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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 28, 2018

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2018: Year In Review

compiled by Jeff Lysiak

On January 8, the Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) kicked off its 2018 schedule of special events with *Serving Up Memories of Captiva's Old-Time Eateries* – a nostalgic look back at some of the restaurants that helped make the island famous or are fondly remembered by longtime residents.

In front of a standing room only crowd at the Captiva Civic Center, five legendary local restaurateurs – Andreas Bieri, Freddie D'Amelia, Victor Mayeron, Jeff Shuff and Sherril Sims – held court by answering questions and sharing stories about their exploits and experiences in the hospitality industry during the 1960s through 1990s. LuAnn Martin, a Captiva mainstay who worked at Cap'n Al's, The Bubble Room and The Mucky Duck, served as moderator and emcee.

Throughout the evening, the panelists spun yarns of their heydays working at restaurants including Captiva Kate's, No Name Café, Bellini's, Old Captiva House, Green Lawn Lodge, Tween Waters, South Seas Plantation, Red Fish Blu Fish, King's Crown, The Greenhouse, Viva, Sunshine Café, La Vendee and Captiva Art Café.

Sims talked about the days when her restaurant used to offer a \$12.99 meal special that included free wine. That's because the eatery had not yet acquired a liquor license. "The changes were hard, but you could handle it," she explained. "The whole island was changing so much back in the 1990s."

Shuff shared stories of how his business blossomed during the five years after South Seas Plantation opened, doubling his profits every year. D'Amelia still longs for the days when he used to invite all islanders to his restaurant for a free night of sampling some of his menu items, while



From left, Andreas Bieri, Freddie D'Amelia, Victor Mayeron, LuAnn Martin, Jeff Shuff and Sherril Sims at the Captiva Island Historical Society panel discussion on the restaurants that made the island famous and the people who worked there photo by Jeff Lysiak

Mayeron talked about how The Mucky Duck became famous for offering every diner a window seat.

The 90-minute gathering also included stories of a stolen safe found on the beach, flooding of restaurants along Andy Rosse Lane during a tropical storm in 1985, giant rats running through a dining room and gunshots going off upstairs at The Bubble Room.

Another highlight of the evening was the number of notable celebrities that dined on Captiva way back when. Among them were actor Vincent Price, singer Tony Bennett, weatherman Willard Scott and sports stars George Brett, Steve Carlton, Franco Harris and John Riggins. Of course, everybody's favorite celebrity was local Robert Rauschenberg, whose dog frequently found its way into The Mucky Duck.

Black Pioneers Exhibit Marks 10th Anniversary

During the month of February, the traveling exhibit *Black Pioneers of Sanibel and Captiva* made two stops, with 27 vintage photos and artifacts on display from one of the islands' earliest settlers: the Gavin and Walker families.

The exhibit, which debuted a decade ago and has been displayed at various locations on Sanibel, was shown this year in the lobby of Bank of the Islands and inside the entrance to the Sanctuary at Sanibel Community Church.

"The idea for this exhibit began 10 years ago when we put up a display at the Sanibel Public Library," said Eugene Gavin, whose family celebrated their 100th anniversary of arriving on Sanibel last year. "We wanted it to become a traveling exhibit throughout Lee County, but right

now we're just sticking to Sanibel and Captiva."

Looking at the exhibit, displayed on several easels and along the walls of the Sanctuary's entrance, Gavin recalled the stories behind each of the images. From family reunions at The Community House to church meetings held on local beaches, the longtime islander shared his memories of his life growing up on Sanibel and Captiva.

"Things here are changing so rapidly now, so it's important to know about the islands' early pioneer families," noted Gavin. "It means a lot to me to share our family's history, because people who see this exhibit and discover the way it was can appreciate that history even better."

Gavin also hoped that one day his *Black Pioneers of Sanibel and Captiva* traveling exhibit would be on page 8



Velma and Eugene Gavin with some of the photographs and artifacts from the *Black Pioneers of Sanibel and Captiva* traveling exhibit photo by Jeff Lysiak



Artistic rendering of the new exterior of the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum image courtesy Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum

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Community House

Yoga Classes

Yoga classes with Susan Pataky are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The first class, for all levels, begins at 10 a.m.; Chi yoga follows at 11:15 a.m. Cost is \$18 for members and \$20 for guests.

Indoor Mini Golf

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

Documentary Film Screening

A documentary on the history of The Community House will be shown on Sunday, December 30 at 1 p.m. There are clips from the islands' past, interviews with those who grew up frequenting The Community House and historical highlights of the birth of the City of Sanibel. Suggested donation of \$5. Popcorn and non-alcoholic beverages will be available.

Civil Rights Exhibit

The Civil Rights in the Sunshine State exhibit will be on display from January 2 through February 11. Through pictures, narratives and videos, visitors can explore the significant contributions Floridians made to the civil rights movement.

Hands-On Cooking Class

A hands-on cooking class with Chef Jarred Harris will be held on Friday, January 4 from 10 a.m. to noon.

On the menu: spicy eggplant donuts and sweet pepper jam; heirloom tomato and sweet onion tart; and pear tarte tatin with cinnamon almond milk ice cream. Cost is \$50 for members and \$60 for guests. Sign up online.

Kids Cooking First Mondays

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

Colorful Sips with Sissi

Sissi Janku will host a Colorful Sips acrylic painting class on Wednesday, January 9 at 7 p.m. Beginner to advanced painters are welcome. Bring your own snacks and beverage. All other supplies will be provided. Cost is \$50 for members and \$60 for guests.

Shredding Day

A community shredding event will be held on Saturday, January 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$5 per box. Visit the website for more details.

Dine and Design Workshops

The first Dine and Design workshop will be held on Monday, January 14 from noon to 2 p.m. Resident Chef Jarred will prepare lunch, which will be followed by a



Sissi Janku will host a Colorful Sips painting class on January 9 photo provided

design workshop directed by the Sanibel team of Decorating Den Interiors. There will be door prizes, studio displays and samples. The workshop topic will be High Point Review – Explore Home Furnishings Trends. Bring a photo of your design challenge and the team will offer creative solutions following each workshop. Prepaid reservations of \$30 can be made online.

Additional workshops will be held on the following Mondays: February 18, March 18 and April 15.

A Night To Remember

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

Sponsors include: Tommy Williams, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, Bank of The Islands, and Heidrick & Co. Insurance. Sponsorships are still available.

Bourbon Dinner

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

Shell Crafting

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

Honey For Sale

Locally harvested honey is for sale, as well as chutneys and other products made by Resident Chef Jarred Harris.

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



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Captiva Island Historical Society

Looking Back: The Price Family Of 'Tween Waters Inn

This week's image is Bowman Price and his daughter, Dorothy, at 'Tween Waters Inn.

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

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



Bowman and Dorothy Price
photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives

Churches/Temples

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

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

HISTORIC CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

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

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

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

SANIBEL FELLOWSHIP, sbc

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

SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

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

SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

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

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From left, Grace Mitchell, Nik Bakos, Cole Fields, Kennedy Hanni and Faith Mitchell baking cookies photos provided

Small Group Service Night For Youth Ministry

On December 12, students from Sanibel Community Church H2O youth group dedicated their evening to bless someone else this Christmas season. The group changed its weekly format to be a more casual night geared towards service. The

students spent time with their leaders to establish a deeper relationship and work alongside their friends while growing their faith and leadership skills.

The middle school students thoughtfully and prayerfully put together various gift baskets for families suffering from recent tragedies. They created gifts with shells collected along Sanibel beaches, baked snickerdoodle cookies with a Hershey kiss topping each one. Various gifts were meticulously wrapped and sealed with

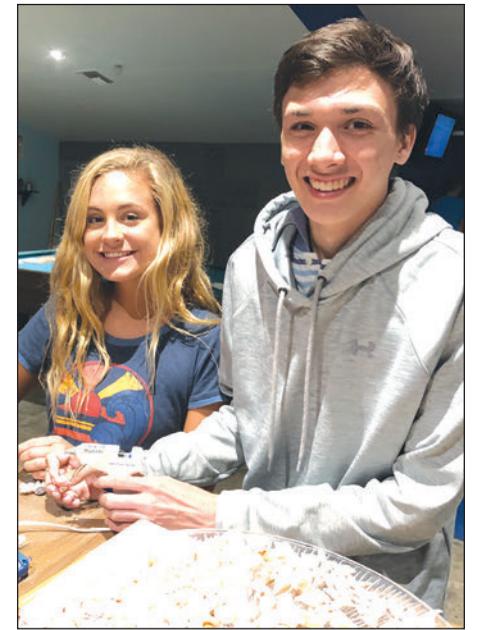


Chase Nave and Brandon Stevens adding the finishing touches to the wrapped gifts

encouragement cards and prayers by each student. The teens enjoyed their small group time serving others, while spending time with their peers.

Twenty-five high school students worked for three-plus hours filling 100 Christmas stockings for homeless men and women from the surrounding community. Half of the team ventured off-island to purchase over 300 items at the local dollar store.

While some teens were shopping, the other half started filling stockings for the less fortunate men and women



Youth leaders Jianna Senkeleski and Hunter Borman creating gifts from shells

in the area. Each teen took the time to write a personalized message on a Christmas card and adding it to the stocking. The "Jesus is the Reason" labeled stockings were overflowing with personal hygiene products, snacks, a Bible, handmade shell bookmarks, lip balm and socks.

The evening ended with a Chipwich celebration (ice cream sandwiched between two homemade chocolate chip cookies, then rolled in mini M&M's). It was a sweet ending to an amazing evening. ✨

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MONDAYS

10 am No Shell Craft Dec. 31

TUESDAY & THURSDAYS

10 AM / 11:15 AM

Yoga Members \$18/\$20 drop in

SUN., DEC. 30 AT 1 PM

Documentary Film on The Community House

THURS., JAN. 3, 12:30 PM

Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge

Tuesday & Thursday

JAN. 4, 10 AM – NOON

Hands On Cooking with Chef Jarred

Members \$50/Guests \$60/member

FIRST MONDAYS

JAN. 7, 2:30 - 5:30 PM

Kids Cooking, ages 8+, \$50 per session

WED. JAN. 9, 7 PM

Colorful Sips with Sissi \$50/\$60

SAT. JAN. 12, 9 - NOON

Community Shredding 9 - Noon

\$5/bag North Lot

MON. JAN. 14, NOON

Dine and Design Workshop \$30

TUES. JAN. 15

Joyful Living w/Jenny

WED. JAN. 16 & 21, 4-6 PM

Cooking Demo w/Chef Jarred

JAN. 2 - FEB. 8 - FREE

Civil Rights In the Sunshine State Exhibit

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www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net

Jan. 25 1927 Gala

Feb. 5 Members Only Dance

Feb. 22 11:30 am Fashions of Periwinkle Place

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The Community House

SANIBEL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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"To enrich community spirit through educational, cultural and social gatherings in our historic Community House."

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MEMORIAL SERVICE



A service celebrating both Ann and Ted Bischoff will be held at Sanibel Community Church on Saturday, January 5, 2019 at 10:30 a.m., 1740 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957.

In lieu of flowers, please honor their memory by making donations to the Sanibel-Captiva Art League or Sanibel Community Church.

To share a story or photo, leave a tribute or to offer a condolence, visit www.fortmyersmemorial.com and sign the guestbook.*

OBITUARY



JIMMY TRAUCHT

On December 17, 2018, our Angel, Jimmy Traucht decided he was ready to go home. His legacy is remarkable for someone the doctors said wouldn't live past 7 years old, if he even made out of the hospital; if he did, they said he should be put in a home. Well, we took him to a home, OUR home, where he was loved and adored by everyone who met him. They said he probably would never walk; well he walked and even ran a race

he almost won, but he stopped to pick up his friend, Timmy, who fell. They said he probably would never talk; he talked, he sang, he cut a record with his brother and life companion to the end, Thom. The record, entitled *Jimmy*, was cut in the '70s and the funds went to the Mentally Challenged Foundation.

He had many newspaper articles written about him; how he moved people, opened hearts and made the world a more loving place through his love and music. Many people over the years would call us and ask Jimmy to pray for them and with the guidance of his mother, MaryLou, he always did. He seemed to have a direct line to the man upstairs and a sixth sense, that never ceased to amaze us.

All who knew you, thank you Jimmy Traucht for coming into our lives, to help make us all better people. You taught us all so much, with the most important being acceptance. If every family had a Jimmy, the world would be a much better place. You were a gift and we will miss you, but we had to let go so you could go back home. Your job was finished here, but we will try our best to carry on your work to spread kindness, love and music wherever we go.

Jimmy is survived by his mother, Mary Lou; his siblings Becky Williams, Thom Traucht and Belinda York; Thom's wife, Beth Traucht; eight nieces and nephews; and 11 grand nieces and nephews, with one on the way. He is preceded by his father, Richard "Dick" E. Traucht.

The memorial service for Jimmy will be held on Saturday, December 29, 2018 at the Sanibel Causeway – one of his favorite picnic spots – at 4 p.m. on the west side across from the rest stop area. We might even have ice cream, Jimmy's favorite food. Oscar Gavin will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you to donate to the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club Jimmy Traucht Scholarship Fund, <https://www.uff.ufl.edu/giving-opportunities/008149-sanibel-captiva-rotary-club-jimmy-traucht-scholarship>, Hope Hospice or your choice. Thank you for sharing your love and kindness.

As Jimmy would say, "Don't worry, be happy... peace man.*"

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Richard Finkel showing the students marine life pulled up in a trawl photos provided

Middle School Students Cruise Pine Island Sound

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) and Captiva Cruises work together to provide Southwest Florida's youth with hands-on learning experiences focusing on the ecology of the back bay estuary and barrier islands. This collaborative environmental education outreach project is known as No Child Left On Shore and provides opportunities for area students to get out on the water and experience the coastal environments.

Middle school students from Gulf Middle School in Cape Coral took part in the most recent field trip. They cruised the waters of Pine Island Sound aboard the Captiva Cruises motor catamaran vessel *The Santiva* with educator Richard Finkel and were able to get an up close look at the shoreline of Cayo Costa State

Park. Students found sand dollars, a variety of shells, and crab skeletons along the shoreline.

The students were escorted by Gulf Middle School science teacher Charles O'Connor. One student told Mr. O'Connor that this was "My favorite field trip I've ever been on!" When the student was asked why, he replied, "because I never knew about the Calusa people and all the islands we had nearby. I didn't know about the stuff we caught on the boat, like the sea hare."

Another student said, "I've never been on a boat before but I really enjoyed it. I loved seeing all the stuff from the net and it was cool to put it back again."

"The walk in the water and on the beach was my favorite part" said another student.

For more information about the No Child Left On Shore environmental outreach initiative or to sponsor a field trip, contact SCCF, www.sccf.org, 472-2329 or Captiva Cruises, www.captivacruises.com, 472-5300.*



The group at Cayo Costa State Park

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From page 1

Year In Review

exhibit will be displayed at locations across Lee County.

Shell Museum Makes Two Big Announcements

On the heels of their landmark announcement of a major renovation project, officials with the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum unveiled a historic accomplishment on March 14 in front of a select audience of board members, supporters and sponsors that may prove to be even more compelling to shell enthusiasts and scientists alike.

Following a video which described some of the ideas for refurbishing the front entrance to the museum and adding several large-scale aquariums on the first floor of the structure, Executive Director Dorrie Hipschman proudly proclaimed, "We are building an aquarium for mollusks, which has never been done before."

Rebecca Mensch, one of the marine biologists at the museum, explained that in conjunction with the plan to add between 10 and 15 live aquarium tanks to the Sanibel attraction, she looked at three of the most popular local shell species – the junonia, Scotch bonnet and lion's paw – and how they might be featured within the upcoming project.

People attending the museum's Under the Sea fundraiser on February 3 saw a sneak preview of the renovations being planned for the facility via three artistic renderings. The first image features the new exterior of the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, with extended glass windows and relief renderings of mollusks and ocean animals carved into the walls. A second image includes a drawing of people interacting with multiple live aquarium displays. The third rendering shows visitors interacting with touch tanks and other hands-on displays.

Initially, museum leaders discussed the idea of adding a large aquarium within the Great Hall of Shells, located on the second floor. However, given the terrific weight such an amenity would require, as well as the limited space available, other options began being explored.

Hipschman said, "We had to think about how we could maximize the space within our building. We can't expand the footprint of our building, so we had to



CROW Veterinary Intern Dr. Malka Spektor, with assistance from CROW student Sierra Trogdon, administering fluids to a coyote pup on May 7 photo by Brian Bohlman

look into how we could use our ground floor best.

"We're planning to build a natural ecosystem of mollusks, fish and other marine creatures that you might not know that much about or haven't seen before," added Hipschman, who offered that the tanks might be occupied by cuttlefish, horse conchs, giant clams, nautilus, sea bunnies, squid and octopus. "We want people to look closely – we want them to be amazed."

Bailey Tract Restoration Plan Shared

On April 20, the first of three public information sessions regarding plans for the upcoming Bailey Tract Hydrologic Restoration Project was held inside the Visitor and Education Center at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

During the 75-minute meeting, Senior Wildlife Biologist Jeremy Conrad discussed the history of Sanibel's freshwater wetlands and the Bailey Tract, the altered hydrology of that preserve, details of the restoration and what benefits are anticipated.

Another focus of the meeting was to dispel rumors of the project disturbing mating pairs of black-necked stilts that are currently nesting at Bailey Tract.

"First and foremost, we don't have any plans to disturb those birds who may be nesting," said Nate Caswell, deputy refuge

ranger.

In early March, the first black-necked stilt arrived at the Bailey Tract. The bird, which was identified as a female, was joined by at least five others. The group formed nesting pairs, one at the first long pond on the right at Bailey's eastern end and the other across from the bench at the west end.

On April 16, the refuge posted on its Facebook page that one of the stilt pairs was spotted guarding three eggs in its nest, located on the island within Ani Pond. It is the second year in a row that these stilts have successfully nested on Sanibel.

"We will wait until the birds have finished nesting before we begin work on the project," Conrad assured the audience members.

Currently, ponds within the Bailey Tract serve as a sink for water within the marsh. Shorter periods of hydrology (evaporation) allows for woody encroachment and ecological succession into the forested wetlands. No longer a marsh, almost half (42 percent) of the tract has become a forested wetland, which doesn't help support the plethora of marsh species which used to thrive in that area.

Among the species that has been threatened due to the transition of the marsh is the Sanibel Island Rice Rat, which is dependent upon hydric marsh

habitat for foraging, nesting and shelter. The first rice rat was captured and identified at the Bailey Tract in 1954, but populations of the unique species have dwindled steadily since the 1980s.

"An objective of the Bailey Tract Restoration Plan is to improve 25 percent of the potential Sanibel Island Rice Rat habitat," said Conrad. "This little fella is in trouble, which is why we're doing this... but it's not the only reason we're doing this."

The project, supported by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement (AHRE) initiative, hopes to increase acreage of cordgrass marsh and habitat for a wide variety of marsh species, reduce encroachment of woody species and non-native invasive species, and reduce hazardous fuel loads (vegetation) and improve fire management.

Coyote Pup Treated At CROW

On the afternoon of May 7, an orphaned coyote pup was admitted to the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) after being found wandering all alone in Labelle.

According to Dr. Heather Barron, hospital director at CROW, the male coyote pup appeared to be about five weeks old and weighed in at just under two pounds. "His eyes were open, and he appeared to be in pretty good physical condition," she said. "He showed signs of mild dehydration, for which it was provided fluids subcutaneously."

CROW team members also treated the coyote for fleas.

Found alone, Dr. Barron speculated that the pup may have wandered off from wherever its mother had left him. "He probably lost contact with his mother, so he may have just wandered away from where she stashed him," she said.

After being treated at the Sanibel facility for less than 24 hours, the juvenile coyote (*Canis latrans*) was transported to a wildlife rehabilitator in the Tampa area. "They're a social species, so it's best that he will be raised with the other pups they have there," added Dr. Barron. "He will be kept there for educational purposes."

Considered a naturalized species because they aren't native to Florida, coyotes are rather new to Southwest Florida. And prior to 2011, there had never been a confirmed coyote sighting on Sanibel. But according to a 2017 study

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Shells Found



Janice and John Herr

photo by A. Ziehl

Janice and John Herr from Reading, Pennsylvania found a junonia, five Scotch bonnets and 20 alphabet cones by the half-mile marker while staying at Periwinkle Park and Campground.*

**The Community
House Hosting
Civil Rights Exhibit**

The Sanibel Community Association (SCA) and Circle of Community Leadership (CCL), collaborated to bring the Civil Rights in the Sunshine State exhibit to The Community House. Produced by the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee Florida, the exhibit is now on display and will remain on view through February 8 in the Great Hall.

Through pictures, narratives and videos, visitors can explore the significant contributions Floridians made to the state and national civil rights movement. The exhibit was developed in 2014 by the Museum of Florida History to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The exhibit explores the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Florida.

Two events by suggested donation will be open to the public during the exhibition. On Wednesday, January 23, a presentation on the African Roots of Southern Cooking will be given by Dr. Martha Bireda, executive director of the Blanchard House Museum in Punta Gorda, along with Jarred Harris, resident chef of The Community House.

On Monday, February 4, Dr. Anthony Dixon, professor and university archivist Bethune-Cookman

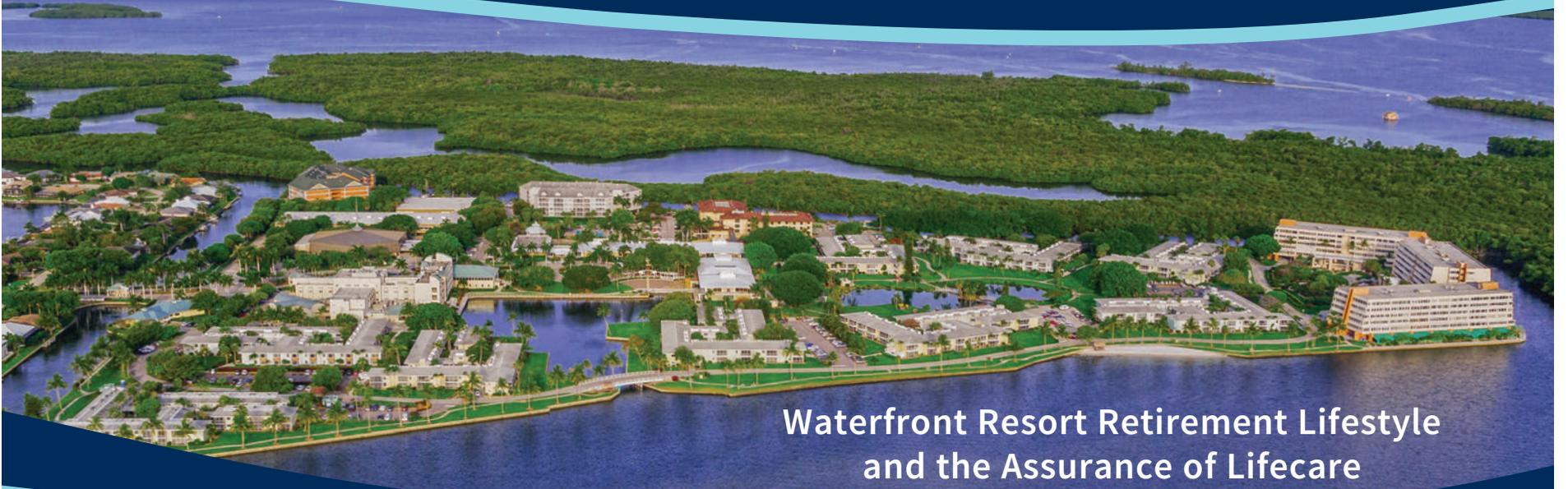
College and one of the most involved advisors on the initial development of the exhibit, will deliver a lecture on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement. He will be joined by Rev. Dr. John Danner, pastor of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. Rev. Danner will speak about his experiences during the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. Dixon said he hopes the exhibit helps visitors "examine the overall struggle for civil rights in Florida."

