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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

MARCH 20, 2020

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Islanders Deal With Early Impact Of Coronavirus

by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

While many parts of the country are under severe restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sanibel and Captiva are seeing the impact from a unique perspective.

March is the peak of travel season, and while some travelers canceled trips, many decided to keep their plans. Others took advantage of last minute lower fares and special deals offered by resorts and rental companies.

Most events on the islands have been canceled, including Sanibel Sea School's major fundraiser, Octifest. They are planning to launch a virtual event online on April 4.

"We're still figuring out what the virtual event will look like," said co-founder and executive director Bruce Neill.

The school's outdoor classes for children are still being held, with restricted numbers allowed per class.

"We are paying close attention to sanitizing everything, practicing hygiene and lots of hand washing with the kids," said Neill.

Adult classes, mostly attended by seniors, have been canceled.

"We will all get through this," Neill said.

Restaurateur Matt Asen voiced concern on March 13 over how gravely his business would be affected. With virtually all sporting events canceled around the country, his sports-themed restaurant Sanibel Grill is facing the most severe challenges.

"We're a sports bar, and we have people come in here to watch hockey games if they're from up north, and basketball games. And then there's March Madness which is three weeks in a row, so there's nothing to watch," Asen said. He was forced to cancel events centered around the basketball tournament. As a sports fan himself, he is even more disappointed.

"I'll watch a lot of Netflix, I guess," he joked, adding he may start betting on *Jeopardy* since there are no games.

While his restaurant The Timbers did see a 15 percent upswing in February compared to last year, business has definitely slowed this month. He is seeing an uptick at the restaurant's fish market and take out orders, as more people dine at home.

Asen also owns Matzaluna and two



The beach was busy on Captiva this week, as visitors continue to travel to the area

photo by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

restaurants in Fort Myers. His staff is being extra vigilant about sanitizing tables, equipment, bathrooms and menus.

"Since this is a restaurant, we have to be health conscious on an every day basis," he explained. "It's what we always do and we're just a little bit more so now."

Clearly frustrated, he was unsure what the days ahead would hold.

"It's like everyone has cooties, but it's scary cooties," said Asen, adding there are more threats from car accidents and the flu than coronavirus. He worried that fear would keep many from enjoying their daily lives.

"To me it's ridiculous," he said of restrictions put in place. "Roosevelt was right: The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

Some business owners are comparing the situation to hurricanes or red tide crisis, although those issues hit during the off-season.

"In my 20 years here, I've never seen anything like this in March or April. Although it's not as bad as Hurricane Charley," said Jenny Rando, co-owner of Captiva Cruises. The August 2004 hurricane greatly damaged the island and closed the business for four months.

Currently, Captiva Cruises is seeing daily bookings, but giving refunds for cancellations. Many cruises are at capacity,

now limited to 50 people. Trips to Cayo Costa State Park have been canceled due to state restrictions for commercial access, as well as Useppa Island, which has been closed to the public.

"People are here and want to do things," said Rando. "There's definitely a busyness and a buzz."

"We're a tight community. It will persevere. It always has."

Rental agencies are fielding a variety of calls during this time. According to Michael Polly, president and managing broker of Royal Shell, while clients are calling to cancel or postpone their reservations, the company continues to get bookings. Some are making last minute reservations, taking advantage of lower airfare and spring specials already in place before the crisis.

"We still have a lot of calls. Everyone wants to come to our islands," said Polly. "It's a matter of how quickly we can get through this."

Kay Casperson Spa remained open, but is making sure all areas are disinfected regularly and hand sanitizer is readily available. While they are seeing some cancellations, appointments are continuing to be made.

"Honestly, people are acting crazy," said Sanibel native Cayla Gavin who was working on Captiva on March 17. While

she said Sanibel was fairly quiet, Captiva seemed very busy from her longtime perspective as a native islander.

Captiva was indeed full of activity early this week, with lots of beach-goers taking advantage of the warm weather. A couple from Indiana who came for the day from Estero was surprised to see the crowded beach. They did express concerns for their own health during this time.

"I'm concerned more about the risk because I'm older. If you go online and find information, it's kind of scary," said Gary, who didn't want to use his last name.

"On the other hand, we're able to be outside, and we wouldn't be able to do that at home," said his wife, Debbie. "I feel almost safer outside as long as we're not in a crowd."

Brothers Drew and Ed, from New Hampshire, were enjoying the day during their weeklong stay with their families on the island.

"We watched the news and all, but we'll see what happens. We came anyway," said Drew, adding they would drive home if air travel is restricted in the coming days. "Honestly, we've seen not much impact here."

After talking with family members in the Boston area, where many businesses

continued on page 23

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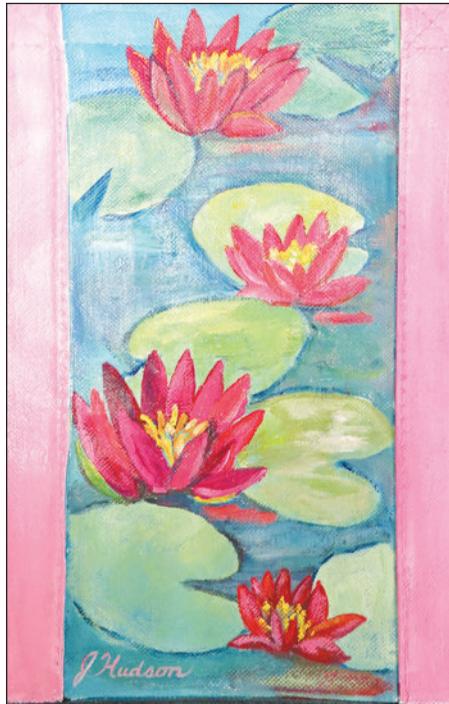
The bag display above the service counter at Bailey's General Store photos provided

Bidding Open For Hand-Painted Grocery Bags

Sanibel-Captiva Art League members have 40 hand-painted Bailey's General Store reusable bags on display and up for bid at Bailey's service counter. The bags feature local scenes and fauna painted in oil, acrylic or watercolor; some are adorned with quilting or other textile art. All proceeds from the sale of the bags will go to FISH of SanCap.

This much anticipated annual event begins with artists taking a green Bailey's recyclable shopping bag and transforming it into a piece of original art. The artists contribute their time, supplies and talent. Bailey's donates the bags and storefront display. "We appreciate all the support that we receive from the Bailey's family and staff for this important FISH fundraiser," said Jeannine Desmarais. "It's easy to bid on the bag you want—just come in the store and they are right up front. The bidding starts at \$20 per bag and the sky is the limit. You take home a unique Bailey's shopping bag beautifully transformed into artwork and it's for a terrific local cause."

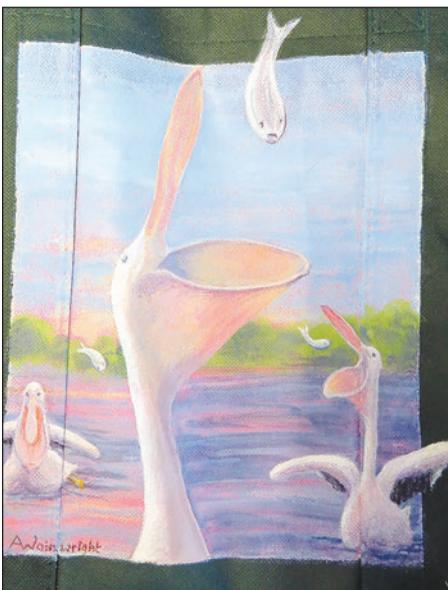
The last day for bidding will be Saturday, March 28. Bags can be shipped up north if you are not on the



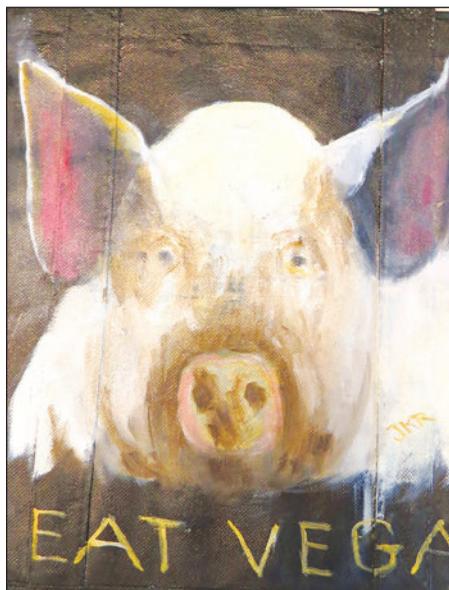
Hand-painted bag by Jane Hudson island.

"I really enjoy the creativity it takes to transform the bags," said Desmarais. "This year we have birds, shells, animals, portraits, beach scenes and more – every year we find new ways of expressing Sanibel and Captiva."

For more information, email jjdesmarais@gmail.com.



Pelican bag by Annie Wainwright



Bag by Jan Rutlege



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The Mayer family photo courtesy Sanibel Historical Museum and Village

Looking Back: The Mayer Family

The Mayer family has been a part of Sanibel history since 1917 when they vacationed here and thought winter homes might be just the thing. Several years later, their dream became two Sears & Roebuck homes on San Carlos Bay, near Matthews Wharf and Bailey's Store. Elinore Mayer



Dormer, pictured with her parents and siblings, became the pioneer of Sanibel history and the founder of the Sanibel Historical Museum & Village.

Learn more about the history of Sanibel at the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village, 950 Dunlop Road, next to BIG ARTS. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours take place at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at no additional charge, depending on docent availability. There is handicap access to the buildings. Admission is \$10 for adults over 18, no charge for members and children. For more information, visit www.sanibelmuseum.org.✱

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, 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, 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.

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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, 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, 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, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

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



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OBITUARY



DR. JAN HOLLY

bachelor of arts in piano performance from Ball State University in Indiana. She was a full professor of music and continuously served for 30 years as music program manager at Frederick Community College (FCC) in Frederick, Maryland, where she was responsible for building the curriculum and staff from nearly nothing to a thriving program when she retired in 2014. She served as department chair for communications, humanities and arts at FCC from 2006-10.

A recognized leader in higher education in the arts, she was appointed in 2011-12 to a middle states commission on higher education accreditation team that evaluated the State University of New York, Potsdam, and the Crane School of Music.

A student of the Golandsky/Taubman piano technique in the Philadelphia studio of concert pianist and pedagogue Robert Durso, she was admitted in 2008 to the Golandsky Institute's Piano Teacher Participation Program. A practice assistant at the Golandsky International Symposium, held each summer at Princeton University, she was invited to serve as examiner for a PhD dissertation on the Taubman Technique. Dr. Holly maintained a private piano studio specializing in the training of beginning, intermediate and early advanced adult students.

After retiring to Sanibel, she continued to teach online courses in music history/appreciation, world music and American popular music. She was an organist for St. Michael and All Angels Church on Sanibel, where she also sang in the choir. She carved out a second career as a writer for local publications, and as a public

relations consultant. She was a member of the board of directors of the Committee of the Islands and served on the BIG ARTS Classical Music and Classical Music Scholarship committees. She was an avid bicyclist and tennis player, and she loved to take long walks on the Sanibel beaches.

Dr. Holly was preceded in death by her father, John Weaver Holly; and her mother, Mary Holmes Holly. She is survived by her sisters, Judith Workman

(Dick) and Susan Holly (Mark Twombly); her niece, Jennifer Lessinger (Ozzie); her nephews, Michael Workman (Beth) and James Twombly Holly; her great-nephews, Sam and Gus Lessinger; and great-niece, Sadie Lessinger.

A celebration of life will be held at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church on Sanibel; date and time to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to CROW and PAWS.✽



From left, Anne Walter, Nancy DeBenedictis, Ann Marie Sprotte and Francine Dale

photo provided

Catholics Gather For Italian Fiesta

SanCap Catholics gathered on March 9 at The Community House for the group's third sold-out event

of the season, the annual Italian Fiesta. Continuing the independent Catholic group's inaugural year, members enjoyed an evening of Italian cuisine and Christian fellowship, with all proceeds going to the Guadalupe Social Services' DACA program.✽



Children and adults can tour the fire truck

photo provided

Open House At Sanibel Fire Department

Sanibel Fire Rescue District will be holding a community open house on Saturday, March 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All are welcome to stop by for free tours, activities, and food and

drinks. There will be children's games, station and equipment tours and a visit from Lee County EMS. Plenty of parking will be available at the Center 4 Life.

Sanibel Fire Rescue Station #1 is located at 2351 Palm Ridge Road. For more information, call 472-5525.✽



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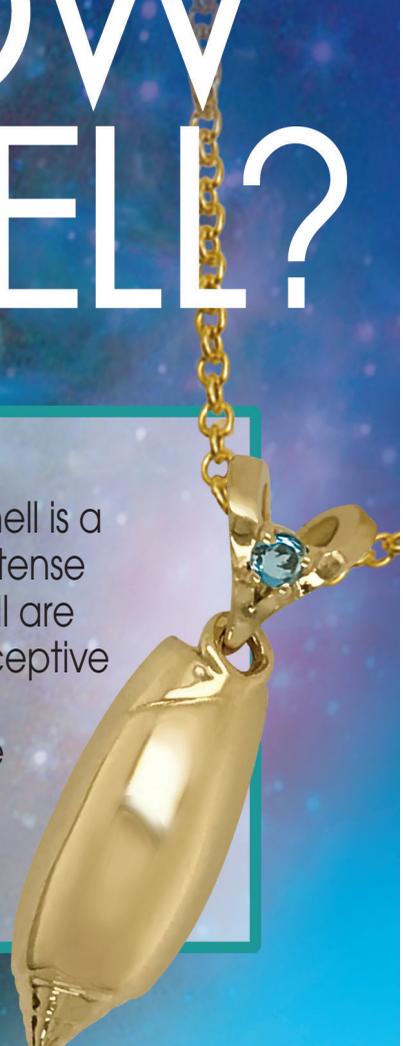
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Zero-Emission Landscaping Workshop

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) and Committee of the Islands (COTI) have long-running histories advocating for environmental stewardship and protection on Sanibel. A key component of this commitment is regularly assessing how local community interacts with wildlife and natural spaces, and then helping guide decisions that are favorable for both.

With this in mind, both organizations support the recent decision made by the Sanibel City Council that encourages Sanibel businesses and residents to make the shift to cleaner energy technology. In January, the council passed a resolution encouraging the reduction of gas-powered equipment:

"The city council, on behalf of its citizens and residents, hereby passes this resolution to support and encourage individuals and businesses to voluntarily use 'environmentally friendly' alternatives to gas-powered landscape equipment, including electric and battery equipment, in addition to manual tools."

SCCF and COTI believe that this is an excellent opportunity to catalyze education and forward movement around an important aspect of the island's dedication to environmental advocacy. So, they are co-hosting an educational workshop for landscaping companies and their employees, led by American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA).

AGZA will be at the Bailey Homestead Preserve on Thursday, May 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to offer a free educational workshop for local landscaping companies on the best zero-emission landscaping equipment on the market. The two-hour workshop includes a presentation, complimentary lunch and live demonstration of AGZA-vetted equipment from an array of different manufacturers for landscapers to try out.

SCCF's Special Projects Manager Justin Proctor took the lead in organizing the workshop.

"We wanted to provide an opportunity for our local landscaping companies to both learn about and try out some of the best battery-powered landscape equipment available," said Proctor. "Battery technology has come a long way over the past decade, and there are now numerous advantages that electric equipment has over what has traditionally been fuel-powered

machinery."

Concerned about misinformation and skepticism surrounding the topic, Proctor sought out the leading national organization on the issue.

"We decided to bring in leading experts in the field to educate us on where we stand with all of this – what are the best products out there, and what are some effective strategies for making the financial and logistical shift over to zero-emission tech?" he added.

Since 1967, SCCF has been dedicated to maintaining its preserved lands as the quiet sanctuaries they were designated to be, where the community and wildlife can find solace from the daily commotion of more populated areas. Reduced noise and air pollution across the island ensures a healthier, more environmentally sustainable way of life for wildlife, year-round community, visitors and landscapers.

"Learning about ways to make the transition over to quieter, zero-emission landscape equipment is a win-win scenario for our community and our wildlife," said Barbara Joy Cooley, chairperson of COTI's environmental committee.

Since 1975, COTI has been committed to defending the Sanibel Plan, providing a consistent voice in support

of Sanibel's core values – its small town character, environmental preservation and wildlife conservation.

"This is a great opportunity to look at the research that has been done and the efforts under way nationwide, and make an informed decision on shifting towards practices that support renewable energy," said Cooley. "Perhaps most importantly, this is a collaborative effort between Sanibel residents and the landscaping companies that work so hard to keep this island beautiful."

This is an educational workshop; there will be no pressure to purchase any products and there is no endorsement of any specific manufacturer. Landscapers and members of the community are encouraged to attend and ask questions, talk with others about what equipment they've seen work well and what hasn't, and help each other make good decisions for their companies, their workers and the island's commitment to maximizing best environmental practices.

The Bailey Homestead Preserve is located at 1300 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. The event is completely free and includes lunch for everyone.

There is no charge to attend or for lunch, however, an RSVP is requested to Justin Proctor via email at jproctor@sccf.org, or by phone at 607-229-6255.✱

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Sanibel Music Festival Curtails Season

Following the concert of Avery Gagliano, winner of the prestigious National Chopin Piano Competition, Sanibel Music Festival curtailed its 2020 season on March 14 citing public health concerns and inability of upcoming performers to travel from overseas. "Sanibel Music Festival will close down 2020 operations this week and focus on presenting an excellent concert series in 2021," announced festival president Jana Stone. "We plan to offer ticket holders the option of applying unused 2020 tickets next season and will be announcing a procedure to do that shortly."

"Avery Gagliano gave a stunning performance," said festival vice president Nina Orrell. "She played an all-Chopin program with alternating sensitivity and ferocity belying her youth, resulting in a standing ovation and multiple curtain calls." Gagliano prevailed over 25 competitors to win a \$100,000 prize, entry to the worldwide Chopin Competition in Warsaw later this year, and an extensive concert tour organized by The Chopin Foundation, including the kick-off on Sanibel Island.

Sanibel Music Festival is a volunteer organization presenting a concert series of chamber music, piano recital and vocal ensemble of the highest caliber every year in March in a venue promising excellent acoustics and an intimate listening experience. Visit www.sanibelmusicfestival.org for breaking news on the 2021 season and more information about the festival venue, Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ.

"An important part of the festival's mission is to promote the careers of emerging artists," said Orrell. "The 2021 concert series will continue our tradition of combining emerging artists and celebrated masters, plus the return of some Sanibel favorites. And there may be new twists as we celebrate our 35th year in 2021."✱



Avery Gagliano and Nina Orrell photo provided



The recently renovated BIG ARTS campus

BIG ARTS Suspends All Programming

To protect the health and safety of its patrons, talent, volunteers and team members, BIG ARTS is suspending all programming and activities effective March 13 and continuing until further notice. The building will be closed to all public traffic. Programming includes the following:

Late Nite Catechism, Mike Super, all workshops, rentals, band and chorus rehearsals and concerts, gallery exhibits and receptions, the FORUM, Monday Night films and the March 27 annual benefit.

BIG ARTS regrets this inconvenience

and will offer all ticket holders the following options:

Donate your tickets and tuition cost. As a nonprofit arts organization, BIG ARTS relies on the generosity and support of its loyal donors. In this difficult time, which will have significant financial impact on BIG ARTS, you can choose to donate your tickets, tuition fee and benefit gifts. All donations are now 100 percent tax deductible.

Request a refund by emailing: info@bigarts.org.

BIG ARTS will continue to monitor developments and will implement and communicate any additional changes that help ensure a safe environment for all. BIG ARTS thanks its volunteers, patrons, artists and the community for their loyalty and support – especially during this challenging time.✱

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Highlights From FISH Of SanCap St. Patrick's Day Luncheon



Flo and Alan Brinkman photos provided



Jake and Ann Jacona



From left, Chuck Bergstrom, Melissa Lodwick, Stephen Lodwick and Sam Griggs



Robin Krivanek



Kathy Monroe and Betty Rebhorn



Richard Deming and Jack David



Lynn Meline and Jerry Edelman



From left, Sandie Sulter with Hazella and George Veillette



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We at F.I.S.H. share your concerns about the progression of COVID-19 and its impact on our islands. Though there is a lot of uncertainty, we want to assure you that F.I.S.H. is here to help all of those affected throughout the entire crisis.

While there may be changes made to aspects of our operations, we plan to continue running our largest programs, uninterrupted. Programs include:

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- Food backpacks for children
- Emergency financial assistance

For additional information about F.I.S.H. or our services please contact us at (239) 472-0404 or www.fishofsancap.org. For the latest on COVID-19 on Sanibel please visit the City's website at www.mysanibel.com. Finally, for updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) visit www.cdc.gov.

At the end of the day, our message is simple: **F.I.S.H. is for everyone.** If there is any way that we can assist you during this difficult time, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Sheridan Snell, Board Chair

Maggi Feiner, President & CEO



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1 pm Yoga Nidra w/ Dr. Susan

MON. MARCH 30

9:30 am Oil Painting w/ Suzette

TUES. MARCH 31

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Osprey

photo provided

Program On Osprey Behavior

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) weekly Speaker Series continues with The Story of Ospreys in the CROW Visitor Education Center on Tuesday, March 24 at 4:15

p.m. Claudia Burns, volunteer for The International Osprey Foundation, will present the program.

Ospreys are large brown and white raptors who breed in Southwest Florida from December through April and can be seen diving for live fish in shallow waters throughout the area. Because they build their nests right out in the open, their behavior is easy to observe,

but not always easy to understand. This presentation uses photos, videos and recorded vocalizations to explain osprey behavior.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for teens (ages 13 to 17) and no charge for children ages 12 and younger. Space is limited and events do sell out, so advance registration is highly recommended.

CROW's 2020 Speaker Series presented by LCEC features weekly talks that run through April 14.

The CROW Visitor Education Center is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road. For a full schedule of talks, more information or to register in advance, visit www.crowclinic.org/articles/2020-speaker-series-presented-by-lcec.

Cancellations At 'Ding' Darling

Due to the health impacts from COVID-19, officials from the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge and Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge have canceled the following programs:

March 20 – Betty Anholt and Charles LeBuff lectures

March 20 – Michael Grunwald Lecture

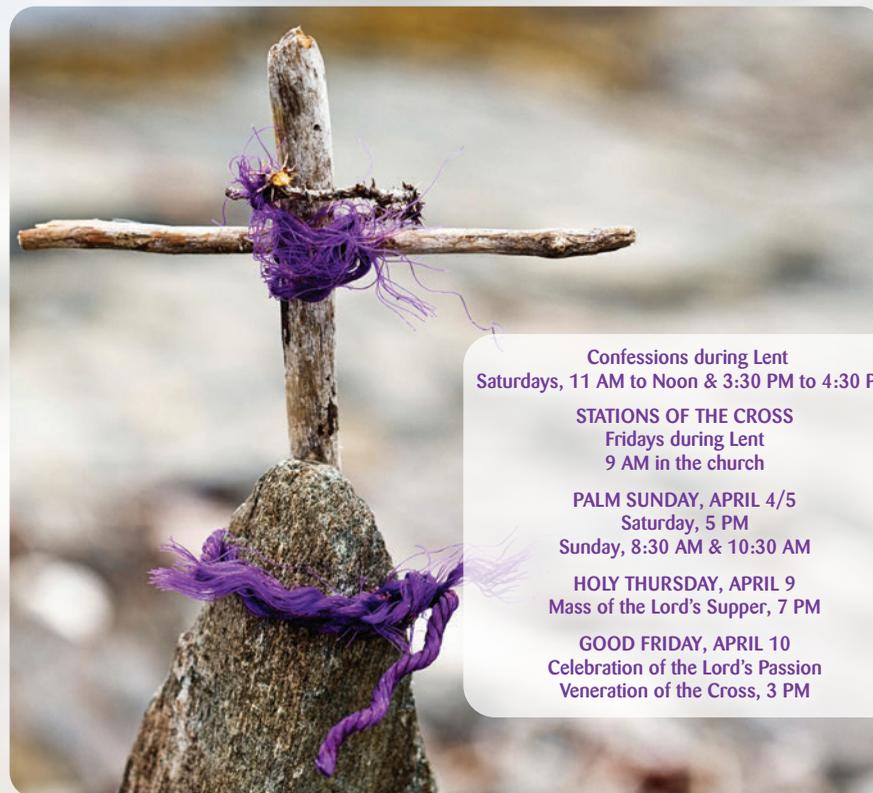
March 27 – Jack Davis lectures

April 1 – *Bird of Prey* film showing

April 3 – Jeri Magg lectures

For more information, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/covid-19.

