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VOL. 29, NO. 25

SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 17, 2021

DECEMBER SUNRISE/SUNSET: 17 7:10 • 5:39 18 7:10 • 5:39 19 7:11 • 5:40 20 7:11 • 5:40 21 7:12 • 5:41 22 7:12 • 5:41 23 7:13 • 5:42

## Audubon Lecture Series Lineup

submitted by Adam Sauerland

The Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society's 2022 Lecture Series kicks off on Thursday, January 6 at 7 p.m. at The Community House. Presenters range from local biologists, conservationists and photographers to a *New York Times* bestselling author.

The first speaker will be Dr. Jerry Jackson, Florida Gulf Coast University professor and host of WGCU's radio show *With the Wild Things*. Dr. Jackson will focus on heron and egret diets, feeding habits and their unique adaptations to consume their daily meals.

"We are very excited for our upcoming lecture series. We are excited not only for our diversity of topics and presenters, but we are simply excited to see familiar faces, in person, that we haven't seen since 2019," said Phyllis Gresham, Sanib-Captiva Audubon board president.



Dr. Jerry Jackson



Scott Weidensaul

"We are also excited to announce that the board members decided to bring in renowned author and naturalist Scott Weidensaul." Weidensaul's presentation will revolve around his new book, *A World on the Wing*, which delves into the science and wonder of bird migration.

"We are truly eager to see and hear from all of our presenters and hope the community will be as well," said Gresham. Lectures following Dr. Jackson's presentation include:

January 13: History of Shorebird

continued on page 2

## Juried Exhibit On View At BIG ARTS

BIG ARTS will once again host the Sanibel-Captiva Art League (SCAL) juried exhibit from Friday, December 17 through Sunday, January 23 in the BIG ARTS Dunham Family Gallery. An artists reception will be held on Friday, January 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. Both the exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. The exhibit, entitled *Awakening*, is the art league's 46th annual Juried Art Council of SW Florida exhibit.

"We are proud to once again host the time-honored, popular SCAL juried exhibit in what promises to be a very exciting show," said Lauren Huff, BIG ARTS gallery manager.

The show was juried by Southwest Florida artist David Acevedo. A total of 67 pieces were accepted for the show.

The nonprofit Sanibel-Captiva Art League began on Captiva in 1964 with 25 members. Today, it has 96 members

continued on page 16



*Freedom* by Nancy Sperte image provided



Volunteer bartenders Mike Boris and Tom Libonate have plenty of holiday "spirit"  
photos by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

## Art Exhibit Opens On Captiva

by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

The Captiva Civic Association (CCA) hosted a festive evening on December 9 with a holiday mixer to open the latest art show by artists from Sanibel-Captiva Art League. The



Captiva Civic Association committee members, from left, Merni Libonate, Pat Boris, Rita Ewell, Pam Rosen, CCA Director Emily Hess Ankerson, Molly Barbee and Administrative Assistant Emery Lowden

juried open art exhibition, entitled *Captiva Inspirations*, featured work by local artists.

Those in attendance were asked to bring a non-perishable food item as a donation to the walk-in food pantry at

FISH of SanCap.

Judged by Anita Putnam of Shell Point, awards were presented to four artists. The first place blue ribbon award went to Peter Zell for his oil painting *Looking for the*

*Lighthouse*. Second place went to Karen Meredith for her oil *Sea & Sky*. The third place award-winning piece was *Beach View*, a pastel by Suzanne Bennett. The

continued on page 40

# Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ

Presents

## A HOLIDAY SEASON OF SERVICES

**Sunday, December 19, 3:00 PM**

**Advent Jazz Vespers**

**Readings and Music of the Season**

**Friday, December 24, 5:00 PM**

**Lighthouse Beach Christmas Eve Service**

**Candles, Music and the Old, Old Story**

**Friday, December 24, 9:00 PM**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**Lessons and Carols and Special Music**

**Sunday, December 26, 10:00 AM**

**Bell Sunday Worship Service**

**Ring Out Wild Bells!**

**Sunday, December 26, 2:00 PM**

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## Fundraiser At American Legion

American Legion Post 123 will hold a fundraiser for Lacy McClary on Sunday, December 19 from 1 to 6 p.m. There will be live music with blues artist Albert Castiglia, sponsored by Sanibel Cafe, and a special appearance by the Marty Stokes Band. A silent auction will feature items donated by island businesses. There will be a 50/50 raffle, bake sale and buffet meal donated by 400 Rabbits, Paper Fig Kitchen and George & Wendy's.

McClary is a longtime island resident

who was in a life-threatening motorcycle accident this summer. She is on the road to recovery but is facing an overwhelming amount of medical expenses from reconstructive surgeries.



American Legion Post 123 is located at mile marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 472-9979.\*

From page 1

## Lecture Series

Conservation on Sanibel and Captiva with local shorebird biologist Audrey Albrecht. She will divulge the history of the islands' shorebird conservation partnerships and celebrate the 20-year anniversary of the Snowy Plover Project.

January 20: Swallow-tailed Kite and Snail Kite Conservation – Contrasting ecology, identical threats with Dr. Ken Meyer, founder of Avian Research Conservation Institute (ARCI). He will summarize what ARCI's research has shown about the conservation ecology of swallow-tailed kites and snail kites, including how human actions – and inactions – cloud their futures. Learn how informed management and skillful conservation planning can capitalize on these birds' natural resilience to build sustainable populations.

January 27: Adrift in a Sea of Red: Brevetoxicosis in Seabirds. Local red tide blooms have devastating effects on a myriad of local fauna. But, through tragedy comes innovation. Dr. Heather Barron of Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) will discuss red tide's effects on local bird species and CROW's newly developed treatment modalities.

February 3: Birding the Sky Islands of Southeast Arizona with Peter Hawrylyshyn. He will take you on a photographic journey to one of the nation's legendary birding hot spots. Using his superb photographs, the talk will focus on the unique biomes and climate of the region, the impact of global warming, the logistics of planning a trip and where/

when to find many of the specialty species.

February 10: Wetlands, Water and Wood Storks with Dr. Shawn Clem. She will discuss what Audubon scientists are uncovering about recent hydrological changes in Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary's wetlands and a possible correlation with declining wood stork nesting.

February 17: A World on the Wing with *The New York Times* bestselling author Scott Weidensaul. His extensive fieldwork and passion for ornithology has helped him unveil the science and wonder of bird migration.

February 24: Rookery Monitoring and other Resource Management within the SWFL Aquatic Preserves. It "takes a village" to monitor and manage Rookery Islands in the area. Birds utilize Rookery Islands from Estero all the way up to Charlotte Harbor. Abrianna Sadler from Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission and Arielle Taylor-Manges from Florida's Department of Environmental Protection will shine a light on the area's local Wading and Diving Bird Rookery Monitoring Program.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., lectures start at 7 p.m. A suggested donation of \$10 per person is appreciated. Masks are expected and social distancing is encouraged during lectures.

Sanibel-Captiva Audubon also hosts bird walks every Saturday starting January 1 at 9 a.m. For more information about bird walks, lectures and the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society, visit [www.san-capaudubon.org](http://www.san-capaudubon.org).\*

## Island Winds Coiffures

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Shirley Bohnert, Smile Box delivery  
photos provided



Student volunteer Maddison Pagano



Lynn Meline, walk-in center assistance



Greg Spaulding, product pickup

## FISH Welcomes Back Seasonal Volunteers

FISH of SanCap welcomes back its seasonal volunteers. FISH provides services to over 3,681 individuals through with the help of over 150 volunteers. In 2020, FISH volunteers donated 4,433 hours and drove 19,382 miles conducting FISH business.

FISH volunteers are key to making over 30 programs and services run

smoothly. “We rely heavily on our volunteer force and cannot thank each and every one of them enough. Their giving of time and energy toward our many programs and services is a true treasure. The level of caring and compassion from our volunteers is second to none, and we are so very proud to work with them,” said Maria Espinoza, executive director.

Volunteer contributions don’t go unnoticed and are celebrated at the FISH annual meeting and volunteer recognition luncheon, scheduled for February 15. The afternoon, hosted by

FISH, gives volunteers, staff and board members an opportunity to reflect on the hard work of the previous year, hear local musical talent and have a meal together.

“We are thrilled to see our seasonal volunteers return, and we have lots of areas that can use their assistance. And we are always looking for additional people who want to volunteer within their community. Even if you have just one hour once a week, we can find a place for you,” said Espinoza.

There are many opportunities to become involved with FISH, from

transportation to meal delivery, to phone duty to stocking shelves. New volunteers are trained in their area(s) of interest and placed with a seasoned volunteer, giving newcomers the necessary tools to be successful.

The application to become a FISH volunteer can be found on the website at [www.fishofsancap.org/volunteers](http://www.fishofsancap.org/volunteers). The next new volunteer training program will be held on Thursday, January 6 beginning at 10 a.m. via Zoom. For more information and log in information, call the FISH Walk-in Center at 472-4775.\*

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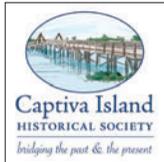
The Mucky Duck

photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives

Captiva Island Historical Society

## Landmark: The Mucky Duck

This week's image is a photo of The Mucky Duck from Andreas Bieri's collection, year unknown.



The History Gallery, developed by the Captiva Island Historical Society, features many photos like this.

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

Visit the website at [www.captiva-island-historical-society.org/archives/research](http://www.captiva-island-historical-society.org/archives/research) to view many more images to bring you closer to Captiva. ✨

## Churches/Temples

**BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS**  
Shabbat services including Torah reading at 7:30 p.m. led by Rabbi Stephen Fuchs and Cantor Murray Simon. Services at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom. Saturday morning classes at 9:45 a.m. on Zoom. Email [batyamsanibel@gmail.com](mailto:batyamsanibel@gmail.com) for links to services and information, 2050 Periwinkle Way.

**CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA**  
Rev. Larry Marshall. Worship services every Sunday at 11 a.m., November 14, 2021 through April 24, 2022. Sunday services posted on the chapel's website, [www.captivachapel.com](http://www.captivachapel.com) and [www.facebook.com/Captiva-Chapel-By-The-Sea](http://www.facebook.com/Captiva-Chapel-By-The-Sea). 11580 Chapin Lane, Captiva, 472-1646.

**CHAVURAT SHALOM**  
(Fellowship of Peace) Friday Shabbat services led by members at 7:30 p.m. Saturday morning Jewish current events at 11 a.m. Talks by members on topics of interest Thursdays at 11 a.m. Contact [ChavuratShalom@gmail.com](mailto:ChavuratShalom@gmail.com) to participate on Zoom.

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST**  
Services at the Christian Science Church of Sanibel-Captiva have resumed as follows: Sunday service at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday meeting at 4:30 p.m. Reading room open on Friday, 10 a.m. to noon. 2950 West Gulf Drive, 472-8684.

**SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Sunday services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in

the Sanctuary. View the Sunday services via livestream at 9 a.m. or later online at [www.sanibelchurch.com](http://www.sanibelchurch.com). Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation, 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684

**SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
The Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, Sr. Pastor. Sunday Worship at 7:45, 9 and 11 a.m. [www.sanibelucc.org](http://www.sanibelucc.org), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 472-0497.

**ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Father Ed Martin, Pastor, Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 p.m., Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. Daily Mass Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road, 472-2763.

**ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
The Rev. Bill Van Oss, Rector. Service schedule through April, Saturday at 5 p.m., Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The 10:30 a.m. Sunday service is also livestreamed at [www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org](http://www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org), 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173.

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS**  
Meets 5 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month from December through April at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. A potluck is held at a member's home on the third Sunday of each month. [ryi39@aol.com](mailto:ryi39@aol.com), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 433-4901.

Email changes to [press@islandsunnews.com](mailto:press@islandsunnews.com) or call 395-1213. ✨

Merry Christmas

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## OBITUARY

### RICHARD GARCIA

Longtime Sanibel resident and realtor Richard Garcia passed away recently after suffering a stroke earlier this year. Richard was 82, and wore many hats on the island.

Moving to Sanibel in the 1980s, Richard opened a Sotheby's real



estate agency, called The James Agency, which was located at the Bell Tower mall, and later joined John Naumann & Associates on the island. As a self-declared "Sani-phile," hating to even cross the causeway, he immediately fell in love with the island's ecology and wildlife.

He combined his lifelong passion for sailing, his Sanibel appreciation and gift for public speaking, and became a docent for Captiva Cruises. He shared his gifts with Captiva Cruises for close to 30 years, becoming a regular docent for the dolphin cruise. Adding dolphins to his repertoire of study and enjoyment, he named one of his boats *Dolphin Island*. He even saved a dolphin beached on the sand once who would have surely died without Richard's

intervention. He instructed others as they waited for the marine crew from Sarasota to arrive.

A voracious reader, Richard was a committed library patron who would often share his bewilderment when hearing anyone proclaim to be bored. "Discover the library," he would say, detailing the excitement of endless possibilities to learn. He would also watch *Family Feud* because of his unquenchable love for people; he genuinely wanted to know how others thought and what they had to say.

Originally from Brooklyn, Richard was an avid New York Yankees fan who would refuse to say the word "Dodgers," still heartbroken after they abandoned his borough some 62 years ago.

Richard was always full of love, life, his Catholic faith and charity for everyone he came into contact with on any given day. He was a true gift to everyone he knew, valuing participating in the lives of others. He taught English as a second language, volunteered with Habitat for Humanity,

and ran the Marine Corps Marathon in support of St. Jude Children's Hospital when he was well into his 60s.

He offered a rare ability to infuse creativity and humor into his relationships. He would send his great-nieces and nephews \$10 each a few days before Easter and Halloween, reminding them that the day "after" Easter and Halloween are two of the best days of the year: all of the holiday candy at CVS goes on sale! He was often overheard proclaiming, "If you're lucky enough to live on Sanibel... then you're lucky enough!"

Richard is survived by his children and their spouses, nieces and nephews, grandchildren and great-nieces and nephews. While their lives will never be the same without him, they are grateful to have known, loved and be loved and affected by him. In his honor, family and friends will try to reflect his love of life and others in the world. Donations may be made to JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge or Sanibel Public Library in Richard's name.\*

## St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church



WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR

### Christmas Eve

Children's Service & Pageant  
at 5 o'clock

Holy Eucharist, Hymns & Carols  
at 8 o'clock

### Christmas Day

10:00 in the morning

A traditional service of Eucharist, hymns & carols.

*All services livestreamed.*

*Masks are highly recommended at all services.*

**The Rev. Bill Van Oss**

**2304 Periwinkle Way • Sanibel**

**[239] 472-2173 • [www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org](http://www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org)**

## Lessons And Carols At Church

The choir of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church will be joined by a chamber ensemble from the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra in presenting a Service of

Lessons and Carols on Wednesday, December 22 at 6 p.m. The service will be held at the church, located at 2304 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. The public is welcome, there is no charge to attend but masks are required. The service will be live streamed at [www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org](http://www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org).

Through scriptures, carols and choral works, Lessons and Carols tells the story of God in the midst and the birth of Jesus.\*

## SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH PRESENTS

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Smile Boxes are delivered by volunteers once a month

photo provided

## Smile Boxes A Big Hit With Seniors

Beginning in August of 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 health crisis, FISH of SanCap introduced Smile Boxes, a program to brighten the spirits of island neighbors, particularly during a time when many were spending more time isolated at home as a safety measure. The program has since increased in popularity and has doubled in size.

The inspiration for the boxes comes from the subscription box trend where participants receive boxes of products and goodies regularly by mail. The boxes are often themed toward time of year and contain gifts, projects and activities for

recipients to do throughout the month, household items, crafts and sometimes a sweet treat. Recipients receive their Smile Box on the second Friday of each month, hand delivered by a FISH volunteer.

FISH realized the positive impact on the community from the many notes of thanks and, of course, smiles. As one note read, "Many thanks for the surprising gift packages... The picnic set is already in our hurricane box with canned goods. Reminds of many past holiday picnics with my Ohio family." The recipient also added, "the (Meals by FISH) have been so welcome. And the drivers/deliverers are often the only people we see, especially with the snowbirds gone."

For more information, or if you know someone who would benefit from the program, call FISH at 472-4775.\*

## Christmas Jazz Program Sunday

After last year's hiatus, Advent Jazz Vespers will return to the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ Sanctuary on Sunday, December 19. The 3 p.m. service will offer jazz arrangements of Christmas songs, readings from a variety of sources and a chance to sing favorite carols. The Rev. Dr. John H. Danner will read an excerpt from his new book, *Angels Dancing on the Roof*.

All are welcome to attend this service and to remain afterwards for light refreshments. There is no charge, though there will be a free-will offering.

Saxophonist and vocalist Shawn Allison, pianist Abbey Allison and guitarist Dave Dust will present upbeat pieces, ballads and other Christmas music, all with a jazz twist. Shawn Allison will lead the carol singing, which will feature familiar Christmas songs.

The trio has chosen readings by authors, poets, orators and theologians. These "lessons," to be presented by members of the congregation, will emphasize Christmas miracles, peace and the joy of the season. The story Pastor Danner will read from his new book will be both entertaining and inspiring.

The musicians are looking forward to a return to this service that was so well received in 2019. "Every year, we find lovely holiday poems and writings, and we have all these great jazz Christmas arrangements we hardly ever get to use,"



From left, Shawn Allison, Abbey Allison and Dave Dust

photo provided

said Abbey Allison. "The idea of putting them together is very appealing."

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ is located at 2050 Periwinkle Way, across from the main entrance to Periwinkle Place shopping center. For more information, call 472-0497.\*

## Red Kettle Bell Ringers Needed

Bell ringers are needed for The Salvation Army Red Kettle program, which runs through Friday, December 24. Sign up online at [www.registertoring.com](http://www.registertoring.com); log in with your email and password. For more information, call John MacLennan at 401-932-4383.\*



# Saint Isabel Catholic Church

Christmas Eve Masses  
5:00 PM and 7:30 PM

Christmas Day Mass  
10:30 AM

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3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road, Sanibel Island at the intersection of Rabbit Road



## Plans For Airstream Rentals On Hold For Now

by Wendy McMullen

The Sanibel Planning Commission voted to continue an application for an Airstream rental business until the owners can find alternative storage for their luxury touring coaches.

Sanibel Vacations asked planning commissioners on Tuesday for a conditional use permit to allow relocation of its bike and kayak rental operation to adjacent units in Palm Ridge Place and to open up a rental business for Airstream recreational vehicles.

It was this latter aspect that has put the kibosh on their project for now. Sanibel Vacation owners Robert Pailles and Charlie Hartley had planned to park the 19-foot Mercedes Benz Airstreams at the rear of their five units in Palm Ridge Place. Planning department officials, however, maintained that the vans represented additional commercial floor area in a development that already has more than would be permitted today.

"Floor area is a very critical issue," explained Commissioner Ty Symroski. "The town center only allows a 12 percent floor area. This is a non-conforming structure and outdoor storage increases the amount of floor area permitted."

Pailles took exception to categorizing the vans as floor area. "There will be no issue parking wise," he said. "There are no fewer than 50 to 75 spaces out back. There will be a van out there, but the renter will come and drive the van away." Pailles cited the growing popularity of the small recreational vehicles, adding that there was a waiting list for the compact vehicles that contain everything needed for short stays away from home.

The commercial center at 2330 Palm Ridge Road is located within the Town Center General Commercial District. Unit numbers have changed over time within this center. Sanibel Vacations received a conditional use permit (CUP) in 2015 for two units. Office and maintenance

staff for Sanibel Vacations, Inc. has grown since 2016, and Sanibel Vacations recently leased two additional commercial units to provide more office space.

The proposed vehicle rental and leasing, and the continuation of the bike and beach equipment rental, are permitted uses in the Town Center General Commercial District when each use meets the general and specific conditions of the conditional use permit. It is the physical presence of a van in a parking space that presents the problem.

Pailles argued that they were not adding vehicles to the island and that most of their clients would be residents or seasonal visitors driving the vehicle to another location for short breaks.

The commission agreed to continue the application until a meeting in January to give the owners time to find alternate parking for the vehicles.\*

## Commission Approves Extended Dock

by Wendy McMullen

Reconstruction of an existing boat dock with an elevator-style boat lift at 687 Anchor Drive was given the okay at Tuesday's meeting of the Sanibel Planning Commission.

A variance was needed for the proposed dock because it extends into the canal beyond the length permitted. The maximum allowed by the city is 20 percent of the width of the waterway. Commissioner Karen Storjohann was concerned about the "serpentine" route that could be created by extending some docks while others remained the same.

In this case, however, commissioners were told that the canal is not widely used and both immediately adjacent properties contained existing boat docks, as do the homes directly across the canal. Extensive mangrove vegetation lines both shorelines of the canal. The mangrove root line in the area extends approximately three to four feet waterward of the mean high water line.

