the job during the last year. She also learns that the enormous house is wired to be smart in every possible way, ensuring that privacy

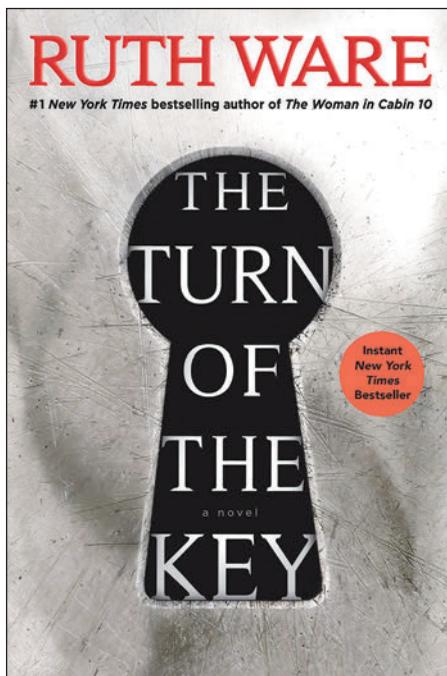


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is a thing of the past.

Upon arriving in Scotland, Rowan wins over Sandra. Then the couple tells her they need to work on a major project and will leave her alone with the children. The children are not exactly thrilled with their new nanny. The tension mounts as the various characters' true agendas are revealed. There's also a poison garden and an attic filled with secrets. Rowan has stepped into a nightmare, one that will end with a child dead and herself in prison awaiting trial for murder.

Ware provides the reader with just enough information along the way and then pulls together the plot's many threads with a surprise ending that stays with us long after we turn the last page. A review in *Library Journal* says, "Ware hits another one out of the park. Fans of hers or anyone with a taste for the disturbing will stay up late devouring this."✱✱

## School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

**D**ear Shelley, Every year when the holidays come around, we all get stressed out at my house and often at my kids' schools. My kids and I seem

to be overwhelmed. Even their coaches and teachers seem frazzled. How can I help my kids, which in turn might help everyone else, to have less stress and enjoy this season.

Cheryl K, Fort Myers

### Cheryl,

The holidays are often fraught with tension because expectations for happiness have been set at a ridiculously high standard. Movies, television, advertising and social media depict this season with so many images of "perfection" that many people and especially children become confused about what is real, appropriate and worthwhile for them. Expectations are then heightened, and the holidays can feel like a test of how happy and successful your family is. And, if you have children with psychological or learning disorders, even favorite traditions can turn into a test of stamina and patience. Here are some ideas to help minimize stress and make the holidays more fun and fulfilling.

Talk with your kids about your traditions, which ones they love and which you might evolve to make them more fun or memorable for everyone. This is especially important when family dynamics have changed because of divorce, a new marriage or sibling, or a death in the family.

When making holiday plans, be realistic. Remember your children's limitations when you make plans and that will help to reduce stress on everyone. Kids who are anxious about meeting new people or even encountering the extended family will need support and realistic expectations. Kids who have trouble with organization will need help to succeed at gift-giving. Children who tend to be impulsive need structure to minimize disruptive behavior. Not overestimating your kids' patience and ability to focus will help you enjoy yourself more, too.

Holidays represent a change in a family's normal schedule and, for some kids, that's unsettling. Preparing them for changes in their routines, what to expect and what you expect of them will help head off meltdowns. If you're

traveling, bring familiar toys and books, and make sure you have quiet one-on-one time like reading before bed.

Give yourself a break as well. Don't stretch yourself too thin trying to create the "perfect" holiday season. Decide what is important, prioritize and say "no" to what you can't handle. Your kids will be fine with a less than perfect tree, cookies, décor, etc.

Kids pick up their parents' stress and tension, so they're more likely to be irritable if you are. Have a sense of humor, enjoy your kids for who they are, and keep in mind that what you'll all remember when it's over is likely to be the unexpected moment when everybody was relaxed, not the perfectly choreographed party, dinner, or outing.

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](mailto:smgreggs@gmail.com). Not all questions submitted can be addressed through this publication.✱✱

From page 35

## Audubon

individual stories of some of the resident and migratory shorebirds.

January 30 – Chasing Rare Birds in the Lower 48. Discover how avid birders David and Tammy McQuade find and timely visit the exact locations, sometimes down to square feet, of the rarest birds in the lower 48 states. They will include many exquisite photos of the subjects of their quest.

February 6 – Birds' Secret Lives. Dr. Ken Meyer, founder of Avian Research and Conservation Institute (ARCI), reports on how ARCI's field and tracking studies reveal clues and uncover mysteries that help us protect the future of birds we love. Studied species covered will be reddish egrets, mangrove cuckoos and swallow-tailed kites.

February 13 – Birding Exotic Southern Africa. Peter Hawrylyshyn returns to lead attendees on a trip through this dramatic region using his photos of its many unique bird species. He will also elaborate on some of the remarkable avian bio-adaptation and evolution which has occurred in southern Africa.

February 20 – Florida Reflections. Sanibel-Captiva Audubon favorite Rick Bunting is back to again utilize his unique perspective and superb photos to visually elaborate on his activities in Florida, his favorite away from home location for observing birds and nature.

February 27 – Falcon Fascination. Barb Walker, president of Tampa Bay Raptor Rescue, will provide a unique learning experience about man's epic relationship with peregrine falcons, their natural history, and the unusual adaptations that make them successful today. She will also have a live peregrine falcon in the room.✱✱

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**BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series**

# Woman At War

by Di Saggau



The BIG ARTS Monday Night Movie for December 9 is *Woman at War*, Iceland's official submission for the foreign language film Oscar. The film opens amid the breathtaking beauty of rural Iceland with spectacular cinematography. A 50-year-old environmental activist named Halla is crusading against the local aluminum industry in Iceland. She fires an arrow over a power line, causing electricity cuts and short-circuiting government plans to build a new aluminum smelter. As her actions grow bolder, her life changes quickly when she is finally granted permission to adopt a girl from the Ukraine.

Halla, a bike-riding environmental guerrilla, is magnificently played by a Swedish actress who has the athletic physicality of Tom Cruise and the character depth of Liv Ullmann. When not trying to save Mother Earth, Halla is in the process of attempting to adopt a child. Can she continue her efforts while becoming a mother, or will authorities stop her activities before she gets to fulfill her dreams? That is the plot of this playful romp of a film that splendidly overturns action movie cliches while presenting its life-or-death struggles in thrilling offbeat fashion.

The film is a dynamic blend of genres, a contemporary environmental

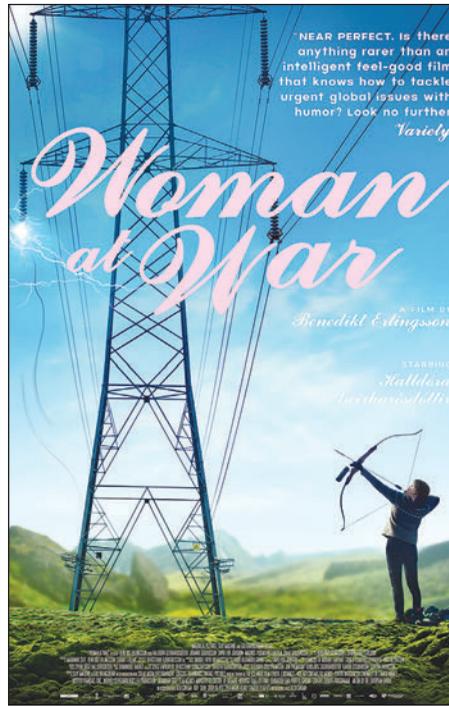


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fable that thrills with a side of laughs. We follow Halla, a beloved, single choir director in her early 50s, living a secret double-life as a green activist when no one is looking. *Woman at War* is cinematically and philosophically rewarding from start to finish. The film runs 101 minutes. A reception and discussion follow with Kathy Mahan as moderator for the evening.

Admission to BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series is \$10 and all

screenings begin at 7 p.m. The films are temporarily being shown in the Strauss Theater, located at 2200 Periwinkle Way. Tickets are available

**BIG ARTS Documentary Series**

# Pavarotti

by Di Saggau

On Wednesday, December 11 at 12:30 p.m., Island Cinema will show *Pavarotti*, the final film in this year's BIG ARTS Documentary Series. The film runs 114 minutes. After the movie, I will lead a discussion at the cinema.

*Pavarotti*, Ron Howard's documentary about the larger than life Luciano Pavarotti, combines new, intimate interviews, never-before-seen footage and some of Pavarotti's history making performances. This is a riveting film that lifts the curtain on the icon who brought opera to the people.

Howard puts audiences front row center for an exploration of the man, the legend. This film about the singer, who died at age 71 in 2007, does address his many shortcomings, including his extramarital affairs, which turned into tabloid fodder. But the portrait Howard paints, based on more than 50 interviews and enhanced with intimate home videos, is of an ebullient force who brought joy to the world and those closest to him.

"For better, sometimes worse, Pavarotti just lived so fully," said Howard. "He gave that kind of energy

online, at the BIG ARTS box office, 2244 Periwinkle Way, Ste. 8, and at the door the evening of the movie. For more information, call 395-0900.\*

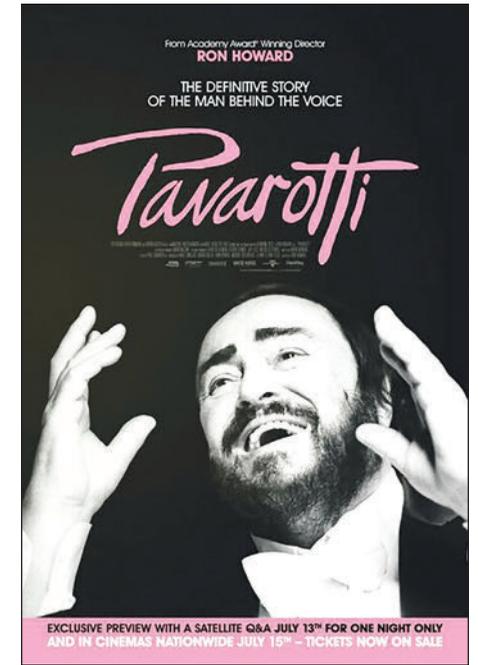


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to his art, his work, and he gave that energy to his life. And that's to be respected."

Di Saggau is a member of the BIG ARTS Film Series Committee, past president of the Film Society of Southwest Florida, and feature writer for the *Island Sun* and *The River Weekly* newspapers.\*

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From left, Kristian Schafer, Othmane Martinez, Chase Nave and Brandon Stevens photos provided

## Youth Group Hits The Trail For Fun At Dude Ranch

submitted by Jamie Senkeleski

Fifty-five middle and high school students and five leaders from the Sanibel Community Church H2O Youth Group set off on September 27 for a weekend adventure at the Circle F Dude Ranch in Lake Wales for the annual Camp 737 retreat. The purpose

of the trip was to provide a weekend of discipleship and fellowship. The itinerary included worship, Bible discussions, small group time and camp activities.

Speaker Nick Ybarra, a North Dakota Trailblazer for the Maah Daah Hey Trail, challenged the students to find their "Why." This is not the typical "Why" one gets up in the morning or goes to school, but the "Why" that focuses on God's plan for their life and how to incorporate what the teens are passionate about to fulfill God's purpose.

The students were happy to be visiting the Dude Ranch again. The fearless



From left, Isabella Sbarra, Gabby Miltner, Lilly Noorlander and Mara Lodwick on the high ropes

teens climbed a rock wall, zip-lined, scaled the alpine tower, navigated a high ropes course – all 60 feet high – and plunged 50 feet on a pendulum swing. The teens and leaders took a casual horseback ride through the forest, marshes and along the lake. The teens especially liked swimming in the lake, which had trampolines and slides.

The highlight of the trip was four middle-schoolers who chose to follow the Lord in believer's baptism on Saturday night. The celebration ended with a hayride and bonfire, including roasting marshmallows and making s'mores.

H2O Student Ministries is a youth program for sixth grade through 12th grade young men and women. The group meets on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. for middle school students, 6 to 8 p.m. for high school students, and on Sunday mornings at 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. in the youth center at Sanibel Community Church. All students on the island and surrounding communities are welcome to attend. Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation, located at 1740 Periwinkle Way (next to Jerry's Market).✪



From left, Lilly Noorlander, Jessica McKee, Sophia Sbarra, Denise McKee (leader), Summer Santoro, Lauren Macalka, Marianna Tison, Lydia Whalen, Mara Lodwick and Jessica Chavez-Santana (front)



From left, Anna Anderson-Kilgore, Brady Sackman, Karsten Schafer, David Baker, Cole Fields, Drake Stroud and Zachary Alonso



H2O group challenging each other with a game of paintball



From left, Casey Sackman, Brady Sackman, Pastor Kevin Schafer, Aiden Reason and David Baker take part in believers baptism in the lake

## Shells And Ornaments On Display At Library

Weekly children's programs with Youth Service Librarian Deanna Evans continue this month at Sanibel Public Library. STEM programs for all ages have been added to the schedule. The events are on the calendar online at [www.sanlib.org](http://www.sanlib.org).

Storytime for preschoolers and their caregivers will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. Family Storytime helps develop pre-reading skills through songs and stories. No registration required. There will be no storytime on December 4 or 5.

The After-School Crew (for kindergarten through fifth graders) meets at 3 p.m. on Thursdays. There are new books, puzzles, games, crafts and snacks. No registration required. There will be no program on December 5.

The public is invited to these programs and there is no additional cost to participate.

If you have out-of-town guests, bring them to the library for a selfie. They can email the photo to the folks back home. The selfie station is in the main lobby, where you can take a photo posing with holiday props.

Sanibel shell aficionado Jeffrey P. Oths is currently displaying nearly 100 pieces from his Victorian antique shell art collection in the library's main entrance lobby. Oths recently added some new pieces to the display. Elsie Malone's large



**Jeffrey P. Oths with Bob and Cookie Dugger's shell collection** photos provided

collection of Florida and Caribbean shells is on display in the main entrance lobby. Oths has worked to arrange the collection to allow for better viewing after it was in storage during the library renovation.

Oths moved to Sanibel in 2003 but was a shell collector for more than 30 years before living on the island. He is past president of the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club, and past chair of the annual Sanibel Shell Festival. He has been an artistic judge at the annual Sanibel Shell Festival. An avid sheller, he has found some rare specimens, including the long spined star shell (*Astrarium phoebium*), which had never previously been documented on Sanibel. His enthusiasm for all things shell-related has led to media



**Official White House Christmas ornaments collection on display at the Library**

interviews, including one for Public Radio International's *Living on Earth* show, as well as local TV appearances promoting the Sanibel Shell Festival.

Oth's display includes many antique, shell-encrusted items like a Victorian shoe, dioramas, pincushions, mother-of-pearl opera glasses, carved cameos, thimble-holders and a postcard box.

Bob and Cookie Dugger's shell collection is now on display by the library's large meeting room near the main entrance lobby. Their 100-plus shell collection was also arranged and organized by Oths. The Duggers retired to Sanibel and built cottages on West Gulf Drive in the late 1950s.

More than 40 of the White House

Historical Association's official Christmas ornaments are on display this month at the library. The ornaments are part of a collection owned by Don Lambrix, which date back to the early 1980s.

The book discussion group is reading *Queen Bee* by Dorothea Benton Frank. The discussion begins at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 18 at the library. No registration required.

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

Sanibel Public Library is located at 770 Dunlop Road. For more information, call 472-2483, or visit [www.sanlib.org](http://www.sanlib.org).

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*Randy Wayne White*

**“FOR THE SUN-KISSED &  
SUN-DESIROUS ALIKE,  
A VACATION ON A PLATE.”**

The New York Times  
Magazine

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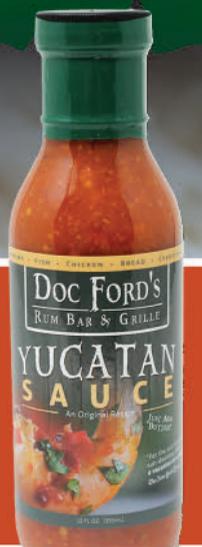
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## SCCF And Sanibel Sea School To Join Forces

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) and Sanibel Sea School will begin 2020 as a united force to better conserve the coastal ecosystems.

