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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

APRIL 15, 2022

APRIL SUNRISE/SUNSET: 15 7:05 • 7:52 16 7:04 • 7:52 17 7:03 • 7:53 18 7:02 • 7:53 19 7:01 • 7:54 20 7:00 • 7:54 21 7:00 • 7:55

SanCap Cares Raises Nearly \$800K For Hospital

SanCap Cares held its 22nd annual Island Celebration on April 3 at The Sanctuary Golf Club, raising nearly \$800,000 to support pediatric services at Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. The focus of this year's fundraising efforts was "All About the Brain."

Golisano Children's Hospital continues to work to strengthen its pediatric mental health services, while embarking on a new neurosurgery program and the formation of a research and education partnership with Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida.

"Lee Health and Golisano Children's Hospital continue to be amazed and blessed by the overwhelming generosity of the Sanibel and Captiva communities in support of the children of Southwest Florida," said Dr. Larry Antonucci, president and CEO of Lee Health. "For 22 years, SanCap Cares has supported exceptional healthcare for the region's



SanCap Cares committee: back, from left, Sue Peltzman, Veronica Powers, Christine Szymanczyk, Kasey Albright, Taryn Manning, Toby Tolp and Brendan Albright; front, from left, Valerie Tutor, Kate Schaffer, Kristin Lohser, Stephanie Muddell, Melissa Congress, Jeannie Kendall, Susan Ryckman, Diana Day and Debbie Szymanczyk photo provided

most important assets, our children, including over \$18 million in total giving. On behalf of all the kids that benefit from

SanCap Cares' support, we'd like to offer our deepest appreciation and gratitude." The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company

has sponsored the SanCap Cares Island Celebration for two decades, and once again served as presenting sponsor.

"Since the plan for the Golisano Children's Hospital was imagined, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company has been proud to support the fundraising efforts to benefit children and families in our community," said Al Hanser, founder and chairman of the trust company.

Hanser addressed the audience, expressing his pleasure in giving back to the community that he and many others call home. The trust company is well known for its support of nonprofits and programs throughout the region and beyond.

The Olde Florida themed evening kicked off with a cocktail hour with a variety of food and wine pairings and an opportunity to bid in the Give to Give silent auction. Featuring displays of equipment to enhance current programs and services, the Give to Give auction is a popular feature and has helped fund ambulance cots and infant transport aids to protect newborn babies. These items and many more are used throughout the hospital and within the neonatal and

continued on page 34



Local environmental organizations will host carnival games, such as Octopus Bean Bag Toss, and participants can win prizes during "Ding" Darling Day photos provided

'Ding' Darling Day Next Sunday

JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge celebrates its 33rd annual "Ding" Darling Day jointly with Earth Day at Lakes Park in Fort Myers on Sunday, April 24. The refuge and "Ding"

Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) have planned a full day of "Conservation Carnival" and nature activities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

More than 20 local conservation nonprofits will be participating to engage visitors with information and carnival games where they can earn prizes. Games include Tarpon Bay Explorers' Dolphin



Make like an osprey and grab fish with a talon-like tool

Toss, Lee County School District's Shark Feeding and Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Coconut Bowling. Gamers can earn a free treat from Southern SnoBalls, plus other gifts and prizes. The refuge hosts a dunk tank, where festivalgoers can try their luck at sinking surprise "celebrity dunkers." All

activities are free, but Lakes Park charges a \$1 per hour, \$5 per day parking fee.

"The games will all have an educational component, plus the day brings a number of tours and nature art activities," said Toni Westland, supervisory refuge ranger and event committee chair. "We will have

continued on page 6

Community House Calendar

The Community House arts and crafts fair is back on Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be original art in various mediums, shell and other crafts, jewelry, baked goods and other culinary items. No admission charge.

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

Oil Painting with Suzette is offered on select Mondays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The subject for the April 11 class is umbrella and chairs. The subject for the April 18 class is five ibis. Cost per class is \$55 for members and \$65 for guests. All materials included. Register online at www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.

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

Social Bridge is in play on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Cost is \$5.

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

Painting with Friends is held on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Bring a work in progress and your own supplies.



The Community House photo by Logan Hart

Cost per class is \$10.

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

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

A Mediterranean Mix-up community social will be held on Wednesday, April 13 with dine in at 6 p.m. and orders to go at 5 p.m. Cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for guests; \$5 additional for dessert. Call 472-2155 for reservations and takeout.

Several Sanibel-Captiva Art League members Dorothy McDowell and Jan Rutledge are exhibiting works this month. The exhibit can be viewed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Proceeds of all sales go to Sanibel Community Association.

The Sanibel Community Association (SCA) annual board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 27 at 8:30 a.m.

There will be a blood drive at The Community House on Friday, April 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Order homemade pies and cakes. Cost is \$7 per slice of \$50 for a whole pie or cake. Choices are Chocolate Dream Supreme Pie, Sopapilla Cheesecake or 1927 Carrot Cake. Call 472-2155 to reserve; made to order each week.

The Community House is looking for sponsorships for Line Dancing classes. Contact Allison at office@sanibelcommunityhouse.net.

Shell Critter Kits to Go are available for purchase or to ship. Choose four out of 13 critters to assemble. Cost is \$20 per kit; shipping is \$8 additional.

Art Kits to Go are also available for purchase or to ship. There are eight different postcards to color and Zentangle. Marker and educational video link included. Cost is \$20 per kit; shipping is \$8 additional.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. Visit www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.✱

Native Plant Walk At City Hall

The City of Sanibel Vegetation Committee is offering a guided native vegetation and landscaping tour of city hall grounds on Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m. Walk the grounds for ideas on planting native vegetation

that requires no fertilizer. See how you can plant a garden that reseeds itself with little maintenance, is good for the environment and will attract birds and butterflies.

Vegetation committee members will provide information on proper planting and care of native vegetation. The City of Sanibel encourages planting of vegetation that is indigenous to the area as it requires little maintenance, no fertilizer and no supplemental irrigation.

Registration is not required.

Attendees meet at the main entrance to Sanibel City Hall, located at 800 Dunlop Road. For more information, email san.dnr@mysanibel.com or call 472-3700.✱

SCA Annual Meeting Notice

The Sanibel Community Association's (SCA) annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 27 at 8:30 a.m. Learn the status of the association and The Community House. Reservations are encouraged. Call 472-2155 or stop by The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way.

If you are unable to attend but would like to make a donation, visit www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net. A donation of \$1,500 pays the electric bill for a month, \$750 pays the garbage bill, \$300 pays the water bill, \$120 pays the pest control bill.✱

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Volunteers Needed For Cleanup



Volunteers are the key to success for beach cleanups

photo provided

Celebrate Earth Day by partnering with Coastal Watch for a beach cleanup on the Sanibel Causeway islands from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 23.

Volunteers will check in on Causeway B (the island closest to Sanibel) at the covered pavilion on the east side (facing

the lighthouse). Gloves and trash buckets will be provided. Bring your family, friends or business associates.

To sign up, contact Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Community Conservation Coordinator Kealy McNeal at kmcneal@sccf.org or 472-8585 ext. 2300.✱

Bright Horizon For Sanibel School

submitted by Dorothy Plumb

The Sanibel School's over 100-year existence has made it a mainstay in the fabric of our island community. Much like other local organizations and businesses, it has weathered pandemic and post-pandemic challenges. It continues to thrive and succeed, just as it always has. This Blue Ribbon School continues to produce students who achieve academic excellence at the highest tier of performance in the state of Florida.

There is a great deal of wonderful news to share. Thanks to the help of the Lee County School District, an increase in off-island waivers has boosted the student population to 280 students with an anticipated fall attendance of over 300. This will help eliminate split-grade classrooms, starting with the kindergarten class.

Additionally, the school is open again, following the COVID-19 guidelines of the school district. Sports, extracurricular activities and field trips are in full swing, and it's wonderful to see our students having the opportunity to actively participate. The school is also open to parent volunteers, a great asset for a busy school.

Speaking of parent volunteers, the PTA has had an incredible year of family participation and generosity. Its fall extravaganza at The Community House was a huge success with many wonderful donors. In March, the PTA held the annual Seahorse Festival for school families and

the public. Much fun was had by all. Funds raised through the PTA help fill the needs of teachers, including classroom supplies and instructional technology.

Likewise, the Sanibel School Fund (SSF), the fundraising arm of the school with a focus on STEM programming, is experiencing this same energy of enthusiasm and gift-giving. SSF's responsibility is to provide the funds needed to employ our STEM teacher, Paul Warren. Mr. Warren is a resident of the island and a true gem for the school. His innovative ideas, including projects based on aeronautics and coding, truly fill a niche for engaging students who may someday be the future engineers and pilots of this world. SSF's premier fundraiser, the Blue Ribbon Classic golf tournament will be held at The Sanctuary Golf Club on Saturday, May 14, followed by an after party at The Community House. There are still sponsorships available for this tournament, as well as single player opportunities. Tickets for the after party are available as well, and you do not have to participate in the tournament in order to attend the party. Raffle tickets for great items like a Moke and an original Myra Roberts painting are on sale island-wide. Contact Jeff Muddell at sanibelschoolfund@gmail.com for further details.

All in all, the future looks bright for The Sanibel School, a beacon of light for our island community. When one thinks of a community, images of community centers, gathering places, businesses, restaurants, senior centers and schools come into mind. Our island school is a significant part of what defines us as an island community.✱



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Capt. AR Robinson

Sanibel Historical Museum And Village

Landmark: Home Of AR Robinson

Capt. AR Robinson built his home west of The Matthews in 1910, taking advantage of the offer by the Matthews family of a lot if he would build on it and take meals at the



photo courtesy Sanibel Historical Museum and Village

inn. The house still exists, having been moved about a mile to the east, and was later owned by Sam and Cookie Bailey.

The Sanibel Historical Museum and Village is located at 950 Dunlop Road, next to BIG ARTS. Hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Guided tours are available, based on docent availability. There is handicap access to all but one of the buildings. Admission is \$10 for adults over 18, no charge for members and children.

For more information, visit www.sanibelmuseum.org or call 472-4648.✱

Churches/Temples

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

Shabbat services including Torah reading Friday 7:30 p.m. led by Rabbi Stephen Fuchs and Cantor Murray Simon. Services at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom. Saturday morning classes at 9:45 a.m. on Zoom. Email batyamsanibel@gmail.com for links to services and information, 2050 Periwinkle Way.

CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

Rev. Larry Marshall. Worship services every Sunday at 11 a.m., November 14, 2021 through April 24, 2022. Sunday services posted on the chapel's website, www.captivachapel.com and www.facebook.com/Captiva-Chapel-By-The-Sea. 11580 Chapin Lane, Captiva, 472-1646.

CHAVURAT SHALOM

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

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

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

SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. View the Sunday services via livestream at 9 a.m. or later online at www.sanibelchurch.com. Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation, 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684

SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, Sr. Pastor. Sunday Worship at 7:45, 9 and 11 a.m. www.sanibelucc.org, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 472-0497.

ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father Ed. Martin, Pastor. Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 p.m., Sunday Mass at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. www.saintisabel.org, 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road, 472-2763.

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Bill Van Oss, Rector. Service schedule through April, Saturday at 5 p.m., Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The 10:30 a.m. Sunday service is also livestreamed at www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

Meets 5 p.m. one Sunday each month from January through April on Zoom or at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. ruthiyengar42@gmail.com, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 847-309-3926. Email changes to press@islandsunnews.com or call 395-1213.✱



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Islands Night Baseball Is Back

Nearly 30 years after the first Islands Night, Bailey's General Store has turned over management and promotion of the annual event at Hammond Stadium in Fort Myers to the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce. This year's event is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, when the Fort Myers Mighty Mussels meet the Tampa Tarpons for an evening of baseball, a pre-game parade showcasing businesses and organizations from Sanibel and Captiva islands, and islander camaraderie.

"We are super excited to make the Sam Bailey's Islands Night a chamber event, especially since it's the first of the islands' full tradition – parade and all – to be held in three years," said John Lai, chamber president and chief executive officer. (Past years' games were canceled because of rain or played without celebration).

"The event tightens the chamber's close, historical connection with the Bailey family, and we're honored to carry the tradition forward," Lai said. "The Baileys have long served the chamber and, in fact, our incoming board chair, Calli Johnson, is Sam's great-niece."

The chamber is seeking sponsors for the Islands Night on four levels: Homerun (\$500), Triple (\$300), Double (\$200), and Single (\$100). Sponsorship benefits include unlimited game tickets, a spot in the parade, and various degrees of publicity, depending on level of



Chamber CEO John Lai with the Mighty Mussels' mascot photo provided

sponsorship. Find more details at www.sanibel-captiva.org or contact Landen Collins at 472-8255 or landen@sanibel-captiva.org.

"It's a bittersweet occasion handing over the reins to Islands Night, a deep Bailey family and island tradition," said Richard Johnson, current family co-owner of Bailey's. "But what better hands to take over and do it right than our trusty chamber of commerce? We look forward to continued success for this cherished event."

Game time on June 1 is 7 p.m. Gates open at 6 p.m. and the parade begins at 6:15 p.m.✱

Tips For Water Conservation On The Islands

April is Water Conservation Month and this is normally the last month of South Florida's dry season. It is also a time when water needs are most acute, highlighting the importance of conserving water.

Over the next 20 years, demand for water in South Florida is projected to increase by 15 percent annually. Locally, Island Water Association has reported water consumption data is beginning to far exceed historical trendline projections; the data suggests increased usage may be attributed to a large escalation in turf and landscape irrigation. These current and projected demands could be reduced by using water more efficiently through conservation measures.

One of the biggest commitments residents and property owners can make to conserve water is to properly manage irrigation. To help conserve water on Sanibel and protect freshwater resources, Sanibel City Council adopted Water Conservation Ordinance No. 20-001 (effective September 18, 2020), which reflects the South Florida Water Management District's mandatory Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Conservation Measures. The ordinance permits irrigation two days per week (based upon

your property address; odd addresses on Mondays and Thursdays and even addresses on Tuesdays and Fridays). To help prevent water loss through evapotranspiration, which occurs at a higher rate during the hottest parts of the day, irrigation is not permitted between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Residents and property owners should also consider installing low-flow sprinkler heads on new and existing systems. Low-flow sprinkler heads spray less water but operate for a longer period of time. This provides irrigation water the opportunity to properly absorb into the soil. Low-flow sprinkler heads use less water while delivering water to plant roots more effectively. This option allows homeowners to save money while being environmentally friendly.

Another simple way to reduce irrigation demand is to select native plants for your landscape. Since native plants are adapted to the local climate and environment, they require little to no irrigation or fertilizer while also providing excellent habitat and forage for wildlife such as birds and butterflies. Consider replacing turf grass with native groundcovers to lessen the need for irrigation.

Working together as a community, citizens of Sanibel can take simple measures to ensure everyone has access to safe and affordable potable water. For more information, visit www.mysanibel.com.✱

SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Holy Week Services at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ

April 14 – Maundy Thursday Service

7:30pm Tenebrae & Holy Communion

April 15 – Good Friday

7:30pm The Living Last Supper

Leonardo DaVinci's - "The Last Supper" comes to life.

* April 17 – Easter Sunday

7:45am Chapel Service

9:00am & 11:00am Traditional

Service w/ Brass and Choir

* Rev. Dr. John H. Danner preaching

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Call To Artists For Multiple Exhibits



The first exhibit is titled **Embracing Stillness**
Image provided

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center has four upcoming call to artist submission opportunities. The May show *Embracing Stillness* – with exhibition dates from May 6 to 26 – will be displayed in the upstairs Capital Gallery. The submission deadline to enter the May show is Friday, April 22. There will be two exhibition opportunities in June – with exhibition dates from June 3 to 24. The annual juried show with \$1,000 in cash prizes is called *The Road to Florida*, with a submission fee of \$30 for up to three pieces. In the upstairs

Capital Gallery, the June show is called *Elementary*, and will feature the works of students that are elementary school age and younger. Submissions for both June shows are due Thursday, May 26. The call to artists for the July exhibition – with exhibition dates from July 7 to 29 – is called *Pythonesque*, celebrating the timeless absurdity of Monty Python, which will be displayed in the upstairs Capital Gallery. Submissions for this July show are due Thursday, June 23. Check out the full 2021-22 season of art exhibitions including these four call to artist exhibition opportunities at www.sbdac.com/art-landing-2022. The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2302 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.sbdac.com or call 333-1933.✱

From page 1
‘Ding’ Darling Day
our WoW Wildlife on Wheels mobile nature experience open all day to touring, plus there will be Earth Day crafts and lots of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, such a bilingual birding walks, biking and not just one, but two ‘Ding’ artists in residence on hand.” Past artist-in-residence Rachel Pierce will lead a nature journal walk and do painting demonstrations. Upcoming artist-in-residence Jacqui Roch also will be painting plein-air. A schedule of the day’s activities follows. Attendees can shop for unique nature-themed items at the Refuge

Nature Store table, where all purchases support conservation. For a schedule of events, visit www.dingdarlingday.com. Note: The “Ding” Darling Visitor & Education Center on Sanibel will be closed all day April 24, but Wildlife Drive, Tarpon Bay Explorers and Bailey Tract will remain open. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) co-sponsor “Ding” Darling Day with support from the local community and businesses. Sponsors include: Great Egret: Doc Ford’s Rum Bar & Grille; Great Blue Heron: Gretchen Banks, *Island Sun/The River Weekly News*, John R. Wood Properties; Reddish Egret: Bank of the Islands, Media Source, Mike and Terry Baldwin, Mitchell’s SandCastles; Snowy Egret: 50% Of Framing, Florida SouthWestern State College Foundation, *Florida Weekly*, John and Anette Gritti, Jensen’s Marina & Cottages, Kearns Restaurant Group, Lee County Parks & Recreation, McCallion & McCallion Realty, Parker Waichman LLP, Sanibel Moorings Resort, Southern SnoBalls, Stewart & Sons Insurance LLC, Tarpon Bay Explorers, West Wind Inn. **Schedule of Free Activities** (schedule subject to change) 10 a.m. “Ding” Darling Day opens at Lakes Park. Check in at welcome table in main pavilion for free goodie bags (one per family while supplies last) and information. 10 a.m. Ranger-led Urban Birding for Beginners: 30 minutes, 20-guest

maximum. 10 a.m. Caminata de Avistamiento de Aves: 30 minutos, 20 personas maximo. 10 a.m. Bring-Your-Own-Bike Tour (or rent from Lakes Park): one-mile loop, one hour, 10-guest maximum. 11 a.m. Mindfulness Walk: 30 minutes, 10-guest maximum. 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free Southern SnoBalls: Main pavilion, compliments of DDWS with proof of “Ding” Day participation (while supplies last). 12 p.m. Ranger-led Urban Birding Walk: 30 minutes, 20-guest maximum. 12 p.m. Caminata de Avistamiento de Animales de Urbanos: 30 minutos, 20 personas maximo. 1 p.m. Nature Journaling with artist-in-residence Rachel Pierce: one hour, 15-guest maximum. **Free Ongoing Activities** –10 a.m. to 2 p.m. WoW (Wildlife on Wheels) mobile interactive experience touring. Dunk tank in the main pavilion, see schedule of “celebrity dunkees” at tank and welcome table. Wildlife Olympics, main pavilion. Face painting, main pavilion. Conservation Carnival games hosted by partnering exhibitors in tents around pavilion. Earth Day crafts at WoW and in main pavilion. Selfie station near main pavilion. Plein-air artist-in-residence demonstrations, adjacent to the lake. Prizes will be awarded upon check-out at the welcome table.✱

Holy Week

AT SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
1740 PERIWINKLE WAY • SANIBEL ISLAND, FL 33957
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Maundy Thursday Service - Thursday, April 14, 7 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service on the Sanibel Causeway - Island A

Easter Sunday, April 17, 6:30 a.m.

Bring your own chair.

Easter Sunday Services at Sanibel Community Church

9 and 11 a.m.

Earth Day Fun At 'Ding' Darling

This year, JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge will celebrate the 52nd annual Earth Day on two separate events over the weekend. On Friday, April 22, it will host family activities throughout the day at the Refuge Visitor & Education Center on Sanibel. As part of the "Ding" Darling Day Conservation Carnival, it will again honor the occasion on Sunday, April 24 at Lakes Park in Fort Myers.

Friday's free activities begin at 9 a.m. with a ranger-led hike on Indigo Trail, followed by two nature-sketching walks to the Wildlife Education Boardwalk with local artist Vince Thomalla. Free sketch books are included. Pre-register for tours, which are limited to 10 participants each, at www.dingdarling.eventbrite.com.

Throughout the day, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., visitors can earn a free spoonbill key tag by completing the Earth Day Scavenger Hunt, and create a make-and-take jellyfish craft from a recycled plastic bottle. Admission to Indigo Trail will be free from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Wildlife Drive is closed on Fridays.)

Friday, April 22 activities:

7 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Free admission to Indigo Trail. (Wildlife Drive is closed on Fridays.)

9 to 10 a.m. – Ranger-led hike on



Join a nature-sketching tour on Earth Day
photo provided

Indigo Trail

10 to 11 a.m. – Nature-sketching tour to the Wildlife Education Boardwalk

1 to 2 p.m. – Nature-sketching tour to the Wildlife Education Boardwalk

Ongoing 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Earth Day Scavenger Hunt – earn a spoonbill key tag

Earth Day Craft on the Visitor & Education Center balcony

For more information on Earth Day at the refuge, call 472-1100 ext. 237 or visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/events.✽

Lecture On Water Mismanagement



Captains For Clean Water works to protect local waterways

photo provided

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) weekly speaker series continues on Tuesday, April 19 at 4:15 p.m. with The Effects of Water Mismanagement presented by Capt. Chris Wittman, co-founder and director of outreach and engagement for Captains For Clean Water.

In 2016, a couple of fishing guides, Wittman and Capt. Daniel Andrews, were fed up with Florida's poor water management practices devastating the estuaries, so they created a nonprofit organization – Captains For Clean Water – which fights to restore and protect water resources. Wittman will discuss the advanced efforts and initiatives to protect these valuable resources and way of life

for future generations.

Programs are approximately one hour in length. This talk will be presented in person at CROW's Visitor Education Center and will also be offered virtually via Zoom. Advanced registration is required. Admission per person or device is \$10 plus applicable taxes and fees. To reserve your spot, visit <http://www.crowclinic.org/articles/2022-speaker-series> or call 472-3644 ext. 222.

CROW's 2022 Speaker Series runs through April, featuring professionals from across Southwest Florida who share information about local conservation initiatives. For more information, visit www.crowclinic.org. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.✽

St Isabel Catholic Church Holy Week and Easter Schedule

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 14

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Veneration of the Cross 3:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 16

The Great Vigil of Easter 8:30 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, & 11:00 AM



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Town Hall To Build On Successful Retreat

by Wendy McMullen

Following what were described as “highly successful” strategic planning retreat sessions, Sanibel City Council is planning a follow-up town hall charrette type meeting seeking input from residents on strategic goals for the city.

The town hall will take place on Wednesday, May 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. at The Community House. It will begin with some brief comments about the results of the strategic planning sessions held on March 12 and 16 at the Sanibel Recreation Center. The planning sessions included 42 people from all walks of life seated around seven tables.

The end result of that two-day retreat was a list of values and strategic goals for Sanibel, and it is envisioned that these will each be the focus of tables set up around the room inviting public input.

A charrette is a type of participatory planning process that assembles stakeholders, in this case Sanibel residents, to create a design and implementation plan for a specific project. It differs from a traditional community consultation process in that it is design based and involves as many stakeholders as possible working collaboratively in a short, intensive design meeting. Participants usually appreciate the charrette format because it boosts creativity and they see quick results.

“I really like the format we’re talking about for this next event,” said resident Barbara Joy Cooley in public comment. “It’s like an information fair with topical tables, so people who aren’t exactly sure what this area is about can go up to that table and learn about it and make more effective comments.”