Another concern was the width of the

docks. Storjohann and Commissioner Ty Symroski were both concerned that a dock less than four feet was unsafe for boaters carrying items such as coolers.

The variance was approved unanimously by the commission.\*

## Community House Calendar

Letting Loose with Watercolor classes with Anita Force Marshall are offered on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Cost per class is \$35 for members and \$40 for guests. Register online at [www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net](http://www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net) or call 472-2155. Watercolor rental kits are available for \$10.

Shellcrafters are on site every Monday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A shell crafting class is offered at 10 a.m. There is no charge to attend the class; supplies range between \$3 and \$5.

Aerobics with Mahnaz Bassiri is offered in two sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 to 10 a.m. and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Bring your own weights (optional). Cost per class is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

Line dancing is offered on Tuesdays from 1 to 2 p.m. Cost per class is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

Social Bridge is in play on Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. Cost is \$5.

Painting with Friends is held on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Bring a work in progress and your own supplies. Cost per class is \$10.

Chair stretching exercises with Mahnaz Bassiri are offered on Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. Cost per class is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

The Sanibel Hearts Club meets on Fridays at 1 p.m. For beginners to experts, all are welcome. Cost is \$5.

Sanibel-Captiva Art League is exhibiting works by David King and Donna Filomio this month. The exhibit can be viewed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday or virtually at [www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net](http://www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net).

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. For more information, visit [www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net](http://www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net).\*

This photo shows the exposed mangrove roots. This vegetation will be among additional plantings used to help shore up the project. photo by Wendy McMullen

## Erosion Control Structure Approved

by Wendy McMullen

Planners approved an erosion control structure to shore up a section of Woodring Road on San Carlos Bay just west of Dixie Beach Boulevard.

Marine Engineer Hans Wilson of Hans Wilson Associates explained in a detailed visual PowerPoint the different types of rock revetments. The type used on Woodring Road will be similar to those used between the road and on Turner Beach.

Wilson said that he had learned from some of the problems experienced with these rock structures and proposed a combination of various hard materials along with reclaimed concrete pipes and plantings designed to help stabilize the structures.

The planning commissioners voted unanimously for the application made by U.S. Fish and Wildlife and design to protect the access road to Woodring Point bordering Tarpon Bay.\*

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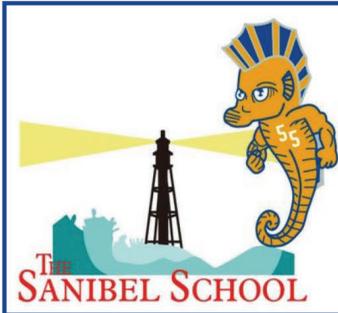
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**OBITUARY**

**MARYLOU "MCKEE" TRAUCHT**

MaryLou "McKee" Traucht was born on January 19, 1925 and passed away on September 4, 2021. She lived a long, extraordinary life and was so loving to so many she met throughout her 96 years. Her love, care and granny wisdom will be greatly missed by her family and friends from all over.



MaryLou survived the Great Depression and, as strange as it might sound, she said it was one of the happiest times of her life. Everyone cared for each other and shared what they had with others; it filled her heart with joy. She was one of the original Rosie the Riveters; working in the armory plants to aid the U.S. efforts in World War II.

She was born in Jackson, Tennessee and at six months of age, her family moved to Ohio, where she grew up, married, raised her family, was a restaurant manager and a real estate agent. In 1968, the family purchased The Village Inn in Gambier, Ohio at Kenyon College and ran the business until 1973, when life took the family to Sanibel Island, Florida.

Along with her husband, Richard "Dick" Traucht, MaryLou was the first resident manager at Mariner Pointe from

1973 to 1989. She was also a successful island realtor from 1975 to 2019 with ESI, John Naumann & Associates and John R. Wood Island Properties. She was a career woman, a Rotary Club Paul Harris award recipient, devoted and loving wife, caretaker, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and lifelong friend to all who knew her.

MaryLou is survived by her children, Becky Traucht Williams, Thom Traucht (Beth) and Belinda Traucht York, eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Jimmy Traucht (2018) and her husband of 58 years, Dick Traucht (2002). Her strength and kindness will continue on through those who were lucky enough to know her.

"You can overcome any obstacle in this life if you really want to and I know because I've done it."

— MaryLou Traucht

A celebration of life will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday, December 27 at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. There will be a short memorial service at 2 p.m.\*

**Holiday Services**

Sanibel Community Church will hold candlelight services at 4, 6 and 8 p.m. on Christmas Eve. On Sunday, January 2, there will be only one service at 10 a.m. Regular services are held at 9 and 11 a.m.

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel.\*

**OBITUARY**

**RICHARD "DICK" SMITH**

Richard "Dick" Smith, 80, passed away on December 5, 2021 with his loving wife of 56 years by his side. He was born on May 11, 1941 in New Straightsville, Ohio.



Dick was a graduate of Ohio University, a teacher and coach at Sheridan High School and retired from State Farm after 30 years. After becoming a full-time resident of Sanibel, Dick could be found soaking up the sunshine, walking the beach, driving his Crossfire or tinkering with stocks.

He is survived by his wife Barbara of Sanibel, his daughter Harriet Wesig (Randy) and granddaughter Evelyn of Dayton, Ohio, and stepbrother Terry McGrath (Ruth Ann) of Logan, Ohio. Dick greatly appreciated all of the support and love from family: Beulah and Tom Gaitten, Harland and Norma Spencer, Ron and Jean Spencer, Ken and Patty Spencer, Robert and Betty Spencer, Wayne and Sharon Vincent, and Roger and Georgie Waldie as well as many special friends who were like family.

A celebration of life will be held after the holidays. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Hope Hospice, 9470 HealthPark Cir., Fort Myers, FL 33908.\*

**OBITUARY**

**THOMAS DARELD JONES**

Thomas "Tom" Dareld Jones passed away on November 27, 2021. He is survived by sons Kyle and Quinn, parents Joyce and Jim Jones, sister Jill (Dean) Wigand and good friend Lisa Franks.



Born on August 13, 1961 and raised in Indiana, Tom pursued his passion for golf, which he continued to enjoy on Sanibel. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends that loved him. He was always the life of the party and would light up any room. He would have you on the edge of your seat during every story he told.

While his time came too soon, Tom lived a full life. He never hesitated to create more memories and experiences. He loved sporting events and warm weather on the beach. His paradise was enjoying a cigar while watching the sunset.

Tom was the founder and co-owner of Island Taxi and Allied Air Services, as well as a member of Kiwanis and the PGA of America.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to an island charity of your choice. All memorial events will be limited to family only.\*

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

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During service names will be read of those remembered through our Christmas Wreath Dedication

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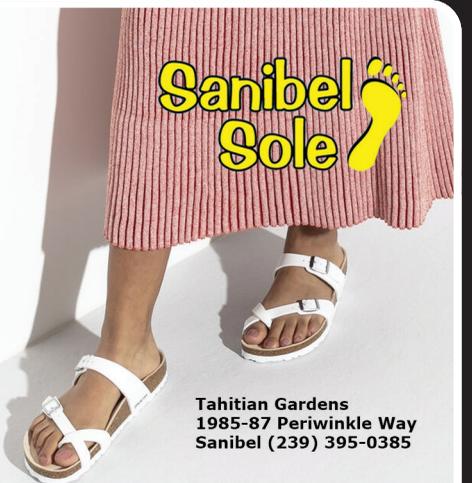
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Plant Smart

# Bottle Palm

by Gerri Reaves

**B**ottle palm (*Hyophorbe lagenicaulis*) is critically endangered in its native range of the Mascarene Islands in the Indian Ocean.

This ornamental palm is used in South Florida as a specimen plant, particularly in groups, and the bulbous lower trunk is a point of curiosity.

Slow growth, small size and cold sensitivity make it suitable for a container or patio plant too.

The word *lagenicaulis* comes from two Greek words referring to the palm's trunk, one meaning "flask" and one meaning "stem."

Overall, the trunk resembles a giant bulb and is smooth and light-colored.

As the slow-growing species matures, the trunk tends to elongate and appear less swollen at the base.

It prefers full sun but will tolerate some shade and requires well-drained soil.

The tree can grow to 20 feet tall in optimum conditions, but usually reaches only about 10.

The fronds can be as long as 12 feet and have a lateral twist.

The oppositely positioned leaflets are up to two feet long and, like those of many palms with compound pinnate leaves, form a "V" shape mid-frond.

The branched inflorescences appear below the crownshaft from which the four to eight fronds emerge. They can be as



**Bottle palm is native to the Mascarene Islands, where it is critically endangered**  
photos by Gerri Reaves

long as three feet and have both male and female white or creamy flowers.

The one-inch rounded fruit ripen from green to black.

The palm is highly salt-tolerant, but is not maintenance-free. Not only is it sensitive to cold, it requires irrigation during very dry periods and periodic fertilizing is also recommended.

You might consider planting a native palm instead, to minimize maintenance and support wildlife.

Sources: *A Handbook of Landscape*



**The palm's most striking feature is the bulbous base of the trunk, which elongates with age**

*Palms* by Jan Allyn, <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>, [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com), and [www.south-florida-plant-guide.com](http://www.south-florida-plant-guide.com).

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

## Native Plant Walks At City Hall

**T**he City of Sanibel Vegetation Committee is offering guided native vegetation and landscaping tours of city hall grounds, planted exclusively with native plants. Tours are scheduled for:

Wednesday, January 12 and Saturday, January 22

Wednesday, February 9 and Saturday, February 26

Wednesday, March 9 and Saturday, March 26

Wednesday, April 13 and Saturday, April 23

Vegetation committee members will provide information on proper planting

and care of native vegetation. Registration is not required. Attendees meet at the main entrance to Sanibel City Hall, located at 800 Dunlop Road. For more information, email [san.dnr@mysanibel.com](mailto:san.dnr@mysanibel.com) or call 472-3700.\*

## City Of Sanibel Holiday Closings

**T**he City of Sanibel administrative offices will be closed in observance of Christmas on Thursday and Friday, December 23 and 24. Regular hours will resume on Monday, December 27.

The offices will also be closed in observance of the New Year holiday on Thursday and Friday, December 30 and 31. Regular hours will resume on Monday, January 3. If you have any questions, call 472-3700.

Refuse, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Advanced Disposal Services regularly scheduled for Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day) will be collected two days later. If your regularly scheduled day for waste collection is Saturday, December 25, it will now be collected on Monday, December 27.

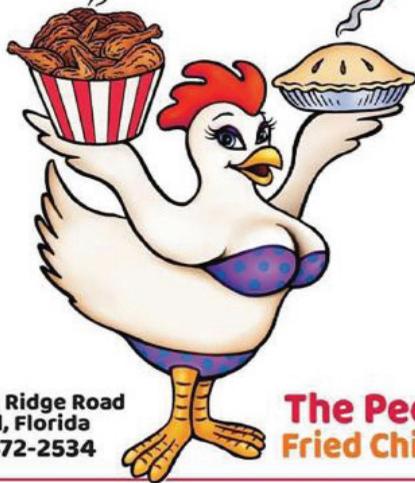
Refuse, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Advanced Disposal Services regularly scheduled for Saturday, January 1 (New Year's Day) will be collected two days later. If your regularly scheduled day for waste collection is Saturday, January 1, it will now be collected on Monday, January 03. If you have any questions, call Advanced Disposal at 334-1224.

The Sanibel Recreation Center will be closed in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on Friday and Saturday, December 24 and 25. Regular hours will resume on Monday, December 27.

The recreation center will also be closed in observance of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, Friday and Saturday, December 31 and January 1. Regular hours will resume on Monday, January 3. If you have any questions, call the recreation center at 472-0345.\*

# Oooooops we did it again.

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# Slow It Down, Take It All In



by Capt.  
Matt Mitchell

**T**he older I get and the longer I guide, the more I'm noticing what has probably always been right there. Whether it's just taking a little more time to see everything that's

going on instead of quickly moving, it's paying off. When fishing with clients, you just can't give any spot too long when it's not happening. We often fish at warp speed until we find the action that we are looking for.

Many days we locate that wide-open snook bite on smaller fish that eat with abandon. After catching a few dozen, we generally move on looking for larger fish. Feeding fish attract feeding fish, and this proved true as we upped the size of our baits and stuck it out in these same places to catch more than a dozen quality snook over 30 inches. This week was one of the best big snook bites I can remember in the past few months.

Casting big shiners quickly upped the game as for each larger snook we managed to get out of the structure and to the boat, we lost at least one or two other big ones. The largest fish measured was 37 inches although we lost at least a dozen others that were noticeably larger.



A 37-inch snook caught and released with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided

This wide-open bite came during the last hour of the falling tide and was consistent for four straight days. But like all good things, as the tides got later in the day the window slowly closed to target these fish.

Catching bait is without a doubt the most important part of our day as guides, as it assures that our clients will catch fish. Without the right bait, our job becomes extremely tough. Over the past few weeks, I have found my bait consistently in a place that I have passed right over for the past 20 years. By slowing down and taking in the subtle

signs, I have worked out a pattern that has been right under my nose. This is two-fold: frustrating that I never saw this bait opportunity before, but satisfying that even after so long I have a new trick.

No matter how long, I'm lucky enough to continue fishing our waters. I'm always learning something new. This amazing fishery has lots of secrets that it just does not give up easily. Something so simple can be such a game-changer if you just slow down and take it all in. The one thing that rings true is that the day you stop learning or claim to know

everything, it's time to hang it up. I just know a very small part of a large puzzle, which luckily most days is enough to catch fish.

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

## Help A Veteran For The Holidays

**T**he annual Shoes and Socks for Homeless Veterans campaign is under way and collection sites will remain open through Thursday, December 23.

Many veterans have lost their jobs or have medical issues, and are living on the streets. You can help these veterans get back to work by providing new shoes and socks this holiday season. The following locations are accepting donations:

Bailey's General Store - 2477 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel

St. Isabel Catholic Church - 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road on Sanibel  
St. Columbkille Catholic Church - 12171 Iona Road in Fort Myers

Visit [www.songsandstoriesforsoldiers.us](http://www.songsandstoriesforsoldiers.us) for additional drop-off sites.

You can also send shoes and socks to: Songs and Stories for Soldiers, 1224 Kittiwake Cir., Sanibel, FL 33957. For more information, call Dan Perkins at 973-687-4826.✪

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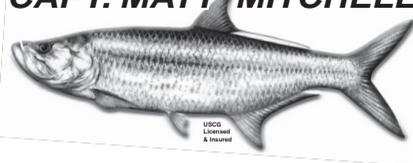
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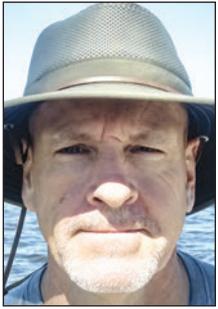


Dave Doane with his co-worker Jesse

CROW Case Of The Week:

## Grasshopper Sparrow

by Bob Petcher



The grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) is one of the smaller species of sparrow. Other "New World" passerine birds that are similar in stature include the

rufous-winged sparrow, Boterri's sparrow, Cassin's sparrow and Bachman's sparrow.

The grasshopper sparrow is described as flat-headed, stubby-tailed and bull-necked. Its bill size is considered disproportionately large and deep for its body, which is colored brown and tan with rusty streaking on its wing feathers. It also has a distinct feature of an orange-yellow stripe in front of its eye.

Grasshopper sparrows like to stay close to the ground and, if deemed necessary, they would rather walk or run than fly. In fact, they have their nests on the ground, usually hidden at the base of a grass pile. While this species of sparrow is hard to find, those with trained ears have said it is one of the few North American sparrows to have two different songs: one, a quiet, insect-like song; and



Patient #21-6076 suffered lost feathers during a predator attack photo by Haillie Mesics

the other, a more musical pattern of squeaky notes emitted from the male in flight.

These grassland birds are so-named due to their penchant for grasshoppers as their primary prey. They have been known to remove the legs of these insects in preparation to feed their chicks.

The grasshopper sparrow breeds in open meadows, prairies, hayfields and pastures, typically with some bare ground.

Florida grasshopper sparrows

(*Ammodramus savannarum floridanus*) are found only in the dry prairies of south-central Florida. This non-migratory subspecies is critically endangered as a result of habitat loss, restricted distribution and population decline, according to the National Audubon Society.

At CROW, an adult male grasshopper sparrow was admitted from Fort Myers after being found on the grass, unable to fly. Upon examination, veterinarians found him to have some primary feathers

missing on the right wing along with some rectrices – stiffer tail feathers that are necessary for flight.

"A significant number of feathers important for flight were missing," confirmed Dr. Charlotte Cournoyer, CROW veterinary intern.

Veterinarians suspected the injury to the grasshopper sparrow was the result of a predator attack, and not related to a bird strike.

"The finding of missing feathers without other evidence of physical trauma is more consistent with a predator attempting to grab the bird," explained Dr. Cournoyer. "The bird had started to grow feathers back, but it will take time before they fully regrow."

The patient was placed on a songbird diet and was subsequently tested every few days to observe flight improvement.

However, the need to grow back most or all of its feathers is not a prerequisite for a bird patient to be released back into the wild. The majority of its rectrices were in place to help it steer in flight.

"The patient passed its flight test on December 12 after seven days in care and was released the same day," said Dr. Cournoyer.

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

## FRESH FARE



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# CIELO

1244 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel Island

Call 239-472-5555

# 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.

General admission is \$12 for adults, \$7 for ages 4 to 12, and no charge for ages 3 and under.

Guests learn about CROW's history and day-to-day operations through displays, interactive exhibits and video. The center also features live animal exhibits, children's areas and live camera feeds of the hospital intake room and several outdoor rehabilitation enclosures. General admission includes the daily presentation (see schedule) and no reservation is required.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

For the safety of the animals and other guests, masks are required at all times in the Visitor Education Center.

## Wildlife Walk Guided Hospital Tours, \$25 (includes general admission)

Southwest Florida is filled with fascinating wildlife, and CROW provides a unique opportunity to look into wildlife rehabilitation and meet the staff responsible for their care. Wildlife walks are the best opportunity for visitors to get an in-depth look into the inner workings of the hospital and the treatment process.



The hour and a half program has two parts: the daily presentation in the Visitor Education Center and then a guided tour through treatment areas of the hospital, concluding on the rehabilitation grounds. This program is open to all, but it is not recommended for children under the age of 13. Masks are required at all times during the tour.

Tours are offered Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. Capacity is limited to eight participants. Advance registration is required. Tours are subject to modification and cancellation based on patients recovering in the hospital.

To register, call 472-3644 ext. 229 or email [reservations@crowclinic.org](mailto:reservations@crowclinic.org). Payment is required to complete reservation.

### Daily Presentation Schedule

**Friday, December 17, 11 a.m.,** Baby Care at CROW – Wildlife parents are devoted to the care of their young and rarely abandon them, and juveniles found “abandoned” might actually be in a natural stage of development. Those needing assistance are placed in a specialized wing of the wildlife hospital and are provided supportive care around the clock until they are old enough to care for themselves. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

**Monday, December 20, 11 a.m.,** Patient Profiles: Virginia Opossums – Virginia opossums are the only marsupial, or pouched mammal, native to the United States. They are highly adaptable animals and can live in a variety of habitats, both natural and human-made. Although it may not be obvious to some people, opossums are a unique member of Florida's wildlife, playing an important role in the function of a healthy ecosystem. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

**Tuesday, December 21, 11 a.m.,** A Day in the Life – CROW's teaching hospital offers externship, fellowship and internship opportunities for natural science and veterinary medicine students. CROW also benefits from the help of over 200 volunteers. While on site, students and volunteers learn the ins and outs of conservation medicine and wildlife rehabilitation. They share their favorite patient stories. Volunteers, staff members and students will be on hand to give you an inside look at what happens behind the scenes at CROW. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

**Wednesday, December 22, 11 a.m.,** Wildlife Rescue 101 – Have you ever come across wildlife in “distress” but did not know the appropriate steps to help? Florida is home to more than 700 terrestrial animals and other invertebrates, and they all depend on our sustainable recreational practices to survive. From posturing to vocalizations, animals communicate in a variety of ways and, at times, indicate their need for human assistance. Whether it is deterring visitors

from feeding birds on the beach or detaching a pelican from fishing line in the mangroves, this program will cover wildlife rescue assessment as well as handling techniques. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

**Thursday, December 23, 11 a.m.,** Patient Profiles: Birds of Prey – Raptors are birds that prey on other animals in the wild to survive. Their specialized beaks and talons make them some of the most effective hunters. This presentation discusses the unique adaptations of the native and migratory raptors of Florida. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.✳

From page 1

## Juried Exhibit

and the consortium now numbers 19 art leagues representing thousands of artists working in many mediums. SCAL's goal is to promote public interest in the appreciation of the fine arts and to encourage cooperation and an exchange of ideas among artists, instructors, art students and others.