"This announcement is great news. In so many ways, it strengthens our ability to serve our wildlife, our water quality and our community; that's our role – to serve the community through natural resource conservation," said SCCF CEO Ryan Orgera, PhD. "Starting January 1, the Sanibel Sea School will become SCCF's education department."

Founded in 1967 by members of the "Greatest Generation," SCCF blends legendary success in advocacy and habitat preservation, with increasingly more attention on water quality through its marine laboratory. Sanibel Sea School has become an iconic brand for its focus on experiential education for Generation Z as well as lifelong learners of all ages. As a combined nonprofit, they will better serve four generations – quite a feat for a Southwest Florida organization.



**Ryan Orgera** photos provided

"Our plan is to develop more terrestrial education programs based on the Sea School's unique approach to experiential learning," said Orgera. "We have a lot of amazing scientists on our staff who are very dedicated to their research. Having a more effective way to share their work with the public is exciting."



**Bruce Neill**

Located at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee and adjacent to one of the nation's fastest-growing urban areas, Sanibel and Captiva islands are experiencing real water challenges.

"Joining forces is what's best for the future of our coastal ecosystems," said Orgera. "The idea of combining with

the Sea School started as a conversation of how to operate more efficiently and turned into a very practical and potent way to better fulfill our very complementary missions."

That conversation flowed easily for Sanibel Sea School Executive Director Bruce Neill, PhD, who is a strong advocate of cooperation and partnership.

"We can best support nature and serve our community with a single unified voice, broadcast across multiple wavelengths, to promote natural resource conservation," he said.

After the two organizations become a single nonprofit, Neill will be SCCF's director of education.

Following the intensity of the 2018 red tide and the simultaneous blue-green algal bloom, the time for attention to water quality has never been more apparent. The world-famous shores of Sanibel and Captiva and the surrounding watershed help drive Lee County's \$3 billion tourism economy and are coveted for their natural beauty.

"We believe that if people fall in love with the ocean, they will protect it," said Neill.

Sanibel Sea School has welcomed people of all ages and walks of life to

continued on page 18B

## SCCF Tennis Tournament This Weekend

Around the time the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1992, the organization's longest-running fundraiser was founded by Luc Century. Entering its 28th year, the tournament will be held on Saturday and Sunday, December 7 and 8 at Beachview Tennis Club.

"We've always played on clay courts for the tournament. It's softer and easier on the joints, and the older generation appreciates it," said Century, an avid player himself. "We've had all ages over the years – from 16 up to 90-year-old players. Everyone appreciates the clay."

Century, whose wife, Dee Serage-Century, volunteers at the SCCF Landscapes & Garden Center after a 34-year career with the nonprofit, was inspired to create the fundraiser to show his support of SCCF's mission.

"It's a cause I love and I love tennis, so it was a natural fit," said Century, one of Sanibel's best-known artists



From left, Jim and Jonatha Castle of Grampy's Charities, Beachview Tennis Director Toni Halski, tournament chair Lisa Newmeyer-Cochrane and tournament founder Luc Century photo provided

who etches glassworks. "Several years ago, I handed over the torch of volunteering to organize the tournament to Lisa Newmeyer-Cochrane who is a sweetheart and a tennis player."

For the second year, Grampy's

Charities, founded by Jim and Jonatha Castle, is presenting sponsor. The organization is donating \$5,000 and also providing T-shirts for the players, prizes for the raffle and electronics for the silent auction.

"We are grateful for all the support we receive through the community and are looking forward to more sponsors for this year's event," said Newmeyer-Cochrane.

Men's and women's doubles teams that play at the 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0 levels are welcome to enter the tournament. An entry fee of \$75 per person includes a T-shirt and breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. Winners and runners-up receive a wine glass etched by Century.

For registration, contact Beachview Tennis Director Toni Halski at 472-9099. Sponsorships are still available at levels from \$150 to \$5,000 by calling SCCF at 472-2329.

Breakfast, lunch and refreshments are being provided by Bailey's General Store, Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille, Lazy Flamingo, Malia, Sanibel Deli and Traders. Refreshments will be available to spectators from 9 a.m. to dusk on Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday.

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) is dedicated to the conservation of coastal habitats and aquatic resources on Sanibel and Captiva and in the surrounding watershed. Learn more at [www.sccf.org](http://www.sccf.org).



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From left, Craig Holston, Timothy Vick and Ed Ciskowski

photo provided

## Investors Reveal Things Wall Street Won't Tell You

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company held its opening event of the season last week entitled Ten Things Wall Street Won't Tell You. The revealing program was presented by three senior portfolio managers on the investment team – Timothy Vick, director of research, Craig Holston, chief operations officer, and new team member Ed Ciskowski, CPA, held at The Sanctuary Golf Club to more than 80 guests.

Al Hanser, founder and chairman of the trust company, welcomed clients and guests back for the season and introducing two new additions to the Sanibel team. Jeff Muddell, previously of Lee Health, joined the wealth services team along with Ciskowski, a portfolio manager with more than 30 years of experience in the financial industry.

All three presenters covered key observations about the Wall Street environment that surprised many attendees.

"Incentives drive Wall Street and the

products that investors are pitched. It's all about sales and commissions," said Ciskowski. "Not whether or not the stock is a good choice for the investor."

Holston explained, "Heavily touted, specialized products aren't always that special – they're just repackaged as a new fund, but don't perform any better than the existing ones."

Vick spoke about the founding of the Dow Industrial Average in 1896 and explained why it doesn't really represent the benchmark of best stocks in today's world. He also expounded on why hedge funds and private equity investing have underperformed straight forward strategies for years. Finally, they all agreed that following the 24-hour news cycle and politics is not a sound strategy for managing money.

"Financial stations are craving content to fill up 24 hours of programming with the primary goal of attracting advertisers and viewers," said Vick.

As the largest independent trust company in Southwest Florida, the trust company team is available to explain how they approach sensible investing and personal wealth management for more than 380 families from Tampa Bay to Marco Island. Visit [www.sancaptrust.com](http://www.sancaptrust.com).

## Captiva Community Panel To Meet

The next meeting of the Captiva Community Panel will be held on Tuesday, December 10 beginning at 9 a.m. in the Cone Rooms on Chadwicks Square at South Seas Island Resort. This meeting is open to all interested islanders and the public.

Among the agenda items will be:

Review of the proposed draft language to update the Captiva Code;  
Discussion of a request to expand the golf cart zone on Captiva Drive to

'Tween Waters Inn;

Updates on the Andy Rosse beach access improvements, the Captiva Drive walkway project, the iguana eradication effort, and bike/pedestrian safety on the Blind Pass Bridge;

The latest plans for the annual Welcome Back cruise planned for December 10;

Committee reports and reports from island organizations.

Public participation is invited and encouraged. The next Captiva Community Panel meeting tentatively will be held on January 14. Information and background documents are available online at [www.captivacommunitypanel.com](http://www.captivacommunitypanel.com).

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#### 836 Donax Street



This 3 BR/2 BA family home overlooks the Sanibel River and allows for weekly rentals. Living room, dining and kitchen combo have French door access to the screened back porch with lush vegetation. Community pool; easy walking distance to beach access.

**\$575,000**

#### 4156 West Gulf Drive



This 3BR/2BA has been updated with cathedral ceilings, an inviting kitchen and dining/living room combo. The master bedroom with en-suite has private access to the rear porch. The beautifully designed guest bath includes an etched glass enclosed walk-in shower. Relax on the large rear porch or play a game of tennis or pickleball on your private court.

**\$1,329,000**

#### Seashells of Sanibel #36



2-BD/2-BA second floor unit! Great rental income with 3-day minimum rentals! Conveniently located and just a short walk from the beach, this complex is an ideal West Gulf Drive location.

**\$380,000**

#### 678 Durion Court



Beautifully remodeled... 3BD/2BA lake home. Located in East Rocks. Living/kitchen area boast beautiful lake views. New stainless appliances, freshly painted, new baths, and more! Priced to sell.

**\$699,900**

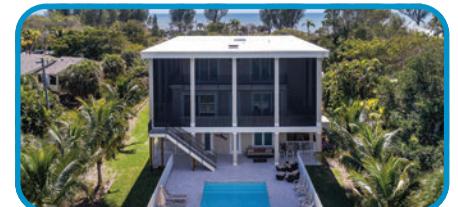
#### Sandalfoot #3C1



Beautiful 2 BR/2 BA unit with walk-out to the pool and beach. Updated, the kitchen features custom cabinetry, granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances, both bathrooms have been remodeled and the unit has an open floor plan.

**\$674,000**

#### 4014 West Gulf Drive



Brand new custom home across from beach access. 4 BR/3BA home, large acre+ lot. Impact glass, glassed elevator, gourmet kitchen, gas cook top and stainless appliances. All rooms access screen enclosed decks, native vegetation, oversized salt water pool. Gulf view, an exceptional home!

**\$3,699,000**

[www.SanibelCaptivaRealEstateGuide.com](http://www.SanibelCaptivaRealEstateGuide.com)

Locations In Sanibel and Captiva

2400 Palm Ridge Rd. Sanibel • 11508 Andy Rosse Ln. Captiva

# Discounted Rates Offered For Peek At The Unique

submitted by Sue Denham

Plans are under way for A Peek at the Unique, the record-setting home tour and signature fundraiser for the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva and the Zonta Foundation of Southwest Florida. As always, all proceeds are awarded in grants to organizations that help to empower women and girls.

The 19th annual "Peek," a sought-after day out for islanders, seasonal residents and visitors, is set for Saturday, March 14. As before, tickets will go on sale later through Eventbrite.com but before you head to Eventbrite, check this out: If you are able to participate in the popular Buy a Bus and Buy a Block programs, you can secure tickets early and avoid service fees. It's a great way to enjoy viewing unique island homes with your neighbors, tennis or golf buddies, your book club or any group of your favorite people. Read on for details, then send an email to peektickets@gmail.com to purchase.

**Buy a Bus:**

Gather a group of 24, 27 or 39 friends (bus sizes vary);

Have one individual pay for all the seats in full (\$80 or \$100 per person, no service fees) by December 14. Each



Last year's leadership team with a message for Zonta's loyal Peekers. The 2020 co-chairs are Zontians Susan Tucker, center left, and Joyce Ross, center right. photo provided

Peeker in the group then reimburses that individual.

**Or Buy a Block:**

Gather your group of six or more; By December 14, have one individual

pay for the entire block (\$80 or \$100 per person, no service fees) and each Peeker reimburses that individual.

For both programs, buses and blocks are assigned on a first come

basis. Zonta will try to honor departure request times, but cannot make any guarantees.

Here's another incentive if you act quickly. Peek co-chair Susan Tucker has confirmed that in honor of Zonta's centennial, the 80 members of the Zonta Foundation are offering a special price of \$80 per person for either the 2 or 2:30 p.m. departure, with no additional service fees if purchased before December 14.

To sum up: seats on 2 and 2:30 p.m. departures only (regularly \$100) will be discounted to \$80, without service fees, until December 14. Past customers for Buy a Bus and Buy a Block were sent an email announcing this special benefit, available only by contacting peektickets@gmail.com. Eventbrite will open to the general public, with departures beginning at 8:30 a.m., on January 26.

So for either of the discount programs, send an email to peektickets@gmail.com. Act fast as this benefit is for a limited time. After December 14, if seats are still available for the 2 and 2:30 p.m. departures, you must purchase through Eventbrite, and the price of \$80 will remain in effect until January 2 as a holiday special. However, the standard Eventbrite service fee will apply.

Visit [www.zontasancap.com](http://www.zontasancap.com) for complete details including a description of the event and Zonta's programs. You can also ask questions by sending an email to peektickets@gmail.com.\*

**A group for full and part-time residents to work together for a better future for our dogs on Sanibel Island!**

**Dog park? Dog daycare? Play group? Just have some good tips and fun to share? Let's get some discussions going!**

**Join us on Facebook: Dogs on Sanibel**

## Lineup For Trust Company Speaker Series

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company 2020 speaker series will be a lineup of five poignant programs across a variety of topics including investing and economics, estate planning and lifestyle issues.

"Every year we listen to our series attendees about what is important to them and work hard to produce content that will help them with their wealth management and decisions about their daily lives," said Robin L. Cook, wealth services advisor. "Attendance at these events continues to grow, so we encourage our guests to reserve early." Program descriptions and dates are:

Wednesday, January 15 – Aging in Place & Long-Term Care, presented by Andrea Sieradzki, campus director of Gulf Coast Village;

Tuesday, February 4 – Your Spouse Has Passed – What Now? Presented by Peter Knize, JD, LLM, trust administration, the trust company;

Tuesday, February 25 – Protecting the Inheritance You Leave Your Loved Ones, presented by Craig R. Hersch, PA – Shepard, Brett, Stewart, Hersch, Kinsey & Hill, PA;

Tuesday, March 10 – Election Results and Your Portfolio, presented by Timothy P. Vick, director of research



Robin L. Cook and Steven V. Greenstein photo provided

and Ed Ciskowski, CPA, senior portfolio manager, the trust company;

Tuesday, March 31 – The Seven Deadly Financial Sins, presented by Robin L. Cook and Steven V. Greenstein, wealth services advisors, the trust company.

All programs will be held at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. A continental breakfast will be served at 9:30 a.m. followed by the program from 10 to 11:30 a.m. For a full description of each presentation, visit [www.sancaptrustco.com/2020speakerseries](http://www.sancaptrustco.com/2020speakerseries).\*

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- Floor-Ceiling Impact Windows, Copper Roof, Wood Floors

**\$3,849,000**

**2268 WULFERT ROAD**



**SANCTUARY CC SIGNATURE RESIDENCE**

- 4BR,5.1BA 5368 SQFT w/ views of the Golf Course hole #12
- Championship golf Tennis, Restaurant
- Amazing great rm w/ soaring ceiling, 2 large master suite, large open kitchen, walk-in wine cellar

**\$1,995,000**

**15138 WILES DR**



**CAPTIVA BEACH FRONT**

- 102 Feet of Premier Gulf Frontage
- Comfort Meets Luxury w/ 6 BR 5.5 BA 4611 SQFT
- Private Oasis, Pool, Putting Green

**\$6,495,000**

**1253 ANHINGA LANE**



**DIRECT BAY FRONT- SANIBEL**

- Beautiful 4 BR, 4 BA w/Pool & Spa
- Private Location w/Spectacular Views
- Elevator, Gorgeous Kitchen Area

**\$3,795,000**

**2462 WULFERT ROAD**



**A SANCTUARY CC LOT**

- overlooks the 15th fairway w/ great views of golf course
- fantastic community amenities & social events
- 5-10 minutes from the beautiful Gulf of Mexico beaches

**\$229,000**

**11523 ANDY ROSSE LANE**



**PRIME CAPTIVA VILLAGE**

- Awesome Rental - Steps to the Beach
- 5 BR, 5 BA, Pool & Spa
- Main & Guest House, Great for Entertaining

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**4630 RUE BAYOU**



**CHATEAUX SUR MER**

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- Elevator, Fireplace, 2 Master Suites, Newer Roof

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From left, race committee member Nicole McHale, Anne and David Joffe of She Sells Sea Shells and race committee members Ed Riddlehoover and Pete Bender photo provided

## Longtime Sanibel Business Gives Back

She Sells Sea Shells was a silver sponsor of the 11th annual 10K Race for FISH. An award-winning, family-owned business on Sanibel since 1976, the Joffe family believes in giving back to the community.

“Giving back is a core value of She Sells Sea Shells and we love the work FISH does in our community,” said Anne Joffe. “We are happy to support the race again this year.”

“Sea Sells Sea Shells is not only fun to say, but is a fun place to visit,” said 10K Race Committee Co-chair Ed Riddlehoover. “We are grateful for the support of the Joffe family and their business; both are a wonderful part of our community.”✪

## Local Eatery Shows Support



From left, Doc Ford's team members Lauren Dewar, Samantha Rowe, Lisa Kendrick, Jerry Tislow and general manager Kim McGonnell with 10K Race committee members Pete Bender, Ed Riddlehoover and Nicole McHale photo provided

Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille shows support of the community in many ways, including sponsorship and participation in the 10K Race 4 FISH, held in late October. A staff team of 25 to 30 runners participated as the Doc Ford's Rum Runners.

