

Check Your List: Kiwanis Santa Run Next Saturday



Santa will be on his toes delivering lots of gifts to island residents

file photo submitted by Tom Sharbaugh, Communications Chair

December 23 may seem a bit early for Santa to show up at your doorstep with a gift for someone in your household, but for 44 years, Santa has made a special stop on Sanibel on December 23, organized and assisted by

the local Kiwanis Club. And kids young and old will remember the experience for years to come. If you'd like to have Santa visit your home while he's in town, Kiwanis would be happy to oblige.

The Santa Run works like this: Any adult – parent, grandparent, friend – who would

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From left, Katie Pankow, Samantha Rotella, Galloway Stevens, Rob Sommers, Jake Delaney and Aiden Flemming

photo provided

A Dickens Classic At The Strauss

by Di Saggau

There is no better way to rediscover the magic of Christmas than to see the classic Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." This wonderful holiday production is now showing at the BIG

ARTS Strauss Theater and it's done in a way you will never forget. Much of Dickens' original text is used with six actors sharing narration and portraying various characters. A live fiddler (Kristen Weis) underscores the story with traditional Christmas music and this is one of the highlights of the production.

I'm sure many of you have seen the show with a large cast and many special

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Sanibel-Captiva Audubon 2018 Lecture Series

For the fourth consecutive year, noted wildlife expert and video producer Shawn Carey will kick off the annual Sanibel-Captiva Audubon lecture series to be held on Thursday evenings in January and February at 7:30 p.m. at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Wayl. As always, all are welcome, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. and parking available at The Community House as well as across Periwinkle Way in the Herb Strauss Theater parking area. A \$5 donation per attendee is appreciated with proceeds after costs being used to promote conservation on Sanibel and in Florida.

This year's lineup also includes San-Cap Audubon lecture favorites Dr. Jerry Jackson, Rick Bunting and Dr. Ken Meyer as well as the return of Sanibel's own all time favorite, Charles LeBuff. For more information, call Bill Jacobson



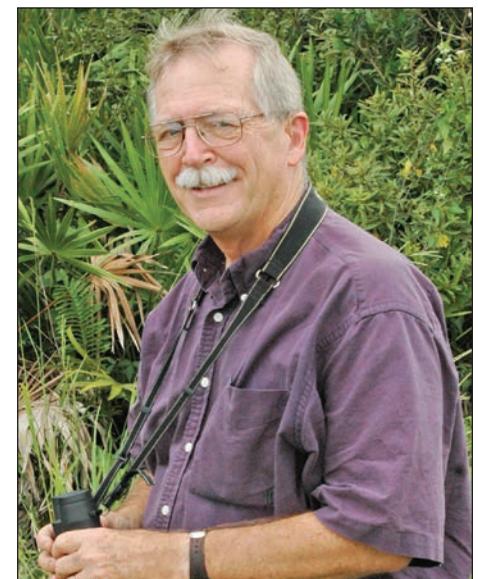
Great shearwater

photo by Tammy McQuade

at 395-1878 or visit the San-Cap Audubon website at www.san-capaudubon.org.

January 4 – Tanzanian Tails
Wildlife photographer, educator

and guide Shawn Carey will share the sights and sounds from his recent visit to Tanzania to include the many unique birds and animals of this exotic region of Africa.



Dr. Jerry Jackson

photo provided

January 11 – Purple Martin Majesty
Avian authority, Dr. Jerry Jackson of FGCU and host of WGPU's public radio show, *With the Wild Things*, will focus

continued on page 10

GURHAN



Holiday Showcase

THURSDAY
—&—
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DECEMBER 21-22
10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Holiday Treasure shopping begins "Gurhan" style at Lily & Co. Jewelers on beautiful Sanibel Island. Plenty of Reindeer & Sleigh Parking available, Elf Snacks and Seasonal Spirits will abound. Santa's helpers are standing by ready to gift wrap and ship free overnight all your Holiday cheer.



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The Community House

Celebration of Life

Join members of the community for a celebration of the life of Ann Arnoff, a Sanibel visionary and dedicated community leader on Saturday, December 16 from 2 to 4 p.m.



Ann Arnoff

Foodies and Yogis

Foodies and Yogis with Dr. Susan Pataky and Chef Jarred Harris will be held on Sunday, December 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. This new series starts with a one-hour themed beginner-friendly yoga session led by Dr. Susan Pataky. Following the session, Resident Chef Jarred Harris will prepare and serve a delicious and nutritious meal. Each segment features a different healing herb or spice along with information on the applications in the kitchen as well as medicinal uses for the body and mind. Cost is \$49 per person. To register, call 472-2155 or sign up online at <https://sanibelcommunityhouse.net>.

Holiday Mini-Golf

Holiday Mini-Golf will take place Tuesday, December 26 through Friday, December 29 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The indoor course is newly designed. No equipment is necessary. Admission for open play is \$3 per person.

Duplicate Bridge

Duplicate bridge will be offered on Tuesdays in December from 12:30 to 4 p.m., led by bridge aficionado Susan Willoughby. Refreshments provided. Cost is \$10 paid to the organizer.

Fish Fry

The Community House will host a Fish Fry on Friday, December 29 from 5 to 7 p.m. Resident Chef Jarred Harris will prepare his own Point Ybel Beer-Battered Cod, Tropical Jicama Salad and Yucca Fries. Mac and cheese will be available for children. There will be a cash bar with Point Ybel Brewing Company beer. Cost is \$15 per person. A maximum of 300 tickets will be sold; available at The Community House and Bailey's General Store.

Colorful Sips

Sissi Janku's Colorful Sips painting class will be held on Wednesday, January 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. No experience is necessary. Students will explore new ways to paint with acrylics. Bring your favorite snack or beverage. Registration can be completed online. Cost is \$55 for members and \$60 for guests.

Young Chefs Cooking Series

The next class in the monthly Young Chefs Cooking Series with Chef Jarred Harris will be held Monday, January 1 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Students will learn to make tapas and other dishes from Spain. Classes are designed for students 8 years old and up. Cost is \$35 per child and includes the meal made in class. Registration form required. To register, contact info@sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.

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

Museum Store Is Overflowing With Unique Gift Ideas

There's still plenty of time to find those last-minute holiday gifts without having to leave the island. Visit the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum Store and shop the premier collection of gifts.

Upgrade your dream space with the latest trends in home accessories. The museum store's fine home décor is designed for Florida living.

"The gift store has a fabulous variety of items to choose from at various price points. Love that it is so diversified. They seemed to know just what I needed," said Dottie Carpus of Fort Myers during the museum's holiday shopping event last month. "And the museum is so exciting to visit. So many things to see from all over the world. Really enjoy the tank talks and seeing the different shells and the animals that live in them."

The museum's shopping consultants can help you find an exquisite piece of jewelry from Congress Jeweler's shell life collection for yourself or someone special. Or for the children in your life, you'll love the colorful beaded bracelets and fossilized shark teeth.

"The shell museum gift shop has a beautiful selection of items for the whole family," added Betty Moubay. "Books for young and old on seashells, marine life, fish and sea mammals. Carved wooden animals, fragrant soaps, Christmas ornaments and postcards. You will not have to go far to find unique items for your loved ones."

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 395-2233.*

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Timmy's Nook in 1994 photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives
Captiva Island Historical Society

Landmark: Timmy's Nook Restaurant

This week's image is Timmy's Nook, a restaurant on the bay in Captiva. It was open from 1964 to 1994. The building was built by Timmy (TM) Wiles in 1952. The Green Flash restaurant currently stands there.

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

Visit www.captivaislandhistoricalsociety.org/archives/research to view many more images to bring you closer to Captiva.✪

Church Hosting International Cruise

Sanibel Community Church is hosting its first ever International Missions Cruise from Friday, March 16 to Monday, March 19. The cruise will depart from Miami and head to Nassau in The Bahamas. Families will serve at a local church, Chapel on the Hill, as well as participate in other service projects, including volunteering at the Ranfurly Home for Children Orphanage.

Featured speakers on the trip will be Pete and Alice Brokopp, who minister at Envision in Clarkston, Georgia. The Brokopp's passion is to share God's heart for people and the importance of missions.

While on board, Senior Pastor Daryl Donovan will lead the group in a Bible study on the book of Colossians. Worship leaders for the trip are Dave and Tara Powers, who founded Worship and the World Movement, and have traveled as missionaries for the past eleven years.

In addition to the service projects, biblical teaching, and worship, families will enjoy snorkeling, kayaking, boating, fellowship, good food and many other blessings on the SCC International Missions Cruise.

The cruise is open to all ages; the church encourages the entire family to attend. Sign up closes on December 15. For more information, call 472-2684 or visit www.sanibelchurch.com.

Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation, with the church campus located at 1740 Periwinkle Way.✪



Chapel on the Hill, located in Nassau in The Bahamas photo provided

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OBITUARY



JOSEPHINE MARIA PALERMO

Josephine Maria Palermo was born on January 26, 1926 in the North End of Boston, Massachusetts. “Joni,” as most friends knew her, passed on painlessly to eternal life Monday evening, November 27, 2017 at the age of 91. She is survived by her daughter, Debra Canty, grandchildren Jessica Laine, Spencer Hamilton, Caitlyn Hamilton, Karl Canty and his wife Paige, a great grandchild, Finnegan – and, of course, her beloved

feline “Lucky” – who like all of us, was lucky to have shared in her seemingly unending love of life, laughter and family.

Those that knew Joni will agree that she was one of the most vibrant, forthright, sharp and truly honest individuals they had ever met. This adventurous spirit prompted her to leave her Bostonian home for Florida in the late 1960s, build a home in Delray Beach (reportedly with “her bare hands”) and eventually settle on Sanibel in the summer of 1990.

To the island, she brought her grandson Karl, who she proudly and selflessly raised from birth. “Gram,” as her grandchildren called her, became an island fixture, chasing her grandchildren first through the halls of Sanibel Elementary and later, through high school, college and beyond. A conservative child of the Great Depression and World War II, she passed on her careful yet consistent guidance to save, share, eat well, care for others, believe in yourself and, above all, “Watch your salt, honey!”

She was a long time nanny for many lucky families on the island. One can barely remember Joni ever meeting an enemy, and she excelled at many things – including a brutal efficiency at gin rummy, her holiday apple pie (the recipe for which is a guarded family heirloom), tending her yard, predicting the outcome of *Judge Judy* episodes (97.3 percent accuracy), and most importantly, sharing her love, thoughtfulness and honest caring with

friends and family alike. Without fail, she always had a positive word to share and gave fair “tell-it-like-it-is” advice to anyone that was brave enough to ask (as so many were). Her ambitious and brave approach to life earned her many friends, admirers and the deep loving respect of her family – all of whom miss her very much.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, December 29 at St. Isabel Catholic Church, 3559 Sanibel Captiva Road on Sanibel. Joni would probably have told you to arrive a little early to get decent parking and a good seat.

In lieu of flowers, donations to St. Jude Children’s Hospital would be appreciated.*

Christmas Eve Services At Sanibel Church

Christmas Eve morning at Sanibel Community Church will begin with regular worship services, including preaching and family-friendly worship at 8, 9 and 11 a.m. A courtyard fellowship with treats will be held at 10:30 a.m. The 8 and 11 a.m. services will be traditional Christmas services, while the 9 a.m. will be a contemporary service. There will be child care for children ages infant through pre-school. Each service will include a “Kid’s Moment.”

On Sunday evening, the church will provide three opportunities to celebrate Christmas Eve on Sanibel. At 4 p.m., there will be a contemporary worship service including traditional carols with a contemporary flare, and a special time for children, as well as a visit from the shepherds with their sheep. At 6 p.m., a second contemporary service will be held. Then at 8 p.m., the evening concludes with a traditional Christmas Eve service with full choir. The shepherds will make their final visit of the evening with their flock.

A special offering will be received at all three services for gift cards for less fortunate families on Sanibel that can use a little extra help this time of year. Each service will conclude with the lighting of the candles while singing



Shepherds Tom Mullins and Senior Pastor Daryl Donovan photo provided

Silent Night.

Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation with the church campus located at 1740 Periwinkle Way. For more information, call 472-2684 or visit www.sanibelchurch.com.*

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Kiwanis Continues Support Of The Sanibel School

The Sanibel Captiva Kiwanis Club has a long history of supporting activities at The Sanibel School, including the Sanibel School Fund, the annual Seahorse Festival and PTA programs that help provide needed supplies for students and teachers. Support from the Kiwanis Club and others in the community has helped The Sanibel School become one of the leading schools in the state of Florida.

This year, the Kiwanis grant of \$16,000 was presented by Allan Marcus, Kiwanis chairman of youth activities, to The Sanibel School Principal Chuck Vilardi, who expressed great appreciation for this year's grant and all the support the club has provided over the years.

The Kiwanis grant will be used to underwrite the Sanibel School Fund, support the annual Seahorse Festival



Allan Marcus, Kiwanis chairman of youth activities, and The Sanibel School Principal Chuck Vilardi photo provided

and PTA activities. It helps give the school resources to pay for needed supplies for students and teachers over and above the official school budget.*

Free Movie Night At Sanibel Church

Sanibel Community Church will show *The Chronicles of Narnia* on Sunday, December 17 at 5 p.m.