St Isabel Catholic Church 2020 Lenten Schedule



Confessions during Lent
Saturdays, 11 AM to Noon & 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Fridays during Lent
9 AM in the church

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 4/5
Saturday, 5 PM
Sunday, 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 9
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10
Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Veneration of the Cross, 3 PM

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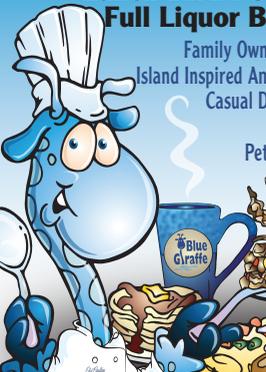
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Plant Smart

Bluejacket

by Gerri Reaves

Bluejacket (*Tradescantia ohiensis*) is a short-lived perennial found in woods and disturbed areas and along roadsides and ponds.

A member of the spiderwort family, it is native to the eastern half of the U.S.

It is also called Ohio spiderwort. "Spider" probably refers to its mucilaginous leaf sap that resembles a spider web when strung out.

The erect strap- or grass-like leaves are clasp and about 16 inches long. A length-wise fold forms a V-shape.

Up to 10 flowers appear in the umbrels, each at the end of a smooth fleshy drooping stem that becomes purplish.

The flowers, which range in color from pink to blue or purple do not bloom simultaneously.

They measure an inch or so across and have three rounded petals and six stamens with frilly filaments and yellow anthers.

The flowers bloom most of the year but last only one day, often wilting by midday.

Plant it in a wildflower garden or use it as a groundcover in full sun to partial shade. It attracts a variety of pollinators.

Drought-tolerant, pest-free and easy to grow, it adapts to many soils but is not salt tolerant.

It spreads easily and quickly via rhizomes, so much so that some gardeners consider it weedy.

The plant will reseed in open areas but can be propagated with the seeds or by clump division.

The leaves and flowers are said to be edible and the leaves are used as a potherb.

Sources: *Florida Wildflowers and Roadside Plants* by C. Ritchie Bell and Bryan J. Taylor, *Florida's Incredible Wild Edibles* by Richard J. Deuerling and Peggy S. Lantz, *A Gardener's*



Native bluejacket clusters of flowers do not bloom at the same time and usually last less than a day photo by Gerri Reaves

Guide to Florida's Native Plants by Rufino Osorio, *National Audubon Society Field Guild to Florida* by Peter Alden et al., *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, *Wildflowers of Florida*

by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, <http://www.efloras.org>, www.fnps.org, <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>, and www.regionalconservation.org.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱

Vegetation Committee Members Sought

The City of Sanibel is taking applications for the vegetation committee. If you are interested in helping educate residents, visitors and landscape professionals about the city's vegetation standards and benefits of native plants, visit <https://files.constantcontact.com/97af97e6001/a81b7349-7ed2-4413-8b54-992fa92fc3d8.pdf> to review the vegetation committee relevant code and legislation.

Responsibilities:

Attend committee meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in MacKenzie Hall at city hall.

Appointees must earn a passing score on the City's Vegetation Competency Exam.

Assist in the administration of the City's Vegetation Competency class and exam for landscape professionals. The class and test is offered four times per year, in January, April, June and October, on the first two Friday mornings of the month (April 3, 2020 and April 10, 2020)

Assist the city's planning and natural resources departments with vegetation inspections.

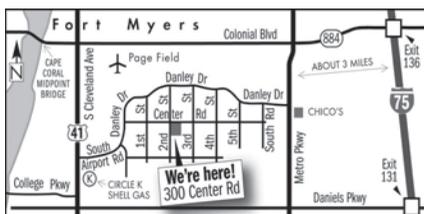
Any resident wishing to serve may visit <https://mysanibel.granicus.com/boards/w/f08c141a1b9ce309> to link to the Advisory Committee Application. Click the green "Apply" button and continue to complete the online application. At the end of the application process, click the green "Submit" button, which will allow submission of your application to the city clerk. If you have any questions, call 472-3700.✱

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Spring Break Fishing



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

With spring officially starting this week, we are finally on a warming trend with no cold fronts in sight. Now our water has crept back into the mid-70s, the sound

has come to life with both bait and fish. All the spring visitors have arrived. Watching the increase in life reappear is amazing, and it brings some of the best fishing of the year.

Throughout the entire sound, Spanish mackerel have invaded our waters. Catching these mackerel is nonstop action on both artificial bait and live bait. Drifting the passes with live shrimp on a jig head resulted in double and triple hook-ups. However, be careful when handling these fish as their ultra sharp teeth can cut you extremely quickly. Using a dehooker is the safest way.

While getting in a few last sheepshead trips this week, we managed to catch the largest one on my boat this season. This 'sheepzilla' measured 21½ inches and came at the first stop of the trip. When catching these sheepshead, multiple other fish usually followed the hooked fish and we reeled them in. While filleting these fish at the end of the day, we noticed the majority had already spawned and were void of eggs.

Catch-and-release snook around the passes remained a strong bite. All of our local passes have these snook and, in the clear water, it's often as easy as seeing them and setting up to present them a bait.

The problem arises when the dolphins move in and start eating these snook as you release them. When this happens, it's time to move on.

The spring pompano bite is also in full swing. The best way to locate these fish is often to idle around and watch for them to skip in your wake. Small jigs tipped with shrimp along with pompano jigs in bright colors were used to catch them. Watch for these fish on sandy channel edges both off the toll booth flat and inside of Captiva and Redfish passes.

Shark fishing has heated up too with lots of blacktip of all sizes around. The Rocky Channel area and inside of Captiva Pass remain some of the most productive places I have caught these hard-pulling sharks.

It's a simple rig consisting of six to eight feet of 200-pound mono leader with a swivel on one end and a 12/0 cut bait circle hook on the other. Bait up with a large chunk of mullet or ladyfish. In these same areas, we have also been seeing a few rolling tarpon.

The coronavirus has caused lots of cancellations for all of our local businesses. Usually March is totally sold out and our busiest month of the year. This was the case until this week when the phone calls began with people changing their travel plans. With spring break now in full swing, I can't think of a safer place any further away from the virus than being out on a boat in the



This monster sheepshead measured 21 1/2 inches and was caught while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided

open water with family and friends.

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been fishing local waters since he moved to Sanibel in 1980. He now lives in St. James

City and works as a back country fishing guide. If you have comments or questions, email captmattmitchell@aol.com. ✨

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CROW Case Of The Week:

Virginia Opossum

by Bob Petcher



The Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*) is North America's only marsupial – an animal with a pouch, like a kangaroo or a koala. It is a solitary and

nocturnal animal about the size of a house cat.

Sporting a long head, pointed snout, rounded naked ears and a scaly, nearly hairless tail that has the capability of grasping objects much like a monkey's tail, the Virginia opossum is regarded as one of the oldest surviving mammals on earth with a history that exceeds 70 million years.

A female Virginia opossum may have as many as 25 babies, but she averages seven or eight. Opossums have a lot of babies to insure that some of them survive. These babies are tiny when they are born, reportedly about the size of a navy bean.

At CROW, an adult female Virginia opossum was admitted after being found in the middle of the road in Fort Myers acting dazed and bleeding from its face. On intake, the opossum was alert and growling, with a reasonable body condition. The marsupial had a



Patient #20-746 growls while being attended to. Inset, the inside of a female opossum's pouch reveals a couple joeys.

photo by Brian Bohlman

small laceration on the lip and tongue as well as a broken tooth. There were at least five joeys in her pouch. Fluids and anti-inflammatories were given and the opossum was cleared for release two days later.

In a four-day span, two other Virginia opossum mothers were also admitted with similar injuries. Both of these opossums were also found in the road with minor injuries to the face or head and had joeys in their pouches.

According to Dr. Mariah Lancaster,

CROW veterinary intern, the joeys in all three cases were less than one month old and did not sustain any injuries.

"All three female opossums sustained head trauma," she said. "However, none showed signs of trauma to their abdomen or pouch region."

The three patients, who were all released within a three-day period last week, were from different neighborhoods, with the second two admitted from Cape Coral.

"This is the time of year when most

female opossums will be carrying young in their pouch and are more active as they forage for food," said Dr. Lancaster. "This means that any female opossums presented to CROW will likely have joeys."

According to PBS' *NatureWorks*, after birth, Virginia opossum babies climb up their mother's fur and into her pouch where they find a teat. Those that do not find their way to the pouch will most likely die. If they make it to the pouch, only babies who find one of the 13 teats will survive.

"Joeys remain inside the pouch for about 50 days, after which time they begin to exit the pouch and spend time on their mother's back," added Dr. Lancaster. "Opossums breed and give birth to up to two litters of four to eight young – or joeys. The gestation period of an opossum is about 13 days."

The delicate young opossums were lucky to be spared from injury or possibly death.

"The joeys are small and soft skinned, with eyes and ears closed in the earliest weeks," said Dr. Lancaster. "If the mother sustains severe trauma, or significant trauma to the pouch, the joeys are likely impacted as well."

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

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Shell Of The Week

Girdled Triton



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

Linatella caudata (Gmelin, 1791) reaches 70 mm (about 2.75 inches) and has

a shell sculptured with rounded spiral cords, sometimes with small knobs on the periphery (the angled part) of the last whorl. The color is light-brown, sometimes with broad spiral bands of lighter color. Tritons have extremely long pelagic (open-water) larval stages. These can be transported by ocean currents into areas farther away from where the mother tritons deposited their eggs. Girdled Tritons are not common in Southwest Florida, but may occasionally show up in our coast after a long, current-driven larval excursions from other parts of the Gulf of Mexico. Read more about mollusks at www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide and www.shellmuseum.org/blog.

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



The Girdled Triton, *Linatella caudata*, from Sanibel

photo by José H. Leal

American Legion Post 123

American Legion Post 123 is serving barbecued ribs and chicken this Sunday, March 22 from noon to 8 p.m. A prime rib dinner is on the menu for the following Sunday, March 29, 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.

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

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

Post 123 is located at mile marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road, open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. For more information, call 472-9979.

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SCCF Cancels All Programming And Fundraisers

To support the health and safety of the community, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) announced that as of March 17, all SCCF programming and events are canceled until further notice.

"We take the risk associated with COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) very seriously and are doing everything we can to stop the potential spread of the global pandemic," said Linda Uhler, president of SCCF's board of trustees. "We hope the community will continue to support all the critical work that SCCF does to protect our coastal ecosystems in these uncertain times."

Perhaps the biggest letdown for the community is the cancellation of Sanibel Sea School's Octifest on April 4 and Beer in the Bushes on April 11.

"We are sorry that we won't be able to bring the community together at Octifest and Beer in the Bushes," said CEO Ryan Orgera. "And, we are grateful to donors and sponsors for their generous donations to our biggest annual fundraisers that provide a large portion of support to our mission."

Lead sponsors of Beer in the Bushes have already decided to donate their funds despite the cancellations.

"Our presenting sponsor, Wimmer Communities, and our band co-sponsors, Jensen's Twin Palms Resort



Last year's Beer in the Bushes, an unofficial end-of-season celebration photo provided

& Marina and The Marcums are taking the lead in adapting to cancellation by letting us know that their sponsorships are converting to donations," said Jeff Siwicke, events manager. "We are thrilled by their understanding and support."

Refunds for Octifest, Beer in the Bushes and all SCCF program tickets are available by emailing refunds@sccf.org for the next 30 days, until April 15.

"We hope that ticketholders will allow us to retain their fees as tax-deductible donations to support the vital work that SCCF does, yet we understand that many in our community who are affected by current economic impacts

will opt for a refund and we totally support and respect those decisions," said Uhler.

Tickets that are donated are 100 percent tax deductible and will convert from a ticket exchange to a donation towards SCCF's work on water quality, habitat management, sea turtle and shorebird monitoring, native landscaping and environmental education.

"Nature goes on. Our work to protect and conserve continues," said Orgera. "We are grateful to those who convert tickets to donations at this time to show their support of our work."

SCCF's closure to the public includes the SCCF Nature Center and the

Bailey Homestead Preserve's Native Landscapes & Garden Center, which will be closed to the public.

SCCF will continue to monitor public health risks and will provide updates on our ongoing work, including uplifting and inspiring photos and videos of nature on social media.

"We encourage you to become engaged with us online during these times of social isolation so we can keep our community spirit alive," said Orgera. "Stay safe. We are grateful for your continuing appreciation of our natural world in these challenging times."

The closure does not include the more than eight miles of nature trails SCCF offers across the island.

Stay tuned through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and www.sccf.org as monitoring of this situation continues.

Canceled activities:

- Beer in the Bushes – April 11
- Bowman's Beach Walk – March 25
- Caloosahatchee Oxbow & Riverlore Cruises – March 21, April 3 and May 9
- Everglades Update – April 23
- Interior Wetlands Trail Walks – Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays through April 9
- Island Art Exhibit – Monday through Saturday, through April 2
- Making the Land Work Walking Tours – Mondays and Thursdays through April 30
- Modern Day Plant Exploration – March 26
- Octifest – April 4
- Weeds & Seeds – March 25 and 30.*

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Children's Center Spring Festival Coming Soon

The Children's Education Center of the Islands (CECI) will hold its 26th annual Spring Festival on Saturday, April 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Sanibel Community Park (next to The Community House). The festival begins with an egg hunt by age group at 9 a.m. sharp. The games, crafts and contests will begin immediately after and continue until 11 a.m. A \$15 armband will allow each child unlimited fun to participate in all activities.

There will be pony and unicorn rides, a bounce house, grand slide, face painting, and arts and crafts. The Easter Bunny will make an appearance at 10:15 a.m. and will be available for free pictures.

The festival will also include a silent auction with over 50 baskets and gift certificates. Concessions such as snow cones, popcorn, hotdogs and drinks will be available for purchase.

Proceeds from the Spring Festival will benefit the Children's Education Center's Scholarship Fund and capital improvements. All residents and visitors are welcome to attend.

The Children's Education Center of



Little ones hunt for Easter eggs in the sand photo provided

the Islands is a nonprofit preschool that has been serving local island families for 45 years. From the continuous support of the community, CECI can continue to provide a nature-based preschool program for many more generations to come.

To help support the preschool with a sponsorship or silent auction donation, call Kerra Pike at 472-4538 or email kerraceci@gmail.com.



Diner's Delight coupon books are now on sale

photo provided

Kiwanis Diners Delight Coupon Books On Sale

The Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club has released this year's Diners Delight two-for-one coupon books. The restaurant coupon books are popular with both residents and visitors, who often order in advance by mail before coming to Sanibel to make sure they don't miss out. The quantity printed is limited, and the books sell out fast.

Coupon books can be purchased from Kiwanis members and also at Bank of the Islands, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Tortuga Beach Club, Shell Island Beach Club, Island

Pharmacy, Bailey's General Store, Island Winds Coiffures, Periwinkle Park and Big Red Q Printing as long as they last. Cost is \$40 per book, and each book has coupons valid at 31 local eating establishments from May 1 through December 20, 2020. The purchase price of coupon book is quickly recouped in a couple of restaurant visits, with total savings of up to \$500 for those who dine out frequently.

Several new restaurants have been added to the program this year, including Rosie's Cafe, Sea Breeze Cafe, Sandollar Restaurant and Subway.

Proceeds from the long-running Diners Delight program are used by the Kiwanis Foundation to fund its various education, scholarship and recreation programs for island youth.



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Historical Village Closed Until Further Notice



Sanibel Historical Village

photo provided

In order to offer the utmost protection for the health and safety of its guests, volunteers and staff, the Sanibel Historical Museum & Village will be closed until further notice, effective March 17.

The following events have been canceled:
 Volunteer Luncheon – March 30
 Twilight Talk – April 7. You may request a refund, or consider their \$10 ticket price as a tax-deductible contribution

to the village.

You may email messages to info@sanibelmuseum.org for the quickest response. Alternatively, you can leave a message at 472-4648; messages will be

returned as quickly as possible. You also may call Executive Director Emilie Alfino on her personal cell phone at 357-1644, if necessary. Check the website at www.sanibelmuseum.org for updates.*

CROW Calendar Of Events

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

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

Monday, March 23, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.

Monday, March 23, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Birds of Prey (daily presentation). One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Monday, March 23, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.



Monday, March 23, 2 p.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under: no charge – Patient Profiles: Gopher Tortoises (daily presentation). One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Tuesday, March 24, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.

Tuesday, March 24, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under: no charge – Species Profile: Snakes of Southwest Florida (daily presentation). One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Tuesday, March 24, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the

age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.

Tuesday, March 24, 2 p.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under: no charge – Patient Profiles: Virginia Opossums (daily presentation). One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Tuesday, March 24, 4:15 p.m., adults: \$10, teens: \$5, age 12 and under: no charge. Advance registration highly recommended – Speaker Series presented by LCEC: The Story of Ospreys. Speaker will be Claudia Burns, volunteer for International Osprey Foundation.

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

Wednesday, March 25, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.

Wednesday, March 25, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under: no charge – Wildlife Rescue 101 (daily presentation). One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Wednesday, March 25, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.

Wednesday, March 25, 2 p.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under: no charge – Patient Profiles: Virginia Opossums (daily presentation). One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Thursday, March 26, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.

Thursday, March 26, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under: no charge – Patient Profiles: Gopher Tortoises (daily presentation). One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Thursday, March 26, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration with payment required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity with an animal ambassador.

Thursday, March 26, 2 p.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Baby Care at CROW (daily presentation).*



The Hildabrand family enjoys a great beach day on Captiva with few worries about coronavirus photo by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

From page 1

Coronavirus

are closed, the brothers were happy with their decision. "They were wishing they were here," said Drew.

Eight members of the Hildabrand family from various parts of the country were enjoying the beach, having rented a house for a week on Captiva.

"I think we were all kind of like, if we had to get quarantined, it's all our immediate family," said Fran Hildabrand. "I was glad to get in a place

like this."

She did admit she worried about her elderly parents back home in Nashville. "I don't think I would want to visit them just out of fear of we being exposed to something and I wouldn't want to take it to them."

That sentiment was on the minds of many Captiva residents, who worried visitors may bring the virus to paradise.

But one constant remained with nearly everyone: There was nowhere else they would rather be during this time.*

Shell Museum Closed



The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum

photo provided

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum takes the safety of their staff, volunteers and guests seriously. As a precautionary measure to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), the museum has temporarily closed, effective March 17. The museum will remain closed to visitors until further notice.

Museum staff understands this closure is an inconvenience. The priority is the

health of its staff, volunteers, guests and the Sanibel and Captiva community that has supported the museum for 25 years. The museum is following national guidelines on social distancing to help reduce the impact of this illness.

During the closure, a limited number of staff will maintain the building's operation and ensure the welfare of the animals.*

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Shell Found



Nicole Hendrix photo provided

Nicole Hendrix from Honesdale, Pennsylvania found an alphabet cone in front of Loggerhead Cay at approximately 6:30 a.m. on March 8. Three hours before her scheduled flight back home, she was on the beaches with her headlamp searching for shells. And she found what she was looking for, an alphabet cone. Hendrix is already looking forward to her return trip to Sanibel.✳

Shell Found



Ethan Wampler photo provided

Ethan Wampler from Denver, Colorado found a junonia by the Sanibel Lighthouse. He said, "There was practically a wall of shells where the waves were hitting the beach. I found all sorts of cool shells there and decided to look to see if I could find one of these. Since some of the shells were huge, I thought some of these were probably coming from deep water and it would be my best shot at finding one."✳

Message From CROW: Don't Feed The Pelicans

If you are feeding wild animals, your kindness may be harming or even killing them but also breaking the law. At the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW), animals, most recently brown pelicans, are often admitted because of harm encountered as a result of their scavenging for handouts from well-meaning nature lovers.

More brown pelicans have been admitted to the wildlife hospital on Sanibel this year than were admitted for the entire year in 2019. Many of the injuries currently being seen at the hospital are preventable and often the result of being fed by humans. Recent reasons for admission include two separate instances of a large fish carcass being stuck in the pelican's throat and several others entangled with fishing hooks and monofilament line.

Pelicans typically feed on small schools of fish that form near the surface of the water - including menhaden, mullet, anchovies, herring and sailfin mollies. But pelicans and other seabirds will feed on the remains or carcasses of a fisherman's catch that are tossed in the water, which can lead to injury or death. Unfortunately, these fish carcasses are often larger than their normal diet, and the larger bones and spines can puncture the bird's throat or

digestive tract.

When pelicans are fed near fishing docks, marinas or cleaning stations, they congregate in large numbers looking for an easy meal. This change in behavior of "begging" or "scavenging" for scraps rather than hunting their normal prey items, brings them to areas where they are more likely to become entangled in fishing line or be accidentally hooked by a fisherman.

"While we know everyone has the best intentions for our local wildlife," said Alison Charney Hussey, executive director for CROW, "in the end, throwing fish scraps to the pelicans does them more harm than good and is also illegal in Florida."

According to Florida Administrative Code 68A-4.001, intentionally feeding or placing food that attracts pelicans and modifies the natural behavior in a way that is detrimental to the survival or health of a local population is prohibited by law.

"Please dispose of fish remains in a lidded trashcan rather than feeding the birds," said Hussey. "And visit www.MindYourLine.org to learn what to do if you accidentally hook a bird with your fishing line."

If you see an animal in need of help, call CROW at 472-3644 ext. 222.✳

Seminar On Boating Emergencies

America's Boating Club of Sanibel-Captiva is hosting a seminar on Boating Emergencies on Tuesday, April 14 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Charles Yacht Club. Cost is \$38. New enrollees are asked to arrive at 9 a.m.

During this three-hour seminar, participants will learn how to prevent accidents as well as how to respond correctly when accidents do occur.

In just a few short hours, boaters will learn why and how to:

- Make emergency calls and signals;
- Deal with running aground;
- Handle a man overboard (MOB) situation;
- Put out fires on board;
- Deal with medical conditions;
- Deal with steering failure and loss of power;
- Deal with getting lost.

This NASBLA-approved seminar will be taught by Dr. Carl Schultz, whose medical career was as an emergency room physician. Further, Dr. Schultz has years of boating experience.

To register for the seminar, go to www.sancapboating.club. Scroll to the Education column and click on Our Course Offerings. The final entry is for the Emergencies on Board Seminar. From there, follow the registration steps. If you have difficulties with this, call 612-987-2125.

St. Charles Yacht Club is located at 15900 St. Charles Harbour Boulevard in Fort Myers.✳



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Morning Paddling To Picnic Island



by Kealy McNeal

On Saturday, March 28, the Ocean Tribe Paddling Club will host a morning paddling excursion to Picnic Island, a sandy island in San Carlos Bay. We will start our journey from Causeway

and 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 for members by contacting 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 Outfitters is a branch of Sanibel Sea School that helps the local paddling community better explore, enjoy and understand the ocean. Visit www.oceantribeoutfitters.org, or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.**

TIOF Meeting Canceled

The annual meeting of The International Osprey Foundation (TIOF) scheduled for Thursday, March 26 at The Community House, has been canceled. TIOF President Susan Tucker said the board made the decision to limit any potential for further exposure to the coronavirus.*

Island A and paddle to our destination, allowing time to explore before making the trek back to our launch point. The waters around Picnic Island are home to many critters such as bonnethead sharks, southern stingrays and manatees. Hopefully, we will be able to observe some of these animals in their natural habitat.

Those interested in joining the group should meet on Causeway Island A (island closest to the toll booth) at 8:45 a.m. The paddle will begin at 9 a.m.

Our email address is press@islandsunnews.com

Shell Found



Tom Bolger photo provided

Tom Bolger from Long Island Beach, New Jersey found a junonia on the beach of Tween Waters Inn. He is visiting Sanibel to celebrate the anniversary of his engagement.*

Shell Found



Ken Klos photo provided

Ken Klos found a junonia on March 8 near the Sanibel Lighthouse. He said, "A fellow I met on the beach a couple days before told me how he plants plastic copies of junonias on the beach and I thought it was a fake at first as it was so perfect."*

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Island Currents

Following The Island Currents



by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

Here we are, in the middle of our busy season. Is everyone having fun? (Keep breathing while you're stuck in traffic on Periwinkle Way.) The weather is great, and hopefully everyone is staying healthy.

Now if you've washed your hands, let's go shopping.

The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry has been a mainstay at Tahitian Gardens Shopping Center since it opened in 1975. There are several other great stores in this shopping center, and if you're a power shopper, on a nice day it's enjoyable to walk from one shopping center to another. (Watch out for bicycles on the bike path though.)

Owner Pat Zambuto is celebrating her 45th year of ownership this year. The Cedar Chest used to have a sister store with gifts, but Zambuto now concentrates on the finest island-inspired jewelry on Sanibel.

"I think it's true, no matter where you are, you really need to know what you're doing, to change with the times. That's probably the most important thing,"



Pat Zambuto, owner of The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry, with Creed the shop dog

photo by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

Zambuto said, explaining her secret for long-term success. "You need to be different and give excellent customer service."