“We are proud to be a supporter

of an organization that helps not only our local families, but those visiting the islands,” said Doc Ford's General Manager Kim McGonnell. “It's an event our employees throughout the company look forward to every year. It's fun for us and a great way to show our support for the community.”✪



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# Holiday shopping for a piece of Sanibel



## 9448 Begonia Ct in Gumbo Limbo

Private semi-raised 3 bedroom 2.5 bath  
Lakeside on cul-de-sac with natural views  
High ceilings, new roof & new HVAC  
Large eat-in kitchen opens to family room  
Spacious 600 sq. ft. screened deck  
Easy 1-level living, side-entry 2-car garage  
Enormous dry concrete storeroom below  
\$599,000



## 4566 Buck Key Rd in Sanibel Bayous

Lowest-priced near-beach lot on Sanibel  
~105' x 140' lot with southern exposure  
Handy to Clam Bayou & Bowman's Beach  
Plenty of room for spacious pool home  
Eco Zone D-2 allowing 25% impermeable  
coverage & 30% total developed area  
Convenient to bike path, school, rec center  
\$149,000



## 1894 Farm Trail in Island Woods

Single-family home lot, over 1/3 acre  
In 38-home community amid preserved land  
Charming olde-Florida-style design  
Amenities include heated pool & tennis courts  
Inland location close to bike path & shopping  
Elevation is high so several building options  
Closest beach at Gulfside City Park  
\$249,000



## Gulfside Place #222, 1605 Middle Gulf Dr

Residential condo with covered parking below  
In private tier, 2nd floor, 2 bedroom with den  
Recently remodeled & reconfigured  
New upscale fixtures, soft neutral interior  
Baths feature easy-entry walk-in showers  
Stone counters, stainless steel appliances  
Tiled balcony with storm shutters & this view  
\$1,395,000



## 1238 Isabel Dr in Sanibel Harbours

Spacious multi-level home with high ceilings  
3-car garage, 4-stop elevator, bayside pool  
Porch with retractable screens plus open decks  
Expansive views, lots of entertaining areas  
2 gas fireplaces & gas cooking, butler's pantry  
4+bedrooms with baths, including 2 masters  
Huge media room with party kitchen & 1/2 bath  
\$3,595,000 with lot in boat basin with dock/lift



## Lighthouse Point #211, 200 Periwinkle Way

Residential east-end private end-unit condo  
2nd floor, 2 open terraces, totals ~2,029 sq. ft.  
2 bedroom with den (or 3rd bedroom)  
~1,743 sq. ft. of air-conditioned living space  
Remodeled kitchen & baths, plantation shutters  
Covered parking & storeroom below  
Community clubhouse, pool, tennis, & more  
\$599,000 fully furnished



## 842 Limpet Dr in Shell Harbor

Fully-reconfigured/remodeled in & out  
Now 3 full suites, den & 1/2 bath at ground level  
Central bright great room with soaring ceiling  
Upper loft plus outside entertaining area  
~140' on deep water canal, ~90' dock  
Spacious pool, boat lift, & new landscaping  
Community beach access with parking  
\$2,095,000 furnishings available too



## 1558 Sand Castle Rd in The Dunes

Looking for project? Upside at this price!  
Split-plan 3 bedroom in golf/tennis community  
Family room with fireplace, high ceilings  
Glassed Florida room, plus open deck  
Lakeside pool with paver deck  
Water views over preserved land to sunsets  
Court must approve sale price, call for details  
\$599,000

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 <b>FRIDAY</b> Mostly Cloudy High: 74 Low: 69	 <b>SATURDAY</b> Sunny High: 77 Low: 71	 <b>SUNDAY</b> Mostly Cloudy High: 74 Low: 69	 <b>MONDAY</b> Partly Cloudy High: 76 Low: 71	 <b>TUESDAY</b> Sunny High: 74 Low: 69	 <b>WEDNESDAY</b> Sunny High: 72 Low: 62	 <b>THURSDAY</b> Partly Cloudy High: 74 Low: 67
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**Redfish Pass Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	9:07 am	3:02 am	9:21 pm	2:31 pm
Sat	10:23 am	3:52 am	9:44 pm	3:09 pm
Sun	11:26 am	4:35 am	10:06 pm	3:42 pm
Mon	12:21 pm	5:14 am	10:30 pm	4:11 pm
Tue	1:12 pm	5:52 am	10:57 pm	4:36 pm
Wed	1:59 pm	6:30 am	11:28 pm	5:01 pm
Thu	2:46 pm	7:09 am	None	5:26 pm

**Point Ybel Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	8:12 am	3:04 am	8:26 pm	2:33 pm
Sat	9:28 am	3:54 am	8:49 pm	3:11 pm
Sun	10:31 am	4:37 am	9:11 pm	3:44 pm
Mon	11:26 am	5:16 am	9:35 pm	4:13 pm
Tue	12:17 pm	5:54 am	10:02 pm	4:38 pm
Wed	1:04 pm	6:32 am	10:33 pm	5:03 pm
Thu	1:51 pm	7:11 am	11:09 pm	5:28 pm

**Punta Rassa Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	8:24 am	2:55 am	9:04 pm	2:46 pm
Sat	9:37 am	3:47 am	9:46 pm	3:26 pm
Sun	10:44 am	4:35 am	10:25 pm	4:06 pm
Mon	11:32 am	5:19 am	10:57 pm	4:45 pm
Tue	12:12 pm	6:00 am	11:22 pm	5:23 pm
Wed	12:51 pm	6:39 am	11:42 pm	5:57 pm
Thu	1:33 pm	7:20 am	None	6:31 pm

**Cape Coral Bridge Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	11:17 am	6:18 am	11:31 pm	5:47 pm
Sat	12:33 pm	7:08 am	11:54 pm	6:25 pm
Sun	1:36 pm	7:51 am	None	6:58 pm
Mon	12:16 am	8:30 am	2:31 pm	7:27 pm
Tue	12:40 am	9:08 am	3:22 pm	7:52 pm
Wed	1:07 am	9:46 am	4:09 pm	8:17 pm
Thu	1:38 am	10:25 am	4:56 pm	8:42 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.



**Kayaking on Tuesdays** – December 10 and 17 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 required.

**Line Dancing Classes** – Tuesday, December 10 and 17 at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members.

The instructor will review dance steps then turn up the music. Bring a friend for a fun-filled afternoon. Advance registration is not required.

**Naples Botanical Gardens Night Lights in the Garden** – Monday, December 9, with music from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$23 for members and \$33 for non-members.

Celebrate winter in the tropics as you stroll through the Naples Botanical Gardens illuminated in thousands of lights. Sample specialty menu items from the garden's Fogg Café and sip on a signature cocktail in celebration

of this special time of year. Make a wish on a Wishing Tree or hum along to live music, performed every evening by artists from Opera Naples Youth Chorus, Naples Ballet and Artis – Naples.

**Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald & Ann Hartman** – If you are not on the Page Turners list and wish to be, email [ocean@comcast.net](mailto:ocean@comcast.net) or contact the center.

The book for discussion on Wednesday, December 11 at 2:30 p.m. is *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts.

“ABC News political commentator and NPR news analyst Roberts didn’t intend this as a general history of women’s lives in early America – she just wanted to collect some great “stories of the women who influenced the Founding Fathers.” For while we know the names of at least some of these women (Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Eliza Pinckney), we know little about their roles in the Revolutionary War, the writing of the Constitution, or the politics of our early republic. In rough chronological order, Roberts introduces a variety of women, mostly wives, sisters or mothers of key men, exploring how they used their wit, wealth or connections to influence the men who made policy.”

–Publishers Weekly

**Stars on Sanibel with Richard Finkel** – Friday, December 13. Cost is \$7 for members and \$12 for non-members.

Explore the features of the night sky and the mysteries of the universe. Learn to identify some of the stars and constellations in the night sky. The program will be led by Richard Finkel, who has been on Sanibel since 1991. He worked full-time as an educator

with Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) for 10 years and is now an educator with Captiva Cruises in addition to part-time environmental education work with SCCF.

Bring a lawn chair, bug spray and water. Carpool arrangements for transportation. First come, first served. Contact the center for details, 472-5743.

**Contestants Wanted for Sanibel’s Got Talent** – Thursday, February 20. If you or someone you know would like to be in the spotlight, contact talent scout Tommy Williams at the center. He is seeking local talent to perform in this special event at the Sanibel Recreation Center, following a potluck dinner.

**Demaris Peters Pike** – Friday, January 31. Damaris Peters Pike will present *Que Sera, Sera – Remembering Doris Day* in the Women of Note Series.

Contrary to the popular image of the smiling girl next door, Doris Day’s story is full of pain and sorrow along with great success. This recounting of her youth in Cincinnati, her start as a big band singer, and amazing rise to stardom in movies includes several well-loved songs associated with the star, such as *It’s Magic, My Secret Love* and *Sentimental Journey*. A \$5 donation is requested with proceeds benefitting Island Seniors programming.

**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. 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.  
**Fitness Classes** – Island Seniors, Inc. members pay \$4.10 per class, visitors pay \$10.25 per class. Island Seniors, Inc. annual membership is \$20. Classes are included with Sanibel Recreation Center membership. You must show your Sanibel Recreation Center membership card to attend.

Fitness class schedule is as follows:

**Cardio Combo** – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m. Keep your brain fit, and your heart, lungs and muscles strong. Hand weights, stretch cords, stability balls and your body weight will be used. The format is 30 minutes of cardio dance and 30 minutes of balance exercises, core strength, flexibility exercises and mat work.

**50/50 Cardio Sculpt** – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 and 11 a.m. This class includes cardio, muscle strengthening and flexibility training with hand weights, stretch cords, chairs and stability balls.

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

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

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

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

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# Coastal Keepers Hosts Successful Fundraiser

Coastal Watch held its annual fundraiser, The Launch, on November 16 at The Community House. The well-attended event included dinner and drinks, silent and live auctions, trivia and a 50/50 raffle. All proceeds support local conservation initiatives on Sanibel and Captiva.

While enjoying the evening, guests learned about Coastal Watch's mission, accomplishments and goals for the coming year. Current Coastal Watch conservation initiatives include Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) and a newly released project on mangrove restoration.

Coastal Watch is partnering with the City of Sanibel to fortify existing mangroves along a section of road that is subject to erosion and shoreline



Guests listening to Dr. Bruce Neill speaking about Coastal Watch

photo provided

degradation. Red mangrove propagules have been collected, sprouted and transplanted to pots on Sanibel Sea

School property where they continue to grow. Mangroves are an integral part of the environment. These trees provide many benefits, such as erosion

control, water quality management and ecosystem services that have trickle down effects. They also create complex natural habitats for both terrestrial and marine species.

Coastal Watch operates as a branch of Sanibel Sea School to create and implement conservation initiatives that promote and improve the future of marine resources and the coastal heritage. To learn more, visit [www.sancapcoastalwatch.org](http://www.sancapcoastalwatch.org).

The organization thanks the following supporters for making The Launch possible: Bailey's General Store, Chip and Nancy Roach, Dan Hahn Custom Builders, Inc., Hans Wilson & Associates, Inc., Island Cow, Island Inn, *Island Sun* newspaper, Jensen's Twin Palm Resort & Marina, John Grey Painting, On Island, Pat and Frank Middendorf, Porter and Mariel Goss, Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's, Sanibel Design Center, Soon Come, Inc., The Brooks Family and The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company.✱

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## Mayor Recognized By Local Magazine

Mayor Kevin Ruane of Sanibel has been named one of the *Gulfshore Life Magazine's* 2019 Men & Women of the Year. As noted in the article, "Ruane sold his business and moved his family to Sanibel."



Kevin Ruane

It is apparent that Ruane is not good at sitting around. Little did he know Hurricane Charley was about to impact his life forever. "New to the island, he leapt into recovery mode." Shortly thereafter, "he went full-throttle into community activism starting with coaching youth sports and leading the charge for a new recreation center." The next step was "serving as treasurer for a city council candidate's campaign. In 2007, he was tapped to fill a council vacancy," and by May of 2007, he successfully ran for a permanent position on Sanibel City Council. He was re-elected in March 2009 and appointed by his peers as vice mayor for 2009-10. In March 2010, Ruane was appointed by his peers as mayor and is currently serving his 10th consecutive term.

"The island faced a \$100 million debt on a \$50 million budget, an unsustainable pension plan and the highest millage rates in its history. I didn't have a lot of credibility," said Ruane of his newly appointed position. He knew the city was a corporation and he knew it had to run like a corporation. Ruane led a budget overhaul, grew the reserves, secured

the pension, transferred city services to private contractors, and paid off debt. Ruane said that when you grow up in a family of accountants, it just becomes a part of your DNA. He cut taxes, too, by 25 percent.

"Off-island, Ruane is known best as a crusader for water quality. He has rallied local elected officials and used his leadership positions in the Florida League of Cities to educate state and federal lawmakers about Everglades restoration and Lake Okeechobee management. Working with the league magnifies Sanibel's 6,600 votes into a bloc of a million or more."

Upon receiving notification of this award Ruane said, "My sole goal since entering public service has been to improve our community. The benefit of this recognition from *Gulfshore Life Magazine* is the opportunity to further disseminate Sanibel's message on water quality to more residents of our region."✱

## ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

### John Gee & Company



Bob Hodosky



Michelle Bornhorst

The top producers at John Gee & Company for the month of November were Bob Hodosky and Michelle Bornhorst.✱



DDWS Education Committee Chair Wendy Kindig, right, observes a 2018-19 grant-funded project at Royal Palm Exceptional School Center in Fort Myers photo provided

## Refuge Awards Conservation Education Grants

The “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) recently awarded \$9,106 in grants to conservation education-related projects at 11 different schools and educational resources in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties for the 2019-20 school year.

Teachers submitted grant applications to the DDWS Environmental Education Committee by October 31. The committee chose awards based on need and relevance to conservation.

Educational resources to which DDWS awarded grants this year include East Lee County High in Lehigh Acres for two separate projects titled Growing Our Future and Bringing Thoreau & Emerson To Life, Edison Park Creative & Expressive Art School in Fort Myers for Grow Up for Environmental Stewardship, Lee Adolescent Mother’s Program in Fort Myers for Green Space – A Garden for Us All, Lee County Schools for Project Wonder of Water, Lehigh Senior High for Retention Pond Study, Immokalee Middle School for Water Is a Valuable Resource, James Stephens International Academy in Fort Myers for Escape Drill and Practice,

Orange River Elementary in Fort Myers for Let’s Get Wet, Peace River Elementary in Port Charlotte for Hydroponics, Quality of Life Center of Southwest Florida in Fort Myers for Quality Conservation Project and Villas Elementary in Fort Myers for Microscopes to Inspire & Enhance Scientific Inquiry.

“This is the 14th year the society has awarded these conservation teacher grants,” said Wendy Kindig, education committee chair. “To date, we have awarded more than \$95,000 in teacher grants. The education committee appreciates the creativity that teachers demonstrate when developing age-appropriate projects to teach conservation and environmental science. We are pleased to help the future of conservation stewards in this important way.”

Grant recipients report back on their projects to the society and refuge, sending pictures and often thank-you notes from the students, upon project completion in June 2020.

For information on next year’s grants, contact Sierra Hoisington at 472-1100 ext. 4 or Kindig at wendykindig@aol.com, or visit [www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/teacher-grants](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/teacher-grants).

Anyone interested in supporting conservation education at “Ding” Darling can visit [www.dingdarlingsociety.org](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org) or contact Birgie Miller at [director@dingdarlingsociety.org](mailto:director@dingdarlingsociety.org).

## Friends Who Care Group Needs Holiday Help

Friends Who Care will hold its annual holiday gift sorting day at The Community House on Wednesday, December 18 at 2 p.m. On Thursday, December 19, wrapping day begins at 9 a.m. Adult volunteers are needed to help sort and wrap gifts for those in need this holiday season. Bring your own scissors on wrapping day, if possible.

Through its Santa Run program, the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club delivers the gifts to children and seniors on the islands on the evening of December 23.