The movie captures the CS Lewis classic children's tale in a way that encapsulates the novel's breadth and splendor. When Lucy climbs into a huge wardrobe while playing hide and seek, the furs give way to "firs," and she finds herself in a snow-covered land called Narnia. Soon, all of the family's children enter this magical world where it is always winter, but never Christmas. Chases... fights... battles... beavers. A lion named Aslan, and the love that binds four siblings together form the cornerstone of the movie. These are just a few of the reasons why the land of Narnia is loved by so many.

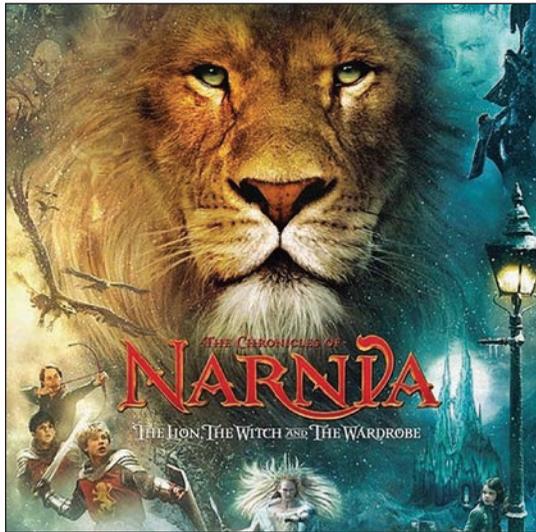


image provided

The movie is free and so are the snacks. Donations will be accepted to support Florida Baptist Children's Homes. The movie begins at 5 p.m. and snack time starts at 4:30 p.m.

Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation with the church campus located at 1740 Periwinkle Way. For more information, call 472-2684 or visit www.sanibelchurch.com.*



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Liquor Sales Approved For BIG ARTS

by Jeff Lysiak

During Tuesday's planning commission meeting, a resolution to recommend that an amendment to the Sanibel Code of Ordinances be made to allow alcoholic beverage sales at performing arts centers and live performance venues, without the perquisite sale of food, was unanimously approved.

During a lengthy discussion on the topic, commissioners heard from members of BIG ARTS – who made the application for the exemption – and the Sanibel Community Association, who had been seeking a similar exemption.

“The on-premise sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages is offered by similar performing arts centers and live performance theaters located around the country and is a recognized and customary service expected by patrons,” the proposed ordinance reads, in part. “Performing arts centers and live performance theaters that qualify under Florida statute may obtain license and permit approval from the state’s Division of Alcohol and Tobacco for the on-premise sales and consumption of alcoholic beverages without offering food sales or services.”

The proposed ordinance also included the word “primarily” when defining both performing arts centers and live performance theaters, a sticking point which triggered debate throughout the hearing.

Ralph Clark, director of BIG ARTS, noted that his group – whose locations include the Schein Hall Performance Hall and the Herb Strauss Theater – is only allowed to give away alcoholic beverages at their venues during events and performances. Being permitted to sell alcohol would create an additional source of revenue for BIG ARTS and improve the quality of beverages being served to their customers.

Bill Sartoris, representing the Sanibel Community Association, told commissioners that his organization also desires an exemption from the food sales requirement. He requested that the word “primarily” be removed from the proposed ordinance, adding, “Most of what we do

fits into the state’s performing arts venue definition.”

City Attorney Ken Cuyler, who read a small passage from the state statute related to alcoholic beverage sales at performing arts centers and live performance theaters, suggested that the state legislation was “extremely broad when it comes to defining what a venue can do.” However, he did not object to the removal of the word “primarily.”

Following some additional discussion, Commissioner Chris Heidrick made a motion to approve a resolution recommending amending the city’s ordinance, minus the word “primarily.” Commissioners voted 5 to 0 to approve the resolution, which will now go before the Sanibel City Council for final approval.

At the start of the meeting, Dirk deWerff was appointed interim vice chair of the commission.

In other business, commissioners approved a conditional use permit to replace an existing boat lift adjacent to an existing accessory boat dock located in the Bay Beach Zone along with a development permit application filed pursuant to Land Development Code to resurface and reframe the existing accessory boat dock located at 1898 Woodring Road.

Also, a variance to improve and modify an accessory dock and boat lift, along with the installation of a second boat lift located at 2520 Harbour Lane, was approved.✪

City Accepting Applications For Commission

Sanibel City Council is currently accepting applications to fill a planning commission partial term appointment with an expiration date of January 14, 2019 and a full term to expire January 11, 2021. The first vacancy is a result of Planning Commission Vice Chair Holly D. Smith’s appointment to the Sanibel City Council on December 5. The second vacancy is due to the resignation of Commissioner Chris Heidrick, effective December 31, 2017.

Responsibilities of the planning commission include attending commission meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 9 a.m. at city hall, located at 800 Dunlop Road.

Those wishing to serve may visit the city’s website www.mysanibel.com. After opening the hyperlink, use the drop down arrow under Committee Choice to choose the Planning Commission. Continue to complete the online application. At the end of the application process, click the green “submit” button, which will allow submission of your application to the city clerk. The deadline for submission is noon on Tuesday, December 19.

If you have any questions, contact the Sanibel City Manager’s office at 472-3700.✪

2016 Hurricane Re-Entry Passes Good For 2018

Hurricane season ended on November 30. In the City of Sanibel’s continuing efforts to reduce costs, the city is going to keep the 2016 series pass active. People who have been issued a 2016 series pass should keep their pass for use in 2018.

Some important information about Sanibel’s re-entry passes:

Purpose – The pass aids security, speeds re-entry, and provides traffic control at a time when we must keep traffic to a minimum. The pass allows persons in a vehicle to return to perform property damage assessment.

Pass Limits – To meet the purposes of security, re-entry and traffic control:

(Residential) a strict limit of two passes per address.

(Commercial) businesses will be issued only enough commercial passes to facilitate the damage assessment process, ordinarily one pass.

Pass Holders Responsibility – Due to the security aspects of the pass, all persons issued a pass are responsible to ensure their pass does not fall into the wrong or irresponsible hands.

Lost/Destroyed Passes – In the unusual event that you have to evacuate, people without a pass can return with proper credentials. Access via credentialing is slower, so it’s recommended that every household get a pass.

Pass Expiration – The city makes an independent decision each year whether to reuse passes or issue new ones. There will be press releases and emails when the

decision is made. Keep your pass until you know it is no longer valid.

For questions about hurricane passes or preparedness, refer to the emergency management section of the city website (www.mysanibel.com) or call the Sanibel Police Department at 472-3111.✪

City Of Sanibel Vegetation Committee

Native Vegetation Tours At City Hall

The City of Sanibel Vegetation Committee is offering guided native vegetation and landscaping tours of city hall grounds, planted exclusively with native plants.

Tour dates are:

Wednesday, January 10 and Saturday, January 27;

Wednesday, February 14 and Saturday, February 24;

Wednesday, March 14 and Saturday, March 24;

Wednesday, April 11 and Saturday, April 28.

Walk the grounds for ideas on planting native vegetation that requires no fertilizer. See how you can plant a garden that reseeds itself with very 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 very little maintenance, no fertilizer, and no supplemental irrigation.

Registration is not required. Attendees meet at the main entrance to city hall, located at 800 Dunlop Road, in front of the main staircase. For more information, contact the City of Sanibel Natural Resources Department at 472-3700.

The Natural Resources Department section of the city’s website, www.mysanibel.com, offers information on native plants, a listing of licensed contractors, Sanibel’s vegetation standards and codes, and the Environmental Reference Handbook prepared by the city’s vegetation committee. The committee also offers free native plant tours. For more information, call 472-3700.✪

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BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

The Reform Congregation of Bat Yam Temple of the Islands meets for Friday night services at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, 2050 Periwinkle Way. Rabbi Stephen Fuchs. President Alan Lessack 579-0296.

HISTORIC CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

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



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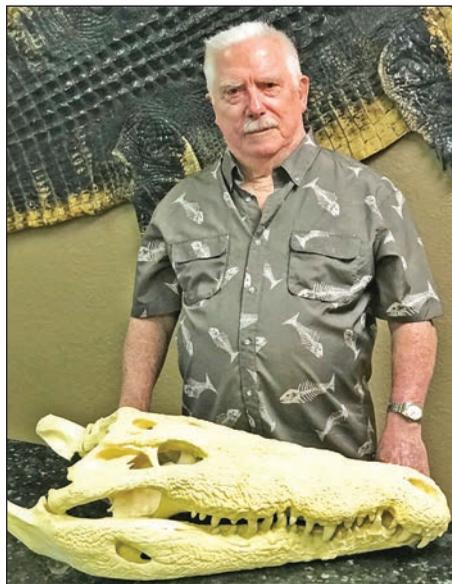
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From page 1

Lecture Series



Charles LeBuff photo provided

his presentation on this unique example of avian nobility.

January 18 – Images to Inspire: Barred Owls & Hummingbirds

San-Cap Audubon’s Bill Heyd returns utilizing his remarkable photographs and research to provide entry into the intimate activities of these unique bird species.

January 25 – Pelagic Birding off the Southwest Florida Coast

Discover what avid birders David and Tammy McQuade have learned about the pelagic birds by their many trips “going



© Shawn P. Carey

Tanzanian Tails will be this year’s first lecture on January 4 photo by Shawn P. Carey

where no birders have gone before.”

February 1 – Shorebirds: The Arctic Connection to Florida

Charles Ewell, veteran Lee County bird patrol tour leader, will detail the species that breed in Arctic Alaska and Canada and then migrate through or winter in Florida.

February 8 – 2017 Notes From a Roadside Naturalist

Rick Bunting returns to again utilize his unique perspective and superb photos to visually elaborate on his favorite location for observing the wonders of the natural world.

February 15 – 20 Years of Data-driven Bird Conservation

Dr. Ken Meyer, founder of Avian Research and Conservation Institute (ARCI), returns to visually summarize the exciting results and compelling stories generated by ARCI’s 20 years of remote tracking research of Florida’s imperiled bird species, including their responses to the severe hurricanes of 2017.

February 22 – The American Crocodile Comeback & the San-Cap Connection

Charles LeBuff, author, longtime Sanibelian, member of Sanibel’s first city council and former career biological

technician at the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge, will enlighten guest on this unique reptile and its even more unique local relationships.*

Missionary To Speak At Church

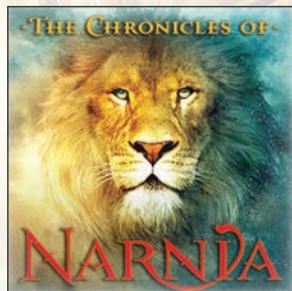
On Sunday, December 17, Dr. Brett MacLean will offer a presentation on his work as a medical missionary in Mali and Togo at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way. His presentation, accompanied by a slide presentation, will be held between the 9 and 11 a.m. services. Dr. MacLean was a classmate of Drs. Dana and Scott Crater, members of the congregation.

Dr. MacLean and his wife, Sheri, are both from Raleigh, North Carolina and attended the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) for their undergraduate studies. Dr. MacLean went on to medical school at Wake Forest in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and did his pediatric residency at the Medical University of South Carolina at Charleston, South Carolina. Sheri also earned her nursing degree and family nurse practitioner advanced nursing degree at Medical University.

The MacLeans have been serving in Mali, West Africa since 2014 and will soon begin work in Togo. They are the parents of four children; Dawson, Kenan, Silas and Haven.

For more information, call the church at 472-0497.*

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Deep winter is a perfect time to explore the mystical land of Narnia in *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*, a holiday favorite of young and old alike.

Come early for Christmas treats and sodas at 4:30 p.m. The movie is free however a love offering will be received for the Florida Baptist Children’s Homes.

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Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.

ANNUAL LIGHTHOUSE BEACH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

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Sunday, December 24 at 9:00 p.m. in our sanctuary

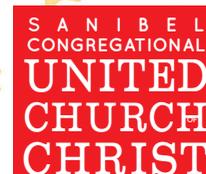
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Sunday, December 31 at 10:00 a.m. in our sanctuary

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Catholic Women Host Christmas Season Potluck



Members and friends gathered for a potluck at Sanibel Arms West

photo provided

To kick off the Christmas season, the Sanibel Catholic Women hosted their first potluck dinner recently at the Sanibel Arms West clubhouse. The members thank the staff at Sanibel Arms West for providing accommodations for their event. A nice evening was had by all as members enjoyed the company of their Christian friends. More than 80 members attended and \$700 was raised for FISH of SanCap.✱

Author Afternoon

MacIntosh Books and Paper will be hosting its first Local Author Afternoon on Thursday, December 14 from 4 to 6 p.m. The open house format will allow both new and seasoned local authors the opportunity to meet readers and introduce them to their work in a casual setting. Light refreshments will be served. This will be a monthly event for MacIntosh and more details are available by emailing macintoshbooks@gmail.com.