The Cedar Chest has a wonderful selection of gold and sterling silver sea life charms. But the store is really known for its gorgeous, one-of-a-kind pieces created by The Cedar Chest's own jeweler, Bruce Gordon.

"He can do anything. He's got a lot of experience and he's very, very good," Zambuto said.

Gordon's designs are truly unique, combining fine materials like chunks of colorful natural stone encrusted in 14



The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry offers ancient coin jewelry accompanied by certificates of authenticity

photo provided

karat gold, surrounded by pearls and gemstones to create statement piece creatures of the sea. His "Mr. Fancy Pants" pendant took an angel fish-shaped blue agate to a level of luxury. Gordon is currently working on a "Miss Fancy Pants" version which will be made out of pink stone.

"I work with Pat for ideas, and then I take it from there," Gordon said, explaining how some of the pieces are designed. "She always has great ideas and we work really well together."

The store has a nice selection of ancient treasure coins, all accompanied by certificates of authenticity. Set in



This one-of-a-kind piece was created by The Cedar Chest's jeweler Bruce Gordon

photo provided

a piece of jewelry, they make a great conversation piece, especially when worn in other parts of the country.

The Cedar Chest carries traditional fine jewelry with diamonds and colored stones, and custom designing is also available.

"We do estate jewelry, which is very popular. We have a really nice collection of that and it changes constantly," Zambuto added.

After so many years on Sanibel, The Cedar Chest has countless loyal customers.

"Our customers are really nice," Zambuto explained. "Everybody's always

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in a good mood. It's nice coming to work. You don't have to deal with angry people. They're relaxed. They're on vacation."

The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry is located at 1993 Periwinkle Way. Visit www.CedarChestSanibel.com or call 427-2876 for more information.

If you took my advice about walking along the bike path, a great place to eat is along the way.

Cip's Place is a hidden treasure, tucked in a landscaped corner along Periwinkle Way.

"A lot of people look at the beautiful, great landscaping that we have and think that we're upscale, fine dining, and we're really not," said General Manager Matt Winkleblack. "We're kind of island casual. We're laid back."

Opened in 2010, the restaurant has a pleasant atmosphere, inside and out. There aren't many places with nicer outdoor seating, with a front porch and garden patio area surrounded by tropical landscaping.

"That's highly coveted," said Winkleblack of the garden area.

The indoor section has an interesting bar made of pecky cypress wood. High above hangs a model of the old ferry that ran to the mainland before the causeway. One wall of the restaurant is dedicated to a hand-painted mural by local artist Tim Macko, depicting historically important people of the islands.

The restaurant is named in memory of Jimmy Cipriani, the original owner of the land where Cip's Place is located.

"He was a fan of good food and good conversation. He loved entertaining. He



Cip's Place General Manager Matt Winkleblack sits at the restaurant's unique bar

photos by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

would always have people over to the house for a good meal, and that's just kind of the way he lived his life," said Winkleblack. "He was famous for saying 'See ya,' So we always say See ya at Cip's."

My friend Carla and I recently enjoyed a wonderful lunch here on the outdoor patio. I had the chilled poke bowl martini which is listed as an appetizer but made a healthy lunch with tuna, avocado and other veggies. (It was so good, I was excited to come back.)

The menu, prepared by Chef Danny Shively who grew up on Sanibel, features lots of customer favorites, like



Cip's Place has a great atmosphere, both inside and out

snapper tacos and buttermilk chicken wrap. "Those are probably the two most talked-about dishes that we have," said Winkleblack.

There's always a catch of the day, such as black grouper from Brazil, tripletail and cobia. For those who don't like fish, (Seriously? You're on an island.) there are meat dishes like filet mignon, ribs and ribeye. The bone-in pork chop is another favorite, offered as a special.

"It is so tender, so juicy. It's really, really good," said Winkleblack.

A daily happy hour runs from 3 to 6 p.m., with \$1 off draft beer, house wines and specialty drinks. Food specials are

\$12 until 5 p.m.

Cip's Place is located at 2055 Periwinkle Way. Visit www.CipsPlace.com for information or call 472-0223 for reservations, which are recommended.

"Just come in and have a nice time," said Winkleblack. "Enjoy some good food with the good company that you bring and we'll be here to facilitate that."

So until next time, enjoy 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.

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First place award winner Bradford Goldman with his piece *Maori Warrior* photos provided



Second place winner Michele Buelow with her piece *Dream*



Third place award winner Susan Anderson with her piece *Summertime*

Reception Held For Art League Juried Exhibit

Island art lovers filled Dunham Gallery at BIG ARTS on March 6 to celebrate the opening of the Sanibel-Captiva Art League's 44th annual Juried Art Council of Southwest Florida Exhibit.

The exhibit, which features works from local artists in the Southwest Florida community, will be on display until March 29. Viewing hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon. The gallery will be closed on Monday, March 23 and Friday, March 27 for special events.

For a full schedule of fine art exhibits, performances, films and workshops, visit www.bigarts.org or call 395-0900. BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. ✨



Sanibel-Captiva Art League members



Merit award winner Brian Bent Christensen with his piece *Bedded Down*



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Beef Sliders with Candied Bacon and Tomato Jam

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 head of lettuce
- Candied bacon
- Tomato jam
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose seasoning (such as Everglades)
- Slider condiments (mayonnaise, mustard, ketchup)
- 8 mini buns or slider rolls
- Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

Preheat grill to medium-high. Season ground beef with all-purpose seasoning and mix thoroughly. Form into 8 (2-ounce) patties and season with salt and pepper. Place onto grill and cook for 3-4 minutes per side, depending on the desired internal temperature. Remove from heat and assemble burgers with tomato jam and candied bacon as desired. Serve immediately. Servings 4.

Tomato Jam

- 3 Tomatoes, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/2 Sweet onion, diced small
- 2 tablespoons fresh thyme
- 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar



Beef Sliders with Candied Bacon and Tomato Jam

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

- 1 Lemon zested and juiced
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose seasoning
- Pinch red pepper flakes
- 2 tablespoons water
- Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

Combine all ingredients into a medium pot. Bring to a boil and reduce to simmer for at least 30 minutes or until jam has reduced and thickened. Taste and adjust seasoning as needed. Remove from heat and allow to cool completely. ✨

LIVE ON THE ISLANDS

Cielo has live entertainment Tuesday through Sunday with pianist and vocalist Scott McDonald.

Island Cow has live entertainment on Friday with Dan Confrey. Peter Redpath plays on Saturday. Dan Confrey returns on Sunday.

The Jac Island Bar & Grille has live entertainment on Friday with Chris Topher and DJ Travis Mac. Peter McPherson and the Renata Band play on Saturday. On Sunday, it's CJ Matthews. Monday is karaoke. Briz & Lady play on Tuesday. Matt Freed and The Po Boys perform on Wednesday. On Thursday, it's Matt Freed and James Prather.

MudBugs Cajun Kitchen has live entertainment on Friday with Dave Collaton. T.J Brown plays on Saturday. Slim Gillian performs on Sunday. JD Ingalls plays on Monday. Tom Beckman plays on Tuesday. On Thursday, it's Yard Dog Charlie.

Sundial Beach Resort & Spa: John McLane performs on Sunday at Turtle's Pool & Beach Bar. At Sea Breeze Cafe, Dan Confrey performs on Monday and John McLane plays on Wednesday.

Traders Coastal Cuisine has live entertainment on Tuesday and Thursday with Danny Morgan and Friends. Chris Workman plays on Wednesday.

Restaurant owners/managers, email your entertainment schedule to press@islandnews.com ✨

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The Community House

Dragon Fruit



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

The dragon fruit, or pitaya, also known as the strawberry pear or piti, is the beautiful exotic looking fruit of several species of climbing cactus. This cactus is indigenous to Central America and is grown in Southeast Asia as well as South Florida. The cactus produces several flowers that only live for one night. During that night, the flowers are pollinated by bats and moths. The flower withers and dies, then the dragon fruit is formed. The cactus produces dragon fruit at least four times a year.

Dragon fruit can be found in three different colors; white, yellow and pink. The pink dragon fruit can have pink or white flesh and is considered the sweetest of the three varieties. The dragon fruit's flesh has a mildly sweet pear flavor with a crisp crunchy texture. It also has tiny seeds throughout, which are similar to kiwi or chia seeds. The

skin is edible but cannot be eaten raw. It must be cooked or pickled.

Dragon fruit also has antifungal, antibacterial properties and is low in calories, high in fiber and vitamin C. It also contains powerful antioxidants, phosphorus and B vitamins. This fruit has been used to treat stomach ailments, manage blood sugar levels, as well as blood pressure. It has also been used to treat cardiovascular problems, strengthen the immune system and help with weight management. A combination of dragon fruit, cucumber juice and honey makes an excellent natural burn cream.

Here is a simple recipe to try:

Dragon Fruit and Crispy Tofu Salad

Ingredients

- 8 oz. tofu (drained and cut into cubes)
- 4 oz. corn starch
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 2 carrots (shredded)
- 2 oranges (segmented)
- ½ red bell pepper (thinly sliced)
- ½ bunch basil (roughly chopped)
- ½ red onion (thinly sliced)
- 6 oz. spinach
- 2 dragon fruit (thinly sliced)

Place all the dressing ingredients

into a mixing bowl and mix until well blended, then set aside.

Arrange the spinach on a platter. Then top with the oranges, carrots, peppers, onions, tomatoes and basil. Arrange the dragon fruit on top of the salad and set aside.

Pat the tofu dry with paper towels, then place in a bowl and coat with cornstarch.

Heat the oil in a small pan. Fry the tofu until crispy and place on top of the salad.

Pour the dressing over the salad and serve.

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

Calusa Palooza Water Festival Postponed

In an effort to contain the spread of COVID-19, Calusa Palooza 2020 has been postponed.

Calusa Palooza, a day-long, family-friendly, water-themed festival culminating with a double-header rock show, was scheduled for Sunday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. in Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers.

Once a new date has been confirmed, officials say they will share it with the community, ticket holders, vendors and sponsors. They are following the lead of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and event organizers across the country who are doing their very best to stop the spread of the virus.

Calusa Waterkeeper sends thanks for the continued support and donations that back its mission of drinkable, fishable and swimmable water for all.

Otherwise, Clean Water Week is still on and the kickoff was Saturday, March 14 in St. James City. This is one way people can take simple, positive steps to beautify the region in these uncertain times.

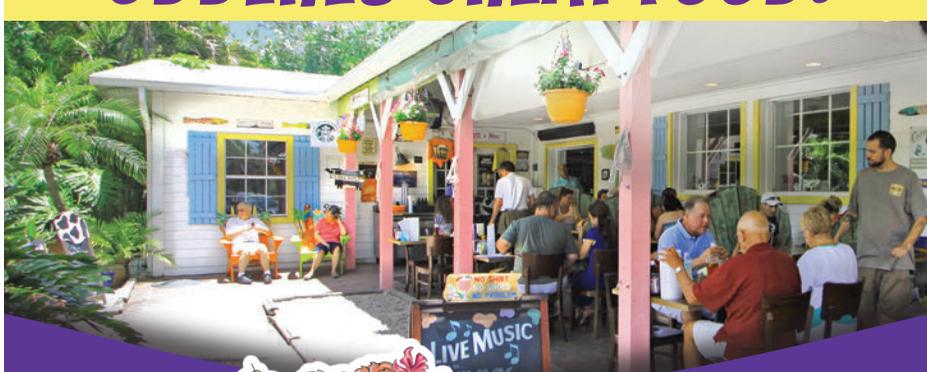
For more information on the clean-up, visit www.signupgenius.com/go/805094aaaaa2ca4f49-calusa.*

CHR Offices Closed Until Further Notice

Effective March 16, Community Housing and Resources (CHR) staff members are working from home and continue to maintain CHR operations.

CHR staff may be reached via phone at 472-1189; leave a message and someone will call you back. You can also email info@sanibelchr.org or check the website at www.sanibelchr.org.*

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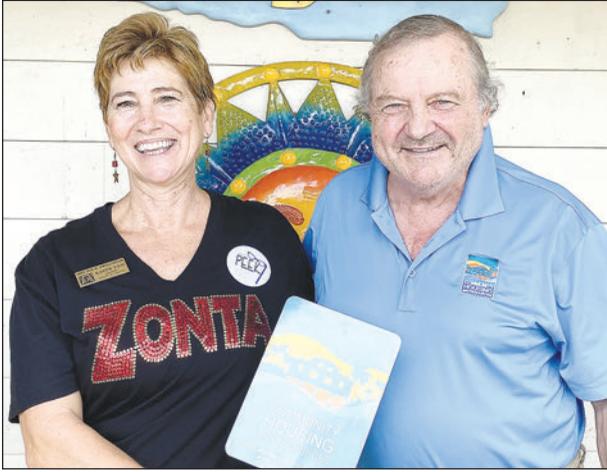
Highlights From CHR Give Back Wednesday At Olde Sanibel Shoppes



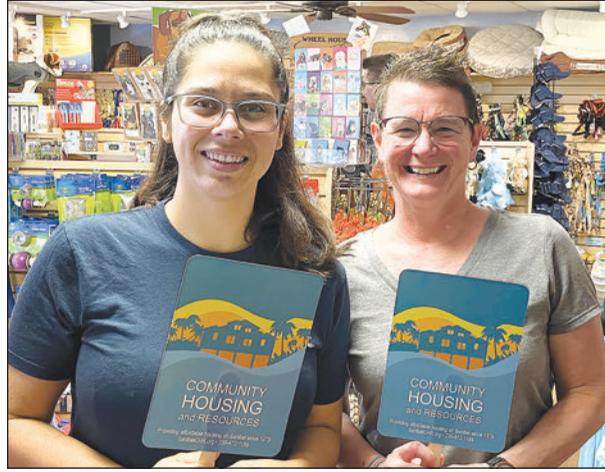
From left, Laura DeBruce, Melissa Rice, Kassie Witte and Susan Tucker photos provided



From left, Arlene and Scott Mowry, Sylvia Burns, Cheryl Brugliera and Joni Luterman



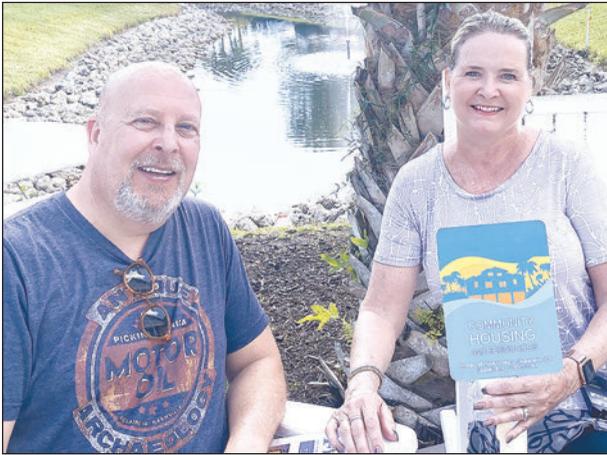
Karen Pati and Steve Brown



Faviana Mullings and Liza Clouse



Baillie and Calli Johnson



Ron and Susan Fisher



Betsy and Harry Piner with their dog Josephine



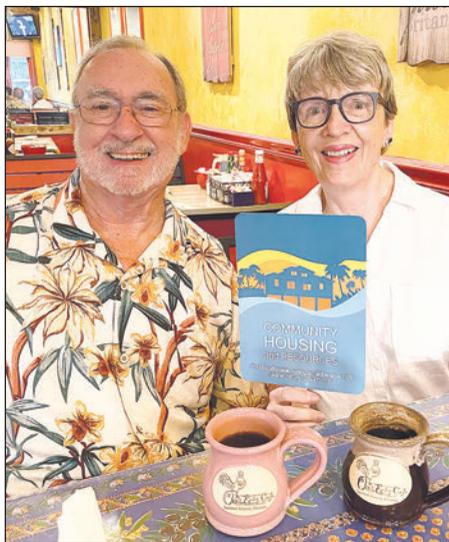
Karin and Julia Bronswick and Gretchen Thornbloom



From left, Blake Dellenback, Nathan Haas, Jianna Senkeleski, Abby Haas and Megan Mare



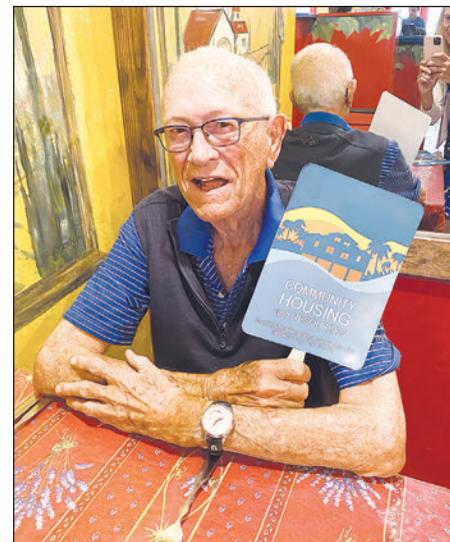
Bill Robinson



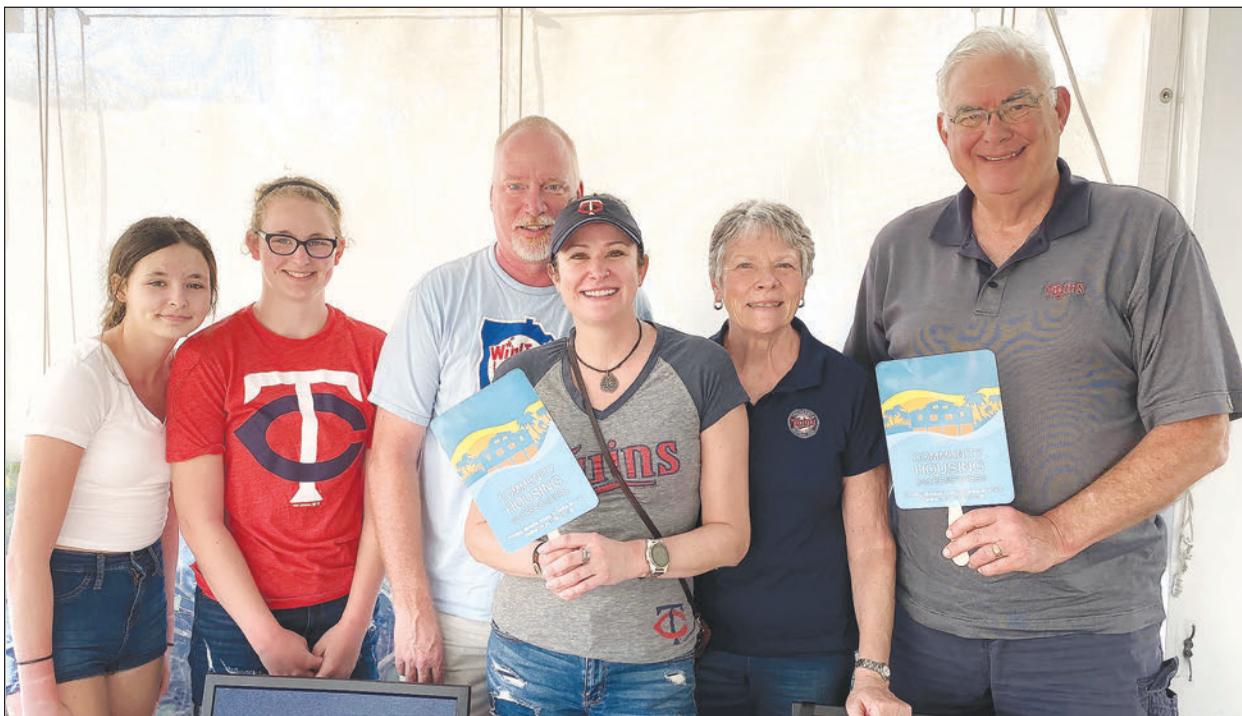
Les Pendleton and Susan Ayers



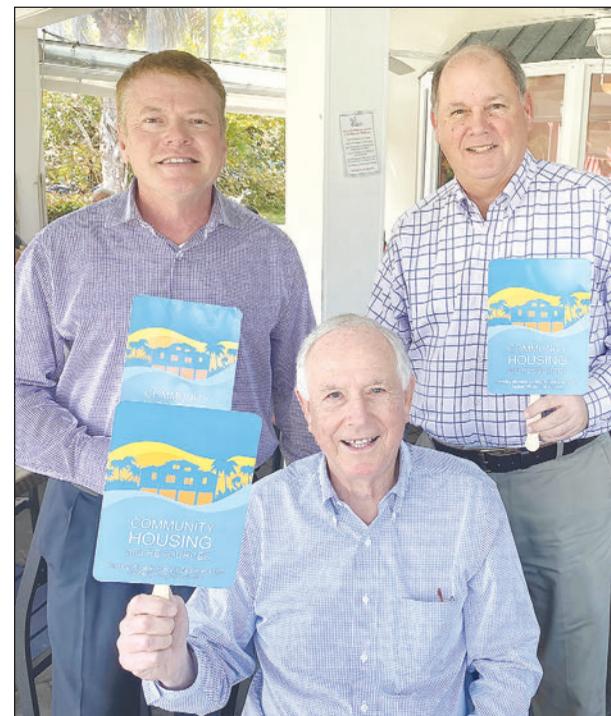
Jerry Edelman



John Smith



From left, Anne, Maddie, Jeff, Beth, Joyce and Clark Marshall



From left, Rob Lisenbee, Al Hanser and Steve Greenstein



Back from left, Haley Blackburn, Chris Biesecker, Erik Lalezarian and Mason Blackburn; front from left, Maddie Yu and Jenna Lavant



Tory and Anne Clemente, front, with Nancy Efstathiadis and Isabelle Churan

Book Review

Dear Edward

by Di Saggau



What does it mean not just to survive, but to truly live? That's the main question behind *Dear Edward* by Ann Napolitano. Inspired by a true story of one child's incredible

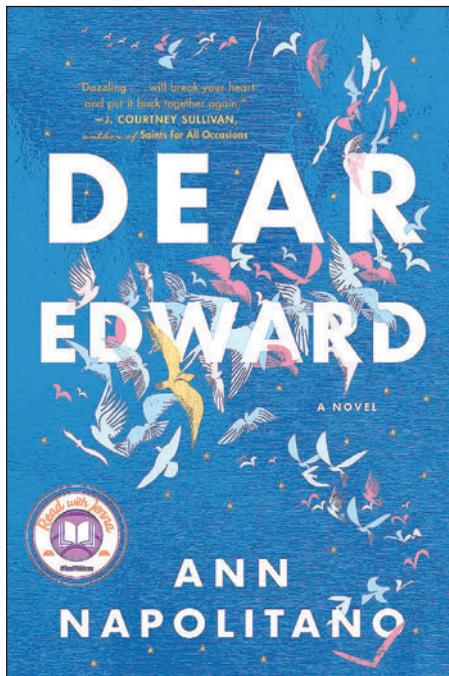


image provided

survival, this is an unforgettable, life-affirming novel. One summer morning, 187 passengers board a flight in Newark headed for Los Angeles. This includes 21-year-old Edward Adler, his beloved older brother and his parents. The passengers include a Wall Street wunderkind, a young woman coming to terms with an unexpected pregnancy, an injured vet returning from Afghanistan, a septuagenarian business tycoon and a free-spirited woman named Florida, who claims to have had several lives and is running away from a controlling husband. Tragically, the plane crashes and Edward is the sole survivor.

Naturally his story captures the attention of the nation. Edward feels that a piece of him has been left in the sky with all his fellow passengers. He is taken in by his mother's sister and her husband, a childless couple in New Jersey. Edward finds it hard to cope. Unable to sleep in the never-used nursery his aunt and uncle

have given him to serve as his bedroom, he ends up bunking next door, where there's a young girl his age named Shay. Their friendship is what connects him to the living.

Dear Edward is a coming-of-age story and a portrait of an unforgettable cast of characters. Through alternating chapters, we meet all the doomed airplane passengers, explore their backstories and learn about their hopes and plans. It's satisfying for the reader to develop an emotional connection to as many people

as you do in this novel. The author's love of her characters makes each one of them whole and complex.

Edward slowly heals and his biggest sense of loss is the absence of Jordan, the brother who knew him best in the world. Jordan has his own secrets and when Edward is ready, he learns about them. "Edward used to miss Jordan only for himself. It has been his terrible loss. Now

he also mourns what his brother has lost." The novel shows a perfect understanding of human vulnerabilities. Helen Simonson, author of *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* says, "This is a stunning novel of courage and connection in the face of unimaginable loss. It's beautifully written, with characters so intensely alive you will hold your breath as they break your heart. An extraordinary read." I agree.*

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley,
My daughter who's in second grade is having trouble with spelling. Is this normal?
How should I help her?
Maria V, Fort Myers

Maria,

It's common for young children to make spelling mistakes. If kids struggle with reading, writing or focus, it can affect spelling, but there are ways to help your child get better at spelling.