Complementing the exhibit will be videos of numerous civil rights leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Patricia Stephens Due, Theodore Gibson and Reverend CK Steele. Civil rights activists from Tallahassee, Jacksonville and other cities served as advisors on the exhibit, along with historians from Florida State University, the University of Florida, Florida A&M University and the Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network (FAAHPN).

Yvonne Hill of CCL encourages everyone to attend this exhibit and experience the stories of the courageous Floridians who stood up to ensure equality. Teresa Riska-Hall, executive director of The Community House, said, "We have been trying to get a program like this for quite some time, so we are pleased that it is finally coming together."

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. For more information, call 472-2155.*

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New lighting fixtures hanging above the main entrance to the Sanibel Public Library

photos by Jeff Lysick

From page 8

Year In Review

conducted by an expert research team from the University of Georgia, between 27 and 67 coyotes are currently roaming the island.

In 1983, coyotes could be found in 18 Florida counties, expanding into 48 counties by 1990. The first confirmed sighting on the island occurred in February 2011 when a single coyote was photographed strolling through the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

Dr. Barron also mentioned that coyotes are considered a nuisance species, due to their tendencies of preying upon domesticated pets and smaller native animals.

"(Coyotes) are one of the few wild animal species whose populations are expanding even as human populations expand into their territory," said Dr. Barron. "They're comfortable living around humans. They eat our trash and they attack smaller animals and family pets."

CROW has treated coyotes in the past, however, it isn't very often that they come across a healthy pup.

"When coyotes do come here, it's usually because they've been hit by a car," said Dr. Barron. The animals typically breed during January and February, with litters of pups born around 63 days later.

Going Strawless Initiative Catching On

Launched by Coastal Keepers, a group of Sanibel and Captiva community members who cherish the ocean, appreciate the rich history of our region, and are determined to conserve our oceans and estuaries for future generations, the Strawless on Sanibel (SOS) campaign is a conservation initiative which seeks to reduce the use of plastic straws on the islands.

"The idea was brought to us from one of the people from SCCF (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation) who walks the beach every morning," said Dr. Bruce Neill, president of the Coastal Keepers Advisory Board. "They were seeing a lot of straws and asked if something could be done about it."

Since the SOS campaign started, nearly a dozen island businesses and countless individuals have taken up the

initiative. They include restaurants and shops like Bailey's General Store, Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grill, East End Deli, Thistle Lodge Beachfront Restaurant, Sanibel Café, Sanibel Fresh, Coconuts Poolside Bar & Grill, The Sanibel Sprout, Casa Ybel Resort, Sundial Beach Resort & Spa, Traders "T2" and Lighthouse Café.

At the June 5 Sanibel City Council meeting, Coastal Keepers representative Bob Brooks petitioned local legislators to investigate creating a plastic straw ordinance in an effort to reduce plastic waste matter on the islands. During his presentation, Brooks noted that consuming plastic refuse is the leading cause of death for sea turtles. "The lifetime of a plastic bag is 500 years, whereas its use time is only 23 minutes," he said.

Several members of the council expressed an interest in the suggestion, with Councilman Jason Maughan requesting that the city attorney look into what other area municipalities are doing regarding plastic straw bans. Vice Mayor Mick Denham shared a story that during a recent visit to a restaurant in North Carolina, he had been discussing the subject. The restaurateur explained that once his current inventory of plastic straws was exhausted, straws would be distributed by request only.

"It's an interesting problem that is absolutely real here on Sanibel," said Neill, who pointed out that the Town of Fort Myers Beach recently introduced a ban on plastic straws. "That's an odd example when Sanibel is lagging behind Fort Myers Beach because we pride ourselves on being a sanctuary island."

Thus far, the local business community seems to have embraced the SOS initiative.

"As a lifelong citizen of Sanibel who was raised to appreciate and protect wildlife, I recognize the dangers of some of the previously accepted practices that in fact endanger wildlife and pollute our environment," said Michael Billheimer of Lighthouse Café. "I am in favor of any reasonable legislation that protects against harm to wildlife and the environment."

Council Seeks Help In Water Quality Battle

During the Sanibel City Council meeting on July 9, Mayor Kevin Ruane discussed the decision by the Florida



The new Teen Space at Sanibel Public Library includes three computer stations and room for doing homework

Department of Environmental Protection's to reduce the frequency of water quality testing at state beaches and eliminate the number of testing facilities, including Bowman's Beach.

"To remove testing while we're in this state of emergency is bizarre," said Ruane, who also noted that Florida Governor Rick Scott issued an emergency order in response to algae blooms occurring in the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries. The order includes Lee, Glades, Hendry, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties.

Ruane and his fellow council members have requested that island residents join in their battle for improved water quality, issuing a call to action to begin a campaign pushing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to restore funding for Florida's Healthy Beaches program.

The annual costs to maintain the current level of sampling are estimated at approximately \$34,000, or approximately \$63 per sample.

"Cuts to the Healthy Beaches program will reduce bacteria sampling in Lee County from 15 sites to nine sites and sampling frequency from weekly to bi-weekly," Ruane's letter to Sanibel citizens issued on July 10 reads, in part. "The changes to the program will result in less information available to the public about the health and safety of Lee County's beaches."

Members of the council also authorized Councilwoman Holly Smith to submit a request to the Lee County Tourism Development Council (TDC) for funding to continue water quality testing on the island.

"We're not just doing the ask for Sanibel," said Smith. "We're doing it for every beach that's not going to be sampled."

In addition, Vice Mayor Mick Denham suggested that the city reach out to every homeowners association on Sanibel and request that they contact Florida Governor Rick Scott's office, the federal government and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) with a letter expressing concerns for water quality.

"Don't direct your fury at me, direct it at the people who can do something," said Denham, who explained that he is

often confronted by citizens concerned with the current state of water quality in the local watershed. "We need to do more."

Ruane then requested that citizens contact authorities with the Lee County Board of County Commissioners, Lee County Tourism Development Council, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state and federal representatives as well as President Donald Trump to let them know how water quality issues are impacting their quality of life.

"The ongoing water quality problems associated with Lake Okeechobee releases and runoff from the Caloosahatchee watershed must be addressed immediately," added Ruane. "This is critical for the health and safety of our coastal communities, to protect the ecology of our river and estuary, and to preserve our quality of life and local economy."

Library Patrons, Staff Hail Latest Improvements

After being shut down for one month in order to complete the latest phase of the \$5.9 million, year-long renovation project, the Sanibel Public Library recently reopened to rave reviews from visiting patrons, members and staff of the award-winning facility.

"This is such a wonderful place to work in," said Wendy Lambrich, circulation manager. "I love the new, larger windows and the idea that everything is more spread out. And the new back porch is my favorite."

According to library representatives, the renovation project – dubbed Your Library Reimagined – started more than three years ago, when the Sanibel Public Library Foundation board and library staff analyzed obsolete infrastructure. The renovation is overhauling the library's 25-year-old mechanical, plumbing, fire suppression and electrical systems. During the renovation, crews tested (and retested) more than 5.1 miles of data cable. More than two miles of ductwork has been installed. The project has also "reimagined" the layout of the space to better serve community needs.

"There's much better lighting, which is a big thing," said Ian Wainwright, library staff member. "Not only is that better for

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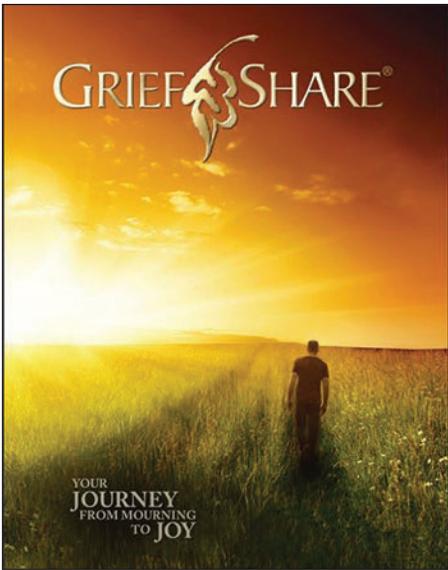


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Positions Open For Planning Commission

Sanibel City Council is currently accepting applications to fill two planning commission seats: one seat is a full-term appointment commencing January 15, 2019 and expiring January 10, 2022; and the second is a partial term appointment beginning January 15, 2019 and expiring January 12, 2021.

Responsibilities include attending commission meetings held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every

month at 9 a.m. at Sanibel City Hall, located at 800 Dunlop Road.

Visit https://boule-us-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/production/board_answer/attachment/50844/Planning_Commission_Legislation.pdf to review the City of Sanibel Charter Section 3.16 applicable to the planning commission and the relevant code.

Any resident wishing to serve may go to <https://mysanibel.granicus.com/boards/w/c13ae24878f51e92> to download the advisory committee application. After opening the hyperlink, use the drop down arrow under Committee Choice and choose Planning Commission. Continue to complete the online application, making

sure all required boxes contain a response. At the end of the application process, click the green "submit" button, which will allow submission of your application to the city clerk.

The deadline for submission is noon on Wednesday, January 2. If you have any questions, call 472-3700.*

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Program On Grief Recovery

Sanibel Community Church will offer the GriefShare program beginning on January 8 and concluding on April 2, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the main Sanctuary.

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences – the loss of someone close to you.

GriefShare is both a seminar and a support group for grief recovery. It is a 13-week, structured program featuring nationally recognized experts on grief recovery topics. Each weekly session consists of a video to watch, plus a small group discussion that allows participants to talk about the content of the seminar, and share how they are dealing with the death of their loved one. There is no charge to attend. If you would like to purchase a *GriefShare* book, there will be a \$20 fee.

Some of the topics covered in the program include: Is This Normal?, The Challenges of Grief, Grief and your Relationships, Why? and Guilt and Anger.

For more information, contact Maryelle Pavelka at maryellej@hotmail.com or call the church office at 472-2684.

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



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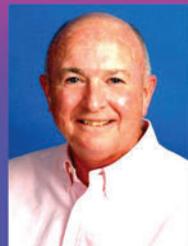
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Students Create Sea Life Ornaments



The Sanibel Sea School after school program activities on December 18 included having youngsters create their own holiday ornaments using natural materials including sea shells and sand dollars. Here, students Rylin Milmont and Samira Turnage learn an art technique from instructor Shannon Stainken. photos by Jeff Lysick



Rylin Milmont adding droplets of paint to her color palette



Samira Turnage and Rylin Milmont with their finished ornaments



Shannon Stainken with a shell ornament she painted to look like The Grinch



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Plant Smart

Queenswreath

by Gerri Reaves

Queenswreath (*Petrea volubilis*) is a twining woody vine whose showy lavender flowers give it notable ornamental value.

This member of the verbena family is native to Mexico, Central America and the West Indies.

The soft lavender flowers give it the alternate common names purple wreath and bluebird vine.

The Latin term *volubilis* in the species name refers to its ability to twine or revolve, enabling it to wind and climb up poles or other structures.

This fast-growing vine can be used on a trellis, fence, or can be trained into a shrub or small tree. It blooms more than once a year but most profusely in spring and summer.

The dense drooping flower clusters, or racemes, are up to 14 inches long. Each flower in a raceme has an individual stalk attached to the main axis of the inflorescence. When the five rounded flower petals fall, the calyx remains.

The calyx is a whorl at the base of the petals, usually the sepals, which are green in most flowers but lavender in queenswreath. The effect after the petals fall is a seeming second round of star-like flowers. The narrow "petals" are lighter in color than the actual flowers.

These cascading flowers resemble



The two flowers at the top of the photo show both the actual flower, which are darker in color than the narrow calyces that form a five pointed star photos by Gerri Reaves

those of wisteria, thus another common name, Florida wisteria.

The evergreen leaves of four to eight inches long are opposite and oval with pointed tips. Their rough texture inspires another common name, sandpaper vine.

The inconspicuous round fruit measures about a half-inch across.

Queenswreath prefers rich sandy



Queenswreath's large rough-textured evergreen leaves give the vine another common name, sandpaper vine

soil and full sun but will tolerate some shade. It is drought and wind tolerant but not salt tolerant. A white cultivar is available too.

While this plant is non-invasive, pest resistant and "Florida friendly," if you want a blue-purple vine for your yard, consider planting a native one instead.

Skyblue clustervine (*Jacquemontia pentanthos*) is not only lovely, but a good nectar source for native butterflies.

Also called blue jacquemontia and Key West morning-glory, it is endangered in Florida.

Sources: *Florida Gardener's Guide* by Tom MacCubbin and Georgia B. Tasker; *Florida, My Eden* by Frederic B. Stresau; www.ifas.ufl.edu; www.plantbook.org; and www.south-florida-plant-guide.com.

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Shell Of The Week

Rosy Keyhole Limpet



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

The Rosy Keyhole Limpet, *Fissurella rosea* (Gmelin, 1791), is one of the most

common species of keyhole limpets in the western Atlantic and Caribbean region. The species, however, is only very rarely found on our barrier island beaches. The shell is oval, and the orifice ("keyhole") is also oval and reinforced internally by a callus, which is delimited by a reddish-pink line. Shell colors and patterns vary, but mostly consist of reddish-brown radial bands of distinctive widths set on a lighter-colored background. The internal shell surface is greenish. The limpet illustrated was found by National Shell Museum's own Austin Salender, during one the Museum Beach Walks at Island Inn on Sanibel. The only other record of the species from our area in the museum collection consists of two shells collected in 1957 by William Brumbach on Sanibel. Learn more about this species and other local mollusks at



The Rosy Keyhole Limpet, *Fissurella rosea*, from Sanibel

photo by José H. Leal

www.shellmuseum.org/southwest-florida-shells and www.shellmuseum.org/blog.

Shell Museum Events

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

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

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

Shell Found



Amelia and Ellie Saumweber

photo provided

The Saumweber family from Maple Grove, Minnesota found a junonia on December 18 on the beach by Sanibel Beach Club, off Nerita Street.✱

Our email address is press@islandsunnews.com

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Every Friday at 9:30 p.m., refuge educators lead a narrated Beach Walk from Perry Tract at Gulfside City Park photo provided

Free Programs At 'Ding' Darling Begin In January

JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge has announced its calendar of daily free tours and programs for winter 2019. The seasonal calendar begins on Monday, January 7 and runs through Sunday, April 28.

Daily programs begin at 8:30 a.m. and include such diverse activities as Nature

Photography, Beach Walk, Endangered Species, and Indigo Trail Walk.

"We have something for visitors of all ages," said Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland. "The free refuge programs and tours last anywhere from a half hour to two hours."

For a full calendar of programs and tours and descriptions, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/free-refuge-programs.

Free educational programs are made possible through support from the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS).*

Film Series To Begin At Refuge

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

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

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

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

January 9 - *RiverBlue*

January 23 - *Untold Stories: Sanibel I*

February 6 - *A Plastic Ocean*

February 20 - *Saving Sea Turtles: Preventing Extinction*

March 6 - *Jane*

March 20 - *Invasion of the Giant Pythons*

April 3 - *Saving Atlantis*.*



The documentary *Saving Atlantis*, which focuses on causes and solutions for the drastic loss of coral reef ecosystems around the world, is one highlight of the series photo provided



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Winter Dock Fishing Time



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

What a crazy week of weather we had to deal with. Tropical storm winds along with gale warnings caused lots of beach erosion and brought some of

the worst marine forecasts I have ever seen in December.

So far this year, our cold fronts have been coming from the Northwest and moving Southeast at a much more rapid frequency than the usual north to south pattern. Fishing in between these fronts has been great although cancelled or rescheduled trips have been a big part of my work week.

Sheepshead fishing using shrimp has been the daily go-to as our water temperature has stayed in the mid 60s for the past few weeks. Along with catching lots of sheepshead, I have also been getting on some nonstop rat redfish action. Most of the bigger sheepshead I'm catching have been relatively close to the passes with the best action coming in the northern part of the region from Redfish Pass to Captiva Pass.

During clear water periods when conditions are settled, it's been just

a matter of riding docks around the passes until you find the sheepshead stacked up. During stirred-up conditions, fish dock to dock until you find them as there has been no visibility.

Some the docks that I've been targeting sheepshead have also been holding rat redfish, though the better redfish bite has been coming in mangrove creeks during the low incoming tide. Finding a bend or place that the current splits or creates an eddy in these narrow creek systems can be gangbusters on these awesome bright colored hard-fighting winter redfish. Jig heads baited with a chunk of fresh shrimp threaded onto the hook has caught both species.

Whenever I mention sheepshead, I hear complaints about how hard they are to fillet. I fillet lots of these fish every winter and really don't think of them as hard to clean. When I fillet them I don't break the rib cage by cutting around it.

Leave the fillet of these sheepshead attached at the tail, flip the fillet back and cut the meat off the skin. Sheepshead for their size do not have as much yield as many of our other species due to the large head and rib cage, though they are some of the better eating fish in our waters.

*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.**



While visiting from Maryland, Cheseca and Adam caught lots of sheepshead while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell photo provided

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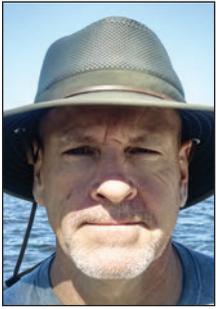
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CROW Case Of The Week:

Red-bellied
Cooter

by Bob Petcher

The red-bellied cooter (*Pseudemys nelsoni*), known more affectionately in these parts as Florida redbellies, is a good-sized freshwater turtle. The color of the carapace – the

upper shell – varies from brownish to black, but the shell does have a reddish band across the middle of the plates and vary with the age and the sex of the reptile. The pastron – or bottom portion of the shell – sports a brighter color.

While some aquatic terrapins are difficult to find, paddlers can usually spy a red-bellied cooter on a rock or log along the side of a river or creek. Interestingly, these turtles sun themselves this way to control their body temperatures.

At CROW, an adult female Florida red-bellied cooter was admitted after it was hit by a car along Highway 82 in Lehigh Acres. The turtle suffered a mildly displaced fracture of its carapace, which extended down the midline to the back of the shell.

“The fracture was approximately eight inches long. There were only

two parts to the fracture, and the fracture line traveled almost directly up the middle of the carapace from the rear,” said Dr. Malka Spektor, CROW veterinary intern. “There was minimal displacement, and good alignment of the fracture fragments, making the repair pretty straight forward and simple.”

The wound was bandaged after radiographs were taken. The patient was provided with pain medication and fluids.

“The bandaging allows the open tissue to begin the healing process without becoming contaminated or infected,” explained Dr. Spektor.

Veterinarians later affixed grommets to the turtle’s shell using epoxy. Once the grommets were in place, they were wired together. The grommets and wires will stay in place to stabilize the fracture site as it heals and will be removed once it is stable.

“Every turtle fracture repair is a little different, depending on the fracture. When we can, we prefer to use the grommets and epoxy over drilling screws into the shell because screws are more invasive, and we are placing more holes in the shell,” said Dr. Spektor.

“The goal of any fracture repair is good alignment and stability of the fragments to put the shell back together and hold it until healing occurs. If we can achieve that healing with glued pieces that hold the wires in place, we will do that. We glue the grommets with superglue and epoxy in strategic places across the fracture. After it sets for 24 hours, we



Patient #18-4482 undergoes a wiring process with applied epoxy to stabilize the fragments in its carapace
photo by Brian Bohlman

oppose the fracture by using wires, and we can tighten them to hold those fragments together.”

The wiring process brings the shell fragments closer together.

“The wiring actually tightens the shell pieces together, and then keeps them in place until the body produces bridges to hold them together,” said Dr. Spektor. “The wiring is usually kept in place for four to six weeks, depending on the patient and the fracture.”

The red-bellied cooter is expected to be fine after the grommets are removed. “We do a staged reduction of the

fracture, taking off one piece at a time to ensure it is stable before removing all of it,” added Dr. Spektor. “Once all of the hardware is removed, and we make sure that it is stable, the patient can be released.”

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

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CROW Calendar Of Events



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

For reservations, contact the Visitor Education Center at 472-3644 ext. 229 or reservations@crowclinic.org. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; opening Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. beginning January 1. Daily presentations will be offered at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. beginning January 1, Wildlife Walk hospital tours will be offered Monday through Friday at 11 a.m., and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 2 p.m. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

The Visitor Education Center will be closed on Tuesday, January 1 for New Year's Day. The center will resume normal business hours on Wednesday, January 2.

Friday, December 28, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Friday, December 28, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Why Animals Come

to CROW (daily presentation).

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

Monday, December 31, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Species Profile: Snakes of Southwest Florida (daily presentation).

Florida is home to 46 species of native snakes, only six of which are venomous. Although there is a widespread fear and misunderstanding of this animal, most species are harmless to humans and form vital links in the ecosystem. Snakes are extremely valuable because they are efficient at monitoring pest populations without relying on chemical pesticides which can degrade the environment and harm other animal species. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Monday, December 31, 4:15 p.m., adults: \$10, ages 13 to 17: \$5, ages 12 and under no charge – Speaker Series: The Story of Ospreys, presented by Claudia Burns, International Osprey Foundation volunteer.

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

Tuesday, January 1 - Closed New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 2, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Wednesday, January 2, 11 a.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Wildlife Rescue 101 (daily presentation).

Have you ever come across wildlife in "distress" but did not know the appropriate steps to help? Florida is home to more than 700 terrestrial animals and other invertebrates, and they all depend on our sustainable recreational practices to survive. From posturing to

vocalizations, animals communicate in a variety of ways and, at times, indicate their need for human assistance. Whether it is deterring visitors from feeding birds on the beach or detaching a pelican from fishing line in the mangroves, this program will cover wildlife rescue assessment as well as handling techniques.

Wednesday, January 2, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Wednesday, January 2, 2 p.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Virginia Opossums (daily presentation).