BIG ARTS provides an array of quality entertainment, arts and education programs for Sanibel and Captiva residents and visitors. During your visit, stop by the new BIG ARTS gift shop. The BIG ARTS Dunham Family Gallery is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel.✳

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Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum  
Shell Of The Week

# The Hawk-Wing Conch

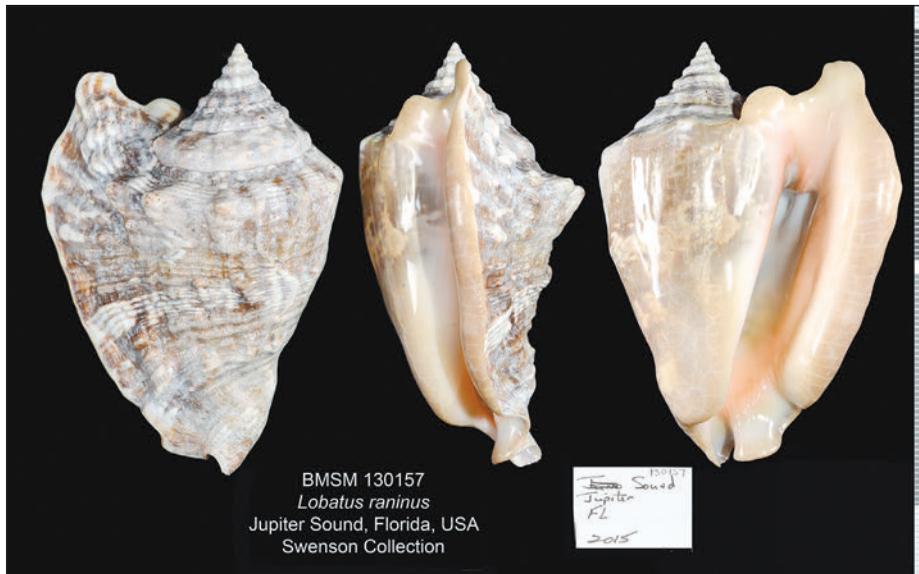


by José H. Leal, PhD, Science Director and Curator

**L**obatus raninus (Gmelin, 1791), resembles its relative, the Milk Conch, but the shell is smaller (reaching about 120 mm, or

4.7 inches), and the flared outer lip of adults rarely surpasses the spire apex (the "tip" of the shell). The species is one of many in the Strombidae (the family of true conchs) known to display dwarfism. Dwarf forms show all the features of mature individuals such as thickened and flared outer lip, but at a much smaller size than expected for that species. At least one dwarf shell in the museum collection measures only 40 mm (about 1.6 inches). The species is found in the Caribbean, east coast of Florida, Florida Keys and in parts of the Gulf of Mexico. The species is not found, however, along the beaches of Southwest Florida. Read more about mollusks and their shells at [www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide](http://www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide) and [www.shellmuseum.org/blog](http://www.shellmuseum.org/blog).

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell



BMSM 130157  
Lobatus raninus  
Jupiter Sound, Florida, USA  
Swenson Collection

Jupiter Sound  
Jupiter  
FL  
2015

The Hawk-wing Conch, *Lobatus raninus*, from Jupiter Sound, Florida

photo by Patricia A. Starkey

Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road. To make a secure donation, visit [www.sanibelmuseum.org](http://www.sanibelmuseum.org). For more information, call 395-2233.\*

## Pension Board Member Sought

Sanibel City Council is accepting applications to fill a general employee pension board of trustees partial term appointment with an

expiration date of September 30, 2022.

Responsibilities include attending quarterly board meetings on the second Wednesday of February, May, August and November at 10 a.m. at city hall. General time commitment is 15 to 20 hours per year to review materials and attend quarterly meetings.

Visit the homepage at [www.mysanibel.com](http://www.mysanibel.com) to submit an application. The deadline for submission is Monday, December 20 at noon.

If you have any questions, contact the city clerk's office at 472-3700.\*

## American Legion Post 123

American Legion Post 123 is serving a buffet meal this Sunday, December 19 from 1 to 6 p.m. during the fundraiser for local artist Lacy McClary.



There will be live music, a silent auction, raffle and bake sale. All are welcome.

On Tuesdays, tacos are served all day. Steak and cheesesteak sandwiches are served on Fridays. There are daily specials as well as half-pound burgers. Food is served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday specials are served from noon to 8 p.m.

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

The 8-Ball Pool League plays at 5 p.m. on Monday nights. Two tables are in play. Come out and watch the action.

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

American Legion member eligibility dates are November 11, 1918 through present. All veterans are welcome.

Post 123 is a non-smoking facility with an outside area for smokers. It is located at mile marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road, open Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 9 p.m. For more information, call 472-9979.\*

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—Maria Espinoza  
FISH Staff Member

# 40 years THEN & NOW

Since the very beginning, **Meals-by-FISH** has been one of the most important programs we provide to our island neighbors. Meals-by-FISH delivers one hot, nutritious meal per day, up to 5 days/week, including extras for the weekend. Working in partnership with Bailey's General Store, Chefs Karl and JT work tirelessly preparing the menu, while their staff sorts, bags and labels each meal on a daily basis. Many recipients are older individuals who no longer cook; some are younger individuals recovering from an illness or surgery. Neighbors may receive meals for any length of time and may opt in/out of the program as needed.



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article from  
The ISLANDER  
Tuesday,  
Nov 2, 1982

## VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

For years, volunteer managers rotated throughout the year handling all meal intakes, calls and changes. Currently, meal managers schedule drivers, produce order list for Bailey's, and make daily reminder calls to drivers. On average meal managers put in 30-40 hours of work monthly.



feeding a  
growing need

1982—10 MEALS  
in our first 6 months

2011—2650 MEALS

2020—6412 MEALS  
and going strong

## 40 year timeline

- 1982** —March/April First full week of operations; Ready to help 24-7; original phone number is still in use
- 1983**—First annual meeting at Gulf Pines
- 1984**—Hurricane Committee Established
- 1986**—First Friendly Faces Event
- 1987** —Volunteers jump to action before Hurricane Floyd
- 1988** —"Person-to-Person" calls established
- 1992**—FISH celebrates 10 years of service
- 1999**—New FISH President, Norman Bowles steps in after 12 years of volunteer work
- 2003** — adopted motto of "Neighbors helping Neighbors"
- 2007**—New logo reflecting community focus; opened first Walk-in Center
- 2008**—Food Pantry opened & Walk-in Center relocated
- 2009** —FISH becomes a United Way Partner
- 2011**—Backpack Program established
- 2012**—"30 Rocks!" FISH 30th Anniversary Celebration
- 2015** —New Walk-In Center opens & FISH has a "Home of its Own"
- 2017** —FISH assists record numbers following Hurricane Irma
- 2020** —New logo and Mission Statement



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**Osprey Foundation Seeks Volunteers**

Osprey nesting season is beginning and The International Osprey Foundation (TIOF) is recruiting volunteers to monitor osprey nest territories on Sanibel, Captiva, Fort Myers Beach, Pine Island and the surrounding areas.

Witness and record the drama of osprey family life unfolding as they build and defend their nests, raise and nurture their chicks, and train their fledglings in life skills needed to survive perilous migrations. Ospreys are especially sensitive to the health of the environment. As a citizen scientist, the data you gather will be utilized in local and global databases to help determine the effectiveness of water quality and climate change actions. TIOF provides training and supports a team



Osprey with chick photo provided approach.

For more information about joining the monitoring team, contact [tiof@outlook.com](mailto:tiof@outlook.com).

**Beach And Shoreline Projects Move Forward**

The Lee Board of County Commissioners approved interlocal agreements to fund 17 Lee County beach and shoreline projects using more than \$4.5 million in tourist development tax dollars.

The agreements are with the Barrier Island Parks Society, Captiva Erosion Prevention District, City of Cape Coral, City of Fort Myers, Town of Fort Myers Beach, City of Sanibel and State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The projects include: Seven projects for maintenance of beaches, beach park facilities and beach accesses in Boca Grande, Cape Coral, Captiva, Sanibel, Fort Myers Beach and Lovers Key.

City of Fort Myers Legacy Island Stabilization – to provide shoreline protection to an island in the Caloosahatchee and a paddlecraft landing that will provide public access to the island.

Gasparilla Island State Park Beach shade structure – to provide shade to visitors accessing the Lighthouse Beach

via a boardwalk previously funded by the tourist development tax.

The funds distributed through the agreements are in addition to more than \$5.7 million in beach and shoreline funding allocated this fiscal year to Lee County departments. In addition to maintaining multiple beach park facilities, Lee County will implement design of ADA improvements to Bonita Beach Park, a new restroom at Crescent Beach Park and a boardwalk and overlook at Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve East.

Beach and shoreline project funding accounts for 26.4 percent of the proceeds from the tourist development tax assessed on short-term lodging such as hotels, resorts and motels.

For more information, visit [www.leevcb.com/funding-programs/beach-and-shoreline](http://www.leevcb.com/funding-programs/beach-and-shoreline).

**Wulfert Keys Trail Reopened**

The Wulfert Keys Trail off of Wildlife Drive at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge has reopened to the public, thanks to the maintenance team of staff and volunteers.

Updates can be followed at <https://www.facebook.com/dingdarlingrefuge>.

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Dec. 17 Maple Pecan Praline  
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Dec. 19 Black Raspberry Chip  
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# The Power Of Teamwork



by Allison Havill Todd

**I**t is 2:30 in the morning, and one of my teammates gently taps on my tent to let me know my next portion of the run is approaching. Even though we

are in Florida, the temperature has dropped down into the 40s overnight, with a heavy dew in the air, leaving everything outside soaking wet and cold. I slip on my trail running shoes, gather my gear and head up to the transition area to meet the incoming runner on our team. We get ready to head out for a six-mile run in the dark on rigorous mountain bike trails that wind through the woods, cross fields and traverse streams and lakes. I don my headlamp and wrist light and prepare to venture out for my third and final leg of this race.

From our base camp of tents, each runner on our eight-man team will complete three different loops during a 24-hour period for a combined 128-mile distance. One runner heads out as soon as the previous one comes in so that a member of our team is always out on the trail, day and night, until we complete the entire course. This is my sixth Ragnar



Our Ragnar trail running relay team; one missing, one injured, but we got it done

photo provided

trail relay race, and the third time I have run this particular course at Alafia River Park in Lithia, Florida. The challenging mountain bike trails are taken over for the weekend to accommodate this event.

There are no showers or running water, instead lines of porta-johns and tables of hand sanitizer flank one side of the field accommodating over 245 teams. There is a temporary village set up, which includes vendor booths, food trucks and a medic station. A huge outdoor screen is showing the movie *Jurassic Park* during the evening hours. Runners huddle around a bonfire to keep warm while waiting for a teammate to finish one of their legs before

heading out on their own. Much of the terrain is through the woods in jungle-like surroundings. The glow of eyes in the dark and the rustling sound of creatures along the trail conjure up visions of velociraptors, panthers and alligators.

Why would anyone choose to participate in an event that requires one to sleep in a tent and run during all times of the day and night with only a few hours of sleep over the course of two days? Maybe it's the thrill of being the first runner on the team to head out, with your fellow teammates and hundreds of other participants cheering you on. Or perhaps it's the sparkling display of stars you see

during a night run as you cross an open field and pause to take in the celestial skies. A fortunate few will experience the dawn of a new day during the course of their run as the ethereal early morning sun filters through the heavy fog, highlighting the droplets of water on surrounding branches. But most of all, it is about the camaraderie that is built during such an event with each team member encouraging his companions.

Even in the wee hours of the morning, you are never quite alone. When struggling to complete a leg, depleted and nutrition deprived, the friendly face of one of your teammates is waiting for you as you cross the finish line back into the transition area to hand off the race belt to him. The last runner on the team to finish the final leg is traditionally accompanied by all the other members of his team as they run in as a group for the last 1/10th mile to cross the finish line together – exhausted yet exhilarated. The final sense of accomplishment happens when we receive our finisher medals and place them together on the ground. In the right order, they form the words "Together we can. We are Ragnarians." There is no question that the power of teamwork is what gets us through the challenges and brings us back for more!

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

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Jean Le Boeuf, News-Press

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f t i

# OUR HOLIDAY SCHEDULE!

**Blue Giraffe**  
Island Dining

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Blue Giraffe 1 at Periwinkle Place will close at 3pm Christmas Eve and 6pm New Years Eve.

Make your reservations now for Blue Giraffe 2 at Beachview for New Year's Eve & New Year's Day!!

Live music is 6 to 9 pm Christmas Eve and 6 to 9 pm New Year's Eve.

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239-558-5634



Maria Santiago and John MacLennan photo provided

## Refuge Volunteer Provides Funding For Educator

Maria Santiago holds a position of respect and trust in the Tice community of Fort Myers. Besides serving as the cultural studies teacher at the elementary school, the Puerto Rican native has developed working and personal relationships with the local churches, daycare and community centers, and surrounding businesses.

For John MacLennan, a JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge volunteer, Santiago's energy and love of nature remind him of his late wife, Suzanne Dubuc, who was passionate about teaching kids, especially those in disadvantaged communities around the U.S.

"Like Suzanne, Maria is an educator and community connector," said Toni Westland, supervisory refuge ranger, who leads 'Ding' Darling's Urban Refuge outreach initiative. "She always has been there to help 'Ding' Darling with Tice Elementary this school year, when we were purchasing school supplies this fall, spending most of November at the school with the WoW mobile classroom, and pitching in on Thanksgiving dinner for 500 families, both students and staff."

When MacLennan learned about the refuge's wish to support a part-time community connector position as a liaison between "Ding" Darling and Tice, he funded Santiago in that role for this school year. As a knowledgeable and active community member, Santiago will be facilitating the formation of a community action team to determine future projects the refuge and WoW team are planning to help Tice Elementary, a Title 1 school, in terms of conservation and community needs.

"Suzanne would embrace a person of such high energy and dedication to children as Maria Santiago obviously is," said MacLennan. "Her life was dedicated to providing the best in education for elementary students."

Dubuc taught in a rural South Carolina school as segregation was ending, served as principal of a multi-cultural Catholic school in Hawaii, provided teachers and

parents in New England with hard-to-find teaching materials, and created an adult-oriented English skills program for Haitian workers in the Fort Myers area.

"We are excited to see Suzanne's passion for education continue with this important mission of urban outreach and inspiring future conservation stewards," said Birgie Miller, executive director of the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), which supports the program as the refuge's nonprofit arm. "Philanthropy makes the difference in what we can accomplish in this area, and it is an honor to have the memory of Suzanne Dubuc shared in this way." \*\*

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Orange Marmalade Glazed Country Ham with Pineapple Relish

Slow Roasted Herb Crusted Prime Rib with Horseradish Cream & Classic au Jus

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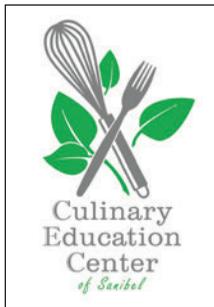
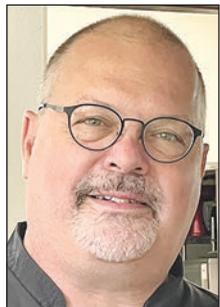
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The Community House

# Florida's Cattle Industry



America in Florida in 1521 by Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon. The largest single brood cow herd in the U.S. is located in Florida, and Florida is home to five of the top 10 largest cow-calf operations (ranches) in the U.S.

The first cattle originated from those the Spaniards brought from Central and South America. They were the Criollo cattle, from which all American beef cattle are descended. The Florida Cracker cattle have also been called Piney Woods, Florida Scrub or Florida Native cattle. That was a nod to the early days when Florida cattle actually flourished in the wild, before they were domesticated just before the American Civil War.

During the latter half of the 19th century, different types of cattle and purebred breeds were imported into Florida. At that time, there were still large numbers of Florida Cracker cattle, but cattlemen began to crossbreed the local species with Brahman, Hereford and Angus breeds. In fact, it almost wiped out the native Florida cattle breed altogether.

The State of Florida began a preservation program in 1970 for Florida Cracker cattle, and they funded and supervised the maintenance of four herds at different locations across the state. The Florida Cracker Cattle Breeders Association was founded in 1989, and that group registered 400 animals that were

certified as original bloodline to the earliest descendants of the Florida Cracker cow.

Here is an excerpt from *Old Punta Rassa*, Floridaiana, 2021:

"Passing through Punta Rassa on the way to or from Sanibel Island, you just don't see many cows these days. It's mostly condos, marinas, and businesses. That's a big leap from how things used to be, as anyone familiar with the history of Florida's cattle industry can tell you. For a good portion of the 19th century, Punta Rassa was a favored port for shipping cattle to Cuba."

Here is one of my favorite classic recipes to try with some of our fine Florida beef.

by Chef John Wolff

I know my vegan friends out there might not appreciate this article but I think it's worth noting that Florida is among the top beef cattle producing states in the country. Over half the agricultural land in Florida is devoted to beef production.

Though mostly unnoticed today, Florida's landscape was once a vast area of grazing lands. For almost 500 years, the cattle industry has contributed significantly to Florida's economy and natural resources. Florida is a cow-calf state. The primary cattle "crop" is calves, which are shipped to other states to be finished and processed into beef. Florida beef producers own over one million cows, heifers and bulls, generating a calf "crop" which exceeds 800,000 calves annually.

Cattle were first introduced to North

### Classic London Broil

Despite its name, this recipe is very American. London broil is made with top round steak, marinated for six to eight hours in a flavorful mixture, broiled in the oven and served with herb butter.

1 beef top round steak, about 1-1½ inches thick (about 2 lbs.)

Marinade:

- ¾ cup beef broth
- 2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 tbsp. soy sauce
- 1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- ½ tsp. pepper

Herb Butter:

- 4 tbsp. softened butter
- 1½ tbsp. chopped fresh chives
- 1 tbsp. chopped fresh parsley leaves

2 tsp. chopped fresh tarragon or chervil

2 tsp. fresh lemon juice

¼ tsp. salt

¼ tsp. pepper

Marinade:

Combine marinade ingredients in small bowl. Place the beef and marinade in food-safe plastic bag; turn to coat. Close bag securely and marinate in refrigerator for six hours or as long as overnight.

Combine herb butter ingredients in small bowl, mixing well. Cover and refrigerate until ready to use.

Remove the steak from marinade; discard marinade. Pat steak dry with paper towel. Preheat broiler. Place steak on rack in broiler pan so surface of beef is 3 to 4 inches from heat. Broil 27 to 29 minutes for medium rare (145°F)

doneness, turning once.

To pan broil steak: Prepare steps 1 and 2. Remove steak from marinade and pat dry with paper towel. Heat large heavy skillet over medium heat until hot. Rub the steak with an additional 1 tablespoon olive oil. Place steak in skillet; cook 15 to 17 minutes for medium rare (145°F) doneness, turning occasionally.

Carve steak into thin slices; top with herb butter and drizzle with pan juices, and garnish with grilled lemon and freshly chopped parsley.

*John Wolff is the resident chef of the Culinary Education Center of Sanibel at The Community House. He enjoys sharing culinary knowledge with future chefs of all ages. Contact him at kitchen@sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.\**



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Bioluminescence is best viewed during the new moon

photo provided

## Nature's Light Show On Sanibel

submitted by Shannon Stainken, Ocean Tribe Paddlers

During the winter months on Sanibel, a unique opportunity presents itself – the chance to enjoy a liquid light show from single-celled, light-emitting organisms called dinoflagellates. While relatively rare in local waters, the best opportunity to observe bioluminescence comes during the new moon when the sky is dark.

For an up close and personal experience, Ocean Tribe Paddlers suggests observing bioluminescence in the calm waters of a canal on a stand-up paddleboard or kayak. With each paddle stroke, a wonderful bluish glow will appear on the water's surface. Sometimes, the movement of the vessel is enough to cause a reaction, leaving a trail of blue light in your wake. It is a truly amazing phenomenon to witness and should be on every Southwest Florida paddler's bucket list.

Last week, Ocean Tribe Paddlers hosted a bioluminescence paddle in Sanibel's east end canals. Paddlers were

lucky enough to see the biological light show in the water. Members experienced a truly magical sight.

Should you choose to explore at night, have fun while taking precautions to be safe. Make yourself visible to other vessels on the water by illuminating your vessel with glow sticks or LED lights. Whether paddling before or after sunset, it is

always safer to paddle with a friend and leave a float plan behind. If you paddle alone, it is extremely important to tell someone where you plan on going and for how long.

Ocean Tribe Paddlers is part of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) family. Visit [www.oceantribeoutfitters.org](http://www.oceantribeoutfitters.org).