When children struggle with spelling, it doesn't always happen in the same way. Some children make mistakes across the board with all kinds of words. Others mainly have trouble with certain types of words. And some make the same mistake over and over, no matter how many times they've been taught the correct spelling.

Keep in mind that early readers and writers aren't going to have perfect spelling. Children in kindergarten might spell most words wrong, and that's OK. Reversing letters like confusing 'b' and 'd,' is also very common in early readers and writers. And, as late as second grade, you might see schoolwork that has all kinds of creative spelling. Some schools encourage what's called "kid writing." They want kids to get comfortable with writing and not worry about spelling rules.

As children get older, though, there are some key things to look out for. When children have trouble with spelling, here are things they may do:

- Write slowly
- Only write a few words, even when they have more to say
- Use the wrong spelling when words sound the same but have different meanings, like sale and sail
- Easily forget spelling rules
- Mix up the letters in words
- Not notice spelling mistakes
- Misspell the same words in different ways

Spelling involves different skills including reading, writing and focus. If children struggle with those skills, it can impact their spelling. Children who struggle with reading often have a hard time recognizing the sounds in words. That makes it hard to spell them out. Some kids have difficulty writing words, whether by hand or typing. They may misspell the same word in different

ways. Difficulty paying attention makes it hard to remember spelling rules. It can also keep children from noticing spelling mistakes.

There are simple, inexpensive ways you can help your child, especially when you know what the challenges are. Here are some examples:

Look into pencil grips to make it easier to hold a pencil correctly.

Have your child take a brain break, a brief physical or quiet activity interspersed through homework, to help your child refocus when studying.

Encourage your child to slow down when writing and proofread the work. Sometimes reading work aloud is a good way to proofread.

Try to spend extra time practicing sight words with your child.

Remember, early readers and writers aren't going to have perfect spelling. Talk with the teacher to find out if your child's spelling is a concern. Teachers can be a great source of insight and can also make suggestions for what might help. Struggling with any skill or task can be stressful. Watch for signs of stress and anxiety and make sure to discuss what you see with your child.

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

Symphony Concert Update

The Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra has canceled its March 21 Masterworks 4 concert at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall.

Officials will be happy to exchange tickets for a future performance.

If you would like to return your tickets for a tax deductible donation, contact the box office by April 8. Otherwise, officials will issue gift certificates to ticket holders redeemable for the value of the ticket purchase price. Contact the box office by phone at 418-1500 or by email to tickets@swfiso.org.

There are still plans to present Masterworks 5, the final classical concert of the 2019-20 season, although guest artist Ben Folds has postponed his appearance with the symphony until next season. That date will be announced as soon as information becomes available.*

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BIG ARTS Awards Aspiring Classical Musicians

BIG ARTS hosted 12 young aspiring classical musicians on the Christensen Performance Hall stage for the BIG ARTS Classical Scholarship Auditions on March 7. The scholarship program is meant to assist highly proficient and talented undergraduate students who plan to continue their education and training in the field of classical music. This scholarship may be awarded to up to three students annually, in the amounts of \$15,000 (first prize); \$10,000 (second prize); and \$5,000 (third prize), respectively. This year, three students – Aaron Rib (flute) from the University of Miami, Suhao Bai (piano) from Lynn University, and Jair Zacarias (piano) from Florida Gulf Coast University – were awarded scholarships.

“It’s such a joy to have these incredibly talented young musicians on the BIG ARTS stage,” said Lee Ellen Harder, executive director. “Supporting arts in the community is at the core of the BIG ARTS mission, and I can’t think of a more rewarding way to give back than by helping young aspiring musicians pursue their dreams.”

This year’s first prize winner, flutist Aaron Rib, is earning a bachelor of music in instrumental performance at the University of Miami’s Frost School



Aaron Rib photos provided

of Music and aspires to be a versatile classical musician. He is a member of the Frost Symphony Orchestra, the Frost Wind Ensemble, Ensemble Ibis (a classical new music ensemble), the acclaimed Frost Flute Ensemble, and a piano sextet. He performed Claude-Paul Taffanel’s *Fantasia on Themes from Der Freischütz*; Sergei Rachmaninoff’s *Vocalise, arr. for flute and piano*; and Bela Bartok’s *Romanian Folk Dances, arr. for flute and piano*.

Second place was awarded to pianist Suhao Bai from Lynn University. Bai is a bachelor of music candidate and plans to pursue a career as a teacher



Suhao Bai

and researcher in the field of piano literature. He hopes that in the future he will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and explore the boundaries of the research, passing it along to the next generation. He performed Bach’s *Well Tempered Clavier Prelude, No.4*, and Liszt’s *Réminiscences de Norma, S.394*.

The third place award went to pianist Jair Zacarias from Florida Gulf Coast University. Zacarias was born in Peru and began playing piano at age 6. When he was 13, his greatest desire was to study outside of Peru, a wish that was made possible due



Jair Zacarias

to a scholarship he received from the Bower School of Music at FGCU. He is seeking a bachelor of arts in music performance and is pursuing his dream of being a concert pianist. He performed Bach’s *Prelude and Fugue in C-sharp Major*; Beethoven’s *Sonata, op. 109 (First & Second Movement)*; Chopin’s *Etude in A minor, Op. 25, No. 11 Winter Wind*; and Liszt’s *Transcendental Etude No. 4 Mazeppa*.

BIG ARTS Classical Music Scholarship is offered annually in the spring. To learn more about the program, visit www.bigarts.org.

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Refuge High School Photo Contest Winners

The “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) announced winners and finalists in the 7th annual “Ding” Darling-Theodore Cross High School Photography Contest at a ceremony at the refuge on March 14.

Sponsored by the Theodore Cross Family Charitable Foundation, the competition invited high school students from Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry counties to compete for prizes that included a Canon digital SLR camera package, chartered class trips to the refuge, Tarpon Bay Explorers excursions, and copies of *Waterbirds: Portraits and Anecdotes from Birding Adventures* by contest namesake, the late Theodore Cross.

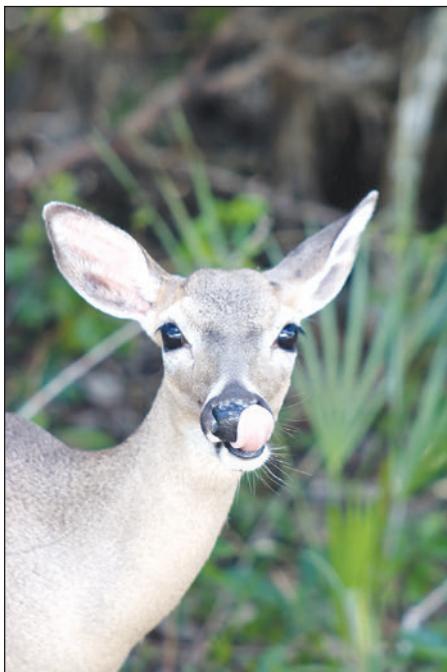
Wildlife photographer Steve Allen, acting refuge manager Kevin Godsea and Sanibel resident Jeff Beale judged the contest. They reviewed 121 images taken by students from 14 different schools.

First place went to an image titled *Lip Smacking Good* by Virginia Bayne, a junior from Fort Myers High.

“I really liked the subject matter,” said Godsea. “This photo had great light, and it is centered and in focus, but still leaves a lot to the imagination. There’s a sense of mystery as to what else is going on in the photo. Great shot.”

In second place, Mouna Benmerabet, a junior from Cypress Lake High, portrayed *The Shining Snail Shell*.

“This is a very interesting photograph,” said Allen. “The framing and contrast of the swirl on the shell to the upright trees is very visually appealing. Because the background is out of focus, your eyes go up to the tops of the trees and swirl back down to the shell. I also really love this photograph because it shows the



Virginia Bayne’s *Lip Smacking Good* took first place photos provided

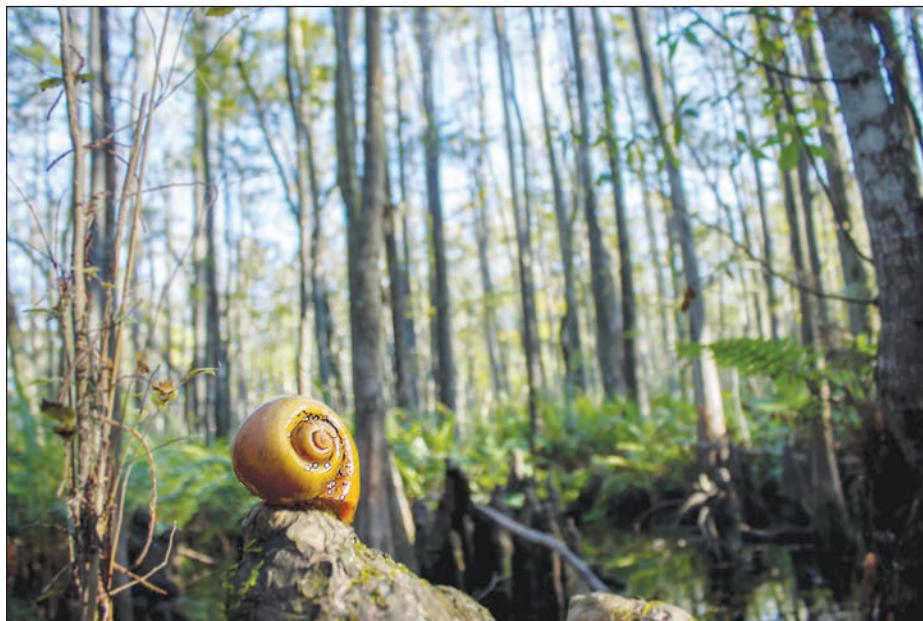
habitat the snail lives in very well.”

Third place winner *Changing Perspectives* was submitted by senior Christina Walch of Cape Coral High.

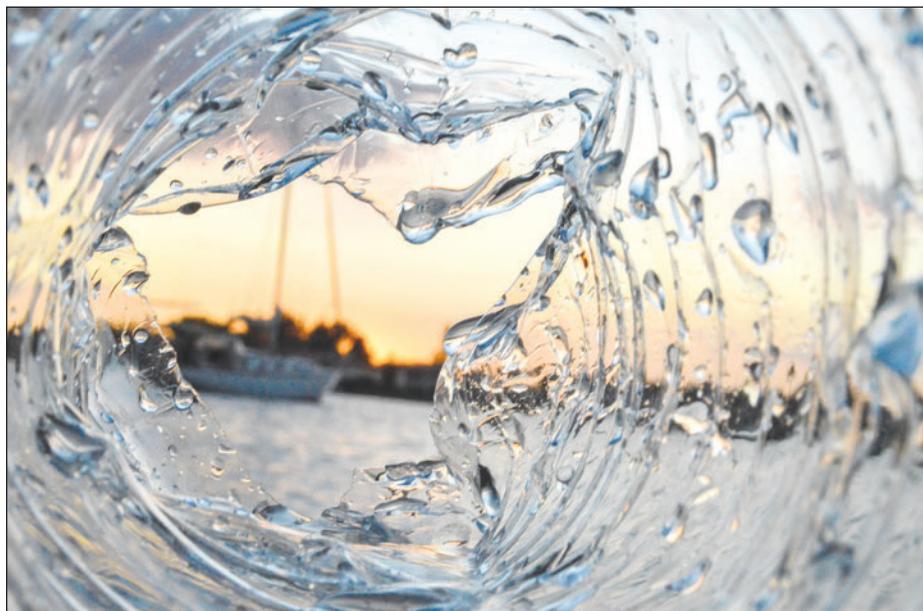
“This is a very creative photo and makes you think and ask how this happened,” said Beale, a former art and photography teacher. “I also really enjoyed the warm orange colors and cool blue tones.”

Honorable mention winners were also awarded: Ashby Beckner, The Village School of Naples; Kyla Engh, North Fort Myers High; Hailey Gale, North Fort Myers High; Adriel Gomez, Cape Coral High; Natalie Handzlik, Cape Coral High; Lillian King, Cape Coral High; Juliet Nelson, Island Coast High; Jillian Peska, Cape Coral High; Michelle Rodriguez, Cape Coral High; Serra Roiland, Lehigh Senior High; Alex Sanchez, North Fort Myers High; and Jori Webb, Cape Coral High.

Judges and contest coordinators expressed great difficulty in narrowing



The Shining Snail Shell by Mouna Benmerabet won second place



In third place was Christina Walch’s *Changing Perspectives*

down the choices. “It always amazes me, the quality of photos we get from these young adults,” said Sierra Hoisington, who coordinates the contest. “We marvel at the unique perspectives and angles.”

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;

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 photographed often at “Ding” Darling, and a number of the images in his book reflect his love for the refuge. Cross published *Waterbirds*

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Jeff Beale, Steve Allen and Kevin Godsea deliberate over the finalist photographs

in 2009 at age 85; he passed away shortly after 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."

"Theodore Cross' family made this contest possible, and it has become a solid success story," said Birgie Miller, DDWS executive director. "We couldn't be more thrilled that the family wants its donations used in this way – to reach an age group that often falls through the cracks of conservation education. Kudos to development officer Sierra Hoisington, volunteer Terry Baldwin,

and our staff for a fabulous job of running the contest."

"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 Amanda Cross.

Students were able to submit up to two photographs. Winning and honorable mention images are on display at the free "Ding" Darling Education & Visitor Center. To see them online and for information on the 2021 photo contest, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/photo-contests.✪

Sanibel Library Closed Due To Health Concerns

The Sanibel Public Library is closed effective March 18 out of concern for the health and safety of library users and staff amid the spread of COVID-19.

The closure will be in effect for a few weeks, depending on developments of COVID-19 and public health guidelines.

All programs and meetings, including the library district board of commissioners meeting, are postponed or canceled.

Operationally, the library notes:

All overdue fines and user fees are waived during the closure;

The library is implementing automatic renewal of library cards;

All books and other materials placed

on hold by users will be suspended and remain on hold for pickup when the library reopens;

The drive-up book drop located on the west side of the parking garage, near the exit, is available for book and other materials returns;

The library's eShelf and all online services remain available 24/7 including downloading of ebooks and audiobooks, streaming of movies and music, access to magazines and newspapers, language learning and access to personal library accounts.

"We appreciate the public's support and patience shown as we work through this situation. Our concern is for the health and safety of all library users, staff and volunteers, and islanders," said Sanibel Public Library Director Margaret Mohundro.

The library is providing further information and frequent updates on its website at www.sanlib.org. Questions and comments may be emailed to notices@sanlib.org.✪

Share your community news with us,
Call 395-1213 or email press@islandsunnews.com

SANIBEL *Music* FESTIVAL 2020 Concert Series Curtailed

The 2020 Sanibel Music Festival classical concert series is curtailed.

An announcement will be made shortly with the procedure to handle unused tickets, including the option of applying them to the exciting upcoming 2021 season celebrating the 35th anniversary of the festival.

Watch for news in this publication about upcoming plans and special events.

More information will be posted at
www.sanibelmusicfestival.org
as available



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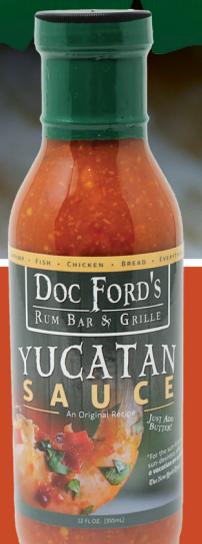


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CHR Partners With Nonprofit For Interior Design

Community Housing and Resources (CHR) provides affordable housing to families and individuals who work and or serve the islands. With the generosity of donors and supporters throughout the year, CHR strives to enhance the lives of families in economic need.

A current project included the renovation of a three-bedroom two-bath home in the Airport Way community. Unit 418 was completely renovated with new plank tile flooring, cabinetry, countertops, appliances, plumbing and lighting fixtures. "We are very grateful for all of the community support CHR receives which allows us to provide affordable housing to our islands' workforce, seniors and disabled," said Melissa Rice, executive director of CHR.

CHR has entered into a partnership with a new island based nonprofit, Furnish With Care, which provides the interior design, furniture and installation for families in economic need. Furnish



Elizabeth Piersol and Melissa Rice

With Care interviewed the family to determine their needs, and with volunteer labor, created and executed a design plan including interior design, furnishings and installation to create

photos provided

a welcoming home for a family in this CHR unit.

Both organizations believe a safe, nurturing home and well-designed environment can help provide the



Dining and kitchen area

foundation for families to thrive. "It was a natural fit for the two organizations to work together. We are proud of our collaborative efforts. This is a great

continued on page 12B



"Ding" Darling's award-winning best restrooms walkway

photos provided

Refuge Receives National Public Lands Award

At a recent Public Lands Alliance (PLA) conference in Arlington, Virginia, "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge and JN

"Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge received a Public Lands Alliance (PLA) Partnership Award for their joint effort in creating America's Best Restroom, as awarded by Cintas Corporation in 2018.

DDWS Office Manager Joann Hinman was attending the conference and was surprised when the recipient of the award for Outstanding Public Engagement for Product or Display was announced.



The Public Lands Alliance award recognized the refuge and DDWS for outstanding public engagement

"I had no idea we were even in the running for any awards, so what a pleasant surprise that was," said Hinman. "I was proud to accept the award on

behalf of the refuge and society."

The PLA Partnership Awards celebrate the best in public lands

continued on page 16B

S. ALBERT D. HANSER
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Governor Activates Business Loan Program

Gov. Ron DeSantis activated the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program to support small businesses impacted by COVID-19. The bridge loan program, managed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), will provide short-term, interest-free loans to small businesses that experienced economic injury from COVID-19. The application period opened March 17 and runs through May 8, 2020.

“As we mitigate against the spread of COVID-19, the health, safety and well-being of Floridians comes first,” said Gov. DeSantis. “I understand the harm mitigation strategies will have on small businesses throughout our state. By activating the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan, we are providing the opportunity for Florida’s small businesses to receive cash immediately to ensure they can lessen the impacts felt as a result of COVID-19.”

DEO will administer the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program in partnership with the Florida SBDC Network and Florida First Capital Finance Corporation to provide cash flow to businesses economically impacted by COVID-19. The short-term, interest-free loans help bridge the gap between the time the economic impact occurred and when a business secures other financial resources, including payment of insurance claims or longer-term Small Business Administration (SBA) loans. Up to \$50 million has been allocated for the program.

“Governor DeSantis has been a true leader in the fight to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and has prioritized the safety of all Floridians,” said Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Executive Director Ken Lawson. “The Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan will help Florida’s small businesses get through this unsettling time. We appreciate the governor’s efforts to keep Florida’s small businesses top of mind and our partners at the Florida SBDC Network and Florida First Capital Finance Corporation to help them recover.”

Small business owners with two to 100 employees located in Florida affected by COVID-19 can apply for short-term loans up to \$50,000. These loans are interest-free for up to one year and are designed to bridge the gap to either federal SBA loans or commercially available loans. DEO will work with every borrower to ensure that repayment of the loan isn’t an overwhelming burden. To be eligible, a business must have been established prior to March 9, 2020 and demonstrate economic impacts as a result of COVID-19.

“Mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in Florida must be our number one priority,” said Florida SBDC Network

CEO Mike Myhre. “The Florida SBDC Network stands ready to assist Governor DeSantis and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to help small businesses recover as a result of the impacts of COVID-19.”

“We are ready to assist the governor and state of Florida to deliver this vital assistance to the small business community we serve, as we have 23 times since 1992,” said Florida First Capital Finance Corporation President and CEO Todd Kocourek.

DEO is currently surveying businesses throughout the state of Florida who have been impacted by COVID-19. Businesses and nonprofits can access the Business Damage Assessment survey at www.FloridaDisaster.BIZ>Select “COVID-19” from the drop-down menu on the survey page. Response to the Business Damage Assessment survey is not an application for assistance. Businesses interested in the bridge loan program must fill out a bridge loan application.

For more information on the program, visit www.floridadisasterloan.org. For questions regarding the Emergency Bridge Loan Program, contact the Florida Small Business Development Center Network at 866-737-7232 or email Disaster@FloridaSBDC.org. The phone line will be answered during regular business hours; all voicemails and emails will be responded to within 24 hours.✪

United Way Assists With Response To COVID-19

Lee County residents seeking general information about COVID-19 and its related impacts on the community can call the United Way 211 Helpline by dialing 2-1-1 or 433-3900 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

United Way of Lee County has trained volunteers who can provide information related to cancellations, closings and status updates for schools, government offices, day camps/day cares and events. They also can provide information on safety precautions, social distancing and self-isolation.

The 211 line does not replace the Florida Department of Health’s COVID-19 hotline. If you think you or someone in your family might have COVID-19 and are exhibiting respiratory illness symptoms, you should call a healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider will work with the Florida Department of Health to determine whether testing is needed. For updates on the state’s response to the coronavirus, visit www.floridahealth.gov/covid-19.

For quick links to COVID-19 resources, visit www.unitedwaylee.org. For local government information, visit www.leegov.com/covid-19. In addition to the Department of Health website, additional information is also available from the Centers for Disease Control at www.coronavirus.gov.✪



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2515/2517 Wulfert Road, Sanibel



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2284 Troon Court, Sanibel



- The Sanctuary. Private + Luxurious Residence.
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New Price \$1,799,000

2647 Wulfert Rd. #1, Sanibel



- New interior with open layout + 2 car garage area.
- New kitchen, bathroom, flooring + electrical.
- 3/3. Fantastic #18 Fairway + Lake Views.
- Can be purchased with membership

\$899,000

2659 West Gulf Drive, Unit B302, Sanibel



- Best of the best location.
- Penthouse/western corner exposure.
- Professionally decorated. Turn key.
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\$2,295,000

Spotlight Properties of the Week



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17131 Caloosa Trace, Fort Myers!



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\$319,000

836 Donax Street



Weekly Rental License!
This 3 BR/2 BA family home overlooks the Sanibel River. Living room, dining/kitchen combo with French door access to the screened back porch overlooking lush vegetation. Community pool; easy walking distance to beach access.

\$549,000

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.

\$599,000

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.

\$649,900

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!

\$3,499,000

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Locations In Sanibel and Captiva

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Promotion At Trust Company

Albert D. Hanser, founder and chairman of The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, announced the promotion of Beth Weigel to chief operations officer. Weigel leads the client services team corporate-wide and supports the trust administration operation for The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company and its divisions of The Naples Trust Company and The Tampa Bay Trust Company.

"We have a tremendous amount of confidence in Beth," said Hanser. "She has demonstrated leadership and focus in an environment that requires accurate and expedient delivery on client expectations." Weigel has 25-plus years of accounting and small business management experience. Earlier in her career, she worked in public accounting as a senior staff accountant and earned her CPA. She served as the controller of a family owned business, managing all phases of accounting, tax reporting and human resources.

Weigel earned her bachelor of



Beth Weigel photo provided

science degree in accounting from Clarkson University and completed her accreditation through the Florida Bankers Association Trust School. She serves on the finance committee of the Sanibel Community Association (SCA) and volunteers at Fort Myers High School.**



Robbie Roepstorff and Mike Martin by the Group Fitness Studio plaque photo provided

Bank President Honored By University

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) has named the Robbie B. Roepstorff Group Fitness Studio in honor of the president of Edison National Bank/Bank of the Islands. In doing so, FGCU cited Roepstorff's "tireless advocacy for the university's recreation and wellness center and the students of FGCU."

"It's such an honor to be associated

with the center in this way," said Roepstorff. "Our entire banking staff is very supportive of FGCU and are Eagles through and through. Having these new facilities for FGCU's students will tremendously enhance their university experience."

In memorializing the commitment of her family and Edison National Bank to the university, FGCU President Mike Martin thanked Roepstorff "for being a passionate supporter of our university over two decades. Your unwavering determination played a leading role in completion of the recreation and wellness center for our students."**

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Notable Islanders Speak On City Incorporation

submitted by Emilie Alfino, Executive Director, Sanibel Historical Village

Island icons Porter Goss and Jean Woodring, both on hand when the city of Sanibel came to be, spoke before a full house at a recent Sanibel Historical Village Volunteer Update. The program is open to all volunteers and to members at the \$150 level and above. Former historical village president Alex Werner and board member Gayle Pence moderated the conversation.

Goss and Woodring both came to the island in the early 1960s and were instrumental in the early days of incorporation. "We started to think about what this place should look like in 10 or 20 years," said Goss. "We discovered a lot of people had lots of ideas different than we did. Change was upon us."

Goss stressed that, if you care about the community, get the message out about its core values. "And what better place to do that than the historical village," he said.

Woodring added that the city has



From left, Alex Werner, Porter Goss, Jean Woodring and Gayle Pence

photo provided

changed dramatically since she got here, just by the number of people who live here, and the traffic. "But it's still the best place on earth," she said. "All you

have to do is go somewhere else and you get homesick."