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

Thursday, January 3, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

Wildlife Walks are approximately 1.5 hours: a 45-minute presentation with a

continued on page 34



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Audubon Lecture On Wildlife Photography

The Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society lecture season kicks off with Shawn Carey, wildlife photographer, educator, guide and cofounder of the video company, Migration Productions, presenting a program entitled Looking Through the Lens, Observations of a Wildlife Photographer. Carey will speak on Thursday, January 3 at 7:30 p.m. at The Community House. He will use his photos to highlight many of the remarkable personal discoveries he has made on his numerous trips to prime worldwide wildlife locations.

Birds and other wildlife have fascinated people for all of recorded history. This interest has led to cave paintings, illustrations, sculptures, wood carvings, photographs, videos and audio recordings. However, use of the recent improvements in digital technology has allowed people to capture photos and videos never imagined before. Carey will explore some of the observations he has made over the last 25 years and share memorable moments from his

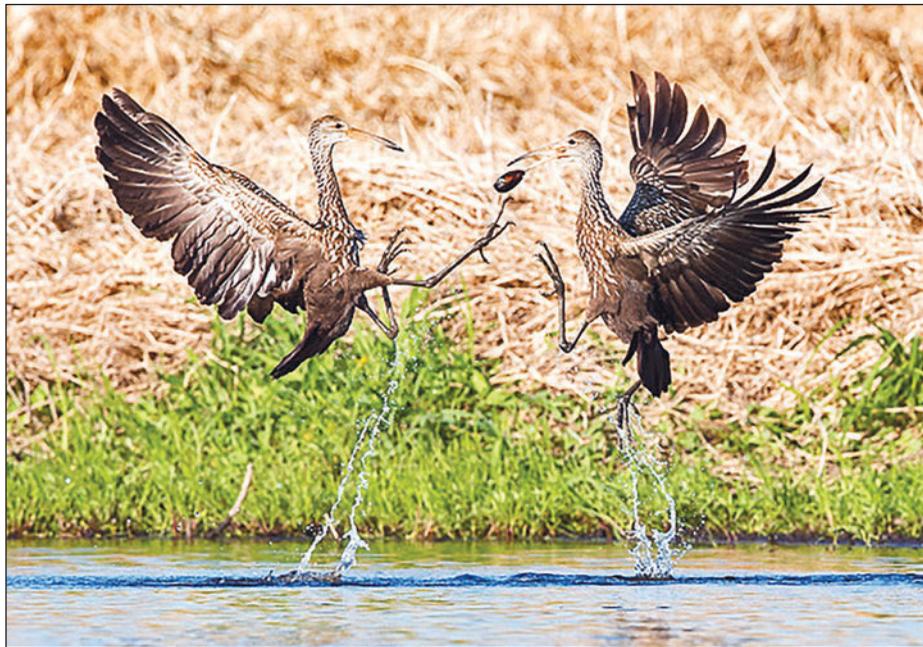


photo by Shawn Carey

travels in the U.S. and abroad. Topics covered may include anything from the sounds of a bobolink and marsh wren as they sing to attract a mate in early spring to what it's like to stand on the North Lookout at Hawk Mountain in late October waiting for migrating

raptors, or to watch the spectacle of thousands of snow geese and sandhill cranes at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico.

Originally from Erie, Pennsylvania, Carey moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1986 and started

watching birds in 1988. He has been photographing birds and other wildlife for about 20 years and has been teaching wildlife photography for Mass Audubon for over 12 years. Carey is on the board of directors for Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch where he serves as vice president. He has been on the advisory board for the Massachusetts Audubon Society and Massachusetts Audubon Visual Arts Center. He co-founded Migration Productions in 1996, and also provides most of digital photography used in its productions. "I love the natural world. If it walks, crawls, flies, swims or slithers, I'll photograph it," said Carey.

This is the first of nine Sanibel-Captiva Audubon lectures to be held in 2019 on Thursday evenings at The Community House. All are welcome to attend. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and parking is available at The Community House and across the street in the Herb Strauss Theater parking area. A \$10 donation per attendee is appreciated with proceeds after costs being used to promote conservation on Sanibel and in Florida. For more information, call Bill Jacobson at 395-1878 or visit www.san-capaudubon.org.

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



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 4 eggs, pan fried
 1/4 cup red onion, finely chopped
 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
 3 tablespoons light mayonnaise
 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
 3/4 teaspoon seafood seasoning
 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
 2 egg whites, lightly beaten
 1 1/2 cups panko (Japanese bread crumbs), divided
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 Combine the red onions, parsley, mayonnaise, dijon, seafood seasoning, worcestershire sauce, and egg whites a medium bowl. Gently fold in crabmeat and 3/4 cup panko crumbs. Cover and chill 30 minutes. Shape the crab mixture

into 8 patties about 3/4-inch thick. In a shallow dish, roll patties in remaining 3/4 cup panko crumbs, coating evenly. In a nonstick skillet over medium heat, heat oil and cook 4 crab cakes at a time for 7 minutes until golden brown on each side.

Hollandaise Sauce

3 eggs, yolks separated
 1/4 teaspoon Dijon style mustard
 1/2 lemon, juiced
 Hot pepper sauce, to taste
 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted
 Sea salt, to taste
 In a blender or food processor, add mustard, lemon juice, egg yolks and a few dashes of hot pepper sauce. Blend ingredients and slowly add the melted butter until the ingredients thicken. Taste hollandaise and adjust seasoning with salt and hot pepper sauce. Serve sauce immediately.

To assemble Crab Cake Benedict, place one or two slices of tomato on each plate. Season the tomato lightly with salt and pepper. Place a pan fried egg over each tomato slice. Add a crab cake to the top of each pan fried egg. Evenly distribute the hollandaise sauce



Crab Cake Benedict
 photo courtesy Fresh From Florida
 over the top of each crab cake and serve immediately.*

LIVE ON THE ISLANDS

Il Cielo has live entertainment with Scott McDonald on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
Island Cow on Periwinkle Way has live entertainment on Friday with Dan Confrey. Peter Redpath plays on Saturday. On Sunday, it's Dan Confrey.
Traditions on the Beach at Island Inn has live entertainment on Friday with Woody Brubaker and Barbara Dexter. Dusk performs on Saturday and Sunday. New Year's Eve entertainment on Monday includes Woody Brubaker, Marvella Marzan and Dana Paul. Dusk returns on Tuesday.

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

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A Seminole woman poles past a billboard advertising the sale of reclaimed land in a circa-1920 photograph from *The Swamp* photo courtesy HistoryMiami Museum

Refuge To Air Free Preview Of New PBS Film

In partnership with WGCU Public Media, the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge will host a free Monday, January 7 sneak preview airing of *The Swamp*, a new national PBS documentary. The showing starts at 5 p.m. in the Visitor and Education Center auditorium at the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel. The documentary later will debut as part of *American Experience* programming on WGCU HD at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15.

Based in part on the book *The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida, and the Politics of Paradise* by Michael Grunwald, the documentary tells the dramatic story of humanity’s attempts to conquer the Florida Everglades, one of nature’s most mysterious and unique ecosystems.

Explored through the lives of colorful and resolute characters – from hucksters to politicians to unlikely activists – *The Swamp* chronicles the repeated efforts to transform what was once identified as a vast and useless wasteland into an agricultural and urban paradise, ultimately leading to a passionate campaign to preserve America’s greatest wetland.

As Florida copes today with the disastrous aftermath of man’s abuse of the Everglades, *The Swamp* is a timely

documentary of the perils of changing the course of nature for profit.

“*The Swamp* tells an epic tale of man’s never-ending attempt to control nature,” said *American Experience* executive producer Mark Samels. “The story of the repeated efforts to tame the Everglades – and the often deadly results of those attempts – is a particularly cautionary tale in these days of increasingly violent natural disasters.”

Following a 30-minute preview of the two-hour documentary, attendees will have the opportunity to hear comments from “Ding” Darling senior biologist Jeremy Conrad and Florida Gulf Coast University aquatic ecologist Serge Thomas, PhD, in a panel moderated by WGCU FM news director Julie Glenn.

“We are happy to partner with WGCU on a project that reinforces the importance

of preservation and water quality in our part of Florida,” said DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller. “Part of our mission is to support the conservation efforts at the refuge including land acquisition on Sanibel, which will benefit overall water quality by stemming more development of the type that once threatened the Everglades.”

The Refuge Nature Store will also remain open for the after-hours event. Profits from the store support wildlife, education and research at the refuge. Snacks and beverages will be available by donation. Seating for the free showing is limited to 100 people on a first-come, first-seated basis. Interested attendees are urged to arrive an hour early and can save one additional seat with personal items. For more information, call 472-1100 ext. 4.*

Paddling With Loved Ones

by Kealy McNeal

As I paddled along the Turner River with family and friends last weekend, I was reminded what a unique bonding experience shared time on the water can offer.



We laughed as we stumbled our way through unloading kayaks and hauling them to the launch ramp over some rough terrain, then again as we splashed our way into the river, without the finesse of advanced paddlers but with plenty of enthusiasm for the day ahead.

Without much of a plan in mind – only to spend time together – we watched alligators sun themselves on muddy banks, enjoyed the sawgrass views, and counted tiny turtle hatchlings. We paddled south along narrow mangrove tunnels, where the sunlight filtered through hundreds of bromeliads, and the honorable paddler in the front removed spider webs for those of us farther back.

We were in no rush, so we took our time, talked about meaningful and trivial subjects, and frequently remarked about how lucky we were to be out in the wilderness, in the company of loved ones. It was a great day.

So, as you navigate the holidays,

we encourage you to make time for adventures on the water with your loved ones. Sure, it can be challenging to plan and coordinate, and other to do list items may seem more important, but you will never regret making memories this way.

Happy holidays from the Ocean Tribe Paddlers!

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

Member Sought For Shared Use Path Committee

The City of Sanibel is seeking participation from a member of the public who lives on Sanibel and walks or bikes as a primary means of commuting to work. The appointee must be available to attend three project advisory committee meetings to be held on island between February and May, wherein participating members will provide input and contribute to discussion facilitated by the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) project consultant, Tindale Oliver. Committee meetings are expected to take two hours. The expected completion date for the project is June 4, 2019. This representative will be appointed by the city manager. Deadline for application is noon Friday, January 4.*



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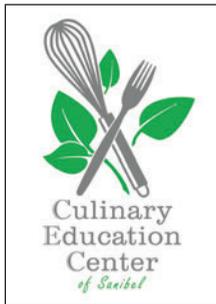
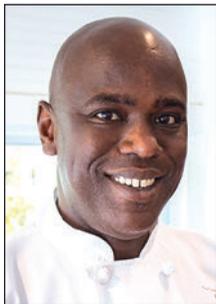
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The Community House

The Canistel



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

The canistel fruit is one of those weird and wonderful fruits you may see at the Sanibel Farmers Market this time of the year. This fruit is also called yellow sapote or egg-fruit. The tree that produces this fruit is native to Mexico, Central and South America but is grown and harvested throughout the Caribbean and here in Southwest Florida.

The fruit is approximately the same size as a small to medium size mango and has a thin greenish yellow skin. When this fruit is completely ripened, its flesh turns a yellow and orange color with four mahogany colored seeds that resemble lima beans. The texture of its flesh is similar to a hardboiled egg yolk, but creamy. The canistel is slightly sweet and tastes like pumpkin pie or sweet potato pie.

The fruit is high in fiber and contains potassium, calcium and iron. It is also a natural immune booster because of the high amounts of vitamin C and A the

fruit contains. The canistel is also rich in carotene and niacin. The seeds of the canistel fruit can be processed and used to treat dermatitis, ulcers and other stomach disorders.

I really enjoy cooking with this fruit. It makes a wonderful ice cream and is fantastic in smoothies and pie recipes.

The best places to find this delicious fruit are at the Sanibel Farmers Market, Caribbean markets or farmers markets south of Naples. Occasionally, the fruit appears in grocery stores in the Fort Myers area.

Here is a simple recipe to try;
Canistel And Coconut Bread

- Ingredients
- 2 cups flour
 - 1/2 tsp. baking soda
 - 1/4 tsp. salt
 - 1/4 tsp. cloves
 - 1/8 tsp. cinnamon
 - 1/2 cup butter (softened)
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 2 eggs
 - 1 cup milk
 - 1/2 tsp. vanilla

- 2 cups ripe canistel (mashed)
- 1 cup grated coconut

Directions
Preheat oven to 350F degrees. Grease and flour an 8-inch loaf pan and set aside.

In a large bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, salt, cloves and cinnamon, then set aside.

In a separate mixing bowl, combine the butter and sugar until well blended. Add the eggs and mix until well blended. Slowly add the milk, vanilla and canistel until all is blended.

Add the sifted dry ingredients to the

batter and mix thoroughly. Fold in the coconut and mix until evenly combined.

Spoon the batter into the prepared pan. Bake for 40 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the bread comes out clean.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool in the pan for 20 minutes.

Remove the bread from the pan, onto

a serving plate, and dust with powdered sugar.

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

American Legion Post 123

American Legion Post 123 is

serving corned beef and cabbage on Sunday, December 30 from noon to 8 p.m. There will be a fish fry the following Sunday, January 6 from noon to 8 p.m.

Tugboat Willie's annual New Year's Day potluck begins at noon on Tuesday, January 1.

All are welcome to come out and join in the fun for Open Mic Night on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to close.

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

On Tuesdays, tacos are served all day. Spaghetti and meatballs are served all day on Wednesday. On Fridays, a six-ounce ribeye steak sandwich is on the menu. There are daily specials as well as half-pound burgers. Food is served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Every Monday night beginning at 5



p.m., the 8 Ball Pool League is in play.

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

American Legion Post 123, located at Mile Marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road, is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. The public is welcome. For more information, call 472-9979.✪

Top Ten Books On The Island

1. *The Reckoning* by John Grisham
 2. *Becoming* by Michelle Obama
 3. *Florida* by Lauren Groff
 4. *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
 5. *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver
 6. *Summer Wives* by Beatriz Williams
 7. *Once Upon a River* by Diane Setterfield
 8. *Leopard at the Door* by Jennifer McVeigh
 9. *Target Alex Cross* by James Patterson
 10. *I, the Sanibel Sunset Detective* by Ron Base
- Courtesy MacIntosh Books and Paper.✪

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Artists Capture Charm Of Historical Village

Plain air artists from the Sanibel Captiva Art League set up their easels at the Sanibel Historical Village last week hoping to capture its architecture and charm on canvas.

The village's history attracts the artists, who hold a "paint out" every Thursday at different locations on Sanibel or Captiva. It's a challenge to paint outdoors, and everyone is painting something different. Some might paint just a tiny part of a building while others may paint the landscape.

The Sanibel Captiva Art League has been in operation for more than 50 years. Some members are permanent residents and some are snowbirds; the group even includes visitors from other places. The purpose of the art league is to grow its members' crafts and skills. It is a 501(c)3 that is interested in taking part in community activities in the way of education. For more information visit www.sancapart.com.

The Sanibel Historical Village is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Full guided tours take place at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at no additional charge, depending on docent availability. The village is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS) and there is handicap access to all buildings. Admission is \$10 for adults (18 and over). Members and children are admitted at no charge.*



Sanibel Captiva Art League members at the Sanibel Historical Village

photo provided

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Book Review

Varina

by Di Saggau



Varina by Charles Frazier, author of the popular *Cold Mountain*, brings us back to the Civil War with a story about Varina Howell Davis, the wife of

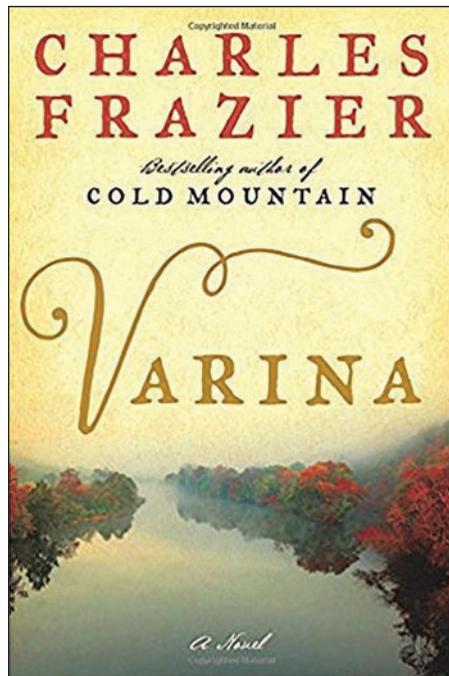


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the only president of the Confederate State of America. It comes at a time when statues of Confederate “heroes” are being toppled, including that of Jefferson Davis. After reading the book, one might think Varina would consider this justice. She is a Southern woman who, after the Civil War, moved to New York to write for newspapers and declared that “the right side won.”

At age 18, Varina, her marriage prospects limited, marries the Mississippi landowner Jefferson Davis, a widower 19 years her senior. She expects the secure life of a Mississippi landowner but he promptly leaves his young wife to fight in the Mexican-American War. After returning home, Davis turns his military experience into a political career, representing Mississippi in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, as well as serving as the Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce before being elected president of the Confederacy in 1861. This places Varina at the white-hot center of one of the darkest moments in American history. The book begins in 1906 in Saratoga Springs, New York, and the elderly Varina, who likes to be called V, is visited by a black man named James Blake. He tells V he was once Limber Jimmy, the little boy Varina rescued and raised for awhile. That was in 1865. V then begins telling James the story of her life.

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The Confederacy falling, her marriage in tatters and the country divided, Varina and her children escape Richmond, Virginia, and travel south on their own. They are now fugitives with “bounties on their heads, an entire nation in pursuit.” Slavery is prominent throughout *Varina*. “From the earliest memory, owning another people was a given. But V began feeling the strangeness of it at about age 9 or 10. Not the wrongness of the sin of it, but the strangeness only.”

Over a period of six Sundays, James returns to visit V. His questions and V’s memories combine as both of them come to understand their separate experiences. V says, “being

on the wrong side of history carries consequences.” V lives that truth every day. If you’ve done terrible things, lived a terrible way, profited from paining the face of history’s power to judge, then guilt and loss accrue. Those were times that required choosing a side, and then sooner or later, history asks, “which side were you on?”

Varina is a well-written novel that is worth rereading. It is an indictment of complicity without ignoring the historic complexity of the great evil at the core of American history. Intimate in its detailed observations of one woman’s tragic life, and epic in its scope and power, it is a novel of an American war and its aftermath.✧

School Smart

by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP



Dear Readers, Here is my annual reminder of some of the best gifts you can give your children this holiday season. These are gifts from the heart.

During this busy time of year, think about giving your children some extra support by choosing highly expressive words that convey a strong belief in your child. Kids quickly forget their new toys, but they will not forget your words of love, encouragement and praise.

Sometimes though, parents find it difficult to express their thoughts and support for their children. Here is a list of highly expressive and meaningful phrases that child psychologist Yekaterina Kes has put together to use with your child. All of them will help your child to understand the depth of your love and affection for them. What could be a better present to them than that?

Expressing belief in your child

I trust you
I believe in you
I respect your decision
It won’t be easy, but I’m certain you’ll do it
You’re doing everything right
You understand this perfectly
How did you manage to do this so well?

Teach me how you do it, so I can succeed like you
You can do it better than I can
You’re better at this than me

Crediting their hard work

I can see how much work you put into this
I can see how hard you tried
You worked so hard on this, and you achieved it perfectly
You’re making fantastic progress
I can see you spent a lot of time on this
I can imagine how much effort you had to put in to achieve this
You must have worked so hard to get this result
All that hard work paid off

Being thankful for the time you

spend together

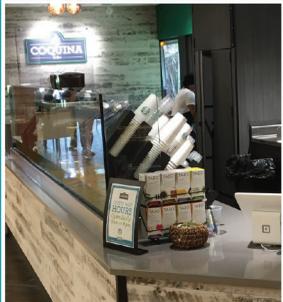
I really appreciate you spending time with me
I can’t wait to play with you tomorrow
It’s so interesting to do this with you
I really enjoyed playing with you
I’m so glad you’re at home with me
I’m having so much fun being with you
Helping them evaluate their own performance
What do you think about this?
You must be so proud!
What’s the thing your most proud of?
What’s your opinion on this?
How would you evaluate your own work?
And what do you think of the result?
How do you wish it had gone?
Being thankful for their help
Thank you so much for doing this
I’m so grateful that you helped me with this
You really helped me out
Thanks for understanding
I don’t know what I would have done without you
Without your help I wouldn’t have succeeded
You helped me to get through this quicker
The house is so tidy thanks to you
Describing what you see
Your bedroom is so clean
Wow, you’ve made your bed! Fantastic
There are so many beautiful colors in this picture
I can see that you really tried hard
I noticed that you cleared the table yourself. Well done
Describing how you feel
I just love spending time with you so much
I’m so happy when you’re at home
I love being part of your team
I love hearing your opinion
I’m so incredibly grateful that I have you
It makes me so happy when you’re around to help me

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



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Two Fine Art Exhibits To Open



Two Birds by Renee Chastant

images provided

BIG ARTS will kick off the new year with two fine art exhibits, SanCap Art League: Fresh and Déjà Vu, featuring the works of Mary Sullivan Voytek. The shows open on Thursday, January 3 and will be on display in Phillips and Founders galleries. A reception for both exhibitions will be held on Friday, January 4 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. where guests can meet the artists and have complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres.

This year's SanCap Art League theme, Fresh, features works of art never before exhibited in public by league members. The exhibit will be on display in Phillips Gallery.

"We love having SCAL show at BIG ARTS," said Executive Director Lee Ellen Harder "It's great to have a collection on display of all the amazing talent in the Sanibel and Captiva community."

Sanibel Captiva Art League was started in 1964 by a group of 25 island artists who wanted to further the interest in art within the community. The first show, of 19 paintings, was hung for a single day in the Captiva Post Office a year earlier, but has evolved into large exhibits and juried shows in public venues, such as the Sanibel Public Library and with the Captiva Civic Association.

In Founders Gallery, the works of contemporary sculptor and FGCU associate professor Mary Sullivan Voytek will be on display. Her show, Déjà Vu, makes use of combined media, including aluminum, brass, bronze, copper and light.

Voytek envisions and constructs sculpture that seeks deeper meaning and resonance in our lives by exploring a sense of belonging and relationship to the natural, spiritual and man-made worlds. Her work continues to be formed by the juxtaposition of urban and rural materials, techniques and energy. Throughout her career, her approach has broadened in artistic



Garden of Delight by Mary Sullivan Voytek

range to include environmental and social activism.

Phillips Gallery is open from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Founders Gallery hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and closed on Sundays. To learn more, visit www.sancapart.com. For more information on BIG ARTS 40th anniversary season, visit www.BIGARTS.org.*

On Island Radio

Sanibel and Captiva now have their own radio station: On Island Radio. You can tune in anywhere and feel like you're on island, even when you're not. You'll hear sunny music with announcements from the islands so you can stay connected to your "happy place" all year long.

Download the free On Island app or listen online at www.onislandsanibel.com.*

ROCKIN' SANIBEL NEW YEAR'S EVE AT SUNDIAL

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31st 7:00PM-12:30AM

Ring in 2019 overlooking the Gulf and underneath the stars. Sundial Beach Resort & Spa is offering an exciting lineup of family-friendly entertainment and games and an expansive buffet this New Year's Eve.