The town hall meeting on May 11 will differ from the previous town hall held on February 15 in that there will be no spoken public comment at the actual meeting. Residents will be

given an opportunity to participate, in writing, however.

The results of the two-day retreat run by Dr. Robert “Bob” Lee, of Local Government Advisors, Inc. were summarized in a draft report. The strategic goals outlined in the report were to promote the following:

Environmental Stewardship – Lead in environmental stewardship by engaging regional, state and federal agencies to advocate on issues that impact local sustainability of water quality, land conservation, waste minimization and renewable energy, and provide recurring education on the Sanibel Plan.

2. Infrastructure – Focus on quality-of-life infrastructure needs that sustain and protect the island’s roads, pathways, bridges, sewer and stormwater systems, and coastal resiliency initiatives.

3. Fiscal Health – Maintain and promote fiscal health of the city by providing efficient and transparent service delivery, and maintain appropriate financial policies that ensure appropriate fund balances and diverse revenue streams.

4. Customer Service – Manage human capital to achieve customer-oriented service delivery by investing in technology, maintaining competitive pay and benefits for city employees, adjusting organizational structures as needed, and supporting feasible workforce housing initiatives.

5. Public Safety – Sustain the safety and wellbeing of residence and visitors of the island by ensuring that resources are provided for law enforcement and disaster preparedness, and that recreation activities are designed for a diverse multi-generational citizenry.

The 42 participants also summarized the core values in the acronym CARES: Conservation, Adaptation, Respect, Ethics and Stewardship.

“This was really good, important work that we undertook,” observed Vice Mayor Richard Johnson. “So one thing that is really important to me is that we don’t allow this to languish.”

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

Peril Of Flood Review Moves To First Hearing

by Wendy McMullen

Discussion of the state mandated “peril of flood” evaluation and appraisal review of the Sanibel Plan, to ensure that no inappropriate or unsafe redevelopment takes place in coastal areas, resulted in no substantive changes, planner Kim Ruiz told Sanibel City Council at the April 5 meeting.

“Much of what is proposed is what we are already doing,” Ruiz told city council.

She reported that the Sanibel Plan already addresses many of the requirements because development on the island is based on ecological zones. She added that the Sanibel Vision Statement already establishes values placing the sanctuary quality of the island above development and tourism.

In addition, the city joined the National Flood Insurance Program, which demanded elevation of almost all new development, after 1979 and began participating in the Federal Emergency Management Agency Community Rating System in 1990.

Other elements incorporated into the Sanibel Plan were a repetitive loss plan in 1992, a floodplain management plan in 1995, with an update in 2017, and a draft watershed management plan that was completed in June 2018, but has not yet been adopted by the city. The state’s model flood ordinance was also adapted by the city to ensure that the Florida building code was incorporated into the Sanibel Code.

Planning staff focused the evaluation and appraisal report on fulfilling the six state mandated provisions due to time constraints. The report was then presented to the planning commission, which voted to transmit the report to city council on March 22. Planning staff recommended that the city approve the evaluation and appraisal report and send it to the Florida Department of Community Affairs.

However, some city council

members were uncomfortable with being presented with a report at what Councilman John Henshaw described as “the eleventh hour.” The Florida Legislature’s “peril of flood” mandate came out seven years ago in 2015, and Henshaw suggested that the report and its implications should have been discussed by the planning commission and city council much earlier.

Councilman Mike Miller was also concerned that the report did not include policies that ensured residents are able to access and occupy their homes within a reasonable period of time following flood events. He suggested adding language that ensured service providers had sufficient redundancy and resilience to provide essential services quickly to residents.

These included the ensuring that the Sanibel sewer system could be quickly operational, working with Lee County to achieve greater resiliency for the Sanibel Causeway, coordinating with Lee County Electric Cooperative to improve transmission lines and distribution lines, and coordinating with Island Water Association to ensure it could promptly provide potable water. He also suggested coordination with cell and Internet service providers to ensure continuous service.

Members of the Committee of the Islands also expressed concerns about the ability of existing infrastructure to withstand major floods.

Henshaw moved to approve that the report regarding the peril of flood appraisal be brought back for the first reading at next month’s city council meeting on May 3. The motion was approved unanimously.*

Passover Seder

At Yam Temple of the Islands is offering a virtual Passover Seder and Shabbat service from the temple on Friday, April 15 at 5 p.m. Rabbi Stephen Fuchs and Cantor Murray Simon will lead the service, which will be available via Zoom. The service will conclude at approximately 6:15 p.m. For more information, email batyamsanibel@gmail.com.*

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Island Seniors Activities At The Rec Center

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

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

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

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

Euchre – Fridays, 1 p.m.

Hot Dog Lunch – Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to noon, Osprey Room. Cost is \$3 per person; chips and drink included.

Cinco de Mayo Taco Fiesta – Thursday, May 5, 11 a.m. in the Osprey Room. Call by Tuesday, April 19 to reserve your space, 472-0345, ask for Jessica or Dave.

Balance-Core and Strength Aerobics – This slower paced class encompasses targeted moves to improve balance and strengthen the core. This class is perfect for the older active adult looking to improve their mobility. Class time is from 10 to 11 a.m. Island Seniors member fee is \$4.10; no charge for recreation center members but you must show valid member card to participate. Visitor fees available. Space is limited. Call Dave or Jessica at 472-0345 for more information.

Chair Yoga and Gentle Yoga – Chair Yoga is offered on Tuesdays from 1:30

to 2:30 p.m. and Gentle Yoga is offered on Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Island Seniors member fee is \$4.10; no charge for recreation center members but you must show valid member card to participate. Visitor fees available. Space is limited. Call Dave or Jessica at 472-0345 for more information.

Baker Museum in Naples – Friday, May 6, departure at 10 a.m. for a guided tour through three exhibits at the Baker Museum in Naples. Cost is \$10 per person for current Island Seniors members and \$15 per non-member. Viewings include contemporary art inspired by the masters, transcendental art and a historical major league baseball artifacts display from a private collection. Lunch is optional and paid on an individual basis. Transportation is not included. Proof of full vaccination is required for entry to the museum with matching valid ID. Sign up by Tuesday, April 19 by calling Dave or Jessica at 472-0345.

The Page Turners book discussion for Tuesday, May 10 at 2:30 p.m. is *Carnegie's Maid* by Marie Benedict. Meetings are held in the Osprey Room. To be added to the email list, contact Louise Fitzgerald at sanibelbum22@gmail.com or call 304-707-1701.

Kayaking is offered on Tuesdays, weather permitting, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sign ups are in person only at the recreation center. Cost is \$5 for members and \$20 for non-members. Basic skill level required. Restrictions apply. Call 472-0345 for details.

Leisure Lunchers – Thursday, May 19 at 11:30 a.m., Thistle Lodge at Casa Ybel Resort. Due to limited seating, advance sign up is requested by Tuesday, April 19. Contact Deborah Butler at 314-4554 or deborahbutler@comcast.net or call Jessica or Dave at 472-0345. Diners will order and pay individually.

Sunset Social Apetizer Potluck – Thursday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m. Bring an appetizer to share and your

favorite chair. Drinks and dessert will be provided. As you exit Sanibel, the group will be situated on the left side of the first causeway island. Look for the table with the Island Seniors banner. Sign up by Tuesday, April 19 with Dave or Jessica at 472-0345

The Sanibel Recreation Center is located at 3880 Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, visit www.center4life.com or call 472-0345.✱

Virtual Cooking Class Next Thursday

The monthly Cooking with Leslie virtual cooking class sponsored by FISH of SanCap will take place on Thursday, April 21 beginning at 2 p.m. via Zoom.

Tomato pie is the featured main dish, finished with sweet scones for dessert. “We look forward to learning how to make this savory summertime classic and hope many will join us for our popular cooking class,” said Jennifer Pagano, FISH education and outreach director.

Leslie Adams, chef and owner of Sanibel Captiva Catering/Catering by Leslie Adams, will lead the lesson in cooking class format. “I feel closer to the community by participating in Leslie’s cooking classes,” said a frequent

class participant. “It’s so nice having new recipes to go back to. My favorites include the date and cheese appetizer (from December’s class) and the kale salad (from February’s class).”

Adams was trained at the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco and expanded her techniques by attending classes at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris. She has been a caterer and private chef on Sanibel and Captiva islands for 14 years.

FISH will provide a list of ingredients for the lesson to registered participants. If needed, FISH can assist in purchasing ingredients and deliver on the day of the class. Indicate if ingredients and delivery are needed with your RSVP.

Register no later than Monday, April 18 by contacting the FISH Walk-In-Center at 472-4775. Once registered, FISH will provide the Zoom link and meeting ID number for access.

For more information about FISH programs and services, contact Maria Espinoza, executive director, or visit www.fishofsancap.org.✱



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Attractive evergreen foliage and bright berries made Sprenger's asparagus-fern a popular ornamental decades ago. Now it's best to remove it from the landscape.

photos by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart
**Sprenger's
Asparagus-Fern**

by Gerri Reaves

Sometimes the best thing you can do in your yard isn't to plant something new but to banish a species known to be harmful to Florida's natural environment. Many such invasives were intentionally introduced to Florida decades ago as pretty ornamentals. However, now we realize the harm they have caused to

natural areas. The worst of these are labeled category-I invasive species, so called because of "the documented ecological damage" they have caused by "invading and disrupting native plant communities in Florida," according to the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. Sprenger's asparagus-fern (*Asparagus aethiopicus*) is a category-1 invasive typically found in older home landscapes, as well as abandoned places. It was used as a groundcover and container plant, as well as greenery in floral arrangements. Sprenger's is a member of the asparagus family and a relative of the



This highly invasive species is usually found in older or abandoned landscapes

garden asparagus that shows up on dinner tables. It is also called emerald fern, although it is not a fern at all. The extensive fibrous and tuberous root system make this species a formidable invader. Roots can spread far from the parent plant. In addition, the plant can regrow from even a small bit of root. Tolerance of shade, drought and poor soil are other points on its side. It can take a sprawling or scrambling form, with arching stems as long as six feet and dense foliage more than two feet high. The foliage might look soft and

fern-like, but handle this plant's wiry spiny stems only while wearing gloves. The flat needle-like leaves are only a millimeter or two long and evergreen. Inflorescences of fragrant bisexual white or pale pink flowers appear in spring and summer, followed by small bright red berries containing one to three seeds. Plant experts advise the removal of this plant before seeds are produced, for birds like the berries and disperse the seeds. Be sure to remove all traces of roots and dispose of them properly so they do

continued on page 14

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Wind From The South



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

I cannot think of a week when the saying, “wind from the south, fish open their mouth,” was more accurate. Over the past week, despite awful tides, south wind gave us high water and kept the water moving. Most days, we dealt with breezy if not straight up windy and, while hiding from the rough bay, we had great success catching snook trout and redfish. All in all, the week’s fishing was outstanding until yet another cold front crashed the party.

Fast forward to the weekend and strong northwest winds totally changed everything. Falling water temperatures and still little to no tide created 16 hours of low water. Returning to the same areas that had been so consistent all week long, we noticed the fish had simply moved or just totally shut down. Suddenly, I went from great days of fishing to all that can be described as a grind. I texted other guides, hoping for someone to throw me a bone, but everyone was in the same shape of little to no action.

After a few crazy windy days and small craft advisories, big high pressure did little to help the situation. As things



These Indiana brothers put a beat down on the redfish before the cold front. Both caught their first slams with Capt. Matt Mitchell. photos provided

calmed down, the bite slowly improved. It just never fails, an April cold front quickly reminds us it’s not quite spring. Cold fronts drop our water temperatures after what has been weeks of amazing fishing. With a warm forecast for the week, things will rebound back in just a few days.

March and April are consistently our windiest months of the year. Dealing with the wind is OK as long as it stays out of the same direction. Once it starts changing up and blowing differently,



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.✪

City Requires New Applications For Hurricane Passes

The City of Sanibel is continuing to issue the 2021 series hurricane passes. All residents, property owners and businesses will need to apply for a new 2021 series pass. Applications for the new passes are available on the Police Department/ Emergency Management section of the website, www.mysanibel.com, and at the Sanibel Police Department, located at 800 Dunlop Road, open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On the new residential pass, the first two digits of the serial number are the property zone number. The new commercial pass identifies the business type.

Used after an evacuation, the passes aid security, speed reentry and provide traffic control at a time when traffic must be kept to a minimum.

Complete a pre-formatted family emergency plan. The plan is available on the county website at www.leeecoc.com. The *All Hazards Guide* plus other information and tips are available on the county website as well. Visit www.mysanibel.com/emergency-management for more information.✪

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From page 12

Plant Smart

not regenerate. Then, replace this invader with native species that bring birds, butterflies and pollinators to your yard. And be sure not to use gardening and lawn chemicals lest you kill the critters you want to welcome.

In its native environment, Sprenger’s has medicinal and culinary uses, but in Florida, it has worn out its welcome.

Sources: *Florida, My Eden* by Frederic B. Stresau; <http://floranorthamerica.org>; and <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✪

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Dave Doane with his co-worker Jesse

CROW Case Of The Week:

Loggerhead Shrike Nestlings



by Bob Petcher

The loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) is called a songbird with a raptor's habits. It can literally kill and carry an animal as big as itself. It transports large prey within its feet and smaller

victims in its beak.

Shrikes are so-called due to their hooked bills and penchant for impaling prey on thorns or barbed wire to be eaten later. The adults are gray birds with black masks that have white marks on their black wings to go with their white chest and neck area. The modifier loggerhead is in reference to its extremely large head in relation to its body.

At CROW, two loggerhead shrike nestlings were admitted to CROW from Lehigh Acres after falling from their nest. Since they were suspected to be younger than fledgling age, it does not appear to be a flight training accident.

"One of them could have potentially been at the fledging stage, but more likely they fell from wind or lack of parental care," said Becca Wehmeier, CROW hospital training coordinator. "Both were



Patients #22-1332 and #22-1333 resting

photo by Dr. Laura Kellow

still considered to be nestlings, so they shouldn't have been ready to leave the nest quite yet."

"As the birds grow, they begin to move around the nest more and become more active. This can result in accidental falls," added Dr. Charlotte Cournoyer, CROW veterinary intern. "Other causes could include weather, nest location and predator attacks."

Upon examination, the birds were extremely dehydrated and were wheezing.

"We were concerned for pneumonia and one shrike had harsh lung sounds," said Wehmeier. "The smaller shrike with the harsh lung sounds was placed on medication to resolve the possible

pneumonia."

"Causes of wheezing in baby birds who present to our clinic could include trauma to the lungs, bacterial pneumonia, or aspiration secondary to being fed in an inappropriate way by the public," added Dr. Cournoyer.

The patients are continually being monitored.

"When a stethoscope was used to listen to the patient's lungs, there was concern for harsh breathing noises, which is concerning for pneumonia," said Dr. Cournoyer. "We are monitoring by listening to the airways regularly, watching breathing and ensuring normal attitude and feeding behavior."

Wehmeier stated the patients are receiving supportive care, including "proper feeding and diet" as well as "monitoring for hydration."

"Shrikes are carnivorous so they have a different diet than most songbirds which includes crickets, mouse pieces and worms," she said. "The shrikes received subcutaneous fluids to maintain hydration."

The young patients may need to stay at the clinic until they are able to fend for themselves.

"They (at least) would need to stay long enough for medications to be discontinued," said Wehmeier. "It is dependent on the certain situation whether they can be re-nested again, but in the event they cannot be re-nested, then they will stay in our care and will be raised according to protocol until they have fledged and can pass flight tests and eat on their own."

Since it is baby bird season, there have been quite a few reported nest fallings.

"If someone finds a bird they believe to be injured or orphaned, please call our hospital hotline at 472-3644 ext. 222 to make sure the bird can't be re-nested," said Wehmeier.

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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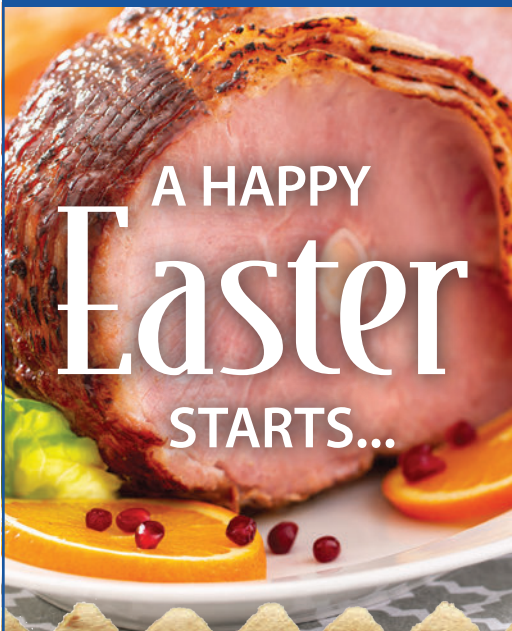
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CROW Calendar Of Events

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) has specialty programs available for residents and visitors. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$7 for ages 4 to 12, and no charge for ages 3 and under.

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

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

Wildlife Walk With Rehabilitators and Staff – Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m., and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 and includes general admission.

Wildlife walks are the best opportunity for visitors to get an in-depth look into the inner workings of the hospital and the treatment process. This program is not recommended for children under the age of 13. Advance registration is required. To register, call 472-3644 ext. 229 or email reservations@crowclinic.org. Payment is required to complete reservation.

Daily Presentation Schedule

Friday, April 15, 11 a.m., Why Animals Come to CROW – Do you



wonder how and why animals become patients at CROW? 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.

Friday, April 15, 2 p.m., Species Profile: American Alligators – This species was once on the road to extinction. With the help of conservation efforts over the last few decades, alligators have made a drastic comeback. This program discusses how this iconic species contributes to the overall health of Florida's ecosystems and economy. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Saturday, April 16, 11 a.m., Surgery and Triage – After rescue teams have located and restrained injured or ill animals, and transported them to CROW, they are assessed and admitted to the hospital. This talk will discuss all that goes on when assessing new patients at the wildlife hospital.

Monday, April 18, 11 a.m., Patient Profiles: Armadillos – Nine-banded armadillos are found throughout the U.S. and Southwest Florida, although they weren't always here. This presentation will explore how armadillos came to the

U.S., what benefits they provide for the ecosystem, and the adaptations they have. Learn more about this misunderstood mammal and their relationship to humans.

Monday, April 18, 2 p.m., Patient Profiles: Virginia Opossums – Virginia opossums are the only marsupial native to the United States. They are highly adaptable and a unique member of Florida's wildlife. Learn how they play an important role in the function of a healthy ecosystem. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Tuesday, April 19, 11 a.m., Species Profile: American Alligators – This species was once on the road to extinction. With the help of conservation efforts over the last few decades, alligators have made a drastic comeback. This program discusses how this iconic species contributes to the overall health of Florida's ecosystems and economy. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Tuesday, April 19, 2 p.m., Species Profile: Bats – Bats are the only true flying mammals on earth and their many physical adaptations provide them with unique advantages in the ecosystem. This presentation discusses the common bat species found around Florida, general characteristics of bats, why bats come into CROW, and their benefits to both the ecosystem and humans.

Tuesday, April 19, 4:15 p.m., Speaker Series Presents: The Effects of Water Mismanagement (in person or virtual via Zoom) – presented by Capt. Chris Wittman, co-founder and

director of outreach and engagement for Captains For Clean Water. To register virtually, visit www.crowclinic.org/ambassadors/2022-speaker-series.

Wednesday, April 20, 11 a.m., Wildlife Rescue 101 – Animals communicate in a variety of ways and, at times, indicate their need for human assistance. This program covers wildlife rescue assessment as well as handling techniques. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Wednesday, April 20, 2 p.m., Snakes of Southwest Florida – Florida is home to 46 species of native snakes, only six of which are venomous. Most species are harmless to humans and form vital links in the ecosystem. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Thursday, April 21, 11 a.m. Patient Profiles: Owls of Southwest Florida – Raptors prey on other animals in the wild to survive. This presentation discusses the unique adaptations of the native and migratory raptors of Florida, specifically the five species of nocturnal hunters known as owls. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Thursday, April 21, 2 p.m., Enrichment – When animals are recovering, they need certain things to feel at home. Whether it's a branch, hamster wheel, hollowed-out tree or pool of ice, patients need things to keep them occupied and enhance their skills. This presentation discusses what the team does for enrichment and why this is important. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.✱

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Last Call For Beer In The Bushes



Big Sam's Funky Nation is the featured band

photos provided

For the first time, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) will hold Beer in the Bushes at Bailey Homestead Preserve. "We're feeling really good about having our 2022 Beer in the Bushes at a new SCCF venue," said SCCF Events Manager Jeff Siwicke. "It's a special year for us to celebrate after a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic and we want it to have a very memorable and festive feel."

The "Silver Soiree" will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 6 to 10 p.m., one week before the full moon. Guests are encouraged to wear their finest, shiniest outfits. Tickets are \$90 in advance at www.beerinthebushes.com or \$100 at the door.

Two bands from New Orleans will provide the entertainment, six food trucks will be on site, and craft beer from regional breweries will be plentiful. Tickets include food and beverage options along with beer and wine tastings.

"Get your tickets soon so you don't miss the fun," Siwicke said.

Headlining the 9th annual Beer in the Bushes is Big Sam's Funky Nation,

a funk and rock band with elements of traditional jazz, contemporary jazz, acid jazz, dance, hard rock and punk.

"It's really dynamic good-time music that is interactive and engaging," said Siwicke.

Opening act Shamarr Allen and the Underdawgs is known for Allen's energetic rapport with audiences and his unconventional approach to playing trumpet.

Tickets also include Trux Bux for a diverse array of food trucks featuring fare curated by Sanibel's Catering by Leslie Adams.

Bailey Homestead Preserve, located at 1300 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel, features nine acres of land accessible to the public. The pioneering Bailey family built a home on the property in the 1890s. It is now home to SCCF's Native Landscapes & Garden Center, as well as the Shipley Trail, and another 16 acres of wildlife preserve.

"We have plenty of room for our Food Truck Alley, craft breweries, dancing and for quality time with friends – new and old," Siwicke said.✱



Aerial view of Bailey Homestead Preserve



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Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum
Shell Of The Week

The Florida Moon Snail



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

N*atica tedbayeri* (Rehder, 1986) reaches about 34 mm (1.34 inch), and has a globose shell with thin walls, umbilicus

and callus white, umbilicus deep, filled in part by the white, plug-like callus. Color similar to the Colorful Atlantic *Natica*, but differing by the “simpler” color pattern of wide tan bands on a white background. The bands are bordered by lines of interrupted dark-brown or orange segments. Shell sculpture lacking, except for faint growth lines. Read more about mollusks and their shells at <https://shellmuseum.org/shell-guide> and <https://shellmuseum.org/blog>.

Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is a natural history museum, and the only accredited museum in the United States with a primary focus on shells and mollusks. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 395-2233 or visit www.sanibelmuseum.org.✧



The Florida Moon Snail, *Natica tedbayeri*, from off Cocoa Beach, Florida

photo by Patricia A. Starkey

Rare shell find? Stop by our office at 1640 Periwinkle Way so we can take your photo for publication, or email press@islandsunnews.com.

American Legion Post 123

American Legion Post 123 is having a fundraiser this Sunday, April 10 to help cover costs of maintenance and repairs. The barbecue begins at noon and live music goes from 3 to 6 p.m.



A ham dinner will be served on Easter Sunday and the egg hunt begins at 1 p.m.

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

The first Thursday of the month is Open Mic Night from 6 to 9 p.m. Residents and visitors are invited to play.

The 8-Ball Pool League banquet will be held on Monday, April 11 at 5 p.m.