This month's authors are Terry Malik (*The Bricklayer of Albany Park*) Lorraine Walker Williams (*Simply Sanibel Poems* and others) and Dr. Morton Tavel (*Health Tips, Myths and Tricks: A Physician's Advice* and others). Authors will be available to sign books and answer any questions about their books and their writing process.

If you are unable to attend and would like to purchase a book, call 472-1447.

MacIntosh Books is located at 2330 Palm Ridge Road across from CVS Pharmacy.✱



Santa will be available for photos on Christmas Eve

photo provided

Cruise To A Deserted Island And Visit Santa

Adventures In Paradise is offering Santa's Dolphin and Wildlife Cruise on Christmas Eve. Bring the family and hop aboard *Dolphin Waters*, a 45-foot Corinthian Power Catamaran, and cruise among the dolphins to visit with Santa where he'll be waiting on Picnic Island with gifts for all the children. Along the way, sightsee and learn about

mangrove islands and estuaries where the Calusa Indians once lived.

Departure time is 10 a.m. on Sunday, December 24 with return at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$45 per adult and \$35 per child, and reservations are limited. Tickets can be purchased by calling 472-8443 or by visiting www.AdventuresInParadise.com. There will be complimentary soft drinks, bottled water and snacks plus plenty of opportunities for photos.

Adventures In Paradise cruises depart from "G" dock at Port Sanibel Marina in South Fort Myers.✱

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Students Visit Shell Museum, Island Inn



Shell museum docent Karen Turner, right, leading a group through the Great Hall of Shells photos by Jeff Lysiak

by Jeff Lysiak

Thanks to the sponsorship of Sanibel's Island Inn, fourth graders from Manatee Elementary School in Fort Myers spent two days exploring the natural wonders of the Gulf of Mexico shoreline and visited the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum.

As part of the museum's Adopt-A-Class program, the students learned more about mollusks, took part in arts and craft activities, and learned why shells are such an important part of the natural world.

On December 6, fourth graders enrolled in classes taught by Laurel Knapp and Jacqueline Rivera divided into separate groups. In the museum basement, one

cluster of youngsters took part in an arts and crafts activity while the remaining students visited the live touch tank area, where they were allowed to gently handle live mollusks in small containers.

Upstairs, museum docent Karen Turner brought another group into the Great Hall of Shells, where they enjoyed playing with the museum's new interactive exhibits and displays, while a final group viewed the *Mollusks In Action* movie on the main floor.

Following lunch at the museum, all of the students hopped back on their bus for a visit to the beach. There, Island Inn General Manager and Vice President Chris Davison met the students and their



Teacher Jacqueline Rivera, center, assisting Leticia Francisco and Cindi Terraza with their art project



Dulce Garcia touches a live mollusk

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Fourth graders from Manatee Elementary School in Fort Myers visited the beach at Island Inn last Wednesday morning, part of the Adopt-A-Class program with the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum



Teacher Laurel Knapp instructing her students how to handle live shells



One of the students using a magnifying glass to examine a shell

chaperones for a group photo. Before returning to Fort Myers, students collected their own shells to take home.

“Partnering in this program with the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is a natural fit for the Island Inn,” said Davison. “Today’s Sanibel exists because of the care and appreciation of past generations for Southwest Florida’s unique ecosystem and estuary. A visit to the museum, followed by a visit to

our beach, paints a complete picture of the beauty and abundance Southwest Florida has to offer. An environmentally informed youth only bodes well for the Island Inn, Sanibel and Southwest Florida as a whole.”

For more information about becoming an Adopt-A-Class sponsor, call the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum at 395-2233 or visit <http://shellmuseum.org/learn/adopt-a-class>.



Outreach Coordinator Leigh Gay, right, taking a “wacky” photo of Mrs. Knapp’s class on the museum’s front steps

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Plant Smart

Christmasberries Same Name, But So Different

by Gerri Reaves

Despite the subtropical climate, South Florida has its own rivals to the bright red holly berries of northern latitudes, such as the two Christmasberries pictured here. Both have festive berries and foliage, but that's about all.

One is a Florida native listed as threatened by the state, and one an invasive of the highest order.

The native Christmasberry (*Crossopetalum ilicifolium*) is a mat-forming semi-woody groundcover that grows only a foot or two high.

A member of the bittersweet family, in the wild it grows in pinelands, pine rocklands and hammock edges.

The bright red berries and inconspicuous whitish flowers appear year 'round except when it's exceptionally dry or cold.

The berries appear in the leaf axils, the point where the stem and leaf join. The fruit attracts birds and is edible for people too.

The evergreen holly-like leaves earn this plant another common name, ground holly. They are opposite and oval or ovate with spined edges.

This pretty native is low maintenance and very drought tolerant. Give it full sun to partial shade and moist but well-drained soil.



Native Christmasberry is listed as threatened in the state of Florida

photos by Gerri Reaves

It will grow even on limestone rocks or in nutrient-poor soil, so it's a good choice for rock gardens. However, it's not salt tolerant.

If you've lived in Florida for any length of time, you've seen Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) and probably heard of its destructive effect on Florida's environment.

It's easy to understand how the bright berries and evergreen foliage earned it the common name Christmasberry, as well as another holiday nickname, Florida holly.

The foliage and berries still occasionally pop up in holiday decorations and centerpieces, even though it has long been listed as a category-1 invasive plant



This non-native Christmasberry, aka Brazilian pepper, is a category-1 invasive pest plant

by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC), and it is restricted by state and local laws.

Category-1 species earn that category because their ecological damage is documented. They have altered native plant communities "by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, or hybridizing with natives," according to the FLEPPC.

Multi-stemmed and quite large, the plant has dense foliage. The leaves measure five to eight inches long and are made up of paired leaflets.

A member of the cashew family, this native of Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil was imported in the 1840s as an ornamental, so it's had plenty of time to gain a foothold.

Unfortunately, this Christmasberry dominates large parcels of undeveloped land. Also, it's still present in many home

landscapes because people like the glossy red berries or aren't aware of the plant's detrimental effects.

The fact that birds like to eat the berries, thus spreading the species, adds to the problem.

However pretty and festive this Christmasberry is, eliminate it from your landscape. And be careful as you do.

Handling this relative of poison ivy can cause skin and respiratory irritation. The berries are toxic, so reconsider using them for decorations.

Sources: *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *The Shrubs and Woody Vines of Florida* by Gil Nelson, *Wild Plants for Survival in South Florida* by Julia F. Morton, www.fnps.org, and www.regionalconservation.org.

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

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Switch To The Winter Pattern



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Winter conditions arrived overnight this past weekend as we woke to cold, wind and rain marking the start of what will be a chilly week on the water.

As the wind slowly lays down, anglers getting back on the water will have to adapt to the major changes cold water brings to our fishery. Snook fishing with shiners will be a thing of the past for at least a few days. Fishing low and slow with shrimp to catch sheepshead, black drum, rat redfish and trout will be the go-to catch.

The cold will concentrate the fish into the places they spend the cooler months along with bringing in lots of pre-spawn sheepshead in from offshore. Depending on how cold the water temperature drops, I'm guessing it will mark the end of shiner fishing for at least a week or until water temperatures

begin to rebound as the bait moves out to the deeper warmer water of the Gulf. Bouncing a jig head rigged with a shrimp slowly across the bottom in the deeper creeks and canals will be the best way to bend a rod for at least a few days. Docks, jetties and pilings from the passes to the intercoastal will load up with lots of large sheepshead.

This wintertime sheepshead fishery can often be the saving grace for anglers during these cold periods. Sheepshead fishing only improves with cold weather, while basically ever other species we target will grind to a halt shutting down for a few days on the backside of such a major cold front. We need to switch to light spinning tackle. With that change, sheepshead are relatively easy to catch, good to eat and put a up a good fight. My rig of choice for catching them is a chunk of fresh shrimp hooked on a quarter ounce 2/0 jig head tied with a loop knot to about 30 inches of 20-pound fluorocarbon leader.

The week's weather forecast saying it will stay cold, so I'm expecting our water temperature to drop in degrees to at least the low 60s if not high 50s. This major drop in temperature will signal the beginning of our winter fishing pattern. Cold fronts are all just a part of life, although the first big one of the season is always a little bit of a surprise both to



Brad Agerton with a pre-cold front snook caught and released while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided

Send Us Your Fish Tales

We would like to hear from anglers about their catches. Send us details including tackle, bait and weather conditions, date of catch, species and weight, and include a photograph with identification. Email to press@islandnews.com or call 395-1213.

the fish and anglers. Dig out that warm clothing and rig up the smaller rods. Winter is here at least for a week.

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been fishing local waters since he moved to Sanibel

in 1980. He now lives in St. James City and works as a back country fishing guide. If you have comments or questions, email captmattmitchell@aol.com. ✨

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Shell Of The Week

American Tusk Shell



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

Tusk shells belong in the molluscan class Scaphopoda, and are so named because they

resemble small elephant tusks. The American Tusk Shell, *Paradentalium americanum* (Chenu, 1843), is the most common among several local members of the tusk-shell family Dentaliidae. Its shell

reaches about an inch in length, and has a sculpture of six evenly spaced longitudinal ridges, with a seventh ridge found in some specimens. The sculpture pattern imparts a hexagonal outline to cross-sections of the shell (see figure). The local tusk shells have been studied by Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum's own Marine Biologist Rebecca Mensch. Learn more about local mollusks at www.shellmuseum.org/shells/southwest-florida-shells.

Shell Museum Events

See truly giant shells. Watch a live tank talk. Take a daily beach walk. Check out our family programs. We are the only natural history museum in North America devoted entirely to shells. Visit and let us inform and inspire you. Call 395-2233 or visit www.shellmuseum.org for more information.

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



The American Tusk Shell, *Paradentalium americanum*, from Sanibel. A juvenile shell is represented in the central image. photo by José H. Leal

From page 1

Santa Run

like Santa to deliver gifts to their household can arrange a Santa visit. All you have to do is gather up your gift for each recipient (can be any age), wrap and address the gifts, place the gifts in a sack along with pertinent information and instructions, and deliver the sack to the Sanibel Fire and Rescue District, located at 2361 Palm Ridge Road. The sacks must be delivered no later than 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 23. The instructions included with the gift sack are very important to insure gifts get to the intended recipients. Instructions should include:

Name of the adult of the household who has set up the visit and the address for delivery (for condo units, detailed address instructions are requested, possibly including a map to show the location of the unit in the condo complex);

Name of each gift recipient clearly indicated on each each gift. In addition, please include some personal information about the recipient to give Santa some insight into how well-behaved the little boy or girl has been over the past year (this allows Santa to personalize his message).

Santa will leave the fire station around 5:30 p.m. and make the deliveries between 6 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 23. When he visits, Santa will wish the entire household a "Merry Christmas" and personally deliver gifts to each child (while parents and grandparents click away to capture

photos that will last a lifetime). If you are celebrating Christmas on the island, and if you have kids or grandkids staying at your house who would enjoy a visit from St. Nick, Kiwanis can help you make their holiday extra memorable.

The Santa Run tradition was started 44 years ago by Kiwanian Dick Muench, who had been involved with a similar event conducted in Syracuse, New York. When Muench moved to Sanibel in 1973, he found that the closest place for kids to visit Santa Clause was 20 miles away at the Edison Mall. So to bring the Santa experience to local kids, Muench got the local Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club – which he helped to found that year – to start the Santa Run.

In the first year of the Santa Run, 110 presents were delivered to 66 households, most of them children in The Sanibel School. Muench was the one and only Santa Claus that year, and he did not finish the route until 11:30 p.m. Rumor has it, Santa needed an adult beverage with his cookie at the end of that evening. (Ho, ho, ho!). When Muench's original Santa suit fell apart after many years, he recycled it as nesting material for his birds.

Forty four years later, the Santa Run is still going strong, having grown considerably. Kiwanis now uses six Santas, each with a helper elf and a driver/navigator. And during the course of the night, the six Santa teams make about 125 stops, with each team doing about 10 stops per hour.

If you have questions about the Santa Run, contact Dick Muench at 472-2812 or any Kiwanian.*



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CROW Case Of The Week:

Red-Breasted Merganser



by Bob Petcher

With a reported bloom of the Florida red tide organism *Karenia brevis* along our coastal waters, many marine animals and seabirds have been impacted by the toxins in red tide through their central nervous system. Harmful algal blooms have been known to contribute to illness and death in stranded fish-eating birds.

According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, a red tide bloom was detected along both Lee and Charlotte counties over the past week. Brevetoxicosis was found "from background to high concentrations in 30 samples collected from Lee County."

At CROW, medical officials stated the clinic has taken in quite a few patients that may have been affected by the red tide organism.

"So far this year, we have admitted approximately 150 cases of suspected brevetoxicosis," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW veterinary intern. "At this time, we are receiving several brevetoxicosis patients daily.