Woodring was hired by the new city as a clerk typist. "I needed a job," she said, adding that her family had come to Sanibel from places in Florida that had already "gone to hell." The push for self-determination was present community-wide, even though not everybody was on board. "I'm pleased that Sanibel is, for the most part, still on track," Woodring added. "We're all right for the moment."

Goss said that at the time they were trying to incorporate the city, most of their efforts fell on deaf ears. "There was a legitimate controversy about private property rights," he said. One possibility raised was that maybe the county should do everything but the zoning, so the new city wouldn't have to take on forming a fire department and other things. "Lee County commission said no, Sanibel must do it all. One county commissioner was sympathetic, the rest were opposed," Goss recalled. Lee County threatened that if the people of Sanibel incorporated, they would get none of the causeway revenue.

Woodring thinks that antagonism toward Sanibel continues to this day. "People don't understand why we live here," she said.

What happened next? A lot of community meetings over two years. They had to find someone who knew how to incorporate a city. Informal boards of stakeholders were set up. "We had to find somebody who knew how to do it. Eileen Lotz knew how. We call her the Mother of Sanibel," said Goss.

As things progressed, Goss and others spent a lot of time in Tallahassee – "and the folks in Tallahassee spent a lot of time not listening to us," he said. Still, incorporation was accomplished in a year and a half, which Goss called "a miracle. You can't even get a meeting with someone in the government in one-and-a-half years!"

On November 4, 1974, 85 percent of the people on Sanibel who could vote, voted. The population at the time was

2,500, and the vote was a decisive 2-1.

"Now the people who were in favor of incorporation had to persuade the people who weren't," said Goss.

Goss said that Woodring essentially was chief financial officer, chief of staff, "chief of everything," he claimed, "because she was the only one. She was the happy start-up of a wonderful city staff."

A firm in Philadelphia and an environmental lawyer from Chicago got to work on the land development plan. "We never lost a land planning issue in any court," Goss said. "Everybody was on a committee of some kind. Everybody participated who wanted to. Some went away mad and some went away happy. The whole idea was to build everybody in. It was just a matter of weeks before we hired a city manager."

In the end, the city of Sanibel got national attention. Who is going to run this city: a bunch of nature-lovers or good, solid businessmen? The Sanibel Plan has been celebrated nationally. "We have tried to compromise in the areas where we should compromise. Nobody got everything and nobody got nothing," Goss said. He explained that about 60 to 70 percent of the island is conservation land, and that the remaining land is about 90 percent developed. The population is less than 7,000 and, Goss said, might even go down a little bit.

First city offices were upstairs at Periwinkle Place with the *Island Reporter* below them.

"Everybody chipped in while doing work towards incorporation," Goss said. "Almost everything was pro bono. And it wasn't one or two wealthy people, it was small donations."

Woodring said that incorporation "truly was like a mission from God for most of the people in the community. It was utterly fascinating. We have since gotten very fine marks. We have done well."

Goss agreed. "We always wondered if we would be able to keep the sense of community here, and I think we have." ✨

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15670 McGregor Blvd #102
 Commercial condo in small business complex near Miners Corner, handy to islands. Easy-access ground-level. ~941 sq. ft. including reception area, 3 offices & ADA-compliant bath. Suitable for many professions, though no retail. \$145,000



4566 Buck Key Rd
 One of the last near-beach parcels at a price like this. Build island dream home here & be convenient to both Captiva, Sanibel, the school, rec center & wildlife refuge & also within a walk or bike ride to Clam Bayou & Bowman's Beach. \$149,000



1894 Farm Trail
 Vacant lot near Island Woods entrance, handy to community pool & tennis. Homes here required to be single-family older-Florida style in design, but with several options because of the high elevation. Close to bike path, shopping, & more. \$249,000



968 Greenwood Ct 5
 Convenient to causeway & bay, Dunes Golf & Tennis community also has clubhouse/restaurant plus deeded beach access on East Gulf Dr. This property, built on pilings, is a 3-bedroom 2-1/2-bath 1/2-duplex townhome at the south end of the street. \$414,999



Lighthouse Point #211
 Residential bayfront condo complex near Sanibel fishing pier & lighthouse, with beach, pool, tennis, & clubhouse. #211 is 2nd floor end-unit with 2,000+sq.ft. including 2 open terraces, bay views, updated kitchen/baths, parking below. \$599,000 furnished



Sandalfoot #2D2
 Bright 2nd floor end-unit 2 bedroom 2-bath condo with excellent rental history in easy on-site rental program with low fees & short-term bookings allowed in off-season. \$699,000 furnished & with future rental bookings, some long-term



White Sands #23
 Small condo community at 2311 West Gulf Dr, near Tarpon Bay Rd, right on the beach, convenient to bike path, walking trails, shopping, restaurants, & more. Complex has gulf-side pool, tennis, bbqs, & WiFi. #23 is 2nd floor center unit, handy to elevator. Interior has 2 bedrooms plus den with sleep sofa & closet, easy-care plank-style floors, bright white updated kitchen with hard surface counters, & stainless steel appliances. Years of excellent rental history, with weekly rentals allowed. \$1,199,000 furnished & with future bookings



1238 Isabel Dr in Sanibel Harbours
 Sitting on the deepest lot in the community, this home has bayside pool, seawall, & beach, plus includes a separate lot with dock & lift in the nearby boat basin. Extensive renovation recently completed, both inside & out. With living spaces on 3 levels, it also has a 4-stop elevator that begins in the spacious air-conditioned 3-car garage. New decks front & back, new metal roof, new 1st level master suite & bath, with a 2nd master suite on the top floor, it must be seen to be appreciated. The views, the finishes, & the changes are amazing! \$3,595,000



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Free Help To Small Businesses During Crises

With the latest worldwide emergency on everyone's mind, the recent Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce business luncheon addressed COVID-19 (coronavirus) indirectly during speaker talks. John Lai, chamber president and chief executive office, told members gathered at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club that because of the wealth of information out there already, the chamber would only be issuing bulletins that directly affect the local business community.

He concentrated, instead, on the strides that chamber advocacy efforts in Tallahassee helped achieve this past legislative session, but cautioned: "Now is not the time to take our foot off the gas." The chamber pushed for continued funding for Visit Florida, which came through for another year with a \$50 million budget. The advocacy committee will continue to back a long-term reauthorization and budget next session, along with continued support of water quality improvement measures such as those the legislature recently voted in favor of.

In illustrating the big picture of the Florida Small Business Development Center (SBDC) she helps lead at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), guest speaker Lois Knox honed in briefly on



SBDC's Lois Knox providing facts and figures to assist with understanding the ins and outs of small business photo provided

how she envisions COVID-19 impacting the state's economy.

"If we can keep it low-key in Florida... I think we're going to benefit in the long run," she said, due to cruise ship and overseas travel scares.

"I believe the virus will have some access to a capital event that's kept at a local level," she predicted later as she

talked about SBDC's role in assisting with emergency loans following hurricanes, red tide and other catastrophes.

Nearly 90 percent of Florida's workforce comes from small businesses, Knox told chamber members. "Small businesses are big," said Knox, regional director for Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties. That's why SBDC is invested in helping small businesses succeed every step of the way, from conception to end game. Consultants offer free advice and training, with current emphasis on capital access, research and data resources, and growth acceleration - "understanding how to grow in a way you can handle it."

"The coolest thing about Lois is that everyone I talk to who has met with her team has a story of how they helped them stay in business and grow," said

Lai. "SBDC consultants have walked the talk, so their assistance comes from a very real place."

In lieu of an April business lunch, the chamber is hosting its annual meeting on Tuesday, April 14 at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa on Sanibel. The annual year's review and awards presentation starts at 5:30 p.m. and is free-of-charge to members. A cocktail reception follows the presentation at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$50 per person. Invitations will be sent out to members in coming weeks.

For more information about how SBDC can benefit small business plans, visit www.floridasbdc.org.

Sporting Clays Tournament Coming In April

Grampy's Charities has partnered with Kids & Clays again for the 2nd annual Grampy's Sporting Clays Tournament at Sarasota Trap, Skeet & Clays on Friday, April 10. Registration and breakfast begin at 8 a.m. followed by a brief safety meeting at 9:30 a.m. Shotgun start is at 10 a.m. with lunch, raffle and awards to follow. Tournament proceeds benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida.

Each participant receives a Grampy's Famous Ditty Bag, Kids & Clays shooter gift, breakfast, pig roast lunch with live entertainment from a bluegrass band, eye and ear protection, ammunition, loaner gun and that feel-good sense of helping children and families in need.

Thanks to the generosity of Grampy's Charities, all event expenses are covered. Therefore, 100 percent of sponsorships directly support its mission.

Sarasota Trap, Skeet & Clays is located at 3445 Rustic Road in Nokomis, Florida. For more information, sponsorship opportunities and reservations, visit www.rmhcswfl.org/events/grampys-sporting-clays.

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Bobbie McGlynn



Bob Hodlosky

The top producers for February at John Gee & Company were: Bobbie McGlynn, top sales and Bob Hodlosky, top lister.*

RE/MAX of the Islands



Chuck Andrews



Chris Kirchner

The top producers for February at RE/MAX of the Islands were: Chuck Andrews, top sales associate; and Chris Kirchner, top marketing associate.*

State Awarded Response Funds In COVID-19 Efforts

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently announced the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will provide \$27,296,306 in funding to Florida in support of their response efforts to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

“State and local health departments are on the frontlines of responding to the COVID-19 outbreak, and we are deeply grateful for their work,” said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. “CDC is distributing this new funding extremely rapidly, as called for by Congress. President Trump and his entire administration will continue working to ensure state and local jurisdictions have the resources they need to keep Americans safe and healthy.”

“Our state, local, tribal and territorial public health partners are on the front lines of the COVID-19 response. The action we are taking today will continue to support their efforts to increase public health capacity where it’s needed

most,” said CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, MD. “These funds will allow public health leaders to implement critical steps necessary to contain and mitigate spread of the virus in communities across the country.”

On March 6, President Trump signed the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020. The supplemental contains \$8.3 billion government-wide, with resources directed for grants or cooperative agreements to states, localities, territories and tribes to accelerate planning and operational readiness for COVID-19 preparedness and response, as well as develop tools and strategies, provide technical assistance and program support, as

well as ensure ongoing communication and coordination among public health agencies and partners throughout the response.

CDC is contacting state health officers to move forward with awarding over \$560 million to states, localities, territories and tribes. CDC will use existing networks to reach out to state and local jurisdictions to access this initial funding.

To view the list of CDC funding actions to jurisdictions, visit www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/11/cdc-funding-information.html. For more information about this virus, visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.*

Continental Women’s Club

The Continental Women’s Club will hold a luncheon meeting at The Hideaway Country Club on Thursday, April 2 at 11:30 a.m. Cost to attend is \$24.

Dennis Solon with Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking will be the guest speaker. He will speak about human trafficking on a local level and what is being done to stop it.

The Hideaway Country Club is located at 5670 Trailwinds Drive in Fort Myers. Call 691-7561 for more information.*



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Sanibel Bike Club Spruces Up Welcome Center

The Sanibel Bike Club “gardening crew” completed their monthly clean up at the information/welcome center, between Huxters Market & Deli and She Sells Sea Shells on Periwinkle Way, on March 12.

The welcome center serves to educate hundreds of path users who walk or cycle in that area. Sanibel Bike Club members ensure that the welcome center is maintained and ready for visitors to learn more about Sanibel Island.

The Sanibel Bike Club is a group of cycling enthusiasts at all levels of ability. The club welcomes new members to share its on- and off-island rides and monthly potlucks. For more information about the club and how to join, visit www.sanibelbicycleclub.org.✧



Sanibel Bike Club members ready to clean up the welcome center

photo provided

From page 1B

Interior Design

example of what can happen when not-for-profits, both new and long established, work together to benefit the community,” said Rice.

“CHR and Furnish With Care both believe in empowering individuals and families in need, and working together these two organizations can further that goal. It is a unique opportunity for these nonprofits to partner and reach a larger audience, especially during Women’s History Month,” said Rice

Elizabeth Piersol, director and interior designer of Furnish With Care, started the nonprofit to make a house a home for families and individuals in economic need. Piersol said, “Melissa, CHR and our island community have been incredibly supportive of this idea and have so generously given their time, experience and knowledge to this new organization. Furnish With Care is four months old, CHR has been established for 40 years and Melissa has mentored and guided us through each



Bedroom before photos provided step. We hope to use our experience as a model, and extend this collaboration to partner with other nonprofits on Sanibel and in Lee County.”✧



Bedroom after



Living area before



Living area after

Sanibel-Captiva Chamber Closing Temporarily

Due to the uncertainty caused by cases of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Southwest Florida, the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce has closed its office until March 31 and has postponed its annual meeting scheduled for April 14 at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa.

"We hope that you are all well and taking care of yourselves and your families," wrote John Lai, chamber president and chief executive office, in an email sent on March 16 to all members. "In an effort to exercise extreme caution and under the most recent CDC recommendations, I have consulted with our executive board and we have made the difficult decision to cease visitor center operations effective Tuesday, March 17 for a two-week period, at which time we will reevaluate based on government mandates and CDC recommendations. The health and safety of our staff, volunteers and visitors is our number one priority."

While the chamber visitor center lobby and bathrooms remain closed, the chamber will provide a portable cart at the building's entrance that will be restocked daily with vacancy information, visitor guides and rack cards.

Staff will also be monitoring mail and email, sending out requested wedding and relocations packets, and responding to phone calls during the temporary



The Chamber Visitor Center will remain closed until March 31

photo provided

closure. Signage on the visitor center's front door directs those who stop by to The Dunes Golf and Tennis Club on

Sanibel for more assistance, and lists phone numbers and email addresses for directly contacting chamber staff.

Visitor inquiries and membership questions can be directed to 472-1080 for personal assistance between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. seven days a week.

"We are doing all we can to make sure our members continue receiving the same support and promotional assistance we provide year-round," said Lai. "We sincerely hope to be back in full swing as quickly as possible to serve the community that we love and are committed to."

Chamber staff will be announcing the new annual meeting date as soon as possible, along with a replacement date for the ribbon cutting at Hirdie-Girdie Gallery, which had been originally scheduled for March 18.✪

Muscle Relaxer Warning

Many people would find this very surprising, but Soma abuse is actually very common and being prescribed by tons of pain management clinics. Narconon officials warn people to be cautious of the effects this medication could have on you or someone else. A person abusing Soma also builds a tolerance and dependence for the drug. In a study of 20 Soma users, 13 of them admitted to using more than prescribed.

To learn more about soma abuse, visit www.narconon-suncoast.org/drug-abuse/soma-effects.html. Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction. Call 877-841-5509 for free screenings or referrals.✪

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Meal Pick-up Sites For School District Begin Monday

The School District of Lee County's Food and Nutrition Services department will be serving a Grab & Go breakfast and lunch at 23 schools between Monday, March 23 and Friday, March 27. The USDA has granted the district the flexibility to provide these meals during a time of unanticipated closure.

Breakfast and lunch will be served together in a single bag. The meals are free for anyone younger than age 18. Each child must be present at the pick-up location to receive a Grab & Go bag. It is expected the meals will be eaten at home, and not at the schools where they are picked up.

The meals will be available for pick-up between 9 and 11 a.m. at the following schools: Cape Coral Elementary; Patriot Elementary; Hector Cafferata Elementary; Tropic Isles Elementary; North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts; Allen Park Elementary; James Stephens Int'l Academy; Ray V. Pottorf Elementary; San Carlos Park Elementary; Pinewoods Elementary; Bonita Springs Elementary; Heights Elementary; Villas Elementary; Colonial Elementary; Fort Myers Middle Academy; The Alva School; Orange River Elementary; Manatee Elementary; Mirror Lakes Elementary; Lehigh

Acres Elementary; Tortuga Preserve Elementary; Riverhall Elementary; and Gateway Elementary.

Food and Nutrition Services will be using the bus ramp at each of the schools to create an orderly process to drive or walk up, collect the Grab & Go meals, and then safely return home. School resource officers will be on site to help with security.

Several school district community partners are also opening to provide Grab & Go Meals during the same times. These include:

- Stars Complex – 2980 Edison Avenue, Fort Myers
 - Boys & Girls Club of Pueblo Bonita – 26095 Milagro Lane, Bonita Springs
 - Pine Manor Improvement – 5546 Ninth Avenue, Fort Myers
 - Wesley Super Kids Club – 4141 Deleon Street, Fort Myers
 - Boys and Girls Renaissance – 1623 Joust Street, Fort Myers
 - YMCA of Lee County (Royal Palm) – 1360 Royal Palm Square Boulevard, Fort Myers
 - Super Kids Club Cypress Lake – 8260 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers
- The location of Grab & Go pick-up sites is flexible and could change depending on the demand. A current list will be posted on the Food and Nutrition Services section of www.leeschools.net.

Breakfast and lunch will continue to be available as long as the district is operating under an unanticipated closure.✪



Billy Kirkland talking to a club member about e-bikes

photo provided

E-Bikes Discussed At Sanibel Bike Club Meeting

The Sanibel Bike Club held its March potluck meeting at The Community House on March 9. Special guest speakers were Clare Harris and Brett Peterson from Billy's Bikes, who discussed "Everything

you wanted to know about e-bikes but were afraid to ask." There were approximately 70 members in attendance for a meal, social time and e-bike demonstrations.

The Sanibel Bike Club is a group of cycling enthusiasts at all levels of ability. The club welcomes new members to join in for on- and off-island rides and monthly potlucks. For more information, visit www.sanibelbicycleclub.org.✪

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Zonta Collection Day Still On For March 28

submitted by Sue Denham

The Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva wants to help you clean out your closets and your garage. As of press time, the 5th annual Community Collection Day was still scheduled for Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way.

The event is an outgrowth of Zonta's service projects and benefits local nonprofits whose work improves the lives of women and girls.

Bring gently used and new items for these groups to use in their missions to empower women – a goal which is shared by Zonta. All donations are tax deductible within IRS rules; Zontians will be on hand to help you unload and issue tax receipts. It's a great way to help Zonta help women in our community. Visit www.zontasancap for information, including status of the event.

Following is a list of suggestions on items needed:

Abuse Counseling & Treatment of Fort Myers (ACT): Toiletries, new twin size bedding, towels, washcloths, baby wipes and diapers, pots, dishes – everything to set up a home;

Dress for Success: Women's career clothing (clean and in good condition),



Zontians at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ on Collection Day 2019

photo provided

shoes and handbags, unopened cosmetics and toiletries;

Habitat for Humanity/Women Build: Hardware, working power tools, hand tools, new cans of latex paint, artwork, framed mirrors, kitchenware, area rugs, floor lamps; complete list at www.LeeHendry.HabitatRestores.org;

Head Start Coalition of SW Florida,

Inc./Parent University: Children's books, flash cards, workbooks, basic games;

Human Trafficking Awareness Partnerships (HTAP): Art kits, sharpies, flip charts, sketch pads, plastic or vinyl tablecloths, large trash bags, painter's tape;

PACE Center for Girls Lee County: Dresses for "Love that Dress"

fundraiser;

SalusCare: Games, books, arts and crafts materials, sporting goods, women's career clothing;

Trailways Camp: Fishing poles, markers, acrylic paints, paper towels, cups and trays, facial tissue, color pencils, bath towels, golf carts in good working condition.*



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Zonta members, back from left, Joanne Marriott, Janine Boardman, Nancy Dreher, Pat Reisinger and Valerie Lee of the Zonta Club of Cape Coral, and Pam Eccles. Front from left, Linda Robison, Diane Chesley, Susan Tucker and Sue Denham. photo provided

Zonta Members Attend Kickoff For Habitat Project

submitted by Sue Denham

Eight members of the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva attended the official kickoff of the 2020 Habitat for Humanity Women Build, held March

5 at the Heitman House in downtown Fort Myers.

Through its foundation, Zonta has provided a financial grant to the Women Build project for the past four years, and is recognized as a major contributor. Zonta's mission is to empower women through service, advocacy and funding, so Habitat for Humanity, with its mission of providing decent, safe, affordable housing, is an excellent fit for the club and foundation.

Women Build, launched in 2010, is an annual initiative of Habitat for Humanity International, involving women in the construction or rehabilitation of homes for women and their families. Locally, it is taking place under the auspices of Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties, Inc., and this year the goal has been set to raise \$360,000 to build three homes.

In early May, members of the club are again expected to roll up their sleeves and form enthusiastic work groups to provide volunteer labor at a Women Build work site.

For more information about Zonta, visit www.zontasancap.com. For information on the local Habitat affiliate, visit www.habitat4humanity.org.

From page 1B

Public Lands

partnerships – recognizing individuals, organizations, publications, products, programs and services that embody leading-edge achievements in the preservation of public lands and the enrichment of visitors. This year, the PLA received more than 60 submissions and presented a total of 16 awards, 10 honorable mentions and a Partners Choice Award.

“What an incredible idea,” wrote one of the competition’s judges. “Very catchy exhibit with excellent photos and illustrations. Interpretive info is ‘short but sweet’ to take best advantage of the opportunity in this closed environment. This organization has really reached out in innovative ways to reach the public.”

“To receive two national awards for our restroom exhibits reaffirms the validity of our original vision to take advantage of a ‘captured audience’ to begin the ‘Ding’ Darling education journey for visitors,” said DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller. “Even more rewarding is the hundreds of positive remarks and smiles we hear and see from visitors.”

Funded by a \$125,000 grant from the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) and contributions from private donors, Project Learning Lavatories has become a must-see for visitors and students arriving by bus, who are immediately beginning their refuge experience with their first stop at the restrooms. They feature educational imagery inside the restrooms and on the hallway leading to them. The outdoor wall and ceiling murals immerse visitors in a virtual underwater experience, where they come eye-to-eye with 3D manatees and look up to see an alligator and other wildlife sculptures “swimming” overhead.

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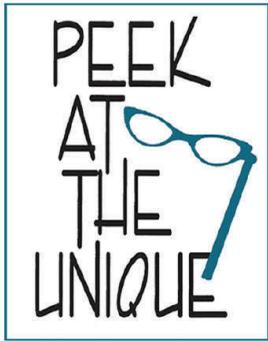
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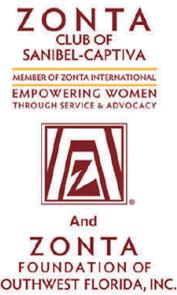
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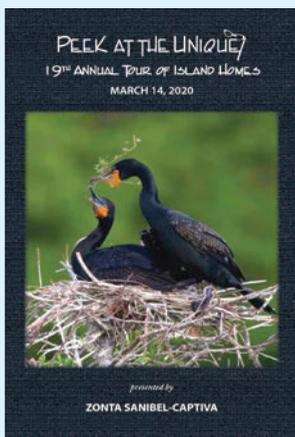
All proceeds from the "Peek" are awarded in grants to local non-profits whose programs improve women's lives, and to Zonta International for global initiatives.

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Available for a \$20 donation to the Zonta Foundation, a 38 minute spectacular nature photography photo show by cover artists Sara Lopez and Dick Fortune, on either a DVD or thumb drive. You can also place a bid to win a wrapped canvas print of the cover photograph "Nesting Cormorants" or a trip to Useppa Island. For information email info@zontasancap.com before 3/31/20

 FRIDAY Sunny High: 78 Low: 69	 SATURDAY Sunny High: 75 Low: 66	 SUNDAY Partly Cloudy High: 76 Low: 67	 MONDAY Sunny High: 79 Low: 69	 TUESDAY Mostly Sunny High: 76 Low: 67	 WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 79 Low: 69	 THURSDAY Mostly Sunny High: 81 Low: 70
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Redfish Pass Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	1:39 pm	6:07 am	11:50 pm	5:39 pm
Sat	1:50 pm	6:41 am	None	6:23 pm
Sun	12:38 am	7:09 am	2:00 pm	6:59 pm
Mon	1:19 am	7:32 am	2:08 pm	7:33 pm
Tue	1:56 am	7:52 am	2:16 pm	8:05 pm
Wed	2:33 am	8:11 am	2:27 pm	8:39 pm
Thu	3:10 am	8:28 am	2:43 pm	9:16 pm

Point Ybel Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:44 pm	6:09 am	10:55 pm	5:41 pm
Sat	12:55 pm	6:43 am	11:43 pm	6:25 pm
Sun	1:05 pm	7:11 am	None	7:01 pm
Mon	12:24 am	7:34 am	1:13 pm	7:35 pm
Tue	1:01 am	7:54 am	1:21 pm	8:07 pm
Wed	1:38 am	8:13 am	1:32 pm	8:41 pm
Thu	2:15 am	8:30 am	1:48 pm	9:18 pm

Punta Rassa Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	1:03 pm	5:56 am	11:54 pm	5:56 pm
Sat	1:14 pm	6:38 am	None	6:39 pm
Sun	12:32 am	7:14 am	1:30 pm	7:17 pm
Mon	1:04 am	7:45 am	1:49 pm	7:53 pm
Tue	1:34 am	8:14 am	2:09 pm	8:28 pm
Wed	2:06 am	8:38 am	2:25 pm	9:02 pm
Thu	2:40 am	8:58 am	2:31 pm	9:37 pm

Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	1:00 am	9:23 am	3:49 pm	8:55 pm
Sat	2:00 am	9:57 am	4:00 pm	9:39 pm
Sun	2:48 am	10:25 am	4:10 pm	10:15 pm
Mon	3:29 am	10:48 am	4:18 pm	10:49 pm
Tue	4:06 am	11:08 am	4:26 pm	11:21 pm
Wed	4:43 am	11:27 am	4:37 pm	11:55 pm
Thu	5:20 am	11:44 am	4:53 pm	None

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 and Select Thursdays – March 24, 26 and 31 at 8:30 a.m., weather permitting. There is space for 16 people on eight two-person kayaks and limited space for those who bring their own. 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 Class – Fridays, March 27 at 2:15 p.m. Cost is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. The instructor will review dance steps then turn up the music. Advance registration not required.