## Contract For Water Quality Project Approved

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board approved a contract recently to build the Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment Project. The first-of-its-kind project is located north of Lake Okeechobee and will use a combination of wetland systems and innovative technology to improve regional water quality.

"The South Florida Water Management District continues bold action and significant investments to improve water quality all across south Florida," said SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Chauncey Goss. "Under the leadership of Governor Ron DeSantis, we are breaking ground and finishing more Everglades restoration projects than ever before in Florida's history. Our vote today implements more innovative solutions to support meaningful water quality

improvements in the region and benefit the health of Lake Okeechobee."

Lake Okeechobee and its watershed have been subjected to hydrologic, land use and other modifications over the past century that have degraded its water quality. To help address the lake's nutrient pollution, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) adopted a total maximum daily load (TMDL) to reduce total phosphorus (TP) from reaching the lake and its watershed.

The 3,400-acre Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment Project, located along the Kissimmee River about three miles upstream from Lake Okeechobee, will capture and clean water from the river prior to it flowing into Lake Okeechobee. The Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment Project is strategically located to improve water quality from high-priority basins identified by the DEP's Lake Okeechobee Basin Management Action Plan.

When completed, it will be the largest water quality project north of Lake Okeechobee and will significantly reduce nutrient pollution loads in the Kissimmee

continued on page 36

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**Strawberry Cheesecake Dip**

1/2 cup fresh strawberries, rinsed, dried and chopped fine

1/4 cup pecans, toasted and chopped fine

1/4 cup honey

1/3 cup freshly squeezed orange juice

1 cup low-fat cream cheese, softened

1 cup low-fat sour cream

Assorted cookies, graham crackers and fresh fruit for dipping and spreading

Set aside 1 tablespoon each of the strawberries and pecans for garnish. In a small bowl lightly mix the strawberries, honey, and orange juice. In a separate bowl blend the cream cheese and sour cream until smooth. Add the strawberry mixture and fold together. Fold in the pecans then cover and chill. Garnish the top of the dip with the reserved strawberries and pecans. Serve with cookies and fruit for dipping.\*



Strawberry Cheesecake Dip

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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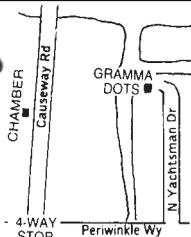
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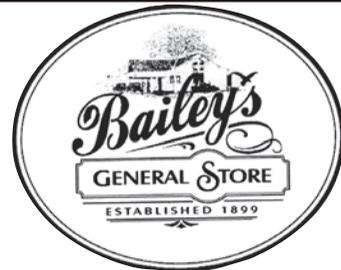


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## Grant Awarded To Marine Lab



From left, SCCF Marine Lab Director Eric Milbrandt, Sanibel FlyFishers President Pete Squibb and Sanibel FlyFishers Treasurer Tom Cunningham photo provided

Sanibel FlyFishers donated \$4,600 to Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) as a matching grant for equipment needed to support the nonprofit's research work. Sanibel FlyFishers' board member Mike Marston matched the donation.

The group thanks its members and friends who made this grant possible and extend a special thanks to Marston for his

matching gift.

SCCF Marine Lab Director Eric Milbrandt indicated the additional funding will be used to acquire a research-grade inverted scope needed for identifying and counting phytoplankton, a time-lapse camera to help document and monitor progress of restoration projects, and a shallow water anchor to assist in on-water research and sample collection.✱

## Limited Spots For Winter Camp

Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) Winter Camp runs Monday to Thursday, December 20 to 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is teaming up with CROW for the four-day program.

Camp activities include dissections, behind-the-scenes look at both facilities, beach walk and shell crafting. Cost is \$100 per camper for children ages 10 to 14; maximum of 10 campers.

CROW will be responsible for transportation to and from the shell museum. Campers need to bring a lunch, water bottle and sunscreen.

To register, contact CROW Education and Outreach Director Rachel Taylor at [rtaylor@crowclinic.org](mailto:rtaylor@crowclinic.org).✱



Rachel Taylor with Mina, the great horned owl, animal ambassador photo provided

## Shade Structures To Be Added At Local Parks

The Lee Board of County Commissioners has awarded a contract for new shade structures at five Lee County Parks & Recreation facilities. The \$341,119 contract with Florida-based Industrial Shadeports Inc. is for structures planned for various playgrounds and water features at the following parks: Buckingham Community

Park in Fort Myers; Hunter Park in Fort Myers; Lakes Regional Park in Fort Myers; Matlacha Community Park in Matlacha; and Veterans Park in Lehigh Acres.

The work is scheduled to be completed in fiscal year 2021-22. The structures are designed to provide relief and comfort to park patrons. The Lee Board of County Commissioners' strategic priorities includes increasing park amenities.

For more information about Lee County Parks & Recreation locations, amenities and other special events, visit [www.leeparks.org](http://www.leeparks.org), call 533-7275 or email [leeparks@leegov.com](mailto:leeparks@leegov.com).✱



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## Creative Workshops At BIG ARTS

**B**IG ARTS workshops are a great place to learn a new hobby or sharpen your skills. The 2022 workshop season offers a variety of classes with experienced instructors.

Workshops include:

Drawing from Photographic References with Francesco Gillia – Tuesdays, January 4 to 25, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Donor: \$135; nondonor: \$169.

Pastels with Mary Klunk – Tuesdays, January 4 to 25, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Donor: \$120; nondonor: \$150.

Glass Fusing with Petra Kaiser – Wednesdays, January 5 to 26, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Donor: \$99; nondonor: \$124.

Glass Fusing with Petra Kaiser – Thursdays, January 6 to 27, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Donor: \$99; nondonor: \$124.

Photography for Beginners with Denny Souers – Thursdays, January 6 to 27, 9 a.m. to noon. Donor: \$111; nondonor: \$139.

The Perennial Philosophy: Catching a Glimpse of Truth and Beauty in Each Religion and Every Branch of Science with Ran Nieoff – Mondays, January 10 to 24, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Donor: \$80; nondonor: \$100.

Watercolor Painting with Sunny Krchmar – Wednesdays, January 14 to

28, 9 a.m. to noon. Member: \$156; nonmember: \$195.

Paint Your Own: Pineapple Beach Bag with Sunny Krchmar – Friday, January 14, 1 to 3 p.m. Donor: \$60; nondonor: \$75.

Drawing Basics with Douglas David – Saturday, January 15, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Donor: \$135; nondonor: \$169.

Ode to Beethoven – The Man Behind the Music with Anette Isaacs – Saturday, January 15, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Donor: \$23; nondonor: \$29.

Greeting Card Class with Donna Lee Cole – Wednesday, January 19, 9 a.m. to noon. Donor: \$25; nondonor: \$32.

Friday with Francesco: Colored Pencils & Pastels on Toned Paper – Friday, January 21, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donor: \$110; nondonor: \$138.

Hand Painted Wine Bottle, Coastal Theme with Lights, Shells and Embellishments with Jenny Licht – Saturday, January 22, 9 a.m. to noon. Donor: \$75; nondonor: \$94.

Paint Seascapes in Oil with Douglas David – Monday and Tuesday, January 24 and 25, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donor: \$265; nondonor: \$332.

The Joy of Writing with Vicky Lettmann – Mondays, January 24 to 28, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Donor: \$110; nondonor: \$138.

Zentangle (beginners only class) with Donna Lee Cole – Wednesday, January 26, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Donor: \$25; nondonor: \$32.

*Pre-registration is required for all classes and workshops. For more*

*information, call the box office at 395-0900, open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or stop by BIG ARTS, located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. For complete course descriptions, workshop and class schedules, visit [www.bigarts.org](http://www.bigarts.org) or email [info@bigarts.org](mailto:info@bigarts.org).*

## Custard Shop Donating To Local Nonprofits

**T**he Shack is giving back to the community this holiday season. As of December 13, the fresh frozen custard shop has launched its 12 Days of Giving where a percentage of sales will go to one of 12 nonprofits on Sanibel and Captiva.

The remaining days of the 12 Days of Giving include:

December 16 – Sanibel Sea School  
December 17 – JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge

December 18 – FISH of SanCap  
December 19 – Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW)

December 20 – Children’s Education Center of the Islands (CECI)

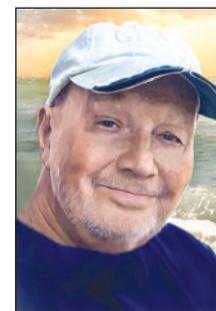
December 21 – Captiva Island Historical Society

December 22 – Sanibel Historical Museum & Village

December 23 – Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF)

December 24 – Sanibel Public Library Foundation.\*

## Poetry Corner



by Jim Weyant

### UNHAPPY GUEST

It happens each and every year and it always ends up the same we’re asked to Thanksgiving dinner but we are never glad we came

Family and friends have gathered to thank God for all their blessings and that may be a wonderful thing but myself I find it quite distressing

‘Cause while they sit ‘round the table amidst all the good cheer and loving, I know there’s someone in the kitchen whose waiting to put me in the oven.

*Jim Weyant first came to Sanibel in 1978. He and wife Helene have been island residents for over 20 years. Prior to retirement, Jim was a system analyst at the New York Stock Exchange. Since then, he has kept busy with tennis, volunteer work, photography, graphic art and reading. His book, Poems From Paradise and Beyond, is available at Amazon and local book stores.\**

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**Spring Cake** by Sanibel Captiva Art League member Karen Meredith, one of the works on exhibit this month image provided

## Author Series Ticket Lottery Opens Monday

The Sanibel Public Library Author Series opens with Elin Hilderbrand on Wednesday, January 19. Enter your request for tickets from 9 a.m. on Monday, December 20 through 9 a.m. Tuesday, December 21. Go to the homepage at [www.sanlib.org](http://www.sanlib.org) during those 24 hours for the link to enter the ticket lottery. Names of those requesting tickets will be selected at random, and then be notified by email. Requests made before or after that time will not be honored.

The library utilizes a lottery system ticketing procedure to meet high demand and to ensure as many as possible have the opportunity to attend. Tickets

are distributed at no charge to library cardholders; one card per person, two tickets per card. Tickets must be requested online. If you are unable to access the online form or if you would like assistance, contact the library.

The next speaker in the series is Marie Benedict, a lawyer who wrote a series of historical novels including *The Other Einstein*, *Carnegie's Maid*, *The Only Woman in The Room*, *Lady Clementine*, and *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*. Her 2021 *The Personal Librarian* was co-written with Victoria Christopher Murray. Benedict will speak at the library on Thursday, February 10.

Scott Turow is the author of many bestselling works of fiction, including *The Last Trial*, *Testimony*, *Identical*, *Innocent*, *Presumed Innocent* and *The Burden of Proof*. His books have been translated into more than 40 languages, sold more than 30 million copies worldwide, and have been adapted into movies and television projects. Turow's Author Series evening will be held at the library on Wednesday, March 9.

Books by these three authors can be borrowed in print, audiobook, and as an OverDrive Libby ebook or Hoopla ebook.

Major funding for the Author Series is provided by the Sanibel Public Library Foundation, Inc. and its donors. For more information about the foundation or to make a donation, call 472-2483 or visit [www.sanlib.org](http://www.sanlib.org).

The library continues to follow safety guidelines consistent with the CDC regarding health and safety for staff and

the public. Author Series dates are final, ticket information and other details are subject to change. Sign up for the email newsletter to receive updated information on the series, [www.sanlib.org/newsletter](http://www.sanlib.org/newsletter) to sign up.

Stop by this month to see more than 30 Byers' Choice figurines on display. The Byers' Choice carolers, polar bears, ice skaters and sleigh are on loan from the Balthaser and Lambrix families. If you have a collection to loan, contact the library.

Sanibel Captiva Art League is displaying Out of the Box this month, a juried exhibit dedicated to Ann Bishoff and Rita McClain.

Shell Islands Garden Club members donate their time and talent to add beauty to the library throughout the year. In addition to their monthly floral display at the service desk, the club donates a Christmas tree each year. Club members Barbara Wilgus, Nancy DeBenedictis and Kathy Veratti decorated a bird-themed tree with hand-painted ornaments, which is on display.

Borrow a birdwatching kit with your library card. Library staff worked with the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society and birdwatching guide Ken Burgener to select the contents of the kits. Use the binoculars and guides to participate in

the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, December 18.

Sanibel Public Library cards are available to all residents of Sanibel and Lee County at no charge. You must present your valid driver's license (or similar government ID) to staff, showing your current Lee County address. Visitor cards are available for a \$10 fee and are good for one year. Computers, printers, scanners and fax service as well as magazines and daily newspapers are also available.

Sanibel Public Library is located at 770 Dunlop Road. It is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. The library will be closed on Friday and Saturday, December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday. For more information, call 472-2483.\*

## Donate Blood

Lee Health is seeking blood donations to help replenish supply levels. All blood donated at Lee Health stays within the health system to care for patients in Southwest Florida. For more information, visit [www.leehealth.org/our-services/blood-centers](http://www.leehealth.org/our-services/blood-centers).\*

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Book Review

# The Madness Of Crowds



by Di Saggau

**L**ouise Penny's mystery *The Madness of Crowds* is the 17th entry in the series about top Quebec cop Armand Gamache. It's timely and thrilling. We again are able to revisit

Three Pines, the community in which Penny has built story upon story. An hour or so from Montreal, it's a place where neighbors are friends. The bistro and bookstore are always welcoming, and escape from one's worries is easily accomplished.

The pandemic is over, but not everything has returned to normal. In her author's notes, Penny says she considered simply ignoring the COVID-19 crisis, but realized she couldn't. Instead, she projected ahead to when life would struggle to return to normal in a world forever changed.

The book has a huge cast, including many familiar friends and a few new ones. The chief inspector finds his family holiday interrupted by what seems to be a simple request. He's asked to provide security for a visiting

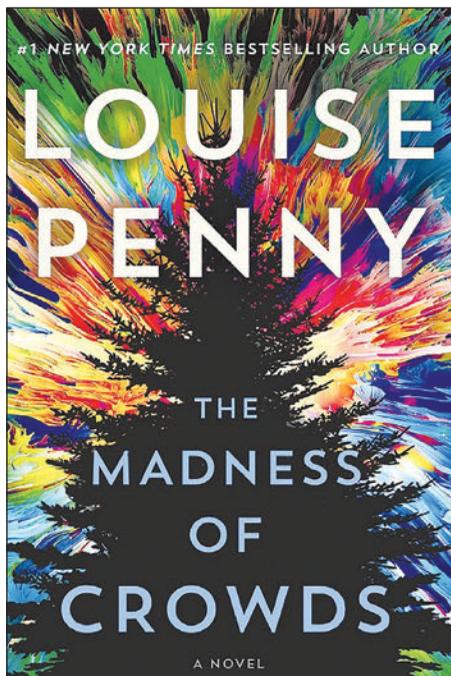


image provided

professor of statistics who will be giving a lecture at the nearby university. The job sounds easy enough, and he wonders why he is assigned the task. He looks into Professor Abigail Robinson, a charismatic speaker with an appalling idea for setting society on a new course. He discovers an agenda so repulsive he tries to cancel the lecture. The university refuses.

Soon, the professor's views start seeping into conversations, making truth

and fact, and reality and delusion so confused, it's hard to tell them apart. Sides are declared and a madness takes hold. Robinson says all will be well if everyone follows her, but Gamache and his team know better.

The title *The Madness of Crowds* comes from a book that is real and

is in Gamache's library. It is titled *Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds*. It was first published in 1841 by Charles Mackay. It's a series of nonfiction essays looking at why sane people believe the nuttiest things. What happens to tip people over into madness?\*

## School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSF

**D**ear Readers,

As we get more involved in the holiday season, family schedules can change quickly, and these changes may alter the routines

of your children. While it's important to be flexible, it's also important to stick to some critical routines more carefully. Bedtime and appropriate sleep hygiene routines are very important to keep. Quality sleep is crucial for everyone's wellbeing and especially for children.

Sleep patterns change dramatically in early childhood, so establishing a healthy sleep pattern in early life is very important for child development. Sleep plays a critical role in learning and memory, emotional regulation and related brain structure development. Preschool children need about 11 to 13 hours of sleep daily; elementary students need approximately nine to 12 hours of sleep; and adolescents/teens need about eight to 10 hours of sleep nightly.

Sleep matters because it recharges children's bodies and brains so they can learn.

Good sleep helps them feel calm and refreshed, make good choices, pay attention in school, maintain a healthy weight, remember what they have learned, avoid getting hurt and overall

feel better.

Children can usually compensate for one night of poor sleep, but more than that may cause problems. Children who are short on sleep may often make poor choices, have more meltdowns, forget what they've learned, lose focus in class, and have more trouble in social or sport settings.

In more serious cases when children are sleep-deprived, they are more prone to making risky choices. And for teens, there is increased use of cigarettes and other illicit substances. Children who are sleep deprived have more difficulty maintaining a healthy weight, and they experience more feelings of anxiousness, sadness and hopelessness. They are mentally and physically exhausted.

Healthy sleep routines should look like this: Children should be able to fall asleep within 15 to 30 minutes of going to bed. They will be alert in the morning, not need constant reminders to get up and will not need excessive naps. They arise refreshed and able to start their new day easily.

Sleep and nightly routines can be complex, but there are some basic principles that will help create a better sleep environment. Make sure your child does not consume caffeine after midday. Screen time should end about an hour prior to bedtime, and children should avoid vigorous exercise close to bedtime as well. Also, make sure to have a simple nightly bedtime routine for everyone, with consistent bedtimes and wake-up times.

The benefits of good sleep are continued on page 34





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# Jeweler Named Host Sponsor For Rotary Art Festival

Congress Jewelers is supporting the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club Arts & Crafts Festival with a \$10,000 host sponsorship.

Scot Congress said, "Melissa and I are happy to be host sponsor to help with the return of the San-Cap Rotary Arts and Crafts Festival following the 2021 COVID cancellation. This major San-Cap Rotary fundraiser generates money donated locally and around the world. Despite last year's limited ability to raise funds, San-Cap Rotary helped FISH provide assistance during the pandemic, funded local scholarships, helped provide oxygen generators to Peru, polio vaccinations in India, hurricane relief in Guatemala and clean water in Haiti.

"Melissa and I want to help San-Cap Rotary do more next year. Therefore, we partnered with the Seaholm Watch Company to offer an incredible 'Seaworthy' Seaholm as a raffle item to aid this year's fundraising."

Tickets are \$10 each or six for \$50 and only 1,000 tickets will be sold. The watch is on display at Congress Jewelers, located in Periwinkle Place shopping center. It is valued at \$1,995.

Congress Jewelers challenges other



Melissa and Scot Congress with the Seaholm watch to be raffled off

photo provided

individuals and businesses to support the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club by sponsoring the arts and crafts festival (February 19 and 20), donating to the silent auction or buying raffle tickets. You can also buy tickets for the helicopter ball drop, part of the Rotary Golf Charity Cup, scheduled for March 26.

For more information about the festival, online registration for golfers, sponsorships or raffle tickets, visit [www.sanibelrotary.org](http://www.sanibelrotary.org).

## BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series

# My Rembrandt

by Di Saggau

The Monday Night Movie for December 20 is *My Rembrandt*, an art-world documentary from Holland about what unites people in their maniacal passion for Rembrandt. The filmmaker takes us inside the stately European homes, many of them quite old, of private citizens who own Rembrandts. Some have had the works in their families for generations. One Scottish aristocrat who lives in a castle says his favorite thing to do is to sit with a book and a glass of whiskey underneath *Old Woman Reading*, the portrait of a hooded lady, her heavy-lidded eyes downcast, her lips taut with pensive judgment, as she focuses on the book in front of her.

Some of the film's subjects are collectors, like Thomas S. Kaplan, the investment billionaire who used his fortune to start snapping up Rembrandts. Unlike some collectors who hide their paintings, he displays them in museums. His favorite is a painting the size of a baseball card that depicts a man who looks like a derelict. Viewed up close, it's a mass of thick brush strokes; from a few feet away, it comes close to being a photograph of ravaged despair.

All these people are united by their maniacal passion for Rembrandt. Much of the film's narrative surrounds Jan Six, a descendant of Rembrandt's whose family owns a number of his works. Six buys a painting at auction for 110,000

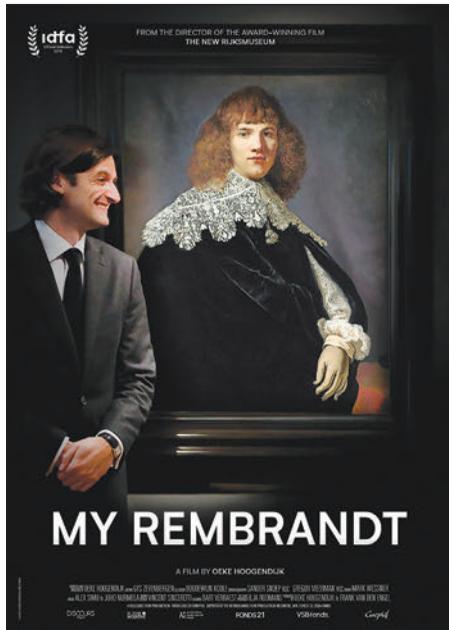


image provided

Euro and later an art historian says it's not a Rembrandt. Six insists it is and eventually the historian agrees with him. The reasons for his change of heart are very interesting.