On December 4, a red-breasted

merganser (*Mergus serrator*) was one of the latest animals admitted to the clinic with suspected neurotoxicity after it was found disoriented. The merganser was reportedly found walking across West Gulf Drive on Sanibel and had mild abrasions on its feet from dragging them on pavement. Otherwise, there was no apparent trauma cited. CROW officials concluded the fish-eating duck was dragging its feet due to "weakened motor ability and hind limb paresis." The patient was given fluids and quickly gobbled up all the smelt it was offered.

"Brevetoxin is a neurotoxin, which means it has effects on both the central and peripheral nerve system. This manifests in several neurologic clinical signs, including hind limb weakness – paresis – which can result in the inability to stand, ataxia – uncoordinated when walking, head tremors and seizures," said Dr. Bast. "Hind limb weakness is not specific to brevetoxicosis, meaning it can also be a symptom that occurs secondary to spinal trauma or some infectious diseases. Given that we have red tide in the area and are receiving several affected water birds as patients with brevetoxicosis, and diagnostics did not reveal any evidence of trauma or infection, we believe the merganser is affected by brevetoxicosis."

Like many patients that enter the clinic, the merganser appeared to be thirsty.

"Dehydration is not a specific symptom of brevetoxicosis, however, it occurs secondarily since the birds are debilitated to the point where they



Patient #17-4037 shortly after being admitted

photo by Brian Bohlman

cannot swim, fly or hunt normally," said Dr. Bast. "Often times, this means they are thin and dehydrated on presentation to the hospital. Part of their treatment includes fluid therapy to rehydrate them as well as to help clear the toxins by supporting their kidneys and liver."

Dr. Bast stated suspected brevetoxicosis cases represent roughly 10 percent of the clinic's annual caseload. "It is a big focus of conservation medicine and research at our facility," she added.

Luckily, the patient responded well to

treatment. Dr. Bast said the merganser was placed in an outdoor enclosure at the end of last week and was successfully released on December 10.

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

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CROW Calendar Of Events

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

For reservations, contact David Waszmer, Visitor Education Center and gift shop manager at 472-3644 or dwaszmer@crowclinic.org. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

Friday, December 15, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Why Animals Come to CROW (daily presentation).

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

Monday, December 18, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – CROW Case of the Week (daily presentation).

CROW's teaching hospital offers externship, fellowship and internship opportunities for natural science and veterinary medicine students. While on site, students learn the ins and outs of conservation medicine and wildlife rehabilitation, and share their favorite patient stories. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Birds of Prey (daily presentation).

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

Wednesday, December 20, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Wednesday, December 20, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Wildlife Rescue 101 (daily presentation).

After a patient stabilizes in the hospital, CROW's rehabilitation staff provides them with a combination of balanced diet, husbandry and physical therapy. Supportive care is necessary to ensure success during the final stage in the rehabilitation process. Ask the staff how they work their magic. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Thursday, December 21, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

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

Thursday, December 21, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Gopher Tortoises (daily presentation).

The life of a gopher tortoise revolves around its burrow. These tortoises are found digging from southern Georgia to southeast Florida. Because of its contributions to the ecosystem, it is classified as a "keystone species." CROW's presenter explains why they are admitted and how the medical staff treats this species. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.*

Top Ten Books On The Island

1. *A Christmas Mouse in a Christmas House* by Sally Hanser
 2. *Origin* by Dan Brown
 3. *German Girl* by Armando Lucas Correa
 4. *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng
 5. *Midnight Line* by Lee Child
 6. *Manhattan Beach* by Jennifer Egan
 7. *Hidden History of Fort Myers* by Cynthia A. Williams
 8. *Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles
 9. *Dame and the Sanibel Sunset Detective* by Ron Base
 10. *The Nix* by Nathan Hill
- Courtesy of MacIntosh Books and Paper.*

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Designers To Visit Jewelry Gallery



Bracelets from the Henderson Collection
photo provided

stylish lines. He has built collections that move and flow with a woman's form, and created a trademark with various shades of gold including brown, black and blue.

"We are thrilled to have Lecil Henderson visit our island and meet our wonderful community," said Dan Schuyler, co-owner of Lily & Co. "His designs are distinctive and artistic as he merges old-world craftsmanship with new-world technology."

Henderson studied the business under his father, an account executive for a successful jewelry firm, while he was in high school and college. Henderson eventually made his way to Europe, where he diligently studied under master artisans and began developing his business plan. Today, the Henderson Collection is built on a principal of contrast – luxurious yet suitable for every day.

LUCA by Lecil is his latest collection designed in Italy and considered by many to be fashion forward.

"This is a can't miss showcase," said Karen Bell, co-owner of Lily & Co. "You really must experience a piece by Lecil and meet the man behind the extraordinary designs."

Make your holiday shopping a little easier with the Holiday Showcase, also featuring Frederic Sage on December 13 and 14 and Gurhan on December 21 and 22.

Lily & Co. Jewelry Gallery is located at 520 Tarpon Bay Road. Store hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. There is plenty of parking and Lily elves are on hand to help with free gift wrapping.*

Lecil Henderson of the Henderson Collection and LUCA by Lecil will make his debut visit to Lily & Co. Jewelry Gallery on December 18 and 19. Henderson is part of the Holiday Showcase featuring a trio of famed designers throughout December.

Henderson credits Frank Lloyd Wright's design sense and his mother's common sense for his comfortable,



Gary W. Odmark at work
photo provided

San Cap Art League Meeting

Artist Gary W. Odmark will be the guest speaker at the next Sanibel Captiva Art League meeting on Thursday, December 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. at The Community House. The public is welcome.

Painting Water is the title of Odmark's presentation. "I have been known for marine art and really enjoy painting water," Odmark said. "I plan on doing a demonstration in acrylics. I love painting on location and have painted numerous scenes on Sanibel and Captiva."

Odmark is a 1971 graduate of Kendall School of Design in Grand

Rapids, Michigan where he majored in fine art illustration. He has been doing art shows for over 30 years and has been painting for 50-plus years.

"Fortunately, I have sold a lot of originals to folks on Sanibel," said Odmark. "One of my highlights of the year is painting the beach and shoreline along Sanibel and Captiva."

He presently makes a living with his art and owns a place on Pine Island.

"Nature inspires me, and the older I get and mature as a painter, the more I enjoy on-location painting. This is the key to good art in my opinion," Odmark added. "To sit and study a wave and its structure and the surrounding scenes is a fascinating thing."

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



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Black Bean Sliders with Spicy Orange Sauce

- 4 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 1 15-ounce can black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1/2 cup carrot, shredded
- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- 1/2 cup breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1/4 cup water
- 14 slider-sized buns

Spicy Orange Sauce

1 cup plain low-fat yogurt
 1 tablespoon orange juice
 1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce
 Mix all ingredients together.
 Heat 2 tablespoons oil in a large nonstick skillet. Add onion and let cook until tender and slightly caramelized. Transfer onion to a large mixing bowl.

To this bowl add beans, carrots, cornmeal, breadcrumbs, chili powder, salt, cilantro, and water. Use a large spoon or your hands to mash it all together. If the mixture is too dry to hold together add more water, one tablespoon at a time.

Hand-form bean mixture into patties to match the size of the slider buns. Heat remaining oil in a large skillet and pan-fry patties about 3 minutes on each side, until lightly browned and crisp. Add more oil to the skillet as needed.

Drain patties on absorbent paper. Dress with lettuce, tomato and Spicy Orange Sauce, and serve on slider buns.*



Black Bean Sliders with Spicy Orange Sauce

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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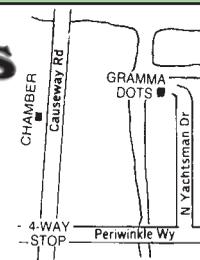


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Shell Found



Jude Olson photo by A. Ziehl

Jude Olson of Rochester, New York found a junonia at Lighthouse Beach while staying at Mitchell's Sandcastles. Olson found the shell at approximately 10 a.m. It was submerged by the water's edge.*

Shell Found



Margaret Luft photo provided

Margaret Luft from Barnegat, New Jersey found a junonia on the beach at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa on her husband's birthday.*

Shells Found



Michael Gillmore photo provided

Local Sanibel shell seeker Michael Gillmore found a baby junonia along with some other amazing shells on the Captiva side of Blind Pass. He attributes the recent northwest winds and cold weather for his shell finds.*

Shell Found



Caden Hood photo provided

Caden Hood, 16, visiting from Bradenton, Florida found a horse conch in front of the Sanibel Lighthouse while staying at Periwinkle Park with his grandparents. He had been snorkeling and was very excited. "What a great find!" he said.*

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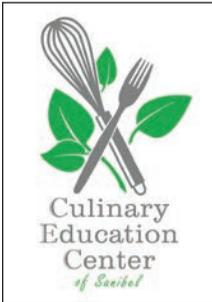
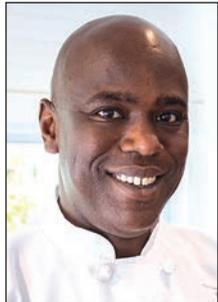
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The Community House

The Beet



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

Are you looking for a delicious ingredient to add color and flavor to your favorite recipes? Try beet. It is a vegetable that has recently become trendy and can be used in many ways. This vegetable can be found in several colors and every part of the beet is edible, which makes it very versatile. The leaves are great in salads and the root can be steamed, roasted, fried, pickled, juiced or eaten raw.

Beets were first cultivated over two thousand years ago in Mediterranean regions and used mainly for medicinal purposes. Now, beets are grown around the world and used in various applications such as sugar production, animal feed and wine making. Yes, wine making. Beetroot has one of the highest sugar contents of any vegetable, which makes it an excellent ingredient in wine making. Wine made from beets tastes similar to port wine.

Beetroot juice is an excellent dietary source of antioxidants and naturally

occurring nitrates, which help improve blood circulation. The beet greens and the root both have high amounts of manganese, potassium, copper and vitamins A, B and K.

Beets have been called nature's Viagra because of the high amounts of boron the vegetable contains, which is directly related to the production of human sex hormones. Beets also contain betaine, a substance that relaxes the mind and is used in other forms to treat depression.

The next time you are at the farmers market or grocery store, pick up a couple bunches of beets and try this recipe.

Beetroot Goat Cheese and Honey Tart

- Serves 4**
Ingredients
 1 golden beet (roasted and sliced into 1/4 inch slices)
 1 red beet (roasted and sliced into 1/4 inch slices)
 1 sheet puff pastry
 1 egg plus 1 tbsp. water (combined)
 8 oz. goat cheese (crumbled)
 1/2 bunch basil (leaves removed)
 1/4 cup honey
Method
 Preheat oven to 400°F
 Place the puff pastry sheet on a baking tray lined with parchment.
 Brush the pastry with the egg mixture.
 Sprinkle 1/2 the goat cheese over the pastry, then spread 1/2 the basil leaves over the goat cheese.
 Shingle the beets over the pastry, alternating the colors.
 Sprinkle the remaining cheese and basil over the beets and place in the oven.
 Bake for 25 minutes or until the pastry

has risen and turned golden brown.

Remove from the oven and top with the honey.

Serve warm with salad.

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

American Legion Post 123

On Sunday, December 17, American Legion Post 123 is having a fish fry from 1 to 8 p.m. Barbecued ribs and chicken are on the menu for Sunday, December 24.



Stop by for some live entertainment during request and sing-a-long night with Dan Smyth every Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m.

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

If you have a flag that needs to be retired, drop it off at Post 123, located at Mile Marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road. It is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. The public is welcome. For more information, call 472-9979.*

LIVE ON THE ISLANDS

Il Cielo has live entertainment with Scott McDonald on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Island Cow on Periwinkle Way has live entertainment on Friday with Dan Confrey. Peter Redpath plays on Saturday. On Sunday, it's Dan Confrey.

Sea Breeze Café at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa has live island style entertainment on Mondays.

Traders Gulf Coast Grill & Gifts has live entertainment on Tuesday and Thursday with the Danny Morgan Band. Chris Workman plays on Wednesday.

Traditions on the Beach at Island Inn has live entertainment on Friday with Woody Brubaker and Marvilla Marzan. Dusk plays on Saturday. Barbara Dexter performs on Sunday. Woody Brubaker returns on Wednesday.

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

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Seahorse Chorale Holiday Show Next Week

by Jeff Lysiak

On Tuesday, December 19, The Sanibel School's middle school choir will perform at the Seahorse Chorale Spectacular at the school, with the showcase starting at 7 p.m.

"The choir will present pieces celebrating the holiday season and other favorites as well," said Joey Giangreco, the school's music director. "All funds raised during this performance will go to support Seahorse Chorale's trip to perform at Walt Disney World."

Both The Sanibel School Steel Drum Band and Seahorse Chorale will perform during the hour-long concert. The band will play holiday favorites including *Joy to the World*, *Jingle Bells* and *Feliz Navidad* along with tunes such as *Sunshine Soca*, *Despacito* and the popular *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*.

Songs selected by the choir for the one-night-only event include *O Come, O Ye Faithful*, *Hannukah Nagila*, *All I Want For Christmas is You*, *Song of the River*, *O Desayo*, *O America*, *My Shot* (from the Broadway musical *Hamilton*) and various themes on *Fa-La-La*. The concert will conclude with the singing of *Silent Night*.