Friends Who Care, Inc. has been

assisting island residents since 1983. The organization provides help for children and adults in crisis-related situations. Friends Who Care works on an anonymous basis through information from local churches, schools and individuals in the community.

The holiday season has become a rewarding experience for those involved with Friends Who Care. Many volunteers have joined in for the gift collection program, located at the Sanibel Post Office, Sanibel Fire and Rescue District, Sanibel City Hall, Sanibel-Captiva 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

continued on page 14B

# THE SANIBEL CAPTIVA TRUST COMPANY 2020 Speaker Series

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

## Aging in Place & Long-Term Care

Andrea Sieradzki, Campus Director | Gulf Coast Village

Aging well at home is possible if you plan ahead.

Researching long-term care strategies to support your lifestyle are the key to making it happen. Learn how at our January program.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

## Your Spouse Has Passed – What Now?

Peter Knize, J.D., LL.M., Trust Administration

Your loved one may have managed the financial and estate responsibilities in your household. Whether or not your spouse or significant other has already passed, be prepared by knowing the hurdles that widows and widowers face during the first year and the resources available to you.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

## Protecting the Inheritance You Leave Your Loved Ones

Craig R. Hersch, P.A. | Shepard, Brett, Stewart, Hersch, Kinsey & Hill, P.A.

Many estate plans are vulnerable to common dangers such as divorce, creditors, malpractice cases, car crashes or business lawsuits. Learn the latest estate planning strategies that will protect your loved ones when you’re no longer here to protect them yourself.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

## Election Results and Your Portfolio

Timothy P. Vick, Director of Research  
Edwin C. Ciskowski, CPA – Senior Vice President,  
Senior Portfolio Manager

Will a Democratic or Republican White House affect investors’ portfolios? We will look at the historical results, as well as what is ahead in domestic and global industry for the answers.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

## The Seven Deadly Financial Sins

Robin L. Cook, CWS and Steven V. Greenstein, CTFA,  
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## Historical Society Celebrates Iconic Inn On Captiva

Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) celebrated the iconic 'Tween Waters Inn to a sold-out audience on November 18. It was a double celebration, showcasing the newly-renovated Old Captiva House restaurant at 'Tween Waters Inn and kicking off the season of events for CIHS. The restaurant provided a dazzling setting for a buffet dinner, and entertainment with a historical slant.

CIHS engaged the spirit of the late Dottie Wakefield, the daughter of Bowman and Grace Price, the founders of 'Tween Waters Inn, and longtime owner of the historic property. In a carefully researched monologue, "Dottie" highlighted memories of her beloved inn. The actress, Dena Galyean, portrayed the warm, salty character of Dottie herself, while strolling among the tables as if she owned the place.

Tony Lapi, president and CEO of Rochester Properties, the owners of 'Tween Waters since the late 1970s, complemented Dottie's theatrical performance with comments about his 40-plus years as general manager of the resort. He recalled lively escapades of his long collaboration with Wakefield.

With the first signature appearing in its guest book in 1931, today 'Tween



Dena Galyean as Dottie Wakefield photo provided

Waters Inn still features several cottages and a portion of the dining room dating back to its original construction, circa 1930-40.

In 2011, 'Tween Waters Inn was the first of three Captiva Island landmarks included in the National Register of Historic Places.\*

## ABWA Member Receives 20-Year Service Award

Rose Byrne of Sundial Beach Resort & Spa was awarded the 20-year ABWA service pin from Nancy Barnes, retired from Bob's Island Graphics on Sanibel. Byrne has worked at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa, the chapter's location sponsor, since she was first recruited to ABWA by Barnes in the 1990s.

"ABWA has been such a positive force in my life," said Byrne. "And the encouragement I've received from Sundial through thick and thin over the years means so much to me."

"Rose is a great lady," said Becky Miller, general manager of Sundial Beach Resort & Spa. "We are delighted to have her on our team."

"Rose is an active supporter of ABWA activities and one of our valued legacy members," said ABWA Chapter President Gloria Garrett. "She has been chosen to be featured with Nancy Barnes and other longtime members in the chapter's upcoming Women's History Month event



ABWA member Rose Byrne of Sundial Beach Resort & Spa with Nancy Barnes, ABWA Woman of the Year photo provided next March."

The Sanibel Captiva Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association celebrates 40 years supporting professional growth through leadership, education, networking support and recognition. Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sundial Beach Resorts & Spa. For more information, visit [www.ABWASanibelCaptiva.org](http://www.ABWASanibelCaptiva.org).\*

### Superior Interiors

## Try A Bold Color Scheme In Home Design



by Jeanie Tinch

Color theory is a complex take on what would traditionally be considered simple, choosing a color scheme. This idea is all about how different shades work together in harmony based

on certain context. In home design, you pick a theme and arrange different pieces of furniture and decor based on the structure of the room and how the hues can flow together. Many often go for a neutral palette, one that uses traditionally soft shades that are keen to the eye and evoke natural calming sensations. While a neutral theme can be satisfying, it's not always going to make a statement. If you're on the fence about one of the color schemes in your home, or lack thereof, why not take a chance and go for something bold?

Perhaps the room needs a new face. Step inside the room you want to transform and think back to the last time you switched up the design. If you can't remember when that took place, close your eyes, take a deep breath and imagine incorporating a color that could make the living space pop, giving the room the personality it deserves. Something as simple as a new shade on the walls can take an area in your home to the next level. Eccentric wallpaper can

add a fun twist to your home style and give the room a new face as well.

Adding a fresh color in your home is a wonderful way to inject your personality in the space. There's something so gratifying about transforming a room with a new bold color scheme. Just think about the opportunity - it's endless. If it's been a long time since you've expressed yourself and you need an outlet, redecorating with a daring color can help you express the feelings you've kept inside for years. That's the beauty of transforming a room - it's a blank canvas that you can convert into your own personal colorful haven using paint, furniture, accessories and pieces of decor.

Maybe you've been afraid to step away from the comforting neutral palette you've had for years. Or, perhaps you just can't picture yourself taking a bold approach in home decor. There's no use in saying you'll try a bold color scheme at some point in your life - take the step outside of your comfort zone now. Think about a bold hue that you love (or simply catches your eye) and imagine it in that living space you retreat to every morning. Whether it's something as simple as adding a single colored accent wall to your entryway or taking the plunge and purchasing the striking window treatments or area rug you've been eyeing for years, there's no better time to go bold than now.

Making a big change in your home is a commitment that can be intimidating, but it doesn't have to be. With assistance from a design professional, you can follow through with the bold theme you've been excited to try for years. He or she can help you incorporate that daring color in a way that pops without being over the top.

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

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ABWA officers celebrate a national award, from left, Gaby Bell, Gloria Garrett, Mary Bondurant and Kira Dworkin photo provided

## Local ABWA Chapter Earns National Award

The Sanibel Captiva Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) earned a National Best Practices Award. The chapter is known locally for its monthly Women in Leadership Speaker Series at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa.

"The Women in Leadership Speaker Series, supported by strong chapter governance, earned us national recognition," said Gloria Garrett, ABWA chapter president. "The women who live and work here are an amazing local resource of leadership talent and mentoring. Every speaker has inspired us, generously sharing wisdom from their professional journey."

"The series launched in August 2018 with Calli Johnson of Bailey's General Store," said Mary Bondurant, chapter secretary and professional development committee chair. "There has been a noteworthy speaker each month, including leaders from the commercial, environmental, cultural and culinary sectors. These are the women influencing the future of the islands."

"We have welcomed over 200

individual visitors to the monthly meetings since we started the series," said Gaby Bell, chapter treasurer. "I expect continued growth behind the exciting speaker lineup this winter: December 17 is Emilie Alfino, executive director of the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village; January 28 is Laura DeBruce, owner of Sanibel Carts; and February 25 is Allison Hussey, executive director of the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW)."

"The Best Practices Award recognizes a chapter's contribution to the professional development of women in the community and rewards excellence in chapter governance," said Kira Dworkin, chapter vice president and best practices committee chair. "We are grateful for the support of the community and the commitment of our speakers."

ABWA welcomes the community to its monthly luncheons and to join in the discussion with the presenters showcased in the series. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17 at Sundial Beach Resort and Spa, located at 1451 Middle Gulf Drive on Sanibel. Networking starts at 11:30 a.m., with lunch and the guest speaker from noon to 1 p.m. Cost is \$25. RSVP at [info@ABWASanibelCaptiva.org](mailto:info@ABWASanibelCaptiva.org) or register on Eventbrite at <https://ABWASanibelCaptiva.Eventbrite.com>.\*

## Speaker Discusses Role Models At ABWA Meeting

submitted by Gloria Garrett

Wendy Schnapp inspired ABWA participants with the ground rules for success and lessons learned building two thriving businesses on Sanibel. "After 30 years in the workforce, I can admit destiny plays a role in success," said Schnapp, "but the key is the choices we make – to be honest, to be authentic, and to surround ourselves with smart, positive, capable people."

"Be sure you have good cheerleaders at every stage," Schnapp said, "and embrace them while they're with you." Encouraged by her biggest champion, her mom, Schnapp started the path to success at age 14 on the south side of Chicago in the food service industry with the goal of being the first in her family to pursue higher education. At community college, she found another champion, the college president, Dr. Timothy Lightfield, who supported her interest in science and helped her move on to the University of Illinois.

"Find life balance, learn to take risks and enjoy the sunrise," said Schnapp. "That was the advice I received from one of my good friends who had already relocated to Florida when I was considering making the move."

She arrived on Sanibel by way of Sarasota, drawn by a management role at the new "Ding" Darling Refuge ecotourism concessionaire that we know today as Tarpon Bay Explorers (TBE). Her bosses in Sarasota and now her business partners, the Spurgeons, have been the most influential people helping to guide her success. "Highly successful people are generally willing to share what they have learned and I have learned more about business and success from Winston and Barbara than anyone else in my life," said Schnapp.

Now as general manager and co-owner, Schnapp spoke admiringly of her team today and the community that helped her build TBE. "Hurricane Charley hit less than two years after we opened," recalled Schnapp. "We needed everyone's support."

Schnapp praised Holly Downing (now Milbrandt), Tory and Bill Burch, Jeff Combs, Toni Westland, Sarah Whitehead, Steve Greenstein and many others who played a role as members of the team and/or cheerleaders at that pivotal time.

Schnapp found her most important champion, George Schnapp, in 2007. "George is the nicest guy I ever met," she said. "He is my role model for a



Wendy Schnapp photo provided

strong, caring and compassionate leader." Together they took over the restaurant in Bailey's Center and George & Wendy's Seafood Grille was born. Schnapp named Marty Harrity, Mark Blust, George's parents and good friends at Sanibel Captiva Community Bank as their new group of cheerleaders and advisors.

"My favorite people are awesome," said Schnapp. "You must work hard, stay focused and take care of yourself physically and spiritually, but it boils down to finding people who will encourage you, inspire you and challenge you."

ABWA welcomes the community to its monthly luncheons and to join in the discussion with the presenters showcased in the Women in Leadership Speaker Series. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17 at Sundial Beach Resort and Spa, located at 1451 Middle Gulf Drive on Sanibel. Networking starts at 11:30 a.m. with lunch and speaker from 12 to 1 p.m. Cost is \$25. RSVP to [info@ABWASanibelCaptiva.org](mailto:info@ABWASanibelCaptiva.org) or register on Eventbrite at <https://ABWASanibelCaptiva.Eventbrite.com>.\*

From page 11B

## Friends Who Care

United Church of Christ and Zonta.

The local service clubs – Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary – have contributed funds in support of the organization. The organization also has the continued support of many of the local realtors and churches. Other contributions are made by private individuals who provide their time and effort to bring joy to children and adults during the holiday season.

If you have any questions, call Tom Louwers or Kitty Slocum at 472-5152.\*

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3215 W Gulf Dr A101, Sanibel | \$1,875,000  
3 Beds | 2 Full, 1 Half Baths | 2360 Sq Ft  
Linda Naton 239-691-5024



33 Beach Homes, Captiva | \$1,799,000  
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1525 San Carlos Bay Dr, Sanibel | \$1,469,500  
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# Museum Store Sunday A Success At Historical Village

The Sanibel Historical Museum & Village took part in the 3rd annual Museum Store Sunday, sponsored by the Museum Store Association. The museum store was open on December 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a wide variety of merchandise for sale.

"We welcomed about 65 people," said Executive Director Emilie Alfino. "Sales were brisk, bringing in more than \$1,200. We even sold an original painting of the old Post Office by Susan Anderson, part of a new partnership with the Sanibel Captiva Art League."

Museum Store Sunday is a global annual event to help museum stores increase community engagement and advocate for nonprofit retail while showcasing the products unique to each store involved. More than 1,200 stores representing all 50 states participated.

Volunteer artisan Connie Jump was on hand demonstrating how she makes her upcycled necklaces and wind chimes; and Gisela Damandl, "The Basket Lady," was demonstrating her basket making techniques.

Stuart Hata, co-chair of the national Museum Store Sunday Committee, said, "It is important to include local artisans because Museum Store Sunday is our global annual day of advocacy celebrating how museum stores are resources for local communities and



Volunteer artisan Connie Jump and volunteer coordinator Jan Symroski photos provided

their visitors."

Hata believes it is important to show support for cultural institutions and their stores and to patronize museums.

The Sanibel Historical Museum and Village is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours take place at 10:30 a.m.



Gisela Damandl

and 1:30 p.m. at no additional charge, depending on docent availability. The Sanibel Historical Village is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS) and there is handicap access. Admission is \$10 for adults over 18. Members and children are free.

The museum will remain open



Executive Director Emilie Alfino and volunteer Kay McDonald

during the BIG ARTS construction project. Parking and access for village guests and volunteers will be available throughout the construction period. Signage is in place to direct visitors.

For more information, call 472-4648 during museum hours or visit [www.sanibelmuseum.org](http://www.sanibelmuseum.org)

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

**40** years of building homes

**SUPPORT CHR**  
**SUPPORT LOCAL**  
**THIS FALL**

The following Sanibel & Captiva 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 fundraiser 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 and support CHR.**

<b>SEPT 11</b> Joey's Custard sip and chill 2427 Parkside Way Sanibel Island, Florida 941-972-7232	<b>SEPT 25</b> MALIA island fusion cuisine	<b>OCT 9</b> SWEET Melissa's CAFE
<b>OCT 23</b> T2 LUNCH & DINNER	<b>OCT 30</b> CELEBRITY DRAG QUEEN EVENT LILY Co. JEWELERS Be Dazzled	<b>NOV 6</b> GEORGE & WENDY'S SEAFOOD GRILLE SANIBEL ISLAND
<b>NOV 20</b> ADVENTURES IN PARADISE	<b>DEC 4</b> OLD CAPTIVA HOUSE	<b>DEC 18</b> SANTITA Macintosh BOOKS + PAPER A SANIBEL TRADITION SINCE 1969

**SEPT 4, OCT 2, NOV 6 AND DEC 4**

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!