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

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

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

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photos provided

American Hibiscus Society Show And Sale

The James E. Hendry Chapter of the American Hibiscus Society will hold its 69th annual Hibiscus Show and Plant Sale at First Assembly of God on Saturday, April 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. This free hibiscus show is the oldest, largest and best attended hibiscus show in Florida, attracting several hundred people annually. This continuing show is made possible through community sponsors, such as Craters & Freighters, Driftwood Garden Center, Edison National Bank, Dr. Jacob Goldberger, Hooters, Donna Sublett,

**Blackberry Jam**

Tim's Tree Service and Wilford & Lee.

"The event will showcase hundreds of different hybrid hibiscus blooms in a variety of colors and forms which will be judged in several different classes including amateur, collector, open collector, commercial, miniatures and seedlings," said Jack Bernatz, society president. In addition, more than 500 hybrid hibiscus plants will be for sale. Free raffle tickets will be given away every 30 minutes for gift certificates from various businesses.

The hibiscus is a delicate and beautiful plant that grows abundantly in Florida's tropical climate. The following hybrid plants will be for sale at this show: A Mother's Dream, Avery's Candy Corn, Black Jack, Blackberry Jam, Bold Idea, Cajun Paprika, Cajun

**Creole Lady**

Rising Moon, Cherry Blue, Cherry Snow, Chocolate Dream, Cocoa Royale, Connie Roush, Creole Belle, Creole Lady, Crossfire, Crown Jellyfish, Dark Princess, Fiesta del Sol, Fifi, Green Elf, In Love Again, Indigo Sunset, Joan of Arc, Kilimanjaro, Lanais Paradise, Love Pat, Magnifique, Mango Moon, Me Oh My Oh, Midnight Tryst, Mis Vale Del Rio, Nectar Pink, Orange Capitolio, Pink Pride of Hankins, Purple Magic, Quasar, Randy Henson's Legacy, Red Capitolio, Rim of Fire, Rum Rascal, Simple Pleasures, Stolen Kiss, T. Orange Rainbow, T. Star Queen Nebula, T. Taiui, T. Ursula's Gift, Tamibon, Voodoo Queen, Whipped Cream and White Pride of Hankins.

Members of the society who are experts in the care and growing of

**Joan of Arc**

hibiscus will be available to provide advice. There will also be several senior American Hibiscus Society judges available to respond to questions regarding how the blooms are judged. There is no charge or admission on parking.

Anyone who desires to learn more about how to grow, graft and hybridize this attractive tropical flowering plant can do so by joining the James E. Hendry Chapter, AHS at the show. The group holds meetings at The Berne Davis Botanical Garden, 2166 Virginia Avenue in Fort Myers, on the second Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

First Assembly of God is located at 4701 Summerlin Road in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.hendrychapterhibiscus.com.✱

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Endemic Rice Rat Remains Elusive

Sanibel Island rice rats live in an extremely limited and, unfortunately, shrinking habitat on Sanibel. Historically, Sanibel was mostly an open canopy ridge and swale system with sparse trees throughout, except along the Sanibel River corridor and the mangrove forests on the bayside. This endemic rat species prefers open canopy cordgrass marshes that must be maintained by fire to keep them from transitioning to a closed canopy buttonwood forest with interspersed shrubby vegetation, such as saltbush and wax myrtle.

When the largest study on Sanibel ended in 2018, the rice rats occurred in limited numbers in an area generally bounded by Tarpon Bay Road, West Gulf Drive and Legion Curve. The rice rat lives on lands owned by Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF), J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge and the City of Sanibel, and SCCF's management practices in these freshwater wetlands are primarily based on the conservation of this endemic subspecies. By managing wetlands for rice rats, many native wildlife species such as wading birds, amphibians and macroinvertebrates benefit from these same open canopy wetlands.

Sanibel Island rice rats are not to be confused with the more common native rat, the hispid cotton rat, which is omnivorous but primarily eats vegetation. These are the rats of dry, open grasslands.



Sanibel Island rice rat photo provided

The other rat on Sanibel – the one that gives rats a bad name – is the black rat, typically referred to as a roof rat or palm rat. These non-native rats arrived in ships from Great Britain to the New World in colonial days and have been a nuisance ever since. These are the rats on the island that enter homes and businesses and cause damage. Unfortunately, hispid cotton rats and Sanibel Island rice rats get lumped into the nuisance category even though they are not the rats causing issues.

Unlike the other rat species on the island, the rice rat favors a carnivorous diet, although it also consumes spartina bakeri and other wetland plants. Predators of the Sanibel Island rice rat are raptors such as red-shouldered hawks and owls, as well as bobcats.✧

Top 10 Books On The Island

- 1. *The Wedding Veil* by Kristy Woodson Harvey
 - 2. *The Guncle* by Steven Rowley
 - 3. *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly
 - 4. *Eternal* by Lisa Scottoline
 - 5. *The Tobacco Wives* by Adele Myers
 - 6. *The Club* by Ellery Lloyd
 - 7. *Hidden Genius* by Marie Benedict
 - 8. *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn
 - 9. *Summer on the Island* by Brenda Novak
 - 10. *Honor* by Thrity Umrigar
- Courtesy MacIntosh Books and Paper.✧

Orchid Society Meeting Monday

The Sanibel Captiva Orchid Society will hold a meeting on Monday, April 18 at 1:30 p.m. The topic will be the Orchid Detective, presented by Susan Crosley of Quazzi's Orchid Rescue.

Crosley worked as a horticulturist at Forever Green Ace Hardware on Sanibel. She has been working this past year with Bob Meyer, who recently purchased Exotic Orchids, now known as Bob's Botanicals in Fort Myers. Crosley has been helping Meyer rehabilitate and identify orchids left in the greenhouse by the previous owners.

The meeting will take place at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church,

located at 2304 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. Orchids will be for sale and there will be a plant raffle. There is no charge during the spring season for past Sanibel Captiva Orchid Society members. Guest fee is \$5. For more information, visit www.sancaporchid.org.✧

Shell Found



Karen Dickson photo provided

Karen Dickson found a junonia at Turner Beach on April 9 during heavy northwest winds. She did not realize how precious it was until the people around her explained its rarity and congratulated her on the find. She plans on framing her exquisite find to enjoy its beauty for years to come.✧

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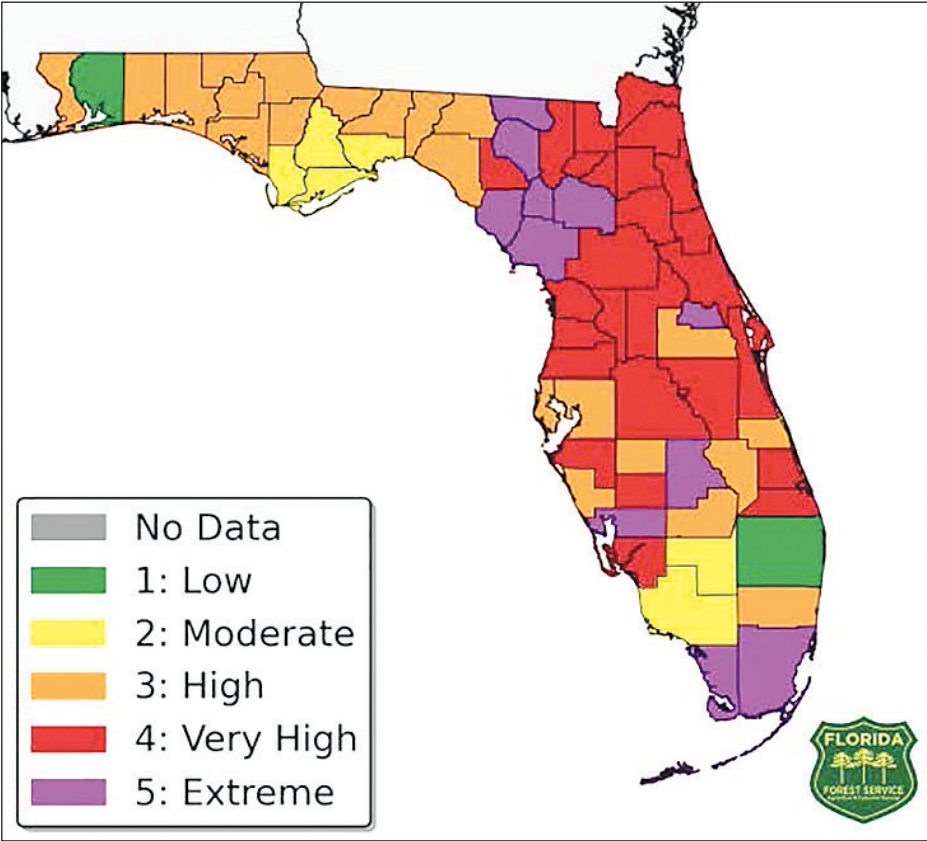
Are You Firewise?

Fire is a natural process in Florida. Historically, natural fires ignited by lightning occurred most often in the spring and summer. However, fires are possible in any month of the year. Lee County is currently experiencing moderate to severe drought conditions and on Sanibel, the lush vegetation is quickly becoming tinder-dry, therefore increasing the risk of wildfires.

Fortunately, the City of Sanibel and its partners have an active wildfire reduction program where dried vegetation or “fuel” is reduced through the practice of prescribed burning. This tool reduces fuel loads by purposely burning dead vegetation through controlled burning techniques to minimize fuel buildup before it becomes a problem. This lessens the intensity of a wildfire if it were to occur.

The rainy season is right around the corner, but so is the height of the Florida fire season. Historically, native Florida habitats are prone to wildfires ignited by lightning produced by the first few weeks of afternoon storms in the late spring to early summer, before naturally wet areas are inundated. It is important to protect and prepare your yard and home from fire as you would for hurricanes.

- Some key things to do:
- Clean dead vegetative debris from around your yard.
 - Keep pine straw away from the foundation of your house. Consider



The Florida Forest Service's (FFS) Fire Danger Index (FDI) as of May 8, 2017. The FFS uses the FDI for estimating the potential for fire to start and require suppression action on any given day. It is updated once every day at 4:45 p.m. eastern standard time. image provided

- mulch as an alternative.
- Do not allow palms or palmetto to grow close to your house and keep dry fronds trimmed.

- Use plants that are fire resistant when planting within 30 feet of the house.
- Remove all debris, such as dead leaves and twigs, from gutters.

- Prune trees so that the lowest branches are six to 10 feet from the ground.
- Consider shade trees that will create a canopy and increase humidity around the house.
- Remove any “ladder fuels,” such as vines, that may carry ground fires upward.
- Do not allow large groups of highly flammable plants, such as saw palmetto and wax myrtle, to grow near decks or overhangs.
- Keep at least 30 feet of defensible space (either turf grass or fire resistant plants) between your home and dense vegetation.
- Fire resistant plants have a high moisture content. Also, plants that are low growing, compact and require less water and maintenance are good choices. Typically, their stems and leaves are not resinous.

- Some examples of trees, shrubs and groundcovers that are firewise choices include:
 - Trees: Jamaica dogwood (*Piscidia piscipula*), sweet bay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), oaks (*Quercus spp.*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), sea grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), satin leaf (*Chrysophyllum oliviforme*), sweet acacia (*Acacia farnesiana*), green buttonwood (*Conocarpus erectus*), myrsine (*Rapanea punctata*) and Florida privet (*Forestiera segregate*).
 - Shrubs: American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), coontie (*Zamia*)

continued on page 24

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Students Gain Marine Science Experience

In early March, students from Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) gained experiential knowledge of the ecology of the marine environment through a collaborative environmental education outreach program offered by Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) and Captiva Cruises. Students from the college's environmental science class, Environmental Club and Sustainability Club boarded Captiva Cruises' motor catamaran vessel *Playtime* with SCCF's Sanibel Sea School marine science educators Joey Garofano and Brianna Machuga and Captiva Cruises educator Richard Finkel for a day of exploration and discovery.

The cultural and natural history of Pine Island Sound was discussed on the cruise with emphasis given to its importance as an estuary, the mangrove- and seagrass-based food webs, and SCCF's Marine Lab and Coastal Watch efforts to monitor and restore these vital habitats. Students explored the shoreline and surf zone of Cayo Costa State Park, which encompasses 90 percent of La Costa Island, a barrier island approximately nine miles long and bordered by Captiva Pass to the south and Boca Grande Pass on its northern end.

Garofano and Machuga led the



Brianna Machuga speaking to students about the history of Pine Island Sound and local marine environment

photo provided

students along the beach for a close-up look at life along the coast. "The field trip was a delightful, enlightening experience," one student remarked. "The educators were extremely informative and I was astounded by the animals I

saw." Another student called the Cayo Costa visit "an enriching experience. I have never learned so much about Florida nature and ocean life on a single day at the beach. Amazing!"

While enroute back to McCarthy's

Marina on Captiva, Finkel facilitated the use of a trawling net, which has been permitted by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission by Captiva Cruises for scientific and educational observations. Students were fascinated with the marine life they were able to observe before releasing sea creatures back in the shallow waters. Animals documented included striped burr puffer fish, southern puffer fish, trigger fish, pin fish, spider crabs and blue crabs.

Student Emily Paraboschi summed up the field trip by saying, "This was a great opportunity that I learned a lot from and got to do things I have never done before. When we pulled up creatures from the seabed, I got to see animals that I have ever seen – my favorite being the striped burr fish because puffer fish are amazing creatures. This trip was a remarkable experience I couldn't be more grateful for."

This environmental education outreach program also goes by the moniker "No Child Left on Shore." It was initiated in 2010 by Paul McCarthy, founder of Captiva Cruises, and Finkel. Today, it is an educational partnership between SCCF and Captiva Cruises to enable local youth to form a deeper connection to their coastal surroundings and to spark their curiosity.

If you are interested in learning more about this environmental outreach project or if you would like to sponsor a field trip, contact Richard Finkel at Captiva Cruises at 472-5300 or richardfinkel@captivacruises.com.*

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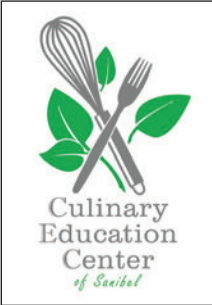
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The Community House

The Beauty Of Star Fruit



by Chef John Wolff

Star fruit, or carambola, is a unique tropical fruit we can grow here in central Florida. It may not survive very cold winters, but it will come back from the roots if it is killed by frost. The star-shaped fruit has waxy skin, crisp flesh and taste like pineapple, pear and plum. The whole fruit is edible, even the seeds and is often eaten raw, but it can be stewed, pickled, juiced or used as a garnish. The tree is native to Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. It is also grown in China, the South Pacific, Caribbean and southern parts of the United States. There are two types of star fruit; a small variety that is very tart and used in savory recipes and larger type that is sweet and used

in jams, chutneys, desserts and fruit drinks. The fruit is relatively new to North and South America. It was first introduced to Florida in 1887 but is viewed as a decorative fruit and has not been planted on a wide scale. Star fruit was introduced to the Caribbean islands, Central America, South America and Hawaii in 1935. When most people think of Florida's fruit industry, they think of citrus. Florida produces about 44 percent of the country's citrus and dominates the juice industry. But there have been hard times for Florida citrus lately, which has led to an examination of the Sunshine State's other fruit crops. Star fruit isn't particularly popular in the U.S., but it's an easily shipped, easy-to-like fruit with plenty of nutritional benefits, including especially high levels of vitamin C, just like an orange. It can be juiced, eaten fresh, or even fermented into wine, which means that it's vital to figure out a way to grow the crop sustainably. The south Florida climate isn't quite the perfect environment for the star fruit either. The ecosystem here is slightly cooler and drier than the star fruit finds in its native Southeast Asia, however, research is being done at Florida universities to determine a viable path for sustainable growth of this underrated exotic fruit. Florida International University attempted to grow star fruit with great success using cover crops to help with soil health. Carambolas range in size from three

to five inches in length and up to 3.5 inches wide. Beneath the thin and waxy skin is a yellow flesh that is juicy and crisp when fully ripe. Immature fruits are sour. When cut lengthwise into slices, the resulting shape is that of a star, hence the name. Most fruits will contain up to 12 tiny, flat brown seeds.

Ripe fruits will have a honeyed, tropical aroma, as well as sweet to tart tasting notes of plum and grape. Here is a fun recipe you can try if you want to find out more about the star fruit and taste the different flavor profiles of the two different types.

Pork Cutlets With Star Fruit

- 1 tbsp. butter
- 4 pork cutlets, 4 oz. each
- Salt and pepper
- 1 star fruit, sliced
- ½ cup beef broth (or chicken)
- ½ cup orange juice
- 1 cup whipping cream
- 2 tbsp. fresh coriander, chopped
- 2 tsp. orange peel
- Preheat oven to 200°F
- Melt butter in frying pan over medium heat. Cook pork about 4 to 5 minutes per side. Season with salt and pepper.
- Transfer cutlets to a serving dish and set aside in oven.
- In same pan, cook star fruit 1

minute per side. Set aside in oven. Add broth, orange juice and cream to saucepan; cook until reduced by half. Add coriander and orange peel. Continue cooking 2 to 3 minutes. Spoon sauce over meat and garnish with star fruit. Serve with rice and zucchini, if desired.

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

Firewise

From page 22

pumila), and wild coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*). Groundcovers: native ferns, mimosa (*Mimosa strigillosa*) and gaillardia (*Gaillardia pulchella*). Avoid: wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*), gallberry (*Ilex glabra*), yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*), red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), and sabal palm (*Sabal palmetto*). To learn more about how to be a firewise community, visit the Florida Department of Agriculture

and Consumer Services website at <http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/For-Communities/Firewise-Communities>. The vegetation committee hosts free plant walks from November through April at city hall to view and discuss the use of native plants. All are welcome. To view pictures of the invasive exotic plants "worst of the worst" or the city's *The Alien Invasion* brochure, visit the city's website at www.mysanibel.com/Departments/Natural-Resources/Vegetation-Information/Exotic-Vegetation/Other-Invasive-Exotic-Vegetation or contact the city's natural resources department at 472-3700.*



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Chocolate Dipped Strawberries

10-15 strawberries

10 ounces melting chocolate

Various toppings such as cookie crumbs, powdered peanut butter, sprinkles

Prepare berries by rinsing and drying thoroughly. Chocolate will not stick to berries with excess moisture on them. Place onto a parchment-lined sheet pan and set aside.

Prepare a double boiler to melt the chocolate by filling a small pot ¼ full of tap water. Bring to a boil then reduce to a simmer and place a heat safe bowl (usually indicated on the bottom of the bowl) on top of the pot. The bowl should fit snug over top but do not allow the bowl to touch the water, as it can burn the chocolate. Using a double boiler gently melts the chocolate by steam rather than direct heat. Place the chocolate in the bowl and stir every minute or two. Depending on the level of heat this can take up to 10 minutes. When melted and smooth, carefully lift the bowl from the pot using hot pads to handle the bowl. Steam will



Chocolate Dipped Florida Strawberries

escape when lifting the bowl and has the potential to burn, use caution at this step!

Pour the chocolate into a container deep enough to fully submerge the

berries. Using the green leaves as a holding spot, dip the berry into the chocolate and allow excess to drip off. Place onto the parchment-lined sheet pan. If you are using toppings now is the

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

time to apply them, the chocolate will dry very quickly at this stage. Continue process until all berries are coated. Store in air-tight container, in the refrigerator, for 2-3 days.*

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Make Your Yard Gopher Tortoise Friendly

Even though Gopher Tortoise Day on April 10 has passed, you can still make your yard gopher tortoise friendly, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

With more than half of Florida land in private ownership, the FWC recognizes the critical importance of private property owners in wildlife and habitat conservation. The FWC's Gopher Tortoise Friendly Yard Recognition program honors Florida's private landowners for their positive impact on gopher tortoise conservation.

"The Gopher Tortoise Friendly Yard Recognition program helps recognize and encourage landowners to enhance habitat and help protect gopher tortoises and their burrows," said Katherine Richardson, FWC's Gopher Tortoise Program coordinator. "These kinds of efforts also benefit many other species that use tortoise burrows for shelter, foraging and nesting habitat."

Landowners participating in the Gopher Tortoise Friendly Yard Recognition program receive a sign for their property and a certificate. Any Florida property owner can take steps to make their land gopher tortoise friendly. To apply for recognition, visit www.myfwc.com/gophertortoise.

Gopher Tortoise Day was adopted



Gopher tortoises are a protected species

in 2016 as a day of appreciation for native tortoises and to encourage people to help protect this threatened species. To learn more about Gopher Tortoise Day and its celebrations, visit www.gophertortoisedayfl.com. On the website, you can find a resolution template for your community to adopt Gopher Tortoise Day, a guide to living



photo provided

with gopher tortoises and ideas for youth activities, such as gopher tortoise coloring pages and the Gopher Tortoise Field Trip Guide.

There are additional ways you can help gopher tortoises:

Report sightings of gopher tortoises or notify the FWC of a sick, injured or dead tortoise;

Consider volunteering with the FWC on gopher tortoise conservation efforts. For more information on volunteering with the FWC or to request an application, email gtevents@myfwc.com;

If you see a gopher tortoise crossing a road and it is safe for you to do so, you may pick it up and place it in a safe location along the roadside in the direction it was heading. Never put tortoises in water, as gopher tortoises can't swim like turtles can;

Remember that gopher tortoises are a protected species. It is illegal to harm a gopher tortoise, its eggs or its burrow, to relocate without a permit, or to possess a tortoise, its eggs, or any parts of a tortoise. Report wildlife violations to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 1-888-404-3922.

Spring is an active time for gopher tortoises and many native wildlife species. Learn more by visiting www.myfwc.com/news and clicking on "Spring Wildlife News."*

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Detoured Dreams Lead To New Directions



by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

What's it like to live your dream, then follow another one on a new journey?

Rachel Pierce knows all about that. The former broadcaster turned successful artist changed her life, letting a passion lead her in a new direction. She opened her own art gallery, Rachel Pierce Gallery, on Sanibel earlier this year.

A native of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin (yes, the same place as Jack Dawson from the movie *Titanic*), Pierce had a choice of many different paths from an early age.

"I was always into art. I was the kid who always entered art contests," Pierce said while sitting in a cozy corner of her gallery, surrounded by brilliant hued sea creatures swimming on canvases. As a teenager, one of her many activities included competing in – and winning – beauty pageants. Winning a major title gave her a full ride college scholarship to Oklahoma City University, where she also had a scholarship to play on the



Rachel Pierce sits on one of her painted chairs outside her new art gallery
photos by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

university golf team.

"Everyone encouraged me to go to art school, but I knew it was such a tough industry, so I decided to do journalism, which is probably tougher," she said with a laugh.

After graduating in three years, she landed a job as a TV anchor at a station in Wisconsin. It was a dream come true.

She met her husband Matt while working with the BBC in Washington, DC. The couple married and started a family, and Pierce found herself juggling babies and a successful broadcasting



Rachel Pierce Gallery features many items including clothing and gift items

career that took her to jobs in several different Midwest markets.

Her parents had a home in Southwest Florida and an opportunity arose to work at a station in Fort Myers. Having help with child care made the decision to move easier, especially when the job turned out to be the morning anchor at NBC2.

"It was the job I wanted, because if I worked mornings, I could be home with my kids all day," Pierce said.


She and her husband fell in love with Florida, and built a large home in Estero. While life was hectic, especially after

having more children, she still had time to paint. A side gig selling her artwork gained traction, demanding more of her time.

Then came the COVID-19 pandemic. Schools closed and Pierce found herself as the mother of four children under age 10, shuffling homeschooling and waking up in the middle of the night to be at work before dawn.

With her husband traveling for work, she realized something had to give. She decided to quit her job and see where her artistic passion would lead.


"The day I quit my job, I asked myself,



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“What am I doing?” This is a dream job. There are waiting lists for people to do this.

“But then I got up the next morning with my kids, got them off to school, and said, ‘This is amazing. This is how everybody else lives?’ I just felt like I got my life back.”