Knitting With Deborah Boehm – Mondays, March 23 and 30 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Open to all skill levels, including beginners. Bring your project(s). Share your interest in knitting with others. This is an informal, no charge, drop-in group.

Bea Pappas, ISEA – NF Collage Part 3 – March 24. Cost per series per person is \$100 for members and \$130 for non-members.

The course includes adding found objects and boxes to your collage, and learning to paint out what is not

necessary in your composition. Bring found objects, canvas, acrylic paint (liquid or tube), flat nylon one-inch brush, water container to clean brushes, paper towels (Viva brand).

Captiva Cruises Tarpon Lodge & Indian Mounds on Pine Island – Tuesday, March 24. Cost is \$82 for members and \$92 for non-members. Includes lunch and admission into Randell Research Center.

Cruise to Pineland as you learn about the fishing cultures of Pine Island Sound. See historic fish houses and hear about the history of commercial and sport fishing as well as the fishing culture of Pine Island Sound and Charlotte Harbor. Lunch will be at Tarpon Lodge followed by a walk over to the Randell Research Center for a guided hike to the top of a pre-Columbian mound of the ancient Calusa.

Advance registration required. Carpool arrangements for transportation.

Six Mile Slough Guided Tour – Thursday, April 2. Cost is \$3 for members and \$6 for non-members.

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve has over 3,500 acres of wetland ecosystem with a 1.2-mile boardwalk trail and interpretive center. The slough catches and slowly filters rainwater on its way towards Estero Bay. A myriad of animals like otters, alligators, turtles and wading birds live at there year-round. Others, like migrating birds and butterflies, use the slough as a feeding area or winter home. Lunch will follow the tour. Carpool arrangements for transportation. Registration deadline is Thursday, March 26.

Pancakes with Pals at The Blue Giraffe – Wednesday, April 8. The Pancakes with Pals group meets for breakfast at different locations on

the island. The Blue Giraffe is located in Periwinkle Place shopping center. Separate checks will be provided. Advanced registration required as seating is limited. Carpool arrangements for transportation. Registration deadline is Friday, April 3.

Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald & Ann Hartman – If you are not on the Page Turners list, and wish to be, email oceann@comcast.net or contact the center.

The book for discussion on Wednesday, April 8 at 2:30 p.m. is *The Light in August* by William Faulkner.

“Light in August, a novel that contrasts stark tragedy with hopeful perseverance in the face of mortality, which features some of Faulkner’s most memorable characters: guileless, dauntless Lena Grove, in search of the father of her unborn child; Reverend Gail Hightower, a lonely outcast haunted by visions of Confederate glory; and Joe Christmas, a desperate, enigmatic drifter consumed by his mixed ancestry.” – Goodreads

Games – Cost for all games is \$3 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.

Euchre – Tuesday at 12:30 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.

QiGong – Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m. QiGong is a series of non-strenuous techniques and movements that focuses breathing, activates the body’s internal energy, fosters relaxation, clears the “monkey mind” and helps to reduce stress. When combined, these techniques lead to a meditation that generates a peaceful presence and an overall “good to be alive” feeling. Non-skid shoes are required. Paul Lawrence is the instructor.

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

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

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

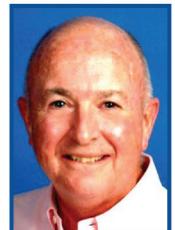
For more information, call 472-5743 or stop by the Center 4 Life, located at 2401 Library Way on Sanibel. ✨



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Experts Say, Work With Nature To Preserve Coasts

by Wendy McMullen

Making Sanibel's coasts resilient to the effects of global warming is an issue that concerns many islanders, and Sanibel and Captiva planners are turning to an expert from a country with 10,000 years of experience in combatting rising seas.

Dr. Steffen Hijhuis is a world-renowned expert in successful natural landscape methods that have provided the Netherlands with 400 years of sustainability in a country where one third of land is below sea level. He visited Sanibel to talk about water sensitive urban and landscape development at the Sanibel-Captiva Conversation Foundation (SCCF) Bailey Homestead Preserve and Sanibel Public Library last week.

A major part of the presentation at the Bailey Homestead described Nijmegen's Room for the River Project, a government plan to address flood protection, master landscaping and environmental improvement in an area surrounded by water.

This huge project, completed in 2015, encompassed four rivers, including the Rhine, and involved moving dykes, intentional flooding to accommodate river floods, deepening flood channels, reducing the height of groins, removing obstacles including a hydraulic bridge and the construction of a "Green River" which would serve as a flood bypass.

"They knew they had to take care of a certain amount of water," explained Brian Cook, landscape architect and assistant research professor in the Florida Center for Community Design and Research at the University of South Florida, who accompanied Dr. Hijhuis to Sanibel. "And they did it ingeniously by reorienting the city toward the river instead of away from it.

"They created an entirely new community that was interacting with the river and created a new experience



Snook Bight Marina with containers for mangrove establishment photos provided

and a new recreational environment in ways the community never had before," Cook continued, referring to the city of Nijmegen's project which won the Excellence on the Waterfront Honor Award in 2011.

The budget for the project was 2.2 billion euros (around \$2.447 billion) and it was funded by the government of the Netherlands. Dr. Hijhuis indicated that because of the long history of battling water intrusion in the country, the government saw it as a tool for the future.

"A very important difference with the United States and Holland is this proactive attitude," he said. "There was not a severe threat, but we invest for the future. So this Room for the River project was like an investment."

Insurance company owner Chris Heidrick, moderator of the Friday afternoon event, observed that the cost of Hurricane Katrina was \$17.5 billion, suggesting that proactive measures may pay dividends in the future in preventing such drastic losses.

Dr. Hijhuis said that there is no private flood insurance in the Netherlands. The government of the Netherlands covers all losses as a result



Bailey Beach Park

of flooding, a system which may be very much more difficult to implement in the U.S.

"The American system is very much based on capitalism but in the Netherlands it is a more democratic socially oriented system," he said.

Committee of the Islands (COTI) member Jon Gustafson, who introduced Dr. Hijhuis, observed that despite the costs of protecting and ensuring coastal resiliency, the Netherlands was flourishing.

"People have lived below sea level for hundreds of years in the Netherlands. Their history is one involving a constant struggle with water for safety but also prosperity," he said. "Today the country is thriving and has adopted progressive planning approaches towards building cities."

Landscape artist and USF professor Brian Cook specializes in site-specific landscaping and an ecosystems approach to design that involves building with nature. He said that the conservation measures already taken by Sanibel, such as the development of the Sanibel Plan that introduced zoning and

building codes and setbacks, and the preservation of open spaces around the island, were a big step forward. He also mentioned the island-wide beach and stormwater management plans.

"The origin of the community as a city and the land development code put the city ahead," Cook said, speaking of the men and women behind incorporation of the City of Sanibel in 1974. "They did not displace the bird community and the biotic community, they restored them."

"Humans are part of nature," he said. "If we set ourselves apart from nature, then we keep it at distance rather than participating in its success or failure."

The next steps in the City of Sanibel's coastal resiliency program are to finalize the update of the city's beach management plan, to complete coastal modeling to evaluate the different sea level rise scenarios, to update the Sanibel Plan for consistency with Florida Peril of Flood Statute and to develop a sea level rise adaptation plan including mitigation strategies to make Sanibel more resilient.✧



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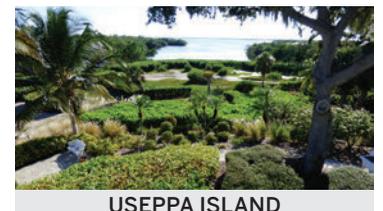
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1



2



3

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2. Direct Access Canal home with Boat dock & Lift – Sanibel

- 3 BR/3 BA home located on 100 feet of canal frontage with direct Gulf access
- Old Florida style home with boat dock & lift, quick access to San Carlos Bay, screen enclosed pool
- **\$1,100,000** EURO € 992,555

3. Direct access canal home with private Dock – Sanibel

- 3 BR/ 2 BA ground level home on corner lot in Water Shadows community
- Remodeled home with garage and private pool overlooking the canal
- **\$995,000** EUR € 911,259

4. 4 Bedroom home on Intersecting Canal – Sanibel

- 4 BR/ 4 BA home with boat dock, lift, & screen enclosed pool and direct access canal views
- Large kitchen, private elevator, multiple lanai's, rooftop deck with Bay views.
- **\$2,300,000** EURO € 2,219,481

5. Across Street from Beach, Views of Sanibel River – Sanibel

- 3 BR/ 2 BA home located directly across the street from beach with views of Beachview Golf course & a short walk to restaurants & tiki's
- Recently remodeled, south facing screened in pool, all new kitchen and baths
- **\$799,999** EURO € 719,303

6. Direct Gulf views at Sundial East – Sanibel

- 2 BR/ 2BA condo + den with views directly out to Gulf of Mexico
- Open kitchen w/ granite countertops, SS appliances, community pool, tennis, beach access & more. Nightly rentals & dog friendly.
- **\$899,000** EURO € 811,188



4



5



6

NEW PRICE



7



8



9

7. East End Canal home on quiet cul-de-sac – Sanibel

- 4 BR/ 4 BA home with direct Gulf access situated on a corner lot in Shell Harbor
- Spacious home with large screen enclosed pool & short walk to beach access
- **\$1,475,000** EURO € 1,332,419

8. Uncommon Luxury Next to the Beach – Sanibel

- 3 BR/ 3.5 BA home featuring chef's kitchen with 6 burner Viking cooktop, breakfast bar & separate prep island
- 18ft ceilings, impact windows, salt water pool with multiple water features
- **\$1,395,000** EURO € 1,263,703

9. Ground level home in Shell Harbor – Sanibel

- 3 BR/ 2.1 BA home situated on an oversized lot on Sanibel's east end
- Dock, boatlift, new windows, and long canal views
- **\$969,000** EURO € 889,109

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Gulf front penthouse #514

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#542

Over \$70k in income

- 2 BR/ 2 BA updated kitchen with beautiful backsplash & custom lighting
- Open floor plan, French doors and plantation shutters
- **\$739,000** EURO € 669,011



#263

Bright & inviting retreat

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Firefighter John Reitenbach

photo provided

Firefighters Help Illuminate Flag At American Legion

American Legion Post 123, with a little help from their friends at Sanibel Fire and Rescue, added much needed lighting to the Legion's flagpole on March 13.

Firefighter John Reitenbach, assisted by teammates Lt. Brian Howell and

firefighter Arian Moore, braved the odds of Friday the 13th to complete this task. With the precision of a surgeon, Reitenbach removed the flagpole cap, slipped the "dark skies" donut lighting onto the pole, and replaced the flagpole cap, all in the blink of the eye.

Thanks to the generosity of Sanibel Fire and Rescue, Post 123 can display the U.S. and POW/MIA flags proudly day or night. Post 123 would like to recognize the efforts made by Fire Commissioner Richard McCurry for making this happen.✱

Superior Interiors

What Stays And What Goes On Countertops

by Jeanie Tinch



For many, the kitchen is a cozy oasis. It's a place to cook delicious meals, get creative with new recipes and spend time with the ones you love. Beyond preparing and enjoying food

with others, this space is also ideal for decorating and letting your style shine. From wall decor to area rugs, there are so many different options for personalizing the living space and making it yours. The kitchen island and countertops are other areas that offer optimal space, but placing the wrong items here can amount to clutter and discomfort.

Look at the current arrangement of your countertop appliances and other trinkets. Does this space feel empty or overcompensated? Your countertops should reflect the way you live and navigate through the kitchen. Oftentimes, if you use something daily, it is easier and more functional to have a place for it. From a design standpoint, a choice pot or appliance can be appropriate, but too much, as with anything, will feel cluttered.

Based on your current set up, do you see appliances that you only use during the holidays? Put these in storage to free up some space for food preparation. Remember that less is more.

As mentioned earlier, decorating the kitchen can be just as fun as any other room. It's important to note that while the kitchen island and countertops may be bare, that doesn't necessarily mean you need to add any items. Remember that less is more as decorative items often get in the way as well.

Keep this in mind year-round, especially when you're decorating for the seasons. Christmas decor can often pile up quickly, and the last thing you want is red and green trinkets cluttering up the counter space you could use to decorate

holiday cookies.

While less is more is certainly our recommended way to go about things, that doesn't mean you should leave your countertops bare. This can make the room feel incomplete. If your countertop appliances take up minimal space and you don't generally use a fruit basket, think outside of the box when it comes to decorations. There is no reason candles can't reside in the kitchen, for example. Other cute trinkets and accessories you often use throughout your home to decorate bookshelves and other surfaces can be used in the kitchen as well.

Whether you're reorganizing a room in your home, taking on a new renovation project or redecorating a small area that you've neglected in the past, handling any of these tasks on your own can seem daunting and intimidating without the experience. Avoid putting the stress on yourself by working with a design professional to discuss potential options for your kitchen countertops, with ideas for styling and decluttering. Remember, the smallest details can truly make the biggest difference.

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

Deadline Extended For Expiring Cards

In a response to the current health emergency, all driver licenses and identification cards in the state of Florida expiring between March 16 and April 15 will have a 30-day extension to renew, according to an emergency order issued by Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Any delinquent renewal fees incurred during the extension period will be waived.

More than 4,000 Lee County residents will be impacted by Executive Order 20-52.

The Lee County Tax Collector is urging county residents to call or visit the official website before coming to any of its locations. Many services can be accomplished online or over the phone and do not require an in-person visit. Visit www.leetc.com or call 533-6000 with any questions prior to your visit.✱

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Will Power

Coping With Uncertainty



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

As I write this column (the deadline is approximately one week before it's published), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has labeled the coronavirus an international pandemic, the stock market recorded it's single biggest drop since the 1987 crash, President Trump suspended travel to the United States from most of Europe, and schools, sporting and entertainment venues have all shut down.

A childhood friend of mine, Dr. Louis Profeta, an emergency room physician in my hometown of Indianapolis, who has testified on health matters before Congress and is a bestselling author, warns in Facebook and LinkedIn posts that hospitals don't have the ability to serve all those infected.

It's unreal. And unnerving.

We don't have clear guidance on what to do. In reality, no one knows short of general guidelines not to attend large gatherings or shake hands.

So how do we cope? While I'm not a trained mental health professional, I commonly deal with uncertain situations, both professionally and personally. When my mother had leukemia, we never knew when the other shoe would drop. Without any warning I was suddenly told that I needed open heart surgery.

I'm sure that you've endured events in your life that have come as unwelcome surprises.

Looking back, the best way to cope with uncertainty is to simply take it one day at a time. Sure, it may sound like a cliché, but it's true. Live in the present moment.

Are you healthy now?

Are you taking precautions to limit exposure?

Are you listening to the advice of your savvy financial advisors who have been through stock market crashes before?

Speaking of advice, once you've learned today's update, does it do you any good to continue to watch the scary news on our 24/7 cycle?

Then you're doing all the right things.

Worrying about what might happen tomorrow, next week or next month won't help. The "future" is an abstraction. It doesn't exist except as an idea. The only future that has any reality is the one that you create for yourself through each day's contributions, achievements and results.

Focus on what you can do over the course of the next 24 hours, and you'll build the future that will work for you.

Should you huddle in your home to wait things out? The experts tell us that most of us who come down with the virus won't die. Certainly, if you're part of a high-risk demographic, such as the sick or elderly, then you may wish to take extra precautions.

Otherwise, perhaps continuing with a normal schedule, to the extent possible, will keep you centered. You'll know what's right for you.

As far as your estate plan is concerned (after all, this is an estate planning column), most of you have a proper plan in place. You probably have your advanced directives such as durable powers of attorney, health care surrogates and living wills in place. If you don't know where to locate yours, take the time to do so. Perhaps scan them in and distribute them to your loved ones named to act for you.

Clients of my firm, incidentally, who are a part of our Client Care Program simply need to share their client portal log in username and password with those named to have 24/7 access. I say this only to prevent a rush of calls to my office!

Take it day by day. The overwhelming chances are, just like most of us, you will get through this crisis. Once you gain that mental fortitude, do your best to spread that confidence to friends and loved ones.

That will do us all some good.

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Grocery Store On A Kilowatt Diet

submitted by L. Kathleen Mahan, MS, RDN, Environmental Nutritionist

What is a "kilowatt diet" anyway? In attempting to get an answer, I turned to Richard Johnson, owner of Bailey's General Stores on Sanibel and Captiva islands. Perhaps you don't know, but Bailey's on Tarpon Bay Road had 268 solar panels installed on its roof three and a half years ago. When I sat down with Johnson, he told me, "I put this grocery store on a 'kilowatt diet,' and adding solar panels for some of the energy supply was just part of the diet." I wanted to know what

he meant by this kilowatt diet.

As a nutrition counselor and author for over 40 years, I know about calorie diets, (calories being a measure of energy consumed by the body for metabolism), but a kilowatt diet? A kilowatt is also a measure of energy – electrical energy used for running a machine, heating or cooling a building, lighting our homes, and more. We all know them – our electric bills are calculated as kilowatts (kw) used. I wanted to know how the kilowatt diet was working for Bailey's? How many fewer kilowatts of energy was the store consuming, I mean using? Was it making a difference? Was the store "losing weight" or should we say reducing its carbon footprint?

Yes, it is – in a big way. Fifteen years

ago when Johnson took over the family business, the electric bill was \$22,000 a month. Yes, a month! Now, after 15 years of cutting down energy use and consuming fewer kilowatts, the bill is \$8,000 to \$10,000 per month, depending upon the month and the temperature outside. What did Johnson do? What is this diet that Johnson put Bailey's on 15 years ago? Well, here are the major changes:

First, doors were put on all the refrigerated cases. Yes, there were no doors. We all remember our moms saying, "Don't leave the refrigerator door open!" Johnson thought customers would revolt at having to open a door to get their carton of milk, but only one did. And, later the doors were improved to be even more airtight.

Second, he said goodbye to the open freezer case – that was a "no brainer" according to Johnson.

Third, he eliminated the need for hot water tanks by installing a large thermal storage tank that would store the heat given off by the machinery cooling the refrigerated cases, turn it into a hot liquid, and use it to heat the hot water used in the rest of the store. There are no separate hot water heaters in Bailey's today. Amazing, huh?

Fourth, Johnson changed the refrigeration strategy, making it more efficient. Instead of needing seven compressors on the roof with all of them operating at full capacity much of the time, now only three or four are needed to cool the building, and often only one or two.

Fifth, he replaced all the incandescent light bulbs with LED lights. Bailey's has over 1,000 light bulbs throughout the store, and employees were always replacing light bulbs – several each week. Now with rewiring and replacement with all LED bulbs, only two, maybe three bulbs,

have needed replacement in the past several years.

Sixth, he put on a new roof with better insulation, getting it ready for the solar panels.

Lastly, installation of solar panels on the roof was done in the fall of 2016. Now 20 percent of all the energy used by Bailey's is provided by the solar panels. Johnson said that they have plans for putting on even more; the roof isn't covered yet. They also have plans for installing solar modules in the parking lot to produce more energy and underneath to provide shaded parking. I asked Johnson when he expects to see complete return on his solar modules investment in saved energy costs. "I think we have already reached it," he said. "But really for us, it is becoming bigger than that. It is about conserving nature's resources, giving back to the community, and finally the planet." Shoppers at Bailey's can feel good that they are contributing to an effort to reduce the carbon footprint of getting their food to them. The biggest burden on planet earth is human life and activity. Mother Nature is adaptive at recovery if we give her a chance, time, and step lightly with our carbon footprint. And we do that by reducing and changing our energy consumption patterns. A kilowatt diet reduces the demands of a business on our planet's resources.

As Johnson summarizes it, "We started energy conservation and the kilowatt diet because it was good business for Bailey's, but now it is another way of being a steward of the community and saving and protecting Mother Earth and her resources." If you would like to know more about solarizing your home or business and other solarizing activities on Sanibel visit the website www.SolarizeSanibel.org.

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From left, Stacy Fuscardo, Beverly Fewster, Jeff Fuscardo and Tom Fewster Jr. photos provided



From left, Laura Ragain, Armando Llechu and Tamara Llechu



From left, Deana Homs, Carey Randall and Heidi Colgate-Tambllyn

Storybook Ball Raises \$200K For Ronald McDonald House

Nearly 400 guests attended the 26th annual Storybook Ball benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities Southwest Florida, held recently at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa. The event was a celebration of perseverance, family and Chinese culture, all themed to the Disney movie *Mulan*.

After a successful raffle, silent and live auction, generous donations for Lots of Love and sponsorships, the event netted \$200,000. All proceeds support Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida in its mission to create, find and support programs that directly impact the health and

well-being of children and their families.

NBC-2 News anchor Kellie Burns emceed the evening, along with auctioneer Rick Gallo, honoring Barbara and Tom Fewster and Beverly and Tom Fewster Jr. The Fewsters are retired McDonald's owner/operators and longtime friends and supporters of Ronald McDonald House Charities. The family welcomed several friends and family members from out of town to join in the celebration.

Colorful dragons suspended in air provided a wow-factor for guests as they entered the ballroom. Steven Bowles Creative of Naples worked with Marketing Director Amy Velez to create an authentic atmosphere that transported guests right to China. Students from White Dragon Martial Arts entertained the crowd in a three-part routine featuring a dancing dragon, an authentic Lion Dance and a sword and fan performance.

Guests perused the auction area, indulging in

appetizers and cold vodka from the Mulan ice luge, created by Paradise Sculptures. In the photo area, guests stood under a red pagoda, donned with a Chinese cherry blossom and wooden bridge.

The Robert Williamson Band provided dance music for the evening. During the program, a video was played, showing a father staying at Ronald McDonald House. He spoke of his daughter's fight and perseverance to get better, which hit the hearts of all attendees that evening, and reminded everyone why they were there.

Since its founding in 1996, Ronald McDonald House Charities has helped thousands of children and their families in Southwest Florida through the Ronald McDonald House, Ronald McDonald Care Mobile Program and the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Golisano Children's Hospital.

For information on sponsorship opportunities for 2021, contact Amy Velez at 437-0202. ✨

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

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SUPPORT LOCAL THIS SEASON

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.

<p>JAN 1</p>	<p>JAN 15</p>	<p>JAN 29</p>
<p>FEB 12</p>	<p>FEB 26</p>	<p>MAR 11</p>
<p>MAR 25</p> <p>Tips and Toez Nail Salon</p> <p>The Sanibel Sprout</p>	<p>APR 8</p>	<p>MAR 11</p> <p>APR 22</p>

Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



Last week I wrote about the last game I saw, a meaningless basketball match between Northwestern and Penn State. I played in the pep band, and afterwards, the Northwestern

Women's team, ranked 11th in the nation, came over to both thank the band for their support as we did the same for their amazing season, looking forward to a hoped-for high tournament ranking. The stadium is now silenced. The horns are quiet. It's surreal. It's the same sort of shocked state we walked around in after 9/11. Is this really happening? Where's the normalcy? And what's everybody doing?

I look to the sports section, broadcasts and games every day to relax and escape from the day-to-day challenges of life and put some energy into teams I care about. How about you? If you're reading this column, you are most likely a sports fan of some kind, from casual to fanatic. What do we do now? Reading, cleaning, or watching the constant news updates. Not too much in sports right now other than some off-season trades and how the coronavirus is affecting everyone associated with sports, the latest news on teams, rosters and player trades. Ruminations every day on what needs to happen both in playoffs (NHL and NBA) and in restarting baseball with some type of spring training II happening first when it resumes. (And to my Floridian residents where will that take place?)

The professional athletes we all admire, cheer or boo for all are getting paid. I feel for everyone else. Those athletes on the cusp of making the big leagues, only to lose their opportunity to a virus, not even to a great player. All the people who support making the games happen. Vendors, parking lot attendants, ushers, souvenir hawkers, ball and bat boys and girls, the musicians, dancers and entertainers at halftime shows, sportswriters, etc. For every one person on a team, there are dozens more that support what they are doing, many of whom live in the gig economy where you are paid for service and nothing else like lyft and uber, like so many people who work at stadiums and ballparks or support the work there. Even the Fort Myers economy is taking a hit because of the shortening of spring training, by one estimate over \$25 million.