The film runs 97 minutes and will be shown at 7 p.m. in Christensen Performance Hall. After the film, Rob Raab will lead a discussion. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online or at the box office. All those who are not fully vaccinated are asked to wear masks.

BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. For tickets, call 395-0900 or visit [www.bigarts.org](http://www.bigarts.org).



BAILEY-MATTHEWS

# NATIONAL SHELL MUSEUM

## 2022 Season New Exhibits and Programs



Photo by Andrew West/The News-Press

### EXHIBITS

**RED, BLUE, GREEN:**  
*An Introduction to Water Quality in Southwest Florida*  
**January 15-June 10**

Produced in partnership with Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation

**BLACKWATER MOMENTS:**  
*Nocturnal Photography of Open-Ocean Mollusks*  
**December 10-May 30**

### LECTURES

**Jan. 21: Environmental writer CYNTHIA BARNETT**

**Feb. 1: *The Soul of An Octopus* author SY MONTGOMERY** (pictured)  
This lecture is made possible by Fran Peters/Island Vacations

**Feb. 16: Metropolitan Museum of Art curator BRADLEY STRAUCHEN-SCHERER**

**Mar. 15: Diver and photographer LINDA IANNIELLO**

**Apr. 6: News-Press visual journalist ANDREW WEST**

Registration and details at [ShellMuseum.org](http://ShellMuseum.org)



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 [ShellMuseum.org](http://ShellMuseum.org)



Joey Almeida



Jim Brady



Annie Campbell



Calli Johnson



Jane Majeski



Daniel Munt



Elizabeth Piersol



Susan Ryckman



John Silvia



Ger Ronan



Bob Wiesemann



Michael Wood

## Foundation Names 2022 Leadership Class

The board of directors of the Charitable Foundation of the Islands (CFI) realigned its direction and established a mission that reflects community need and avoids duplication of philanthropic dollars and

programming by establishing three initiatives. The first of three programs, Leadership Sanibel-Captiva, will launch January 11 and run through March 22, culminating with a graduation celebration at Captiva Island Yacht Club. Twelve class members were chosen out of a field of 40. They are: Joey Almeida, Jim Brady, Annie Campbell, Calli Johnson, Jane Majeski, Daniel Munt, Elizabeth Piersol, Susan Ryckman, John Silvia, Ger Ronan, Bob Wiesemann and Michael Wood.

“We purposely designed a small inaugural year class to preserve quality, deliver solid content for each session and create an exciting and engaging behind the scenes experience that would set the stage for future years,” said Ralph Clark, board member and chairman of the Leadership Sanibel-Captiva program.

Members of the class of 2022 will experience five, day-long, deep-dive programs ranging from government to arts and culture with the opportunity to go behind the scenes to explore the resources and issues affecting Sanibel and Captiva’s quality of life and future.

The Charitable Foundation of the Islands’ mission is to identify community needs and collaborative opportunities that empower organizations to affect real change, support those in need, and build and distribute resources that advance the vitality and health of the Sanibel-Captiva community. To learn more or donate, visit [www.mycfi.org](http://www.mycfi.org) or call 322-3818.✪

## The Sanibel School Readies For Golf Classic

The Sanibel School Fund Blue Ribbon Classic Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, May 14 at The Sanctuary Golf Club. A shotgun start will kick off the tournament at noon and there will be a celebratory dinner held afterwards.

As you plan your year-end giving, consider this major annual fundraiser for The Sanibel School.

The tournament has been held on Sanibel since 2007. It returned in 2021 after a one-year hiatus in 2020 because of the pandemic. Last year’s event was highly successful, with fundraising surpassing the goal of \$125,000.

Space will be limited and early registration is recommended. Opportunities to join as a philanthropic partner begin at \$1,000 and include a foursome of golf. Partnerships are also available at the \$2,500 and \$5,000 levels. Individual playing spots will be \$300. If you are interested in participating, email [thesanibelschoolfund@gmail.com](mailto:thesanibelschoolfund@gmail.com) or call Jeff Muddell at 321-217-3946.

Due to the size of The Sanibel School – about 300 students – the budget provided by the school district, calculated per pupil, does not provide needed funding to support special programs. The Sanibel and Captiva communities have supported the Sanibel School Fund through financial gifts, making possible such programs as STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), Spanish and student leadership.

All funds raised at the tournament supplement the school’s budget to enhance the curriculum to help maintain its Blue Ribbon status, continue to improve its ranking as one of the best elementary and middle schools in the state, and provide quality education for island students.✪

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## Messing with Men



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- Kirkus Reviews

Messing with Men by award-winning novelist Christopher Brookhouse, available now at



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From left, Kelly Huguenin, Bill Robinson, Kerri Maw, Elise Carnes and Maria Espinoza photo provided

## Realtors Making Spirits Bright

Throughout November, members of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Association of Realtors (SCIAR) donated items for children, teens and seniors to benefit FISH of SanCap.

The drive culminated on December 1 with the “Merry FISH-mas” drop-in at Blue Giraffe 2 restaurant. Members, affiliate business partners and staff brought more gift items and stayed for pre-holiday mingling. Realtors and

affiliates raised around \$1,500 from cash, gift cards and other donations. A load of toys for children and items for teens and seniors was delivered to the FISH Walk-in Center.

The association thanks the communications and PR committee, Blue Giraffe 2 and the following sponsors: American Momentum Bank; Coastal Title Services of SW Florida, LLC; Heidrick & Co. Insurance; Lake Michigan Credit Union of FL; Margaret Wilcox, realtor; Rosier Insurance; Sanibel Captiva Community Bank; and Superior Title Services.✪

## New Board Members For Wildlife Society

At its recent annual meeting at The Community House, the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) Board of Directors appointed two Sanibel residents as new members: Nancy Felker and Stuart R. Sergeant.

It also reelected members Sarah Ashton, Barb Bluedorn, David Jeffrey and Dick Levinson. The board later elected officers; president Sarah Ashton, vice president Wendy Kindig, secretary Robin Kirk, and treasurer Bill Valerian.

Felker, a practicing pharmacist for 34 years for family pharmacies in Illinois and later in Arkansas, retired in 2017. She has been visiting Sanibel since age 4, when she developed an early love for birds and nature. With her husband, Dave, she has owned property on Sanibel since 2014, and still lives part-time in northwest Arkansas.

Felker began volunteering at the Refuge Nature Store pre-pandemic and was then training to become a rover of Wildlife Drive.

“I will soon be volunteering again at the nature store,” she said. “I enjoy talking to the visitors about what they saw in the refuge and where they have traveled from. I believe the motto ‘The more you know, the more you love, the



Nancy Felker



Stuart Sergeant

more you want to protect.’ The wildlife society does such an excellent job of encouraging education.”

Sergeant works as a litigation attorney for Swanson, Martin & Bell in Chicago, Illinois and owns the On Island boutique on Sanibel with his wife, Kate. He volunteers for the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club and is a former island youth sports coach.

“I love the outdoors and spending free time fishing, hunting and mountain biking with my family,” said Sergeant.

“I am excited to be a part of an organization that plays a key role in keeping Sanibel as we all know it: the perfect place to live and visit.”

“We welcome Nancy and Stuart into the fold, confident that they will bring their passion for nature and energy for volunteering to help move the board into a new year of continued admirable support for the refuge,” said Ashton.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit [www.dingdarlingsociety.org](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org).✪

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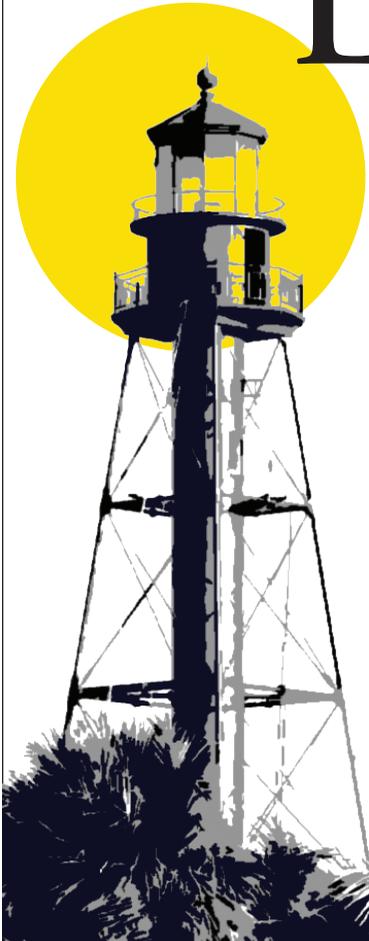
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Chamber members, community supporters and staff gather as Cielo General Manager Marcus Preece cuts the ribbon photo provided

## Cielo Celebrates 10th Anniversary

The Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce helped Cielo restaurant of Sanibel kick off a two-day 10th anniversary celebration with a ribbon cutting on December 6. Opened as Il Cielo in 2011, the restaurant underwent a major makeover in 2019 that included a total redesign, new food and craft cocktail menus, and a slight name change.

Besides embedding itself in the island community as a bastion of fine dining

featuring contemporary American cuisine with Mediterranean and Asian influences, Cielo has philanthropically supported a number of local causes, said Marcus Preece, general manager for more than eight years.

Cielo has sponsored CROW's Taste of the Islands, 10K Race 4 FISH, Community Housing & Resources' Mardi Gras and Manatee Madness, and the Kiwanis Club of Sanibel-Captiva's spaghetti dinner and golf tournament.

Preece planned the invitational 10th anniversary celebration along with team members Executive Chef Melissa Akin, Executive Chef Darice Sinclair and managers Charles Grover and Ksenia

Perevozchikova.

"Cielo is such an island fixture, we laud the team for always keeping relevant in the shifting restaurant landscape of late," said John Lai, chamber president and chief executive officer. "Congratulations on 10 years of excellence and community support."

"The San-Cap chamber of commerce is a vital entity in providing advertising, local knowledge, places to dine and stay, where to fish, shop and relax," said Preece. "All of the staff and volunteers are essential to promoting the islands of Sanibel and Captiva to locals and tourists alike, and we value our relationship with them."✧

## Top 10 Books On The Island

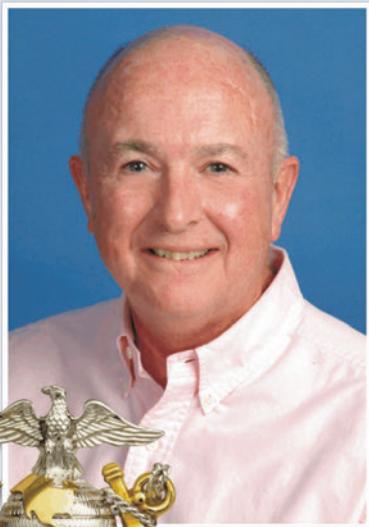
1. *Angels Dancing on the Roof* by John Danner
  2. *Gift from the Sea* by Anne Morrow Lindbergh
  3. *Lyrics* by Paul McCartney
  4. *The Christmas Pig* by JK Rowling
  5. *The Santa Suit* by Mary Kay Andrews
  6. *Giong There* by Katie Couric
  7. *Beach Read* by Emily Henry
  8. *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles
  9. *The Vanishing Half* by Britt Bennett
  10. *Vial of Tears* by Cristin Bishara
- Courtesy MacIntosh Books and Paper.✧

From page 30

## School Smart

numerous and include better concentration and performance in school as well as in sports, increased alertness, and better mood and affect.

Shelley Greggs is former faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she taught psychology and education courses. She is also a nationally certified school psychologist and consultant for School Consultation Services, a private educational consulting company. To contact her, email [smgreggs@gmail.com](mailto:smgreggs@gmail.com) or visit [www.schoolconsultationservices.com](http://www.schoolconsultationservices.com).✧



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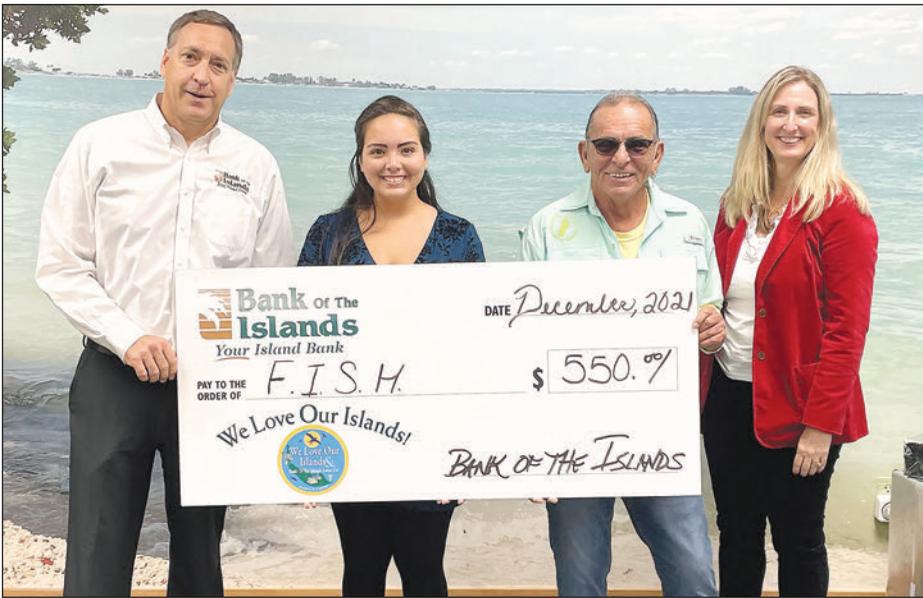
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From left, bank vice president David Lowden, Maria Espinoza of FISH, Barefoot Charley and Susan Schulte of Bank of the Islands

## Donations Made To Nonprofits

Bank of the Islands made two nonprofit donations through its We Love Our Islands program recently. Barefoot Charley was spotted with a “We Love Our Islands” decal on his vehicle, which earned him the right to select which local nonprofit organization would receive a charitable contribution from the

bank. He chose to split his \$1,100 in winnings, giving \$550 each to Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) and FISH of SanCap. Those donations mark \$94,400 given away to date through the bank’s program.

“We’re so glad Charley chose to split our donation between SCCF and FISH,” said Assistant Office Manager Susan Schulte. “These two organizations do so much to care for the people and wildlife that call our islands home.”\*\*

## Island Seniors At The Rec Center

Island Seniors, Inc. is offering the following activities at the Sanibel Recreation Center:

Coffee Social – Monday to Friday from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Bridge – Monday and Wednesday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Mahjongg – Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Page Turners – second Tuesday of the month at 2:30 p.m.

A hot dog lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to noon in the Osprey Room on Wednesday, December 22. Cost is \$3. RSVP to 472-0345.

Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald is held in the new senior activity area. If you

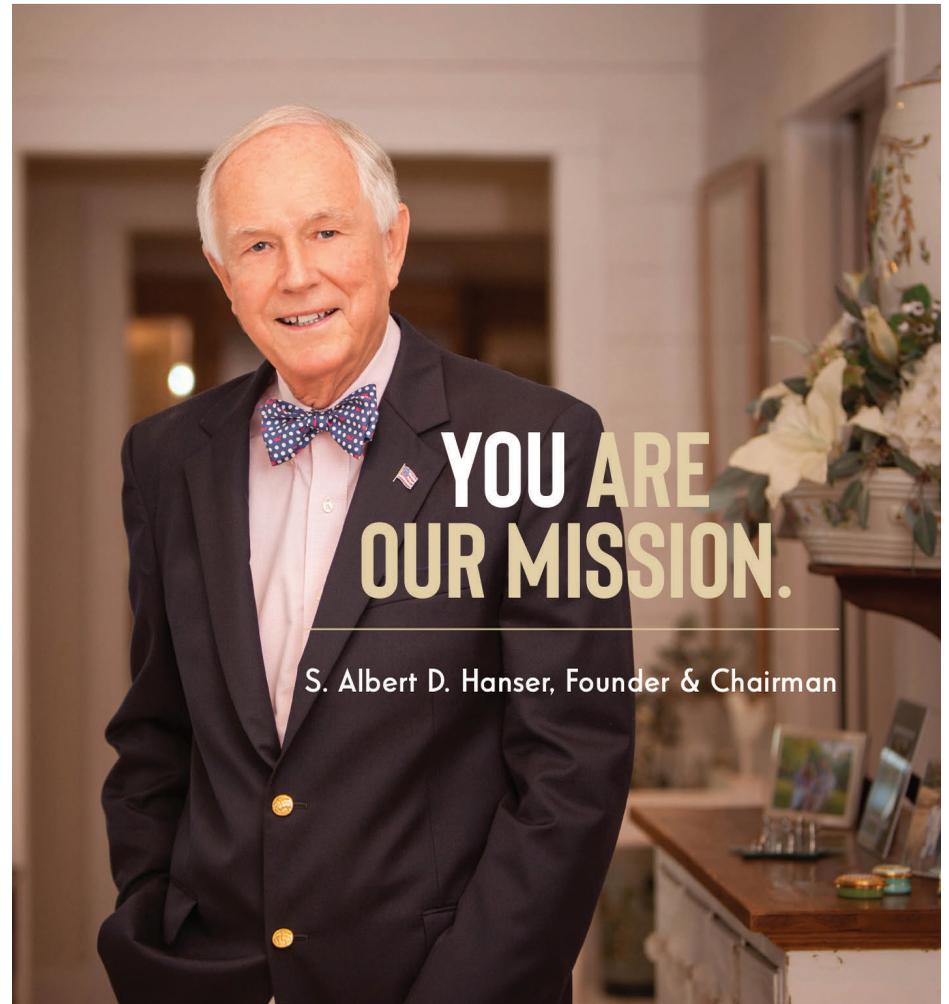
would like to be added to the email list, contact Louis Fitzgerald at sanibelbum22@gmail.com or call 304-707-1701.

An arts and crafts fair will be held on Saturday, February 5 in the outdoor pavilion next to the ball fields. For information on vendor table rental, call 472-0345.

Kayaking begins Tuesday, January 4. Signups begin Wednesday, December 22. Kayaking excursions will continue every Tuesday through the season.

There is a \$5 fee for members; \$20 for nonmembers. If you are interested in becoming a leader or would like to be included in the next orientation meeting, contact Shawn Shaffer at 402-305-2813 or fast2swim@aol.com

The Sanibel Recreation Center is located at 3380 Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 472-0345.\*\*



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# Chamber Members Get Update From City

Sanibel City Manager Dana Souza and Mayor Holly Smith painted a picture of citizen involvement and government fiscal responsibility while addressing the December 9 business luncheon meeting of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce, held at The Community House.

“Your city is in excellent financial shape, and you have excellent leadership that adheres to the Sanibel Plan,” Souza said. “My vision for the city is your vision, the Sanibel vision, the Sanibel Plan.”

Souza took office on November 16 following Judie Zimomra’s retirement after 20 years of service. He acknowledged he has big shoes to fill. “Well, I have pretty big feet,” he quipped.

Smith introduced Souza after outlining city council priorities in upcoming months, including water quality, fiscal responsibility, the senior center, new police facilities, stormwater runoff and local decision-making legislation.

Ryan Orgera, outgoing executive director of SCCF, which sponsored December’s meeting, addressed current water quality issues earlier in the meeting. “We should be proud we have the hardest working mayor in the country,” Orgera, a declaration met with a standing ovation.

In addressing local decision-making, the mayor expressed the council’s



From left, Chamber Chair Mark Blust, Mayor Holly Smith, Chamber President John Lai and City Manager Dana Souza photo provided

concerns that the city should be making decisions about the unique Sanibel community, and that privilege is getting diminished by state and federal-level governments.

“We need grassroots advocacy, and the chamber will be a part of that as well,” Smith said. She also congratulated the chamber for “the best Luminary since I moved to the island.”

Souza addressed chamber members with his promise: “I assure you I will make certain that city hall will be

citizen-centric and business-centric.” He emphasized his accessibility to the community, saying, “I want us to have excellent and friendly relationships. From that foundation, we’ll get to where we can deal with issues when we disagree.”

“We are so blessed to enjoy the close, symbiotic relationship between city government and the chamber,” said John Lai, chamber president and chief executive officer. “Many thanks to Dana and Holly for involving us in what’s going on and coming up at city hall.”