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Private poolside cabanas with seating for 8 may be reserved ahead of time for an additional \$75. Please call 239.395.7226.

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Academy Award Contenders

Mary Poppins Returns



by Stan Gembicki

On Wednesday, January 2 at 12:30 p.m., the Island Cinema will show the first movie in this year's BIG ARTS Film Society Academy Awards Contenders Film Series. After the

movie, a discussion will take place at the cinema, where tickets are available. Other movies in the series will be announced prior to the weekly showing.

Mary Poppins Returns is a 2018 American musical fantasy film directed by Rob Marshall and written by David Magee, from a story by Magee, Marshall and John DeLuca. Based on the book series by PL Travers, this sequel to the 1964 *Mary Poppins* stars Emily Blunt as the title character, with Lin-Manuel Miranda, Ben Whishaw, Emily Mortimer, Julie Walters, Dick Van Dyke, Angela Lansbury, Colin Firth and Meryl Streep in supporting roles. Van Dyke is the only actor from the original to return.

Mary Poppins Returns is a sequel, not a remake. After all, Disney's 1964 original was, like *Mary Poppins* herself, practically perfect in every way. Trying to remake it would have been downright silly. But *Mary Poppins* is *Mary Poppins*;

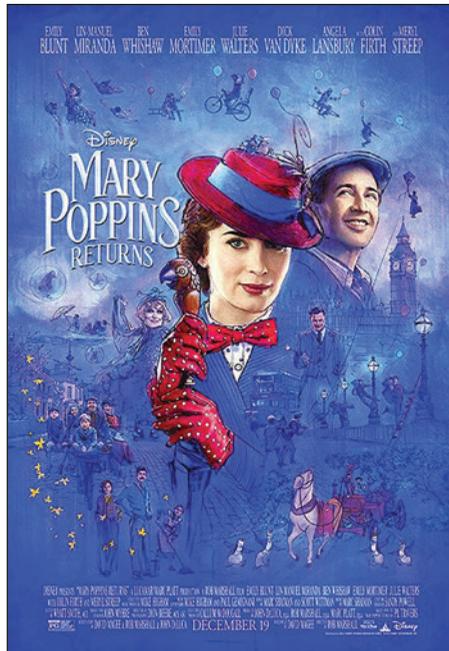


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magic is what she does best. And magic is precisely what she delivers in a film that is -- since we're borrowing so much from the 1964 original -- nothing short of supercalifragilisticexpialidocious.

Mary Poppins Returns received the Golden Globe nomination for best motion picture comedy or musical. Blunt and Miranda were also nominated as best actress and best actor in the musical or comedy category. The film is one hour and 20 minutes long.

Island Cinema is located in Bailey's Center at the corner of Periwinkle Way and Tarpon Bay Road.*

BIG ARTS Corner

Workshops And Seminars

BIG ARTS is offering the following workshops and seminars.

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

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

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

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

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

Hip Hop/Jazz with Bobby Logue

- Fridays, January 4 to 25, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

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

Instructed Life Drawing with Francesco Gillia - Mondays, January 7 to 28, 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Portrait Drawing/Painting with Mary Klunk - Mondays, January 7 to 28, 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Pastel Painting with Mary Klunk - Mondays, January 7 to 28, 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Watercolor Classes for All Levels with Mary Lou Peters - Mondays, January 7 to February 4, 1 to 4 p.m.

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

From page 24

CROW Calendar

45-minute tour. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity following the tour with an animal ambassador.

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

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

Thursday, January 3, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required - Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Thursday, January 3, 2 p.m., adults: \$12, ages 4 to 12: \$7, age 3 and under no charge - Species Profile: Snakes of Southwest Florida (daily presentation).

Florida is home to 46 species of native snakes, only six of which are venomous. Although there is a widespread fear and misunderstanding of this animal, most species are harmless to humans and form vital links in the ecosystem. Snakes are extremely valuable because they are efficient at monitoring pest populations without relying on chemical pesticides which can degrade the environment and harm other animal species. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.*

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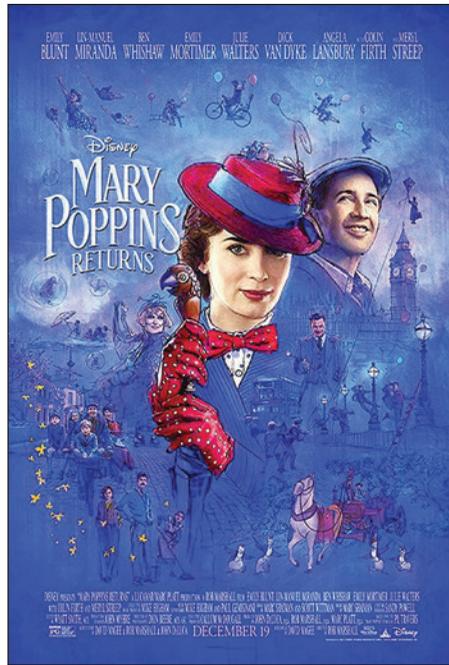
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Discount Movie Tickets For Rec Center Members

The Island Cinema is offering reduced movie ticket rates for Sanibel Recreation Center members from Friday, December 28 through Monday, January 7.

Admission adults/seniors is \$6 including tax (40 percent off of the regular ticket price). All participating members will need

to show the theater box office attendee a valid discount movie voucher from the Sanibel Recreation Center. Movie vouchers are available to current recreation center members and may be picked up at the recreation center front desk.

These feature films are offered through a partnership between the City of Sanibel Recreation Center and Island Cinema. Now showing: *Aquaman*, rated PG-13; and *Mary Poppins Returns*, rated PG.

Check the City of Sanibel website for future movie dates, www.mysanibel.com. Due to limited capacity in the theater,

images provided

recreation center members wishing to utilize this discount are urged to purchase their tickets at the cinema in advance. For more information, call 472-0345.

The Sanibel Recreation Center is

located at 3880 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Daily, weekly, semi-annual and annual memberships are available.

Island Cinema is located at 535 Tarpon Bay Road in Bailey's Center.*

New Year's Eve Osprey Presentation

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) will kick off its speaker series on Monday, December 31 at 4:15 p.m. in the Visitor Education Center with The Story of Ospreys. Claudia Burns will lead the presentation. Burns has monitored osprey nests for 25-plus years as an International Osprey Foundation volunteer, and uses photos, videos and recorded vocalizations to explain osprey behavior.

The presentation is dedicated to Mark "Bird" Westall, founder of The International Osprey Foundation, who recently lost his battle with ALS.

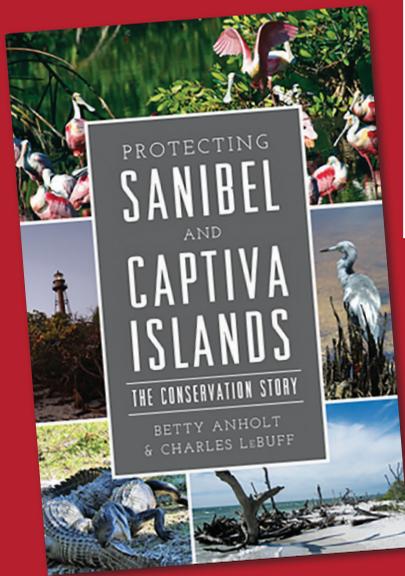
Reservations are recommended, with admission of \$10 for adults, \$5 for teens, no charge for children under age 13. For reservations or more information, call 472-3644, ext. 229. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road, across from The Sanibel School.*



Osprey hunting for fish

photo provided

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Sunset

photo by Connie Roy

December Photo Contest Winner

The winner of the RS Walsh Landscaping December photo contest was Connie Roy. The theme was Sunrise-Sunset.

Submitted photos were posted on the RS Walsh In The Garden Facebook and Instagram pages and at the company's Sanibel garden center. Visitors were able to vote on their favorites. Roy's photo, taken on a peaceful summer evening

while toasting marshmallows with her grandchildren from New Hampshire, received the most votes. She will receive a \$50 gift certificate to In The Garden.

Honorable mentions were awarded to Laurie Hafener, Barb Lasky, Fred Morey and Lynn Russell.

The theme for January is Birds on the Beach. The deadline for submissions is January 1 and should include the photographer's name, phone number, location of the photo and a short story behind the picture. Email to inthegarden@rswalsh.com.*

Book Signing With Island Historians

The public is invited to a book signing with local authors Betty Anholt and Charles LeBuff at MacIntosh Books on Saturday, December 29 at 2 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

The latest book by Anholt and LeBuff is titled *Protecting Sanibel and Captiva Islands, The Conservation Story*. It recounts the history of Sanibel and Captiva islands as ecological marvels compared to Florida's many overbuilt barrier islands.

Development began with the construction of the Sanibel Lighthouse in 1884, when only the lighthouse keeper, assistant and their families lived on the island. Noted conservationist Jay N. "Ding" Darling led the charge in preserving the islands' wildlife and natural beauty from the greed of real estate speculators and land developers in the 1930s.

Former presidents like Harry Truman and cabinet-level executives worked alongside Sanibel and Captiva residents, setting up preserves and wildlife refuges to guard the integrity of the islands' unique natural blessings, abundant wildlife and aquatic stores. LeBuff and Anholt review the evolution of the islands' conservation ethic and how it perseveres today.

Anholt is a long-term student of Florida's natural and social history, particularly in Southwest Florida and the islands. She has published four books, including *Sanibel's Story: Voices and Images from Calusa to Incorporation*, as well as numerous articles, columns and smaller pieces. Born and raised in New Jersey, Anholt moved to Sanibel with her husband, Jim, and their young family many years ago and owned and operated two local businesses for much of that time. She has canoe-camped along several of Florida's rivers and streams, canoeing the Suwannee from the Okefenokee Swamp to the Gulf of Mexico at the Cedar Keys, and crossed

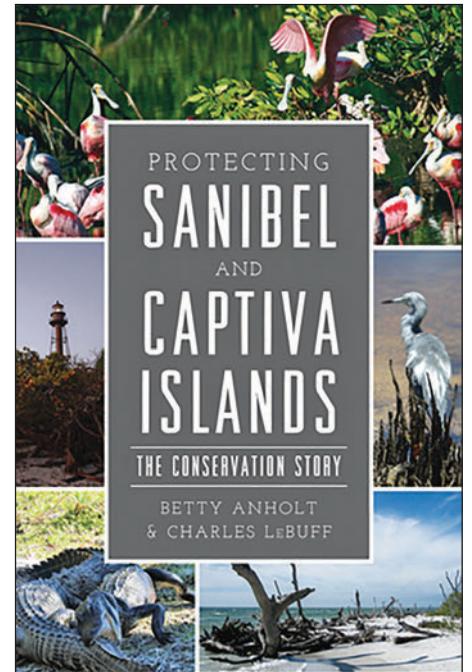


image provided

the Everglades by paddle. Well versed in island history and ecology, as of this writing, she works in reference and cataloguing at the Sanibel Public Library.

LeBuff was born in Massachusetts and moved to Bonita Springs in 1952. In 1958, he was selected to fill the number two position at the Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island. He spent 32 years as a wildlife technician at this refuge, renamed JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge in 1967. During his time on Sanibel, he served as president of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society, was a founding board member of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, was twice elected to the Sanibel City Council and founded and directed the loggerhead sea turtle conservation project Caretta Research, Inc. Currently, LeBuff and his wife, Jean, live near Fort Myers.

MacIntosh Books is located at 2330 Palm Ridge Road in Palm Ridge Place Shopping Center. For more information, call 472-1447.*

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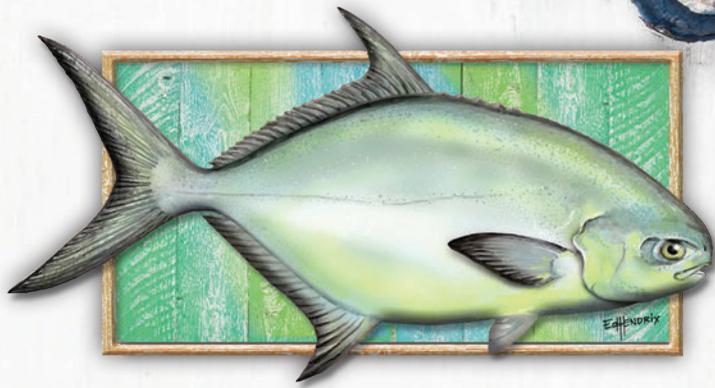


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SATURDAY

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Rock • Blues • Reggae

CeCe Teneal & Soul Kamotion • 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Blues • Soul • Roots

JP Soars & The Red Hots • 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Blues

Bob Marley Tribute Band featuring Yvad • 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Reggae

Caribbean Chillers • 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Jimmy Buffet Tribute Band

SUNDAY

Twinkle & Rock Soul Radio • 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
Rock • Soul

Billy Rice Band • 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Country Rock

U.S. Stones • 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Rolling Stones Tribute Band



From page 12

Year In Review

the people who work here, but people who come here to read are enjoying it too.”

Among the latest improvements, in addition to larger windows to maximize the natural light and scenic views, is a brand new A/V (audio/video) department, containing the library's catalog of DVDs, CDs and audiobooks. All multimedia platforms are stored on rolling shelving units, which will allow those units to be relocated in order to accommodate audiences for special events including the Author Series.

The A/V section is located in the area most recently occupied by the children's section, which had temporarily been relocated adjacent to the circulation desk. The new children's section has returned to its original location on the east side of the building. Surrounding the children's area, which contains color-coordinated seating and visual enhancements, is a Think Tank Maker Space for kids to play with Legos, puzzles and games; an expanded seating area; and a Teen Space with three computer stations and space for doing homework.

Additional improvements completed during the latest phase include a greatly expanded fiction section with several themed book displays; four new study rooms; two computer labs with high-speed Internet; a puzzle and games area; a book sale section; expanded back porch with tables and rocking chairs; and new Archives Room with digitization capabilities for easier scanning of photos. Those rooms are accented with etched glass windows created by island artist Luc Century.

In addition to the latest enhancements to the facility, several new pieces of furniture have been brought in, while some older chairs have been reupholstered with brightly colored fabrics. During Phase II of the renovation, more than 35,000 items – including books, multimedia, computers, office equipment, furniture and shelving – were required to be moved in order to complete work aimed at improving the infrastructure of the library. Among the “behind the scenes” improvements are state of the art upgrades in plumbing, HVAC, fire suppression, electric and data wiring.

The project, designed by HBM Architects of Cleveland, Ohio, is being funded with library reserves, grants and private donations.

Museum Scientists Attend Research Cruise

For the second time in 2018, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum marine biologist Rebecca Mensch was invited to participate aboard a research cruise into the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico. But during the most recent excursion, she was joined by Dr. José H. Leal, science director and curator of the museum, who attended the four-day specimen recovery expedition from September 13 to 17.

Sailing aboard the RV *Weatherbird II*, Mensch and Dr. Leal joined Dr. Gregory Herbert, associate professor at the University of South Florida School of Geosciences and USF Florida Institute of Oceanography, as well as a scientist from the Florida Fish & Conservation



From left, Paul Tritaik, Birgie Miller and Toni Westland accepting the America's Best Restroom award from Cintas Corporation Marketing Manager Sean Mulcahey at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge photo by Jeff Lysick

Commission (FWC) and several USF college students. The group ventured far into the gulf as part of Dr. Herbert's ongoing project mapping the mollusk community of the Florida continental shelf.

"Unlike the first trip I went on, the weather this time was really nice," said Mensch, who previously joined Dr. Herbert on a research excursion from February 22 to 26, during which three live junonias were recovered and subsequently were given to the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum for further examination and study. "(Dr. Herbert's) been working on this research for the past 10 years, and he still gets excited about it."

This past winter, Mensch took part in a research expedition which made headlines locally and in the international shelling community. After performing 30 dredges of marine material virtually around the clock some 100-plus miles out into the Gulf of Mexico, at depths of 65 to 1,100 feet, the marine biologist returned to Sanibel with three live junonias.

Still thriving in museum research tanks, the live junonias (*Scaphella junonia*) continue to be monitored and studied, although they spend most of their day buried in the sand. And while the live mollusks aren't on public display at the museum, they are being featured in videos and photo galleries posted on the museum's website, www.shellmuseum.org/junonia.

Using a three-foot wide dredge haul operating nearly 18 hours per day, the scientists and students sifted through marine material pulled up from the bottom of the sea floor. Depths that materials were dredged from ranged from between 200 and 800 feet.

During the most recent four-day expedition, the dredge yielded one live junonia, although the specimen perished before it could be brought back to shore. The shell will be dissected and further studied at the museum, continuing the historically significant research being conducted on the elusive junonias. Also found were two other *Scaphella* genus mollusks, discovered at depths of 750 and 800 feet, respectively, and a rare *Sconsia striata*, a relative of the common Scotch bonnet.

Refuge Voted Best Restroom In The U.S.

Last October, when officials from the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge unveiled the second phase of the

#LearningLav project, little did they realize that the restroom renovations would be the subject of national news.

At the refuge Visitor and Education Center on October 22, Cintas Corporation announced that the Learning Lavatories at the refuge were voted America's Best Restroom in its nationwide contest. Three months earlier, the refuge joined nine other finalists in an online vote to select the country's top-rated restroom.

"We're thrilled that the public is as wild about our restrooms as we are," said Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland. "As one of 566 national wildlife refuges around the country, we saw the restrooms as a major missed opportunity for educating visitors, which is why our new Learning Lavatories encourage visitors to become entirely immersed in refuge habitat and wildlife. We are the first in the entire national refuge system to have a restroom like this, and winning this award is a real honor."

"We encouraged visitors and fans of the refuge to vote," said Birgie Miller, executive director of the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), which raised the funds to turn the refuge restrooms into an artistic, educational exhibit. "We even had entire classrooms voting for us locally and as far away as Kansas."

As the winner, the refuge received a banner and plaque to signify its "ascent to the throne." Cintas also awarded the refuge the "revered restroom treatment," which includes \$2,500 in Cintas products and services for restroom cleaning or facility management.

Judging criteria included cleanliness, visual appeal, innovation, functionality and unique design elements.

Funded by a \$125,000 grant from the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) and contributions from private donors including AWC Family Fund, the Middendorf family, Laurie and Bill Harkey, and Chuck and Irene Raber, the #LearningLav debuted in October 2017. It features a mother and baby manatee sculpture (made out of recycled bicycle tires, donated for the project by Billy's Bikes on Sanibel) along the building's outer wall – created by Fort Myers artist Andrew Corke – and floor-to-ceiling paintings – created by North Carolina artist David Williams – depicting one-dimensional images as well as 3D sculptures of wildlife that can often be seen at the refuge.

"Something we strive for every day is to inspire and educate the public," said Refuge Manager Paul Tritaik. "We like to say that the restrooms have turned a 'nature call' into a 'nature enthrall.'"

Reusable Bags Helping Haitian Community

Thanks to a new partnership between one of Sanibel's nonprofit organizations and a small Haitian manufacturing workshop, led by an ownership group comprised primarily by women, islanders who are using Coastal Keepers' canvas bags can take even greater pride in taking part in a successful program.

Since the Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) campaign was established, more than 15,000 reusable and washable canvas bags have been distributed on the islands. But until recently, those bags were being manufactured in the Far East.

"When we started looking into getting bags made with organic cotton five years ago, we found a United States source, but those bags were very expensive and very thick," said Dr. Bruce Neill, co-founder and executive director of Sanibel Sea School, of which Coastal Keepers operates as an independent branch.

"To be honest, we always felt a little uneasy about buying the bags directly from China because we didn't know anything about where they were being made or what kind of working conditions there were. But thanks to one of our private donors on the island, they told us about an emerging company in Haiti we could be doing business with."

Located in Port au Prince, Haiti, the fashion brand Deux Mains – which translates to "Two Hands" – was founded following a devastating earthquake in 2010. The business, which manufactures men's and women's footwear, handbags, jewelry and accessories, provides its employees career guidance, training in product development and mentorship.

Once the order from Coastal Keepers had been placed with Deux Mains, some amazing things began to happen for the growing business. According to an impact report sent from the company to Neill, 22,000 hours of sustainable employment was provided for 37 artisans employed at Deux Mains. Each job directly impacts more than 350 people.

"All raw materials for your bags were sourced in Haiti, ensuring that each dollar impacts the local economy," the report reads, in part. "The Coastal Keepers bag

brought more than \$34,000 into the Haitian economy, helping Haiti to rise out of poverty and become more sustainable.”

In addition, Deux Mains noted that the Coastal Keepers bags were the very first order to take place in their new factory, which is fully powered using solar energy. As a result, the manufacturing process kept more than 3.5 metric tons of carbon from being emitted into the atmosphere.

Sanibel Earns Gold Status With Bike-Friendly Award

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

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

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

“We invest heavily and systematically



From left, Sanibel Sea School’s Johnny Rader, Chrissy Basturk, Sam Lucas, Dr. Bruce Neill, Nicole Finnicum and Christina Gould with the new Coastal Keepers bags manufactured in Haiti photo by Jeff Lysiak

into our shared use path system as a city-wide alternative to motorized transportation,” said Ruane. “We are fortunate to have many partners who support the city’s efforts to focus on the health benefits and safety of biking on Sanibel. To have our collective efforts recognized nationally as one of the nation’s premier programs is a source of community pride for Sanibel.”

The idea behind the island’s network of “hike and bike” trails was created in 1972 by the Sanibel Bike Path Committee. The committee’s four original members were Grace Whitehead, Mariel Goss, Sherry Vartdal and Starr Thomas. In 1976, the first 2.5 miles of Sanibel’s paths were built

along Periwinkle Way, with \$10,000 of seed money from the original Sanibel Bike Path Committee and a matching grant from the Florida Department of Transportation. Today, the city has more than 25 miles of paved shared use paths and eight miles of natural surface paths.

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

a Bicycle Friendly Community. Our club is proud to be long-standing partners with the city in making our community’s cycling resources safe and welcoming for residents and visitors.”

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

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

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Community House Hosting Inaugural Gala

by Jeff Lysiak

In less than one month, The Sanibel Community Association (SCA) will be hosting its chief fundraiser for 2019, the first annual 1927 Gala: A Night To Remember at The Community House starting at 6 p.m. on Friday, January 25.

According to event planners, the inaugural 1927 gala will celebrate 90-plus years of The Community House's presence here on Sanibel. Longtime island residents Mariel and Porter Goss will serve as honorary chairs of the gala, which will also feature appearances by historical characters from Sanibel's past interacting with guests. In addition to dinner catered by both Resident Chef Jarred Harris and Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's, there will be live music and a live auction.

"We've been working on this event since last April... non-stop," said Tommy Williams, a member of the gala planning committee. "We've never had an annual dedicated fundraiser for The Community



image provided

House, so we're planning this event to be a yearly event."