# BURNS *family* TEAM



## 1. Iconic Gulf to Bay Estate on Captiva

- 5 BR/ 5 BA with 2 full guest quarters situated on over an acre of land
- Beautiful Spanish architecture, great beach & Gulf frontage, boat dock and lift
- **\$9,100,000** EUR € 8,211,143

## 2. 4 bedroom home in Sanibel Estates- Sanibel

- 4BR/4BA + office home with large living area and open kitchen
- Screen enclosed pool & spa, multiple open & enclosed lanais, property offered turnkey
- **\$1,030,000** EUR € 929,393

## 3. Quintessential Sanibel Beach House

- 3 BR/2 BA with quick access to the beach down Rabbit Rd
- Recently remodeled with new kitchen, baths, roof, plumbing, and more
- **\$550,000** EUR € 496,227

## 4. Long lake views on Lake Murex – Sanibel

- 4 BR/3.1 BA home on oversized lot with 2 story ceilings and great room
- Chef's kitchen with 2 islands, gas fireplace, elevator, pool, and generator
- **\$1,299,000** EUR € 1,172,118

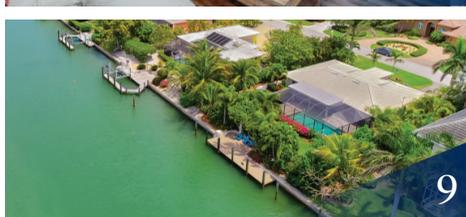
## 5. Crescent Island

- 4 acre private island located just off the shores of Sanibel and Fort Myers.
- Offering deep water dockage in San Carlos Bay, private beach, and Key West Style home complete with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, elevated pool, and beachy decor. Established rental history.
- **\$2,599,000** EUR € 2,345,138

## 6. On East End Located Across Street from Beach w/ Boat Dock

- 3 BR/ 2.5 BA remodeled home with screen enclosed pool and canal view
- Old Florida style home, community tennis & dock. Offered mostly furnished.
- **\$1,375,000** EUR € 1,245,527

## NEW LISTING



## 7. Gulf to Bay on Captiva, "The Ark"

- Vintage charm with stunning location on Captiva Island
- Custom details throughout, 2nd floor master suite with his & her baths and large sitting area overlooking Bay. Boat dock on Roosevelt Channel & deeded beach access
- **\$3,700,000** EUR € 3,338,596

## 8. Remodeled in Sanibel Shores -Sanibel

- 3BR/2 BA remodeled and redecorated home with a modern coastal style
- Sprawling backyard with large pool deck and pool, walking distance to beach, tiki's, golf & more.
- **\$729,000** EUR € 657,793

## 9. Remodeled Direct Access Canal Home in Shell Harbor

- 3BR/3BA completely remodeled ground level home featuring travertine floors and open kitchen
- Large boat dock able to accommodate sizeable boat or sailboat, very short trip to the open waters of the bay
- **\$1,595,000** EUR € 1,439,205

## 10. Island Escape – Captiva

- 5 BR/ 4.1 BA Old Florida inspired coastal luxury home completed in 2015
- Architectural details, open floor plan, spa like bathrooms, pool & spa
- **\$2,450,000** EUR € 2,210,692

## 11. South Seas Beach Home – Captiva

- 4BR/ 3BA with open and enclosed lanai space, perfect for daily sunsets
- Fully upgraded and remodeled, private deck, steps from the Gulf
- **\$3,375,000** EUR € 3,045,341

## 12. Golf course views in Beachview Country Club – Sanibel

- 4BR/ 3 BA home featuring large, updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances
- Soaring ceilings, large screen enclosed lanai, pool, and garage
- **\$899,000** EUR € 811,188



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Will Power

# Saints Or Sages



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

**D**uring the holiday season, it's not just children who put forward their best behavior in hopes that Santa Claus delivers great bounty. The rest of us tend to reflect on our life's journey. We try to be more considerate, patient and kind, while also being less judgmental of those around us.

We try to be more "saintly," don't we?

Which got me thinking about what a saint really is. Is it the utmost in morality? I'm not sure that it is when you examine sainthood closely. Sainthood is individual in nature. In most major religions, a saint is a person of extremes. He is defined as loving

kindness towards all. He lives in a world of self-denial, in that he doesn't seek material rewards or outside praise.

A saint's understanding of moral life is to give everything away to others in need. The saint may give all his money to the poor. But in so doing, what has the saint done to his own family? They suffer because of his extreme self-denial. A saint may refuse to fight in battle. But what about the saint's country and its defense? A saint may forgive all crimes committed against him, at the expense of law and justice.

Saints are supremely virtuous people, yet you cannot build a society out of saints alone. Indeed, saints aren't really interested in society. They have chosen a different, lonely self-segregating path.

Contrast this against a "sage" or "prophet." When watching the news, we see all sorts of people who claim to prophesize about our coming destruction. These are today's moral guardians. Their interest is in society at large as opposed to individual virtue.

We are told that we have lost our moral compass. Our prophets lament inequality, be it racial, religious, ethnic or monetary. Our modern day sages cry that the earth is dying beneath our feet, yet we continue to spew greenhouse gases, eat meat and throw plastics into the waters such that one day soon, we will be able to walk across trash stretching from Japan to California.

A true sage is a different kind of person altogether different than a saint. She follows the way of moderation and balance.

She avoids the extremes of cowardice on the one hand by speaking out about today's wrongs and injustices, yet isn't reckless about it, and thus acquires the virtue of courage. She avoids miserliness in one direction, prodigality in the other, and instead chooses the middle way of generosity.

The sage understands the twin dangers of too much and too little, excess and

deficiency. She weighs the conflicting pressures and avoids extremes.

The saint and the sage are not just two types of people, but rather two different ways of understanding moral life itself. Is a moral life to achieve personal perfection? Or is it to create gracious relationships and a decent, just and compassionate society? Can one have both?

I recently attended a conference where attorney Stan Miller explained that there will likely be the largest intergenerational transfer of wealth in the next 20 years or so unlike anything previously encountered throughout history. What are we to do with this wealth? Will our estate plans help heed our prophets' warnings to correct society's wrongs? Is that not saintly to do so within your estate plan?

What are the causes most important to you? How will your legacy work to promote those issues? Will it be through those you have raised or taught? Or will you leave generous amounts to those willing to raise the flag after your time here is done?

Are you the saint who heeds the prophet's warning? Or are you the prophet looking for saints to help your cause?

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From page 1B

## SCCF Partnership

become part of an "Ocean Tribe."

"We make field-based learning fun and meaningful - from squid dissections and seine netting for seahorses to surfing and kayaking. Many people fear the ocean, so we help them experience it in a rich, safe and meaningful way that builds a lasting connection to nature," said Neill.

At SCCF, the timing was right with a new CEO at the helm since January 2019. Orgera, who grew up on Lemon Bay in Charlotte County, has a dedicated and enthusiastic approach to conservation and can easily relate to the driving concept behind the Sea School.

He also recognizes the value of having the Sea School to execute SCCF's natural resource education to both build mission support and to serve the region more effectively.

"I recently ran into my kindergarten teacher and she remembered how much I loved sharks and was so glad that I had stuck to my path," said Orgera, who brings an international perspective from his global policy work in fisheries with The Pew Charitable Trusts.

"We see a terrific benefit for operating more effectively through the blending of our infrastructure, board expertise and staff abilities," he added.

The union will also result in more effective communication with the public on science-based conservation.

"Thanks to SCCF, reputable, respected marine science is taking place on our islands; we are excited to help translate that pertinent information in ways to help our citizens become better stewards of the environment, and to have a more meaningful and examined experience in this community," said Neill.

SCCF has the longest-running sea turtle monitoring program in Florida. It is also known for its monitoring, research and protection of other wildlife species including shorebirds, indigo snakes and freshwater turtles. As the largest private landholder on the islands, SCCF also manages more than 1,850 acres of wildlife habitat. Islanders are also encouraged to make private lands hospitable for protection for the many other critters through plant sales and education programs at SCCF's Native Landscapes & Garden Center.

SCCF is currently renovating its Nature Center on Sanibel-Captiva Road into an education hub with an auditorium that will feature presentations and displays on SCCF's varied programs.

Both Neill and Orgera are excited to have a partnership that blends the many facets of conservation under a single administrative roof.

"Ryan is very passionate and strategic. We have similar approaches to leadership. We respect and listen to our staff, and we value them greatly," said Neill. "I feel good about growing the Sea School's special style of marine science education under the SCCF umbrella. We believe this is the most sustainable future for Sanibel Sea School, and one that will ensure that our programs continue for years to come."

Coastal Watch, an island-based advocacy arm of Sanibel Sea School, will also become part of SCCF.

"Coastal Watch will help us take on a deeper role in promoting eco-friendly lifestyles," said Orgera. "Conservation issues can seem big and overwhelming. We want to help our residents and visitors find ways they can help serve the environment in a very local and meaningful way." ❄️

# Sanibel Shoes & Socks for Homeless Veterans

**Drop-Off Locations  
November 30 to December 22**

We kicked off year three of Sanibel Shoes and Socks for Homeless Veterans and, we added additional drop-off sites.

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

### SANIBEL

- Bailey's General Store
- The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club
- American Legion Post 123
- St. Isabel Catholic Church
- Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce
- Kingfisher Real Estate
- Bank of America
- The Community House
- Sanibel Fire and Rescue District
- Sanibel Public Library
- FISH of SanCap

### FORT MYERS

- St. Columbkille Catholic Church
- ### PORT CHARLOTTE
- WIKX Radio



We will continue to collect shoes and socks for men and women 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.

For more info, call 973-687-4826



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Dick Muench, owner of Lazy Flamingo, left, with restaurant staff and race committee members Pete Bender, Ed Ridlehoover and Nicole McHale, right photo provided

## Popular Island Race Receives Local Support

Lazy Flamingo was a silver sponsor of the 11th annual 10K Race 4 FISH, held recently on Sanibel.

"It is always important to support nonprofit organizations in our community," said general manager Ron

Rich. "These organizations and the people they assist are an integral part of what makes Sanibel and Captiva islands so unique."

"The Lazy Flamingo is a strong advocate of our community," said FISH of SanCap Board Vice Chair and 10K Race for FISH Committee Co-chairman Ed Ridlehoover. "Their support of the 10K race helps us continue our mission of lending a helping hand to those in need and we are grateful."\*

## Lions Club Inducts New Members



From left, Lori Schulz, Steve Schulz and Alice Esbjornson photo provided

On November 20, the Sanibel Captiva Lions Club inducted two new members; Lori Schulz and Alice Esbjornson. Schulz is a longtime Sanibel resident and is the owner of SanCap Gateway Realty. Esbjornson recently relocated to Sanibel from Pennsylvania. Both were sponsored by Sanibel Captiva Lions Club Vice President Steve Schulz.

The Sanibel Captiva Lions Club's mission is to eliminate preventable

blindness and to be of service to the Sanibel and Captiva communities. The club holds dinner meetings on the first and third Wednesday of the month during the year. Visiting Lions and other interested parties are welcome to attend.

For more information on the Sanibel Captiva Lions Club, contact Membership Chair Steven Schulz at P.O. Box 391, Sanibel, FL 33957, 233-6261 or visit [www.sanibelcaptivalionsclub.org](http://www.sanibelcaptivalionsclub.org).\*



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## Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



Rivalries, old and new. One feature of Thanksgiving weekend is lots of football (and great food). And good football rivalries. Some were excellent; some were blowouts; a

superb potential Super Bowl preview between the 49ers and Ravens, and a life-changing, game-ending shot.

What rivalries do you follow? It seems like every team, NCAA and professional, has a team that just gets under their skin. Bears-Packers, Michigan-Ohio State, Auburn-Alabama, Army-Navy are all perennially great matchups and are always worth watching. Even though the Bears-Packers and Army-Navy games are a few weeks away, they are among the ones to savor. In fact, Navy is the most improved team this year, going from 3-8 to a current 9-2 and No. 23 ranking in the Top 25. Air Force has also done well and is 10-2 this season, losing only to Navy and Boise State and most recently ranked No. 25. The Navy rivalry with Army goes back 128 years, and nearly

100 years for the Bears-Packers which started in 1921 and is the most played matchup in the NFL – 199 games. That's a long time to turn up the heat. (If you remember from my column last week, the NFL started in 1920).

As for last weekend's rivalries, Michigan-Ohio State is one of the oldest starting in 1897 and playing regularly since 1918. Unfortunately for this Michigan fan, Ohio State has owned the game over the last seven years, with this year truly being another slaughter and forgettable match. The Iron Bowl between Alabama-Auburn started earlier, in 1893, but was not played regularly until 1948. This year, Alabama was ranked 5th, and the lead went back and forth a lot before No. 15 Auburn clinched it with a game-winning field goal. The upset by Auburn knocked 'Bama out of FBS contention for the first time in several years. A fitting farewell to Auburn's first Heisman Trophy winner QB Pat Sullivan, who passed away last weekend. This opens up the possibility of Utah getting into the Top 4, as they are 11-1 and are ranked 5th. Georgia plays LSU next weekend for the SEC championship, with Utah conceivably jumping over one of them.

Other surprises from rivalry weekend was a spirited Indiana-Purdue game that went into double OT before Indiana pulled it out, strengthening the chances

of Hoosiers going to a decent bowl game with an 8-4 record, which they hadn't seen since 1993. Northwestern had nowhere to go, but still managed to beat bowl-bound Illinois with their first Big Ten win this weekend. And Minnesota, after going undefeated most of the season, has now lost two games to finish at 10-2 with their loss to Wisconsin and earlier to Iowa, both big rivalries. If Minnesota can win their bowl game, they will have 11 wins for the first time since 1904. It will be nice to see new teams at some of the better bowls.

As for the Super Bowl, both the Ravens and 49ers have been hot all season. The Ravens, with Lamar Jackson being a highlight-reel himself, won the game with a last second field goal. The game had gone back and forth, featuring some big plays (the 49ers first TD was a bomb on 4th down and 2) and great stops by both teams. If this was a Super Bowl preview, football fans have a lot to look forward to.

Here is a good news story from Thanksgiving week. A previously unknown basketball player from Stephen F. Austin University, Nate Bain, hit a last-second shot to beat Duke during Thanksgiving week, and word quickly gets out that there is a GoFundMe campaign for his family, whose home and church were badly damaged when Hurricane Dorian hit the Bahamas earlier this year.

The water had risen more than 10 feet at the Bains' home. The church where his father Norris is pastor was heavily hit as well. Funds went from \$2,000 before Nate hit the buzzer-beater to \$137,000 afterwards. "This has been unbelievable," his dad said in an interview Thursday, after he watched tens of thousands of dollars pour into the account in 24 hours. "It has truly been life-changing."

Now the challenge is how do you legally distribute an unexpected philanthropic windfall to the family of a student athlete? Funds would be distributed to the Bains once they provide receipts for goods and services that comply with the NCAA guidelines. It's not clear that the funds can be used to rebuild or refurbish Tabernacle Baptist Church where Norris Bain is minister. NCAA rules state that excess funds must be donated to a charity, and it is unclear whether the church would be considered a charity. But two things are clear: Nate Bain has definitely raised his profile on the court and, more importantly, his family home will be rebuilt. All because of "the shot that beat Duke."

*Howard Prager is the son-in-law of longtime columnist Ed Frank. Prager is a sports enthusiast from the Chicago area who also writes and blogs about leadership. Email comments or questions to [press@islandnews.com](mailto:press@islandnews.com).*



Get an upclose look at the cars on display

photos provided

## Motor Club Hosting Car Show This Saturday

The San Cap Motor Club will host its next Cars & Coffee Cruise-In this Saturday, December 7 from 9 to 11 a.m.

The club gathers with their "wheels" on the first Saturday of every month at Periwinkle Place shopping center. As many as 50 antiques, classics and muscle cars will be on view. A continental breakfast including donuts, coffee and pastries will be provided by The Blue

Giraffe Restaurant of Periwinkle Place.

There is no better excuse to get your classic car out of the garage and put it on display. No pre-registration is necessary. Annual club membership dues are \$50 per individual or \$75 for a couple or family. Membership includes one club T-shirt.

San Cap Motor Club dinners are held on the second Tuesday of every month from 6 to 8 p.m. The members only holiday dinner party will be held at the Captiva Yacht Club on Wednesday, December 11 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$50. Make your reservation by contacting Scot Congress at [scot@scongress.com](mailto:scot@scongress.com), 472-4177, or sign up at this Saturday's Cruise-In.✳



All are welcome to bring their classics

## SPORTS QUIZ

- Who was the last pitcher before Arizona's Zack Greinke in 2018 to have a hit, an RBI and a stolen base in at least two games in a season?
- Name either of the major-league pitchers who led his respective league in shutouts a record seven times.
- When was the last time before 2018 that Army's football team was ranked in The Associated Press Top 25 poll?
- Dwane Casey holds the record for most career regular-season victories (320) as coach of the Toronto Raptors. Who is second?
- When was the last time the Boston Bruins won 50 or more games in consecutive NHL seasons?
- The U.S. women's soccer team set a Women's World Cup group stage scoring record in 2019 with 18 goals in three games. What country had held the record with 17 goals?
- How many fights did former heavyweight boxing champion Joe Frazier have after losing to Muhammad Ali in the Philippines in 1975?

## ANSWERS

1. Bob Gibson, in 1969. 2. Walter Johnson (A.L.) and Grover Cleveland Alexander (N.L.). 3. It was through the 1973-74 season. 4. Sam Mitchell, with 156 victories (2004-09). 5. The Bruins did it from the 1970-71 season.