Upcoming business luncheons include January 12 at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa with speaker Ben Siegel, executive director at Southwest Florida International Airport, sponsored by Adventures in Paradise; and February 9, a water quality policy and project update sponsored by Bailey’s General Store and featuring Eric Eikenberg, CEO of The Everglades Foundation, and Chauncey Goss, board chair of South Florida Water Management District.✪

For more information, visit [www.sanibel-captiva.org](http://www.sanibel-captiva.org) or contact Landen Drake at 472-8255 or [landen@sanibel-captiva.org](mailto:landen@sanibel-captiva.org).✪

From page 25

## Water Quality

River. The project will use traditional stormwater treatment cells with aquatic vegetation to remove nutrient pollution from the water coupled with innovative technologies to provide additional water quality benefits.

Gov. DeSantis made improving water quality and completing Everglades restoration projects a top priority of his administration and called for record funding and water quality efforts in his Achieving More Now for Florida’s Environment executive order. SFWMD continues to advance important Everglades restoration projects that will send more water south, reduce harmful discharges to the estuaries and improve water quality in South Florida.✪

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### SENIOR HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Share the warmth of the season with our special island seniors who may be feeling isolated or alone. FISH will deliver a personalized SMILE BOX with special gift items and decor to make their season bright, and remind them they're not alone! **Donate special senior items by Friday, Dec 3.**

### ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

Help Santa fill his bag with gifts for our youngest neighbors. This year we will provide childrens' toys to over 50 households. Help make the holiday fun and magical for the kids of our community! **Drop off toys by Friday, Dec 10.**

### ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

Make a difference for an entire household! When you choose to adopt a family, FISH provides you with a specific wish list for a particular family. Then donors can shop more intentionally to make those wishes come true while providing requested items that fit the needs perfectly. **Drop off gifts by Friday, Dec 10.**

### HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

A special Holiday meal is something everyone should be able to enjoy. FISH provides baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas filled with dinner ingredients and a gift card to purchase a turkey or other holiday protein for approximately 100 of our neighbors. **Drop off food donations by Thursday, Dec 23.**

*If you or someone you know is in need,  
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Superior Interiors

# Redesigning A Small Room That Packs A Punch

by Katie Frederick



**D**oes your home have that one nook or room that makes it difficult to make the most of its space? You can't figure out how to decorate it, let alone articulate how exactly you

can maximize the area and utilize it to its fullest potential.

Whether it's a bedroom, makeshift workspace, or a little corner that your kids use for playtime, there are specific design tips and elements you can incorporate into the living area that can make it seem larger than it actually is. Color, furniture and decor choice all play a major role in how you can have fun with design and really pack a punch out of what could've been an ignored, empty space.

Evaluate your needs within the living space. How do you currently use this space? Do you have new plans after renovating the small area? These are valid questions to consider as you decide what type of decor and furniture you'll

need. Take the following scenarios, for example:

For a small workspace – All you need is a desk, chair and some type of storage space. We recommend vertical shelving here so you can free up the floor space that a bookshelf or storage unit would take up.

For a bedroom – Take a minimalist approach here as well. Your bedroom should have a bed and storage for your clothing. Other furniture can make it feel cluttered, so keep it minimal and include only the necessities.

Use appropriate colors – Unfortunately, certain colors and shades can make your small space feel even more minuscule and cluttered. Dark colors should be avoided in this case; they absorb light and make the four walls feel more closed in. Lighter shades can create the illusion of a larger area – that's because they're more reflective and maximize the way light moves around the room. During the initial stages of your redesign process, keep this tip in mind. A neutral color scheme can work wonders over one that's dark and deep. The 2021 Pantone Color(s) of The Year, ultimate gray and illuminating, are two excellent choices for a smaller room, for example.

Take lighting seriously – As previously mentioned, light means everything in a tiny space. We always talk about the importance of lighting regardless of your living space arrangements, but it doesn't get more important than this scenario.

Take advantage of natural lighting to its fullest extent by keeping window

coverings as minimal and sheer as possible. If there's little opportunity for outdoor lighting, artificial illumination will work wonders here. Try to keep your lighting options off of the ground to avoid taking up unnecessary space; hanging sconces are helpful in this scenario. Of course, if you have a desk or side table in your room, lamps are also useful here.

Use multifunctional furniture as much as you can. When you're minimizing the amount of furniture in your rooms, you

still need to make sure that you have enough storage for your belongings. That's where multifunctional furniture becomes the best friend of a small space. A bed base with drawers is ideal for the bedroom, while a desk with built-in compartments reduces the need for additional storage options.

*Katie Frederick is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at [katie@coincdecen.com](mailto:katie@coincdecen.com).*

## Rotary Happenings

submitted by Cindy Carter



David Long

**O**ur last Rotary meeting started 15 minutes earlier than normal, giving the members more time to congregate and share a club favorite, Happy Bucks. This is a time when members give a dollar or two, or more, to be able to share something "happy" that happened

to them throughout the week. Club members enjoy this part of the meeting because it is a nice way to catch up with our Rotarian friends as well as learn something new about them. It is also a great time to catch up on the overall ranking of the Ohio football team, unless they lose, and then Happy Bucks is strangely quiet.

Last week, we heard from David Long, managing director, equity research analyst at Raymond James & Associates. Long joined Raymond James in 2010 and focuses on the banking sector. Prior to joining Raymond James, Long spent more than five years covering the financial services sector at William Blair & Company. Previously, he was a vice president and bank analyst at Baird, and an equity research associate at Everen Securities, now Wells Fargo. He also worked at Northern Trust in its C&IS business. Long received a bachelor of science degree in business from Indiana

continued on page 42

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 • Small Beach Community  
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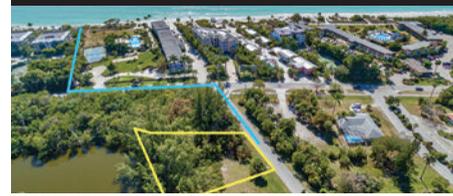
**13520 SHERRILL POINT CT., FORT MYERS**  
 • Cleared River & Canal Front Lot  
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Carla Restivo chats with Tom Libonate during the CCA holiday mixer photos by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

From page 1  
**Captiva**

Captiva Award, voted as best in show by members of the CCA, went to Keith E. Johnson for his watercolor *The End of Andy Rosse*.

All art pieces are available for sale, and many were purchased during the event. Work will remain on display at the Captiva Civic Center, located at 11550 Chapin Lane, through January 6.

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.islandnews@gmail.com](mailto:Kathy.islandnews@gmail.com).



Artist David Bollinger and Ellen Smiley of Sanibel



Bruce Yateman and Angela Paravan of Captiva and Ottawa, Canada



Some artists with work in the show include, from left, Anita Force Marshall, Jeannine Desmarais and Suzette Heeres



Ginny Reiss, Linda Laird and Mary Jane Vinson enjoy the event



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# BURNS *family* TEAM



1



2



NEW LISTING

3

## 1. GULF-FRONT HOME ON SEASPRAY - SANIBEL

- 3 BR/ 4.1 BA home + loft/office set forward of surrounding properties, offering long Gulf views down the beach
- Top floor master suite with walk-in closet. Gulf front pool & spa, multiple lanai's, impact windows, and more

• **\$4,195,000 EURO 3,733,269**

## 2. On A Whim - CAPTIVA

- 2 BR/2 BA cottage located steps to the Bay in the Captiva Village area
- Newly painted, wood plank tile floors, multiple lanais, and colorful décor

• **\$1,295,000 Euro 1,151,535**

## 3. SUNSET CAPTIVA 57 - CAPTIVA

- 2 BR/2 BA plus loft charming home with updated kitchen, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, and multiple lanais
- Community amenities include beach access, pool, tennis, shared dock, fishing pier, and more

• **\$1,399,000 EURO 1,238,674**

## 4. LAKE & GOLF COURSE VIEWS IN BEACHVIEW - SANIBEL

- 5 BR, 3.1 BA home completely renovated with gourmet kitchen, soaring 2 story ceilings and incredible views
- Private office, library, formal dining room, private pool, 2 car garage, and more

• **\$2,695,000 EURO 2,204,949**

## 5. Direct Access Basin Home on Limpet Drive - SANIBEL

- 3 BR/3 BA home on one of Shell Harbor's most sought after streets with wide boating basin & deep water direct access
- Private dock with composite decking & captain's walk, travertine pool deck with spillover spa, and new roof

• **\$2,395,000 Euro 2,040,677**

## 6. SHORT WALK TO THE BEACH - SANIBEL

- 3 BR/ 4 BA + den home constructed by Gulf To Bay Homes in prime location in the Beachview community
- Open kitchen, high ceilings, private pool with spillover spa and 2 story enclosure. All just a short walk to the deeded beach access

• **\$1,749,000 EURO 1,434,917**



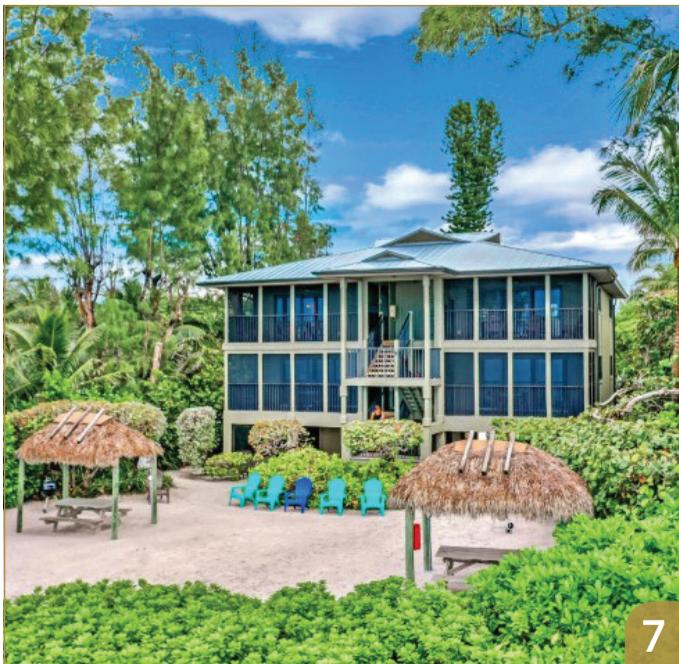
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5



6



7



## 7. JENSEN'S ON THE GULF

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## My Bubby's Silver Dollar



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

In this season of giving, I think of the most valuable gift I received. It was no less than 45 years ago when my great-grandmother, who I affectionately called my "Bubby" was babysitting me and my little sister. Bubby gave me special treatment, not only because I was her first great-grandchild, I was also her only great-grandson. My parents had named me after her deceased husband, Charles, and my given Hebrew name – Gedaliah – was his. Not only that, but my Bubby and I always celebrated our birthdays together as hers was March 5 and mine March 4.

It was New Year's Eve of 1976 (when I was all of 12 years old) when my Bubby and I sat together on her easy chair to watch Dick Clark ring in the new year. Shortly after the ball dropped, she reached into her pocketbook, taking out an 1890 Indian head silver dollar coin.

She went on to explain (in her Germanic-Yiddish accent) its significance. "When I was a very young girl, my father fled to America to escape the pogroms in our native homeland of what was then Austria. He didn't have enough money to secure passage for my mother and me and had to work several years on the lower east side of the city to earn the money necessary to bring us to New York."

She told me of her fear; that when she got to America, her father wouldn't recognize her or love her. Her mother told her that thought was nonsense, of course, but in the 1890s, overseas communication (delivery of letters) was difficult and rare. She had little communication from her father since he left.

Bubby described seeing the awe-inspiring Statue of Liberty as her ship sailed into Ellis Island and feared that during the immigration processing, she would be diagnosed with tuberculosis or some other disease and not allowed entry.

Finally, she made it through the ordeal, after which she and her mother were reunited with her father, who she described as a large man with a booming laugh and big furry beard. He scooped her up in his arms and gave her this 1890 silver dollar, which was an American coin dating to the year of her birth. Back then – at the end of the 19th century – a silver dollar was a lot of money, too!

"This silver dollar signifies the riches that America brings us in our new life together!" he exclaimed. My Bubby kept that silver dollar with her every day of

her life.

At that moment when she handed it to me, she said, "Here, my dear Craig – I want you to have it." I tried to refuse but she insisted. Later that year, my Bubby would die of cancer – none of us knew that she was even sick that New Year's Eve. I still think of her daily. She was a sweet, loving and kind woman.

For one of my birthdays, my wife framed that silver dollar along with a picture of my Bubby and I celebrating the last birthday we would have together. Today, more than 45 years later, it hangs in a prominent place in my home, and my three daughters all know its story. In fact, my family purchased a place for her name on a plaque at Ellis Island. It was an emotional moment for me when visiting there with my wife and children, telling them this story – and seeing her name inscribed near pictures of the steamships that brought so many people to a place that promised hope and a new life.

While anyone might purchase an 1890 Indian head silver dollar on the open market for \$90 or \$100 – it is invaluable to me. It ties me to my heritage – to my ancestors – and symbolizes the struggles, hopes and dreams that they lived and died for so subsequent generations of the family could live in freedom and enjoy a fruitful life.

My Bubby's silver dollar reminds me of the risks that they took – leaving everyone and everything that they ever knew for a land that offered promise – even though they hadn't yet learned to speak English, all so that their progeny could thrive.

As far as inheritances go, I've never expected to receive much in the realm of money or property from my family. They're not very wealthy people. But we do have a rich heritage and I was given a gift of far greater value, a piece of my history.

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From page 38

## Rotary

University and a master of business administration from the University of Chicago.

Long specializes in covering the banking sector and he discussed the current status of banks, trends and future outlook of the industry. He gave very interesting ideas for investment sectors for the upcoming new year and shared

his enthusiasm for the banking sector reflecting a very profitable year ahead. Finally, some good news!

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club is holding meetings on Zoom and in person at The Community House, 2173 Periwinkle Way. Doors open at 6:45 a.m. and the meeting begins at 7:15 a.m. Email [william.harkey@gmail.com](mailto:william.harkey@gmail.com) by the Tuesday before the meeting if you would like to attend in person. All are welcome. For more information, visit [www.sanibelrotary.org](http://www.sanibelrotary.org).✪

## How's The Market? Ask Ann

*To my clients, colleagues & friends,  
a sincere Thank You!*



Ann Gee  
Broker/Owner

As we move toward the end of the year, allow me the opportunity to acknowledge and thank my teammates: Bobbie McGlynn, Bob Hodosky, Michelle Bornhorst, Wil Compton and Gene Taylor, as well as my marketing team, Scott McPhee and Tara Geissing, who all contributed to a record-setting year for our office. My gratitude to the Sellers and Buyers who bought and sold properties in 2021. An additional "Thank you" to our friends who referred clients to our company, and other realtors in the community who cooperated with us in several successful transactions. We are very fortunate to have the assistance of Superior Title Company, Select Vacation Properties, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, well informed local Insurance companies and legal offices. Lucky Us! We are in a great small town community, Sanibel Island.

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

1501 Middle Gulf Dr. F407 Sundial West - <b>\$569,000</b>	4077 Coquina Dr. - <b>\$1,299,000</b>
827 East Gulf Dr. J1 Sanibel Arms West - <b>\$679,000</b>	4221 Old Banyon Way - <b>\$1,305,000</b>
2230 Camino Del Mar 4C1 Ocean's Reach - <b>\$875,000</b>	1299 Middle Gulf Dr.133 Sundial East - <b>\$1,389,000</b>
2458 Wulfert Rd. - <b>\$934,500</b>	1665 Sabal Palm Dr. - <b>\$2,220,000</b>
4619 Bowen Bayou Rd. - <b>\$976,000</b>	1237 Isabel Dr. - <b>\$3,000,000</b>

Have a good week and call me with any comments or questions.

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## 8777 BANYAN COVE CIRCLE

### NEW LISTING



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- Great Family Home
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## 15261 CAPTIVA DRIVE



### WATERFRONT OASIS

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- Stofft Cooney Design, Waterfront Oasis
- Heated Pool w/Infinity Spa, Estate Lot
- Master Retreat w/ Loft

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## 1266 & 1268 PAR VIEW DRIVE



### BEACH VIEW ESTATES

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### SAWGRASS

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# Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



**W**e just got back from Hawaii, where the world championship Xterra triathlon took place and, no, the paper did not send me and that wasn't the purpose of our trip,

cancelled for the first time in 25 years due to massive surf and hazardous rip currents. "The race converted to a run-bike-run duathlon that started with a 3K run and followed with a grueling two-lap 31K mountain bike ride and finished with an 11K trail run through forest trails and beach sand. The bike and run courses went from being a tough course to a literal slip-and-slide for bike riders. The nearly 4,000 feet of combined climbing on the increasingly technical bike and run courses, an already challenging course, got even harder with many bikes slipping and falling in the mud. Just 50 seconds separated the top three finishers. Hayden Wilde from New Zealand and Flora Duffy from Bermuda captured the elite titles.

The Honolulu marathon was also the same weekend. The race was a third its normal size, in part because Japanese, who typically make up 50 percent of runners, didn't participate due to COVID restrictions. Emmanuel Saina from Kenya won. He last won in Buenos Aires in 2018 but has been a frequent Top 10 finisher, most recently finishing fifth in Rotterdam in October.

We keep seeing new "trends" in college football and now it's more players opting out of playing bowl games. As reported in the *USA Today*, the idea of a player opting out of a bowl game rankles Mississippi State football coach Mike Leach. "You've got an obligation to the place that helped build and develop you and finish it out in the bowl," Leach said. "That's part of it. You owe it to your team, you owe it to your fans, you owe it

to your coaches, and it's the most bizarre thing in the world to me. Somebody says, 'Well, I can't play one more game.' They think they're going to have a storied 10-year NFL career, and then they can't play one more college game. Well, that's ridiculous."

The other "trend" is coaches leaving schools before bowl games, like Brian Kelly and Lincoln Riley. This is not a new trend. In 2013, reporters talked about coaches being "scared" that their opportunity would be lost if they didn't take the job. Now? Maybe it's the high school commitment date which begins December 15. Granted, that portal is well over a month long, but the best

coaches want the best players, and the best players want to know who their coach will be. It seems like the easiest way to change this is just to move the signing date for high schoolers to be able to commit to a school until after all the bowl games. That way, the coach has no incentive to leave beforehand. The other comment I've seen is getting to the bowl game counts; the results don't really matter. As a fan, I think every game matters, and of course for alums, travelling to a bowl game can't be beat. What do you think?

Our good news story of the week involves Tom Brady again in a different continued on page 46

just coincidental. My daughter Hillary has competed in the Ironman (whose world championship finals are held in Hawaii). So what is the XTERRA World Championship race? According to the XTERRA website, "The race combines a 1.5-kilometer (1 mile) swim, a 31-kilometer (19.2 miles) mountain bike ride that climbs 3,500 feet up and down the lower slopes of the West Maui Mountains, and a 10.5-kilometer (6.5-miles) trail run that traverses forest trails and beach sand. The XTERRA World Championship race is the last in a series of 38 off-road triathlon races held in 21 countries. The concept is to provide a bona-fide world championship for amateur and elite off-road triathletes. For pros, there is \$100,000 in prize money at stake. More than 1,000 athletes from 35 countries gathered on December 5, and faced extreme weather." We were on Maui and got caught in some torrential rain and dangerous floods. The swim was

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. What competition, created and televised by ESPN in the early 2000s, featured fishing, sporting dogs, target sports and timber events?
2. Ullamalitzli – resembling a combination of modern soccer and basketball – was a sport played by what ancient civilization?
3. At the 1992 Barcelona Summer Olympics, 12 of the 15 former Soviet Union republics competed together under what name?
4. What 1996 sports comedy film starred Adam Sandler as a failed hockey player who discovers a knack for golf?
5. Name the San Francisco 49ers placekicker who set the NFL single-season record with 44 field goals made in 2011?
6. Legendary figure skaters Willy Bocki, Karl Schafer and Emmerich Danzer all hailed from what country?
7. In July 1991, Dennis Martinez threw a perfect game pitching for what Major League Baseball team?

## ANSWERS

1. The Great Outdoor Games. 2. The Aztecs. 3. The United Team. 4. *Happy Gilmore*. 5. David Akers. 6. Austria. 7. The Montreal Expos.