Pierce loved visiting Sanibel and Captiva, and much of her art focuses on the natural beauty of the islands. Her whimsical sealife paintings of turtles, octopus, manatees and other wildlife have become her trademark.

She was approached to get more involved with the island community, and became the artist in residence for the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

Her business had grown to the point of needing its own space, so she and her husband looked for something on Sanibel. They were thrilled to find and buy a building on Periwinkle Way which now houses her gallery.

The family even moved to Sanibel, and three of the children are enrolled at The Sanibel School.

“So we’re all in on Sanibel now,” she said. “The island has been really good to us.”

While Rachel Pierce Gallery opened in January, portions of the building are under renovation to make way for the artist’s first official working studio, as well as living quarters upstairs.

The storefront offers a bright and roomy area to showcase Pierce’s work, which features not only bold and colorful original sealife paintings, but also



Sea turtles are among Rachel Pierce’s favorite things to paint

her artwork featured on housewares, furniture, gift items like wine stoppers, coasters, ornaments and clothing. Custom painted items are also available.

“I don’t want to be a stuffy art gallery. I want this to be welcoming,” she explained. “I want people to come in here, bring their kids and enjoy the space.”

Pierce enjoys working on commission, like painting murals in private homes. She will even come to a customer’s home for consultation, or let people take pieces home to see how something works.

It’s all part of sharing her passion,



Clothing and shoes can be custom painted by the artist

and letting her talent lead her to new discoveries.

“After all this, people ask me what my message is, and the message is, you can change up your life anytime you want. You can go for your dream anytime you want. And you can have more than one dream,” she said.

“The TV thing, that was a dream, and I loved my time in it. But this other dream came about, and it was scary. And maybe I jumped in before I had all my ducks in a row, but if you wait, it will never happen.

Do it. It’s never too late.”

Rachel Pierce Gallery, located at 1571 Periwinkle Way, is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and closed on Sunday. Visit www.byrachelpierce.com for more information.

Kathy Kurtz Ferrari is a journalist who splits her time between Captiva and the Boston area. If you have any questions or comments, email Kathy.islandsunnews@gmail.com. ✨



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Book Review

Wish You Were Here



by Di Saggau
Jodi Picoult's latest novel *Wish You Were Here* has been sold to Netflix for adaptation as a feature film. Having just finished the book, I will look forward to the film. The

main character, Diana O'Toole, is an art specialist at Sotheby's. She and her boyfriend, Finn, are preparing to go on vacation to the Galapagos, where she expects him to propose. Finn is a surgical resident who has to cancel his plans because the hospital needs him to help fight a mysterious new virus that's spreading through the city. He tells her to go without him, so they don't lose money on the non-refundable trip. So, she sets out alone.

Diana arrives at Isabela Island in the Galapagos and she's told that it's about to shut down. With one ferry back to the mainland, she decides to stay. She quickly finds out that was a mistake because her hotel has closed, and there's not even reliable WiFi. A kind older woman offers her a place to stay and, after settling in, she goes looking

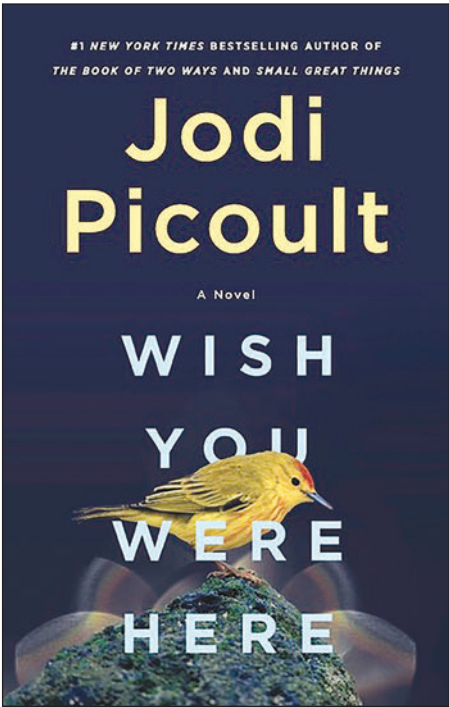


image provided

for food. Just as she is about to grab an apple from a giant tortoise breeding center, a handsome stranger named Gabriel stops her. He shouts "cuidado," Spanish for careful, just in time. The apple is poisonous.

Gabriel has a teenage daughter named Beatriz, and the three eventually bond as they explore the island, grateful that they are away from the grim situation in New York that Finn

describes in his emails.

Diana's relationship with Gabriel becomes serious, and she finds herself examining her relationship with Finn and the choices she has made in life. Things get awkward between Diana and Gabriel so both meet at a beach to start fresh as friends. But when Diana dives into the water, she's pulled out to sea, leading to a dramatic scene in which she fights the current and feels her

lungs start to burst. She is fighting for air, and then she wakes up.

To say more at this point would go beyond a spoiler alert. Talk about a major twist. Ms. Picoult, I was not expecting this. You really pulled one on me. I did not expect the ending either. What a great read. *Wish You Were Here* is a powerful story of resilience and how someone can evolve into someone completely different.*

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley,
My fifth-grade daughter is having trouble remembering everything she needs to do for school. Is there something I can do to help her? It's

upsetting to see her struggling.
Jennifer S, Fort Myers

Jennifer

As children move through school, the demands on their working memory increase significantly. Working memory refers to the ability to keep in mind the information you need to complete a task and such an issue may affect kids both in and out of school. There are things parents can do and strategies kids can learn that can help them succeed, even if it doesn't come automatically to them.

First, get to know your child's limits. If you've given your child what feels like a reasonable set of instructions, but she keeps getting off track, it's a good sign that she's reached the limits of her working memory. Observing your child carefully to when and how often she starts to lose the thread will help you get a clearer picture of her capacity to hold information. Once you know where her limits lie, you'll be able to use that as a guide for giving effective directions. For example, if you notice your child has a hard time following multi-step directions, try breaking tasks down into smaller, more manageable steps, not a string of instructions.

Schoolwork that seems simple on the surface may require a lot of working memory. With kids trying to tackle too much at once, it often translates to sloppy or unfinished work and creates anxiety. Breaking homework assignments or study sessions down into manageable chunks will help your child avoid cognitive overload, work more effectively and develop good study habits. Figuring out the mini-tasks of an assignment will help you and your child break the assignment down into manageable parts.

Helping kids get into routines is essential for helping with working memory. "Routines are the goal," said Linda Hecker, MEd, the lead education specialist at the Landmark College Institute for Research and Training. "When we're able to automate a task, it

no longer requires working memory to function. Remembering what to do next takes up cognitive workspace and that's not necessary."

Here are some of Ms. Hecker's tips for creating routines:

Be consistent – Routines should be just that... routine. Find a pattern that works and stick with it.

Be patient – It takes time to build effective habits, and distractions happen. Don't expect kids to get it right away. Offering reminders and praising your child's efforts to stay on course will help them stick with the routine until it sinks in.

Use verbal and visual cues – Help kids internalize routines by adding verbal and visual backups.

For example, visual clues could be: Drawing a picture to illustrate how an essay is structured, writing out the order of steps for a math problem, using post-it notes as reminders around the house.

Verbal cues could range from saying each task out loud before he does it, "Step 3, put my homework in my backpack for tomorrow..." to making up a song or poem to help him commit important information — like commonly used math formulas or the names of all 50 states — to long-term memory.

Not everything needs to be remembered. Tools like to-do lists, organizers and reminders free up vital "workspace" and make it easier for kids to remember important information. "Externalizing organizational tasks takes some of the pressure off working memory," said Hecker. "I encourage my students to write everything down — assignments, ideas, anything they want to remember later." But remember, organizational tools only work if they're used. Help your child find the tools that work for them and make the tools part of their routine.

For now, the best way to help kids with working memory issues is to focus on creating and practicing healthy, effective coping strategies. Creating routines, using tools and offering support will help your child develop strategies she'll be able to fall back on for the rest of her life.

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

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Poetry Corner

by Michael Rice

The Man Eating Coontie

There once was a man from Sanibel
Who suddenly was not feeling well.
He was a committed vegetarian,
But definitely not Calusarian.
The roots he did not soak
And with Coontie that is no joke.

Michael Rice is a member of Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Weeds 'n' Seeds group. He volunteers at SCCF, "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge and in Lee County doing bird walks, plant walks and trail maintenance.

This poem is about the native plant coontie, all parts of which are toxic, but the native peoples soaked the roots and the water soluble poisons leached out. The roots were then ground into edible flour. The poem resembles a limerick, but instead of five lines with a rhyming scheme of AA, BB, A, this one has six lines, AA, BB, CC.

Rice's poems are intended to be funny, trivial, fanciful and mischievous, but make a point that can help walkers remember the plant.

Your comments and contributions to this feature are welcome at press@islandsunnews.com.

Shell Found



Madeline Stewart photo provided

Madeline Stewart, 12, from Alexandria, Virginia found this huge horse conch in front of Shell Island Beach Club on the east end of Sanibel.✱

Blood Drive On Sanibel

There will be a blood drive on Friday, April 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. For more information, visit www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.✱

Shell Found



Elise Han with the junonia photos provided



Abby Han with the junonia

The Han family found a junonia at the beach on February 25 near Pointe Santo de Sanibel. Amanda Han said, "We were in ankle-deep water searching for shells when we found it buried under some other shells." The Han family is from Nashville, Tennessee. They were visiting family in Fort Myers.✱



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Landmark Store Undergoes Renovation



by Allison
Havill Todd

Island residents and visitors can expect to see exciting changes in a multi-generation family owned business that has served customers for 123 years.

Bailey's General Store, originally founded by Francis P. Bailey Sr. in 1899 as a modest packing company, will be undergoing a major renovation both inside and out for the first time in over 40 years.

The Johnson family, current third and fourth generation owner/operators, will be seeing a 10-year vision come to life. While patrons will be able to enjoy expanded products and services in an updated space, the Johnsons are committed to honoring their history and heritage by retaining an old island style in the remodeling plans. The family also wants to assure their loyal customers that the store will not be closed at any point during this process. Rather, the work will be scheduled in stages so as not to disrupt any flow of service.

Islanders can expect to see visible



Vision of the new exterior for Bailey's General Store

exterior changes as early as the summer of this year with a target date for final completion sometime during 2023. The renovation includes the addition of another 6,000 square feet of space as well as expanded parking to better serve customers' needs. When asked what

inspired this vision for improvement, fourth generation owner/operator Dane Johnson (who is acting as owner's agent for the renovation project) shared that most grocery stores undergo a remodeling project every 10 to 20 years, and it's been over 40 years since Bailey's has made any significant changes. Calli Johnson, also a fourth generation owner/operator of the family business, reiterated, "We pride ourselves in the quality of services and products we provide, and our exterior and interior environments need to reflect that dedication." The Johnsons emphasized that their commitment to being a family-oriented, welcoming store has not wavered, but they recognize that it's time to raise the bar to be more relevant to

today's consumer.

Although the store will go through a transition both inside and out, the family is dedicated to preserving its island charm and character by incorporating old Florida materials in the new design. Some of the new features that customers can look forward to include an expanded prepared foods and fresh delicatessen section, an improved selection of alternative dietary products and healthy choice options, gourmet cheese offerings, and a dedicated fine wines section for customer events and in store tastings.

The new interior design will also include indoor seating at Moon's Café where patrons can enjoy a meal or a

continued on page 36



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From page 1

SanCap Cares



Al Hanser and Dr. Larry Antonucci

photos provided

pediatric critical care ambulance, and were fully funded by SanCap Cares donors in 2021.

Other Give to Give items this year were jet ventilators that save vulnerable NICU babies from respiratory failure, mini Goldendoodle plush toys (modeled after Dorian, the hospital dog), and child advocacy packages that aim to keep children safe and out of the hospital.

Following dinner, guests heard from the Golisano leadership team, who showcased the progress the hospital has made in addressing the many pediatric

healthcare needs in the community over the past two decades.

Guests rose to the occasion to give from their hearts in support of the All About the Brain initiative before the microphones were turned over to The Modern Gentlemen. The Los Angeles-based quartet performed an hour-long set of hits, while guests danced and sang along.

Planning is already under way for the 2023 SanCap Cares Island Celebration. For more information on sponsorships and other giving opportunities, visit www.sancapcares.org.



Honorary Chairs Scot and Melissa Congress



From left, Dave and Ellen Raisbeck with Brenda and Marty Harriy



From left, Cathy Breen, Geri Campbell, Anne Walter, Mary Jo Boler, Jack Campbell and Ray McCormack



From left, Mark Marinello, Doug and Sherry Gentry, and Julie Marinello



Dorian, the hospital dog, greeting guests



Jerry Mihaly and Heather Deiner reviewing the Give to Give silent auction items



Debbie and Mike Szymanczyk



Lena and Dr. Steve Brown



From left, Sally and Al Hanser with their daughter, Elise Kingman



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Karen and Terry Larkin filling out their Gift from the Heart

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Shell Crafting

Single-Strand Coquina

by Anne Joffe

This is the simple way to do a necklace using pairs of coquinas. They can be assorted colors, or just one color. It will not matter. They can also be short or long; either looks great.

- Materials:
- 21 coquina pairs makes a 15½” necklace (use all same size shells, or graduate sizes, small to larger)
 - Fishing line
 - Clasp
 - Pearls (2mm with holes, 2mm gold or silver balls)
 - Tacky glue
- Directions:

Lay out the design by size, small at the neck and graduating in size to larger in front, then make sure the necklace is equal on both sides (mirror image). Cut a piece of fishing line about 40 inches long and fold in half. Tie off the ends onto your clasp on one side (see directions for tying off.) Remember to string using the two ends of your fishing line, and begin by stringing a pearl or ball by the clasp end. Lay the two pieces of the line side by side and glue on the first small pair of shells. Lay the pair over the doubled line, add small amount of glue to the outer edges, and then snap shut. It does not matter which way the shell faces, just



Single-Strand Coquina

photo by Anne Joffe

make sure that from now on, they all face the same way. Thread the two ends through another pearl or bead. Continue gluing shell pairs and adding pearls or beads. Let the shells and glue dry before going too far. Continue doing this all the way around. Let dry completely. Tie off the other end of the clasp. Anne Joffe has owned She Sells Sea Shells on Sanibel since 1976. She is the author of ShellCrafting Vol. 1

and Vol. 2. Joffe judges Artistic and Scientific categories at shell shows throughout the country, leads shelling trips worldwide, and is a public speaker on shells and shellcraft.✽

Shipley Trail Walking Tours

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) offers guided walking tours of Shipley Trail at Bailey Homestead Preserve on Thursdays at 10 a.m. Learn about the the natural history of Sanibel and SCCF’s mission of conserving land and preserving water quality. Hear about pioneer life on Sanibel from the perspective of the Bailey family and interesting aspects of nature that you see along the trail. The tour concludes with a look at one of the oldest rooms of the 1895 Bailey homestead. No registration is required; a \$5 donation is suggested. Bailey Homestead Preserve is located at 1300 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel.✽

From page 32

Renovation

beverage in a comfortable, air-conditioned space. And fear not! The hardware section is not going away but will be incorporated into the main body of the store, striving to offer anything one could possibly need while on the island. Plans also include a more transparent layout in

the fresh foods section where shoppers can view the preparation process of Bailey’s hand-crafted foods. On the exterior, islanders will notice an updated façade with gazebo style architectural features, a covered drive through pick-up/drop off zone, additional outdoor seating and tasteful landscaping. The family has donated over two acres of land behind the building to be used for the construction of affordable workforce housing for those who are employed by island businesses. Calli Johnson shared, “We want people who work on the islands to feel like they are part of our community.” While customers will see many positive changes over the course of the next year, Bailey’s is committed to remaining true to its roots. Richard Johnson, third generation owner/operator, expressed, “Bailey’s General Store has always been a collective gathering spot on the island, and we plan to continue to foster and grow that sense of community. We want this to be a place where you run into your friends and neighbors.” He went on to add, “We want people to feel so welcome that they don’t ever need to leave the island while they are here!” Allison Havill Todd lives on Sanibel Island with her husband and two rescue dogs. She is an avid dog lover, business coach and active outdoor enthusiast. When she’s not out with her dogs, you will see her running, cycling, paddling around the island. Follow her on @thedoggie mom and facebook.com/thedoggie mom.✽

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New Works By Noted Painters At Tribby Arts Center

Three new exhibitions are open to the public at Tribby Arts Center of Shell Point Retirement Community. In the first-floor Shell Point Gallery, The Style of Place: New Works by Suzanne Bennett, Keith Johnson, and Peter Zell is on display through Saturday April 30. These three prominent painters in Southwest Florida painted new works of the same ten locations to demonstrate the role that artistic style plays in the creative process.

Each artist used a different medium to create her or his body of works: Bennett creating with pastels, Johnson with watercolors and Zell with oils. Locations include Blind Pass and Bowditch beaches, downtown Fort Myers, Edison and Ford Winter Estates, Sanibel Historical Village, the riverfront of Fort Myers, Sanibel Lighthouse, shrimp boats of San Carlos Island, Times Square on Fort Myers Beach, and a path in The Woodlands neighborhood of Shell Point.

"Even though each series of three works depicts the same location, the differences demonstrated in the paintings are marked and engaging," said Marge Lee, exhibition resident curator.

To complement the display, digital photographs taken by members of the Shell Point Photo Club are displayed on the gallery's three-screen video wall.



From left, Keith Johnson, Suzanne Bennett and Peter Zell photo provided

Bennett and Johnson, both of Fort Myers, and Zell, of Sanibel, are all accomplished, award-winning artists.

A graduate of New York's Parsons School of Design, Bennett worked as a graphic designer and art director in the city and in New Jersey before retiring to Shell Point in 2010. She is a member of the Pastel Society of Southwest Florida, displays at Hirdie Girdie Gallery on Sanibel, is on the board of the Sanibel Captiva Art League, and was a grand



Shrimp boats by Peter Zell

prize winner in the Tribby Arts Center inaugural exhibition series.

Johnson has been a working artist most of his life, first as a photographer and now as a fine arts painter. He is a member of the Florida Watercolor Society and Florida Suncoast Watercolor Society. His work is in collections throughout the country and offered in several galleries in Southwest Florida.

Zell practiced law in California before

moving to Sanibel 17 years ago. Winner of numerous awards for his distinctive paintings done in oils, he has exhibited at the Butler Institute of American Art in Ohio. A past-president of the Sanibel Captiva Art League, Zell exhibits his work at Two Islands Gallery in Captiva.

Also on view in the Legacy and Overlook galleries are Wood 'N Things: Works by the Shell Point Wood Shop and

continued on page 38

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CIHS board members, from left, Molly Downing, Tom Libonate and Mary Jane Vinson welcome people to the final event of the season photos by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

What's 'Cap'-enings

A Glance At Captiva Events

by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

Although it is still very busy with lots of visitors on Captiva, the official social season is coming to an end. The Captiva Civic Association (CCA) held its final Porch and Patio Series party on April 11, sponsored



Ginny Reiss and Blair Wyatt Berry

by Bank of the Islands. And with the theme Silver and Gold, it was a glittering send off. Those who attended were dressed in sparkling attire and enjoyed refreshments and musical entertainment.

The art of Paul Arsenault, Shorelines...Paintings and Stories of Captiva and Her Island Neighbors, remains on display at the CCA until April 18. The gallery is open various hours throughout the week. Check with the CCA for details.

There's one more chance to enjoy what has become one of the most popular events on the CCA's calendar

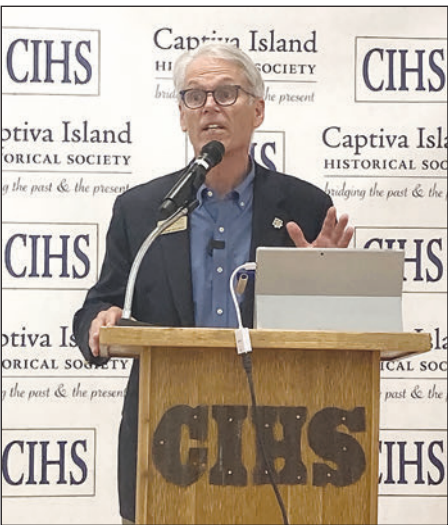


The audience listens to the historical society's lecture, held at the Captiva Civic Association

this season. An encore session of the Perfectly Paired educational wine and food tasting series takes place on Monday, April 18 from 5 to 7 p.m. Calli Johnson from Bailey's, along with wine distributor Tyler Haas, will again teach assembled enthusiasts some more fun oenology (that's a fancy word for the science of wine) – this time focusing on hard to find wines, accompanied by food that goes well with them. The cost is \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. Contact the CCA at 472-2111 to purchase tickets. Visit www.ccacaptiva.org for more information on all events.

A good sized crowd filled the CCA building on April 4 for the finale of the Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) season, as Richard Goldman, president and chief executive officer of St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra and the Beaches Visitor and Convention Bureau, shared information on the fascinating history of St. Augustine. As the oldest continuously occupied European settlement in America, St. Augustine's history is really a snapshot of American history. The lecture was a warmup for the historical society's planned trip to the area January 6 through 12, 2023. Visit the historical society's website at www.captivaishistorical.org for more information and to sign up for next year's trip.

The Captiva Memorial Library hosted a special guest on April 13, as



Richard Goldman presented interesting facts about the history of St. Augustine during a recent event

award-winning maritime author Robert Macomber discussed his book *Code of Honor*, part of his Honor series on U.S. Naval history. In a PowerPoint presentation, Macomber shared what went into researching the story of the 1904-05 Russo-Japanese War, clearly a topic that has a resonating impact in today's world.

And that's "What's Cap-ening" on Captiva this week!

Kathy Kurtz Ferrari is a journalist who splits her time between Captiva and the Boston area. Email Kathy.islandsunnews@gmail.com.

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From page 37

Tribby Arts Center

Expressing Our Artistry: Works by the Shell Point Photo Club. "Both exhibitions display the depth and scope of work produced by these talented members of Shell Point's large arts community," said Lee.

Guests can also visit the Tribby Café, the outdoor sculpture garden and

Serendipity, the Tribby gift shop.

Shell Point Gallery, Tribby Café and Serendipity are open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The Legacy and Overlook galleries are open during regular Tribby Arts Center hours, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Tribby Arts Center is located at 17281 On Par Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.tribbyartscenter.com or call 415-5667.

BIG ARTS Documentary Series

Museum Town

by Di Saggau

On Wednesday, April 20 at 3 p.m., the final film in BIG ARTS Critically Acclaimed Documentary Series will be shown in Christensen Performance Hall. *Museum Town* runs one hour and 16 minutes. After the film, I will lead a brief discussion with the audience.

Museum Town is a love-letter both to the people who live in North Adams, Massachusetts and to the outsiders who made it into one of the most unusual destinations in the country. Narrated by Meryl Streep, it has a charming likability in the way it connects the city's history to its present and future.

Sprague Electronics factory used to help manufacture parts for nuclear weapons. When they left the city, it looked like everything about it would dwindle and fade. But the '90s saw the reinvention of the space for modern art. The Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art was founded. The converted factory building is one of the largest centers for contemporary visual and performing arts in the United States.