When doors open at 5 p.m., the Golden continued on page 2B

Polar Bear Plunge Closed To Swimming

by Jeff Lysiak

The 19th annual meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of the National Polar Bear Club will take place at "the crack of noon" on Tuesday, January 1 at Tarpon Bay Beach (the south/gulf end of Tarpon Bay Road) on Sanibel.

The Polar Bear Plunge was started on Sanibel by John "Papa Bear" Carney back in 2001. That year, 29 people showed up to brave the New Year's Day dip into the Gulf of Mexico. Earlier this year, more than 100 bears took part in the plunge.

The meeting begins with the singing of the traditional Polar Bear Anthem by the Cubbies (first-timers), Juveniles (one-time previous dippers) and seasoned Adult bears (those who took the plunge in previous years).

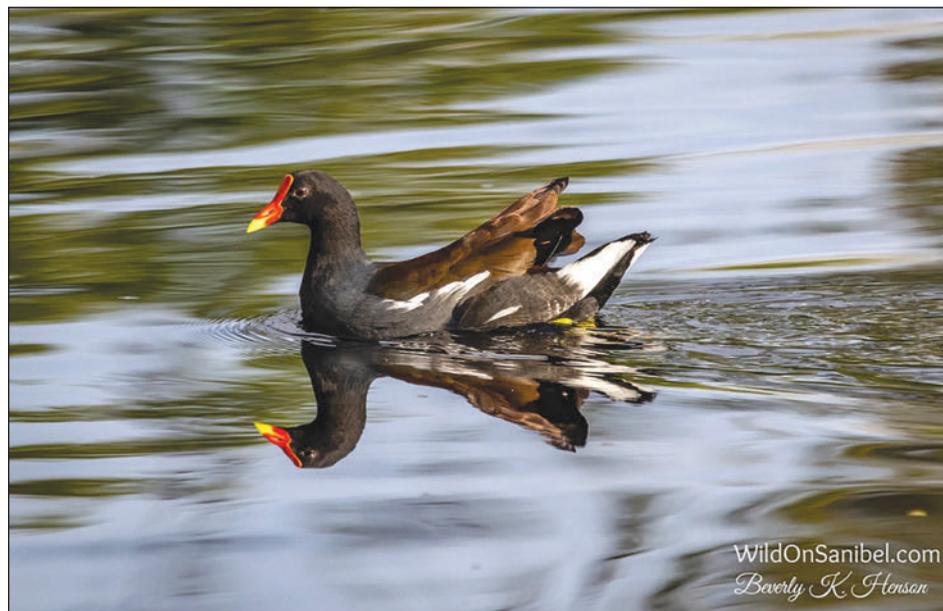
However, due to ongoing impaired water conditions, the polar bears will not



John Carney leads the singing of the Polar Bear Anthem photo by Jeff Lysiak

be entering the gulf this year. "After the terrible red tide and blue-green algae event of this past summer and fall, Papa Bear cannot guarantee that the water will be safe and cannot in good conscience

continued on page 18B



Common Gallinule

photo by Beverly K. Henson

Christmas Bird Count Results

The Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society conducted its annual Christmas Bird Count on December 15. There were 117 participants who counted a

total of 9,582 birds comprised of 101 different species. The results of the count will be reported to the National Audubon Society and will become part of the 119th Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC).

The overall count was down considerably from last year, which was a superior year.

continued on page 12B

Local Performs At Pro Football Game



Sanibel resident Whitney Wolanin appeared on the Heinz Field JumboTron

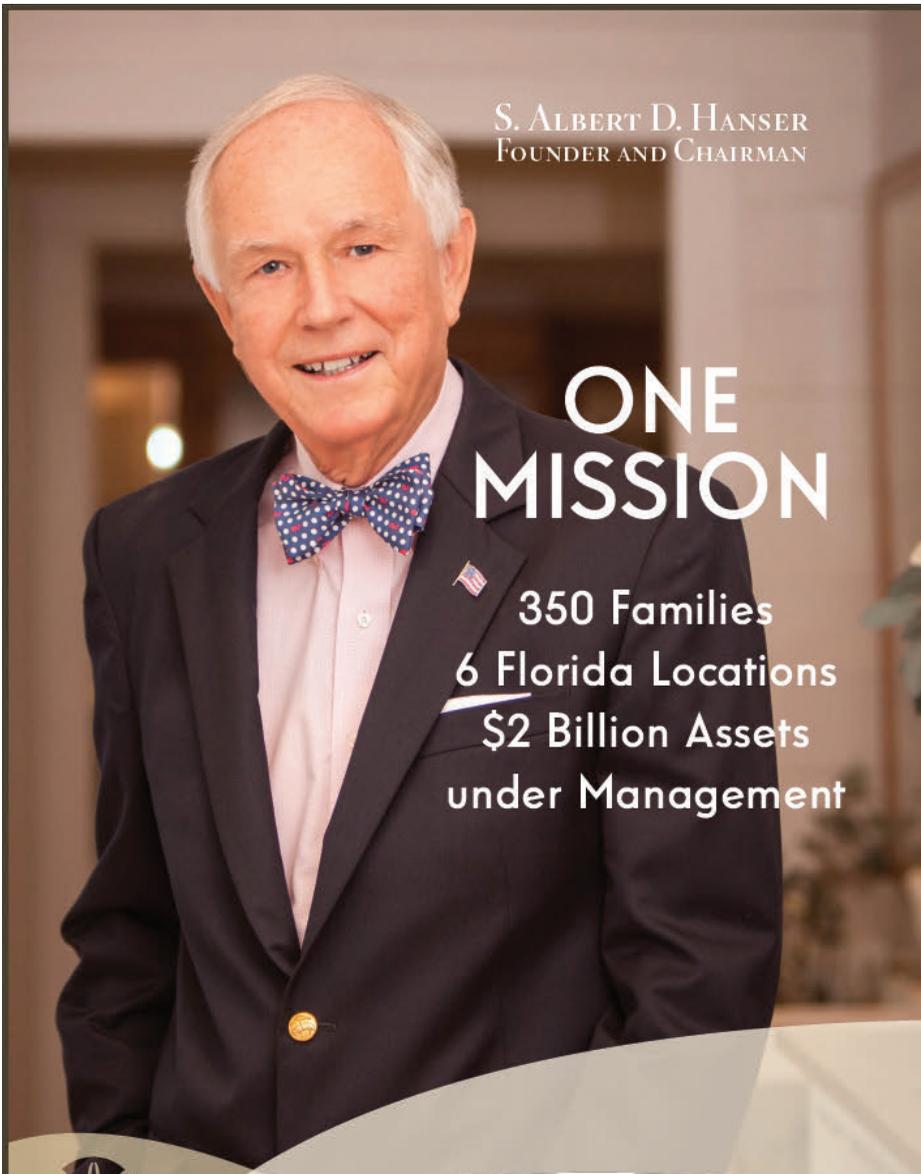
photo courtesy Vincent M. Wolanin

by Jeff Lysiak

On the afternoon of December 16, the focus of the football world centered upon Pittsburgh, where the hometown Steelers played host to their AFC rivals, the New England Patriots. The game promised to be

the most watched game of the NFL weekend, and by the end of the battle, the Steelers emerged with a hard-fought victory, 17-10.

Also at Heinz Field that day, Whitney Wolanin – the singer/songwriter who grew up on Sanibel – performed during continued on page 22B



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Republican Caucus To Meet

Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane will speak at the Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus meeting on Saturday, January 19 at 10 a.m. The meeting, open to the public, will be held at Sanibel Community Church, located at 1740 Periwinkle Way.

Ruane, who studied accounting and taxation at Pace University, was a senior executive in both large and small companies. After visiting Sanibel for many years, he became a full-time resident in 2004. The following year, he started Castleton Capital, a company that finances small businesses throughout the United States.

Ruane was elected to Sanibel City Council in 2007, and was appointed mayor by his peers in 2010, a position he has held for nine consecutive terms. In 2018, he was appointed to the Florida Municipal Investment Trust Board of Trustees and elected president of the Florida League of Mayors Board of Directors. He has received several awards recognizing his accomplishments, including the 2017



Kevin Ruane photo provided Florida League of Cities Home Rule Hero award.

All are invited to hear the mayor talk about his goals for Sanibel and issues affecting the city. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Will Smith at 395-0819.*

From page 1B

Inaugural Gala

Gate High School Titan Jazz Band, under the direction of Sarah E. Hamilton, will welcome guests during the red carpet arrivals. As guests enter The Community House, they will have their picture taken with a vintage 1927 automobile and be greeted by SCA co-hosts Richard Johnson and Lew Gould.

Cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m., followed by series of welcome speeches and music by the Titan Jazz Band featuring pianist Erik Entwistle. "We're also going to honor people who have donated \$50,000 or more during their lifetime to The Community House," noted Williams, who will also serve as auctioneer.

The lives auction will start just before 7 p.m., with a dozen items available. They include: Exquisite Dinner Party for 10, catered by Resident Chef Jarred Harris; Fabulous Dinner Party for Eight, catered by The Timbers' Chef Teh; Dinner for Eight at Malia, featuring Island Fusion Cuisine; Robert Rauschenberg Estate Tour with Wine; Fisherman's Dream Party for Six with Billy and Salli Kirkland; "Ding" Darling Boating Adventure with Tarpon Bay Explorers; Congress Jewelers \$2,000 gift certificate; Custom Jewelry Creation by The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry; Designer Seashell Art Created Especially for 1927 gala; Piano Lessons provided by Master Pianist Erik Entwistle; South Seas Island Resort/Key West Getaway with Limousine Service; and Florida Everblades Two Season Tickets, plus \$250 Gift Card to Rodizio Grill Brazilian Steakhouse.

Following the live auction, a Lots of Love fundraiser will be held to collect donations in various amounts. "The Community House has a \$900,000 mortgage, and this event will begin our path towards paying that off," added Williams.

Later, guests will dine on a catered meal while the Titan Jazz Band performs. At the same time, Nicole McHale will lead a contingent of costumed characters playing the role of famous islanders of Sanibel's past, playfully interacting with gala attendees.

Tickets to 1927 Gala: A Night To Remember are priced at \$150 each. To purchase tickets, call 472-2155, visit www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net or stop by The Community House at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel.

"It's going to be a really cool evening that will hopefully significantly help pay down The Community House's debt," added Williams.

Event sponsorships are still available. The four sponsorship levels are:

Founder (\$10,000-plus) – Includes table for eight, reserved seating, recognition in gala program and public relations materials with photo and quote;

Community (\$5,000-plus) – Includes table for eight, reserved seating, recognition in gala program and public relations materials;

Great Hall (\$2,500-plus) – Includes four gala tickets, recognition in gala program and public relations materials;

Islander (\$1,000-plus) – Includes two gala tickets, recognition in gala program and public relations materials.

Sponsors include Trudy and Tommy Williams, The Watermans, Sandy and Roger Grogman, Judie and Tom Sharbaugh, Michael Kelly, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, Bank of the Islands, Heidrick & Co. Insurance, Rosier Insurance, Dan and Shirley Valentine, Sherry and Doug Gentry, TOTI Media, Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's and the Lions Club of Sanibel-Captiva.

For more information or to become a sponsor, contact Teresa Riska-Hall, executive director of The Community House, at 472-2155.*

Golf Tournament Proceeds Provide Adaptive Tricycles

Robbie's Riders, Grampy's Charities and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank presented two adaptive tricycles, worth more than \$2,000, to Naples children during the 2nd annual Grampy's Pro-Am, presented by Sanibel Captiva Community Bank at Fiddlesticks Country Club.

Maximo Zapata, an 8-year-old with Down syndrome, and Emilio Alfonso Feal, a 6-year-old with autism, received custom tricycles that will assist with general strengthening, new proprioceptive sensory input and improved reciprocal coordination of the legs. They can now participate in activities with their families and peers, and the normal childhood experience of riding a bike.

Robbie's Riders provides special adaptive bicycles and tricycles to children with disabilities, according to their individual capacities and needs. The charity works to donate special needs cycles as quickly as they can raise funds to purchase them. Working with Claire Le Boulenge, a pediatric physical therapist with Golisano Children's Hospital who donates her services, each child is evaluated and fitted for his or her own adaptive cycle.

The golf tournament was established 30 years ago by McDonald's owner/



Back row from left, Grampy's Charities board members Fran Walenta, Jimmy Castle and David Essig, Grampy, Katie Betz, Grampy's Charities board member Bob Risch, Save the Kids Fund board member Jack Johanneman and Golisano Children's Hospital pediatric physical therapist Claire Le Boulenge. Front row from left, Aaron Zapata, Blake Nawrocki, Maximo Zapata, Garrison Betz and Sienna Gonzalez.

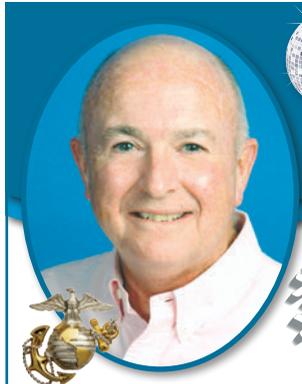
photo provided

operator Fred Frederic, founder of the Fort Myers Ronald McDonald House until his passing in 2015. At that time, Grampy's Charities offered to coordinate future tournaments and raised more than \$80,000 at the inaugural Pro-Am in 2017. The 2018

tournament raised \$100,000 to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida.

Grampy's Charities raises funds and support for children's organizations by partnering with comfort and research-based charities to make a difference in

the lives of kids who need it most. An all-volunteer organization with no paid staff, they have donated more than \$3 million to children's charities over more than 25 years. For more information, visit www.grampyscharities.org.



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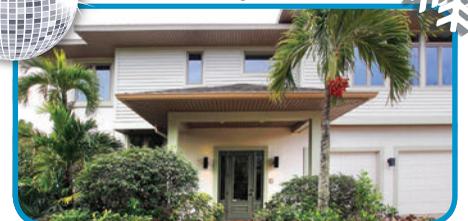
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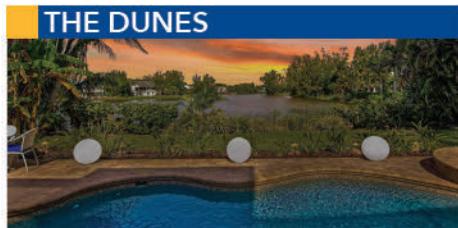
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Caroline Coyne draws the winning tickets with Optimist Randy Carson photos provided

Beth Newland receives a stocking full of gift certificates from Randy Carson

Raffle Prizes Awarded By Optimist Club

The Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club held its annual raffle drawing, Island Temptations, on December 18 at The Timbers/Sanibel Grill. Two prizes were awarded, each containing approximately \$700 worth of gift certificates for many island dining establishments.

Caroline Coyne of the Sanibel Grill drew the winning tickets. She was assisted by Optimist Club member Randy Carson, who acted as the raffle chairman.

The two raffle winners were Beth Newland and Diane Cortese, both island residents.

Proceeds from contributions to the raffle are used to support the Optimist Club's local charitable efforts for youth, including six existing college scholarships, Sanibel Recreation Center support, and other local charities. ✨

Water Quality Lawsuit Initiated

submitted by John C. Capece, Calusa Waterkeeper

Conservation groups filed a notice of intent last week to sue three federal agencies for failing to assess harm to Florida's endangered species before approving the ongoing release of Lake Okeechobee waters polluted with toxic, nutrient-rich agricultural waste.

The discharges likely help drive the catastrophic red tide algae blooms killing Florida's coastal wildlife.

The groups are challenging the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' plan to extend through 2025 deadly discharges from the lake into the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers. The discharges harm protected marine species like sea turtles and Florida manatees and trigger toxic algae blooms that limit use of waterways and cripple local economies.

The notice gives the Army Corps, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service 60 days to respond to the claims submitted by the Center for Biological Diversity, Calusa Waterkeeper and Waterkeeper Alliance.

"Even as the red tide wreaks havoc, the corps keeps treating Florida's rivers like a toilet," said Jaclyn Lopez, Florida director for the Center for Biological Diversity. "Year after year our waterways are polluted, and the health and livelihoods of Floridians are threatened. Florida's residents, from fisherman to manatee, deserve better."

Before approving long-term schedules for discharges from Lake Okeechobee, the corps is supposed to work with scientists from the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to assess risks to plants and animals protected under the Endangered Species Act. But the agencies have ignored the impacts of the algal blooms and failed to consider how the ongoing damage would harm populations of manatees, sea turtles, smalltooth sawfish and coral for the next seven years.

"LORS (Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule) is responsible for discharges that impact over 200,000 acres of habitat for the endangered smalltooth sawfish," said John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper. "The Caloosahatchee is important pupping habitat for sawfish, and the corps' discharges threaten to harm this vital nursery."

It has been well documented that the current schedule for discharges from the lake causes harm to the rivers, their estuaries and marine animals. The harmful discharges are managed by the corps to prioritize agricultural needs. The releases, which include algae and nutrients that are allowed to accumulate in the lake, cause significant harm to water quality and wildlife.

"Government agencies are supposed to uphold and enforce our nation's laws," said Waterkeeper Alliance Executive Director Marc Yaggi. "Sadly, the Army Corps has been violating the very laws it is sworn to uphold, causing incalculable damage to endangered and threatened species like manatees and sea turtles that rely on clean

continued on page 10B

Happy New Year!



Sanibel Bayous

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Gulf Harbour Lake-View Coach Home
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New Board Member For Historical Society

The Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) has appointed Ginny Reiss to its board of directors, where she will have the opportunity to share her educational experience as a teacher, mentor and program developer in the Colorado and Ohio school systems.

Reiss has a passion for Captiva and its rich history. She has been a frequent volunteer for the CIHS, sits on the board of the Captiva Memorial Library, has leadership roles in her homeowners association, and serves as an officer of AMI-Partners, a Florida marketing services company.

As an educator, Reiss was chosen to mentor and supervise student teachers in her elementary school. She developed curriculum for after school programs to help new teachers engage their students; she observed and evaluated student teachers' classroom performance. She assumed these supervisory responsibilities in addition to her own classroom teaching. Even after her official retirement, she continued to tutor students and participate in team



Ginny Reiss photo provided teaching projects. CIHS looks forward to benefiting from her devotion to her work.

Reiss and her husband, Mark, have been splitting their time between Captiva and Golden, Colorado since 1999 with ever increasing residency in Florida.

Reiss joins the working board of CIHS, committed to fostering its continued growth and success.✪

New Trustee Appointed

Dominique Stokes has joined the Sanibel Sea School Board of Trustees.

Stokes has been a resident of Southwest Florida since 2000. She grew up in the Clearwater area, then attended the University of Florida, where she studied business administration and marketing. She and her husband, Brent, own Stokes Marine, where she serves as the director of human resources.

In her free time, Stokes enjoys exploring the local waters with her husband and their two children, Addison and Hunter, who both attend Sanibel Sea School. She is also involved with their school, volunteering regularly in classrooms and serving on the PTA board.

"I am excited to join the Sanibel Sea School Board of Trustees because it encompasses both my love of the water and my love of children," she said.



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

Nominations For Citizen Of The Year Award

The public is invited to nominate an exemplary civic-minded citizen for the 2018 Paulette Burton Citizen of the Year Award. Lee County commissioners are looking for nominees

who are involved in the community and work diligently for causes in which they believe.

The annual award strives to recognize a citizen who has provided outstanding civic contributions to Lee County government. The selection criteria includes a positive attitude, knowledge of the objectives and activities of Lee County government, a demonstrated interest

continued on page 14B

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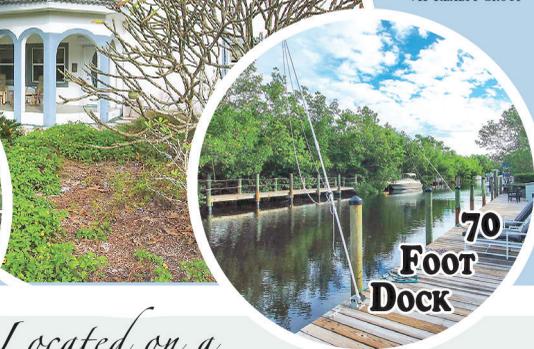
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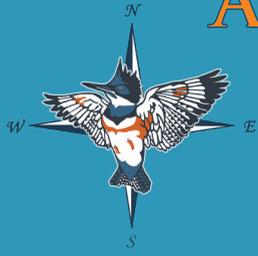
Located on a direct access canal to the Gulf • 3 minute idle to open water...no obstructions or bridges, etc. Well-maintained • 3 bedroom, 2 bath home New Hot Water Heater \$1,100,000

Judy Reddington

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New Listing



927 Strangler Fig \$1,215,000
SanibelGulfPines.com
Phaidra McDermott 239-898-3778
Phaidra@GoKingfisher.com



Price Improvement



5842 Pine Tree
\$1,149,000
Tommy Wiley - 239-851-3686
TommyWiley3@gmail.com



1127 Buttonwood Ln.
\$925,000
Mary Bondurant 239 839.3633
Mary@GoKingfisher.com



New Listing



1805 Ibis Ln.
\$549,000
KC Cuscaden 239-470-1516
Karasue@comcast.net



15330 Allen Way
\$367,000
Robyn Moran 239-728-1971
Robyn@robbmoran.com



Price Improvement



1250 Tennis Place Ct. Unit C23
\$329,000
Mary Bondurant 239 839.3633
Mary@GoKingfisher.com



12900 Kelly Bay Ct.
\$324,000
Robyn Moran 239-728-1971
Robyn@robbmoran.com

TIMESHARES



New Listing



920 South Seas Plantation Rd #990 • Week 34 • \$25,000
KC Cuscaden 239-470-1516 • Karasue@comcast.net



New Listing



920 South Seas Plantation Rd #981 • Week 36 • \$21,000
Phaidra McDermott 239-898-3778 • Phaidra@GoKingfisher.com



Kathy Y. Monroe photos provided

Ruben Perales

Free Seminar On Financial Health

FISH of SanCap, along with Fifth Third Bank, is offering a community presentation, entitled Taking Charge of Your Financial Health, on Wednesday, January 9 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, located at 2304 Periwinkle Way. This workshop will help individuals and families learn how to do basic budgeting, slash their debt and boost their credit score.

FISH Facilitator and Program Director Kathy Y. Monroe said, "This session will help individuals develop a plan for budgeting and saving which can lead to boosting their credit score, while helping to eliminate debt. Financial health is just as important as physical health, because lacking the first can have an impact on the latter. The presenter will be Ruben Perales, financial relationship manager from Fifth Third Bank.

This seminar is open to the community and snacks will be provided. To RSVP, contact Kathy Y. Monroe at 472-4775.*

ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

RE/MAX of the Islands

The top producers at RE/MAX of the Islands for the month of November were: Christopher Kirchner, top producing sales associate; Chuck and Kimberley Andrews and new team member, Julie Potts, top listing marketers.*



Chris Kirchner



Chuck Andrews



Julie Potts and Kimberley Andrews

From page 6B

Water Quality

healthy waterways and coasts to survive. We intend to force the Trump administration to immediately end its dereliction of duty and to protect threatened marine life and coastal economies from the impacts of harmful algal blooms before it's too late."