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**McMurray & Members**

**Royal Shell Real Estate**

The top producers for November at the Royal Shell Real Estate Sanibel-Captiva office were: McMurray & Members, top listing and top sales producers team; Maureen Ahmed, top listing producer individual/partners; and Brian Murty, top sales producer individual/partners.✪



**Maureen Ahmed**



**Brian Murty**

**VIP Realty Group**



**Martha Smith and Robin Humphrey**



**Connie Walters**



**Rose Dakos**

The top producers for November at VIP Realty Group were: the team of Robin Humphrey and Martha Smith, top sales; Connie Walters, top listings; and Rose Dakos, top producer.✪

**Pfeifer Realty Group**

KC Cuscaden has joined the team at Pfeifer Realty Group. Cuscaden is a Florida native who has served two terms on the board of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Association of Realtors. She has been selling real estate since 2002.✪



**KC Cuscaden**

**Pfeifer Realty Group**



**Wendy Kirschner**



**Jen McSorley**

The top producers for November at Pfeifer Realty Group were: Wendy Kirschner, top listing agent; and Jen McSorley and Greg Demaras, top sales associates.✪



**Greg Demaras**

**John Gee & Company**



**Michelle Bornhorst**



**Bobbie McGlynn**

The top sales producer for November at John Gee & Company was Michelle Bornhorst. The top lister was Bobbie McGlynn.✪

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# Bike Safety



by Julie Rosenberg, MD

**D**id you know that Florida is among the most dangerous states for bicyclists?

According to a 2021 report by StreetLight, the state of Florida is more dangerous

for bicyclists than all other states except South Carolina and Delaware. In 2020, the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles reported a total of 5,919 bicycle crashes and 157 fatalities.

Bicyclists are vulnerable to injury. In severe cases, injury can result in death. A recent study from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) showed that common causes of fatal bicycle accidents in Florida include:

- Failure to yield the right of way;
- Failure to obey traffic laws;
- Making an illegal or improper turn.

On July 1, Gov. Ron DeSantis signed CS/SB 950 into law to offer greater protection to bicyclists and pedestrians in Florida. However, there were no changes to helmet laws in Florida, which are quite lenient. Under Florida law, a bicyclist must wear a

helmet only if they are under 16 years of age. Despite high vulnerability on Florida roadways, bicyclists 16 years of age and older are not required to wear a helmet.

It's imperative that bicyclists take steps to ensure their safety. Below are seven bicycle safety tips.

1) Always wear a properly fitting helmet – Regardless of your age, always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle. According to a study published in 1989 in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, riders with helmets had an 85 percent reduction in their risk of head injury and an 88 percent reduction in their risk of brain injury.

2) Wear bright, reflective clothing – Always wear bright, reflective clothing so that you can be readily seen by drivers. When possible, ride during the daytime. The NHTSA study showed that 10 percent of fatal bicycle accidents occurred because a bicyclist was wearing clothing that was too dark to be seen at night.

3) Equip your bike with lights and reflectors – When riding, be sure to turn on the lights in the front and back of your bike. In addition, place reflectors on the rear, front, pedals and spokes. I also recommend having a rear-view mirror for better visibility.

4) Plan your route – Ride your bike on a bike path when available. Sanibel Island is very friendly to bicyclists; the island has 25 miles of beautiful bike trails. In fact, Sanibel has bike trails next to nearly all its roads. If you do

ride on the street, choose areas with little traffic whenever possible.

5) Follow traffic laws (this goes for motorists too) – Bicyclists should stop at all red lights and stop signs, as well as at crosswalks prior to entering them. Unfortunately, bicyclists cannot assume that motorists will stop at crosswalks when a bicyclist (or pedestrian) is waiting to cross. Florida Statute states that a vehicle approaching a pedestrian legally crossing the street must yield or stop to allow that person to cross. However, I have personally counted as many as eight motor vehicles passing through a crosswalk while I was waiting with my bike to cross the road.

6) Make sure your bike is in working order – Bikes can be unsafe when they are not in good repair. Inspect your bike prior to riding to ensure that all

parts are secure and working properly. If you own a bike, ideally, it should be serviced annually to make sure all components, especially the tires and brakes, are in working order.

7) Avoid distractions – Bicyclists: always keep your eyes on the road. Stay focused. Don't use your mobile phone or listen to music when out for a ride.

In conclusion, Florida is a great state for outdoor activities such as bicycling. Just remember – safety first.

*Julie Rosenberg, MD, is a global healthcare leader, medical consultant and the author of two books, Beyond the Mat and Be True. For more information, visit her website at [www.drjulierosenberg.com](http://www.drjulierosenberg.com). For consulting and speaking requests, email inquiries to [info@drjulierosenberg.com](mailto:info@drjulierosenberg.com).\**

From page 44

## Frankly Speaking

light, as reported by Jamie Edmonds of WDIV in Detroit about Notre Dame High School in Pontiac, Michigan. "The group text for the Notre Dame Prep freshman basketball team was created to talk about practice and ride sharing. Vinny Tartaglia was in charge of adding cell phone numbers. "We were trying to add people, and the last person was Luca, but I was one digit off," Tartaglia said. So last week a stranger, not teammate Luca, was suddenly included in the chat.

The unknown person texted: "Ya'll meant to add me to this?" "Yes." "You know who I am? I'm Sean Murphy-Bunting." The Michigan native and Tampa Bay Buccaneers cornerback sent a photo of himself. "Everyone was skeptical, it's definitely not an NFL player, right?" Tartaglia said. That's when Murphy-Bunting FaceTimed the group.

Leonard Fournette walked us through the locker room and showed

us all the players," Nate Seaman said. "Sean Murphy-Bunting, Mike Evans, Lavonte Davis, Gronk, Richard Sherman. That's when we all said, where's the GOAT?" A few minutes later, Tom Brady joined the FaceTime call, and everyone about lost their minds. "I thought, 'I should grab my Michigan Brady jersey because I have one and I'm a Michigan fan too,'" AJ Valentine said. "I told him Go Blue! We're going to beat OSU!" The Super Bowl champions made these boys' year in just about 30 minutes time. "They didn't have to do that for us," Seaman said. "They could have easily said, 'I'm going to leave the group chat and just left, but Murphy-Bunting and Fournette made our day.'" So how did this epic Facetime call end? With Murphy-Bunting telling the Irish: "Ball out this season!"

*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 to [press@islandsunnews.com](mailto:press@islandsunnews.com).\**

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dearRPharmacist

## How To Treat Food Poisoning



by Suzy  
Cohen, RPh

### Dear Readers:

Food today is frequently contaminated, and it's getting scary. Case in point, recently I wanted to make a salmon fillet with lemon

and onion slices on top of it, and serve it with a baked potato and a salad with tomatoes. Such a simple dinner, what could go wrong? A lot! The meal could not be made because every single item I had in the house had been recalled due to contamination or was rotten.

1. Onions and Fish – Every single onion had to be thrown away because of a nationwide recall due to salmonella contamination. This was a massive recall in case you didn't know.

Salmon was questionable. I had bought it locally, and then found out the salmonella outbreak involved many states, was traced back close to home in Denver, Colorado. Ended up throwing the fish out just in case.

2. Slimy Lettuce – I tried to make a salad. I opened the package of three heads of baby romaine and two of them were dissolving right before my eyes – dripping with wet, slimy liquid, a sign of decomposition.

3. Rotten Tomatoes – The tomatoes I bought in a plastic, covered, three-pack container were covered in white mold on the underside.

4. Moldy Lemons – I had gone to a big box retailer and purchased a large bag of lemons. Two days later, I went to the kitchen eager to use them, and every lemon had to be thrown out due to whitish-green mold festering on them.

5. Bad Potatoes – I wanted to make a baked potato, but upon peeling them, they turned bright green.

The details regarding my potato problem are posted at my website in a longer version of this article which you can read at [www.suzycohen.com](http://www.suzycohen.com). This article also includes numerous other recalls, as well as more solutions about how to treat foodborne illness.

Since there have been many fatalities and a spike in hospitalizations from food poisoning, seek professional medical attention if you get sick because things can go south pretty quickly if it's listeria, salmonella, E. coli, norovirus, clostridium, hepatitis and others that are lurking around right now.

Recognize the symptoms and seek medical attention immediately if you experience severe vomiting or watery diarrhea, fever, chills, weakness, fainting, dehydration, painful or unrelenting stomach cramps, a stiff neck, jaundice and vertigo.

Here's how you can treat mild symptoms:

1. Change your diet and maintain hydration with electrolytes.
2. Try over-the-counter (OTC) medications such as Imodium or Pepto-Bismol help sometimes with mild diarrhea. These drugs are for mild, self-limiting gastroenteritis not severe foodborne illness.
3. Drink herbal tea with chamomile peppermint, ginger or fennel. These are available commercially.

If something has a bad odor, is slimy or tastes funny just throw it out. Don't eat

anything questionable because the risk to benefit ratio is bad. Stay informed and keep track of food (and drug) recalls by visiting the FDA's website.

*This information is not intended to*

*treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is the author of The 24-Hour Pharmacist and is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit [www.SuzyCohen.com](http://www.SuzyCohen.com).* ✨

## Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance  
Clancy

**Q:** I have noticed a pattern of selecting women who have similar qualities to my mother that are negative. How can I break this pattern?

**A:** It is most likely that you have unconsciously chosen these women. We are programmed to select the partner that we need to work through lessons we didn't get with one or both parents.

It can be a powerful match, however, it usually involves dealing with working through those issues. Relationships come with lessons to learn and when something strikes you that reminds you of a parent, you can heal through that relationship with conscious communication, or learn and move on. This really depends on how conscious you are of your partners; you are aware that you have partners who remind you of more negative qualities of your mother. Do not judge yourself for this

as there is always learning.

Each day, become a little more conscious and awake of what's happening and ask yourself what you can learn from the experience. What can you teach each other and what can you learn? It's also important to be compassionate with yourself and to remind yourself that if you can practice patience, set healthy boundaries, use your wisdom in making wise decisions, and you will come closer to your truth of who you really are. If the relationship continues to be negative, you can either get some counseling or choose to leave, take the lessons you have learned and seek a healthier partner.

Set intentions for what you truly want to have in this relationship and be specific and clear. Allow yourself in your intentions to call forth more love. Sit daily and resonate with this. You can have the thought and say those words to yourself out loud and even write this sentence down. See where it takes you, then give gratitude and see what happens. Remember that your answers are within.

Constance Clancy, EdD, LMHC, LPC, NCC is a licensed mental health therapist, hypnotherapist, author and holistic stress management instructor. If you have a question, email Constance at [drconstanceclancy@gmail.com](mailto:drconstanceclancy@gmail.com) or visit [www.drconstanceclancy.com](http://www.drconstanceclancy.com). ✨

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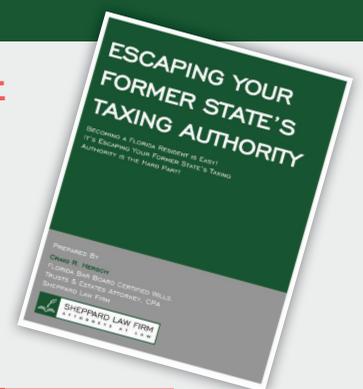
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Doctor and Dietician

# Are You Magnesium Deficient?



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

**M**agnesium is a mineral found throughout nature and is an important electrolyte for our bodies. Ninety-nine percent of our bodies' magnesium is stored in the bones, muscles and soft tissues, while only about one percent is concentrated in the blood. Magnesium is needed as a cofactor to many enzyme systems that affect muscle and nerve function, blood sugar control, blood pressure and many other functions.

Unfortunately, magnesium deficiency in the U.S. population is quite common. It is estimated that less than 60 percent of American adults take in adequate amounts of magnesium

in their diets. When we ran our Oak Park, Illinois natural medicine branch of Caring Medical, we regularly checked magnesium levels... and nearly every patient showed deficiency.

Amazingly enough, just getting enough magnesium in the diet can alleviate a lot of health issues. Magnesium deficiency has been associated with muscle pain, headaches, heart disease, insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes, attention deficit disorder and even Alzheimer's disease. Symptoms and conditions also include restless leg syndrome; behavioral disorders; mood swings; PMS symptoms; muscle weakness and cramping; headaches; hypertension; nutrient imbalances in calcium, potassium, and vitamin D; insomnia; constipation; and recurring bacterial or fungal infections.

Even if you consume a healthy diet, you can still be magnesium deficient due to the low nutrient value of many of our food sources. Therefore, we recommend being mindful to intentionally include magnesium-containing foods in your daily food intake. Top magnesium-containing foods include avocado, figs, bananas, spinach, Swiss chard, wheat bran, dark chocolate, sunflower seeds, cashews, mackerel, flaxseeds, almonds/almond butter, pumpkin seeds, amaranth, yogurt, spirulina, quinoa, black beans and mung beans.

The daily recommendations for magnesium are 420 mg for men, 320 mg for women, and around 150 to 200 mg per day for children. Regular

consumption of dark greens, nuts, seeds and legumes is the best way to keep your magnesium levels where they should be.

Sometimes magnesium supplementation is needed, especially if you have cardiac issues, gastrointestinal issues, poor digestion or a liver disorder, or if you are an athlete, requirements may be higher. Over-the-counter magnesium powders are typically safe and effective.

If you are dealing with sleep issues, restless legs, depression, premenstrual syndrome or constipation, consider

the possibility of a magnesium deficiency. Add more magnesium-containing foods to your diet and consider supplementation if you have malabsorption and/or requirements are higher. Magnesium will provide you with that peaceful, easy feeling.

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

## Beautifulife: Giving



by Kay Casperson

**C**hristmas is my absolute favorite time of the year for one big reason. I love to give, and it makes my heart happy when sharing. Not everyone is a giver; for those that do get fulfillment from

giving to others, there is no better time than now. Of course, there is always a need to give to various nonprofit organizations that need ongoing support and assistance throughout the year. When we find it in our hearts to give above and beyond the call of duty, the true spirit of giving starts to shine.

There are so many ways to give. It is not about the size of the gift as it is the thought behind the gift. My company has its annual bootcamp training program at this time every year, followed by our Christmas party. The blessings flow from year-end sales awards to bonuses and gift exchanges.

One of our traditions is that we do a secret Santa between all employees of the company each year, which is super fun and enjoyed by all. I also buy enough presents for all staff and put them under the Christmas party tree. They can grab one and exchange for another or keep the one they first held. I love to see how excited everyone is with their gift. One of my staff members gave me a handmade blanket

this year and said it was made with love.

I take the time each year to make a list of everyone that I am giving a gift to and what that gift will be. After it was either sent or wrapped, I will cross things off the list. The list includes kids, husband, father, siblings, nieces, nephews, staff, friends, teachers, etc.

After my company Christmas party, I focus on getting my gifts to Minnesota and Australia, where our extended family resides. I look for an extra unique gift basket for my mother-in-law in Australia and order gifts for my siblings and their kids to be delivered by Christmas Eve.

The point is, you do not have to have a company, be in a relationship, or even have a whole lot to give to be a giver. You can give in so many simple ways. For example, you can give of your precious time and volunteer. You can donate your belongings to those who would appreciate them. You can bring homemade baked goods to someone or a simple bottle of wine. Any part of giving is as big as the other and enjoyed by all.

Giving is essential for having your best, balanced and most beautiful life.

My affirmation for you this week is: "I will find fulfillment in the joy of giving today and every day."

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

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# PUZZLES

Answers on page 54 and 55



"First, could you lend me a dime for the \_\_\_\_\_?"

## SCRAMBLERS

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

Heed

GRADER

Blend

LEMING

Pad

BATTLE

Corrected

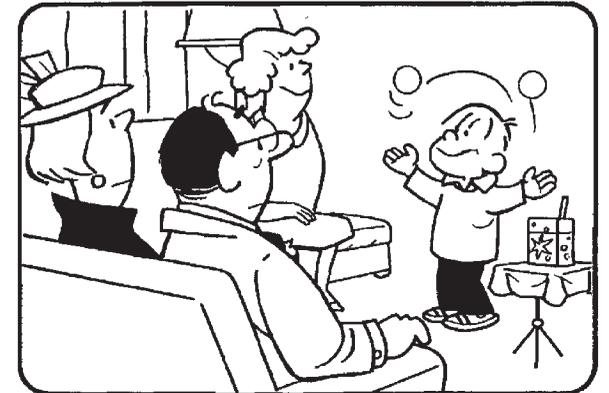
TREES

### TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Table is moved. 2. Ball is missing. 3. Glasses are added. 4. Parts are different. 5. Hair is added. 6. Necktie is removed.