Museum Town fully represents the unpredictability of life. No one who grew up in the manufacturing industry in North Adams could have guessed it would someday be the center of a

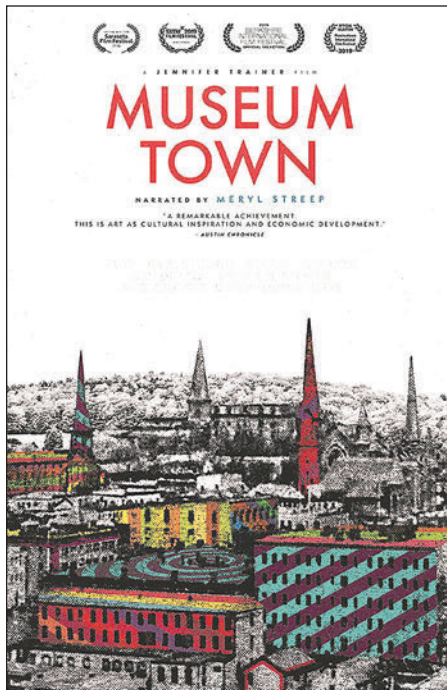


image provided

documentary about modern art.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online or at the box office. BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. For tickets, call 395-0900 or visit www.bigarts.org.

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

BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series

Dear Comrades!

by Di Saggau

The Monday Night Movie for April 18 is *Dear Comrades!*, a film from Russia about workers from a small industrial town who go on strike in 1962 when the Communist government raises food prices. Between 26 and 80 persons were killed for peacefully protesting hikes in food costs with no concurrent raises in wages. The event remains controversial in the non-Soviet, still-dysfunctional Russia of today, with a true reckoning complicated by factors such as the secret unmarked graves of some of the victims.

Lyuda is a middle-aged Communist who's having an affair with a local KGB operative, Longinov. She has a teenage daughter, Svetka. Like their comrades, they're annoyed by high prices and such but their status means they can cut ahead in certain lines. Svetka believes everything has gone to hell since Stalin died.

When the massacre starts, the party members are stuck trying to leave the factory. The whole confrontation is seen through Lyuda's eyes, crawling to safety even as one of her own gets struck by a stray bullet. She survives but can't find her daughter.

Dear Comrades! is a fascinating, irony-steeped portrait of a woman

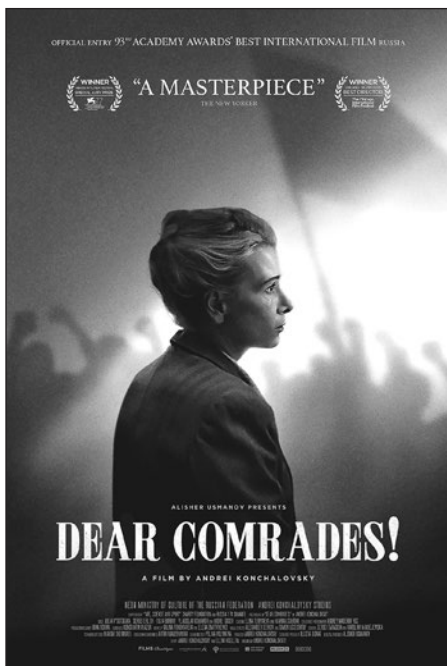


image provided

who's been hardened by her trauma, to the point that she embraces its architects.

The film runs 120 minutes and will be shown at 7 pm. in Christensen Performance Hall. After the film, Visnja and Stan Gembicki will lead a discussion. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online or at the box office.

BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. For tickets, call 395-0900 or visit www.bigarts.org.✱

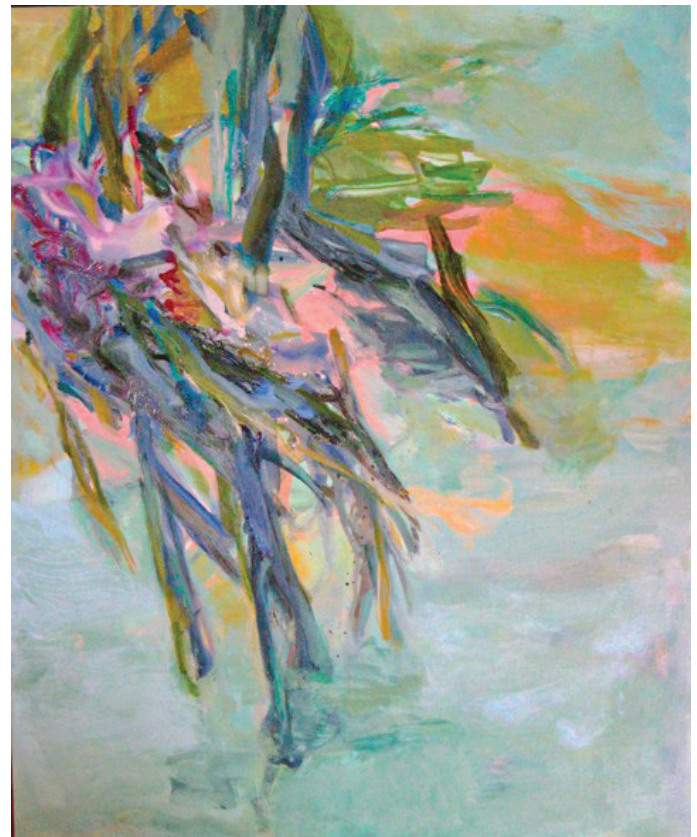


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Volunteers Committed To Conservation

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) honored more than 350 individuals for their dedication at a volunteer appreciation party at Bailey Homestead Preserve on April 1.



Red Anders

"You are the boots on the ground helping us carry out our missions and we could not do it without you," said SCCF CEO James Evans, referring to more than 11,900 hours logged at SCCF, Sanibel Sea School and Coastal Watch.

"This is a day to celebrate you and your hard work, blood, sweat and tears that you have contributed to protecting this special place, our ecosystems and our wildlife," said Evans. Volunteers were honored for their work through fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, including last summer's sea turtle season. Representing ages 6 to 90, a significant number of the volunteers donated time to more than one department at SCCF.

Red Anders earned top honors with 32 years of service, Marilyn Niehoff earned 30 years and Dean Skaugstad earned 28 years. Honored for 25 years of service were Tory and Bill Burch, Fay Carney, Gwenda Hielt-Clements, and Tom and Linda Uhler.

Coastal Watch had over 200 volunteers donate time last year. They assisted on several projects including habitat and shoreline restoration, beach cleanups and Adopt-a-Mangrove program.

The Coastal Watch project with the most volunteer engagement is the ongoing restoration of Benedict Key and Hemp Key in Pine Island Sound. On 38 restoration trips, more than 130 volunteers ventured out to the islands and planted 1,400 mangrove seedlings and 18,000 propagules. They also moved 90,000 pounds of shell to help promote oyster growth.

In addition, 500 red mangroves were adopted out to homes, where they were nourished for restoration planting. "Many SCCF volunteers stepped up to be 'mangrove mamas and propagule papas,'" said Evans. "Our mangroves are being



Marilyn Niehoff

photos provided

grown in 57 homes around Lee County and will be returned and planted at one of SCCF's many restoration sites next year."

A total of 85 sea turtle volunteers get up before sunrise from April 15 through October to patrol 18 miles of beach on Sanibel and Captiva for nesting activity. They identify new nests, screen nests to prevent predation, check each nest every day for issues that could impact development, and inventory nests after they hatch to document hatch success.

Sea turtle volunteers also contribute to conservation efforts by educating



From left, Linda Uhler, Gwenda Hielt-Clements and Tom Uhler

beachgoers and community members about the threats that sea turtles face and how they can help.

"With four teams out on the beach each morning, surveys can add up to a total of 20 hours cumulatively on a peak season day," said Evans. "The total number of volunteer hours in 2021 was 3,972 – the equivalent of 99 40-hour work weeks."

SCCF has 24 shorebird volunteers who help with monitoring nesting activity and fledging success from February through

August on Sanibel and North Captiva. Some of those volunteers also serve as year-round shorebird monitors who help SCCF Shorebird Biologist Audrey Albrecht with surveys and band resighting. They also help post nesting areas and maintain those postings, and education and outreach on the beach.

A group of 20 volunteers has helped to help protect and research the terrestrial and freshwater turtles on the island. They help survey, transport and identify turtles,

continued on page 12B



The Trailblazers: back, from left, Doug Born, Ed MacManus, Robert Fisher and Mark Calkin; front, from left, Merrill Frank, Sarah Frank, Mike Rice and John MacLennan (not pictured, George Blonar)



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Professor To Speak In Rome



Peter Blaze Corcoran, center, meeting with Cardinal Peter Turkson and Assisi Mayor Stefania Proietti at the Vatican in 2019
photo provided

submitted by Carly Grace Simon

Longtime island resident and Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) Professor Emeritus Peter Blaze Corcoran will deliver the keynote address – Youth, Education, and Ecology – at an upcoming conference in Rome. He will speak at the Salesian Pontifical University in late April on Radical Hope and Intergenerational Solidarity: Education in a Time of Climate and Theological Emergency.

Corcoran said, “It is an honor to work with youth activists, seminarians and academics to advance the commitments of the encyclical Laudato Si. I see Pope Francis as a great moral leader of our time. It is a privilege to lift up his concerns for the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.”

While in Rome, Corcoran will

also have meetings with the Vatican’s Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Since 2018, he has worked with this ministry of the Holy See on issues of the Pope’s concern, especially related to climate change and poverty alleviation.

Corcoran will also travel to Assisi where he has designed a project on environmental sustainability at Eremo delle Carceri. Corcoran works with the monks, the Franciscan leaders in Umbria and the mayor of Assisi, Stefania Proietti. FGCU’s UA Whitaker College of Engineering is also a partner in this historic preservation project.

Corcoran said, “We have begun to work on much-needed environmental improvements at this ancient monastery. It is a sacred place – the home of St. Francis – with 800 years of pilgrimages and ecological history.”✱

Kiwanis Golf Championship Next Saturday

The Kiwanis Club of Sanibel-Captiva will host its 2nd annual King Of The Rock Stroke Play Golf Championship at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club on Saturday, April 23. Participants will compete for recognition as one of the island’s top golfers. Registration is at 7:30 a.m., with shotgun start beginning at 9:30 a.m. The tournament will be structured with flights in men’s and women’s divisions and is open to all skill levels.

The men’s division will play a single round of individual gross stroke play, with the championship flight playing from the I tees, and other flights playing from the II and III tees. The women’s division will play a single round of individual net stroke, with all flights playing from the IV tees. Any player may request to compete in the championship flight, from which

the overall tournament champion will be named.

The entry fee of \$125 covers 18 holes of championship golf and range balls, and will be followed by lunch, during which prizes and trophies will be awarded to the top finishers. All proceeds will benefit the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club Scholarship Fund, providing educational assistance to island youth. Entry forms can be obtained at The Dunes Pro Shop or downloaded from the Kiwanis website at www.sanibelkiwanis.org. Checks for the entry fee should be made out to: Kiwanis Foundation.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$100; corporate sponsorships are available at \$1,000 and \$2,500 levels. Major sponsors include Cielo, Coastal Title, Doc Ford’s Rum Bar & Grille, Midland Trust, Pfeifer Realty Group, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank and Superior Title.

For more information, call Mike or Travis at The Dunes Pro Shop at 472-2545 or email mdopslaff@theinnsofsanibel.com.✱

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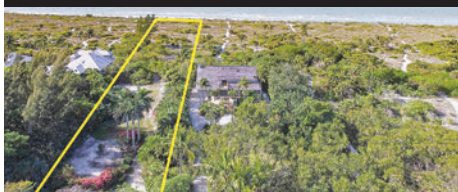
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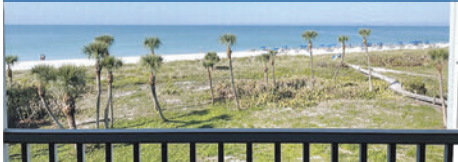
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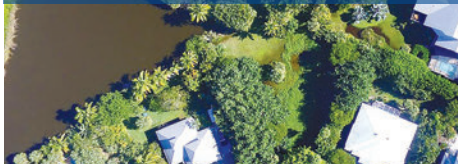
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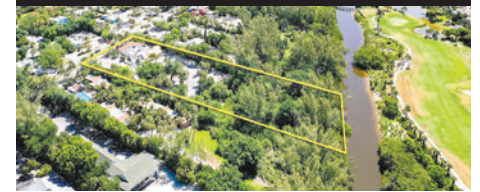
5089 JOEWOOD DR., SANIBEL
 • 2 Acres of Beachfront
 • Private & Secluded, Stunning Sunsets
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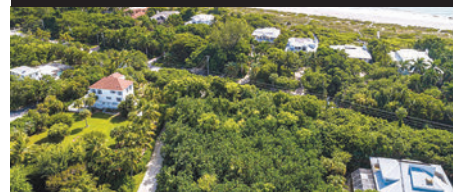
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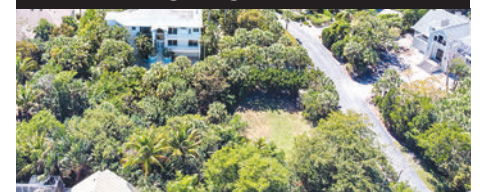
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HUSCHKA



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From left, Dr. Maynard Lutterman, Brad Byers and Paul Munns with Ed Ciskowski of The Sanibel Trust Company photo provided

Trust Company Sponsors Lunch

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company sponsored the luncheon for the Play for PINK golf tournament held at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club on March 26. The tournament is organized annually by The Dunes Women's Golf Association. Each year, the club hosts the tournament

to raise funds for breast cancer research. A full field of players from Sanibel, Captiva and Fort Myers participated. "The Dunes Women's Golf Association makes a tremendous effort to raise funds that will make a difference in women's health," said Al Hanser, founder and chairman of the trust company. "We thank all the players, volunteers, sponsors and The Dunes for making this tournament a priority."✱✱

Progressive Club Meeting Thursday

The Progressive Club of the Islands will hold a Zoom meeting on Thursday, April 21 at 4 p.m. featuring Orlando Gonzalez, executive director of Safeguarding American Values for Everyone (SAVE), and Brandon Hensler, executive director of Nova Southern University (NSU) Division of Public Relations, Marketing and Creative Services. Gonzalez will discuss the legislation and legal challenges for the LGBT community and Hensler will describe their impact on a family.

Prior to SAVE, Gonzalez was chief of staff and communications operations manager at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) in Washington, DC where he worked on increasing patient and stakeholders engagement in research funding. Throughout his career, Gonzalez has been involved with businesses and nonprofit organizations with an impact on both the local and national levels. Public service has always been an integral part of his life, focusing on organizations that promote human rights and the educational advancement of people of color and the LGBT community.

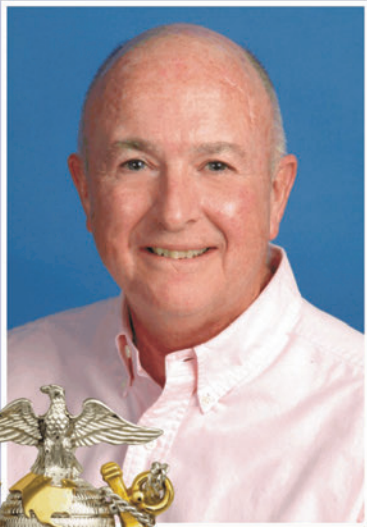
He has served on the board of trustees of the Point Foundation and has been an active alum of Georgetown University and of the National Urban Fellows Program. He received his master's degree in public administration with honors from

City University of New York's Austin W. Marx School of Public and International Affairs at Bernard Baruch College in New York City.

Hensler co-manages the planning and execution of the university's strategic branding and integrated marketing communications plan, and leads the public relations team; measures media initiatives and oversees the overall division budget. Prior to joining the university, he was director of communications for the ACLU of Florida, a statewide nonprofit legal/advocacy organization based in Miami, overseeing its media relations, public relations and advertising strategies, and served as ACLU's bilingual spokesperson.

Prior to the ACLU, Hensler worked for PR Newswire, a New York-based international news organization. He has served as a county commission-appointed board member on the Broward County Human Rights Board. He holds a master's degree in science from Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and a bachelor's degree in international studies/Latin American studies from Miami University (Ohio). He is past honoree of the *South Florida Business Journal*, accredited in public relations by the Universal Accreditation Board and honored by Leadership Broward Foundation.

To attend the meeting, email pcisancap@gmail.com to receive the link or watch online at www.facebook.com/pcisancap. For more information, visit <https://pcislands.org> or call 994-3175.✱



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Symphony Scores Grant For Music Education

The Southwest Florida Symphony was awarded a \$7,500 grant from the Suncoast Credit Union Foundation to support the symphony's education programs. Historically, Suncoast Credit Union has provided \$5,000 in funding for this program, but increased its funding for the 2022-23 season. While the symphony's educational programming includes youth orchestra ensembles, Discovery Club, Student Rush, Music for Life and Majors for Minors, Suncoast will be funding the annual Young People's Concert, which the Suncoast Foundation has helped to establish over the years.

The Young People's Concert is a field trip for fifth graders to participate in a full symphonic performance, and will serve a minimum of 1,000 youths in Southwest Florida. The programs are stimulating and interactive, and treat the students to the sounds of the Southwest Florida Symphony. It is often the only opportunity area students have to experience a live orchestral concert and, sometimes, in their lifetime. This program is a months-long endeavor, is in partnership with the School District of Lee County, and is offered at no cost to participating schools.

As a non-revenue generating event, the Southwest Florida Symphony relies

on the support of private donors and additional grant funds. The funds will be utilized to support the operational expenses associated with putting on the major event, including the musicians, conductor and guest artist wages; facility rental costs; teacher professional development costs; music library rentals; equipment; and student bussing. While this influential amount covers a significant portion of the costs, the symphony will continue to seek funding from various sources to ensure the continuation of programs that benefits thousands of Lee County school students.

Visiting most schools remains dependent on whether the Lee County School District will permit outside organizations on campus this year. As pandemic-related conditions permit, the Southwest Florida Symphony will find creative, yet safe, ways to provide all students with access to the highest caliber of music education opportunities.

"It feels good to know individuals are committed to investing in our community" said Emer Olivarez, symphony communications and grants manager. "We remain resilient and sound."

In addition to several new chair sponsors contributing to this initiative, many chair sponsors increased their gifts to the orchestra's Sustaining Partnership level this season. During the symphony's annual Chair Affair Gala this past March, the orchestra raised \$157,100 to date, exceeding its goal of \$100,000, with sponsorship commitments that have

continued to roll in throughout the month. To make donations to the Southwest Florida Symphony's Education Fund, visit www.swflso.org or call 418-1500 weekdays.✧

New SCCF Environmental Policy Director

Matt DePaolis started as new environmental policy director for Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) on March 28. He has taken on the role that opened up when James Evans became the non-profit's CEO in January.



Matt DePaolis

"I am thrilled to be a part of SCCF," said DePaolis. "Sanibel and Captiva are such unique islands, and I am excited to be able to return to Southwest Florida in a position to protect the natural places we all hold dear."

With a master's degree in marine biology and a juris doctorate with certificates in both environmental and ocean and coastal law from the University of Oregon, DePaolis discovered SCCF

while working as a coastal policy analyst fellow at University of Florida's Center for Coastal Solutions (CSS). He previously encountered the region's coastal habitats while surveying ghost crabs on Sanibel and researching coral DNA as an intern at Mote Marine Lab.

"I am very excited to have Matt join the SCCF family," said Evans. "His strong background in science and environmental law is exactly what we need to lead our policy team and advance policies needed to improve water quality and protect our natural resources."

At SCCF, DePaolis is eager to put his combined expertise in environmental law and marine biology to use at an organization that bases its policy and advocacy efforts on science. "As SCCF's environmental policy director, I am looking forward to fiercely advocating for clean water, healthy ecosystems and native wildlife," DePaolis said.

Prior to his role at CSS, DePaolis researched climate litigation and fisheries policy issues for the United Nations. While in Oregon, he served as a legal associate at Wild Salmon Center, evaluating regulations to protect water quality in streams, and worked as a fellow at Ocean and Coastal Law Center, recommending solutions to marine plastic pollution.

DePaolis will lead SCCF's environmental policy team: Leah Reidenbach, research and policy associate; Paul Julian, PhD, hydrologic modeler; and Holly Schwartz, policy associate.✧

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Challenge Grant To Help Clear Botanical Site

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) is seeking donors who want to support the organization's long-standing commitment to native plant conservation. Funding is needed to clear the way for the construction of the Ruth Brooks Propagation Facility at the Bailey Homestead Native Landscapes & Garden Center.

A \$5,000 challenge grant from Ruth and Bill Brooks is spearheading an effort to raise another \$10,000 to purchase a dump trailer. It will be used to haul away vegetation debris for off-site incineration by the SCCF habitat management team.

"Removal of debris is an ongoing effort by staff and volunteers throughout the demonstration gardens, the overall grounds, and Shipley Trail," said Jenny Evans, adult education director, who oversees the 28-acre Bailey Homestead Preserve. "With nine acres open to the public, the property requires this much-needed piece of equipment because we will no longer have a space to store the debris."

The new dump trailer will clear the footprint of the propagation facility at the back corner of the garden center parking lot. Over the summer, the new facility will be built, replacing the shade



Ruth and Bill Brooks

house at the former location of the garden center at 3333 Sanibel-Captiva Road. The Ruth Brooks Propagation Facility will centralize all garden center operations and allow the nurturing of the upcoming generation of native plants, particularly species that are not commercially grown, are rare, or at risk of extinction.

"Planting native supports wildlife habitat, the overall ecosystem, and

water quality by eliminating the need for pesticides, fertilizers and irrigation," said Evans.

SCCF has been a leader in native landscaping since the early 1970s. Through the new facility, the garden center also seeks to cultivate wild species of native plants that are suitable for home landscapes and cannot be found in other native plant nurseries.

The Ruth Brooks Propagation Facility

photo provided

honors one of SCCF's most dedicated advocates for the botanical world.

"We are so grateful that the Brooks are offering this extra incentive to complete the facility," Evans said. "We hope others will support the tremendous generosity they have shown."

To donate to fund the dump trailer, contact SCCF Development Director Cheryl Giattini at cgiattini@sccf.org or 822-6121.✱

Treatment Options For Addiction

An addict or alcoholic will be quick to jump into a short-term detox program to try and solve their addiction problem in three to seven days. Short-term medical detox programs will get you through the physical withdrawal as comfortably as possible, but that's all. Patients are never forced to face reality or deal with the reason they are using in the first place.

With space and a clean and sober mind, an addict can realize things they never had with the use of drugs or alcohol. With time, this can happen in an inpatient treatment center. Then, they can have a successful recovery.

For more information on the difference between detox and inpatient treatment, visit www.narconon-suncoast.org/blog/detox-is-not-treatment.html. Call 877-841-5509 for a no cost screening or referral.✱



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Can Proper Planning Reduce Your Taxes?



submitted by Tom Uhler

Have federal income taxes been on your mind? Whether you've already filed, are filing or have requested an extension, this time of year has all of us thinking about

the amount we share with the federal government. We appreciate the great country in which we live, but there are many legitimate tools to assist us in keeping our tax bite in check. Here are just a few to keep in mind: Use tax strategies to your benefit – IRA accounts and Roth IRAs aren't just retirement accounts, they're tax strategies. Knowing what to do with them and when to do it can have a big impact on your tax bill.

Beware the tax "time bombs" – Annuities and retirement accounts can create income which isn't only taxable but, if improperly timed, can also push you into a higher tax bracket. Also consider what it can do to your heirs. Where you own investments is as important as what you own – Some investment vehicles are more tax-efficient than others; owning the right thing in the right place can lower your tax bill. Love long-term capital gains, avoid short-term gains – Long-term gains are taxed at favorable rates. Indeed, at lower overall tax brackets, long-term gains may not incur any tax at all. Bunching deductions properly can dramatically reduce taxes in a given year – Can a Donor Advised Fund help bunch deductions? Yes, you have to take that required minimum distribution, but when should you take more? Qualified charitable deductions are a great tool for those who are required to withdraw from retirement accounts, but how do we maximize their impact? I've used the same certified public accountant (CPA) for decades. He does a great job of preparing my tax return, but he's the scorekeeper. He puts the numbers on the correct lines.