According to Giangreco, members of the middle school choir have been



Members of The Sanibel School's middle school choir will perform in the Seahorse Chorale Spectacular on December 19, with the showcase starting at 7 p.m. photo provided

rehearsing for the holiday concert since August, practicing three days per week. The group has previously performed at the City of Sanibel Veterans Day ceremony, at the school's Fall Music Showcase and during the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club holiday party on December 6.

Being invited to perform at Walt Disney World, scheduled to take place on Friday, February 23 at 2:45 p.m. at the Marketplace Stage at Disney Springs (formerly Downtown Disney), came as quite a surprise to Giangreco.

"The Steel Drum Band performed

there last year," said Giangreco, "but we are a fairly new ensemble. To be selected to perform there in only our second year is quite an honor for the students and myself."

Tickets for the Seahorse Chorale Spectacular, priced at \$5 each, will be available at the door. Proceeds from ticket and concession sales will go toward the choir's upcoming trip to Walt Disney World; donations for the trip will also be accepted at the concert. The Sanibel School is located at 3840 Sanibel-Captiva Road.*

Half Day Fun Day At Sanibel Recreation Center

Register your children now for the upcoming Half Day Fun Day on Friday, December 22 at the Sanibel Recreation Center.

The Half Day Fun Day will offer a variety of athletic games and craft projects. Enrollment is available for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. The program operates from 12:10 to 5:30 p.m. Each child needs to bring a swimsuit and towel. Light snacks will be provided.

Half Day Fun Days are available to families seeking child care on school half days; these days are included at no charge for children currently enrolled in the After School program. Register in advance and receive the early bird rate:

Cost for the December 22 Half Day Fun Day is \$30 for members or \$40 for non-members (registration by December 15); or \$36 for members or \$48 for non-members (registration by December 16).

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

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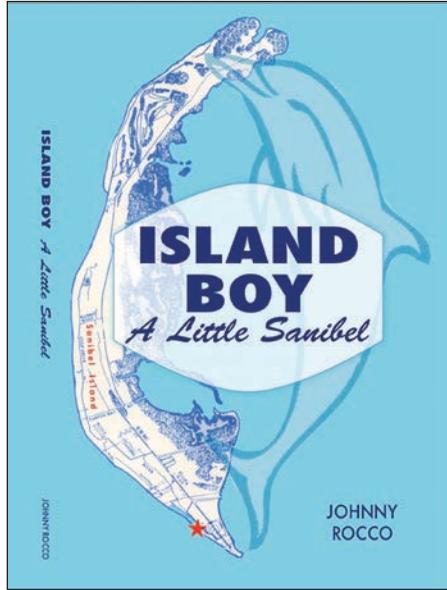


John Costanzo photos provided

Local Author Releases Second Edition Of Book

Author, storyteller, tour guide and longtime island resident John Costanzo is releasing the second edition of his book entitled *Island Boy, A Little Sanibel*.

What started as handwritten childhood stories to share with his beloved sons has now become a book enjoyed by islanders and visitors alike.



The simple storytelling and genuine *Huck Finn* style of a growing boy on Sanibel, immersed in the natural habitat and essence of the island, is captured in this playful memoir.

You can find Costanzo, the "Island Boy," on the bike path leading Segway tours and sharing his Sanibel expertise with island visitors, or connect on Facebook and share your favorite Sanibel stories.

A percentage of all book sales will be donated to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF).

SCCF is dedicated to the conservation of coastal habitats and aquatic resources on Sanibel

and Captiva and in the surrounding watershed.

Island Boy, A Little Sanibel is available at Bailey's General Store,

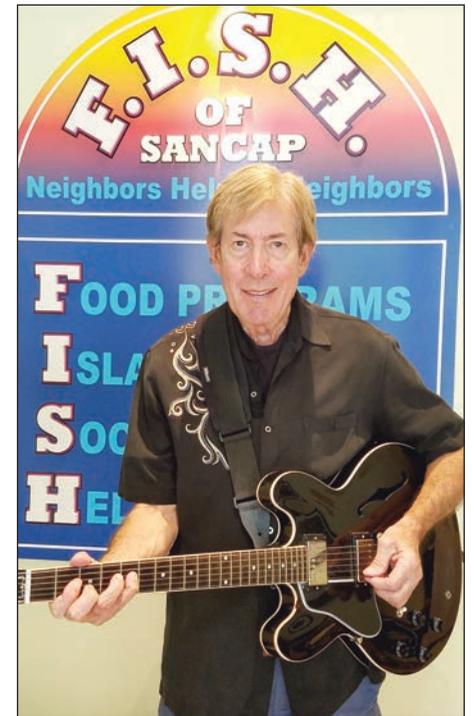
Concerts To Benefit FISH Of SanCap

Chris Coile will be performing a concert to benefit FISH of SanCap on Tuesday, December 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at George & Wendy's Seafood Grill. He will also play on January 16, February 20 and March 20. Coile will be joined by local singers and entertainers Sandy Greco, Cindy Cola, Dee Kelly and Mike Hill.

Coile has been performing for more than 30 years. Classic rock and roll, country, island and big band standards are his tunes of choice. Coile and his AllStar singers perform the number one hits of four decades.

The December venue will be a Rock and Roll Christmas Concert with songs like *Jingle Bell Rock*, *Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree* and *Blue Christmas*. In addition to the Christmas music, there will be 20 of the top classic rock and country tunes.

Coile's concerts never have a cover charge. Voluntary donations will be accepted for FISH and all of the proceeds from Coile's CD sales go to FISH of SanCap. For reservations, call



Chris Coile photo provided

395-1263.

To learn more about the programs and services of FISH of SanCap, contact Maggi Feiner, president and CEO, at 472-4775*

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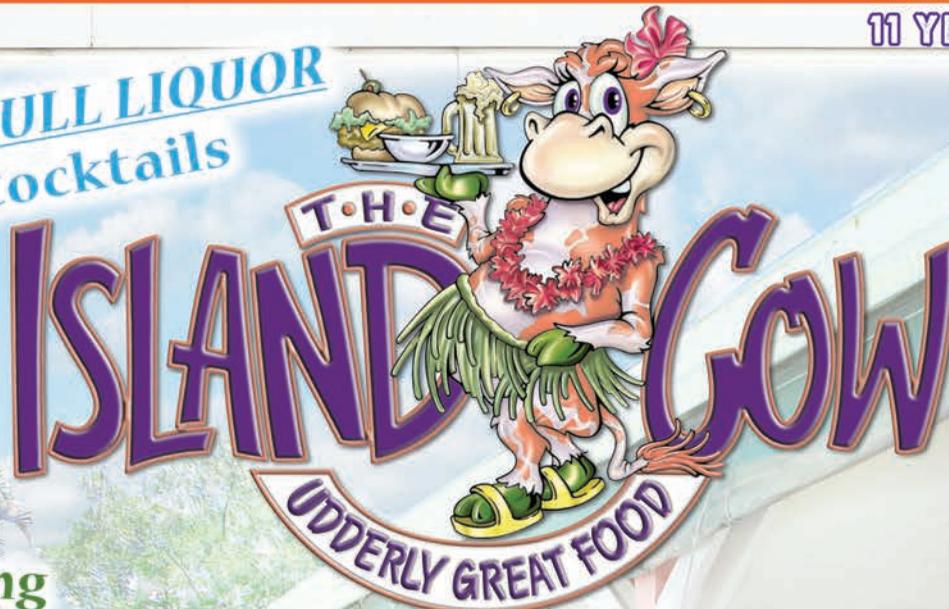
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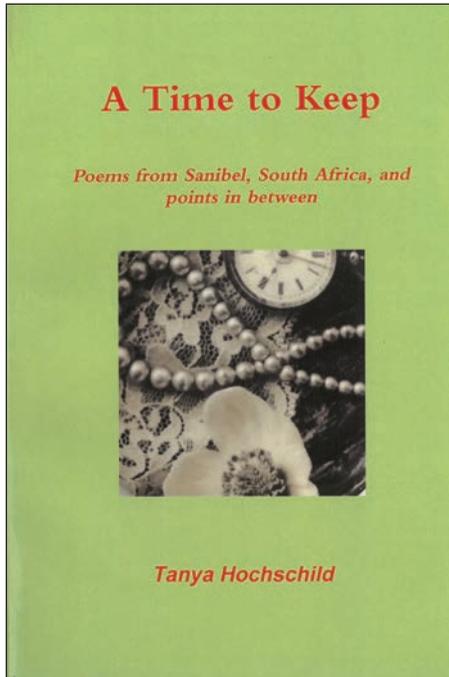
Book Review

A Time To Keep

by Di Saggau



Tanya Hochschild is a member of a Sanibel Writers Group, and she's been sharing her poetry with them and others for many years. She just released a book of her poems titled



A Time to Keep, which comes from Ecclesiastes 3:1. She told me it's a poetry book about life experiences that embrace family, travel, animals and our place in the natural world. One poem *Beware Bacteria in the Back Area of your Fridge* was prompted by her teenage children's complaints. They would throw out perfectly good food, saying it could poison them, and her husband sided with them. She said her inspirations come from many places, including reading other poets, listening to music, historical landmarks such as 9/11, and growing up in apartheid South Africa.

I asked Tonya to name two of her favorite poems and why they are favorites. She said, *Zululand* and *Running Away with the Spoon*. *Zululand* is a favorite because South Africa, my homeland, where I lived half my life before emigrating, is so dear to me. *Running Away with the Spoon* is a favorite because behind the humor

and simplicity of the story is a poignant message dealing with deeper questions. What is happiness, how do we find love?"

I enjoyed reading every poem in her book, reveling in the memories, some humorous and some sensitive. I especially liked *A Pampererd Rhino*, about a wild rhino's joy of what we would call a day at the spa. *The Pianist* is a prose poem that touched me as I put myself in the audience of a unique recital. In almost every poem there is a word or phrase that brings back a

memory or two.

Asked what she wants readers to feel after reading her book, she said, "I hope my poetry offers the reader solace, companionship but above all, fun. An "aha" moment of Yes! I experienced that, not quite that way, but nevertheless. Poetry offers the reader the world, both the visible and the invisible. It has so many voices."

In her poem *What is Poetry?*, Tanya writes, "Poetry is kindling begging to be fire, drawn from heart, anger, desire." She writes a weekly poetry column for the *Island Sun*. Her book *A Time to Keep* is available at MacIntosh Books and Paper on Sanibel, where she just had a very successful signing event. Do yourself a favor and pick up a copy. As Tanya said, "Poetry rocks!"**

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, I know I shouldn't be saying this but I sometimes don't agree with my daughter's teacher, and it's hard to support her. I don't want this to harm

my daughter. How can I improve my relationship with her teacher and still speak my mind when I need to?

Jane D, Fort Myers

Jane,

It's OK to disagree with your daughter's teacher, and I applaud your desire to learn how to communicate with her despite some of your previous discussions. You want the best for your child both at home and in school as does her teacher, so my guess is that she will be willing to respond to you. Amanda Morin, a parent advocate and former

teacher, has some tips that may help you to improve your relationship with your child's teacher.

Write down your thoughts: Consider writing down what you want to say before a meeting with the teacher. Having a list can help you prioritize your concerns and help you stay on track in the discussion. It will also keep you from forgetting what you want to say if you get emotional or the teacher doesn't respond as you expected.

Use "I" statements: Try framing your concerns from your perspective with an "I" statement. This can help keep the teacher from taking your concerns personally. For instance, saying, "Why weren't you sending me reports that she wasn't doing well in vocabulary?" may put the teacher on the defensive and shut down conversation. Instead, you could say, "I didn't know that my daughter hadn't done well in vocabulary last month until I saw her report card. Is there a way I could learn this information more quickly?" This explains your concern and allows for more conversation.

Make a list together if you and the

continued on page 29

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Top row from left, Callie Atkinson, Isabella Bank, Lolina Bruggeman-Muñoz, Paul Gavin and Martina Long. Bottom row from left, Kevin Seto, Thomas Short, Stephanie Van Duijn, Annalise Veldhuyzen Van Zantan and Marissa Zumbo. photos provided

Young Artists Scholarships Awarded

The Young Artists Awards program, the largest performing arts education, audition, performance and scholarship program for students from throughout Southwest Florida, recently announced 10 student scholarships, ranging from \$700 to \$2,500, granted to previous student finalists through a competitive written process.

A reception, honoring these students as well as prior sponsors, adjudicators and volunteers, will be held in late December at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

The students' written applications were selected based on a scored judging system by a panel composed of the executive

committee members from the numerous applications submitted.