It's nice to see some owners and players offering to pay the salaries of many of these lower paid workers in the stadiums and parks for now. Those are great stories in Chicago, from Zion Williamson and so many others. It doesn't mean anything for all the others that don't work inside the park, or do so on an as-needed basis, so take a moment to think about your favorite sport, your favorite team your favorite athlete. How did they get there and who supports their efforts now? They are the tip of the iceberg, and we know from Titanic that it's what's below the surface that makes the iceberg dangerous and a force to be reckoned with. Same with sports broadcasts; it's all the people we don't see or think about... they are that makes things go. It's not just the announcers that bring you a telecast, it's all the cameramen, speaker holders, statisticians, producers, directors, set-up, and sideline reporters and workers that allow broadcasts to seem seamless. What

are they all doing now?

We've grown accustomed to our seasons, our tournaments and our favorite teams and players. For now, we won't be seeing them on the screen or in the sporting news other than on tape. So, let's take these lessons as we go forward. First, there's only one winner in sports and, for now, it's important that the winner be each one of us doing all we can to keep the virus away. Second, let's appreciate the fact that there is so much out there we care about and, for now, maybe we care more about each other than any one team

or athlete. And third, sports will come back. No one knows when, but it will happen. And at that time, as we are sitting next to friends or strangers, offer them a smile and know then that we defeated the worst pandemic in our lifetime and have come back. Stay healthy and well, my readers.

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

ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

VIP Realty Group

The top producers for February at VIP Realty Group were: Karen Bell and the Bell Team, top sales; and Ted Benjamin, top listings and top producer.✪



Bell Team



Ted Benjamin

Pfeifer Realty Group

The top producers for February at Pfeifer Realty Group were: Greg Demaras and Kelly Huguenin, top sales agents; and Kerri Maw, top listing agent.✪



Gregory Demaras



Kelly Huguenin



Kerri Maw

Tennis, Pickleball Players Sought For Tournament

Sundial Beach Resort & Spa on Sanibel will host the Sundial Battle of the Islands Tennis & Pickleball Weekend Smash open to players ages 18 and over. Slated for Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26, categories include men's and women's doubles for tennis and men's and women's doubles for pickleball. Tennis divisions are 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5+. Pickleball divisions are novice, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5+.

Players can register at the Racquet Sports Office at the resort, located at 1451 Middle Gulf Drive, or by emailing christian.clark@sundialresort.com. Cost is \$40 per person for tennis or pickleball, or \$70 for both. Registration closes April 22.

"We're looking forward to a great weekend of competition and camaraderie," said Christian Clark, Sundial racquet sports manager and tournament organizer. "This is our first year hosting a tournament with both sports in the same event."

With a long legacy of island tennis, Sundial's facilities are recognized area-wide and have repeatedly been

named the "Best Tennis" on Sanibel and Captiva islands. The resort features six state-of-the-art sub surface HydroGrid courts. In 2017, the resort added 12 pickleball courts with stadium seating at a new lakefront facility. Since then, the courts have played host to pro exhibitions, tournaments and camps, and the facility has garnered national recognition. Sundial offers an active tennis and pickleball program as well as memberships, all of which are open to the public.

The two-day tournament schedule features tennis on Saturday and pickleball on Sunday. Registration includes a poolside barbecue on Sunday with live music.✪

Registration Open For Benefit Fishing Tournament

Anglers are invited to register for the 24th annual LCEC United Way Catch and Release Fishing Tournament to be held in the waters off Matlacha on Saturday, April 11. All proceeds from the tournament will benefit the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee counties.

A Captain's Meeting will be held at D&D Matlacha Bait and Tackle on Friday, April 10 at 6 p.m. Irby is the premiere sponsor of this year's tournament.

Cost is \$75 per angler before April 8 and \$90 thereafter. Cost for students (with valid student identification) is \$60 before April 8 or \$65 thereafter.

Cash and prizes will be awarded. There will also be barbecue and a large silent auction and raffle. A separate raffle will be held for a 2011 Ford Ranger with 100,000 miles, four-wheel drive, new

tires, chrome wheels, automatic drive and air conditioning. Tickets for the truck are \$5 each or six for \$25 and can be ordered online in advance or bought at the tournament. All raffle winners will be announced at tournament, but you not have to present to win.

D&D Matlacha Bait and Tackle is located at 3922 Pine Island Road NW in Matlacha. Visit www.uw.lcec.net for information on registration, sponsorships and raffles. Contact fish@lcec.net or 656-2204 with questions.✪

SPORTS QUIZ

1. What women's college basketball team had its streak of 253 straight weeks ranked in the Associated Press poll's top five snapped on Feb. 17, 2020?
2. Actor Terry Crews ("Brooklyn Nine-Nine") was selected in the 11th round of the 1991 NFL Draft by what team?
3. In what sport would the competitors abide by the Marquess of Queensberry Rules?
4. Who was the last U.S. woman to win the gold medal in the ladies' discipline at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships?
5. What TV sportscaster played with future PGA Tour pros Fred Couples and Blaine McCallister as a member of the University of Houston golf team?
6. Jean Dolores Schmidt (aka "Sister Jean") became famous overnight as chaplain for what 2018 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Final Four team?
7. Though nicknamed "The Admiral," what rank did basketball great David Robinson achieve when he completed his Navy service in 1989?

ANSWERS

1. The Connecticut Huskies, whose historic stretch began Feb. 5, 2007. 2. The Los Angeles Rams. 3. Boxing. 4. Kimmie Meissner, in 2006. 5. Jim Nantz, CBS Sports lead play-by-play announcer. 6. The Loyola University Chicago Ramblers. 7. Lieutenant (junior grade).

Foundation Grants Funds To Local Nonprofits

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation has awarded \$744,377 to 23 nonprofits serving the Southwest Florida region (Charlotte, Lee, Hendry, Glades and Collier counties). The foundation's annual Community Impact Grants program focuses on established and new programs designed to improve the quality of life in Southwest Florida with a lens on sustainability and equity. The local nonprofit grantees received grant funding from the foundation's Field of Interest funds bequeathed to the foundation by donors in estate plans, as well as provided by current individual and corporate donors in attendance at Foundation's Compassionate Shark Tank, a step in the grants process.

The nonprofits include: Brighter Bites, Calusa Waterkeeper, Charity for Change, Inc., Conservancy of Southwest Florida, Equality Florida Institute, Family Initiative Incorporated, Florida Baptist Children's Homes Inc., Florida Department of Health in Charlotte County, Florida Gulf Coast University (Three Separate Grants), Florida Lions Eye Clinic, Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida, Healthy Start Coalition of SWFL, Inc., Lee County Alliance for the Arts, Inc., Legal Aid Service of Collier County, Massachusetts General Hospital, Naples Senior Center at JFCS, PAWS Lee County, Inc., Residential Options of Florida, Inc., Sally J. Pimentel Deaf & Hard of Hearing Center, Sanibel Sea School, Inc., and SJC Boxing Club, Inc.

"We are grateful to our donors and those who have made these grants possible, many of whom are generous people who have left resources in their



The 2020 grantees with Southwest Florida Community Foundation President and CEO Sarah Owen, center

photo provided

will or estate because they cared deeply about the region and want to be certain that nonprofits serving their causes have the resources they need to create change and opportunity in Southwest Florida," said Sarah Owen, Southwest Florida Community Foundation president and CEO. "We can't wait to begin working with this diverse group of regional nonprofits through our 2020 Community Impact Grant Tribe."

Some examples of the regional funding and support include:

A program that helps create community of health through fresh food;

A plan to increase public and medical community engagement on health threats from harmful algae blooms (HABs);

A project to help school districts promote best practices, policies and procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) students, a critically underserved,

vulnerable population;

To expand an evidenced-based approach to support children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder (ASD);

To support environmental stewardship; To provide care to children who are abused, abandoned or neglected with care

continued on page 28B

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Anthony Baldino photos provided

Lloyd Frank and Mick Denham

Sanibel Island Golf Club Report

Anthony Baldino made a hole in one on the sixth hole at Sanibel Island Golf Club during the men's league event. This was the fourth career ace for the man they call "Tony Bricks."

The 2020 Club Champions are: The women's 18-hole club champion is Jill Bugby and the 9-hole club champion is Debbie Smith.

The men competed in a 36-hole stroke play event with both gross and net score winners from each tee.

Off the white tees, Jim Cooper took the men's club championship and Bill Fellows won the low net championship.



Bill Fellows and Jim Cooper

Competing from the gold tees, Mick Denham won with low gross and Lloyd Frank won low net.*



From left, women's 18-hole runner-up Sue Belanger, Club Champion Jill Bugby and third place finisher Susan Lloyd

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Kiwanis Club Scholarship Applications

The Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club is accepting scholarship applications for the 2020-21 school year. Scholarships of \$4,000 per year, over a period of four years, will be awarded. Additionally, several one-year scholarships in varying amounts are available, including the Sam Bailey Islands Night scholarship.

Eligible applicants must be Sanibel-Captiva residents, employed full time on the islands or a family member of such (of any age) attending a college for an undergraduate degree or attending a vocational school.

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

Applications must be submitted by March 27, 2020. They can be obtained online at www.SanibelKiwanis.org, or by contacting: Antoinette Radicchi at 579-0660 or antoinette@sanibelinsurance.com; Bill Traum at 671-0155 or billtraum@me.com; or Chris Heidrick at 579-0660 or chris@sanibelinsurance.com.*

From page 27B

Nonprofits

through a foster care program;

To support school-based sealant delivery programs to increase the prevalence of dental sealants among children from low-income families and reduce racial and income disparities in sealant placement among elementary school children;

A program to enable the use of an environmentally benign and economically viable membrane process to remove CO2 from shifted syngas in IGCC power plants and at the same time meet the department of energy targets for CO2 capture;

A program that teaches students, elementary to college, important information about the endangered Florida panther and its habitat;

A program to enhance the well-being of the residents in Immokalee by increasing their health knowledge levels and promoting self-management and care among those with existing physical

health condition;

Fund a program for medications, equipment and disposable supplies for patient exams and surgeries, an ophthalmologist and transportation for low income populations;

A program that plans to provide more than 800 food kits to feed more than 2,000 individuals with more than 17,518 pounds of food, the equivalent of 14,600 meals;

A program that contracts with two prenatal medical care offices to ensure pregnant women in Hendry and Glades Counties have access to prenatal care; A program for aspiring actors of color in theatre education, provides performance opportunities and a platform to convene dialogue on social issues that challenge our community through creative, artistic expression;

To support high impact, free legal services relating to immigration status for individuals not born in this country, or their family members, so that they can remain and prosper in the U.S.;

To support the Southwest Florida Warrior Health and Fitness Program that is free to participants, a three-month program for up to 80 Southwest Florida veterans, annually;

Funding to support increasing the capacity of the Dementia Respite Support Program;

To support empowering people with disabilities to live in the community by creating supported living homes;

To fund a program that major businesses and common career fields are equipped to communicate with the deaf through basic sign language that corresponds to their particular business;

To construct a mobile science laboratory that will expose students to marine science and technology, independent of their location;

To support an after-school boxing and mentoring program for youth in Southwest Florida.

To review the details of the grants, visit www.floridacomunity.com/portfolio/community-impact-grant.

The programs being awarded represent the foundation's cause areas that map outcomes and indicators that are aligned with the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and provide the framework to organize, fund and understand the impact of efforts locally, regionally, nationally and even globally. For more information on its work in sustainability, visit www.floridacomunity.com/what-we-do.*

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Health Wise



by Kay Casperson

There is no better time than right now to take a realistic look at how healthy you are. This is the time to be wise about how you take care of yourself every single day, not just when

you are not feeling well. Why is it that we appreciate our health so much more after experiencing a sickness than we do regularly?

Building and maintaining a healthy immune system is the key to staying well and recovering faster. I have made a list of some of the things that I do and recommend for others to continue to stay strong, healthy and vibrant.

Eat healthy foods and keep your meals small but consistent to keep your metabolism in check. I eat only until I feel full, regardless of how much is on my plate. When going out for dinner, you might want to skip the appetizer or the bread, or maybe even the sides, so you are not loading up on those things before the main entree. Also, order a half portion if possible or share a meal with someone so you don't overeat.

Drink plenty of water throughout the day and evening to stay hydrated. I like to add a lemon slice to mine in the morning. Lemons have been known to have a variety of health benefits including aiding in digestion, providing a good dose of vitamin C, and optimizing your mood and memory.

Get regular checkups and physicals to make sure you and your doctor can stay on top of your overall health and well-being. Your doctor can request blood work to see where your vitamin levels are as well as what areas require balancing.

Supplement your diet with the vitamins that you are not getting from your food. Do your research and, if possible, meet with a nutritional expert to find out what you may be missing. I am a big believer in having a good balance between science and nature.

Use essential oils for various circumstances. For example, lavender will help you relax and may assist you in getting to sleep faster. Peppermint is good for helping to settle your tummy and releasing some tension from a headache. Orange oil is great for energizing your mood and lifting your spirits. And, don't forget the amazing healing benefits from teatree and eucalyptus. I keep a diffuser handy at home for my oils and we keep a diffuser going at all times at our spas as well.

Take the time every day to get moving. Exercise, go for a walk, maybe some yoga or stretching. You may even try to incorporate a sport into your routine now and then. Movement and exercise are a vital part of your heart health and your overall well-being.

Another important way to stay healthy is to get proper sleep. There are so many people lacking in this department for various reasons. From hormones to stress and everything in between. Needless to

say, you have to find a way to make this a priority to stay well and to recover faster. I have a nighttime regime that includes melatonin and lavender to ensure my rest is as uninterrupted as possible.

The point is, be wise in determining what your body needs to be well and to stay well. Our requirements vary depending on our age and overall health. Take yourself back to the basics. Wash your hands regularly and if you're sick, stay home until you are fully recovered.

My last piece of advice, for now, is to remain calm and know that you can take control of your health and if you get sick, you will get better if you give yourself the much needed time to heal.

My affirmation for you this week is: "I will be wise in making good decisions for my overall health and well-being to continue my path for my best and most beautiful life."

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

Mobile Site To Test For COVID-19

Lee Health has established a drive-up site to collect specimens for COVID-19 to increase access for the number of people being tested in the community. The mobile site is in the parking lot of the Lee Convenient Care office at Page Field.

Patients must have an order from their physician or provider and make an appointment before showing up to the collection site. These requirements are necessary to maintain an orderly collection process. Patients who are experiencing symptoms and don't have a test order should call their primary care physician.

The collection site opened March 16 and will be open seven days a week from noon to 4 p.m. The site will initially have the capacity to collect up to 32 specimens per day. Lee Health has plans in place to expand the hours and open additional collection sites due to demand. The Page Field Lee Convenient Care office is located at 4771 South Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers.

"Increasing the number of individuals being tested is a priority for Lee Health to help reduce the spread of coronavirus in our community," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, Lee Health president and CEO. "This is a key juncture point in managing this disease, and Lee Health is doing everything we can to protect the community."

The mobile site is for collection of COVID-19 samples only. The specimens will be sent to a lab for testing, which takes three to four days to return.

U.S. Sen. Rick Scott expressed his appreciation for Lee Health's efforts on Friday, tweeting: "Thanks to Lee Health for limiting exposure and working to get more people tested. This model can be replicated across the state of Florida to immediately expand testing and keep health care professionals safe.*"

Doctor and Dietician

Crispy Tofu With Veggies In Asian Peanut Sauce



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

We love tofu. And we have found the secret to making it just the way we like it – crispy! The secret to crispy tofu is to first purchase the right kind of tofu. Organic extra-firm is the way to go. You want to choose organic to avoid pesticides that are commonly used on soybean crops.

The second secret is to squeeze out as much moisture as possible. Drain the tofu and wrap it in a dishcloth. Gently press. Slice the tofu lengthwise and wrap a clean dishcloth around it for 30 minutes minimum. (Or overnight in the fridge!)

The third secret is to toss your tofu in a drizzle of oil, soy sauce and

a couple tablespoons of cornstarch or arrowroot, with your favorite seasonings. The starch makes the edges extra crispy and delicious.

Here's my recipe – amounts are approximate:

- 1 block organic extra-firm tofu
- 1 to 3 tbsp. coconut oil
- 2 to 4 tbsp. soy sauce, tamari, or Bragg's amino
- 2 to 4 tbsp. corn starch or arrowroot
- ¼ to ½ tsp. each of ginger, garlic powder, Adobo, chili powder, Hungarian paprika
- 1 tbsp. brown sugar or honey
- Veggies (peapods, onions, garlic, carrots, broccoli, mushrooms – choose your favorites)
- 2 cups organic vegetable or chicken broth
- 2 tbsp. peanut butter (or other nut butter)

Fresh ginger and turmeric (about one inch), chopped (or substitute ½ tsp. dried)

Rice or quinoa, made with coconut milk and/or vegetable broth

Garnish, fresh lime, chopped cilantro, hot sauce

1. Cook rice or quinoa. Season as desired.

2. Prepare the tofu with seasonings, spread on a greased baking sheet, bake for 25 to 30 minutes at 400 degrees.

3. Sauce: In a saucepan, combine broth, peanut butter, seasonings, soy sauce, two tablespoon of cornstarch. Whisk together. If you like a sweeter sauce, add another tablespoon of brown

continued on page 30B

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dearRPharmacist

How To Make An Herbal Immune Tea



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: There are several herbs that I'd like to talk to you about because they are known to have some benefits for your immune system. This isn't to discount Vitamin D or Vitamin C, two

vitamins that can support your immune system, but rather to enhance what those nutrients can do.

Herbs can be made into a tea or what's termed a decoction. I made a video to show you how easy it is to make this at home, provided you have the herbs. Those can be purchased online, or at health food stores. There is still plenty of bulk herb to buy so hopefully we won't run out of those. My video is live on youtube. You can search it by the title *Make Your Own Immune Tea Amid Coronavirus Fears*.

Here is my recipe for "Immune Tea" and, following it, you will see the rationale for the inclusion of these precious, effective and safe herbs.

Suzy's Immune Tea:

Ingredients

4 or 5 cups water
 1 tblsp. of elderberries
 1 tblsp. of Echinacea
 1 tblsp. of orange peel
 2 tsp. licorice root
 Optional: honey to sweeten
 Directions: Pour four to five cups of water into a pot, and add the herbs. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to a very gentle simmer and continue simmering for approximately 30 minutes. You may strain the herbs and put into a glass jar or pitcher. Shelf life is about three days. Sweeten if desired. Drink one cup daily.

Elderberry – Black elderberries have been used as anti-virals and natural antibiotics against cough, colds and the flu for centuries. Studies in test tubes and humans prove demonstrable efficacy when it comes to inhibiting the influenza virus (and other bacteria).

Echinacea – This herb has been used for centuries to help control symptoms of the common cold, influenza and other viruses. It can inhibit "hemagglutinin" and "neuraminidase," which are specific to influenza. When echinacea does inhibit these compounds inside your cells, it controls the spreading and severity of symptoms of influenza.

Orange Peel – This is just the rind of an orange, but it's dried up. It adds Vitamin C, which has documentation for its ability to shorten the duration of a cold. It is a strong antioxidant.

Licorice Root – This contains glycyrrhizic acid, a compound that is known to inhibit viral growth (slow it down), as well as directly inactivate

certain viral particles. A study in the *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* in 2005 showed that glycyrrhizin could "inhibit SARS-coronavirus (SARS-CoV) replication in vitro."

I have a longer version of this article that I can email to you if you sign up for my free health newsletter at www.suzycohen.com

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.

Talk On Medical Breakthroughs Canceled

Due to the threat of coronavirus, Shell Point Retirement Community has canceled its 5th annual 2020 Medical Breakthroughs & Discoveries series presentation by Jay Saccaro, which was scheduled for Monday, March 30 at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit www.shellpoint.org or call 433-7936.

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy

Q: I work for a company that offers sick days, but when is it appropriate to take a mental health day?

A: It's one thing to have a cold or the flu, but what

about times when you struggle with grief or loss of a loved one, anxiety or depression that keeps you paralyzed or other mental health issues? You most definitely deserve a mental health day or days to address your stress and feel better before you return to work.

Perhaps you have been working too much and working long hours. You feel tired and you may be at risk of burn out. Good idea to take some days off and recharge before you return to work. If you are in counseling with a mental health professional, you should be allowed to take time out for this appointment. You are allowed to take off for a doctor or dentist appointment, so why would you not be able to take time to see a therapist?

Check with your human resources department and inquire about mental health days. There are companies who do allow time off for mental health

days. Perhaps your company can establish mental health days for their employees.

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

From page 29B

Crispy Tofu

sugar. Stir in fresh ginger and turmeric root, heat until thickened, continually whisking. Set aside.

4. Sautee veggies in a wok with a little oil. Toss with about half of the sauce. Set aside.

5. Serve cooked rice in a large shallow bowl, top with cooked veggies, placing crispy tofu on top. Add remaining sauce.

6. Garnish with fresh lime, cilantro, or hot sauce or whatever you like. Other options are shredded coconut, pineapple, chopped cashews, red pepper flakes – sky's the limit! Cheers!

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.

YOUR NEUROLOGICAL SYMPTOMS MAY HAVE A STRUCTURAL CAUSE!

- Balance problems
- Blurred vision
- Dizziness / vertigo
- Fainting / drop attacks
- Swallowing or speaking difficulties
- Tinnitus or hearing problems
- Torticollis / cervical dystonia
- And many more!

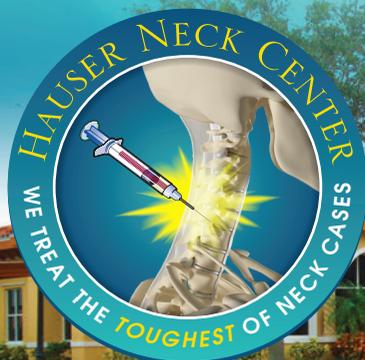
The Hauser Neck Center at Caring Medical Florida specializes in unique, dynamic diagnostic tests that find what traditional MRI scans can miss, and Comprehensive H3 Prolotherapy to treat the underlying structural cause of chronic neck pain, migraines, and neurological symptoms.



Ross Hauser, MD

Learn more at CaringMedical.com and contact our team to review your case!

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PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Angus And Two Socks



Angus ID# A813802

Hello, my name is Angus. I am a 6-year-old male black mouth curr mix who is a beautifully built fellow with rugged good looks that are second only to my fun-loving personality. My ideal home would be with an active family that will take me for long walks or have a big back yard to run around and play. If you have a canine sibling for me that would be an added bonus!

My adoption fee is \$10.

I bet you can guess how this pretty girl got her name! Hi, my name is Two Socks. I have two white paws that look like socks. I am a 3-year-old female domestic shorthair who has a



Two Socks ID# A813918

very inquisitive personality. I want to see what everyone, including my feline friends, are doing. I keep myself entertained just watching everything that goes on around me. Head bumps are my way of showing affection when I like you.

My adoption fee has been waived.

Are you looking to adopt a new furry friend? Whether you are looking for a dog, cat, bunny or perhaps a ferret, stop by Lee County Domestic Animal Services in March to see the fun and games we have planned. Adoption fees on all adult dogs and cats will be reduced to just \$40 with an approved application. In addition, play our game of the day to win a prize with your adoption.

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

Foster Families Needed For Young Kittens

Lee County Domestic Animal Services has a pet-centric opportunity available for an entire family in fostering kittens. Fostering is not only fun but it helps give young kittens the time needed before going into their permanent homes.

To become a foster family, email mpenney2@leegov.com or call 533-9201. Training will be provided as well as items needed to get started. Remember that cats and kittens also are available for adoption. Adult cat adoption fees will be waived with an approved application through March 31.

Lee County Domestic Animal Services is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, call 533-7387.*

Animal Services Flip This Kennel Competition

Lee County Domestic Animal Services, along with various county agencies and area rescues, will decorate kennels and catteries as part of the Flip This Kennel competition to showcase shelter pets in the adoption center.

Visitors to the shelter from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 28 can vote for their favorite flip. Voting also will take place that day on Animal Services' Facebook page based on likes of the picture of the favorite kennel or cattery. Winners will be posted on the Facebook page on Monday, March 30.

This year's Flip This Kennel is themed around board games. Each kennel or cattery will be decorated with a pet-related spin on everyone's favorite childhood games.