In most cases, the relationship stops there. In a perfect world, the CPA becomes a member of an expert team, coordinating with the financial advisor and legal counsel to collectively chart the best path for the client, including tax considerations. Your financial advisor should do much more than give advice on investments. He or she should chair the expert team and act as the coach. A team has a scorekeeper and a coach. You probably have a scorekeeper. Now, make certain you have an expert team and the right coach leading it. Tom Uhler is a principal with Uhler and Vertich Financial Planners, a locally owned comprehensive financial advisory firm.*

nonprofits, the historical village was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Emilie Alfino, executive director. "This grant went a long way toward helping us catch up after the losses we experienced." The NEH received \$135 million from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The state humanities councils, including Florida Humanities, each received a portion of the NEH award to support museums, archives, historic sites and other humanities-focused nonprofits. The Sanibel Historical Village was one of 129 organizations in Florida that was awarded ARP funding totaling \$1.88 million from Florida Humanities. The grants were intended to meet immediate operational needs in order for organizations to remain viable and maintain delivery of public humanities programming and resources in their communities. Florida Humanities received 188 applications for ARP funding, with nonprofits requesting the most funds for staffing and utilities. These funds, said Florida Humanities Executive Director Dr. Nashid Madyun, provide a safety net for the organizations so they can focus on other priorities, such as fundraising and creating programming. "For smaller nonprofits, when bills are paid and staff are safe and intact, that type of alleviation is immeasurable," he said. "Florida Humanities is honored to provide a lifeline to our state's cultural and historic organizations, ensuring they continue to enrich their local communities, and the Sunshine State at large, for years to come."*

Historical Village Receives Grant

Florida Humanities, the statewide, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), has awarded Sanibel Historical Village a grant for general operating costs to help recover from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The \$23,000 grant was used to assist with payment of administrative costs including salaries and IT website support. Issued in December, the funds have now been allocated and a final report submitted to Florida Humanities. "Like all businesses, and particularly



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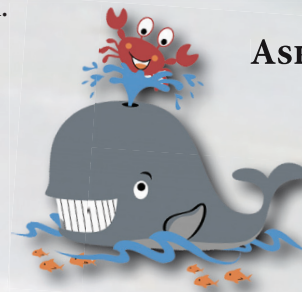
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Rotarians Respond To Ukrainian Crisis

submitted by Cindy Carter

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club and Rotary International are people of action and are deeply concerned about the humanitarian crises caused by the Russian invasion of the sovereign country of Ukraine. Millions of Ukrainians have been displaced, and many have fled to Poland seeking refuge. Poland has been gracious in assisting the Ukrainians to find shelter, food, clothing and medicine. In response to the deepening refugee crisis, the Rotary Club of Wroclaw, Poland has created a new fund specifically for children with chronic medical disorders, such as diabetes, cancers, heart defects and hearing loss. The fund is called the Ukrainian Kids Med Care Program.



Maciej Sygit



Henryk Kalinowski

With the Ukrainian Kids Med Care Program, each Rotary Club that donates to the program, will “adopt” a child. The club will be provided with details about the child, such as their first name and illness, as well as copies of their bills for complete transparency. It is estimated that the monthly cost will be around \$250, which would cover medical advice, laboratory tests, medicine and other medical costs not covered by Poland healthcare.

The Wroclaw Rotary Club has

established a tax exempt account for donations in dollars and Maciej Sygit, PhD, is the coordinator for the project for the Rotary Club of Wroclaw. He is past president twice of the Wroclaw club. Helping the children receive the healthcare they need is Henryk Kalinowski, PhD, Rotary Club of Wroclaw youth protection officer.

Wroclaw is located in southwest Poland, about a five and a half hour drive west of Ukraine. It is a city with approximately 700,000 residents who, as of April 4, had accepted 80,000 Ukrainian refugees, most of whom are children. As of April 4, Poland had accepted 2.5 million refugees of which 60 percent are children. Wroclaw was one of the first cities in Poland to translate its city hall website into Ukrainian, as well as the

public transportation system.

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club has already donated \$15,000 to the Ukrainian Kids Med Care Program and \$10,000 to the Rotary Foundation – Disaster Response Fund to support disaster response grants for districts affected by this crisis. Other Rotary clubs from within our district, as well as from Germany, France and Japan, are participating in this program.

There are four objects of Rotary, within the Service Above Self motto, the fourth one being “The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.” Together, with the world holding hands and working side by side, we can make change.*

Rotary Happenings



submitted by
Cindy Carter



The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club was

honored to host Sanibel City Manager Dana Souza at a recent meeting. Souza was selected for the job out of 96 candidates through an extensive search conducted by a nationally recognized consulting and municipal recruiting firm. He has over 35 years of local government experience. Most recently, he was deputy city manager in Naples, Florida as well as community services director. Souza also served the city of Greenville, South Carolina as parks, recreation and

sustainability director; Marco Island, Florida as interim manager and parks and recreation director; Portland, Maine as director of parks and recreation; Union, New York as director of parks and recreation; and New Bedford, Massachusetts as director of parks, cemeteries and forestry.

Souza’s vast knowledge and experience brings immense value to our city. His leadership skills and managerial talents will create a huge positive impact both within the Sanibel city campus and throughout our special community. He shared his thoughts on how he believes the city departments should operate and he has a strong desire to introduce a culture of citizen friendly behavior by the staff. We look forward to working with Souza to enhance our wonderful Sanibel.

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

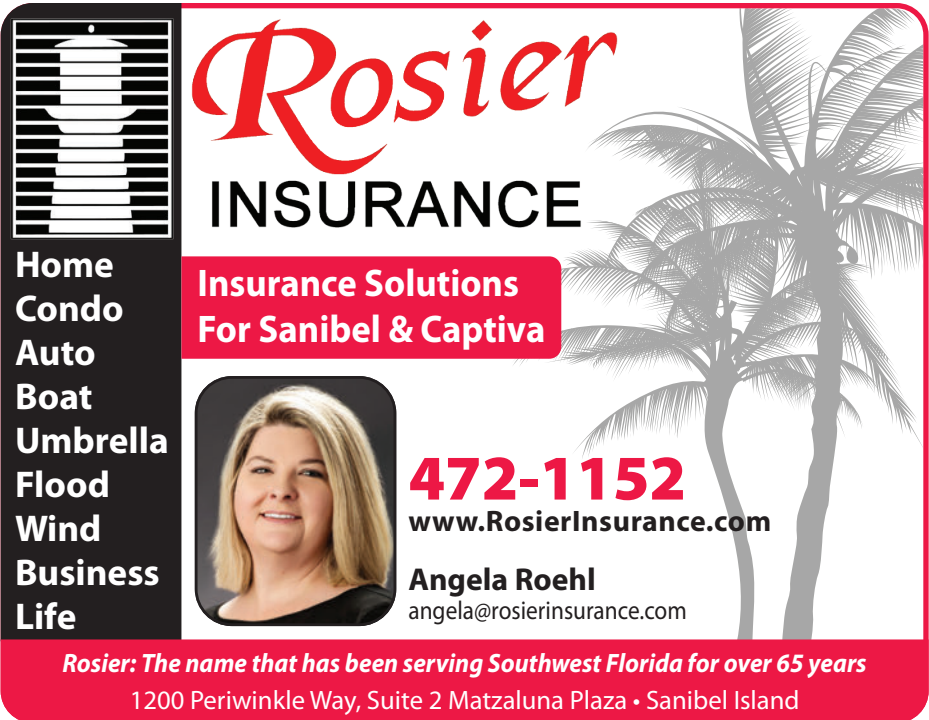
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From page 1B

Volunteers

while educating the public, identifying new populations and acting as stewards for these at-risk species.

SCCF's robust adult education program is dependent on 12 volunteers. They include trail guides at the Erick Lindblad Preserve trails, Shipley Trail and Weeds 'N' Seeds plant walks.

"These volunteers lead trail and plant walks, showing residents and visitors the wonders of Sanibel and SCCF's preserves, and teaching them about the ecology and natural history of the islands," said Evans.

A group of 13 volunteers comes weekly to help with a variety of gardening projects, including planting, mulching, weeding and invasive removal around the Bailey Homestead.

"Visitors and customers often comment on how beautiful the grounds look and that's a testament to the countless hours that our volunteers have devoted to the property," said Evans.

Over the last year, 10 individuals earned their position with the "Hammerheads," coined by longtime SCCF supporter and volunteer Dean Skaugstad. They donate their time and skills to SCCF and help multiple nonprofit organizations on the island, such as Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum. The Hammerheads are known for many different virtues, including their outstanding workmanship, willingness to lend a hand when needed, and creativity and problem-solving.

SCCF has been monitoring bald eagle



The Hammerheads, from left, Dave Gallespie, Rick Goodrich, Dean Skaugstad, Pete Wiese and Tom Stafne

nests on Sanibel for decades, but in recent years has involved the community through citizen science and partnering with Audubon Florida's Eagle Watch program. Currently, 11 volunteers help with nest surveys.

Mike Rice and his crew of nine Trailblazers keep SCCF's public trails cleared for hikers. This effort gives SCCF Wildlife & Habitat Management staff more time during the busy season to focus on exotic plant removal and restoration projects.

SCCF has been monitoring swallow-tailed kites since 2016. Currently, seven volunteers are monitoring kites. Through

a partnership with the Avian Research Conservation Institute to monitor kite nests on Sanibel, an increase in nesting on Sanibel has been documented. "We are working to understand their habitat needs and our volunteers have been instrumental in helping our biologists gather data," said Evans.

SCCF and Captiva Cruises began a partnership in 1992 that includes volunteers who work on behalf of SCCF and Captiva Cruises on the Dolphin Adventure Cruise. Seven volunteers take turns narrating the cruise and sharing information about the ecology of the estuary and wildlife that lives in the back

bay areas.

Six volunteers at the SCCF Marine Lab help with sampling and data collection as well as oyster reef and mangrove research. Their work supports the science used by SCCF to advocate for protecting and restoring coastal ecosystems.

Mind Your Line is a collaborative program operated by a network of island agencies: SCCF, City of Sanibel, JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, Sanibel Sea School and Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife. The program aims to reduce the amount of entanglement injuries and mortality in local wildlife populations through education, outreach, and collection and recycling of monofilament. Five volunteers help by emptying collection bins and bringing the line to the Bait Box for proper recycling.

Other volunteers recognized included Sue Sanders for her devotion to Sanibel Sea School and leadership of all volunteers there. At SCCF, a core group of volunteers has helped with events coming out of the pandemic, including Lisa Newmeyer-Cochrane and Diane Neitzel on the tennis tournament, Linda and Tom Uhler for Wines in the Wild, and Neitzel joined by Shelley Greggs for a variety of other events throughout the year.

Other SCCF volunteers honored for 20 years or more include: Allen Dunham, 22 years; Robin Krivanek, 22 years; Chandra and David Liebetrau, 21 years; Molly Downing 21 years; Claudia Burns, 20 years; Irene Nolan, 20 years; and Joan Rogers, 20 years.✱



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Superior Interiors

Top Five Interior Design Trends



by Marcia Feeney

Excited for the latest home design trends for 2022? In 2021, we saw a broad range of trends from geometric accents to muted hues and pastel colors. Homeowners

especially prioritized multifunctional furniture that served both a stylistic and practical approach as many continued to work remotely.

So, what can we expect throughout 2022? If you're ready to transform your living space with a new makeover, read on and discover our predictions for this year's top five design trends.

It's time to incorporate the outdoors into your indoor living spaces with biophilic design. Think natural textiles like wood, wicker and/or rattan, which add a neutral element to rooms while also creating a calming environment. Similarly, plan to add more plants inside for pops of color that brighten without distracting from the furniture you already have. If you're living with pets (or rambunctious kids) you can also opt for nature-inspired decor pieces

instead of real plants, such as pictures of landscapes, wood-textured frames or woven, natural material.

Throwback to 1970s interior décor – design is a cyclical industry and the 1970s are queued to make an exciting return this year but with a modern twist. The highlights of the decade will be making a comeback, including deep, warm colors (like mustard, burnt orange and sage) and mid-century furniture. If you're just as excited about the '70s revival, invest in some one-of-a-kind furniture pieces that highlight the era's best design elements, from peg legs to highly textured fabrics. Teak wood cabinets and tables can help to pull the space's look together and nail the reimagining of the classic look.

Retro patterns with bright, exciting color palettes are becoming increasingly popular. From a statement wall to embellished throw pillows, people want to add fun touches to their existing home decor. To hop on this trend, opt for highly saturated pieces that create pops of color in your bedroom, living room or office. If neutral colors are the backbone of your design, consider patterns that still fit your aesthetic, but will also stand out.

Taking a page out of 2021, multifunctional spaces and furniture are here to stay this year. Home spaces have transformed into multipurpose work and childcare zones that need to be useful and beautiful. Multifunctional furniture is key to upgrading your living room or guest bedroom into a handy home office setup. Innovative storage

solutions are the best way to fully utilize your space. Storage ottomans can be used to tuck away unused blankets, pillows or other items while also acting as seating options. Similarly, desks with many drawers, shelves or bookcase attachments can help make the most of a small room.

The latest interior design trend points to a focus on circular, curved furniture that adds dimension and softness to your home's spaces. Round tables (of any material) take away the harsh corners that can interrupt the design and allow for group get-togethers where everyone can face each other easily. Similarly, a curved sofa can add a welcoming finishing touch to a living room. Instead

of angular lines, include updated arched cabinets and circular pieces.

People often use "trend" and "fad" interchangeably, but there is a difference between the two. A trend reflects the changing opinions of people and environments, regarding design and style inspiration. It can predict the latest innovations and decor that are gaining momentum. A fad specifically defines a style or interest that only becomes popular for a very short period of time. For example, classic, elegant design can become a trend, but it'll never be a fad; after all, it's timeless.

Marcia Feeney is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at marcia@coindecnden.com.

Medical Equipment Loans

Complimentary medical equipment loans are one of the many services offered by FISH of SanCap. Islanders and visitors may borrow equipment temporarily, on a first come basis. The program has grown to become one of its most requested services and is offered year-round.

FISH has rented a separate location for its equipment program. It is located at 2330 Palm Ridge Road, Unit 16 in Palm Ridge Place. While the space is used mainly for equipment distribution, it also provides space for storage and assembly of the Smile Box, holiday, school supply

and toy drive programs, as well as a location to house the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program January through April.

Those needing medical equipment must call the FISH answering service, available 24-hours a day, at 472-0404. A volunteer will return the call, confirm the request and arrange to meet at the new equipment space, where a check-out area will be located.

FISH offers the following medical equipment: wheelchairs and transport chairs; walkers; canes; adjustable crutches; bath bench, bath transfer bench, shower chairs; commodes and elevated toilet seats.

For more information, visit www.fishofsanap.org.

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Beach Brief From Captiva Erosion Prevention District

submitted by Laura Pegler,
Captiva Erosion Prevention District

Captiva Erosion Prevention District (CEPD) released important information regarding Blind Pass recently.

Relaxing, enjoyable and filled with adventure are some of the ways that families use to describe Blind Pass. Blind Pass sustains abundant wildlife while providing locals and tourists with a pristine area for shelling and fishing. From swimming to sunbathing, Blind pass provides endless opportunities for adventure and fantastic views of the island.

History: Blind Pass was reopened in 2009 after a closing for many years. The reopening was a monumental project that was spearheaded by Commissioner Rene Miville. Maintaining Blind Pass in an open state is an important factor contributing to enhanced flushing of the interior waterways of Captiva and Sanibel.

Current State of Blind Pass after the 2021 Beach Renourishment: As expected, Captiva's beach sand migrates south toward the pass, contributing to the creation of natural sand bars along the opening of the pass, these "bypassing bars" are beneficial as they allow

Aerial view of Blind Pass

the new sand from Captiva to continue southward and reduce the filling inside of the pass. Additionally, the sand can continue its natural course south benefiting the beaches of Sanibel.

Maintenance Dredging Status: Permit applications are already in process by the county with the various agencies.

The county is currently monitoring the pass and dredging will commence when the beach from the recent Captiva nourishment project stabilizes. The county stands ready to respond if the need to act sooner arises.

This news comes in the wake of many recent initiatives and

accomplishments of the CEPD, including: the beach nourishment project 2021; and the planting of new vegetation following the nourishment.

To learn more about the prevention efforts of the Captiva Erosion Prevention District, visit www.mycepd.com/newsletter-sign-up.

photo provided



A special thank you to my amazing fellow Committee Members who make SanCap Cares such a success year after year! - Love, Valerie

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2. BUCK KEY - **CAPTIVA**

- One of the last remaining buildable tropical islands, Buck Key provides a once in a lifetime opportunity located just across the Roosevelt Channel from Captiva Island Offering 14.13 acres of stunning land and water frontage along the channel - Develop your own family compound, corporate retreat, private club or wherever your vision takes you.

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3. GULF VIEWS AT SUNDIAL EAST - **SANIBEL**

- 3 BR/2 BA gorgeously remodeled condo with Gulf views and spacious screened lanai.
- Resort amenities include pool, tennis, multiple restaurants, tiki bar, and grocery. Established rental income with on-site resort program.

• **\$1,365,000 EURO 1,234,350**

4. GULF VIEWS & PRIVATE ROOFTOP DECK AT POINTE SANTO - **SANIBEL**

- 2BR/2 BA + den top floor condo with an incredible income stream for the investment minded owner.
- Community features pool & spa on island in the center of a lagoon, walking paths, tennis, shuffleboard, tiki huts, and beach access

• **\$1,399,000 EURO 1,281,499**



3



4



5



6

5. GOLF COURSE VIEWS IN KELLY GREENS - **FORT MYERS**

- 2 BR/2 BA + den top floor corner unit in the desirable Kelly Greens community.
- High ceilings, updated kitchen, and large lanai. Community amenities include 18 hole golf course, tennis, pool, restaurant, and more

• **\$495,000 EURO 445,480**

6. CANAL LOT - **SANIBEL**

- Build your island dream home on this wonderful canal lot on Sanibel's East End
- This location offers both the ability to get a boat to the Gulf of Mexico, while also being walking distance to Sanibel's famous beaches

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7. REMODELED HOME IN THE DUNES - **SANIBEL**

- 3 BR/2 BA beautifully remodeled home on almost 1/2 an acre with a private pool in the Dunes
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8. WALKING DISTANCE TO BOWMAN'S BEACH - **SANIBEL**

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Will Power

Heckerling Institute: More Estate And Tax Law Changes Brewing



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

My law partners and I recently attended the Heckerling Estate Planning Institute conducted by the University of Miami Law School. This is the nation’s premier estate planning and tax conference attended by more than 3,000 professionals from across the country.

I’ve attended this institute for 30 years, as it provides the most up-to-date expert lectures on developments in the estate planning field. It’s a week-long conference and is akin to finishing an entire year of post-graduate law school training in that week.

I’ll tell you that my brain still hurts!

What I can tell you is that there are many new developments in the tax law, from how inherited IRA accounts must be withdrawn, to whether charitable gifts are entitled to a full deduction when they’re distributed from a family partnership. What I intend to do over the coming weeks is to break down several of the topics into layman’s terms so my readers will understand how these rules will affect their plans.

The current administration still wants to abolish some strategies that estate planners have used for decades, such as those involving intentionally defective grantor trusts (IDGTs). With IDGTs, planners manipulate the differences between the income tax laws and the transfer tax (gift, estate and generation skipping transfer) laws to achieve significant savings.

Since Congress wasn’t able to pass sweeping change last year, many of us in the field thought that it wouldn’t happen. But it still might. What does this mean for those with wealth? To me, it means that if you have significant wealth, you shouldn’t sit idly by. It might be time to take action before the laws change.

We do know, for example, that without any further legislation passed by Congress and signed into law by the president, the current \$12.06 million gift/estate exemption will fall to around \$6.5 million on January 1, 2026. That date may seem far off to you now, but consider that it seems like only yesterday the SECURE Act changed inherited IRA planning for all of us. That change was back in 2017! Time flies.

Speaking of the SECURE Act – remember when all of us thought that although inherited IRAs must be totally distributed within 10 years of the death of the account

owner, but that no distributions were necessary in any given year up until year 10? Within the past several weeks, the IRS issued Treasury regulations mandating annual distributions every year until year 10!

How much will that annual distribution be? Well, that depends on many variables, including whether the account owner died before age 72, the age of the beneficiary, and whether the beneficial interest is held in a qualifying trust, among other things. I’m working on a whitepaper now that my clients will receive outlining these complicated rules, and how to best plan for them to minimize the income taxes Uncle Sam charges. I’ll examine these laws in this column as well, so stay tuned.

Institute speakers discussed how state income tax laws will affect the beneficiaries of our estates. While Florida doesn’t impose state-level income tax, many of our beneficiaries reside in states that do. How to minimize those taxes for our loved ones is something that I’ll write about as well.

For those with private foundations, there were many interesting cases that came out over the past several years involving self-dealing. Did you know, for example, that if you own commercial space, and rent it to a private foundation you created, even if you rent it at a discount, that lease is considered illegal self-dealing? Such an arrangement could result in your foundation losing tax exempt status, meaning deductions are disallowed, along with a host of other legal and tax problems.

Yet another topic reviewed centered on fixing irrevocable trusts that are no longer relevant. There are many legal and tax issues when decanting an old trust into a new one, or modifying an old trust through nonjudicial reformations.

The institute gave me a lot to write about, and I plan to share it all with you in the coming weeks and months. So stay tuned!

©2022 Craig R. Hersch – The Sheppard Law Firm. Learn more at www.floridaestateplanning.com.✪

Free Autism Screening

Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, will offer a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for toddlers 18 months to age 5 at the Pediatric Specialist Office on

Friday, April 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ASD screening is conducted by the Golisano Children’s Hospital. Screenings are administered by an advanced practice registered nurse who has extensive training and experience in typical child development and developmental disorders. A physician referral is not required. The Pediatric Specialist Office is located at 15901 Bass Road, Suite 102, in Fort Myers. To schedule a screening, call 343-6838.✪

How’s The Market? Ask Ann Stay Tuned For Changing Tides



Ann Gee Broker/Owner

“Boom” Real Estate markets all have one thing in common: at some point, they end. We look for leading indicators to foresee a future decline in sales activity. For me, when I see the inventory of homes and condos on Sanibel consistently increasing, that will be an important indicator. For the balance of 2022, I will provide you the following data. Currently, there are 15 homes on the market and 12 condos for sale in our MLS system, totaling 27. If the total moves to 60, I think a shift is occurring. If it moves to 90, in my view, we are headed toward a normal market. “Old” days were buyers and sellers negotiating the listing price in the range of 6% and the average marketing time was 250+ days. Today, the average marketing time is 32 days and most new listings sell for over the asking price. On a side note, my husband John and I enjoy playing golf (9 holes) at Sanibel Island Golf Club and understand they are replacing all the greens starting in early May. We enjoy the golf course, and having new greens will be greatly appreciated.

16 Closed Sales going back one week: 9 Homes,5 Condos, 1 Duplex & 1 Lot	
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726 Donax St. 9 Donax Village \$746,000	1174 Harbor Cottage Ct. \$1,507,000
799 Casa Ybel Rd. \$840,000	2711 Wulfert Rd. \$1,650,000
1398 Jamaica Dr. \$850,000	2695 Wulfert Rd. \$1,847,500
4560 Brainard Bayou Rd. \$889,000	1299 Middle Gulf Dr. 162 Compass Point \$1,850,000
610 Donax St. 225 Sanibel Surfside \$1,022,222	685 East Gulf Dr. 7 Cyprina Beach \$1,927,000
1053 Seahawk Ln. \$1,325,000	500 Kinzie Ct. \$2,295,000
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Have a good week and call me with any comments or questions.