Grants were given to Callie Atkinson (assistance with tuition and expenses at Manhattan School of Music); Isabella Bank (assistance with piano purchase and Summer Music Composition Institute at Wesleyan University); Lolina Bruggeman-Muñoz (assistance to attend Interlochen Summer Camp); Paul Gavin (assistance in producing first album as leader); Martina Long (assistance with convention fees and supplies); Kevin Seto (assistance with community engagement project, supplies and fees); Thomas Short (assistance with tuition expenses at Florida Gulf Coast University); Stephanie Van Duijn (assistance with tuition expenses at Amsterdam Conservatory); Annalise Veldhuyzen Van Zantan (assistance with ballet class tuition and pointe shoes); and Marissa Zumbo (assistance with tuition expenses at University of Central Florida).✽

your own solutions, too. For example, if you've read about an accommodation or new strategy you think might help, suggest it and ask the teacher for her opinion on it.

Send a follow-up email: Send an email thanking the teacher for her time and input and summarizing what you talked about. This type of email serves many purposes; it can help you process what was discussed during your meeting. It can sum up your decisions and takeaways and provide a record of what was said and when you had your meeting. You may want or need to refer to this information later on, and it always is correct to say thank you.

Using these techniques should help you plan and accomplish successful meetings with the teacher.

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

From page 28

School Smart

teacher differ on a wide variety of thing: A good way to start the discussion is to make a list of what you and the teacher agree and disagree on. Create the list together. This can help clear things up for both of you. It also aligns you toward the common goal of helping your child.

Bring supporting materials if you disagree with the teacher's comments or grading" It's certainly acceptable if you disagree with the teacher's comments and grading but make sure you have sample schoolwork or other records with you at the meeting, so you can provide facts to support your point of view. Focusing on the data about how your child is doing helps keep the conversation about your child and the support she needs.

Make your intentions clear: Are you looking for solutions to a problem or just need to discuss some issues?: Be clear upfront what you are looking for from the conference. Is it for problem solving or just for voicing concerns. Share your concerns with the teacher and ask for her input. Or ask the teacher for suggestions on what can help fix the problem if that's what you want to discuss. Provide



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Zonta Suggests Giving The Gift Of Reading

submitted by Sue Denham

Give the Gift of Reading is an annual Zonta holiday initiative, now in its seventh year, in which, for just a few extra dollars, island shoppers may purchase one or more new copies of one of America's best-loved children's classics for donation to a wonderful cause: Zonta's literacy service project at Head Start's Parent University in east Fort Myers.

Parent University provides free weekly classes for mothers of children enrolled in the Lee County Head Start program. The goal is to teach English (reading, writing, listening and speaking) and family life skills. Zonta has worked with Parent University for eight years, providing grants to fund such items as bus passes for the families, child care and classroom supplies, and Zonta members with an educational background volunteer to staff the program on a regular schedule.

Experts say that having books in the home is important for several reasons. A love of reading can positively affect a child's progress in school, and studies show that a child's academic achievement is



Zonta team member Joyce Ross, right, with the book *Rosie's Walk* and MacIntosh Books sales associate Cate Long photo provided directly related to the reading level of his or her mother. Success, it is said, comes more easily to children who have been read to in the home.

This year, MacIntosh Books on Palm Ridge Road is the only Sanibel bookstore offering this service.

"We enjoy supporting Zonta's work in bringing language skills to these women, which in turn benefits their families,"

said Rebecca Binkowski, new owner of MacIntosh Books. The store orders the books for collection by a Zonta member.

The book chosen this year is *Rosie's Walk* by author Pat Hutchins, a delightfully illustrated tale in which Rosie the hen takes a walk through the farmyard, blissfully unaware of the fox following her.

"We focus on a small number of titles as this provides the best continuity," said Ellen Strobel, who chairs the Zonta literacy project team. "This year we decided to choose just one book. Giving books like these is a wonderful way for islanders to help women working to improve their language skills."

Each mother who commits to reading to her child or children will receive a copy of the book to take home to her family.

Look for the displays at MacIntosh Books and enjoy helping families to succeed.

The Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva is a service organization of professionals working together to provide hands-on assistance, advocacy and funds to empower women on the islands, in Lee County and around the world through Zonta International. For more information, visit www.zontasancap.com.

From page 1

A Dickens Classic

effects. It was an anticipated annual event in my hometown of Omaha, Nebraska where the local community theater staged it year after year, and so many went back to see it again. But this pared down version does not take away from the story. In fact, it lets your imagination soar as you watch the characters tell the tale.

The show begins with the lone fiddler who is followed by the entire cast to introduce them to us. Last on stage is the main character, Scrooge. We then hear a child read the famous tale and the five other actors and the fiddler magically appear and, over time, coax the child into joining the story and becoming the character of Tiny Tim. This is a terrific metaphor for the way literature can grab us and transform us.

Leading the cast is Rob Sommers in the role of Scrooge. Others playing multiple roles are Galloway Stevens, Jake Delaney, Katie Pankow and Samantha Rotella. Aiden Fleming plays the young boy and Tiny Tim. Together, the cast imaginatively rejuvenates the familiar tale. We watch Scrooge as he is confronted by the ghost of his old partner Marley. Then his journey continues with the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Yet to Come.

Watching Scrooge turn from a "Bah Humbug" character into someone with a renewed holiday spirit is always a delight and is bound to help everyone in the audience get ready to celebrate Christmas. It sure had that effect on me and my guests. *A Christmas Carol* is an inspiring tale of human redemption, and the cast at the Strauss Theater plays it to perfection. Artistic Director Bobby Logue has put together a show to be enjoyed by the entire family. You'll also be impressed by the staging, lighting, costumes and sound effects.

A Christmas Carol runs through December 29 at the BIG ARTS Strauss Theater, located at 2200 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. For tickets, visit www.bigarts.org or call 472-6862.

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BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series

The Wedding Plan

by Di Saggau



The BIG ARTS Monday Night Movie for December 18 is *The Wedding Plan*, a romance-comedy from Israel. Michal, a 32-year-old Orthodox Jew living in Israel is in need of a husband. She had a fiancé but he called off the wedding saying he didn't love her. Michal keeps the hall booked for the eighth night of Hanukkah, and then calls two matchmakers and starts out on a speed-dating journey to find a husband. She refuses to be defeated and submits to several restaurant dates set up by the matchmaker. She's anxious but she's not a pushover. She challenges each man with probing questions. This includes one who is deaf and another who refuses to look at her because he only wants to look at the woman he will marry.

Michal even goes on a pilgrimage to the Ukraine to visit the shrine of Rabbi Nahman, the founder of a Hasidic sect. She cries her heart out when suddenly a male voice tries to console her. He turns out to be a good-looking pop star who is taken by her frankness. So much so that he offers to marry her. She's flattered but knows it won't work so she continues her search.

She is concerned about being humiliated by her single status if she isn't soon wed. There are a few different prospects for Michal and we



image provided

are kept guessing until the very end. The conclusion is quite satisfying. *The Wedding Plan* runs 110 minutes. Don Breiter will be the moderator.

Admission to BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series is \$10 and all screenings begin at 7 p.m. in Schein Performance Hall. Each film is followed by a complimentary reception and discussion. BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road. Tickets are available at www.BIGARTS.org, or at the door or by calling 395-0900.*

Poet's Corner



We invite submissions from local poets. Anyone interested may submit their work via email to tutsie@centurylink.net. Each week, individual work will be showcased.

selected by Tanya Hochschild

Second Mom

by Max Kahn

I was thirteen and after 26 years you freed me.
But why?
I shot you in the jaw.
It took you 10 years of surgery
To fix your wounds,
And another 16 for us to meet under good terms.
Who knew you would become
My second mother?

My second mother,
why did you do it?
They called you delusional

They said things that didn't even make sense,
like you have Stockholm syndrome.
Yet, you persevered.
You helped me like an ambulance of comfort
You were the grasping hand as I flew off the cliff of life
My second mother.

I sat in solitary confinement for nearly 20 years
Crammed in a dark cold cage
With nothing to do
nothing to love
And nothing to live for
I almost went insane
And you dragged it as your burden everywhere you went
Instead of hating me you were my guardian angel
Even though I shot you in the jaw
My second mother.

Max Kahn is 14. He is the grandson of Alan and Edina Lessack of Sanibel. He was adopted from Saratov, Russia at the age of 7 1/2 months. He now lives in a suburb of Philadelphia. He likes sports, cars and wants to be an automotive engineer. His poem was prompted by a true story told him by an attorney in Birmingham, Alabama after a visit to the Equal Justice Institute.*

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Sanibel Library Earns National Star Award

For the fourth time, the Sanibel Public Library has been recognized as one of the best libraries in the country. America's Star Libraries presents an overall indication of how a library's performance stacks up to peers, measuring computer usage, circulation, program attendance and library visits.

"The library is an excellent organization and, on behalf of the board, I want to thank the public and staff for making it so," said Tom Krekel, Sanibel Library District Board vice president.

Sanibel Public Library has also won TripAdvisor's Certificate of Excellence every year from 2014 to 2017. The *Florida Weekly* rated it Best Library in its 2012 Best of Southwest Florida issue.

"We are pleased that, once again, our residents and library users have supported our efforts to provide the services



Library staff with the recent awards, from left, Deanna Evans, Betty Anholt, Margaret Mohundro, Cathy Cameron, Ian Wainwright, Wendy Lambrix, Brendan Saage, Ozzy Flores and Betsy Eidem photo provided

and programs that they want and need," said Library Commissioner Dan Moeder, board treasurer.

"The award is a result of several things working together: the welcoming

volunteers and staff, community support and the strong leadership of the library board," said Sanibel Public Library Executive Director Margaret Mohundro.

The LJ Index rates U.S. public librar-

ies based on selected per capita output measures, from data released by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for fiscal year 2015. This year, continued on page 12B



At the first meeting of the newly-formed Charter Review Committee are, from left, Scotty Lynn Kelly, Kristie Anders, Tim Garmager, Richard Johnson, Aaron Pruss, Kevin Ruane, Jeff Powers, Larry Schopp and Linda Uhler photo by Jeff Lysiak

Charter Review Team Begins Work

by Jeff Lysiak

Last Tuesday afternoon, the inaugural meeting of Sanibel's newly formed Charter Review Committee took place at MacKenzie Hall, with the seven-member panel establishing their schedule of future meetings and assigning themselves with the tasks to be tackled prior to their next session.

Mayor Kevin Ruane, who officiated the organizational meeting, asked for each of the council-appointed committee members – Scotty Lynn Kelly, Kristie Anders, Tim Garmager, Richard Johnson, Aaron Pruss, Jeff Powers, Larry Schopp and Linda Uhler – to briefly introduce themselves before electing both a chair and vice chair. Pruss, a local attorney and chair-elect of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce, was chosen to serve as chairman of the committee while Garmager, a corporate executive and management consultant and chair of the city's General Employees' Pension

Plan Board, was selected as vice chair.

Ruane also explained that because the Lee County Supervisor of Elections office requires any changes to the city charter required by referendum before November 2018, he would like to see the committee's review of the Sanibel document completed by early summer. "I think I'd like to be done by July, but obviously we have a lot of material to cover," he said.

Among the notable items to be reviewed are term limits and compensation for members of the city council.

"These meetings are going to be longer than what we've seen," added Ruane.

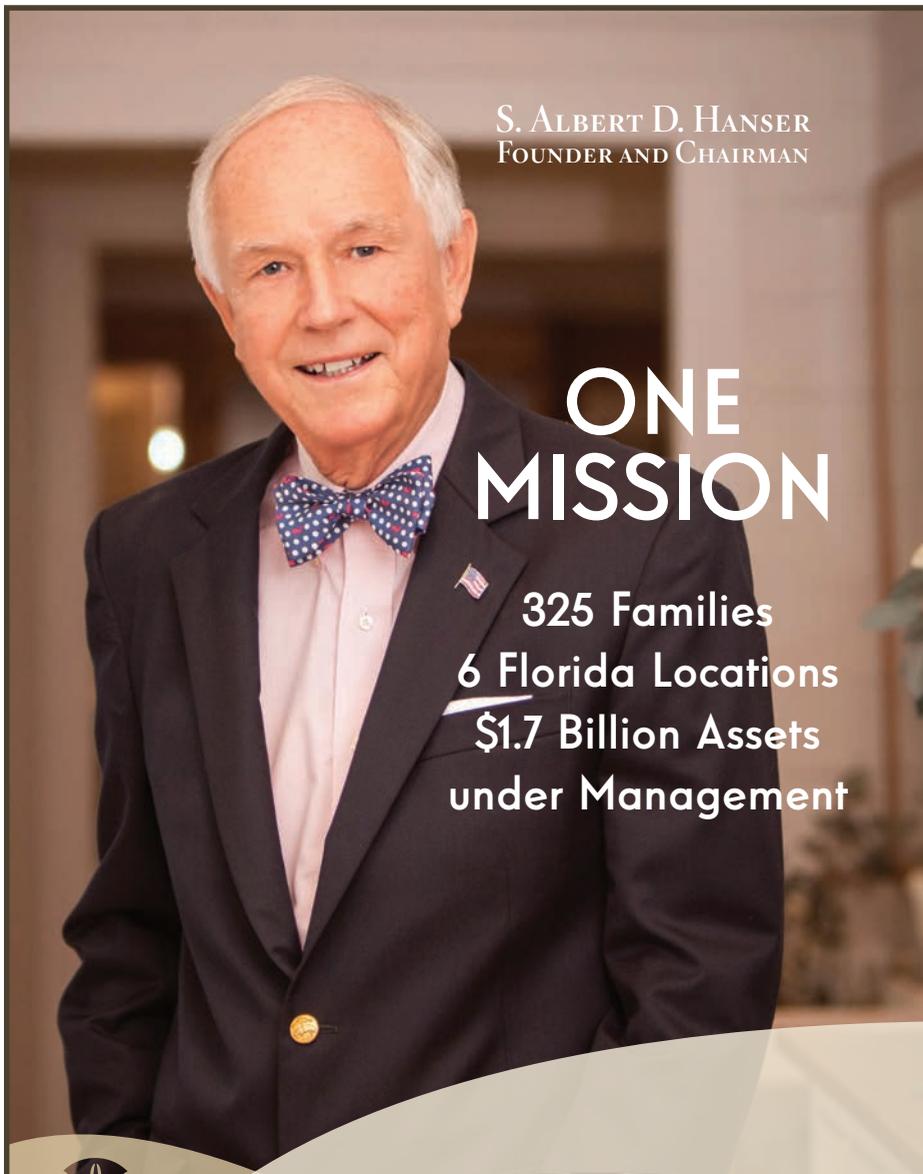
"The timeframe is much shorter than what many people imagined."