Past analyses of the corps' schedule for the lake failed to consider the long-term impacts of high volume discharges beyond three years, discounted the effects of harmful algal blooms and did not consider habitat impacts triggered by climate change.

In 2008, the corps updated its plan

for managing the discharges with the goal of lowering the risk of damage to the Herbert Hoover Dam, which retains the lake. But the plan was supposed to be reconfigured within three years to incorporate the impacts of structural improvements to the dike and water quality upgrades projected to come from the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

The dike repairs are behind schedule, the Everglades plan has not been completed and toxic algae blooms continue to kill countless marine animals. Meanwhile, the corps has opted to simply extend the current water-management plan through 2025 without assessing the harm to protected wildlife and water quality.*

Wishing you a joyous and peaceful season, with health, love and happiness for the New Year

2019

2019

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 Cathie@AllAboutHome.Life
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THE GROVE AT PARKER LAKES

- Well Maintained 4BR/2 BA Home
- Expansive Lake Views w/Fountain
- Solar & Electric Heated Pool
- Spacious Floor Plan
- Partially Furnished
- \$439,000



SUNSET GET-A-WAY

- Steps to Gulf & Bay
- 2 BR/2.5 BA w/Hall bunk beds
- Additional Sleeping Rm. Down Stairs
- Large/Private Yard w/Hammock & Fruit Tree
- Docks, Pool, Tennis, Beach Access
- \$859,000



LOGGERHEAD CAY

- Gulf of Mexico Views
- Remodeled & Upgraded
- 2 BR/2 BA Unit
- Sold Furnished
- Wonderful Amenities
- \$739,000



SUNSET DREAM

- Wonderful 3 BR/2 BA w/Loft
- Vaulted Ceilings/Fireplace
- Sold Furnished
- Large Screen Enclosed Lanai
- Pool, Docks, Tennis, Beach Access
- \$969,000



SPECTACULAR OLD FLORIDA

- Remodeled 3 BR/2.5 BA Home
- Cherry Wood & Marble Floors
- Lake Views/Deeded Beach Access
- Gourmet Kitchen/Fireplace
- Large, Private Master Suite
- \$879,000



BEACHVIEW ESTATES

- Beautiful Custom 3 BR/3.5 BA Home
- Lake & Golf Course Views
- Screen enclosed heated pool w/spa
- Gourmet kitchen/Top of the Line Appliances
- Spacious breakfast room/formal dining
- \$1,339,000



SANDPIPER BEACH HOUSE

- Beachy 2 BR/2.5 BA Home
- Beautiful Details & Accents
- Private Lanai & Sun Deck
- Docks, Beach Access, Pool & Tennis
- Sold Furnished
- \$889,000



CAPTIVA'S VILLAGE

- Custom 5 BR/5 BA Home
- Fenced Pool & Spa
- Wood Floors/Elevator
- Steps to the Beach & Bay
- Sold Fully Furnished
- \$1,795,000



GULF-FRONT MASTERPIECE

- One-of-a-Kind
- Two Master Suites
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- Designed by Darryl Pottorf
- Home of the late Artist Robert Rauschenberg
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Coordinator



Historical Village Gala Sponsor

Bank of the Islands has signed on as a silver sponsor of the Sanibel Historical Village February 19 fundraising gala. The theme of the gala is An Evening on the Old Algiers, and will be held at The Community House from 6 to 10 p.m.

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

"We are so honored to be a silver sponsor for this year's event," said Bank of the Islands Vice President and Sanibel-Captiva Office Manager Willy Ocasio. "It's so important to share stories like the Algiers for future generations of islanders to enjoy. The historical museum's gala is an evening not to be missed."

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



Willy Ocasio and Emilie Alfino

photo provided



WildOnSanibel.com
Beverly K. Henson

Red-shouldered hawk

photo by Beverly K. Henson

From page 1B

Bird Count

The 8 a.m. high tide was a big factor and the residual effects of this summer's massive red tide infestation may have also played a part.

Audubon Christmas Bird Counts are conducted throughout much of the Western Hemisphere from mid-December through early January. The CBC is a fertile source of historical information

on the status and distribution of early winter bird populations and is studied by scientists and interested individuals the world over.

San-Cap Audubon thanks all those who took part in this year's Christmas Bird Count. Many thanks also to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) for its count support and use of facilities, and the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge for its count contributions and continued support.*



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Wishing You a Happy & Healthy New Year!

CANAL-FRONT HOME WITH BEACH ACCESS!



Beautiful canal front home with boat dock and beach access on Sanibel's east end! Walk to the beach or take your boat out to the Gulf of Mexico to fish and explore. Relax and enjoy this happy home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths on an over sized lot with wood floors, volume ceilings, updated kitchen and baths, lots of storage, workshop, studio and so much more. This lovely beach home is a dream come true with wonderful canal views!

ASKING PRICE IS \$969,000

RARE GULF-FRONT SANIBEL MOORINGS WITH 3BR



Top floor location and beautifully redone 3 bedroom, 2 bath Gulf-front condo with weekly rentals, plus 2 private porches with fantastic views of the Gulf of Mexico. Sanibel Moorings offers fantastic tropical gardens, 2 pools, tennis courts, boat docks and a friendly, on-site rental office for all your rental needs.

**ASKING PRICE IS \$1,295,000
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ASKING PRICE IS \$624,900 FURNISHED

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ASKING PRICE IS \$599,000**

Happy
New Year!

2019!

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 FRIDAY Cloudy High: 76 Low: 69	 SATURDAY Sunny High: 78 Low: 71	 SUNDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 77 Low: 70	 MONDAY Partly Cloudy High: 76 Low: 69	 TUESDAY Sunny High: 78 Low: 67	 WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 77 Low: 70	 THURSDAY Sunny High: 75 Low: 68
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Redfish Pass Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:37 am	11:41 am	6:52 pm	None
Sat	6:14 am	12:13 am	7:32 pm	12:29 pm
Sun	8:07 am	1:49 am	8:12 pm	1:16 pm
Mon	9:52 am	3:06 am	8:51 pm	2:02 pm
Tue	11:16 am	4:06 am	9:25 pm	2:41 pm
Wed	12:27 pm	4:57 am	10:01 pm	3:20 pm
Thu	1:23 pm	5:40 am	10:36 pm	3:57 pm

Point Ybel Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	3:42 am	11:43 am	5:57 pm	None
Sat	5:19 am	12:15 am	6:37 pm	12:31 pm
Sun	7:12 am	1:51 am	7:17 pm	1:18 pm
Mon	8:57 am	3:08 am	7:56 pm	2:04 pm
Tue	10:21 am	4:08 am	8:30 pm	2:43 pm
Wed	11:32 am	4:59 am	9:06 pm	3:22 pm
Thu	12:28 pm	5:42 am	9:41 pm	3:59 pm

Punta Rassa Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	5:06 am	11:44 am	6:22 pm	None
Sat	6:31 am	12:32 am	7:12 pm	12:50 pm
Sun	7:49 am	1:52 am	8:00 pm	1:50 pm
Mon	9:07 am	2:53 am	8:47 pm	2:43 pm
Tue	10:35 am	3:47 am	9:33 pm	3:31 pm
Wed	11:30 am	4:38 am	10:19 pm	4:21 pm
Thu	12:04 pm	5:24 am	10:59 pm	5:08 pm

Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	6:47 am	1:45 am	9:02 pm	2:57 pm
Sat	8:24 am	3:29 am	9:42 pm	3:45 pm
Sun	10:17 am	5:05 am	10:22 pm	4:32 pm
Mon	12:02 pm	6:22 am	11:01 pm	5:18 pm
Tue	1:26 pm	7:22 am	11:35 pm	5:57 pm
Wed	2:37 pm	8:13 am	None	6:36 pm
Thu	12:11 am	8:56 am	3:33 pm	7:13 pm

Island Seniors At Center 4 Life

Meet your friends and make some new ones at the Center 4 Life. Browse through the following activities, then stop by to sign up.

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

Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald & Ann Hartman – If you are not on the Page Turners list and wish to be, email oceann@comcast.net or contact the center. The featured book for discussion on Wednesday, January 9 at 2:30 p.m. is *The Great Alone* by Kirstin Hannah.

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

– Goodreads

Learn to Play Mahjonn with

Katie Reid – January 7 to 11, 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15 for members and \$30 for non-members. Class is limited to four or eight students (to fill a table to practice). You must be able to attend all five classes. All supplies are provided. You must register in advance to participate.

Line Dancing Classes – Tuesday, January 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members. Join the group for an hour of fun. The instructor will review dance steps then turn up the music for dancing. Bring a friend.

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

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

Games

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

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

Mahjonn – Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

Hand & Foot – Thursday at noon.

Hearts – Friday at 12:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Essential Total Fitness – Monday,

Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

From page 8B

Nominations

in community/county government partnerships, and promotion of harmony between the community and county government.

Nominations are due by Friday, February 22. Commissioners will select the winner.

Nomination forms are available at Lee County libraries and recreation centers or online at www.leegov.com/citizenoftheyear. For library locations, visit www.leelibrary.net and for recreation center locations, visit www.leeparks.org.

The award was created in 1991 to honor Burton, a long-time Sanibel resident and government watchdog.*



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NEW LISTING **1743 Venus Drive**





CANAL FRONT ENHANCEMENT
 Direct Gulf access home with spectacular intersecting canal views. Western exposure provides magical sunset vistas. Spacious open floor plan features multiple sliding glass doors allowing gentle sea breezes and natural light to flow through. Experience the best in true indoor-outdoor island living at this estate located in a prestigious, east end cul-de-sac location.

4 Beds / 3 Baths **Offered at \$1,749,000**

NEW LISTING **Pointe Santo #A-1**



2 BED 2 BATH WITH FANTASTIC GULF AND LAGOON VIEWS.
 Premier location at Pointe Santo! Updated 2 bedroom unit with unparalleled Gulf views. Unique floorplan features a fenced patio off the guest bedroom.

2 Bed / 2 Bath **Offered at \$950,000**

NEW LISTING **500 Kinzie Island Court**




KINZIE ISLAND GEM
 Gulf access multilevel custom-built canal home with covered dock nestled on a large corner cul-de-sac lot. Updated chef's kitchen, elegant formal dining room, large screened in lanai and private master retreat. Kinzie Island amenities include community pool, tennis courts and a beach side clubhouse.

3 Beds / 3 Baths **Offered at \$1,525,000**

NEW LISTING **King's Crown #311**



3 BEDROOM WEST END BEAUTY
 Enjoy the perfect combination of tranquility and privacy from this spacious 3 bed 2 bath penthouse corner unit. Sweeping Gulf abound from the expansive screened and glassed lanai. Property offers a heated pool, tennis courts and under building assigned parking.

3 Beds / 2 Baths **Offered at \$999,000**

PRICE ADJUSTMENT **Pointe Santo #E-23**



ISLAND LIVING AT IT'S BEST
 Featuring 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms + den. Only 6 units have this floor plan! Beautiful kitchen features a tray ceiling, island and breakfast bar. Master bedroom sliders open to lanai.

2 Bed / 2 Bath **Offered at \$950,000**

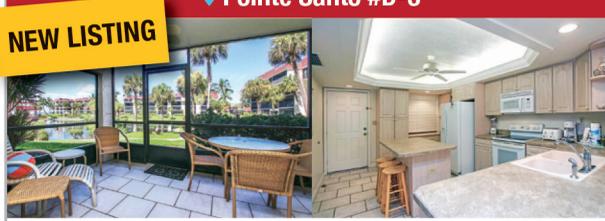
PRICE ADJUSTMENT **585 Lake Murex Circle**




LIGHT AND BRIGHT ON OVERSIZED LOT
 Light and bright 3 bedroom 2 bath near beach home features tranquil lake views and lush tropical landscaping on an over-sized corner lot. Great room sliders open to a large deck making this the perfect home for entertaining.

3 Beds / 2 Baths **Offered at \$659,000**

NEW LISTING **Pointe Santo #D-3**



UNIQUE WHEELCHAIR FRIENDLY
 This 2 bedroom 2 bath, ground floor unit has been refurbished and has a wheelchair accommodating master bedroom and master bathroom, including extra wide doors, roll-under sink, drop-down bar by commode and roll-in shower. Recently painted with new master bedroom furniture.

2 Beds / 2 Baths **Priced to sell at \$745,000**

NEW LISTING **Pointe Santo #C-4**



COMPLETELY UPDATED GROUND FLOOR UNIT
 This beautifully furnished, remodeled and completely tiled ground floor unit is one of only four 1 bedroom units located in Pointe Santo and is perfect for a winter retreat or as an income producing investment.

1 Bed / 1 Bath **Offered at \$585,000**

Recent Sales - Pointe Santo C-34



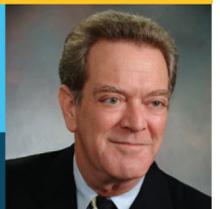
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USEPPA ISLAND

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\$2,425,000



CAPTIVA

11549 Wightman Lane
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$3,995,000



CAPTIVA

18 Beach Homes
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$3,375,000



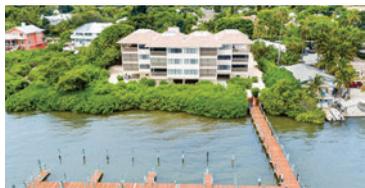
SANIBEL

1 Crescent
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$2,599,000



SIESTA ISLES

18276 Deep Passage Lane
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$1,395,000



SUNSET CAPTIVA

15123 Captiva Drive #204
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$1,149,000



SANIBEL

1720 Dixie Beach Boulevard
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$1,100,000



USEPPA ISLAND

329 Useppa Island
Brian McColgan 239.410.7850
\$985,000



CAPTIVA

15291 Captiva Drive #2-A
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$919,000



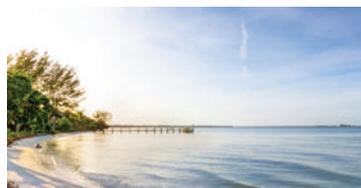
THE SANCTUARY III

5681 Baltusrol Court #1B
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$775,000



LIGHTHOUSE POINT

200 Periwinkle Way #229
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$719,000



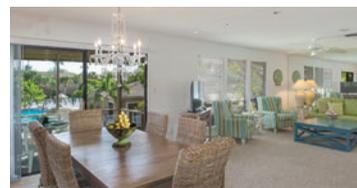
LIGHTHOUSE POINT

200 Periwinkle Way #211
Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$649,000



SANIBEL

9465 Coventry Court
Wendy Humphrey 239.851.2301
\$649,000



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Burns Family 239.464.2984
\$569,000



USEPPA ISLAND

508 Useppa Island
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\$529,500



USEPPA ISLAND

517 Useppa Island
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USEPPA ISLAND

524 Useppa Island
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SANIBEL

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- www.CaptivaMarina.com
- **\$18,770,000** EUR € 16,508,398

2. Cottage Colony West – Sanibel

- 1 BR/1 BA direct Gulf front remodeled top floor unit
- Vaulted ceilings, community tennis, pool, and more
- **\$625,000** EUR € 512,009

3. Direct Bay Front views at Lighthouse Point – Sanibel

- 3 BR/ 2BA east end condo featuring water views from almost every room.
- Remodeled in contemporary European flair, open kitchen, crown molding, & multiple lanai's
- **\$719,000** EUR € 634,125

4. Santiva Home Designed & Built by Renowned Architect

- 4 BR/3 BA with pool and pool house, steps from the beach with Gulf views from top floor
- Home & large property exude style and tranquility reminiscent of an Island resort or spa
- **\$1,779,000** EUR € 1,564,647

5. Remodeled Direct Access Canal Home in Shell Harbor

- 3BR/3BA completely remodeled ground level home featuring travertine floors and open kitchen
- Large boat dock able to accommodate sizeable boat or sailboat, very short trip to the open waters of the bay
- **\$1,749,000** EUR € 1,484,087

6. Directly Across the Street from Deeded Beach Access on West Gulf – Sanibel

- 3BR/3.5BA with pool, short walking distance to several beach front restaurants and tiki
- Shore bike to Rec Center & Sanibel School
- **\$1,297,700** EUR € 1,083,449



7. Shell Seekers – Captiva

- 6BR/7.5 BA Olde Florida architecture style home offering stunning 180degree direct views of the Gulf of Mexico
- Stunning coastal décor, 2 story coffered ceilings in the living room, gorgeous master suite & fantastic outdoor living
- **\$8,475,000** EUR € 7,453,845

8. 3 Bedroom Gulf Front Penthouse – Sanibel

- 3BR/ 2BA Gulf front penthouse with private rooftop deck offering 180degree views of the Gulf of Mexico
- Remodel & redesign completed Dec 2018, tastefully designed in coastal contemporary style, enclosed garage and ground level cabana
- **\$1,449,000** EUR € 1,274,409

9. South Seas Beach Home – Captiva

- 4BR/ 3BA with open and enclosed lanai space, perfect for daily sunsets
- Fully upgraded and remodeled, private deck, steps from the Gulf
- **\$3,375,000** EUR € 2,822,195

10. Bay Front Antebellum Home with boat dock & lift – Sanibel

- 3BR/4BA home located on a direct Gulf access canal with private dock and a 25,000pound lift
- Private elevator, 2 living rooms, fireplace, & multiple lanais with 360 degree water views
- **\$2,395,000** EUR € 2,112,281

11. Gulf views at Loggerhead Cay - Sanibel

- 2BR/2BA condo located in one of the most desirable Gulf front buildings at Loggerhead Cay
- Open kitchen, updated bathrooms, short walk to beach & community pool, and weekly rentals
- **\$799,000** EUR € 704,681

12. Captiva Village home with stunning Gulf Views – Captiva

- 3 BR/4 BA fully remodeled home designed to take advantage of Gulf views from every level
- Wood floors, stainless steel kitchen, stone fireplace, multiple lanais, large master suite, grotto inspired pool with hot tub, wet bar and shower.
- **\$3,995,000** EUR € 3,475,070



Tiffany, Jeff, Joan & Joe Burns

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Tim Drobynk, Kathy Haungs, Denice & John Beggs

Will Power

Holiday Family Discussions



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

Everyone is gathered together; the presents are open, and a sumptuous Christmas is dinner finished. Younger family members roll their eyes as elder generations recount classic stories.

What is left to discuss?

How about mom and dad's estate plan? That would bring the house down, wouldn't it?

There's really no good time to discuss an estate plan with adult children, but it's not a bad idea to broach the subject during a festive and positive family gathering, especially if the family is typically dispersed all over the country and not often together.

While you don't have to get into all the details, there are some basics that adult children ought to know, especially if you named them as your personal representative, power of attorney, trustee or health care surrogate in your legal documents.

Knowing Who To Call

The first tidbit they should know is the names and contact information of all your financial professionals, including your attorney, CPA and financial advisor. Scheduling a handshake visit with the attorney when the kids are in town is a good idea, if only to say hello. This makes communication much easier if it becomes necessary in a time of crisis.

Since your CPA is presumably familiar with your income tax issues, it's good for those that follow you to know who that person is. I've had client's children not know who the CPA is and therefore aren't aware of what the last three years tax returns looked like when they suddenly became responsible for filing their parents' returns.

Understanding Assets

Finances are one of the most sensitive issues between parents and their adult children. An adult child might see investments totaling more than \$1 million and wonder why mom and dad haven't been more generous with gifts. We all know that while \$1 million sounds like a lot of money, it doesn't generate a whole lot of income in today's low yield environments. And if a retiree spends down their principal, they have no way of replenishing it.

On the other hand, many adult children can be effective stewards and guardians for their aging parents who might become susceptible to investment scams. I've heard more than one adult child tell me that if they'd only known what their mom or dad was up to, they'd have been able to step in and avoid financial disasters.

If you have a safety deposit box, now's the time to let your children know the bank

branch and location of the box, along with the location of the key. If you haven't already put one of your children's names on the signature card for the box, take them down to the bank and do so. Otherwise, on your death or incapacity the box won't be accessible.

Online bank and brokerage accounts are becoming more common. If something happens to you it will be important for those that you trust to act for you to know how your accounts can be accessed, including where you might keep a list of your user names and passwords. At the same time, when you change or update your passwords you'll have to remember to update that list.

Online social media accounts often become problematic, so the username and passwords associated with those accounts should be recorded somewhere secure and your loved ones should know how to find them.

While Normal Rockwell never painted a family holiday scene that included legal documents, bank statements and tax returns strewn about the kitchen table, now might be a good opportunity to have much needed conversations with your loved ones.

On a brighter note, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2019!

©2018 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at www.sbshlaw.com.✧

From page 1B

Polar Bear Plunge

encourage his bears to enter the water," said Carney.

Participants will instead have an opportunity to sip from the giant polar bear Champagne glass, have their picture taken wearing the infamous shell pith helmet and engage in story-telling about their heroic past experiences with fellow polar bears from around the world.

The Polar Bear Anthem (sung to the tune of *God Bless America*):

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea

Let us swear allegiance to our club that's free

Let us all be hopeful for a day with sun

As we raise our glasses and we have some fun

God bless the Polar Bears

On New Year's Day

Stand beside us and join us

To the shore with a roar as we play

From the uplands, to the marshes

To the Gulf shore filled with ice

God bless the Polar Bears – it sure feels nice

God bless the Polar Bears – we're bears, not mice!

Parking will be available for 89 vehicles at the city lot located on Tarpon Bay Road. Participants are reminded to pay the parking fee or display their Sanibel beach parking sticker.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the Polar Bear Plunge, which costs nothing to participate in and is the only event happening at noon on New Year's Day. Participant registration and song sheet distribution will begin at 11 a.m. For more information, contact John Carney at 395-1767.✧



THE ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION, INC

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

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

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

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

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



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CARD OF THANKS

submitted by Pamela D. Sullivan,
PAWS of Sanibel

Take a look at these cuties. They were born October 26 and now are 8 weeks old. There are three females and four males: Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen. They have been completely vetted, wormed and received their first FVRCP vaccine. If you are looking for an adorable kitten, or a pair of kittens (that's the best way), call 472-4823.

As 2018 comes to an end, and the new year begins, we are all very thankful for many things, especially that we made it through the hurricane season without a major storm. Let's hope this becomes a trend, and continues for at least a few years.

In 2018, PAWS has provided for the needs of many animals, some for very long periods of time. Many injured and sick animals came our way during the year that needed many weeks of veterinary care, medicines and intensive home care. In the spring, we provided for several litters of kittens, found homes for some, and located larger rescues in Fort Myers to take others. In April, Diane and Don Deneck and Joan and Jim Bajek fostered a litter of kittens for us. The Bajeks are presently fostering for us, and are the only foster home we currently have. We are so grateful to these great folks for providing a home and caring for all these babies. We have no facility here on Sanibel to house our lost, abandoned, sick and injured animals. It's really difficult to find a home and care for



The kittens are available for adoption

them until we find their people, or, as in most instances, find families to adopt. We are so thankful for all they do for PAWS, and especially our animals.