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From left, Mike and Barbara Lies with Deb Wiedyke and Gregg Warren photo provided

Nine Hole Golf Winners

Sanibel Island Golf Club and Blue Giraffe 2 restaurant offer Nine & Dine outings every other Sunday

for club members during season. It's an opportunity to play nine holes of golf followed by a buffet style meal at Blue Giraffe 2. The winners of the April 3 event were: first place, Gregg Warren and Deb Wiedyke; and second place, Mike and Barbara Lies.*

FISH Hosting Parkinson's Disease Program

FISH of SanCap and Hope Parkinson Program are offering an informational workshop about Parkinson's Disease on Thursday, April 28 at 10 a.m. at The Community House. It will also be offered virtually on Zoom.

Guest speaker, Lois Kellet of Hope Parkinson Program, will discuss signs and symptoms, diagnosis and current treatments that can benefit those with Parkinson's and their care partners. Parkinson's disease, a progressive nervous system disorder, affects over one million Americans, with 60,000 new cases per year. Although there is still no cure, advances have been made in the study of the complexity of the disease, opening new approaches to treatments.

Kellet, a retired registered nurse who has had Parkinson's for 14 years, enjoys teaching others about Parkinson's, especially student nurses. "Receiving a diagnosis of Parkinson's is both alarming and depressing," said Kellet. "The best ammunition against those feelings is learning everything you can about Parkinson's disease and using a fighter's approach to conquer it. Knowledge is power."

Kellet has been a volunteer for the Hope Parkinson Program for five years, has participated in Michael J. Fox research projects and videos, and

regularly assists with support groups provided by the Hope Parkinson Foundation. To learn more about the Hope Parkinson Program, visit www.hopeparkinson.org.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. For for the link to the Zoom workshop, call 472-4775. For more information on programs and services offered by FISH, visit www.fishofsancap.org.*

Round Robin Tennis In Play At Rec Center

Round Robin tennis is played on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Sanibel Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to noon. Tennis Pro Joe McEntyre organizes all tournament-style matches.

Registration includes a demonstration of doubles tactics and doubles play. Cost to play is \$13.25 per member and \$17.50 per non-member. Register in advance at the recreation center front desk as space is limited. Minimum of four registered players required.

McEntyre also offers private lessons for \$81.50 per member and \$108 per non-member. Advance registration required. Call 472-0345.

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

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Frankly Speaking



by Howard Prager

As reported in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Corbin Burnes and Omar Narváez achieved a major league first during the Milwaukee Brewers season opener Thursday

afternoon. “The Brewers starting battery became the first combo to ever use electronic pitch-calling technology in a major-league game by utilizing it for the duration of Burnes’ five-inning start in a 5-4 loss to the Cubs. The technology, referred to within the industry as PitchCom, is an attempt at not only countering sign-stealing but also speeding up the game by reducing or eliminating the need for catchers putting down manual signs. The catcher wears a pad with buttons on the wrist to signal both pitch type and location to the pitcher, who hears it directly through a listening device. With the Brewers and Cubs kicking off the schedule as the first game on opening day and Cubs starter Kyle Hendricks opting for manual signs from catcher Willson Contreras, Burnes and Narváez became the first to utilize the new technology in a regular-season setting.”

It seems like 25 years old is a magic age in today’s column. Scottie Scheffler is reaching a milestone at age 25, Ash Barty reached her peak at age 25, and Dwayne Haskins was just shy of age 25 and never reached the peak he was aiming for.

The Masters did not disappoint this past weekend. The week started with five-time Masters champion Tiger Woods shocking the golfing world by announcing he would make a comeback just 14 months after a horrific car crash where he almost lost his leg. While he

was never in the hunt for another green jacket, he surprised many by making the cut on Friday. His appearance alone was more than what happened just on the course. Having Tiger play at the Masters confirmed to everyone that Tiger is back and everyone should watch out for him. After he completed his round on Sunday, Woods confirmed he will play at the 150th Open Championship in July in Scotland.

The hottest golfer on the PGA tour and No. 1 in the world, Scheffler is the 2022 Masters champion, earning his first green jacket and winning his first major tournament by three strokes. Nerves may have got the best of him on the green of the 18th as he missed two short putts to double bogey, but his large lead held up in the end. He proved to the golfing world that he deserves to be at the top of the PGA.

Barty, world No. 1 women’s tennis star, shocked the tennis world by announcing she was retiring at age 25. The three-time Grand Slam winner just won Wimbledon last summer and the Australian Open in January. She seemed to be on top of her game of her nearly 12-year career. According to Sports Illustrated, Barty wants to pursue dreams outside of tennis.

“It’s [retirement] something I’ve been thinking about for a long time,” Barty said. “I’ve had a lot of incredible moments in my career that have been pivotal moments. Wimbledon last year changed a lot for me as a person and as an athlete. When you work so hard your whole life for one goal, to be able to win Wimbledon, which was my dream, the one true dream that I wanted in tennis, that really changed my perspective. I just had that gut feeling after Wimbledon and had spoken to my team quite a lot about it.”

Haskins was killed by a dump truck on a highway near Boca Raton early last Saturday. Perhaps in time we’ll find out why the 24-year-old, potential star QB for the Steelers, was crossing the limited access highway at 6:30 a.m. For now,

just sadness about this tragic loss shortly before his 25th birthday.

The good news story of the week is from the Good News Network and CNN about a London lawyer who set a new world record for the fastest ever female solo row across the Atlantic. Victoria Evans rowed into Barbados aboard her 22-foot-long rowing boat after 40 days at sea. The 35-year-old began her race by setting off from Tenerife, Spain, on February 11, Victoria rowed 2,559 nautical miles in a world-record time, 40 days and 19 hours, before finally reaching Barbados. Despite experiencing extreme conditions and encountering multiple problems along the way, Evans broke the previous world record by over eight days. “It was much harder than I expected,” she told CNN Sport. “Not physically, but in terms of the conditions. Completing the crossing is just the start of this work.” With nothing but her small boat for company and occasional turtles, dolphins and fish, Evans battled high winds, big waves and sleep deprivation to record the fastest female solo row across the Atlantic Ocean.

Admitting she wasn’t particularly sporty as a child, Evans says her 15-year-old self would never have believed she was capable of setting such a record. While the challenge was a personal goal, she also completed it to raise awareness and money for UK charity

Women In Sport which looks to “give every woman and girl the opportunity to take part in sport.” Evans has raised over \$31,000 already for the charity and, through her legal work, she wants to advocate for more change. “Women are so capable in sport,” she said. “It is massively improving, but there seems to still be an underestimation of women. I’d want the message to be for everyone, but particularly women and girls, to know that they’re capable of absolutely anything they set their mind to.”

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

Chronic Disease Management

Lee Health is offering a chronic disease self-management program virtually on Tuesdays beginning May 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. The free workshop is two hours once a week for six weeks. The program is designed for people age 18 and older with chronic health conditions.

For more information or to register, call 424-3121.✪

SPORTS QUIZ

- 1. What college athletic conference produced both the men’s and women’s NCAA soccer champions in 2021?
- 2. Name the brothers, known for their violent style of play, who were teammates on the Montreal Canadiens in the 1920s and died within days of each other in 1956.
- 3. What NASCAR driver had 40 wins in his Cup Series career from 1981-2013 and finished second in the standings five times without winning a season championship?
- 4. What pro golfer from Australia portrayed comic-strip boxer Joe Palooka in 11 films from 1946-51?
- 5. On Sept. 7, 2021, what Tampa Bay Rays rookie reached base safely for the 37th consecutive game, passing Mickey Mantle’s 36-game on-base streak for a player age 20 or younger?
- 6. Name the Canadian men’s figure skater who won silver medals at the 1994 Lillehammer and 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics.
- 7. In what Nintendo Entertainment System video game included basketball teams named the New York Eagles, Los Angeles Breakers, Boston Frogs and Chicago Ox?

ANSWERS

- 1. The ACC, with Clemson (men) and Florida State (women).
- 2. Sprague and Odie Cleghorn.
- 3. Mark Martin.
- 4. Joe Kirkwood Jr.
- 5. Wander Franco.
- 6. Elvis Stojko.
- 7. “Double Dribble.”

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ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

John Naumann & Associates

The top producers for March at John Naumann & Associates were: Meredith Murray, top listing agent; Larry and Deb Hahn, top sales team; Evan duPont, top sales agent; and Marianne and Liz Stewart, top sales team.*



Meredith Murray



Larry Hahn



Deb Hahn



Evan duPont



Marianne Stewart



Liz Stewart

Use LCEC App To Monitor Electricity

Manage your Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC) account safely and securely online with SmartHub. LCEC's bill pay and customer service tool offers a multitude of ways to make your life

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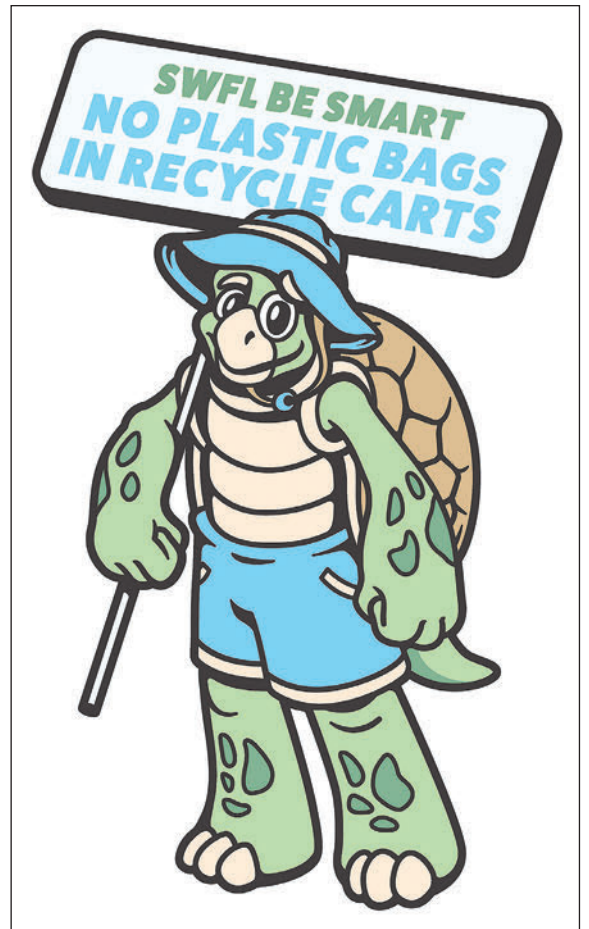
New Mascot Sends Message

Charlotte, Collier and Lee counties are introducing a new mascot, Titan, the sea turtle. He has an important message for children and families: Southwest Florida be smart. No plastic bags in recycle carts.

Earth Day, observed annually on April 22, celebrates the environment and creates awareness about pollution, among other things. This year's theme is to "Invest In Our Planet." One way to help is through proper recycling practices, and Titan will help by spreading this important message.

Take the opportunity to make this a family effort and teach children by example that plastic bags do not belong in recycling carts. Keep materials loose in the carts. Properly dispose of or reuse plastic grocery bags and other types of plastic bags such as garbage bags and newspaper sleeves.

Use #SWFLRecycleSmart when posting on social media platforms to show how you're helping to recycle smart. Visit www.facebook.com/leecountyflbocc for more information.*



Titan, the sea turtle

image provided



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ON ISLAND FOR ISLAND

Health First

Health Benefits Of Positive Thinking



by Julie Rosenberg, MD
I recently asked my dear friend, Patsy Whitaker, who is 89 years of age, a question: "Can you summarize your philosophy on living a long and happy life in one sentence?" Her answer was simple: "Throw away the negative."

It's true – we all have an inner critic and this voice in our heads can be harmful, particularly when it gets into the realm of excessive negativity and pessimism. Studies have shown that personality traits such as optimism and pessimism can affect many areas of your health and wellbeing. In fact, the positive thinking that usually comes with being optimistic is a key aspect of wellbeing. Understanding positive thinking – Positive thinking means that you approach unpleasant situations in a positive and productive way. You believe that the best outcome is going to happen, rather than the worst. Positive thinking typically begins with self-talk – the endless stream of unspoken thoughts that run through your

head. These automatic thoughts can be positive or negative. If your thoughts are mostly positive, you're likely an optimistic person; someone who practices positive thinking. Alternatively, if your thoughts are mostly negative, your outlook on life is likely to be more pessimistic. Health benefits of positive thinking – Studies have shown significant health benefits from positive thinking, including: Lower rates of depression; Lower levels of distress and pain; Greater resistance to illnesses; Better psychological and physical wellbeing; Better coping skills during times of stress; Increased life span. The health benefits seen among those who have a positive outlook may be due to better stress management skills and a subsequent reduction in risk from the harmful health effects of chronic stress. In addition, people with positive thinking are more likely to embrace healthy lifestyles. Enhance your positive thinking – Did you know that you can learn ways to enhance positive thinking? The process is relatively simple, but it does take time and practice. Here are six things that you can do to think and behave in a more positive and optimistic way: 1. Breathe – Deep breathing helps to calm your mind and can combat negative thinking. So, pause. Take several slow, deep breaths. Deep breathing offers a way to pause and ground yourself into the present moment so that you can better

connect with your thoughts and feelings. 2. Laugh – Give yourself permission to smile or laugh, especially during difficult times. Seek humor in everyday happenings. When you can laugh at life, you feel less stressed. In fact, when you laugh, your brain releases endorphins, the body's natural mood boosters. 3. Check in with yourself – Periodically during the day, stop and evaluate what and how you're thinking. If you find that your thoughts are mainly negative, pause and try to find a way to put a positive spin on them. 4. Surround yourself with positive people – Make sure that the people in your life are positive, supportive individuals who you can depend on to give helpful advice and feedback. Remember, like attracts like. It's a universal law. When you spend time with positive people, you become more positive. 5. Practice positive self-talk – Follow this simple rule: Don't say anything to yourself that you wouldn't say to anyone else. Be gentle and encouraging with yourself. If a negative thought enters your mind, evaluate it rationally. Offer yourself positive, self-love affirmations every day, such as, "I choose to feel peaceful," "I am a good person who deserves happiness and good health" or "Everything will be okay." 6. Ease your mind with repetitive movement – Find a repetitive motion you associate with calming yourself. This movement could be rubbing the palms of your hands slowly together or tapping your hands on your chest. The goal of

this repetitive movement is to focus your attention on the movement, thus easing your mind and helping to alleviate the stream of negative thoughts. Breathe deeply while doing this exercise. In summary, positive thinking can lead to positive actions, positive beliefs and a more positive outlook on life. So, "throw away the negative." Your efforts may support a path to lifelong happiness and satisfaction. Julie Rosenberg, MD, is a global healthcare leader, medical consultant and the author of two books, Beyond the Mat and Be True. For more information, visit her website at www.drjulierosenberg.com. For consulting and speaking requests, email inquiries to info@drjulierosenberg.com.✧

Financial Aid Tip

Students looking for money to help pay for technical training or college classes should take advantage of free online scholarship searches, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA). With those resources, many students can find help to fund their education. Start with a national database provided by the U.S. Department of Labor at www.careeronestop.com. The link to the Scholarship Finder is under the Toolkit tab. Read the terms of use. Some sites will require you to opt out of receiving future promotional emails from colleges and their advertisers. For more information, visit www.kheaa.com.✧

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dearRPharmacist

Nootropics Can Make You Wordle Faster



by Suzy
Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers:

As I was doing my Wordle this morning, it dawned on me that I was really doing this to grow new brain cells, not because I enjoyed

it. The word game is a favorite among those who like to exercise their brain using word games, but it's not the only way to get smarter. There are other ways to improve cognitive function, gain better sleep and reduce risk for Alzheimer's

disease and dementia. If you too want to grow a bunch of new neurons, don't depend entirely on Wordle... or jigsaw puzzles, sudoku or even cross words. Feed your brain foods and nutrients that are proven to work. Today's article covers the best known natural nootropic vitamins and herbs.

For example, blueberries contain flavonoids and anthocyanin which promote neurogenesis. Red grapes (wash them very well) contain quercetin and resveratrol, and both of those compounds feed your brain cells. Walnuts are another, and they help because of the essential fatty acids. Perhaps the most well known 'brain food' is salmon and other wild-caught fatty fish. These help you because they are high in DHA fish oils.

The following are some other natural nootropic compounds that support good memory and recall and, like I always say, please ask your doctor if it's right for you because these have multiple effects on the body, and some of them adversely interact with other medications and

medical conditions.

Lion's Mane – It's great at making you think faster because it produces more mental energy. Basically, it makes me solve problems and do Wordles much faster. I was able to get the word "shawl" on my second attempt. Most of the time, it takes me three or four attempts to get the Wordle word. (Do you play this too? It can be maddening at times, lol).

Lion's Mane can be purchased at the grocery store, farmer's market, as a commercial tea or concentrated in dietary supplements.

Green Tea or Matcha – These drinks provide less caffeine than espresso and coffee, however, it does the same thing. This option provides EGCG (Epigallocatechin gallate) which has anti-tumor activity.

Ginkgo biloba – This natural herb is categorized as a nootrope, but it does so many other good things. It increases dopamine activity and sends more blood to the brain.

Bacopa monnieri – This herb has been studied quite a bit, especially

for Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's, dementia, anxiety and epilepsy. Besides being a fabulous neuron antioxidant, it increases acetylcholine activity and reduces beta-amyloid formation.

Acetyl L Carnitine – This anti-aging smart pill is a natural amino acid, and it's a precursor to acetylcholine. You'll find it as a dietary supplement at health food stores. It seems to work better when combined with other brain-nourishing supplements.

Phosphatidylserine - This well-studied nootropic is found in sunflower seeds and soybeans. You'd have to eat bucketfuls on a daily basis, so people purchase dietary supplements of this. It also helps with sleep.

If you'd like to read the longer version of this article, sign up for my newsletter at www.suzycohen.com.

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is the author of The 24-Hour Pharmacist and is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit www.SuzyCohen.com.

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance
Clancy

Q: I have a 16-year-old son who I feel is sleep deprived and his grades are slipping in school. He is also grumpy and doesn't talk a lot to his father and I. He has trouble waking

up each morning, and he also sleeps late on weekends. What can I do to help him get a good night's sleep?

A: We all know how we feel without a good night's rest. Adolescents, whose brains are not fully developed, more than most, need a good night's rest that averages around nine hours per night. This is highly rare, however. Your son may also be suffering from the following:

1. Too much screen time before bed such as social media, Internet use, video games and television. This light exposure is a cue for the brain to stay awake.

2. Negative effects of the emotional

regulation circuit of the brain. One can respond more emotionally to stressors and this can manifest in anxiety and depression.

3. Sleep deprivation has been known to increase substance abuse and risky behavior in teens. The disruption of the natural sleep cycle can significantly increase the risk of substance use by interfering with brain functions that regulate the experience of emotions, impulsivity and reward. One study has shown that impulse is also compromised, whereas sleep deprivation is linked to binge drinking, drunk driving and unprotected sex.

While the above are indicators of some teen sleep deprivation, there are things your son can do to improve his sleep hygiene. I would encourage you and your spouse to discuss with him some healthy ways to get more rest which will improve his life in all ways.

Have your son try and go to bed the same time every night and awake the same time each morning on school days.

Limit screen time before bed and incorporate more relaxing activities such as drawing, writing or simply listening to relaxing music.

Have him keep his room dark and

cool. Make sure he avoids snacks before bed as they cause elevated blood sugar and then crash, which makes teens stay more awake.

Yoga and meditation are known to relax the nervous system. Guided meditation can help him relax and drift off to sleep and stay asleep.

He may need to drink a warm glass of milk prior to bedtime.

If your son begins these strategies

sooner than later, his grades should improve along with his mood.

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

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Doctor and Dietician

Shoulder Pain And What To Do About It



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

Each year, millions of people visit the doctor for rotator cuff injuries and even more for other shoulder injuries. Shoulder injuries can occur seemingly on their own without even doing anything or they can occur as a result of bad movements while lifting and/or turning, or poor biomechanics while performing daily activities such as computer work or during sports activities such as swimming, tennis, or baseball. People are given diagnoses such as rotator cuff tears, shoulder arthritis, shoulder labral tears, snapping scapula syndrome, shoulder bursitis, bone spurs, impingement syndrome and/

or supraspinatus tendinitis. Symptoms experienced are shoulder pain, crunching sounds with movement, loss of shoulder motion, loss of shoulder strength, muscle spasms and shoulder popping. These symptoms can be signs of shoulder instability and respond well to comprehensive regenerative medicine treatments such as prolotherapy. Why? Prolotherapy addresses the root cause of these issues which is often an underlying ligament injury that causes mechanical instability and proprioceptive deficits that lead to mechanical and functional instability in the shoulder (and other joints.) Performing non-surgical pro-healing prolotherapy is like tightening the screws on a cabinet door hinge. Ligaments are the structures that hold bones together and muscles allow movement. Muscles are often tight and sore because they are trying to hold the structure together, which is not their true function. Thus, treating the underlying ligament injury will strengthen the shoulder joint, allowing the muscles to relax. After the ligaments become strong, the rehabilitation process can begin. Ligaments have a tough time repairing themselves on their own, unlike muscles which respond well to physical therapy and movement. Many patients that we see at Caring Medical want to avoid surgery so that they can continue with their active lifestyles. Many play tennis, golf, pickleball, swim, cycle, or run. Others may not be athletes but want to maintain their active lives. The remarkable thing about utilizing

regenerative medicine treatments such as prolotherapy to treat shoulder injuries is that most people get back to full activities within a few months without surgery. Usually, within a few treatments, the tissues have strengthened enough to eliminate pain and provide a stable base for the muscles to resume a high level of activity again, making it ideal for athletes and those who do physical overhead work. Working with an excellent physical therapist or trainer to help strengthen the area after successful treatment of the instability can further enhance the healing process. George was an active 64-year-old when he partially tore the rotator cuff in his left shoulder. His provider prescribed an oral steroid, and he was sent to physical therapy (PT). Since he continued to have pain and limited range of motion, he was unable to complete the PT, and surgery was recommended by an orthopedic physician. Seeking a non-surgical alternative, George began treatment with Caring Medical and received five rounds of comprehensive prolotherapy with platelet rich plasma (PRP). Prior to treatment with Caring Medical, George was limited in his exercise and unable to do a full pushup. He can now do sets of 30 pushups without pain.

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

and asks pilots, flight attendants and dispatchers to provide feedback on the level of customer care at individual business and general aviation service providers throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, South and Central America and the Caribbean. AIN conducts the survey year-round online and calculated cumulative averages from 2014 to present for this year's results. The survey asked qualified subscribers to evaluate FBOs they visited the previous year in five categories: line service, passenger amenities, pilot amenities, facilities and customer service representatives.

Aviation International News is a monthly trade publication focusing on the business aviation market and covers news, features, special reports and survey results. The Lee County Port Authority operates Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field in Fort Myers. Page Field provides services to corporate, commercial and private aviators through their business arm, Base Operations at Page Field and accommodated more than 140,000 aircraft operations in 2021. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction, and both airports are funded solely with revenue generated from their operations. For more information, visit www.baseoperationsfmy.com.*

Flip This Kennel Adoption Specials

Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) will host its 8th annual Flip This Kennel event on Saturday, April 23. The adoption center is open from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This year's theme is children's toys, and the month will kick off with reduced adoption fees. All adult dogs will be just \$20 and cats just \$10 with an approved application.

LCDAS, along with various county agencies, area shelters and rescues, will decorate kennels and catteries to highlight shelter pets in the county's adoption center. All cats and dogs in decorated catteries/kennels will have their adoption fees waived the day of the event.

Visitors to the shelter on event day can vote for their favorite flip. People also can vote on www.facebook.com/leecountydomesticanimalservices by liking the picture of a favorite kennel or cattery all day Saturday and Sunday. Winners will be posted on the Facebook page on Monday, April 25.