Play one of the games to reduce your adoption fee by \$5, \$10 or even \$20. Lee County Domestic Animal Services is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Available pets can be viewed at www.leelostpets.com.*



CALLING CARD 239-395-1213

Emergency	911
Sanibel Police	472-3111
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
On Call Captiva Deputy	477-1000
Fire Department - Sanibel	472-5525
Fire Department - Captiva	472-9494
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
Chamber of Commerce	472-1080
City of Sanibel	472-4135
Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Planning Department	472-4136
Library - Sanibel	472-2483
Library - Captiva	239-533-4890
Post Office - Sanibel	472-1573
Post Office - Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
Post Office - Captiva	472-1674
Sanibel Community Association	472-2155
Center 4 Life - Senior Center	472-5743
ARTS	
Arcade Theater	332-4488
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
BIG ARTS - Barrier Island Group for the Arts	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	277-1700
Lee County Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Naples Philharmonic	597-1111
The Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
Sanibel Music Festival	336-7999
Sanibel-Captiva Art League	sancapart.org
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Symphonic Chorale of SW Florida	560-5695
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
ABWA - American Business Women's Assoc	http://abwasanibelcaptiva.org
American Legion Post 123	472-9979
Angel Flight SE	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Audubon of SWFL	https://www.audubonswfl.org/
Audubon Society	472-3744
CHR Community Housing & Resources	472-1189
Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva	274-5900
COTI Committee of the Islands	coti@coti.org
CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife	472-3644
Democratic Club of the Islands	Demclubislands@gmail.com
Disabled Am Vets #108 (San-Cap Rep Ted Tyson) Help 211	984-5920
FISH OF SANCAP Neighbors Helping Neighbors	472-4775
FISH OF SANCAP 24-hr service	472-0404
Sanibel Island Fishing Club	472-8994
Horticultural Society of the Islands	472-6940
Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva	472-8334
Kiwanis Club	677-7299
League of Women Voters	sanibelLWV@gmail.com
Lions Club, Jeff MacDonald	302-521-1158
Master Gardeners of the Islands	472-6940
MOAA - Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie	395-9232
Newcomers	472-9332
Notre Dame Club of Southwest Florida	768-0417
Optimist Club	472-0836
PAWS - Protection of Animal Welfare Society	472-4823
Rotary Club	472-7257 or 472-0141
Sanibel Bike Club	sanibelbicycleclub.org
Sanibel Beautification Inc.	470-2866
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron	www.sancapboating.club
Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus	395-0819
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club	facebook.com/sancapshellclub 267-7291
Sanibel Youth Soccer	www.sanibelsoccer.org 395-2040
Shell Islands Garden Club	246-8875
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline 24 hour	211 or 433-3900
Zonta Club	728-1971
ISLAND ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Sanibel Historical Museum & Village	472-4648
SCCF Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation	472-2329

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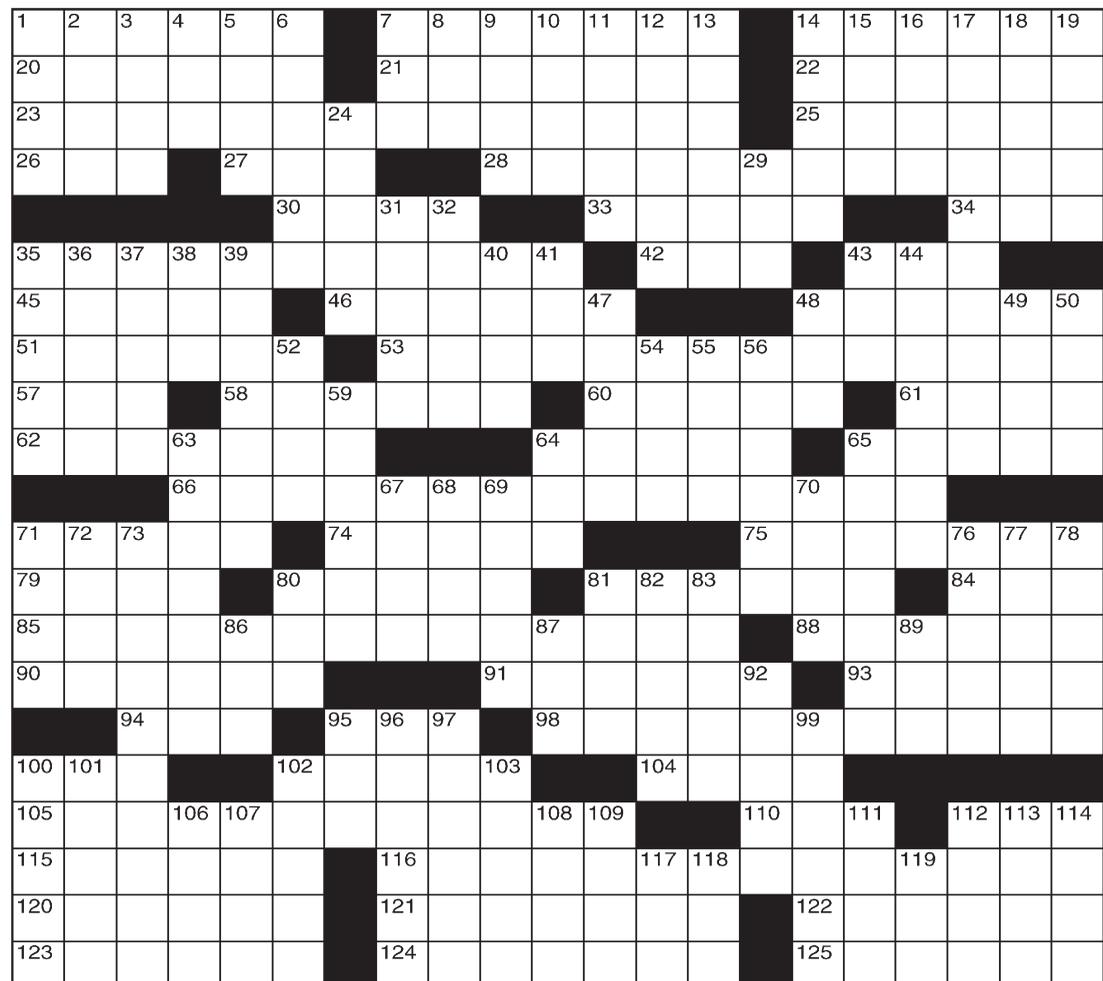
PUZZLES

Answers on page 39B

Super Crossword

"CAN'T YOU SEE I'M DIZZY?!"

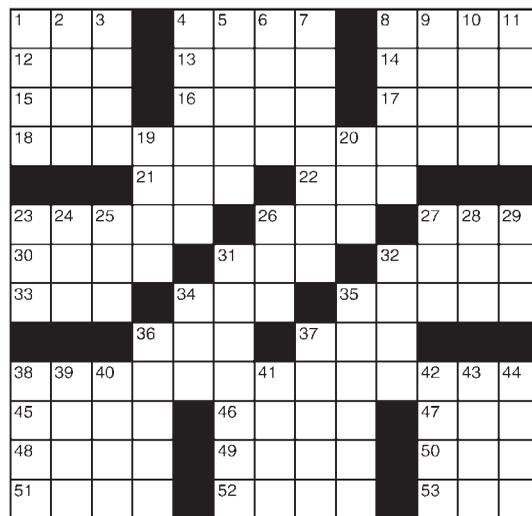
- ACROSS**
- 1 Bar mitzvah language
 - 7 Its capital is Montgomery
 - 14 Old jazz buff
 - 20 Henry II player Peter
 - 21 Horse feed supporter
 - 22 106-Down on Cal Ripken's cap
 - 23 Amaze a Sherlock Holmes portrayer?
 - 25 — acid (corrosive liquid)
 - 26 — -mo
 - 27 Brighton brew
 - 28 12-month famine?
 - 30 Trendy berry in juices
 - 33 Shire of film
 - 34 Goddess of the dawn
 - 35 Singer Brown got dressed?
 - 42 Gridiron gains: Abbr.
 - 43 Pen giant
 - 45 Make reparations
 - 46 Cosa — (Mafia's kin)
 - 48 Areas of expertise
 - 51 Provides party platters
 - 53 Determine which team scored?
 - 57 Supper scrap
 - 58 "Egypt — up like a flood": Jeremiah 46:8
 - 60 "NO TURN —" (traffic sign)
 - 61 Octa- plus one
 - 62 Relative of a résumé
 - 64 Judge on the bench, e.g.
 - 65 Bee creation
 - 66 Fact about a consolidation loan?
 - 71 Two-spot
 - 74 University in Atlanta
 - 75 In — (owing)
 - 79 Old science magazine
 - 80 Balance pan
 - 81 Pittsburgh's Carnegie — University
 - 84 Instructors' org.
 - 85 Sub-shop blaze?
 - 88 Relative key of B minor
 - 90 Michelangelo work
 - 91 California wine region
 - 93 Old Greek market
 - 94 Erwin of old films
 - 95 "The Tell-Tale Heart" taleteller
 - 98 Moola earned by a love god?
 - 100 Blocks from the freezer
 - 102 Is up against
 - 104 School in Berkshire
 - 105 Road named after singer Deanna?
 - 110 Seeded loaf
 - 112 — Alamitos, California
 - 115 Thinking the world of
 - 116 What to do to socks that tear every 24 hours?
 - 120 Appear
 - 121 Asinine
 - 122 Late actress Brennan
 - 123 Hot- — (drag racer)
 - 124 Turn from a straight line
 - 125 Say "no" to
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Mortar trays
 - 2 List-ending abbr.
 - 3 TV clown
 - 4 "Frasier" woman
 - 5 Jazz singer Fitzgerald
 - 6 Li'l fellow
 - 7 Gasteyer of "Mean Girls"
 - 8 Truckload
 - 9 Deadly pale
 - 10 Neuwirth of "Frasier"
 - 11 "If I Had —" (Lyle Lovett song)
 - 12 American avant-garde artist
 - 13 Antediluvian
 - 14 Toyota rival
 - 15 Iroquois foe
 - 16 Falafel bread
 - 17 Amendment
 - 18 Samuel of justice
 - 19 PC whizzes
 - 24 Intel mission
 - 29 Hi- — (stereos)
 - 31 Positive pole
 - 32 Atlas feature
 - 35 Son of Isaac
 - 36 Video game name
 - 37 Catchphrase
 - 38 Phenyl ender
 - 39 Saw-toothed
 - 40 Ingrain
 - 41 Soft & —
 - 43 Jazz genre
 - 44 Limonite, e.g.
 - 47 Worship
 - 48 Nursed, say
 - 49 Kin of -ess
 - 50 Don't depart
 - 52 Uses a stool
 - 54 Writer Blyton
 - 55 Grove plant
 - 56 Kind of tea
 - 59 — Field (Mariners' stadium)
 - 63 Most chancy
 - 64 "— will be done"
 - 65 Very irate
 - 67 Arabian Sea country
 - 68 Actor's part
 - 69 Long lock of hair
 - 70 Stomped
 - 71 Tip, as a hat
 - 72 Arab bigwig
 - 73 Frank and open
 - 76 Pear variety
 - 77 Corp. shuffling
 - 78 Mother of Isaac
 - 80 — -cone
 - 81 List of dishes
 - 82 Get hitched on the fly
 - 83 Maximum
 - 86 Post-OR area
 - 87 OR worker
 - 89 Before now
 - 92 Prettify
 - 95 "NerdTV" network
 - 96 Bested
 - 97 Online investing site
 - 99 Tom of "Tomorrow"
 - 100 Slacking sort
 - 101 Pataki's predecessor Mario
 - 102 Make furious
 - 103 Font flourish
 - 106 Nest builder
 - 107 "Picnic" dramatist William
 - 108 Organic compound
 - 109 Head, to Gigi
 - 111 Falco with four Emmys
 - 112 In — of (rather than)
 - 113 Jai-alai cries
 - 114 "Auld Lang —"
 - 117 Amp plug-in
 - 118 Masquerade
 - 119 Furry TV alien



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Symbol of intrigue
- 4 Jet forth
- 8 Faucet problem
- 12 Shade
- 13 Part of the foot
- 14 Solemn promise
- 15 Geological period
- 16 Silver salmon
- 17 Wrinkly fruit
- 18 Informal game
- 21 "Absolutely"
- 22 Deposit
- 23 Brilliance
- 26 Cotillion honoree
- 27 Blond shade
- 30 Proper subject?
- 31 Stop running
- 32 Toll road
- 33 Pooch
- 34 Cover
- 35 Bizarre
- 36 "A mouse!"
- 37 Donkey
- 38 Uncanny ability to make money
- 45 Memory unit
- 46 Tittle
- 47 Aye canceler
- 48 Practice pugilism
- 49 Heal, as a fracture
- 50 Little demon
- 51 Bouquet
- 52 Withered
- 53 Ball prop
- 8 Uncertainty
- 9 Sitarist's music
- 10 "— have to do"
- 11 Collins or Donahue
- 19 Greenish-blue
- 20 Bathroom fixture
- 23 Conclusion
- 24 Bill's partner
- 25 Drag along
- 26 Accomplished
- 27 Football fill
- 28 Go downhill rapidly?
- 29 Haw preceder
- 31 Long-snouted antelopes
- 32 Mexican moola
- 34 Mainlander's memento
- 35 Will subject
- 36 Nail smoother
- 37 Moving about
- 38 Recipe meas.
- 39 Syringe, for short
- 40 Greek vowels
- 41 Top-notch
- 42 Troop group
- 43 Arrived
- 44 Advertise



DOWN

- 1 Sharpen
- 2 Continental coin
- 3 Bridges or Brummell
- 4 Potpourri bag
- 5 College lecturers, often
- 6 Reverberate
- 7 "Yahoo!"

MAGIC MAZE ● THE PEN

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

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

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|----------|
| Ballpoint | Fountain | Nib | Scribble |
| Documents | Ink | Paper | Stylus |
| Drawing | Instrument | Quill | Writing |
| Felt | Jot | Rollerball | |

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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!

Stride

CAPE

Humid

PICTOR

Alcove

INCHE

Ambition

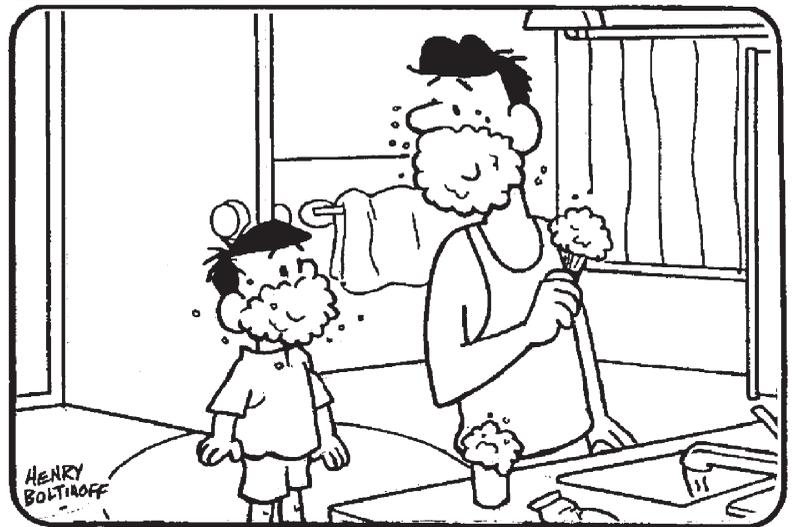
RESIDE

"What I like best about _____ is you don't have to wash your hands before eating."
Answer on page 39B

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Polka dots are added. 2. Knob is different. 3. Towel is shorter. 4. Shirt is different. 5. Cup is missing. 6. Water is off.

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

SUDOKU

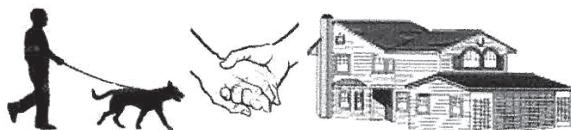
To play Sudoku: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (the same number cannot appear more than once in a row, column or 3x3 box.) There is no guessing and no math involved, just logic.

Answer on page 39B

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My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF MARCH 23, 2020

Aries (March 21 to April 19)

Disappointed about something that didn't go your way? Cheer up. Look at the reasons it happened, and you could find a valuable lesson about what to do (or not do!) the next time.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) It's a good time to do some reassessing of plans and goals – even how you considered redoing your bathroom. The point is to be open to change if change can improve things.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Take some time to learn who is the right person (or persons) to approach and discuss your ideas with for your new project. Also, reserve time to prepare for an upcoming family event.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Dealing with a demanding situation, as you recently did, could drain much of your own emotional reserves. Take time to relax and indulge yourself in some well-earned pampering.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) The regal Lion might feel that she or he is above emotional displays. But showing your feelings can be both liberating for you and reassuring for someone who has been waiting for you to do so.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) An emotionally needy person might make more demands than you can cope with. Best to ask for some breathing space NOW, before resentment sets in and makes communication difficult.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) An unexpected spate of mixed signals could cause serious schedule setbacks. Best to focus on straightening everything out as soon as possible and get everyone back on track.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Be aware that someone in the workplace could try to use a disagreement with a colleague against you. If so, be prepared to offer your side of the story with the facts to back you up.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) An unexpected challenge to a previous decision can be unsettling. But your reservoir of self-confidence – plus your loyal supporters – should help carry the day for you. Good luck.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) While the idea of making some sort of major move in the near future continues to interest you, don't overlook a new possibility that could be emerging closer to home.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) Be careful not to base an upcoming decision on gossip or anything you might hear if it can't meet provable standards. That's true regardless of whom the source might be.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) You might still need to do some solid reassessing early in the week before you

can close that sensitive situation. A new job-related opportunity could present itself later in the week.

Born This Week: You are extraordinarily sensitive to people's feelings, and you're always ready to offer comfort if necessary.

MOMENTS IN TIME

- On March 25, 1911, the Triangle Shirtwaist Company factory in New York City burns down, killing 145 trapped workers within minutes. Only one elevator was operational, one of two exit stairways was locked from the outside and the inside fire hose was rotted and its valve rusted shut.

- On March 29, 1929, President Herbert Hoover has a phone installed at his desk in the Oval Office of the White House. Previously, Hoover had used a phone in the foyer outside the office.

- On March 27, 1939, the University of Oregon defeats Ohio State University to win the first-ever NCAA men's basketball tournament, now known as "March Madness."

- On March 26, 1953, American medical researcher Dr. Jonas Salk announces that he has successfully tested a vaccine against poliomyelitis, the virus that causes the crippling disease of polio. In 1952 there were 58,000 new cases reported in the U.S., and more than 3,000 people died.

- On March 28, 1979, a pressure valve in a nuclear reactor at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania fails to close, setting off the worst accident in the history of the U.S. nuclear power industry. Safety devices would have prevented the crisis, but human operators misread readings and shut off the emergency water system.

- On March 23, 1983, Barney Clark dies 112 days after becoming the world's first recipient of a permanent artificial heart. The 61-year-old dentist spent the final four months of his life attached to a 350-pound console that pumped air in and out of the aluminum-and-plastic implant.

- On March 24, 1996, U.S. astronaut Shannon Lucid transfers to the Russian space station Mir from the space shuttle Atlantis for a planned five-month stay. Her return to Earth was delayed more than six weeks because of last-minute repairs to Atlantis' booster rockets and then by a hurricane.

NOW HERES A TIP

- Most people wash their sheets, and some people fluff and air out their pillow. But how many properly clean their mattress? Vacuum the mattress surface at least every three months. Sprinkle with baking soda to absorb any odors.

- "I use my panini press to make hash browns because I like them nice and crispy on both sides. It works out great!" – LR in Florida

- If you're adding fruit to muffins or quick breads, just make sure you toss them in flour first. It will keep them from sinking to the bottom, distributing them more evenly throughout the bread.

- Need more storage in a small bathroom? Try installing a shelf over the door. It's an out of the way area where you can store items you don't need daily, but do need accessible.

- Use a serrated knife to cut the dome tops off of cake layers, then put them in the freezer for 30 minutes. It will make it easier to frost, and you'll get less crumbs that come up.

- "I often get up during the night to take medicine to help me sleep better. It's hard to see and line up the marks to open the container. So I got a permanent black marker and highlighted them (I even made them larger). Now it's easy to line them up in the dark." – DE in California

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- In the mood for a loong vacation? Consider the planet Uranus. Its summer lasts 21 Earth years.

- It takes 700 gallons of water to make a cotton shirt. To put that in perspective, the amount of water needed to make a T-shirt is enough for one person to stay hydrated for 900 days, while the amount necessary to create a pair of jeans is equivalent to hosing down your lawn for nine hours straight.

- The official color of the Golden Gate Bridge is "International Orange."

- Speaking of that delightful hue, Alexander the Great washed his hair in saffron to keep it shiny and orange.

- The world's least-common surnames include Sallow, Miracle and Relish, while extinct surnames include Bread, Spinster and Bythesea (By the sea).

- Your navel contains thousands of bacteria that form an ecosystem the size of an entire rainforest.

- Ever wondered about those ridges along the edges of some coins? They were the brainchild of Sir Isaac Newton, who while warden of the Royal Mint in 1696 used the reeded edges to help combat theft and counterfeiters.

- After the hip-hop duo OutKast coined the phrase "shake it like a Polaroid picture" in their hit song "Hey Ya!" Polaroid released this statement: "Shaking or waving can actually damage the image."

- Just like fingerprints, no two tongue prints are alike.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"I don't need a friend who changes when I change and who nods when I nod; my shadow does that much better." – Plutarch

TRIVIA TEST

1. **Advertising Slogans:** Which product was advertised as "the champagne of bottled beer"?
2. **Geography:** Which was the first designated national park in the United States?
3. **Bible:** From which book of the New Testament does the proverb "the blind leading the blind" originate?
4. **U.S. Presidents:** Which president established the Purple Heart award to military members injured or killed in battle?
5. **Literature:** What is the title of a classic novel that its British author originally named "Strangers from Within"?
6. **Animal Kingdom:** Which animal's home is called a lodge?
7. **Food & Drink:** Which spice is described as "the Queen of Spices"?
8. **Music:** Who wrote the libretto and music to the opera *The Flying Dutchman*?
9. **History:** Which country's revolution was described in the book *Ten Days That Shook the World*?
10. **Anatomy:** What is the most common blood type in humans?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Miller High Life 2. Yellowstone 3. Matthew
4. George Washington 5. *Lord of the Flies* by
- William Golding 6. Beaver 7. Cardamom
8. Richard Wagner 9. Russia 10. O positive

Shore Fishing:



Don't Harm The Fish

by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Landing a big fish from the beach can be hard on the fish. Dragging a fish up onto the sand if you're going to release it is not an option as it usually damages or kills the fish.

Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it.

The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.

If you want a picture with the fish, support it as you lift it out of the water – and do it quickly.

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

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Harry Chapin Food Bank
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

**LET US
HELP YOU**

BUY & SELL

**THESE FINE
PROPERTIES.**



15261 CAPTIVA DRIVE



WATERFRONT SECLUDED OASIS

- Master Retreat w/ Loft Sitting morning coffee Bar
- 4 BR, 4.5 Bath, Furnished Home, Private Deep -Water Dock w/Lift
- Custom Design by Stofft Cooney of Naples
- Heated Pool w/Infinity Spa, Lush Landscape, Estate Lot

\$12,500,000

1226 ISABEL DRIVE



BAY FRONT WITH BOAT DOCK

- Direct Bayfront Parcel w/Stunning Views
- Beautiful Location Cleared w/Seawall
- Option to Purchase Protected Boat Dock

\$1,239,000

5633 BALTUSROL COURT



SANCTUARY CC SPEC HOME

- Awesome Lot Location w/Championship Golf Course Setting
- 4 Bedroom/4.5 Bath Open Great Room Floor Plan
- Spectacular Outdoor Space w/ Fireplace, Kitchen., Pool/Spa w/Sun Splash Area

\$1,949,000

6053 SANIBEL CAPTIVA ROAD



1.56 ACRES OF STUNNING VIEWS

- Western Exposure, Wonderful Sunsets
- Easy Walk to Restaurants & Marina
- Build Your Dream Home & Island Getaway

\$1,195,000

9036 MOCKINGBIRD LANE



THE DUNES

- Unmatched Lake & Golf Views, Open Concept, Vaulted Ceilings
- 3 BR/2BA 1,783 SF
- Large Master Suite w/Walk in Closet

\$679,000

16500 CAPTIVA DRIVE



GOLD COAST BEACHFRONT ESTATE

- Over 500K in Rental income!
- 6BD/6.5BA, Private elevator, Art Studio
- Exclusive Location, Gorgeous Landscaping & Setting on Over One Acre

\$7,989,000

1246 & 1250 SEAGRAPE LANE



SANIBEL BAYFRONT

- Last Large Underdeveloped Bayfront Estate
- Located on Sanibel's East End
- Natural Shoreline w/Beach to walk

\$2,789,000

15138 WILES DRIVE



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

 **McMURRAY** *of* **ROYAL SHELL**
& Members *Real Estate*

FOR PROPERTIES OF PRESTIGE & PREFERENCE

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