We would like to thank our fabulous local veterinary care providers, Dr. Mark Mathusa at Beachside Animal Clinic, and VCA Coral Veterinary Clinic, both Sanibel and Fort Myers. They provide quality care to our sick and injured animals.

A big thank you to all the folks that donated financially and in other ways to support our PAWS animals this past year. Without the help from our island community, we would not be able to continue to provide for our domestic

animals that are in need of shelter and care. PAWS is a nonprofit, and we operate solely by financial contributions and donations from folks living or visiting our islands. We have many folks that provide ongoing support during the year and without them we could not operate. They truly keep us going.

Special appreciation to the Center 4 Life that, each year for the past eight seasons, has hosted the annual Justine Smith Memorial Bridge Tournament and donated the proceeds to PAWS, which was one of Justine's favorite charitable organizations.

A great deal of thanks goes to our

photo provided

local newspapers, *Island Sun* and *Island Reporter*, for donating space for pictures and stories about our rescues. This is how we manage to reunite some of these animals with their families. In the event we don't locate their people, their pictures and stories help us to locate a new forever home.

Thanks to all the island businesses that display our PAWS donation boxes on the counters: Bailey's General Store, Huxter's Liquors and Bank of the Islands. Special thanks to Footloose H2O Outfitters at Jerry's Center. I don't know how Linda and her co-workers do it, but they manage to continuously collect funds for us. What they do is so appreciated. If you own or manage a business here on Sanibel or Captiva and would be willing to have one of our donation containers, please let us know.

If you are considering year-end charitable contributions, please think of our domestic island animals and donate to PAWS.

Veterinary care, especially critical care hospitals, are extremely expensive. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, all donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to: PAWS, P.O. Box 855, Sanibel, FL 33957. Your canceled check is your receipt, but if you prefer to have a letter, send a note or call 472-4823.

When shopping on Amazon, you can use the PAWS Amazon Smile link: smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0037174, and Amazon will donate a small portion to Protection of Animal Welfare Society (PAWS).

We truly appreciate your support. Happy New Year!✧

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Twins To Retire Star Catcher's Number – Ninth To Receive Honor



by Ed Frank

For nearly two decades, this reporter has written dozens of columns about the Minnesota Twins' Joe Mauer from the day he was selected the No. 1 pick in the 2001 Major League draft to the day he announced his retirement at the end of the 2018 season in an emotional farewell at Target Field.

During that long tenure that spanned 15 Major League seasons, all with the Twins, there has never been one scintilla of a negative incident associated with this true ambassador of baseball.

It was fitting, therefore, that the Twins announced recently that Mauer's uniform, No 7, was being retired, joining just eight

other former players or manager in club history to receive that honor.

And how deserved an honor it is.

His amazing career is chronicled over several pages in the Twins 2018 Media Guide. But, of equal, or perhaps even greater importance, is his off-the-field charitable work.

"The Minnesota Twins organization has been blessed to have Joe Mauer part of our franchise since 2001," said Executive Chair Jim Pohlad. "Few players have achieved more on the field, or given more off the field than Joe."

Mauer resides part-time here in Fort Myers where he purchased a residence back in 2003 when he played for the Fort Myers Miracle team on his way to the Majors.

The following is a brief summary of his Major League accomplishments:

He played all 15 Major League seasons with the Twins, joining Tony Oliva as the only player in club history to do so. His career batting average was .306 with 428 doubles, 30 triples, 143 home runs, 923 RBI and 1,018 runs scored. He caught 921 career games, the most in Twins history, prior to moving to first base in 2014.

Mauer was the 2009 American League Most Valuable Player, named to the AL All-Star team six times, earned three Gold Glove Awards as a catcher and won three AL batting titles. He signed an eight-year \$184 million contract in 2010, the highest ever earned in baseball for a catcher – a record that remains.

The 35-year-old Mauer and his high school sweetheart wife, Maddie, are parents of twin girls and a baby boy born last month. The couple has been extremely active in community service over the years. They annually host the Mauer and Friends Kids Classic



Joe Mauer

luncheon to benefit Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare, raising more than \$1 million for the hospital's foundation. They also donated a play room at this hospital for pediatric patients.

Mauer also hosts a bowling fundraiser for the Highland Friendship Club, an organization dedicated to providing work and recreation opportunities to people with developmental disabilities.

In 2005, he established a community ticket program called Mauer's Minnies, providing game tickets to thousands of economically disadvantaged youth and their families from the Twins Cities. Since that time, more than 50,000 youth and their families have attended Twins games for free due to Mauer's generous contribution.

These charitable endeavors just touch the surface what Mauer and his wife have accomplished in community service over the years.

Just 35 years old, Mauer probably had several years of competitive baseball remaining. But the serious concussion he suffered as a catcher and the desire to spend more time with his young family led to his retirement decision.

However, you have to wonder whether he will remain with the Twins organization in some advisory role. Don't be surprised to see him here come February working with players during Spring Training.

Twins fans, players and baseball in general will miss this future Hall of Famer. He has been a tribute to the game.✪

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who was the last Cleveland Indian before Jose Ramirez in 2017 to have five extra-base hits in a game?
2. Rhys Hoskins of the Philadelphia Phillies set a record in 2017 for hitting his first 10 major-league home runs faster than anyone in history. How many games did it take him?
3. When was the last time the Detroit Lions won a playoff game on the road?
4. Name the last time before 2018 that the Houston Cougars men's basketball team won an NCAA Tournament game?
5. Between 2000-2018, three defensemen were selected No. 1 overall in the NHL Entry Draft. Name two of them.
6. Of Bobby and Davey Allison, Dale Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr., and Lee and Richard Petty, who was the only pair to finish in the top two spots at a Daytona 500?
7. Who was the first men's tennis player to claim all nine ATP Masters 1000 events?

ANSWERS

1. Kelly Shoppach, in 2008. 2. Seventeen games. 3. It was 1957. 4. It was 1984. 5. Erik Johnson (St. Louis; 2006), Aaron Ekblad (Florida; 2014) and Rasmus Dahlin (Buffalo; 2018).
6. The Allison's, in 1988. 7. Novak Djokovic, in 2018.

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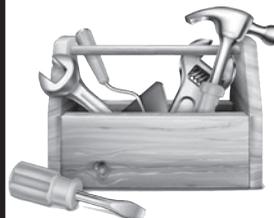
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United Way Agencies Provide Help During Crisis

submitted by Bill Fellows

My wife Virginia and I have been Sanibel residents for 18 years, and have seen the effects of hurricanes, recessions and red tide/blue-green algae on our islands. The most recent crisis has not only affected our residents and wildlife health-wise, but has caused thousands of people who live and work on the islands to be seriously hurt economically.

We have been active in supporting the community we live in, such as past president of FISH of SanCap, legacy donors to the Literacy Council Gulf Coast, and by providing management guidance to Project Dentists Care. All three of these are United Way Partner Agencies that work together to benefit local people. Because of the latest ecological crisis, island businesses such as hotels, restaurants and other tourist attractions have lost customers. In addition, workers employed by island businesses have lost hours or been laid off.

For example, meet Ben, a Sanibel resident with two children who works as a local fishing guide.

"Just when I thought I was beginning to turn the corner, red tide happens, ruining any chance of making money during the summer months," he said. While his business usually does okay during the summer months, he relies heavily on tourists and the "season" to earn his living.

"I've had cancellations well into season and even into next year. My livelihood is gone, yet my bills remain. It will take months, if not a year, to recover," said Ben.

FISH has seen a staggering increase in households seeking assistance in the food pantry and emergency financial assistance programs. Most requests at FISH are due to job loss, reduction in hours and/or medical problems associated with the red tide exposure. Not only does the situation affect fishing guides, but restaurant employees, hotel workers and retail sales staff.

The Southwest Florida Cares Fund was established jointly by the Southwest Florida



Bill Fellows photo provided

Community Foundation and United Way to move money to nonprofits who can help individuals with incomes affected by the water crisis. FISH received a grant to meet some of the increased demand for food from the pantry and other emergency necessities.

United Way Partner Agencies are real partners. People who come to FISH for help are asked about what caused their immediate need for food or utility assistance, so that they can be referred to other programs or agencies that can make a long-term difference in their lives. For example, a person coming in for food, but who has limited English skills may be referred to Literacy Council Gulf Coast for classes. Social service staff may refer people to Project Dentists Care because they have constant infections due to the loss of many teeth; or a person who is seriously depressed from their financial situation or personal loss might be referred to SalusCare for counseling.

United Way's philosophy is to help make a long-term difference in people's lives, not just emergency help. As a member of the Sanibel Captiva United Way Campaign Committee, I urge you to give today. United Way is vital organization that helps make our community a great place to live.

Please return the pledge form you have received in the mail or at work. You can safely give online at www.UnitedWayLee.org.✱

jewelry creation from Mark Loren Designs.

Yachts of Hope is hosted by Sandy Stilwell Youngquist, Sonya Sawyer, Lizbeth Benacquisto and Andie Vogt, joined by committee members Pam Cronin, Deanna Hansen, Cathy Snyder and Hope Healthcare President and CEO Samira K. Beckwith.

Underwriting Yachts of Hope for \$1,500 includes two tickets and special recognition; individual tickets are available for \$500. Visit www.hopehcs.org/yachts to purchase tickets and preview auction items.

Yachts of Hope sponsors include Stilwell Enterprises and Restaurant Group, Youngquist Brothers, Chico's FAS, Inc., Mark Loren Designs, Marine Max, Cheney Brothers, Creighton Commercial Development, Cypress Cove at HealthPark Florida, Edison National Bank, Home-Tech, Kitson & Partners, William E. Cross Foundation, Inc., and Comcast. For more information, call 482-4673.✱

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Ross Hauser, MD and Marion Hauser, MS, RD, CEO are the owners of Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics with locations in Fort Myers and Chicagoland. They are full-time Sanibel residents and authors of over 30 medical research articles and 9 books, including their best known book *Prolo Your Pain Away!*

Tickets Available For Yachts Of Hope Fundraiser

Tickets are available for Yachts of Hope, a fundraiser for Hope Hospice at Gulf Harbor Yacht and Country Club, on Saturday, January 12 at 4:30 p.m.

The event features tours of luxury yachts up to 101 feet long, dockside cocktails and tastings from LYNO, Keyline Bistro, Saboram Wow and The Timbers Restaurant, along with a gourmet dinner, live band and dancing. The evening will also include a once-in-a-lifetime travel experience auction with VIP trips to Sonoma wine country, Madrid, Tuscany and the 2019 U.S. Open Golf Tournament at Pebble Beach, as well as the opportunity to bid on a one-of-a-kind

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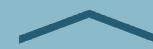


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Doctor and Dietician

Cell Phones, Headaches And Neck Pain



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

Having more headaches and neck pain lately? It could be from how you use your phone. The aching and squeezing from muscle contractions at the base of the neck are often a result of the head position we subject ourselves to day in and day out. Long lengths of times spent looking down at our phones weaken and overstretch the ligaments along the neck, leading to "text neck." The head is heavy, and the longer it is kept in a head-forward/flexed position, the greater the pressure on these ligaments. In fact, the force increases approximately 10 pounds for every inch of forward head posture. The frequent and prolonged flexion of the neck causes degenerative changes to the curve of the cervical spine and all the

structures that support the neck. As the ligament weakness ensues, the forward head position worsens, and the ligaments can no longer keep the vertebrae in their proper alignment. To protect and stabilize the vital structures running through the neck, including the spinal cord, neck muscles will tighten and spasm. What we may feel is neck pain, tension headaches, tingling sensations, among many other symptoms.

Massage, chiropractic care, or physical therapy can often provide symptomatic relief from text neck. When these first-line methods are only providing temporary relief but not curing the problem, the ligaments may be permanently overstretched, and the normal curve of the spine could be compromised. The treatment to strengthen ligaments is known as prolotherapy or regenerative injection therapy. As the ligaments strengthen, the treatment focus may advance to restoring a more normal cervical spine curve. Once the issue has been medically resolved, having better posture while using the phone, performing regular upper body exercise and utilizing accessories like headsets or features like voice-to-text can help prevent recurrences.

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

Superior Interiors

Less Is More, Small Is Big



by Jeanie Tinch

An architectural and generational theme that we see driving a market trend is "small spaces." This "small is big" movement is gaining movement with help from both millennials and baby boomers. Millennials

are on board with their finances in mind; they gravitate towards cost-efficient living spaces. Smaller spaces lend themselves to these constraints. Baby boomers' infatuation stems from a simple decreasing need for space.

While these two groups have been identified as having many different traits, the market recognizes the desires of these two large segments of our population and

produces furnishings that work for both generations.

Small-scale tables have been popular due to their low cost and flexibility; they do not make the owner commit to it for a long period of time and offer flexibility of use within a space.

Ottomans have also become popular, likely for their decreased size and increased functionality. They can be used as tables, footrests, extra seating and storage. A desk can also function as a buffet or console table.

Simplicity and multi-use furnishings have made their way back within the industry's new releases. While small space living requires a certain amount of flexibility and creativity, even the tightest of spaces can shine. To help get the most out of your space, consult an interior design professional to explore possibilities. This design consultation is an extremely efficient (and cost-saving) way to make the most of a room's functionality while incorporating chic new eye-catching trends.

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

From page 1B

Local Performs

pregame festivities in front of more than 65,000 fans. The 28-year-old musician sang her version of the holiday hit *Run Run Rudolph*, which in 2013 peaked at number two on the *Billboard* Adult Contemporary charts.

"I really enjoyed it," Wolanin said after the game. "Standing in the middle of the field, you can see everything. I saw lots of people dancing in the stands, which is always fun to see."

Wolanin, who began her recording career at age 13, had previously performed the national anthem and halftime concert at FirstEnergy Stadium at a Cleveland Browns game five years ago. However, the reception she received two weeks ago was quite special.

"I don't want to overstate how important me singing *Run Run Rudolph*

before the Steelers game was to their win, but every player looked me in the eyes and mouthed 'thank you' after the game," Wolanin posted on her Instagram account.

Asked what it's like to sing in front of nearly 70,000 hardcore football fans, Wolanin modestly explained that she's less nervous performing in front of a large crowd rather than before a more intimate audience. "When you're standing in the middle of the football field, the crowd is pretty far away," she said. "A big crowd brings a high level of energy, which makes it even more fun for me."

While it's been two years since Wolanin released her last single, *Never Said No*, the singer promised new music will be released in the upcoming year.

"I've recorded a visual album, which has been sent into some film festivals," added Wolanin. "I'm also planning on releasing some new music in February."

For more information, visit www.whitneywolanin.com.*

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dearPharmacist

Other Treatments For Seizure Management



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: Epilepsy is frustrating and difficult on one's life. It can show up in many ways, from mild absence seizures, to grand mal, to cyclic vomiting and nocturnal seizures. Medications such

as gabapentin, phenytoin, valproate, topiramate, carbamazepine and others may control symptoms for a while, but they're not a cure. No one has the answer to all types of seizures, because the origin differs.

Knowing what raises or lowers your threshold becomes imperative to reducing frequency. For example, becoming dehydrated, upset or taking too hot a shower can trigger a seizure. Sleep deprivation, a stressful interaction with someone or too much glutamate or caffeine can all reduce your seizure threshold, causing an episode. Here are some popular medications that reduce seizure threshold and increase seizure frequency: Antihistamines; Insulin and diabetes medications; Oxytocin; Maprotiline; Clomipramine; Clozapine; Lithium; Fluoroquinolone antibiotics; Methylphenidate; Metronidazole or Tinidazole; and Schizandra herb.

Animal research suggests that impaired methylation (reduced folate, which is not folic acid by the way) can damage the hippocampus and result in post-seizure memory loss. In a 7-year-old girl, reduced folate transport to the brain led to seizures, cognitive impairment, immune suppression and anemia. When the child was given a little methylfolate (not folic acid), her condition substantially improved. You can protect your brain from seizures naturally.

Consider compounds known to raise threshold, reducing seizure incidents: magnesium; omega 3 fish oils; grape seed extract; and CBD or cannibidiol, an extract from marijuana.

That last one might shock you, as it is from marijuana, but CBD, a non-psychoactive hemp extract is federally legal now since President Trump recently signed the bill. That means that people in pain, and those with seizures have easier access and possibly a cure.

Fish oils are essential for cell membrane stability in trillions of your cells. They're critical for neurological function and work by reducing nerve irritation or excitability in the brain. This means that your nerves aren't so easily over-stimulated, and seizure-inducing compounds are less likely to be released.

In 2015, a case-controlled study involving 70 children was published in the *New American Journal of Medical Science*. The kids all had uncontrolled, chronic seizures. Thirty-five of the children were given omega 3 fish oil (containing EPA and DHA), while everyone else received a placebo. After three months, the number of children without seizure activity went from no one to 57 percent. No improvements happened in the placebo group.

Another study confirmed omega 3's benefits for epilepsy in adults. In this study, participants with drug-resistant seizures took about 1,000 milligrams of omega 3 fish oils supplements every day. This went on for three different 10-week treatment periods. There was an incredible 34 percent reduction in seizure frequency compared to the placebo group.

Fish oil isn't the only "brain food" for epilepsy. Grape seed extract is another protective compound. It protects your hippocampus, which houses one of your seizure 'switches.' Grape seed extract turns off the seizure switch. Finally, keep in mind that chamomile, ginkgo and St. John's wort may interact with your medication.

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.

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy

Q: I could use some help on developing a positive body image. What are some ways to begin?

A: For starters, how about surrendering to a positive mind-set?

Begin to practice the strategies for positive self-talk.

To counter negative conditioning, which I suspect has been going on for a long time, commit to surrendering to a life-long philosophy of loving your body and releasing shame and self-loathing. Here are some tips:

1. Limit yourself to negative media images including celebrity-oriented shows and magazines.

2. Let go of comparing yourself to others. We all are unique individuals with certain gifts and talents. Start focusing on yours. Negative comparisons only fuel your insecurities. Train yourself to focus on your best traits, one at a time. Get to know your attributes and begin to love them.

3. Use positive self-talk and begin to perceive yourself differently in a healthy way. Focus on what you like about your appearance: your eyes, hair, skin, smile, etc. Instead of seeing a bulge, see a sexy curve.

4. Treat yourself with loving kindness and shift negative thoughts to powerful actions. Respect your body and honor this miraculous structure to its fullest.

*Upcoming event: Katie Gardenia will join me in leading a workshop, titled *Disempower Energy Vampires Who Surround You and Reclaim Yourself Through the Art of Resilience*, on Saturday, January 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at *Tween Waters Island Resort and Spa on Captiva*. Cost is \$195 before January 10, which includes lunch and*

beverages. The admission fee can be mailed to: Constance Clancy, P.O. Box 82, Snowmass, CO 81654. RSVP to: drconstanceclancy@gmail.com.

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

Chronic Pain Management Workshops

Lee Health is offering a free six-week workshop, entitled Chronic Pain Self-Management, a research-based program developed by Stanford University.

Learn how to more easily manage your medications; understand the benefits of exercise; manage symptoms of stress, pain and fatigue; and make smarter decisions related to healthy eating. Participants will receive a copy of the book *Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Pain*.

Sessions will be held on Thursdays beginning January 10 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia Catholic Church, located at 5632 Sunrise Drive in Fort Myers. Seating is limited and registration is required. Call 343-9264 for more information.

Overeaters Anonymous

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

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

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way.

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Fire Department - Captiva	472-9494
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Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
Chamber of Commerce	472-1080
City of Sanibel	472-4135
Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Planning Department	472-4136
Library - Sanibel	472-2483
Library - Captiva	239-533-4890
Post Office - Sanibel	472-1573
Post Office - Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
Post Office - Captiva	472-1674
Sanibel Community Association	472-2155
Center 4 Life - Senior Center	472-5743
ARTS	
Arcade Theater	332-4488
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
BIG ARTS - Barrier Island Group for the Arts	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	277-1700
Lee County Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Naples Philharmonic	597-1111
The Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
Sanibel Music Festival	336-7999
Sanibel-Captiva Art League	sancapart.com
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Symphonic Chorale of SW Florida	560-5695
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
ABWA - American Business Women's Assoc ..	http://abwasanibelcaptiva.org
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Audubon Society	472-3744
CHR Community Housing & Resources	472-1189
Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva	274-5900
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CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife	472-3644
Democratic Club of the Islands	Demclubislands@gmail.com
Disabled Am Vets #108 (San-Cap Rep Ted Tyson) Help 211	984-5920
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FISH. OF SANCAP 24-hr service	472-0404
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Horticultural Society of the Islands	472-6940
Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva	472-8334
Kiwanis Club	677-7299
League of Women Voters	sanibelLWV@gmail.com
Lions Club, Jeff MacDonald	302-521-1158
Master Gardeners of the Islands	472-6940
MOAA - Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie	395-9232
Newcomers	472-9332
Notre Dame Club of Southwest Florida	768-0417
Optimist Club	472-0836
PAWS	472-4823
Rotary Club	472-7257 or 472-0141
Sanibel Bike Club	sanibelbicycleclub.org
Sanibel Beautification Inc.	470-2866
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron	www.usps.org/localusps/sancap
Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus	395-1202
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club	facebook.com/sancapshellclub
Sanibel Youth Soccer	www.sanibelsoccer.org
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline 24 hour	211 or 433-3900
Zonta Club	728-1971
ISLAND ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Sanibel Historical Museum & Village	472-4648
SCCF Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation	472-2329

To be listed in calling card email your information to: press@islandsunnews.com

PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Haven on Earth Animal League