LCDAS is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Pets can be viewed online at www.leelostpets.com.*

Page Field Base Operations Among The Best

Base Operations at Page Field has been ranked in the top five percent of fixed-base operators (FBO) in an international survey conducted by *Aviation International News* (AIN). This is the 10th consecutive year Base Operations at Page Field has been named a top FBO by AIN. Base Operations ranked first in the Fort Myers/Naples area and landed in the top 15 overall for FBO in the Americas. "We appreciate being recognized as a top FBO for our attention to customer care and providing facilities that exceed the expectations of our guests at Base Operations at Page Field," said Ben Siegel, CPA, CM, executive director of the Lee County Port Authority.

The FBO survey is conducted annually

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PUZZLES

Answers on page 31B



"What would you suggest for a husband
whose _____ starts
in three weeks?"

SCRAMBLERS

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

Slam
CHASTE

Assist
VEERS

Remains
SENOB

Sure
INCRATE

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Sail is different. 2. Pocket is different. 3. Headline is different. 4. Glasses are missing. 5. Umbrella is missing. 6. Camera is missing.

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

To Play Sudoku:

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

PUZZLES

Answers on page 31B

Super Crossword

TRIP UP

ACROSS

- 1 Shoshone woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark

10 Hebrew holy text

15 Chicago hub

20 Rembrandt painted with them

21 You RSVP to it online

22 Tempos

23 Eton and Hogwarts

25 RAM units

26 Nastase of tennis fame

27 The sun, e.g.

28 Hooded viper

30 Get higher

31 Long-necked beast

35 Companies with cabbies

39 Give the details of

42 Kite's home

43 Suffix with human

44 Skilled thief, slangily

48 Adds on

52 Positive vote in Congress

53 "What's the —?" ("Care to explain that?," slangily)
- 54 Vow

56 Dried up

57 Weightlifting units

59 Cuddle (up)

62 "Stay" singer

64 Teensy

65 Bug B Gon's brand

67 Abbr. on an airport uniform

68 Jacob Bronowski book about human history, with "The"

71 Platoon unit

73 German wine region

75 Equipper of horse hooves

76 Carnival vessels

79 Backpacked beast, maybe

82 "Chicago" showgirl Hart

84 — polloi

85 "Toodles!"

86 Club get-togethers

89 Bleacher feature

90 PC brand

92 Part of DJ

94 Plant-based salve for treating bruises
- 96 Longtime CBS series

97 10th month, in German

99 Many golf hits onto the green

103 Comic actor

104 Sweetheart

105 Sitting Bull's tribe

106 Hoped-for result of a throw to a receiver

111 Frosty and the like

115 Face defacer

116 Tofu base

117 Negative votes in Congress

120 Green Hornet's aide

121 Gut

123 Trip associated with the starts of seven answers in this puzzle

129 With 6-Down, boxing legend's boxing daughter

130 Devilish grin

131 Native of the Raiders' home

132 Fidgeting
- 133 Literature Nobel

134 Event for unloading household items in an urban area

34 — terrible (hellion)

36 Crosses (out)

37 Analogy part

38 Pooh-bah

40 Anklebone

41 Folding craft

44 Poi plant

45 Australian landmark

46 Stayed silent

47 Dress finely, with "out"

48 Oodles

49 Taos locale

50 Most bleak

51 Not hidden

55 Stein quaff

58 Feng —

60 Steer catcher

61 Japan finish?

63 Niels with a Nobel

66 Brewer's kiln

69 Revlon rival

70 Yard third

72 Cul-de-sacs

74 Mil. missions

76 Elaine in Trump's Cabinet

77 Commotion

78 Owns

80 Capital of Yemen

81 Makes glossy, as one's hair

83 Discord deity

87 Street vehicle

88 "Danke —"

91 Retina parts associated with monochrome vision

93 D-Day city in France

95 About

98 "Humbug!"

100 Golf norm

101 Shrub shapers

102 Sadie — Day

104 Miami Heat great Wade

106 Small hand drum of India

107 Shark's place

108 Not ignited

109 "— -daisyl"

110 Prefix with payment or partisan

112 Sister of Eva and Zsa Zsa

113 "I Love Lucy" neighbor

114 — Dame

118 I problems?

119 Bleacher feature

122 "Whoopee!"

124 Shark's place

125 Weightlifting unit

126 MGM rival

127 Waitress at Mel's Diner

128 Racing circuit

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	19
20										21						22				
23										24						25				
26							27						28		29		30			
31				32	33	34			35		36	37				38				
			39					40	41		42				43					
44	45	46							47					48				49	50	51
52				53								54	55			56				
57				58		59				60	61		62		63		64			
65				66		67				68		69					70			
	71				72			73	74						75					
76							77	78					79	80	81		82			83
84				85						86		87			88		89			
90				91		92				93		94				95		96		
97				98				99	100	101							102			
				103										105						
106	107	108					109							110				112	113	114
115					116						117		118	119				120		
121				122		123		124	125						126	127	128			
129							130						131							
132							133						134							

ACROSS

- 1 Justice Dept. agency

4 Physician's nickname

7 Grating

12 Vintage

13 Away from WSW

14 Mountain crest

15 Set afire

16 Yosemite peak featured in "Free Solo"

18 "CSI" evidence

19 Dewy

20 Billboard

22 Swiss peak

23 Bloke

27 Author Fleming

29 Abrasion

31 Planet circlers

34 Heart line

35 Coffeehouse bill collector

37 L-P link

38 Utah ski resort

39 "Yoo- —!"

41 Pottery oven

45 Quotable Yogi

47 Eastern path

48 Bygone

52 Cadillac

52 Copper head?

53 Tierney of "The Affair"

54 Superlative
- 55 Texter's chuckle

56 Velocity

57 Irish actor Stephen

58 Decade parts (Abbr.)

7 Engrossed

8 "Exodus" hero

9 Fixed

10 Sch. org

11 Hankering

17 Nile vipers

21 Martial arts warrior

23 Swindler

24 Guffaw syllable

25 Suitable

26 Green shade

28 Simile part

30 Paint container

31 1959 Kingston Trio hit

32 Texas tea

33 Choose

36 Mother of Zeus

37 Gloomy

40 Sequence

42 Tuscany setting

43 Hard work

44 Seasonal songs

45 Thin nail

46 Nick and Nora's dog

48 Ambulance initials

49 Napkin's place

50 Payable

51 Mine material

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: HARPER'S —, W. Va.

Andover	Gatlinburg	Kent	Rutland
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Erwin	Hampton	Luray	Stratton
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---	-------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	--	--	---

Redfish Pass Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:57 am	6:45 am	1:04 pm	7:10 pm
Sat	1:47 am	7:09 am	1:20 pm	7:52 pm
Sun	2:40 am	7:30 am	1:41 pm	8:37 pm
Mon	3:37 am	7:48 am	2:07 pm	9:27 pm
Tue	4:44 am	8:00 am	2:38 pm	10:24 pm
Wed	3:16 pm	11:31 pm	None	None
Thu	4:02 pm	None	None	None

Point Ybel Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:02 am	6:47 am	12:09 pm	7:12 pm
Sat	12:52 am	7:11 am	12:25 pm	7:54 pm
Sun	1:45 am	7:32 am	12:46 pm	8:39 pm
Mon	2:42 am	7:50 am	1:12 pm	9:29 pm
Tue	3:49 am	8:02 am	1:43 pm	10:26 pm
Wed	2:21 pm	11:33 pm	None	None
Thu	3:07 pm	None	None	None

Punta Rassa Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:46 am	7:02 am	1:02 pm	7:27 pm
Sat	1:28 am	7:32 am	1:18 pm	8:08 pm
Sun	2:11 am	8:03 am	1:31 pm	8:52 pm
Mon	3:03 am	8:32 am	1:48 pm	9:38 pm
Tue	4:05 am	9:01 am	2:15 pm	10:27 pm
Wed	5:12 am	9:29 am	2:53 pm	11:22 pm
Thu	6:24 am	9:53 am	3:44 pm	None

Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	3:07 am	10:01 am	3:14 pm	10:26 pm
Sat	3:57 am	10:25 am	3:30 pm	11:08 pm
Sun	4:50 am	10:46 am	3:51 pm	11:53 pm
Mon	5:47 am	11:04 am	4:17 pm	None
Tue	6:54 am	12:43 am	4:48 pm	11:16 am
Wed	5:26 pm	1:40 am	None	None
Thu	6:12 pm	2:47 am	None	None

My Stars ★★★★★
FOR WEEK OF APRIL 11, 2022
Aries (March 21 to April 19) The Lamb loves to be surrounded by flocks of admirers. But be careful that someone doesn't take his or her admiration too far. Use your persuasive skills to let him or her down easily.
Taurus (April 20 to May 20) This is a good time to begin setting far-reaching goals and connecting with new contacts. Aspects also favor strengthening

old relationships – personal and/or professional.
Gemini (May 21 to June 20) A personal disappointment should be viewed as a valuable learning experience. Go over what went wrong and see where a change in tactics might have led to a more positive outcome.
Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Don't leave projects unfinished or personal obligations unresolved, or you might find yourself tripping over all those loose ends later on. A relative has important news.
Leo (July 23 to August 22) Expect a

challenge to the usual way you do things. Although you might prefer the tried-and-true, once you take a good look at this new idea, you might feel more receptive to it.
Virgo (August 23 to September 22) Much work has yet to be done to polish a still-rough idea into something with significant potential. Expect to encounter some initial rejection, but stick with it nonetheless.
Libra (September 23 to October 22) There still might be some communication problems in the workplace, but they

should be resolved soon. Meanwhile, that "tip" from a friend should be checked out.
Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) A new relationship appears to need more from you than you might be willing to give right now. Best advice: Resist making promises you might not be able to keep.
Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) That restless feeling encourages you to gallop off into a new venture. But remember to keep hold of the reins so you can switch paths when

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necessary.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) A demanding work schedule keeps the high-spirited Goat from kicking up his or her heels. But playtime beckons by the week's end. Have fun. You earned it.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) You're beginning to come out from under those heavy responsibilities you took on. Use this freed-up time to enjoy some much-deserved fun with people close to you.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Before you get swept away by a tidal wave of conflicting priorities, take time to come up for air, and reassess the situation. You might be surprised by what you'll find.

Born This Week: Your leadership qualities are enhanced by a practical sense of purpose that keeps you focused on your goals.

MOMENTS IN TIME

• On April 20, 1841, Edgar Allan Poe's story, *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*, first appears in print. The tale, generally considered to be the first detective story, describes the methods

used to solve a series of murders.

• On April 22, 1889, at precisely high noon, 50,000 to 60,000 would-be settlers make a mad dash into the newly opened Oklahoma Territory to claim cheap land. Towns like Norman and Oklahoma City sprang up almost overnight.

• On April 18, 1906, in San Francisco, an earthquake registering 8.0 kills 3,000 people as 30,000 buildings are destroyed. Two days later, 20,000 refugees trapped by a massive fire were evacuated from the foot of Van Ness Avenue onto the USS Chicago.

• On April 21, 1930, a fire at an Ohio prison kills 320 inmates, some of whom burn to death when they are not unlocked from their cells. The prison, built to hold 1,500 people, had 4,300 prisoners.

• On April 23, 1945, two weeks after taking over as U.S. president, Harry Truman gives a tongue-lashing to Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov. Truman was determined to take a tougher postwar stance with the Soviets than his late predecessor, Franklin Roosevelt, had. Molotov, indignant, stormed out of the

meeting with Truman.

• On April 24, 1953, Winston Churchill, the British leader who guided Great Britain and the Allies through the crisis of World War II, is knighted by Queen Elizabeth II. He would win the Nobel Prize in literature later that same year.

• On April 19, 1993, near Waco, Texas, after a 51-day siege, the FBI launches a tear-gas assault on the compound of Branch Davidian leader David Koresh and his disciples as part of an investigation into illegal possession of firearms and explosives. The compound at Mount Carmel was burned to the ground, and some 80 Branch Davidians, including 22 children, died in the inferno.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

• A garden manicure is what my mother calls it: When working with plants and dirt, rake your nails across a bar of soap. The soap prevents dirt particles from lodging under nails, and the soap washes away easily when you are finished. Happy Gardening! – JoAnn

• "If you have a spade with a long handle, you can transfer common

measurements to the handle. Just lay a tape measure alongside the handle, and use a black marker to note common spacing, like feet and inches. Then, when you put in plants, you can check quickly whether they are spaced correctly. Very handy!" – PE in Arkansas

• "Garden tool storage doesn't have to be hard. Fill a wide mouth bucket with clean sand. Add a half quart or motor oil and stir. Then use the sand to clean and store your garden tools like shovels, rakes or hoes. The sand/oil mixture helps clean the metal surfaces, and the heaviness of the container lets you stick them in the sand without fear of everything falling down, like it would if you leaned them along a wall." – E in North Carolina

• Here's a recipe for a quickie bird feeder or bath: Flip over a nice-size flower pot, and place the pot's tray on the top. Fill with seed or water. The birds will thank you – maybe even by eating some nuisance bugs along with the seed.

• If the string on your trimmer is always breaking or jamming, try this old trick: Give the coiled string a spray with vegetable oil before you thread it. It

continued on page 30B

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Cisco And Gretchen

Hello, my name is Cisco. I am a black 6-year-old male pit bull. I just received my very own donut bed the other day, and it will be mine to bring with me when I find a committed foster or adopter.



Cisco ID# A906157 photos provided

The moment that I settle into it for the first time is everything. I am available for adoption through Lee County Domestic Animal Services or foster through Big Hearts for Big Dogs Rescue. My adoption fee is \$10.

Hi, I'm Gretchen. I am a tan 5-year-old female pit bull, who is a medium-sized pup with a big personality. I would do best in a home with same-sized or bigger dogs as

I like to chase any pets smaller than me. I will sit patiently at my run if you ask and wait for you to come and scratch under my chin. I have the softest fur, so once you start, you will have a hard time pulling yourself away. My adoption fee is \$10.



Gretchen ID# A910024

The eighth annual Flip This Kennel event will be held Saturday, April 23, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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

From page 29B

Now Here's A Tip

lubricates the line, making it less likely to pull and less likely to break.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- A honey badger named Stoffel, resident of a wildlife center in South Africa, was noted not just for repeated escapes from his enclosure, but his stubborn penchant for pursuing much larger animals than himself. After ending up in the clinic after attacking two lions, upon his release, he immediately broke free to attack them again!
- The novelty song *Monster Mash* by Bobby Pickett was banned by the BBC for over a decade on the grounds it was too morbid.
- Sorry, Honey Nut Cheerios fans, your cereal doesn't contain any nuts. While ground almonds used to be included, since 2006 just "natural almond flavor" has been used, and that is typically derived from apricot and peach pits.
- An estimated 5five percent of the population has never experienced a headache.
- Who needs Red Bull? In the early 1900s, distance runners were given champagne, brandy or even strychnine (rat poison) as a type of "energy drink" during long races.

- Robert Pirsig's *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* holds the world record for being the most-often rejected book to later become a bestseller, with a whopping 121 refusals before a publisher finally agreed to buy it.
- On the moon, the Earth doesn't appear to rise or set, just wobble a bit.
- A Ukrainian couple tried to save their failing relationship by handcuffing themselves together. They lasted about four months before throwing in the towel for good.
- Studies have shown that removing lead from gasoline was a factor leading to the decline of violent crime in 1990s America. Individuals exposed to lead at young ages have numerous conditions and problems with impulse control, all of which may negatively impact their

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

decisions as they reach adulthood.

You always pass failure on the way to success."

– D Mickey Rooney

TRIVIA TEST

1. **Food & Drink:** What was the first food eaten in space?
2. **Literature:** A character named Piggy is featured in which 20th-century novel?
3. **Geography:** What are the residents of Cyprus called?

CLASSIFIED

COMMERCIAL RENTAL

OFFICE SUITE RENTAL ON SANIBEL ISLAND

Three closed-door offices, hall closet, private bathroom w/shower, shared kitchen, common area, and additional bathroom. Locking hall door to keep your private spaces secure. Plenty of extra storage space and meeting areas. Located easy on and off the Island near the intersection of Periwinkle and Causeway Road. Call Ron at 239-989-1327.

4/15 ✱ 4/15

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VACATION RENTAL SANIBEL

Stunning remodel and designer decorated. All High End!!

This Gorgeous home offers 3 BR/2 BA, private pool, large 2 car garage, overlooking conservation area, Walk to beach. Peace and Serenity!! Available for a minimum of 6 months for the 2022/23 Season. Call to inquire and book this property!

239-472-6747

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Gulf Beach Properties, Inc.

4/15 ✱ TFN

SERVICES OFFERED

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Dock Lighting, affordable LED conversion. FPE panel replacement, Landscape Lighting. Generator Sizing, etc, etc, etc. Call or text Roger 239-707-7203 State License #13002788

4/20 ✱ TFN

HELP WANTED

CAREGIVER

We are seeking a caregiver for an elderly woman with experience, for two 24 hour shifts every other week and PRN (as needed). Must be caring and compassionate, and able to complete personal care tasks like bathing, dressing, eating, grooming and daily med intake. Also assist with physical transit. Contact Lisa 239-395-0153.

1/21 ✱ TFN

LOST & FOUND

LOST BLACK ZIPPERED BRUSH CASE

I am a full-time artist on the island and I lost my brush case full of watercolor brushes, pens and pencils etc. over a week ago, somewhere along Middle Gulf Drive. It's a black zippered case. I offer a \$100 reward if you find it. These brushes are of high sentimental value to me. Please contact me at shadjebi@gmail.com

3/25 ✱ TFN

Cycling Safety Notes

Ride to the right

Warn to pass

Wear a helmet

Use lights at night

Always be courteous



SANIBEL BICYCLE CLUB

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 residents as well as out of state visitors need a fishing license to fish from shore.

VACATION RENTAL



Cottages To Castles Unique Vacation Rentals 2427 Periwinkle Way Sanibel, FL 33957 Local: (239) 472-6385 Toll Free: (800) 472-5385 Fax: (239) 472-5858 www.cottages-to-castles.com

1/26 ✱ TFN

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1/4 ✱ TFN

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Inbox me your monthly rent amount and I'll send you 3 houses you could OWN for the same monthly payment. chip@chipwolfe.com chipwolfe.com 239-848-0906 REMAX OF THE ISLANDS

6/5 ✱ TFN

- are in a stone?
5. **Language:** What does Ph.D stand for?
6. **Animal Kingdom:** What is the color of a giraffe's tongue?
7. **Medical:** What is the common name for onychocryptosis?
8. **History:** What is a more common name for the 19th-century killer known as the "Whitechapel Murderer"?
9. **General Knowledge:** What is the color of "black boxes" used to record flight data on aircraft?
10. **Science:** What is considered to be the ideal "room temperature"?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. In 1961, Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin ate pureed meat and then chocolate sauce.
2. "Lord of the Flies" 3. Cypriots 4. 14
5. Doctor of Philosophy 6. Blue, black or purple 7. Ingrown nail 8. Jack the Ripper 9. Bright orange to aid in recovery 10. 68-72 degrees Fahrenheit

SCRAMBLERS ANSWER

1. Scathe 2. Serve
3. Bones; 4. Certain

Today's Word
VACATION



PUZZLE ANSWERS

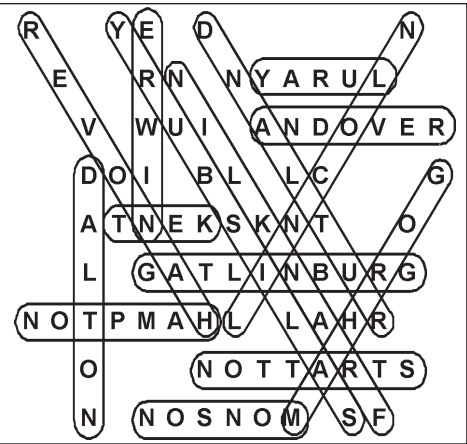
SUPER CROSSWORD

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A	N	T	S	Y		Y	E	A	T	S		S	T	O	O	P	S	A	L	E

KING CROSSWORD

F	B	I		D	O	C		R	A	S	P	Y	
O	L	D		E	N	E		A	R	E	T	E	
L	I	T		E	L	C	A	P	I	T	A	N	
D	N	A		M	O	I	S	T					
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MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Barefoot Beach	Bonita Springs	2020	4,865	\$9,950,000	\$9,925,000	112
Ancona	Miromar Lakes	2020	3,756	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000	0
Wildblue	Fort Myers	2021	4,720	\$4,045,000	\$4,045,000	83
Creekside	Bonita Springs	1995	4,597	\$3,299,000	\$3,299,000	3
Del Sega	Sanibel	1991	4,738	\$2,895,000	\$2,901,000	0
Harbour Preserve	Cape Coral	2003	3,970	\$2,835,000	\$2,835,000	5
Del Sega	Sanibel	1992	3,371	\$2,695,000	\$2,711,000	6
Indian Bayou Subd	Fort Myers Beach	1991	2,232	\$2,200,000	\$2,300,000	5
Kinzie Island	Sanibel	1995	2,696	\$2,295,000	\$2,295,000	4
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2013	2,872	\$2,199,999	\$2,200,000	12

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15261 CAPTIVA DRIVE



WATERFRONT OASIS
•4 BR, 4.5 Bath, Deep Water Dock w/Lift
•Stofft Cooney Design, Waterfront Oasis
•Heated Pool w/Infinity Spa, Estate Lot
•Master Retreat w/ Loft
\$11,250,000

16221-16217 CAPTIVA DRIVE



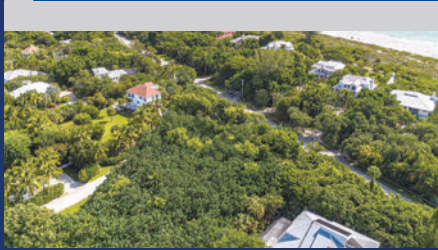
ROOSEVELT CHANNEL
•5 BR, 5.5 BA Main House
•2 BR, 2 BA Guest house
•Office, Elevator, MBR with Sitting Room
•Pool/Spa, Boat Lift/Dock, 2 Acres
\$7,250,000

**15867 & 15879 CAPTIVA DRIVE
UNDER CONTRACT**



CAPTIVA GULF TO BAY ESTATE
•Main house 3 BR, 3.5 BA, 4,000 S.F.
•Spacious 3 BR, 3 BR Guest Cottage
•Panoramic Bay Views, Deep Water Dock
•Stunning Expansive Gulf Views, Pool/Spa
\$11,700,000

451 SAWGRASS PLACE



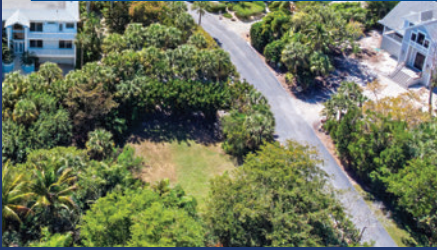
SAWGRASS
•Incredible Building Site on West Gulf Drive
•Beach Access Directly Across Street
•Corner Lot off West Gulf Drive
•10' Elevation
\$949,000

15819 CAPTIVA DRIVE



CAPTIVA ISLAND
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•Unique Property, 125' Water Frontage
•Blueprints by John Cooney Available
•Deep Water Access, Covered Boat House
\$15,500,000

1321 SEASPRAY LANE



SEASPRAY
•Near Beach, Large Single Family Buildable Homesite
•Small Beach Community of Fabulous Homes
•Community Tennis Courts & Pool
•Private Community Beach Access
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1000 CAYO COSTA



CAYO COSTA STATE PARK
•1.8 Acres in 2,500 Acre State Park
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•Boat to Cabbage Key, Useppa & More
•Feels Like Private Island, Gulf/Bay Views
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0 WEST GULF DRIVE PARCEL #1



SANIBEL ISLAND LOT
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•Panoramic Beach Views & Sunsets
•1.5+ Acres of Land on Private Setting
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