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

## 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.

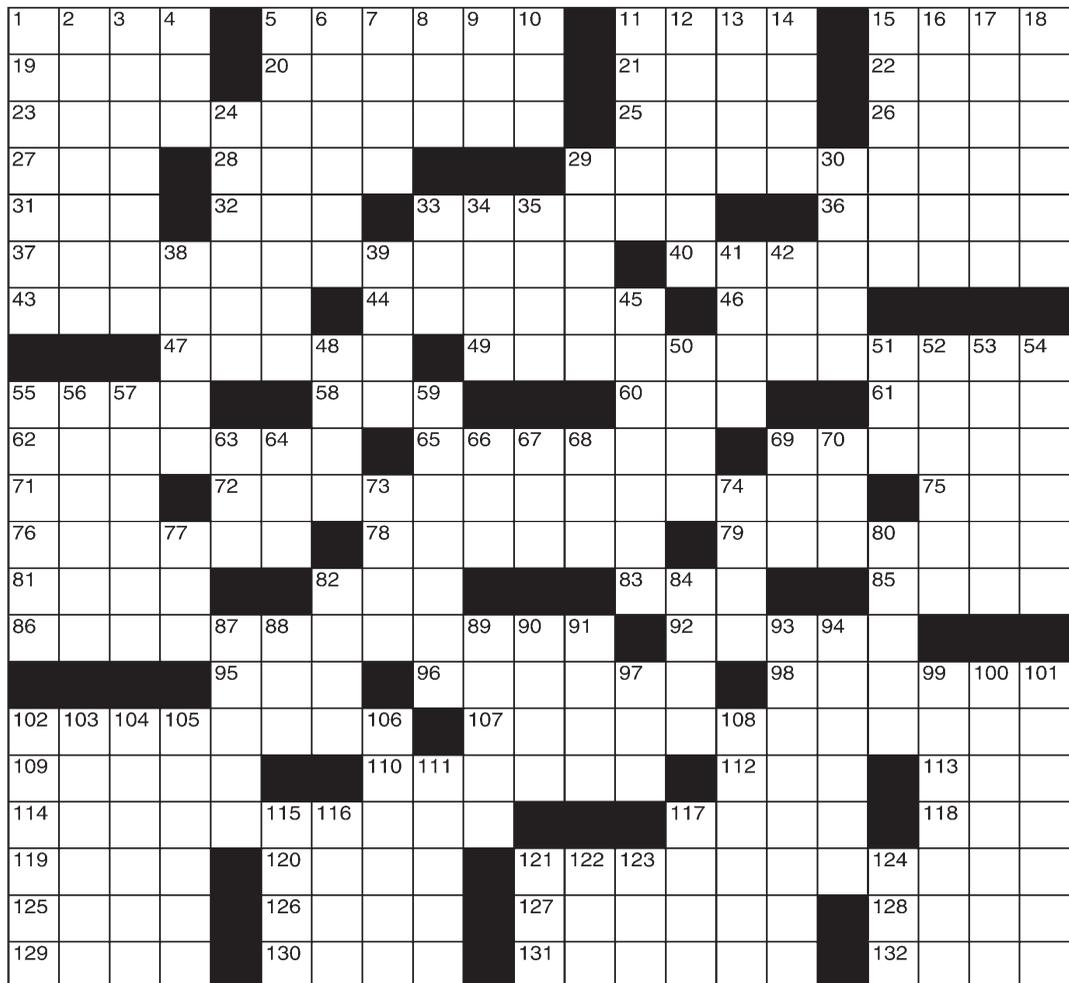
# PUZZLES

Answers on page 55

## Super Crossword

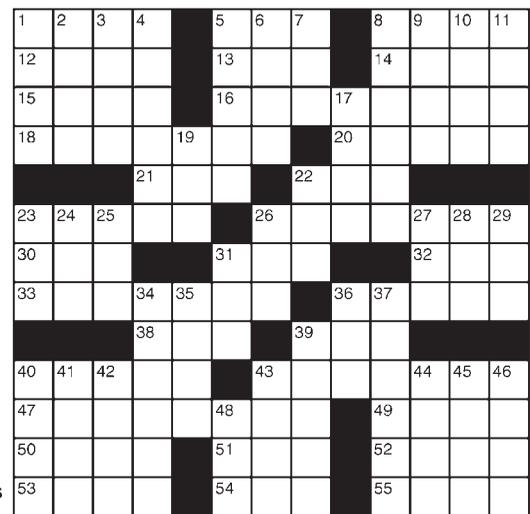
### ANIMATED WOOFERS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Agree (with)
  - 5 Ability to cope well with difficulty
  - 11 Mini-devils
  - 15 Girl
  - 19 Forget to say
  - 20 Vocation
  - 21 Heist booty
  - 22 — Stanley Gardner
  - 23 She played Kira Nerys on "Deep Space Nine"
  - 25 Sicilian resort city
  - 26 Rain-starved
  - 27 Get riper
  - 28 Taken with
  - 29 Legendary nude horse rider
  - 31 Small bird
  - 32 Enhaloed Fr. woman
  - 33 Lightning source, as shortened in weather reports
  - 36 Like wicker baskets
  - 37 Rotating rocket ride at Disney theme parks
  - 40 Alternatives to dice
  - 43 Has the helm
  - 44 Exactly
  - 46 Lime drink
  - 47 "Oh, go on!"
  - 49 Kevin Bacon's "Footloose" role
  - 55 Spring-loaded stick
  - 58 R&B's Rawls
  - 60 Suffix with script
  - 61 Elvis — Presley
  - 62 Twitched, as a muscle
  - 65 Pasta strip
  - 69 Raiment
  - 71 — and yang
  - 72 Depressing or untidy sort
  - 75 Santa —, California
  - 76 Overprotect
  - 78 Most ashen
  - 79 Discovered
  - 81 Old cracker brand
  - 82 Short time, for short
  - 83 Sheeran and O'Neill
  - 85 Regatta tools
  - 86 Grammy nominee for writing the Lee Ann Womack hit "I May Hate Myself in the Morning"
  - 92 Retort to "No you're not!"
  - 95 Moray, say
  - 96 Gin mill
  - 98 Be emphatic
  - 102 Moniker for Boston's locale
  - 107 Flying disc renamed
  - 112 "Frisbee" in 1957
  - 109 Zones
  - 110 FDR part
  - 112 "Indeedy"
  - 113 "Law & Order: —" (NBC series since '99)
  - 114 Silly grin
  - 117 Gravy Train competitor
  - 118 Insult, in rap
  - 119 Be very mad
  - 120 Baseball's Ty
  - 121 Their names begin eight answers in this puzzle
  - 125 Wields
  - 126 Major city in Norway
  - 127 Squirrel food
  - 128 Actress Hathaway
  - 129 Period before 6-Down
  - 130 Close-call cry
  - 131 Present in a different form
  - 132 Attention-getting cries
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Piano recital pieces
  - 2 Free-verse poet
  - 3 Kitchen nook
  - 4 Hellenic H
  - 5 Red apple
  - 6 It follows Holy Week
  - 7 Stooges, e.g.
  - 8 New Year in Vietnam
  - 9 Zodiac sign
  - 10 Mess up
  - 11 "Word has it ..."
  - 12 Munchies from Mars
  - 13 Pint-size
  - 14 Smeltery junk
  - 15 Entice
  - 16 Get there
  - 17 Split-off bit
  - 18 Alternatives to coupes
  - 24 Sun blockers
  - 29 Oscar winner Sophia
  - 30 Proprietor
  - 33 Uncle, in Spanish
  - 34 Sky shiner
  - 35 Head, in French
  - 38 Creditors' takebacks
  - 39 Square in the first column of a bingo card
  - 41 Speed
  - 42 Nuptial vow
  - 45 Try to equal
  - 48 "We're No Angels" actor — Ray
  - 50 Regatta group
  - 51 Gym pad
  - 52 Pop singer Grande
  - 53 Intersection
  - 54 Presses and stretches
  - 55 Hitchcock film of 1960
  - 56 Downer drug
  - 57 India's Indra
  - 59 Takes stuff out of a suitcase
  - 63 Nero's 1,550
  - 64 Up 'til
  - 66 Popeye's Olive
  - 67 Lofty poem org.
  - 70 Luggage-screening
  - 73 Oil gp.
  - 74 "Frozen" heroine
  - 77 Fawn nurser
  - 80 Hen's perch
  - 82 Road deicer
  - 84 T. rex, e.g.
  - 87 U.S. flag sewer Ross
  - 88 Meadowland
  - 89 Sappy tree
  - 90 Earthen cooking pot
  - 91 Person, place or thing
  - 93 Motorist's distance marker
  - 94 Attach with a click
  - 97 Siouan tribe
  - 99 "All finished!"
  - 100 "Kids" actress Chloë
  - 101 Bridge supports
  - 102 Amount a sack will hold
  - 103 Stimulate
  - 104 Naval petty officers
  - 105 Most secure
  - 106 OK for eating
  - 108 Traffic cones
  - 111 Funny bone locale
  - 115 Garbage barge
  - 116 Dance violently
  - 117 Razor choice
  - 121 Uber order
  - 122 Fabulous flier
  - 123 Fabled flier
  - 124 "Zip-a-Dee-Doo- —"



## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Alum
  - 5 Spell-off
  - 8 Pit
  - 12 Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"
  - 13 Approves
  - 14 Satan's forte
  - 15 Leading man?
  - 16 Landlocked Mideast territory
  - 18 Disney's Ariel, for one
  - 20 Van Gogh venue
  - 21 CBS logo
  - 22 Mimic
  - 23 Wedding VIP
  - 26 "I'm No Angel" actress
  - 30 '60s chic
  - 31 Green shade
  - 32 Cattle call
  - 33 "The Great Gatsby" setting
  - 36 Self-reproach
  - 38 Stop — dime
  - 39 "— voyage!"
  - 40 Skater Ohno
  - 43 Within earshot
  - 47 Oater setting
  - 49 Author Bellow
  - 50 Within (Pref.)
  - 51 "Shoo!"
  - 52 Exile isle
  - 53 Beheld
  - 54 Sugary suffix
  - 10 Queue
  - 11 BPOE members
  - 17 Carton sealer
  - 19 Nay undoer
  - 22 Motorist's org.
  - 23 Upscale auto
  - 24 Shad product
  - 25 Egos' coun-terparts
  - 26 Jo's sister
  - 27 Brit. record label
  - 28 Fa follower
  - 29 Youngster
  - 31 Links org.
  - 34 Ratted out
  - 35 Sufficient, old-style
  - 36 Deity
  - 37 Gender-neutral
  - 39 Montana city
  - 40 Dazzles
  - 41 Freshener scent
  - 42 Shoppe description
  - 43 Unrepaired
  - 44 Lip soother
  - 45 Garage job
  - 46 Panache
  - 48 Conceit
- DOWN**
- 1 Glitz partner
  - 2 Carousel, for one
  - 3 Winged
  - 4 Darkened
  - 5 "Let's Dance" singer
  - 6 Scratched (out)
  - 7 Curved letter
  - 8 Semitic language
  - 9 Cameo shape



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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
 Unlisted clue hint: A LARGE WASP

- Alphorn
- Dehorn
- Hornlike
- Shorn
- Althorn
- Foghorn
- Hornpipe
- Thorns
- Bighorn
- Hawthorn
- Longhorn
- Tinhorn
- Bullhorn
- Hornbill
- Shoehorn

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---	--	--	--	---	---	---

**Redfish Pass Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	2:02 pm	6:11 am	10:56 pm	4:26 pm
Sat	2:48 pm	6:46 am	11:25 pm	4:46 pm
Sun	11:59 pm	7:21 am	None	None
Mon	None	7:57 am	None	None
Tue	12:36 am	8:33 am	4:31 pm	6:18 pm
Wed	1:17 am	9:12 am	4:58 pm	7:13 pm
Thu	2:02 am	9:52 am	5:27 pm	8:23 pm

**Point Ybel Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	1:07 pm	6:13 am	10:01 pm	4:28 pm
Sat	1:53 pm	6:48 am	10:30 pm	4:48 pm
Sun	11:04 pm	7:23 am	None	None
Mon	11:41 pm	7:59 am	None	None
Tue	3:36 pm	8:35 am	None	6:20 pm
Wed	12:22 am	9:14 am	4:03 pm	7:15 pm
Thu	1:07 am	9:54 am	4:32 pm	8:25 pm

**Punta Rassa Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:28 pm	6:07 am	11:28 pm	5:43 pm
Sat	12:59 pm	6:46 am	11:48 pm	6:09 pm
Sun	1:35 pm	7:25 am	None	6:27 pm
Mon	12:04 am	8:04 am	2:19 pm	6:43 pm
Tue	12:25 am	8:43 am	3:08 pm	7:11 pm
Wed	12:54 am	9:20 am	3:57 pm	7:55 pm
Thu	1:32 am	9:56 am	4:43 pm	8:49 pm

**Cape Coral Bridge Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:40 am	9:27 am	4:12 pm	7:42 pm
Sat	1:06 am	10:02 am	4:58 pm	8:02 pm
Sun	1:35 am	10:37 am	None	None
Mon	2:09 am	11:13 am	None	None
Tue	2:46 am	11:49 am	6:41 pm	9:34 pm
Wed	3:27 am	12:28 pm	7:08 pm	10:29 pm
Thu	4:12 am	1:08 pm	7:37 pm	11:39 pm

**My Stars ★★★★★**  
FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2021

**Aries** (March 21 to April 19) Make your holiday preparations one step at a time in order to avoid being overwhelmed and leaving things undone. That confusing family situation continues to work itself out.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) Ease this year's holiday money pressures by letting your thrifty side guide you as you look for those perfect gifts that typically reflect your good taste and love of beauty.

**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) You'll have a good handle on potential holiday problems if you delegate tasks to family members, friends or co-workers – most of whom will be more than happy to help out.

**Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) Right now you are especially vulnerable to holiday scams that seek to take advantage of your generosity. Best advice: Check them out before you send out your checks.

**Leo** (July 23 to August 22) The upcoming holiday season gives the Big Cat much to purr about. Relationships grow

stronger, and new opportunities loom on the horizon, just waiting to be pounced on.

**Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) A changing situation brings conflicting advice about how to go forward with your holiday plans. Your best bet: Make the decision you feel most comfortable with.

**Libra** (September 23 to October 22) Holiday plans get back on track after some confusion about the direction you expected to take. A potentially troublesome money matter needs your immediate attention.

**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) Your holiday preparations are on

track. But you need to confront a personal situation while you can still keep it from overwhelming everything else.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) Tight financial matters ease a bit during this holiday season. But the sagacious Sagittarian is well-advised to keep a tight hold on the reins while shopping for gifts.

**Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) Don't put off making decisions about this year's holiday celebrations, despite the negative comments you've been getting

continued on page 54

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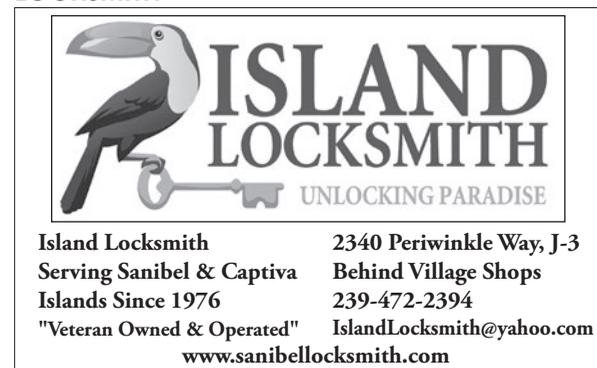
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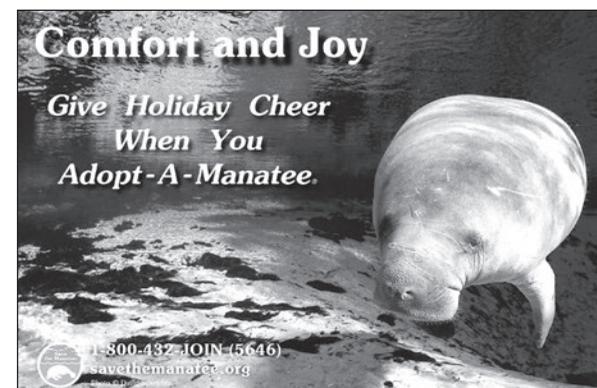


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From page 52

# My Stars

from several quarters. Do it now.

**Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18)  
The holidays will bring new friends and new opportunities. Meanwhile, be careful to use your energy wisely as you go about making holiday preparations.

**Pisces** (February 19 to March 20)  
There's good news coming from a most unlikely source. And it could turn out to be one of the best holiday gifts you have had in years. Remember to stay positive.

**Born This Week:** You are respected for your honesty and loyalty. You make friends slowly – but with rare exceptions, they're in your life forever.

## NOW HERE'S A TIP

- Candles will burn more evenly if you refrigerate them for a few hours before lighting.

- "My great-nephew and his family came to visit, and his toddler son is quite into opening doors. I had baby-proofed my home, but I did not think about his being able to turn a doorknob. His very smart mother pulled out a sock and slipped it over the doorknob, then secured it with a wide rubber band. Even I was unable to get a good grip on the doorknob after that!" – VR in North Carolina

- Surprise guests? Here's how to quickly clean your living areas: First, clean the toilet, mirror and vanity in the guest bathroom and leave a fresh towel; grab a laundry basket and remove any clutter from

the living room and kitchen; put away or clean dirty dishes and wipe down counters in the kitchen; finally, give carpets a quick vacuum. Then maybe light a great-smelling candle and greet your guests!

- "Fireplaces are wonderful for heat and ambience, but the ashes! When cleaning up, I spritz the ashes with a rosemary water solution. This keeps them from dusting up and flying all over, and it smells great. My neighbor puts her damp loose-leaf tea in the fireplace for scent." – CW in Iowa

- "In cold winter months, keep your robe (and slippers or whatever else) under the covers with you when you sleep. Pull it next to or over you a few minutes before you get up. It'll be toasty and will help make the transition into the cold a little less harsh." – Giselle in New York

- Empty spice containers can be used to hold different hardware in the shop or in your toolbox.

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

- In 2008, PETA requested Ben & Jerry's use breastmilk instead of cow's milk to make ice cream. This was unanimously rejected by Ben & Jerry's and La Leche League International.

- Sixty-five percent of test subjects had the urge to yawn after reading about yawning.

- From 1746 until 1996, English law considered bagpipes not as a musical instrument, but a weapon of war, used to "instill courage in soldiers and put the fear of God into the enemy."

- The kitchen dishwasher was invented

by a politician's socialite wife who was fed up with servants breaking her expensive dishes.

- Author Roger Highfield's 1999 book *The Physics of Christmas: From the Aerodynamics of Reindeer to the Thermodynamics of Turkey* detailed a darker side to Rudolph's famously red nose – not alcoholism, but some kind of parasitic infection.

- A tornado in Oklahoma once ripped a full motel off the ground. Its sign was later found in Arkansas.

- Born in 1924, a horse called Lady Wonder was considered by many to be psychic. Not only did she make predictions and answer questions for over 30 years and more than 150,000 people, she was credited with helping to solve several crimes.

- Chilean poet Pablo Neruda always wrote in green ink, which for him was a color of hope and abundance.

- LeBron James's decision to leave Cleveland to join the Miami Heat was such a shocker that even Osama Bin Laden's translator, who was being held at Guantanamo Bay prison in Cuba, wrote about it to his lawyers, declaring that "LeBron James is a very bad man. He should apologize to the city of Cleveland."

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Beauty is the moment when time vanishes and eternity arises." – Amit Ray

## TRIVIA TEST

1. **U.S. Presidents:** Which president

signed legislation that made Christmas a national holiday?

2. **Animal Kingdom:** What is a group of dragonflies called?

3. **Movies:** Who played the role of Father Chuck O'Malley in *Going My Way*?

4. **Food & Drink:** In what year was the famous Toll House chocolate chip cookie first made?

5. **Language:** What is the international radio code word for the letter M?

6. **Television:** What's the name of the mom on *Family Guy*?

7. **Personalities:** Which famous boxer's nickname is "The Manassa Mauler"?

8. **History:** Over which empire did Genghis Khan rule?

9. **Geography:** The Appian Way is an ancient road in what country?

10. **Measurements:** How many milliliters are in one cup?

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Ulysses Grant 2. A swarm 3. Bing Crosby 4. 1938 5. Mike 6. Lois Griffin 7. Jack Dempsey 8. The Mongol Empire 9. Italy. The road connected Rome and Brndist. 10. 250

## SCRAMBLERS ANSWER

1. Regard 2. Mingle;  
3. Tablet; 4. Reset

*Today's Word*  
**METER**

# CLASSIFIED

## COMMERCIAL RENTAL

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Can be storage  
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### PERSONAL CAREGIVER NEEDED

Job is for 5 days a week. 5 hours per day.  
Salary is \$20 per hour.  
For more details about the position, email  
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12/3 \* 1/7

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Sign up to serve as mock juror to evaluate  
a settlement/mediation of an actual  
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Limited Space. 12-14 mock jurors  
for each mock trial.  
Friday, December 17, 2021  
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Compensation: \$120  
(By Cash App or Check your choice)  
If interested, and you are a resident of  
Lee County with a valid FL driver's license  
or State ID, eligible to vote, U.S citizen,  
access to laptop or desktop with working  
web camera, speakers, microphone, and  
ability to download Zoom, sign up at:  
www.signupdirect.com  
12/17 \* 12/17

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Please email a resume to  
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11/19 \* TFN

## PUBLIC SERVICE

### AL-ATEEN HELP LINE

Are you concerned with a  
friend or family member's drinking?  
Call the 24-hour help line of  
South Florida Al-Anon  
at 941-564-5098 or visit  
www.southfloridaal-anon.org.  
4/24 \* TFN

To advertise in the Island Sun and The River Weekly News, call 395-1213

PETS OF THE WEEK



Ace ID# A899308 photos provided Lady ID# A894644

Lee County Domestic Animal Services  
Ace And Lady

Ace is a 9-month-old Australian cattle dog mix. He fondly earned his name because he is an ace at catching tennis balls. His adoption fee is \$75.

Lady is a 2-year-old domestic shorthair. She's super sweet and knows how to work the camera to show her best angle. Her adoption fee is \$50.

Lee County Domestic Animal Services is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available by appointment Monday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com) to complete an online application. As always, cats and kittens are adopt one and get a feline friend at no additional charge. For more information, call 533-7387.✪

HORTOONS



PUZZLE ANSWERS

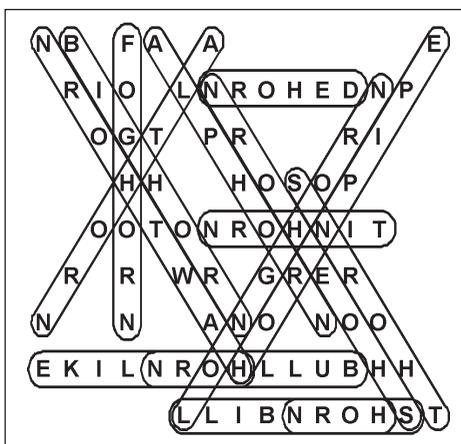
SUPER CROSSWORD

SIDE	METTLE	IMPS	LASS
OMIT	CAREER	HAUL	ERLE
NANA	VISITOR	ENNA	ARID
AGE	INTO	LADY	GODIVA
TIT	STE	TSTORM	WOVEN
ASTROORBITER	SPINNERS		
STEERS	TOATEE	ADE	
PSHAW	RENMC	CORMACK	
POGO	LOU	URE	ARON
SPASMED	NOODLE	ATTIRE	
YIN	DROOPY	DRAWERS	ANA
CODDLE	PALEST	LEARNED	
HIHO	SEC	EDS	OARS
ODIE	BLACKMON	IAMSO	
EEL	SALOON	INSIST	
BAYS	STATE	PLUTO	PLATTER
AREAS	DELANO	YEP	SVU
GOOFY	SMILE	ALPO	DIS
FUME	COBB	CARTOON	DOGS
USES	OSLO	ACORNS	ANNE
LENT	WHEW	RECAST	HEYS

KING CROSSWORD

GRAD	BEE	HOLE	
LILI	OKS	EVIL	
ADAM	WEST	BANK	
MERMAID	ARLES		
	EYE	APE	
BRIDE	MAEWEST		
MOD	PEA	MOO	
WESTEGG	GUILT		
	ONA	BON	
APOLO	AUDIBLE		
WILDWEST	SAUL		
ENDO	GIT	ELBA	
SEEN	OSE	XMEN	

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Sanibel Harbours	Sanibel	2003	4,504	\$2,995,000	\$3,000,000	141
Fa Lanes Bayview	Captiva	1999	2,636	\$2,550,000	\$2,625,000	4
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2010	3,945	\$1,999,900	\$2,050,000	2
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2015	4,487	\$2,550,000	\$2,000,000	64
Pinehurst Estates	Fort Myers	1990	4,373	\$1,725,000	\$1,725,000	161
Wildblue	Fort Myers	2021	3,178	\$1,699,900	\$1,625,000	42
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2003	3,293	\$1,695,000	\$1,600,000	167
The Dunes Sanibel Island	Sanibel	1977	2,614	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	0
West Rocks	Sanibel	2014	1,707	\$1,299,000	\$1,299,000	6
Montelago	Miromar Lakes	2004	2,641	\$1,325,000	\$1,160,000	5

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Magazine



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