6. Norway (1995). 7. Two fights.



Sally Kreuscher photo provided

## Safe And Stylish Head Gear For Bicycling

Sanibel and Captiva are busy with bikes this time of year. And as families and young children descend upon the islands this holiday season, it's important to remind them to use their heads and always wear a helmet.

"It is the single most effective safety device available to reduce head injury and death from bicycle crashes," said Sally Kreuscher, coordinator for Safe Kids Southwest Florida, which is led by Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

Each year, 26,000 bicycle-related injuries to children and adolescents are traumatic brain injuries treated in emergency departments, according to

the Centers for Disease and Control Prevention (CDC).

A bike helmet is not just good safety, it is the law. According to Florida law, a bicycle rider younger than age 16 must wear a helmet that meets federal safety standards. However, only 48 percent of children ages 5 to 14 wear a helmet when riding.

Kids often resist helmets because they are not "cool" looking. Kreuscher said you can fix this by letting your children or grandchildren choose their own helmets. "When they are involved in the selection process, they are much more likely to wear their helmet for every ride."

Local bike shops can help fit your child's head to the proper helmet as well as offer a variety of styles, colors and sizes that meet safety guidelines.

Also, make sure your child knows how to correctly wear their helmet. Safe Kids recommends kids follow the Helmet Fit Test. It works like this:

**Eyes check:** Position the helmet on your head. Look up and you should see the bottom rim of the helmet. The rim should be one to two finger-widths above the eyebrows.

**Ears check:** Make sure the straps of the helmet form a "V" under the ears when buckled. The strap should be snug, but comfortable.

**Mouth check:** Open your mouth as wide as you can. Do you feel the helmet hug your head? If not, tighten those straps and make sure the buckle is flat against your skin.

Keep in mind that helmets are not just for bike riding. "Kids should wear the appropriate helmet for any wheeled apparatus, like a skateboard or scooter," said Kreuscher.

And parents and grandparents should never forget to wear their helmets too. "Be a role model for the kids. Your life is just as important as theirs," she said.✪

## HealthPark Earns Top Rating For Long-Term Care

HealthPark Care & Rehabilitation Center has been listed as a 2019-20 Best Nursing Home by *U.S. News & World Report*, earning two top badges for quality care. The Skilled Nursing Unit (SNU) at Lee Memorial Hospital also earned top marks for short-term care.

New this year, *U.S. News* is assigning most facilities two ratings – one for short-stay rehab and a new long-term care rating. This new methodology is intended to provide prospective residents who need help with daily activities, and their families with specific information about the quality of care provided by nursing homes. The rating includes data on staffing, success in preventing ER visits and pneumonia vaccination rates, among other metrics. Out of 13,685 nursing homes that received a long-term care rating, 1,139 were designated as High-Performing, according to *U.S. News*.

"We're proud to receive three 'high-performing' ratings from *U.S. News* for excellence in both short-term and long-term care," said Dave Cato, Lee Health's

chief administrative officer of outpatient services. "Our compassionate team strives to be a national leader in quality skilled nursing, and this recognition shows that we are providing the highest level of care for our patients, whatever their needs."

HealthPark Care & Rehabilitation Center is one of only two facilities in Lee County that earned a Best Nursing Home designation for both long- and short-term care.

Analyzing data provided by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), *U.S. News* provides each facility a rating ranging from one to five, with five being the highest. This rating evaluates a broad range of resident conditions and care at each nursing home, including both shorter-term rehabilitation and long-term chronic care.

HealthPark Care & Rehabilitation Center is a skilled nursing facility with 112 beds located adjacent to HealthPark Medical Center, where focused medical care is combined with personalized support services to help patients achieve their optimal health and independence. The SNU is an 18-bed unit within Lee Memorial Hospital that opened in 2017. Both facilities have also earned five-star ratings from CMS for top-quality care.

For more information, visit [www.health.usnews.com/best-nursing-homes](http://www.health.usnews.com/best-nursing-homes).✪



From left, 10K Race 4 FISH committee members Pete Bender and Nicole McHale, Island Inn General Manager Chris Davison 10K Race 4 FISH committee member Ed Riddlehoover photo provided

## Historic Inn Sponsors FISH Fundraiser

The historic Island Inn was a silver sponsor of the 10K Race for FISH, which drew nearly 500 runners from near and far this past October. "FISH provides many needed services

for the people who live, work or visit our beautiful Sanibel," said Island Inn General Manager Chris Davison. "Island Inn is proud to be a supporter of the organization's mission and its 10K race."

"The generosity of Island Inn helps make our community a better place and we are so grateful for the inn's long-standing support of FISH and the 10K race," said FISH Board Chair Nicole McHale, who is also on the race committee.✪

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Beautifulife:

## Greener Pastures

by Kay Casperson



Most of you have heard the term “greener pastures,” but what does that mean? I happen to think that there are many ways to look at this term, and they don’t

always end up to be greener, or better. As a matter of fact, in many cases, when people think the grass is greener on the other side, they find out that it is not, and where they were was not so bad after all.

You might love what you do as a career but feel like you need a change. You then find something that looks and feels a bit better, and it might just be the next best thing. Then, one day, you look around to realize that you were much happier and in a better situation before.

What do you do now?

You may feel that you want to move away to experience new adventures in a completely different environment. You make a move, and then you look around and realize that this was not what you envisioned, or were hoping for your future. Now what?

Relationships can get trying at times and whether it is a long relationship or a short one, the challenges most definitely will arise. Regardless of the amount of time spent with someone, there will probably be a moment or two that you think about, “what if?” or “how can I be happier, more content, more fulfilled?”

There are always examples in life where a greener pasture is completely necessary to move to a better situation for your health, happiness, peace of mind

and overall beautiful life. But, the point is, regardless of whether you change your career path, start a new relationship or move to a new location, you will still encounter challenges along the way.

Sometimes the need to find greener pastures lies within us. Making just a slight adjustment in our attitude, gratitude and appreciation for the here and now will help you make the right decisions before looking to a new, plusher and greener pasture. You may find that the grass is pretty green right where you are, and if you listen to your heart, you may find a brand new love for all that you had yesterday, all that you have today, and all that tomorrow will bring.

My affirmation for you this week is: “I appreciate all that I have and will continue to follow my heart to live my beautiful life every day.”

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

## Military Officers Dinner Meeting

The next meeting of the Lee Coast Chapter of MOAA (Military Officers Association or America) will be held at Crown Colony Golf and Country Club on Monday, December 9 at 5:30 p.m.

The guest speaker will be David Santini, director of Hearts and Homes for Veterans. Reservations are required.

Former, retired or active duty uniformed officers who are interested in joining MOAA should contact Terry Robertson at 352-638-5838 for membership information.\*

Doctor and Dietician

## MSG Migraines



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

I got my first migraine in graduate school. After the structural cause of the migraines was addressed with prolotherapy, I would still occasionally experience migraines after having eaten a food. The culprit: MSG.

MSG, a flavor enhancer most known in Chinese food, is widely used, often hidden on the ingredient list, typically found in highly processed foods. MSG or glutamic acid act as nerve stimulants and will change how taste buds perceive food, so even a bad-tasting food will taste good. MSG is also linked to high insulin, cholesterol and blood pressure, liver issues, as well as neurological, brain and gut issues. Glutamate in excess can cause nerves to fire excessively becoming neurotoxic.

The FDA does not require labeling as MSG unless that food contains 99 percent pure MSG. Unfortunately, MSG is produced as a result of protein

hydrolysis or as a byproduct of protein processing in the form of free glutamic acid. While this may happen when consuming protein foods like meats, dairy and even vegetables, the glutamic acid is released with other amino acids rather than just in high concentrations on its own. Thus, non-processed whole foods do not cause a toxic MSG reaction.

Bottom line: MSG or its by-products are found in nearly every highly processed food. Even vegetable proteins are hydrolyzed to make veggie burgers, as well as other so-called “healthy” or “vegan” frozen foods.

Look for these common ingredients with MSG: hydrolyzed vegetable protein (or hydrolyzed anything), textured vegetable protein, yeast extract, glutamic acid, glutamate, monopotassium glutamate, calcium glutamate, gelatin, soy protein isolate to name a few.

Avoid carrageenan, bouillon, broth, stock, flavorings, maltodextrin, citric acid, anything pasteurized, enzymes or protein-fortified, seasonings, soy sauce, pectin, to name a few.

What to eat? Fresh. Fish, meat, vegetables, dairy, fruits and grains. Dump the junk!

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

## Medical Equipment Loans Offered By FISH

Complimentary medical equipment loans is one of the many services offered by FISH of SanCap, islanders and island visitors may borrow equipment temporarily, on a first come basis.

Those needing medical equipment must call the FISH answering service, available 24-hours a day, at 472-0404. An equipment volunteer will return your call, confirm your request, and arrange to meet at Sanibel City Hall, where the FISH equipment check-out room is located. In certain instances, a FISH volunteer may be able to deliver the requested equipment.

For many years, the Sanibel Fire and Rescue District has accepted and stored equipment returns, keeping them until FISH volunteers can clean and transfer to the city hall pickup location. All equipment is to be returned only to the Sanibel Fire and Rescue District Station #1, located at 2351 Palm Ridge Road. No appointment is necessary to return equipment, however, when returning equipment, be sure to check in with the station office.

FISH medical equipment loans include wheelchairs and transport chairs (requires

a person to push); walkers (non-wheeled, four-legged with wheels, with wheels and seat, and three-wheeled); canes (standard adjustable, four-legged and three-legged with a fold-down seat); adjustable crutches; bath bench, bath transfer bench, shower chairs; commodes and elevated toilet seats (with and without arms).

For more information on services offered by FISH, call 472-4775.\*

## Animal Services Gift Giving Tree

Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) will celebrate the upcoming holiday season with a Gift Giving Tree. The tree is decorated with ornaments containing a wish list of gifts for the shelter pets and can be found in the adoption lobby at Animal Services, located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers.

Visitors can pick up an ornament and return a gift to LCDAS by Saturday, December 21 to help make the holidays a little brighter for shelter animals. The ornament is yours to keep for your tree.

The adoption center is open from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Dogs, cats, bunnies and guinea pigs are looking for a home just in time for the holidays. Visit [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com) to see pets available for adoption.\*

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dearRPharmacist

## Toxic Holiday Plants That Affect Children And Pets



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

**D**ear Readers: So you know how I love to use plants as 'medicine' and frequently recommend herbs to you?

Well, there are certain plants that are dangerous, especially at this time of the

year. *Not all plants are medicine!*

Holiday plants are sometimes poisonous. Many poisonings happen during travel because some people don't realize that holiday plants are dangerous, and they decorate with them. Then you show up with your baby, or your pet and something happens. Here are tips to stay safe:

**Christmas trees** – If you love the scent of a beautiful living Christmas tree, I recommend you feed it with plain water. Commercial preservatives are not necessary. Most brands induce stomach upset and vomiting to children and pets who crawl around the floor and take a sip of the water in the Christmas tree stand. Some commercial tree preservatives (or home-made versions) contain anything from harmless ingredients like corn syrup or soda to more dangerous ingredients such as bleach, whiskey or aspirin.

**Holly Berries** – Branches of the holly tree (often called "boughs" of holly) are beautiful holiday decorations and are frequently used to add color to mantles, table settings and even food. Be careful with this one because the berries are poisonous to both humans and animals. If you accidentally ingest the berries, it can cause local irritation in your mouth as well as severe diarrhea, vomiting, dehydration and weakness. There have been fatalities.

Keep holly boughs up and away from children and beloved pets or, alternatively, buy silk or plastic versions of holly for your home decor. If you insist on fresh holly boughs, you should remove the red berries before placing the bough if you have little visitors coming, or pets. Here's why that's a smart move: *When the holly dries out in your home, which is pretty quickly,*

*the berries fall off the plant and become a danger to children and pets.*

**Poinsettia** – The poinsettia plant blooms with those stunning big red flowers. It also has varieties that bloom in white and cream. This plant is often considered deadly but it's not usually fatal if eaten. The poinsettia sap in the leaves and flowers can be irritating if children and pets chew on it, especially because it causes a painful mouth, lip or skin rash. If swallowed, it will also cause cramps and stomach upset. But it doesn't kill.

**Mistletoe** – The kissing sprig. If you pass beneath the mistletoe, you can get one planted on you. It's a well-known holiday tradition and symbol of love. American mistletoe (*Phoradendron serotinum*) is different and safer, compared to its European cousin known botanically as *Viscum album*.

In a study examining 1,754 American mistletoe poisonings, almost all the cases were children (92 percent of exposures), and they were all cases from chewing and swallowing the plant. There were no fatalities. So again, American mistletoe is not toxic like European mistletoe, but here in the states, it's come down to guilt by association. I do not recommend eating or consuming any part of the plant... however smooches are perfectly fine!

*This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is the author of The 24-Hour Pharmacist and is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit [www.SuzyCohen.com](http://www.SuzyCohen.com).* ✨

## Repairing Relationships After Addiction

**N**arconon reminds addicts and alcoholics that those relationships that you managed to destroy with your addiction can be repaired. You must stop talking about it and making broken promises to those affected and start making a change. This is where the saying "actions speak louder than words" comes into play. Getting treatment and making a change that those affected can see themselves is the start to mending those relationships.

For more information on repairing relationships, visit [www.narconon-suncoast.org/blog/repairing-relationships-damaged-by-addiction.html](http://www.narconon-suncoast.org/blog/repairing-relationships-damaged-by-addiction.html). ✨

## Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy

**Q:** What are some codependent behaviors?

**A:** Codependent behaviors include trying to control others, perfectionism, approval seeking behaviors, the

inability to express anger (ie, being passive-aggressive) and other feelings out of fear of being disapproved of, and overreacting.

If you or someone you know has these behaviors, often the person is unaware because they are so ingrained they become second nature. When a behavior is brought to our attention, perhaps we see ourselves as others see us. In order to change the codependent behavior, the first step is awareness.

In relationship, someone who is codependent may think to say, "I'll do anything, just don't leave me."

It's helpful to think of a more desirable behavior to shift to, for example, if someone is prone to eating unhealthy foods, he/she first becomes aware of this or it's brought to one's attention. A more desirable behavior

can be put in place, such as eating healthy fruits and vegetables. Bring about awareness of this desirable shift, evaluate the outcome of how you feel and renew this healthy behavior with a commitment.

It can also be helpful to write the steps down to remember what you want to change and how to go about making and embracing the change. First, ask yourself what behaviors you want to change or modify, and ask what your options are. Write them down and follow through. You will be on your way to positive behavioral change.

*Constance Clancy, EdD, LMHC, LPC, NCC is a licensed mental health therapist, hypnotherapist, author and holistic stress management instructor. If you have a question, email*

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

## Overeaters Anonymous

**I**f food is a problem for you, Overeaters Anonymous can help. Meetings are held in Room 130 at Sanibel Community Church on Tuesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. and on Fridays at 4 p.m.

For more meeting information, visit [www.southwestfla.org](http://www.southwestfla.org).

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way. ✨

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CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife .....	472-3644
Democratic Club of the Islands .....	Demclubislands@gmail.com
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MOAA - Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie .....	395-9232
Newcomers .....	472-9332
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Optimist Club .....	472-0836
PAWS .....	472-4823
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Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society .....	472-6940
Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron .....	www.sancapboating.club
Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus .....	395-0819
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club .....	facebook.com/sancapshellclub
Sanibel Youth Soccer .....	www.sanibelsoccer.org
United Way of Lee County .....	433-2000
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press@islandsunnews.com

# PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

## Mimi And Charlie



MiMi ID# A800451

**H**ello, my name is Mimi. I am a 3-year-old female domestic shorthair who is a beautiful calico cat that is very affectionate. I love to give head bumps and snuggle. Wherever you are in the room, that is where you will find me. I will follow you wherever you go. I get along well with my feline companions, so if you adopt me you can take advantage of the adopt one get a feline friend at no additional charge.

My adoption fee is \$50 with the BOGO special.