Pruss asked Ruane if there was some flexibility to schedule more than one meeting per month, which Ruane said there was. After establishing their first meeting for 2018 on Wednesday, January 10 at 1 p.m., subsequent meetings for the coming year will be held on February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6 and June 27. All meetings will take place at MacKenzie Hall beginning at 1 p.m., pending adjustments to the schedule. Public participation will be permitted.

According to City Manager Judie Zimomra, city staff liaison to the committee, the group will review the Sanibel Charter in sequential order. "Start at Article I and work your way from there," she said, noting that was the identical process used by other cities for charter reviews.

Pruss requested that he and his fellow committee members study the first three articles of the city charter and have any recommendations prepared prior to next month's meeting.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, resident and planning commission member Karen Storjohann suggested that the committee reach out to islanders who helped establish the city's incorporation in 1974, give them a schedule of upcoming meetings and topics to be discussed, and invite them to provide their input.*



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Ann-Marie Wildman photos provided

Members And Officers Elected For Wildlife Society

At the annual meeting of the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) on December 6 at the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge, the general membership elected one new member to the board of directors and re-elected five.

Newly elected Ann-Marie Wildman has served on various committees at the refuge, including the #LearningLav creative team and Upcycle! Art Fest committee. She moved to Sanibel about nine years ago when she married the late Don Wildman, a former board member.

Board members re-elected for another term include Mark Banks, Wendy Kindig, Jen McSorley, Kirstin Sawicki and Richard Yanke.

Two new emeritus board members joined the ranks as a result of a vote at the annual meeting: past board members Marc Giattini and John McCabe. As part of the meeting’s business, an award went to departing president Doris Hardy, who was elected to remain on the executive committee as immediate past president.

For the first time ever, the membership also presented Founder Awards to four members who have made vital contributions to the



Founder Award recipients Marilyn Kloosterman and Millie Ford (not pictured, Bill and Jeanne Rankin)



DDWS 2018 officers, from left, vice president Sarah Ashton, president Mike Baldwin and secretary Wendy Kindig (not pictured, treasurer Bill Valerian)

success of the society within the first 10 years of its foundation in 1982. Recipients included Millie Ford, Marilyn Kloosterman, and Bill and Jeanne Rankin.

At a short meeting following the annual meeting, board members elected officers for the 2018 year: President Mike Baldwin, Vice President Sarah Ashton, Secretary Wendy Kindig and Treasurer Bill Valerian.

To view the 2016-17 DDWS annual report, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/about-us.✧

Chamber Thanks Community For Successful Luminary Stroll

The Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce held its 33rd annual Luminary Holiday Stroll on December 1 and 2 with crowds following beautifully lit pathways that led to many merry landmarks.

“We had between 25 and 30 businesses on Sanibel participate in this year’s Luminary,” said Ashley Gibbons, member services manager for the chamber. “The variety made for a fun evening.”

Sanibel businesses, from Pinocchio’s Original Italian Ice Cream and Lighthouse Cafe on the east end to Bailey’s Shopping Center mid-island, offered snacks, refreshments and live entertainment, in addition to special savings at certain retailers. Santa Claus made a couple of appearances for pictures and many took a stroll through Bethlehem, a live nativity scene staged by Sanibel Community Church.

“We are grateful to our title sponsor, the Island Inn, for being a big part of this year’s successful Luminary,” said Chamber President John Lai. “However, we couldn’t do it

continued on page 4B



Santa, please shop here...



BEACH ACROSS STREET

Spanish Cay has riverside docks, heated pool, & gulf access. #A7 is 2nd floor 1 bedroom with rental bookings for easy investment transition for new owner. 2-week rentals allowed, but permanent residents & snowbirds live here too. \$299,000 furnished



WEST GULF DR CONDO

Gulf view at Sand Pointe #122. 2nd floor 2 bedroom with remodeled kitchen & baths, plus recently-restored balcony. Community pool. Weekly rentals allowed with many years of rental history & future bookings to convey. \$699,000 furnished



HUGE WATER VIEWS

Center tier 3rd floor Pointe Santo #C34 is roomy 1 bedroom. Decorated in tropical décor. Only three other units like this at resort-like complex with clubhouse, pool, tennis, sundeck, bbq areas, & gulf-side lounge chairs. Weekly rental. \$589,000 furnished



FACING THE BAY

Mariner Pointe #1061. Water views from front door right through to this lanai. 2 bedroom in seaside cottage décor with custom kitchen, baths, stunning master suite, & unique guest room built-ins. Boat dockage, fishing pier, 2 pools, tennis, & community beach access. \$599,900



INCOME PRODUCER

Loggerhead Cay #264. Large top-floor courtyard to gulf-view 2 bedroom with updated kitchen & beach chic décor. Income again this year at \$60K. Fully-equipped & future bookings convey with sale. Many amenities including pool, tennis, & clubhouse. \$598,300



CASA YBEL RESORT

Gulf-front 1-bedroom condo on 1st level. Private stairs to lawn from beachside screened balcony. An investor's delight with on-site nightly rental program where resort handles all details. Grosses up to \$100K/yr. Resort amenities too. \$674,000 furnished



EASY-LIVING EAST END

Canal-access 1st floor 1-bedroom condo with new HVAC & windows. Updated appliances, remodeled bath, carport. Residential pet-friendly community with many year-round residents, or could be an investment rental (monthly minimum). \$274,000 furnished



BANYAN BAY HOME

DH Horton-built in 2013. Spacious 3 bedroom plus loft. Overlooking lake & with private pool. Near back of gated community. Preserved land across street. Easy living, with master suite on main level. Off Winkler Extension, close to Sanibel, shopping, & hospital. \$389,900



ON DINKINS BAYOU

Beach cottage on pilings with this view at 2510 Harbour Lane. Split-plan 2 bedroom with central great room. Each suite has private screened balcony & bath. Near end of the sandy cul-de-sac near Del Segá. Two docks plus raised sundeck. \$749,000 furnished



OLDE-FLORIDA STYLE

Backing to preserved Bailey Tract land, 239 Daniel Dr is private near-beach 3 bedroom with office/den. Remodeled great room has fireplace, high ceilings, bamboo floor. Community clubhouse, pool, tennis, & private gulf access. \$1,069,000 decorator furnished



CANAL-FRONT NEAR BEACH

Sanibel Estates remodeled split-plan 3 bedroom at 734 Anchor Dr. Beautiful woodwork with custom cabinetry, granite countertops, limestone floors, plus new windows, HVAC, plumbing, & electric. Large screened lanai & two decks. Boat dock too. \$999,000 furnished



BUILD YOUR HOME HERE

The lot at 9441 Peaceful Drive on back circle in Gumbo Limbo is handy to causeway, shopping, bike paths, bay & gulf beaches. ~170'x155' with plenty of room for large home. Backyard adjoins conservation land, perfect spot for pool or lanai. \$249,000

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More info & real estate blog at SanibelSusan.com

ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS



Robyn Moran



Sarah Brent



Mary Bondurant



Fred Bondurant

Agents Join Real Estate Firm

Kingfisher Real Estate recently added four new agents to its team; Robyn Moran, Sarah Brent, and Mary and Fred Bondurant.

Moran's business career spans multiple decades. She has been a real estate professional since 2005 and has strong community involvement, including past presidency for the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva.

Brent is an island native. She graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in psychology at Florida Gulf Coast University. Her unique perspective and local knowledge are valuable assets to her clients.

Mary Bondurant served in the U.S. Air Force and the Pennsylvania Air Guard for 10 years. She is the founder of Pink Out Sanibel & Captiva Islands, organizer of the local Thanksgiving Celebration, ABWA past president and Woman of the Year, member of the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron and the Island Cotillion.

Fred Bondurant is a retired lieutenant colonel for the U.S. Air Force and the Pennsylvania National Guard with a combined service of 24 years. He is a member of Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club, the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron, the Island Cotillion and is past president of the Lee Coast Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America.✪

Honorary Chairs For Sanctuary Charity Classic

The Sanctuary Golf Club, as host and underwriting sponsor of the 16th annual The Sanctuary Charity Classic on January 27, announced Ralph and Carolyn Clark of Sanibel as Honorary Chairpersons.

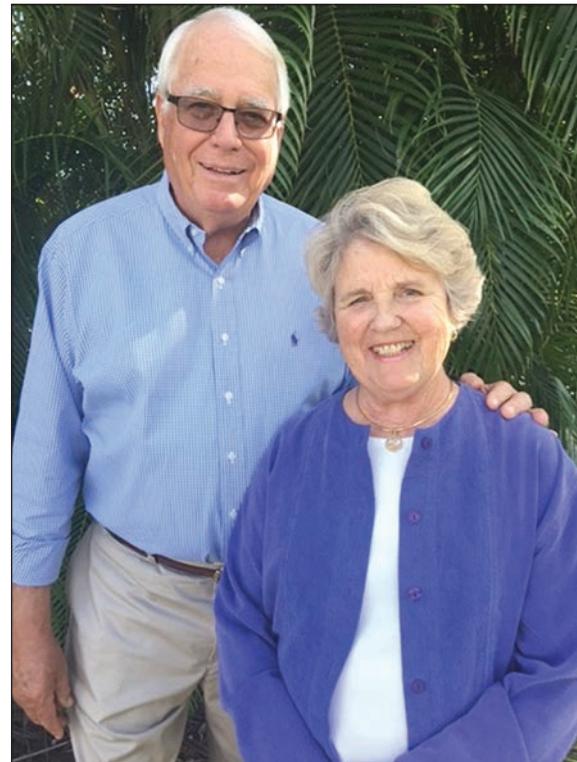
Ralph Clark said, "Carolyn and I are very pleased to represent The Sanctuary membership as Honorary Chairs of The Sanctuary Charity Classic. Our friends at the club are always quick to support those in need on the island. This event, in partnership with the Charitable Foundation of the Islands, is a wonderful venue for their generosity. We invite all of you to participate in this great day of golf on our beautiful course."

"Ralph and Carolyn Clark have been members of The Sanctuary Golf Club since its inception in 1992. Their commitment and contributions to our island community have been extraordinary. It is an honor having them represent The Sanctuary's premier charity event," said Ken Kouril, chief operating officer of The Sanctuary Golf Club.

There are numerous sponsorship opportunities ranging from the \$7,500 Diamond Partnership, which includes additional rounds of golf, lunch and dinner at The Sanctuary Golf Club to a \$250 Hole Partnership. All proceeds go directly to the Charitable Foundation of the Islands, which in turn distributes the funds to assist island nonprofit organizations, individual island residents and workers who have experienced hardships such as medical and financial emergencies.

The Sanctuary Charity Classic begins at 10:30 a.m. with a brunch, followed by a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Afterwards, golfers meet at the clubhouse for drinks and hors d'oeuvres, an awards presentation, and the popular helicopter drop.

For more information, contact Andy Phelan at 472-6223 or aphelan@sanctuarygc.net.✪



Ralph and Carolyn Clark

photo provided

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From page 2B

Luminary Stroll

without all of our sponsors or the help of our local Kiwanis and Rotary clubs and the City of Sanibel."