Lily And Sylvia

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

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



Lily



Sylvia

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

PAWS Of Sanibel

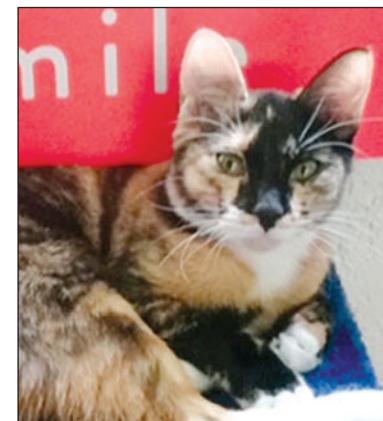
Brava And Lucy

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

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



Brava



Lucy

Sonny And Cher

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



Sonny



Cher

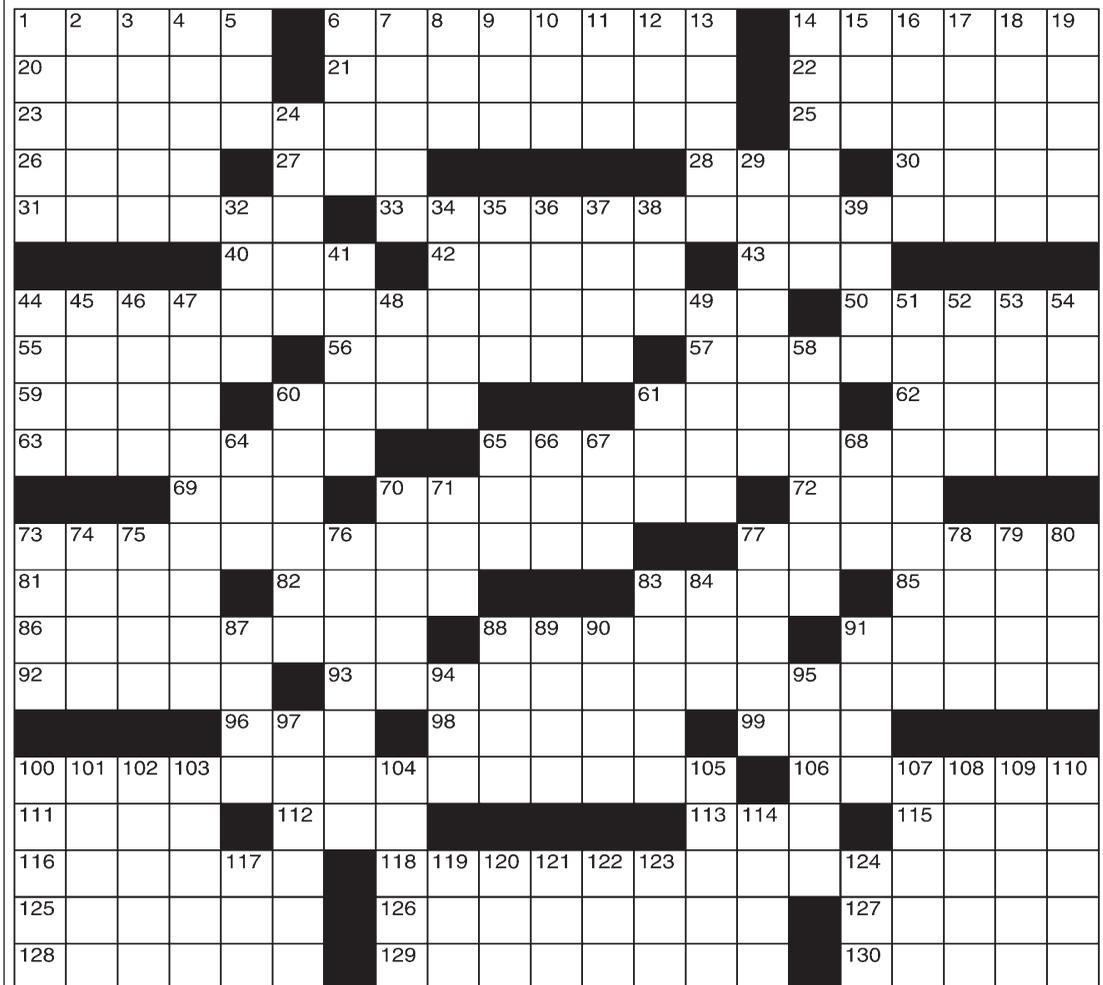
PUZZLES

Answers on page 29B

Super Crossword

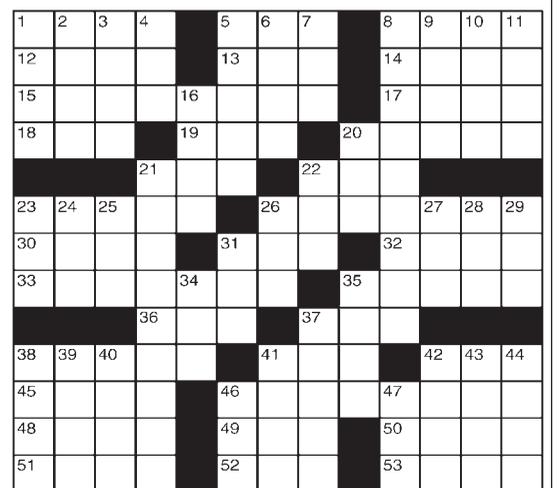
THAT GNAWING FEELING

- ACROSS**
- 1 Dry out
 - 6 Should the necessity arise
 - 14 Eye, kidney and heart
 - 20 Informed
 - 21 Grade on a salary scale
 - 22 Big chicken brand
 - 23 Rodent who helps couples end spats?
 - 25 Forced out of a country
 - 26 Squeezed (out)
 - 27 — polloi
 - 28 Untold millennia
 - 30 — bean (Old World plant)
 - 31 Stand for
 - 33 Rodent causing prices to increase over time?
 - 40 “— Haw”
 - 42 Visit briefly
 - 43 “By the way,” on memos
 - 44 Frothy pie topping concocted by a rodent?
 - 50 Bit of a tortilla treat
 - 55 Spheres
 - 56 Cliff nests
 - 57 Seized
 - 59 Part of CD
 - 60 Throws in
 - 61 Actor Arnaz
 - 62 “Jazz” writer Morrison
 - 63 Serious rifts
 - 65 Rodent blurring out secrets?
 - 69 Shooters’ gp.
 - 70 How cliffs incline
 - 72 Very bad grade
 - 73 Rodent who’s a pop star?
 - 77 Fishing boat
 - 81 Chevy now called the Sonic
 - 82 Tune for two
 - 83 Utterances of disgust
 - 85 Ames’ home
 - 86 Series with Agent 99
 - 88 Of the eyes
 - 91 Middle name of Poe
 - 92 Malia Obama’s sis
 - 93 Rodent who was a U.S. president?
 - 96 Outrage
 - 98 Battery terminal
 - 99 Massive fight
 - 100 Revelation of all the relevant facts about a rodent?
 - 106 Nary a soul
 - 111 Shuffle or Mini
 - 112 Silvery gray
 - 113 Silver of film
 - 115 Special air
 - 116 Fight against
 - 118 Rodent-themed hit for Peter, Paul and Mary?
 - 125 Franklin of soul music
 - 126 Bolsheviks’ theory
 - 127 Laotian, say
 - 128 Eye liners?
 - 129 Infuriates
 - 130 Idylls, e.g.
 - 10 Suffix with auction
 - 11 TiVo is one, for short
 - 12 Stinging thing
 - 13 Actress Page
 - 14 Not in secret
 - 15 T. — (big dino)
 - 16 Petty swindle
 - 17 Old veep Stevenson
 - 18 New, to Julio
 - 19 Roomy auto
 - 24 Actor Charlie
 - 29 Sin
 - 32 Just — once
 - 34 Imitating sorts
 - 35 Spelling of the screen
 - 36 Mayberry tyke
 - 37 Fish parts
 - 38 Having one sharp, musically
 - 39 “— that the truth!”
 - 41 “My word!”
 - 44 Young guys
 - 45 Actor Stoltz of “Mask”
 - 46 Go well (with)
 - 47 Apple debut of 1984
 - 48 G.P.’s study
 - 49 Start of an expiration notice
 - 51 Deliberate choice
 - 52 China’s — En-lai
 - 53 Pullets, e.g.
 - 54 Comics dog
 - 58 TV and radio stations
 - 60 “Jack & Jill” actress Peet
 - 61 Certain baseball hit: Abbr.
 - 64 — Lanka
 - 65 Roseanne’s mom on “Roseanne”
 - 66 “Chi-Raq” director Spike
 - 67 Mo. #4
 - 68 Advanced deg. for a designer
 - 70 Arrange for
 - 71 Pec pic, say
 - 73 Binges
 - 74 Iris locale
 - 75 Filming sites
 - 76 “A Clockwork Orange” novelist Anthony
 - 77 Heaved
 - 78 Entertainer Falana
 - 79 Moviedom’s McGregor
 - 80 Novelist Ayn
 - 83 Peptic problem
 - 84 With 94-Down, female chum
 - 87 Inn worker
 - 88 “Horrors!”
 - 89 Co. big shots
 - 90 Language in Lahore
 - 91 Brit’s prefix for plane
 - 94 See 84-Down
 - 95 White on “Wheel of Fortune”
 - 97 Ranch ropes
 - 100 Like the flu director
 - 101 “Rigoletto,” for one
 - 102 Doesn’t win
 - 103 Piaf of song
 - 104 Dish with kidney beans
 - 105 Make blank
 - 107 Low voice
 - 108 Navel type
 - 109 REM activity
 - 110 Tall stories
 - 114 Bits of resistance
 - 117 That woman
 - 119 Wet lowland
 - 120 Ltd. relative
 - 121 Move hastily
 - 122 Raggedy —
 - 123 Trash-talk
 - 124 Hiker’s aid



King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Trumpet
 - 5 Recipe meas.
 - 8 Arduous journey
 - 12 Reed instrument
 - 13 Pussy-Cat’s partner
 - 14 Present
 - 15 Freebie
 - 17 Wedding symbol
 - 18 “Golly!”
 - 19 Illuminated
 - 20 Actor Tommy Lee
 - 21 Automaton, for short
 - 22 Not many
 - 23 Strictly — nous
 - 26 Excise
 - 30 Old Italian money
 - 31 Godfather’s address
 - 32 Greet silently
 - 33 Abandon the nest
 - 35 Gold measure
 - 36 Child
 - 37 Whatever number
 - 38 Caesar, for one
 - 41 Saturnian saucer?
 - 42 Locate
 - 45 Cabbage salad
 - 46 Hidden pas-
 - 7 Thickness
 - 8 Disposable
 - 9 Check
 - 10 Sea eagle
 - 11 Small barrels
 - 16 Burn aid
 - 20 Lustrous black
 - 21 Made to come apart easily
 - 22 Merriment
 - 23 Sprite
 - 24 Zero
 - 25 Have a go at
 - 26 Coquettish
 - 27 Series of skirmishes
 - 28 Actress Gardner
 - 29 Still
 - 31 Pop
 - 34 Victory
 - 35 Recognize
 - 37 Earlier, in verse
 - 38 Answer an invite
 - 39 Hodgepodge
 - 40 Halloween purchase
 - 41 Hexagonal state
 - 42 Former ugly duckling
 - 43 Bridge position
 - 44 Spud’s buds
 - 46 Drunkard
 - 47 Lawyers’ org.
- DOWN**
- 1 “Dukes of Hazzard” boss
 - 2 Theater award
 - 3 Wander
 - 4 Born
 - 5 Namely
 - 6 Bat a gnat

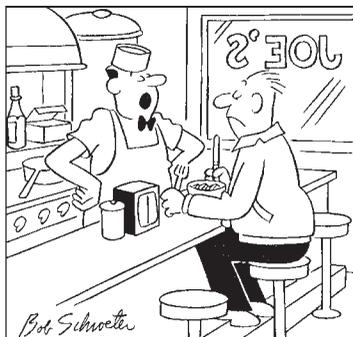


MAGIC MAZE ● ORVILLE AND WILBUR

M X L U R P M J G D A X V S Q
 N K S E L C Y C I B I F D A E
 X V T Q N O M J H F C A Y C W
 U R P N L N J H D K F D N B Z
 X V N T R Q U O I E S A M K I
 H F D O (B R O T H E R S) B H S
 Z Y W V T T T R D F E E C L P
 Q O N R E Y L F L N D T W L O
 K I H F E N A L P R I A A O R
 D C A Z X W V D U P L W Y R P
 S R Q O 3 0 9 1 T H G I R W N

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

- 1903
- Dayton
- Pitch
- Wind tunnel
- Airplane
- Flyer
- Powered
- Wright
- Bicycles
- France
- Props
- Yaw
- Brothers
- Gliders
- Roll



Bob Schwetler
 "It's called the 'Chef's Delight' because he uses only _____."
 answer on page 31B

SCRAMBLERS

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

- Burdened
ELAND
- Switch
TRIVED
- Succeed
LOFLOW
- Aim
RIVETS

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Lamp is missing. 2. Ear flap is missing. 3. Sign is different. 4. Number is different. 5. Pocketbook is missing. 6. Wreath is missing.

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

SUDOKU

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

answer on page 29B

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2 bdrm / 1 bath, East End. 1/2 of Duplex, piling home. Walk to beach. Washer & Dryer in unit, Private sundeck. Includes yard service & pest control. No Smoking / No pets. \$1,750. Call Bob 410-913-2234.
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 Contact Chris: 314-406-7058
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 12/21 * 12/28

SANIBEL - SEASONAL RENTAL AVAILABLE FEBRUARY & APRIL, 2019

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Cycling Safety Notes

- Ride to the right
- Warn to pass
- Wear a helmet
- Use lights at night
- Always be courteous



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Shore Fishing: Don't Harm The Fish



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Landing a big fish from the beach can be hard on the fish. Dragging a fish up onto the sand if you're going to release it is not an option as it usually damages or kills the fish.

Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it.

The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.

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

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

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

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



My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 31, 2018

Aries (March 21 to April 19) You might be busier than you had expected right now. But between the socializing rounds and the workplace tasks, there are opportunities for special moments with that certain someone.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Your creative approach leads to a quicker-than-expected solution to a workplace problem. Now you can devote more time to that proposal you hope to introduce by midmonth.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Technological glitches create problems early on. But by midweek, all runs smoothly once again, and you're well and truly on your way to meeting all your deadlines.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Your energy levels are high, and you feel you can handle everything that comes along. But try to take a break from your hectic pace for some quiet time with someone close to you.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Before you pounce on that shiny new opportunity, take more time to check it out to see how much substance actually lies beneath all that glitter. A family member has important news.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) A personal situation you thought was resolved resurfaces, thanks to a possibly well-intentioned move that went awry. Deal with it as soon as possible. Accept the help of a trusted friend.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) That goal you set way back when is finally in sight. Maintain your focus on achieving it, and don't allow yourself to be distracted by unimportant demands for your attention.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) A temperamental flare-up creates negative feelings that need to be dealt with immediately. But things once again go well after the apologies are made and hurt feelings are soothed.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) An early impulsive act causes confusion. But all is smoothed over once explanations are made. Expect a friend or family member to ask for your kind and always wise advice.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) You might have to do some juggling of your priorities, as a personal matter appears to require more time and attention. Put your pride aside and accept help from those who offer it.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) Your creative aspect is strong. Not only does it help you accomplish your goals,

but it also inspires others. This could lead to a potentially rewarding collaboration opportunity.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Be careful about making major decisions when you're not really committed to them. And resist any pressure to do otherwise. Better to delay action until all doubts are resolved.

Born This Week: You set goals and are rarely distracted by any attempt to move you off the path you've chosen to reach them.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was beloved American comedian and film star Groucho Marx who made the following sage observation: "There's one way to find out if a man is honest - ask him. If he says 'Yes,' you know he is a crook."

- You might be surprised to learn that, in addition to his holiday duties, Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of children, coopers, sailors, fishermen, merchants, broadcasters, the falsely accused, repentant thieves,

brewers, pharmacists, archers, pawnbrokers, Aberdeen, Galway, Russia, Greece, Hellenic Navy, Liverpool, the Italian town of Bari, the city of Siggiewi in Malta, Moscow, Amsterdam and the Lorraine region of France.

- The next time you've enjoyed a happy hour out with friends, you might want to consider the virtually unknown adjective "gambinous," which means "to be content and happy due to a stomach full of beer."

- A pregnant goldfish is known as a "twit."

- Sometimes looking at local ordinances can make you wonder what inspired lawmakers to pass such laws. For instance, in Florida it's illegal to wear nothing but liquid latex while in a public place.

- If you make a serious study of Hungarian gypsies, you probably already know that you're a "tzigonologist."

- Ever wonder how the statuette taken home by winners of the Academy Awards

got its nickname? Evidently, in 1931 a secretary at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences saw the statuette for the first time and exclaimed, "Why, he reminds me of my Uncle Oscar!" The comment struck the fancy of a reporter who was present, and he put it in a story about the awards, and the name stuck.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

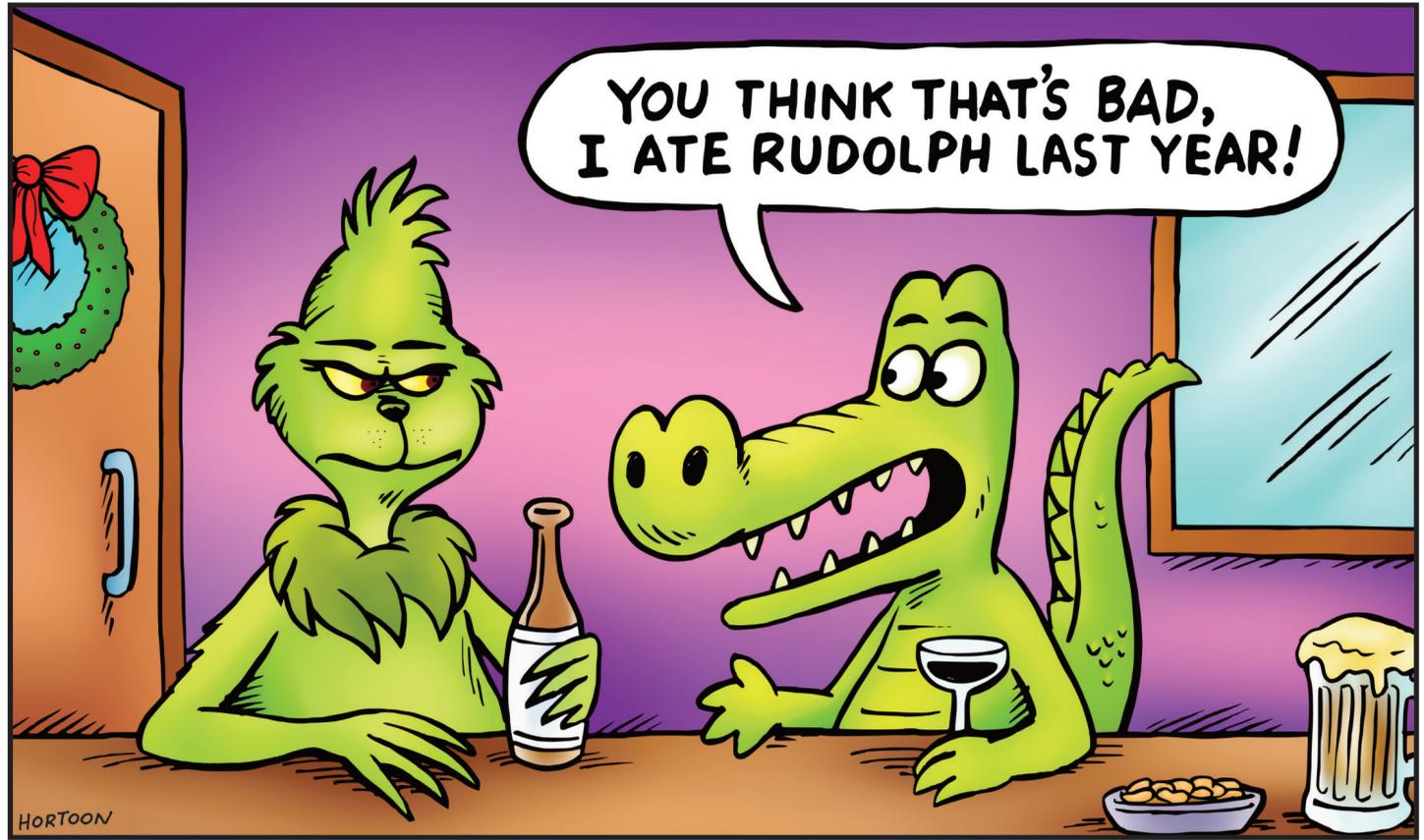
"It is easier to fight for one's principles than to live up to them." - Felix Adler

SCRAMBLERS

- Laden; 2. Divert;
3. Follow; 4. Strive

Today's Word
LEFTOVERS

HORTOONS



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
The Rocks	Sanibel	1988	2,172	\$1,699,000	\$1,500,000	220
Idlewilde	Estero	2006	3,230	\$1,299,000	\$1,220,000	5
Seagrape	Sanibel	1984	2,010	\$1,279,000	\$1,220,000	42
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2016	2,575	\$1,189,000	\$1,100,000	282
Nature's Cove	Estero	2005	2,974	\$929,000	\$890,000	34
Wildcat Run	Estero	2001	3,405	\$799,900	\$760,000	138
Tidewater Island	Fort Myers	2003	2,739	\$799,000	\$750,000	110
Water's Edge One	Fort Myers	1999	2,747	\$749,500	\$670,000	36
Estero River Heights	Estero	1980	2,235	\$679,900	\$650,000	79
Woodlake At Bonita Bay	Bonita Springs	1987	2,496	\$655,000	\$655,000	0



NEW TOP TO BOTTOM

- Furnished 4BR/4BA ground level 2-story home
- 2-master suites, only 6 homes to the Gulf
- Oversized lot, private backyard, large pool
- Top quality kitchen, luxury bathrooms & more
- \$1,995,000 (2180956)

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- 3BR/2BA home, over 3,000 SF
- 4 levels, updated kitchen, very private
- Top floor Gulf views, impressive master
- Enclosed lower level, beach access
- \$1,089,000 (2181230)

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CHECKS ALL THE BOXES

- Close to beach, like new home, very private
- Open concept with 2 living areas, soaring ceilings
- Great pool, several decks, intense quality
- Offered turnkey furnished, shows like a model
- Priced to sell at \$1,295,000 (2181037)

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- Screened lanai, under building parking
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RARE OPPORTUNITY

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- Sanibel Arms, breathtaking views, excellent income potential
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- Glassed-in lanai, model-like furniture included, top floor
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LUXURIOUS SANCTUARY HOME

- Located on 2 lots, guesthouse, new roof
- Lavish Master, gourmet kitchen open to family room, 2 fireplaces
- Gorgeous pool, spa, totally wind mitigated
- End of cul de sac, very private, fully furnished
- Priced to sell at \$1,995,000 (2180925)

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- Minutes from Sanibel! 4/3 on largest lake, great views
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EAST END - NEAR BEACH

- 3/2 ground-level home on large corner lot
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- Great price - \$765,000 (2181211)

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GROUND LEVEL - STEPS TO BEACH!

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- Great rental potential, 4 houses from the beach
- Sold Furnished
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- Only minutes to open water
- Dock & lift - room for two boats
- Stainless appliances, custom cabinetry
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BAY VIEWS - EAST END!

- Olde Florida-style house with 3 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms
- Steps to beach on East End, Custom Built
- Open floorplan, Wood floors, multiple decks
- Large master retreat, very private
- Proudly offered at \$1,095,000 (2181188)

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AMAZING BAY VIEWS - THE PINK HOUSE!

- Landmark estate with 150 feet on the Bay - Huge Lot!
- 4 bedroom, incredible quality, new windows, roof, stucco
- Very private! Gorgeous pool, two fireplaces, wood floors
- East end location, sandy lane, boarders conservation
- Offered fully furnished at \$5,495,000 (2181137)

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BAY FRONT HOMESITE

- Oversized lot on private lane
- Only 5 homes total, incredible views
- Almost 15,000 SF, 85' of seawall
- Room for an Estate home!
- \$2,195,000 (2170901)

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- South exposure, steps to beach access
- Fairway views, cleared & ready for your dream home
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