Hi, I'm Charlie. I am a 1-year-old male chow/golden retriever mix who is a playful pup that is at the beginning stages of training. I know how to sit, and I walk great on the leash. In fact, my leash manners are impeccable. My breed combination makes my fur super-soft. LCDAS is currently taking applications on me as I need an owner that is familiar with the chow breed. This handsome fellow needs to be set up for success, so if you are interested in meeting me, call 533-9233.



Charlie ID# A801723

My adoption fee is \$50.

Lee County Domestic Animal Services will celebrate the upcoming holiday season with a Gift Giving Tree. The tree in the adoption lobby at Animal Services is decorated with ornaments with a wish list of gifts for the shelter pets. Visitors may pick one up and return them to Animal Services by December 21 to help make the animals' holiday a little brighter. The ornament is yours to keep for your tree. Visit [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com) to view all pets currently available and adoption fees.

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](http://www.leegov.com/animalservices) or call 533-7387.\*

Haven on Earth Animal League

## Baby Grey And Peloton



Baby Grey

**H**i There! We are Baby Grey (grey and white) and Peloton (black and white tuxedo). While we aren't biological siblings, we've spent our entire lives together so we would really like to get adopted together. Baby Grey is a 6-month-old male, and Peloton is a 5-month-old female. We've been neutered and spayed and have all of our vaccinations. We are very playful and sweet.

Baby Grey likes to give kisses, and will cuddle

and sleep with you – just like a human child. Baby Grey needs a lot of attention and really needs to have another kitty around to help keep him company and play with him. Peloton is very easy going. They both get along great with other cats and would do well in a multi-cat household. Baby Grey has extremely soft fur and feels like a marshmallow, while little Peloton is sleek and shiny. Peloton has a white tip at the end of her tail.



Peloton

Come see us at the PetSmart on Six Mile Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers.

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](mailto:haveneearthanimalleague@yahoo.com).\*

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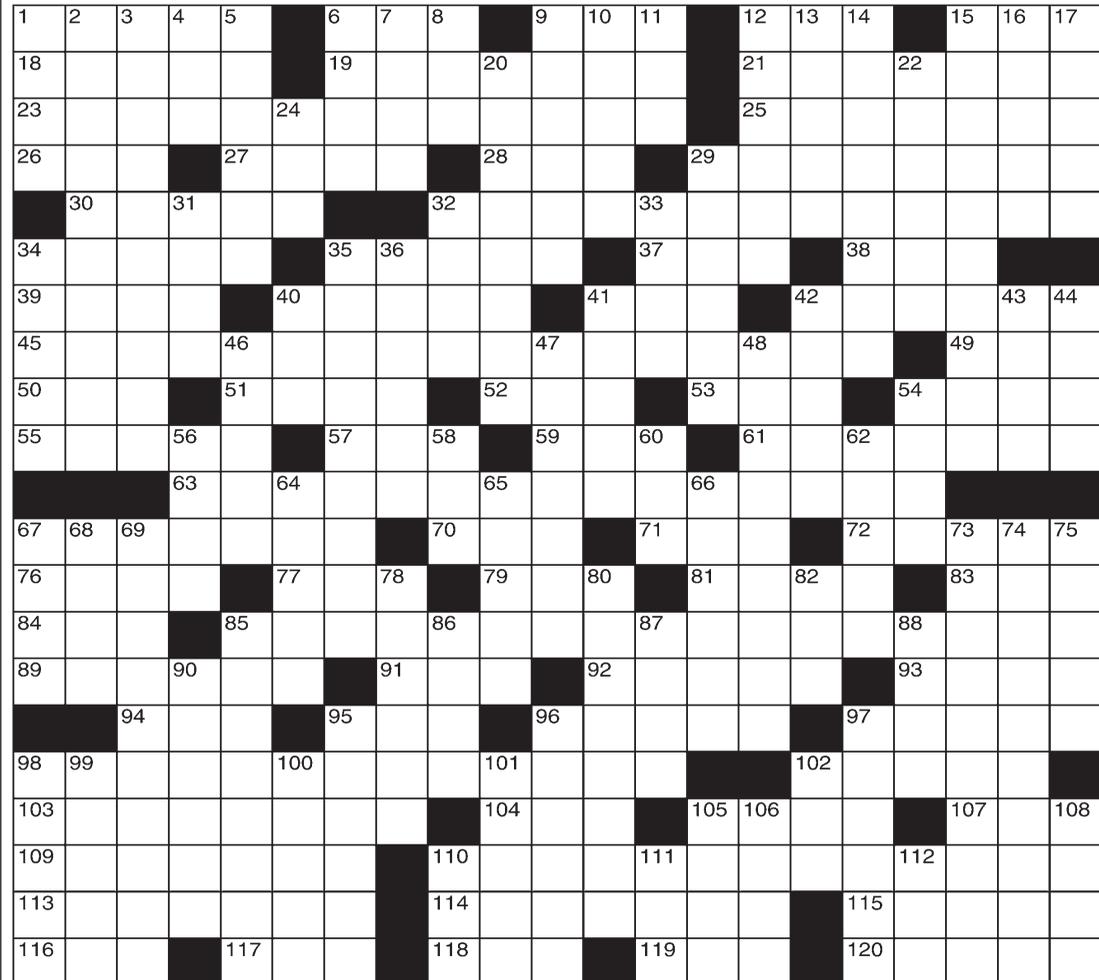
# PUZZLES

Answers on page 31B

## Super Crossword

### WOMEN WITH A CONNECTION

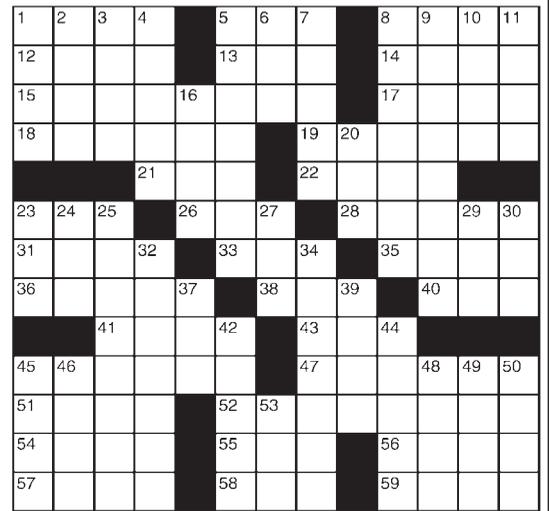
- ACROSS**
- 1 Emanates (from)
  - 6 Get — on (ace)
  - 9 Diner fave
  - 12 False show
  - 15 Girl coming out in society
  - 18 Plain to see
  - 19 Its capital is Minsk
  - 21 Lion-headed monster
  - 23 ANNE
  - 25 Department in eastern France
  - 26 Munic. statute
  - 27 Juan's emphatic assent
  - 28 1,501, to Caesar
  - 29 Grad's "with honor"
  - 30 Begin a PC session
  - 32 DIANA
  - 34 Monastery garments
  - 35 French fauvist Dufy
  - 37 Favorable vote
  - 38 Vegas stake
  - 39 "Ooh" or "tra" follower
  - 40 Actor MacLeod
  - 41 — -Z (completely)
  - 42 Actress Henner
  - 45 AMY
  - 49 Recycling holder
  - 50 Stimp'y's cartoon pal
  - 51 Exclude
  - 52 — Aviv
  - 53 Small songbird
  - 54 Cordon — (veal dish)
  - 55 Stuck in fellow
  - 57 Ill-bred "Rambo" site, in brief
  - 61 Tiny biting midge
  - 63 EMMA
  - 67 Sun block?
  - 70 Mel whose "4" was retired
  - 71 Make a face
  - 72 Sternward
  - 76 De-wrinkle
  - 77 Suffix with Motor
  - 79 Huge bird of legend
  - 81 One + two, in German
  - 83 No, in Ayr
  - 84 Amer. soldiers
  - 85 JANE
  - 89 Walk showily
  - 91 Feast on
  - 92 It may be stainless
  - 93 Soothe
  - 94 Tiny charged bit
  - 95 Oktoberfest "Oh!"
  - 96 Driver's 180
  - 97 Gillis in an old sitcom
  - 98 KATE
  - 102 Amaze the audience
  - 103 NATO, e.g.
  - 104 Sleep acronym
  - 105 Bric-a- —
  - 107 Ignited, as a match
  - 109 Would have, given the chance
  - 110 GRACE
  - 113 Stable troughs
  - 114 Sidestepped
  - 115 Information tech mag
  - 116 What "+" may mean
  - 117 Grain staple
  - 118 Rainy
  - 119 Mag workers
  - 120 Pee Wee whose "1" was retired
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Vocalist Perry
  - 2 Burdened excessively
  - 3 Lea
  - 4 Make a goof
  - 5 Balanced condition
  - 6 Simple skills
  - 7 Old brand of grape soda
  - 8 Stein filler
  - 9 Wedding-related
  - 10 Clearheaded
  - 11 Chinese philosopher Lao- —
  - 12 Charge with an offense
  - 13 Munch (on)
  - 14 Area at the top of a PC window
  - 15 Amount the insured must first pay
  - 16 Abrade
  - 17 Less adorned
  - 20 Military division
  - 22 More spiteful
  - 24 — Tin Tin (TV dog)
  - 29 Shout
  - 31 Queen's onetime rock genre
  - 32 Crime film genre
  - 33 Inauguration Day highlight
  - 34 Actress Bow
  - 35 How an extremist acts
  - 36 Online user's self-image
  - 40 Emerald, e.g.
  - 41 Happy as —
  - 42 "So am I"
  - 43 In — of (rather than)
  - 44 "One" on a U.S. penny
  - 46 Ice cream drinks
  - 47 One with a six-year term
  - 48 Color related to emerald or pistachio
  - 54 Telly network, with "the"
  - 56 Oomph
  - 58 Indigo Girls, e.g.
  - 60 "So tasty!"
  - 62 Sluggish type
  - 64 Actress Deschanel
  - 65 Parade walk
  - 66 Soap opera, informally
  - 67 Boars, e.g.
  - 68 Opera highlight
  - 69 Locale of Mount Erebus
  - 73 Title girl of a Poe poem
  - 74 Exact copies
  - 75 Little laugh
  - 78 Comic actor Don
  - 80 Client
  - 82 Pipe fitter's elbow
  - 85 City in west California
  - 86 Locale of Waikiki
  - 87 Flabbergast
  - 88 "That hurts!"
  - 90 Swindling, slangily
  - 95 For neither profit nor loss
  - 96 System of online newsgroups
  - 97 Stevedore
  - 98 "— mial"
  - 99 Brand of fat substitute
  - 100 Prefix with cellular
  - 101 Was behind the wheel
  - 102 Female WWII server
  - 105 Needed suturing, say
  - 106 Frees oneself (of)
  - 108 Little fella
  - 110 Mandible or maxilla
  - 111 Honored Fr. woman
  - 112 Female with a fleece



## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Temperate
- 5 Owns
- 8 Lovers' quarrel
- 12 Sandwich treat
- 13 Final (Abbr.)
- 14 Small combo
- 15 "Desperate Housewives" actress Eva
- 17 Cincinnati team
- 18 Ingratiate
- 19 Warehouse pile
- 21 Pigpen
- 22 Deck for a 10-count
- 23 Wife of Saturn
- 26 Embrace
- 28 Become one tent
- 31 Addict
- 33 Shell game
- 35 "My Heart Will Go On" singer
- 36 Ringworm
- 38 Egypt's boy king
- 40 Toss in
- 41 Transmit
- 43 Afternoon party
- 45 "Jane Eyre" author
- 47 Do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti, do
- 51 Mongolian
- 5 "Get a move on!"
- 6 Foreman foe
- 7 Pile
- 8 Wandered off
- 9 Transvaal city
- 10 Staffer
- 11 Pitch
- 16 Inauguration recitation
- 20 Ewe's mate
- 23 No longer stylish
- 24 Omega preceder
- 25 Brain's stimulus receptors
- 27 Understand
- 29 Deity
- 30 Conclude
- 32 Space flight conclusion
- 34 Job for a medical examiner
- 37 Pismire
- 39 Georgia —
- 42 Considers
- 44 Coral circle
- 45 Tourney situations
- 46 Derriere
- 48 Vicinity
- 49 Competes
- 50 Corn spikes
- 53 Web address



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

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

- |           |               |           |            |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|------------|
| Admission | Depth         | Handling  | Take       |
| Carrying  | Electrostatic | No extra  | Trickle    |
| Cavalry   | Finance       | Person in | Trumped-up |
| Cover     | Free of       | Service   |            |

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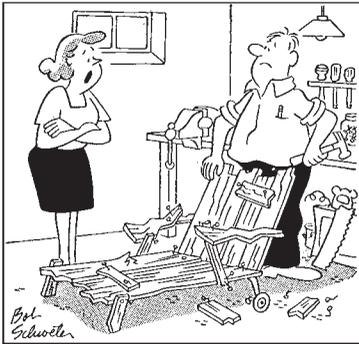
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"If that's for the patio, I hope  
\_\_\_\_\_ never comes."  
Answer on page 30B

### SCRAMBLERS

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

Peace

CLENISE

Degree

AMUESER

Blush

MICRONS

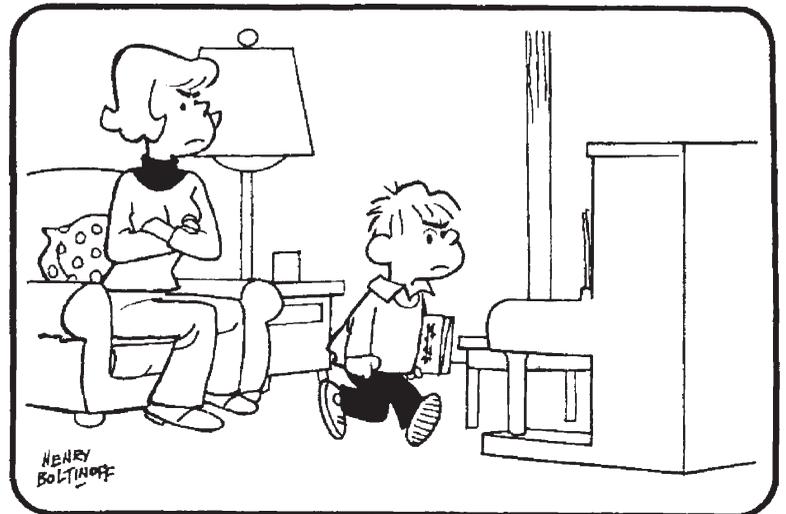
Edge

ARMING

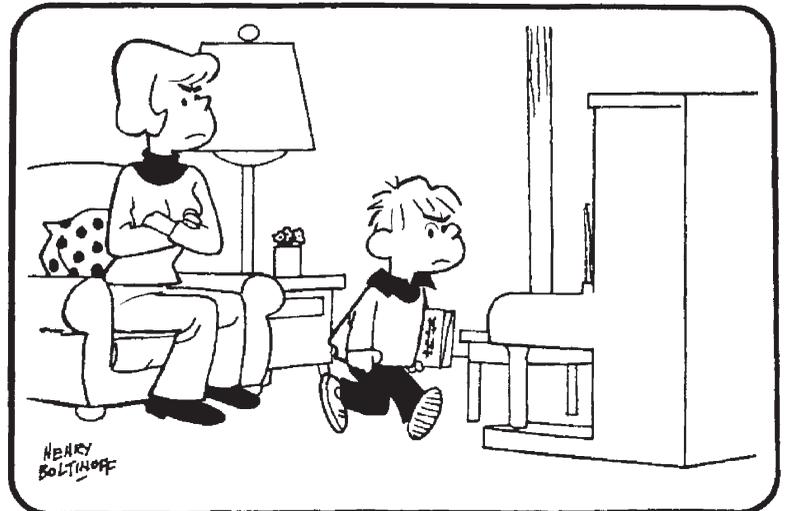
**TODAY'S WORD**

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Pillow pattern is different. 2. Boy's shirt is black. 3. Mom's shoes are black. 4. Flowers are added to vase. 5. Piano is taller. 6. Mom's hairstyle is different.

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

### SUDOKU

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

Answer on page 31B

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# My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 9, 2019

**Aries** (March 21 to April 19) There could be an unexpected change in plans for your upcoming holiday travels. But keep in mind that a little flexibility goes a long way in resolving any disappointments.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) A new relationship might not be responding quite as quickly as you'd hoped. Could you be expecting too much too soon?

Try to ease up and let things happen at their own pace.

**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) As we approach the frenetic pace of pre-holiday planning, take time out now to reconnect with the wonderful people who share your life, especially the one who also shares your dreams.

**Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) A misunderstanding should be resolved before you get caught up in the flurry of holiday preparations. Set your pride aside and deal with it, regardless of who might have hurt whom first.

**Leo** (July 23 to August 22) Being told that a colleague might have been trying to undercut your effectiveness might or might not be true. Get all the facts before you even think about acting on this so-called information.

**Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) It's a good idea to start your holiday preparation plans early in order to avoid a time crunch if an unresolved workplace situation causes a problem. That old friend might have some welcome news.

**Libra** (September 23 to October 22)

A family member's actions continue to surprise you, but this time with positive results. Could be your wise counsel finally got through. It's like having an early holiday gift, isn't it?

**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) Your reluctance to act in a current situation could be traced to your inner self advising you to take more time to study its complexities before you attempt to deal with it. Good luck.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) Soothing hurt feelings before they can ignite an angry outburst

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is the wise thing to do. And, of course, when it comes to doing the "wisdom thing," you do it so well.

**Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) Budget your time so that you can handle both your workplace duties and your personal holiday planning – including travel arrangements – without burning out on either end.

**Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18) You might find that you still need to firm up one or two of those still-outstanding decisions so that you finally can move forward as you had planned. Weigh the facts, then act.

**Pisces** (February 19 to March 20) You usually don't carry grudges, but you might feel this is one time when you're justified in doing so. But aren't you spending too much energy holding onto it? Let it go and move on.

**Born This Week:** You have a way of using your quiet strength to persuade people to follow their better instincts and do the right thing.

**MOMENTS IN TIME**

- On Dec. 13, 1577, English seaman Francis Drake sets out from Plymouth, England, with five ships and 164 men on a mission to raid Spanish

holdings on the Pacific coast of the New World. Three years later, Drake's return to Plymouth marked the first circumnavigation of the earth by a British explorer.

- On Dec. 10, 1901, the first Nobel Prizes are awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, on the fifth anniversary of the death of Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite and other explosives. It is believed that Nobel created the prizes out of moral regret over the increasingly lethal uses of his inventions in war.

- On Dec. 14, 1911, Norwegian Roald Amundsen becomes the first explorer to reach the South Pole, beating his British rival, Robert Falcon Scott, by more than a month. Amundsen used sleigh dogs, while Scott employed motor sledges, ponies and dogs.

- On Dec. 15, 1945, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, as Supreme Commander of Allied Powers in the Pacific, brings an end to Shintoism as Japan's established religion. The Shinto system included the belief that the emperor, in this case Hirohito, was divine.

- On Dec. 11, 1961, the ferry carrier USNS Core arrives in Saigon with the first U.S. helicopter unit, including 33

helicopters and 400 air and ground crewmen. Their assignment was to airlift South Vietnamese Army troops into combat.

- On Dec. 9, 1979, a commission of scientists declares that smallpox has been eradicated. The disease, which carries a 30 percent chance of death for those who contract it, is the only infectious disease that has officially been eradicated.

- On Dec. 12, 1980, American oil tycoon Armand Hammer pays over \$5 million at auction for an almost 500-year-old notebook containing writings and detailed drawings by artist Leonardo da Vinci, all relating to water and how it moved.

**STRANGE BUT TRUE**

- It was Lebanese poet Kahlil Gibran who made the following sage observation: "I have learnt silence from the talkative, toleration from the intolerant, and kindness from the unkind; yet strange, I am ungrateful to these teachers."

- Those who study such things have determined that one out of every four alcoholic drinks consumed in the world has vodka in it.

- Famed actor Clark Gable, dubbed the King of Hollywood, was once a hobo.

- At some point you've almost certainly heard a coward described as "lily-livered," but did you ever wonder where that expression came from? It was once believed that the seat of courage in the human body was the liver; therefore, someone who was timid presumably lacked blood in the liver, causing that organ to become white.

- Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than for the U.S. Treasury.

- There once was a law in Marshalltown, Iowa, stating that it was illegal for a horse to eat a fire hydrant. And in Oregon, it was at one time illegal for a dead person to serve on a jury.

- Would the history of medicine be different if Sigmund Freud had gone into law instead of psychoanalysis? That was his original aspiration in life -- to be a lawyer.

- Karaoke and karate: Other than the fact that they are both from Japan, you wouldn't think they have much in common. However, they both have the same root word, "kara," which means empty. "Oke" means "voice" and "te"

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239-634-0258  
239-233-2930

11/01 \* TFN

**SCARNATO LAWN SERVICE**

Lawn Service, Shrubs and Tree Trimming Weeding, Installation of Plants, Trees and Mulch (one month free service available)

Joe Scarnato (239) 849-6163  
scarnatolawn@aol.com

1/25 \* TFN

**ALTERATIONS BY HAZELLA**

Reliable and Experienced  
Reasonable Prices  
Pick Up & Delivery Available  
239-472-8655

8/30 \* TFN

**LOST AND FOUND**

**LOST AT TASTE OF THE ISLANDS JIMINY CRICKET NECKLACE CHARM/PIN**

About 1½ inches tall, Sterling Silver base with colored stones made into Jiminy Cricket.

If you found this, please contact B. Curtis at 239-472-5490 or Email bjcurtis@comcast.net. Reward offered for return.

11/15 \* TFN

**SEASONAL RENTAL**

**NEW LISTING EAST END ON CANAL GROUND LEVEL**

3 BR, 2 BA, Sleeps 8  
Large enclosed lanai and pool  
Deep water access  
Available November through June  
Dog friendly  
239-472-3458 or 319-651-9132  
mknake@aol.com

11/1 \* TFN

**SERVICES OFFERED**

**ROGER NODRUFF ELECTRIC**

Dock Lighting, affordable LED conversion. FPE panel replacement, Landscape Lighting, Generator Sizing, etc, etc, etc. Call or text Roger 239-707-7203  
State License #13002788

4/20 \* TFN

**CAREGIVER/COMPANION**

- Transportation
- Light Housekeeping
- Meals
- Personal Care
- Call Barbara 239-826-1100

12/6 \* 12/13

**SCRAMBLERS**

1. Silence;
2. Measure;
3. Crimson;
4. Margin

*Today's Word*  
**SUMMER**

**GARAGE SALE**

**YARD SALE MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Annual yard sale at your favorite place, 501 Lagoon Drive, Sanibel. Fri. Dec. 13 and Sat. Dec. 14. 7 a.m. till Dark. Tell your friends, it's always fun here. See you then.

11/29 \* 12/13

means "hand;" hence, "karaoke" is "empty voice," and "karate" is "empty hand."

- Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of their birthplace.

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

"He who buys what he does not need steals from himself." -- Swedish proverb

## Montage Women's Club

The Montage Women's Club is a social and philanthropic club open to all women residing in Lee County. The group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at The Landings Yacht, Golf and Tennis Club. Meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and are followed by a program. Within the organization are various interest groups for members' participation. Membership is open to both year-round and seasonal residents.

The first meeting in 2020 takes place on Thursday, January 23.

The speaker will be Christin Collins who was *The News-Press* Person of the Year for 2017. Collins will share her thoughts on living life optimally, focusing on mind, spirit and body.

For more information, or to make a reservation, call 481-7765.\*

# HORTOONS



## PUZZLE ANSWERS

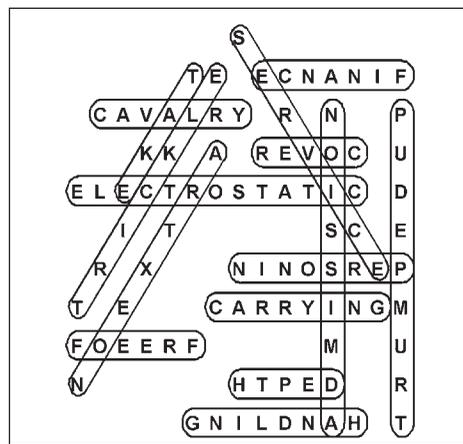
### SUPER CROSSWORD

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

### KING CROSSWORD

M	I	L	D	H	A	S	S	P	A	T									
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E	N	D	E	A	R	C	R	A	T	E	S								
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T	I	N	E	A	T	U	T	A	D	D									
B	R	O	N	T	E	O	C	T	A	V	E								
Y	U	R	T	E	U	P	H	O	R	I	A								
E	M	I	R	M	R	S	L	E	E	R									
S	P	A	Y	S	L	Y	L	A	S	S									

### MAGIC MAZE



### SUDOKU

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

## Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Four Mile Cove	Cape Coral	2012	4,262	\$999,999	\$945,000	275
Del Sega	Sanibel	1950	535	\$842,000	\$842,000	0
Winkler Subdivision	Fort Myers Beach	2019	1,540	\$795,000	\$782,000	40
Oaks	Fort Myers	1988	4,801	\$785,000	\$715,000	929
Tidewater Island	Fort Myers	2001	3,299	\$784,900	\$765,000	202
Belle Lago	Estero	2005	4,356	\$700,000	\$620,000	368
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1985	3,248	\$675,000	\$639,000	183
Serengeti	Alva	2018	2,953	\$649,900	\$635,000	186
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2002	1,732	\$620,000	\$612,500	44
Savona	Cape Coral	2018	3,089	\$618,500	\$590,000	127



**SANIBEL ISLAND**

**1523 PERIWINKLE WAY, SANIBEL**  
 • 200'+ Sanibel River & Periwinkle Frontage  
 • Commercial Property, 3+/- Acres  
**\$5,500,000**    **MLS 219045554**  
 Trevor Nette 239.281.4435



**SANIBEL ISLAND**

**4995 JOEWOOD DR., SANIBEL**  
 • Huge Gulf Lot, Cleared - Plans Available  
 • Aerial Video: [www.4995Joewood.info](http://www.4995Joewood.info)  
**\$2,850,000**    **MLS 219022127**  
 Bob Radigan 239.691.6240



**CHATEAUX SUR MER**

**4630 RUE BAYOU, SANIBEL**  
 • Steps to Beach, Private Setting on 1.5 Lots  
 • 4 Bedrooms, 4.5 Baths, Pool/Spa  
**\$1,495,000**    **MLS 218084340**  
 McMurray & Members 239.850.7888



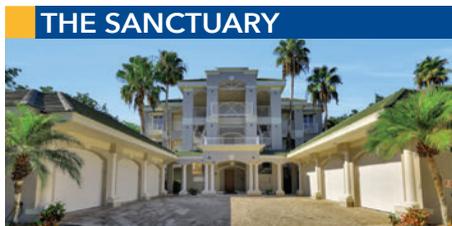
**SANIBEL ISLAND**

**6053 SANIBEL-CAPTIVA RD., SANIBEL**  
 • 1.6 Acres on Clam Bayou  
 • Western Exposure, Wonderful Sunsets  
**\$1,195,000**    **MLS 219012231**  
 McMurray & Members 239.850.7888



**HARBORAGE**

**5170 HARBORAGE DR., FORT MYERS**  
 • 4 BR, 4 BA + Den, Dock, Direct Gulf Access  
 • 100+ Acre Lake w/Water Skiing, Tubing, Fishing  
**\$779,000**    **MLS 219041725**  
 John Nicholson, Lomano-Nicholson Team 239.849.3250



**THE SANCTUARY**

**5775 BALTUSROL CT. #B102, SANIBEL**  
 • 2 BR, 2 BA, 1,459 S.F., 10' Ceilings  
 • Sliders to Lanai w/Lush Fairway Vistas  
**\$489,000**    **MLS 219058602**  
 Cathy Rosario 239.464.2249



**ROYAL SHELL**

*We make it easy.  
 You make it home.®*

**Florida Locations:** Bonita Springs/Estero, Cape Coral, Captiva Island, Fort Myers, Naples/Marco Island, Ocala and Sanibel Island

**North Carolina Locations:** Cashiers, Highlands and Sapphire Valley/Lake Toxaway



**RoyalShellRealEstate.com • 239.314.3640 • RoyalShell.com**



**SOUTH SEAS ISLAND RESORT**

**1629 LAND'S END VILLAGE, CAPTIVA**  
 • Desirable Direct Waterfront, Fantastic Views  
 • Large 2 BR w/Open & Screened Lanais  
**\$1,419,000**    **MLS 218049777**  
 Vicki Panico & Fred Newman 239.980.0088



**SHELL HARBOR**

**932 WHELK DR., SANIBEL**  
 • Remodeled 3 BR, 3 BA, Canal Front  
 • Dock & Lift, Gulf & Bay Access  
**\$1,165,000**    **MLS 219000166**  
 McMurray & Members 239.850.7888



**EAST ROCKS**

**566 BOULDER DR., SANIBEL**  
 • Updated 3 BR, 2 BA, Near Beach  
 • Spectacular Pool, Lake Views  
**\$699,900**    **MLS 219002114**  
 Sharon Kottraba, Lomano-Nicholson Team 804.240.3115



**SUNDIAL OF SANIBEL**

**1501 MIDDLE GULF DR. #C210, SANIBEL**  
 • Views of Gulf of Mexico  
 • 1 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom  
**\$485,000**    **MLS 219072600**  
 Brian Murty 239.565.1272



**SANIBEL ISLAND**

**1226 ISABEL DR., SANIBEL**  
 • Direct Bayfront Parcel  
 • Cleared w/Seawall  
**\$1,295,000**    **MLS 218015347**  
 McMurray & Members 239.850.7888



**THE DUNES**

**1243 SAND CASTLE RD., SANIBEL**  
 • Radiant 4 BR, 4 BA, Pool & Fireplaces  
 • Indoor/Outdoor Living for Entertaining  
**\$1,050,000**    **MLS 218084313**  
 Maureen Ahmed 239.839.7250



**LOGGERHEAD CAY**

**979 E. GULF DR. #E532, SANIBEL**  
 • 2 BR, 2 BA Beachfront Complex  
 • Dazzling Gulf Views from Living Room/Lanai  
**\$689,000**    **MLS 219076277**  
 Cindy Sitton 239.810.4772



**SUNDIAL OF SANIBEL**

**1501 MIDDLE GULF DR. #H210, SANIBEL**  
 • Phenomenal Income  
 • Open Floor Plan Studio  
**\$379,000**    **MLS 218080098**  
 Brian Murty 239.565.1272



**SANIBEL ISLAND**

**6477 SANIBEL-CAPTIVA RD., SANIBEL**  
 • Historic Mitchell Estate, Beachfront  
 • Last Home Before Blind Pass  
**\$2,900,000**    **MLS 219000116**  
 John Stephens 239.980.6394



**SIESTA ISLES**

**18181 OLD PELICAN BAY DR., FT. MYERS**  
 • Deep Water Dockage, Resort Pool/Spa  
 • 6 BR, 5.5 BA, Architectural Masterpiece  
**\$1,850,000**    **MLS 219066522**  
 Trevor Nette 239.281.4435



**POINTE SANTO**

**NEW LISTING**  
**2445 W GULF DR. #C3, SANIBEL**  
 • Phenomenal Gulf Views  
 • Gorgeous 3 BR, 2 BA, Ground Level  
**\$1,195,000**    **MLS 219076630**  
 John Nicholson, Lomano-Nicholson Team 239.849.3250



**SANIBEL ISLAND**

**4115 SANIBEL-CAPTIVA RD., SANIBEL**  
 • One of Largest Sanibel Parcels  
 • Old Vineyard Property  
**\$799,000**    **MLS 219023857**  
 Trevor Nette 239.281.4435



**SOUTH SEAS ISLAND RESORT**

**2112 GULF BEACH VILLAS, CAPTIVA**  
 • Great 1 Bedroom Beachfront  
 • Fully Furnished, Ready for You to Enjoy  
**\$517,900**    **MLS 219004339**  
 Vicki Panico & Fred Newman 239.980.0088



**BEACHVIEW ESTATES**

**1219 PAR VIEW DR., SANIBEL**  
 • Outstanding Near Beach Homesite  
 • Tropical Landscape, Ideal S. Exposure  
**\$299,000**    **MLS 218082852**  
 Cindy Sitton 239.810.4772