Luminary on Captiva, held the next evening, spanned Captiva Drive and Andy Rosse Lane with plenty of special treats and activities at various businesses. Sandy Stilwell, business owner and longtime chamber member, assisted in organizing the evening. "Her commitment and leadership were crucial to the success of Luminary on Captiva," Lai said. "Luminary has become a beloved holiday tradition in our community and by our community. We really can't express our gratitude enough."✪

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ISLAND DUPLEX GETAWAY

- Adorable 2BD/1BA in Both Units
- All updated w/Great Rental Income
- Steps to the Beach
- Gorgeous Property w/Huge Backyard
- Price \$599,000



PREMIER LOCATION IN BLIND PASS

- http://www.listandtour.com/5117_E205nb.html
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- Great Views of Amenities including Tennis Courts & Pool
- Just Steps to Beach Access to Bowman Beach
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Holiday Charter Party hosts Cameron and Susan Fraser photos provided

Boating Club Holds Holiday Charter Party

The Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron, America's Boating Club, held its annual Holiday Charter Party at Kelly Greens Golf and Country Club on December 3. This year, the party was a celebration of the local

squadron's 42nd anniversary. On September 13, 1975, the local chapter of the U.S. Power Squadron was signed. Forty-two years later, two of the original 51 charter members are still in the organization: Myton Ireland and Robert Vartdal. Two other original members, both familiar names on Sanibel-Captiva are Alan Ten Brock and Porter Goss. Traditionally, toys and donations are collected for the children of



Past Commander John Findley and current Commander Pat Schmidt checking out the donated toys

the Gladiolus Leaning Center. Past Commander John Findley began this toy drive in 1991. Over the years, this "Santa's Helper" has gathered truckloads of toys and games, making local children's holidays merry and bright.

The highlight of the evening was

music by Billy Dean and Dawn, which kept everyone entertained during the social hour and dinner, then swinging on the dance floor.

Locally, America's Boating Club has over 250 members and is for all types of boaters and even non-boat owners. Call 985-9472 for more information.✪



THE ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION, INC

It is election time at IWA again, and next year two seats on our Board of Directors will be up for election. The seats are currently held by Bruce J. Neill PhD, and Ralph Sloan. Dr. Neill is running for his 2nd two year term, and Dr. Sloan is leaving the Board after completing his 5th year on the Board.

IWA is governed by a five member Board of Directors who serve without pay. Directors must be residents of Sanibel or Captiva, so that they can attend all Board meetings, and must be IWA Members or an official representative of a condominium or other IWA Corporate Member. Directors must have no conflict of interest, including but not limited to, active involvement in an enterprise which could potentially do business with IWA or which could benefit from involvement with IWA.

Meetings are normally held on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Directors are elected by the Membership at IWA's Annual Meeting to be held in April. Anyone who would like to run for one of the open seats should contact our Board Recording Secretary, Beau Stanley, at (239) 395-4814 or by e-mail at beau@islandwater.com by **no later than January 5, 2018**. Background checks are required on all Board candidates.



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From left, Ben Lejuene, Dominick Batke, Terrie Kielborn-Jennings and Elliott DeCosta reviewing a new image-enhancing program during last week's yearbook/photography class at The Sanibel School photos by Jeff Lysiak



Members of The Sanibel School's yearbook/photography class with teacher Terrie Kielborn-Jennings

Yearbook Class Produces Online Newsletter

by Jeff Lysiak

More and more frequently, people are turning their attention to the Internet to get their news. That's even the case for students at The Sanibel School, whose newsletter – *The Seadragon Times* – began publishing

stories and photographs online this past school year.

“Our yearbook/photography class has been writing articles and taking pictures, which we have in an online newspaper-looking format,” said Terrie Kielborn-Jennings, the middle school gifted/enrichment teacher and advisor to *The Seadragon Times*. “We started publishing the newsletter online last year. It's four pages right now, but we're hoping to make it bigger soon.”

During Kielborn-Jennings' December 4 first period class, students enrolled in

the yearbook/photography class were busy planning the next edition of the newsletter. One group of youngsters huddled around a desk, discussing ideas for stories to be published while another group worked on editing photographs selected for the issue.

“We're doing a lot of different things, like working on the yearbook,” explained Kielborn-Jennings. “We produce a newsletter every nine weeks or so, but we're trying to do it more often. Students divide their time taking pictures and working with Miss Payne and the Sea-TV program. They'll suggest stories for the newsletter. And once the stories are done, they share them with each other and add feedback and suggestions.”

Students follow a series of general instructions when putting together an

article for *The Seadragon Times*. They include reviewing the components of the story, organization, style, language and structure of each paragraph.

“I like to give them a lot of freedom and flexibility, which allows them to be more creative – but there's a good amount of trust involved, too,” added Kielborn-Jennings, who said that the variety of ages and amount of experience involved is beneficial to all. “Older students share what they've learned with their younger classmates. Obviously, they all have different skills and interests, but as long as they meet their deadlines, I'm happy.”

To view the latest issue of *The Seadragon Times*, visit <http://pub.lucidpress.com/0207594f-9377-4cee-b181-24d184abd082/#N0zTNB-Yql69>.

Seasons Greetings

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Loggerhead Cay # 463



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Rotary Happenings

submitted by Shirley Jewell

Some people may think that our beautiful islands of Sanibel and Captiva are protected from the woes and troubles of society beyond our shores. In some cases, that might be true but when you learn that our local human service organization FISH (Food Program, Island Based, Social Service, Helping Hands) received 14,399 service requests from 2,772 individuals last year, you realize there are people that are truly suffering with the same problems that exist throughout the United States.



Maggi Feiner photo provided

FISH volunteers drove 32,184 miles on behalf of FISH;

102 households received a FISH hurricane preparedness resource packet; FISH social workers handled 366 cases of emergency financial assistance; FISH social workers handled 1,104 instances of case management.

Before detailing some of the services FISH currently provides for islanders, island workers and tourists, let's talk about Feiner herself. To a certain extent, Feiner is responsible for the expansion of a small supportive program on the islands that focused on our senior population and ran a small supply depot of medical equipment that was lent out temporarily to islanders in need. Feiner was a volunteer for FISH and president of the board of directors

for a few years before FISH decided that the community needed additional human services programs and a permanent base of operations. FISH went from home based to storefront with office and supply space, and a food pantry. At the same time, the board realized they needed a permanent onsite CEO to help define and serve the community's human services needs. Feiner was asked to become that CEO and would only accept the position as a volunteer, no salary. She now leads the daily operations, working along with the 12-member volunteer board. FISH does have a small staff of administrative and management professionals, along with full-time social workers. Annually, FISH has a think tank focus group that takes time reviewing and evaluating the services being offered and how to improve those services and what the future needs of the community might be.

Do the islands have needs? Consider an aging population with medical and mental health issues, nutritional and home safety issues and transportation needs, seasonal hours for workers with fluctuating salaries, latch key kids, substance abuse, help for youth at risk or bullying, to mention a few.

So, what do they really do now? Here goes:

Programs
Food pantry, kids backpacks, Meals-by-FISH, holiday assistance, daily phone reassurance, medical equipment loan, hurricane preparedness, transportation, visitation, computer distribution, monthly luncheon, case management and counseling.

Services
Computer workstations, community referrals, ACCESS assistance, ESOL, employment assistance, healthcare referrals, home health referrals, VITA, immigration assistance, free notary and tutoring.

Workshops
Budgeting, health and wellness series, crime prevention, nutrition, home health provider, resume writing, SAFE, SHINE and more.

FISH may be able to provide emergency financial assistance for rent, utilities, mobile mammography, medical/dental needs and other services. Before anyone

is considered for the Helping Hands program, the program director discusses current needs and conducts an in-depth qualification interview.

Feiner thanked San-Cap Rotary for being a financial supporter of the FISH After School program this year and for the relationship between these two organizations for many years.

*The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club meets Friday mornings at 7 a.m. at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club. Guests are welcome.**



Christina Gould photo provided

New Office Coordinator

Sanibel Sea School recently welcomed Christina Gould as the organization's newest team member. She will fill the role of office coordinator.

Gould grew up in Columbia, Maryland and earned her BS in criminal justice from York College of Pennsylvania. She spent 16 years working for the family courts in the Philadelphia area, and recently relocated to Sanibel with her husband and daughter.

"As a new Sanibel resident, I look forward to learning about island conservation and sharing that knowledge with other residents and visitors," said Gould. "I am also excited that my daughter will grow up near the ocean."*

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From left, Al Hanser, Robin Cook, Dick Pyle and Steve Greenstein from the The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company photos provided

BIG ARTS Sells Out Platinum Club

BIG ARTS announced that the Platinum Club membership sold out within a two-week period from its offer in July 2017.

One hundred of BIG ARTS' biggest fans jumped at the opportunity to pay for the full 16-show season for the benefits of reserved seating, no waiting and a pre-show welcome

reception, catered by Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's. The popularity of this offering signals the community's support for what has become an integral part of the quality of life on Sanibel and Captiva islands for 39 years.

BIG ARTS expresses its gratitude to this year's Platinum Club co-sponsors; Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts and The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company.

"It is always our pleasure to support BIG ARTS and the terrific array of programs they provide each season,"



From left, Doug Babcock, Rene Affourtit and Tony Lapi of Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts

said Al Hanser, founder and chairman of The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company. "We'll once again enjoy our partnership with our friends at Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts – this time as Presenting Sponsors of the Platinum Club. We thank the patrons who are so dedicated to BIG ARTS, and look forward to seeing them at the events."

"We're very proud to continue our major sponsorship and support of BIG ARTS. There are many aspects to what makes Sanibel and Captiva such a wonderful place to visit or live, from our

great beaches, to outstanding lodging, restaurants and attractions," said Tony Lapi, CEO of Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts. "But a community needs a cultural component to complement and complete it, and BIG ARTS does this in a way that deserves, well, a standing ovation. We look forward to another outstanding season of entertainment and are excited to enjoy this year's lineup of events."

For a schedule of programs, visit www.BIGARTS.org or call 395-0900.*



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Superior Interiors

Do's And Don'ts Of Furniture Arranging



by Marcia Feeney

In all my years as an interior decorator, I am asked more questions about furniture arranging than anything else. So here are a few suggestions you might consider when facing the "furniture

placement dilemma."

1. Place large furniture pieces first. It's definitely a mistake to start with your smaller pieces. I guarantee your frustration level will definitely increase if you try to start the process with small tables and accent pieces.

2. In rooms with vaulted ceilings, you might want to place your largest furniture pieces close to the highest

wall. Furnishings such as oversized entertainment armoires immediately come to mind. Can you visualize a large entertainment center placed on a small wall opposite a high wall in a vaulted ceiled room? Balance and symmetry would immediately fly out the window.

3. Try angling your furniture. When your furniture pieces – chairs, sofas, love seats – are all lined up flat against a wall, you lose the opportunity to create interesting conversational groupings.

4. When selecting furniture to be placed in smaller rooms, follow these rules of thumb:

Pieces with rounded corners will work best;

Don't select large or oversized pieces; Try to find case good pieces that are tall and shallow to give your small space more height;

Open shelving styles will help your space seem more expansive;

Opt for a more tailored look in upholstered furniture pieces;

And, above all, remember these three important guidelines: convenience, comfort and composition.

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

Volunteers Needed

Friends Who Care, Inc. needs volunteers for sorting and wrapping gifts for island children and seniors.

Tuesday, December 19 at 2 p.m. is sorting day at The Community House. Wednesday, December 20 at 9 a.m. is wrapping day at The Community House. Bring your own scissors. If you can volunteer either day, please stop by. Adults only. If you have any questions, call Tom or Kitty at 472-5152.*

Speakers From LARC Address Lions Club

submitted by a Lion, Bob

Two members of the Lee Association for Remarkable Citizens (LARC) spoke recently at a Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club meeting. Kevin Lewis is a 30-plus-year resident of Southwest Florida who is the executive director of the Lee Association for Remarkable Citizens (LARC). Lewis has extensive local experience in non-profit management receiving recognition including the Lee County Citizen of the Year and a Point of Light award from the foundation by the same name created by former President George HW Bush.

Angela Katz is a fifth generation Lee County resident who is LARC's development director. As a licensed fundraising professional, Katz's passion for the work done at LARC and focus on building a sustainable development strategy is increasing LARC's visibility and viability, and is essential to our future plans.

Since 1954, LARC, Inc. has been dedicated to meeting – with quality and foresight – the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families living in Lee County and northern Collier County. Their mission now, as

it was then, is to promote and provide opportunities in the community for these individuals to achieve an independent, dignified and responsible lifestyle as much as their individual capabilities allow. LARC accomplishes this mission through the provision of a continuum of award winning community based services, using timely, individualized, goal-oriented methods.

LARC offers vocational training, community residential services, and a vast diversity of other state-of-the-art community inclusion services on a full time, year-round basis for local people with developmental disabilities. LARC, currently provides programs and services for approximately 300 local men and women annually. Many of these individuals participate in several of LARC's various community programs.

LARC has been working diligently for over six decades to educate the Southwest Florida community about developmental disabilities. They work continuously to fight prejudice and misconceptions regarding developmental disabilities and educate the public to recognize a person's abilities rather than disabilities. Their focus is on helping all local people with developmental disabilities live happier, fuller and more productive lives in the community as independently as each is able... with full community inclusion.

The Sanibel Captiva Lions Club meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. Gathering is at 6 p.m. and visiting Lions are always welcome to attend.*



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League of Women Voters of Sanibel Board of Directors for 2017-18, from left, Ellen Strobel, Robyn Cook, Robin Krivanek, Chris Schluter, Nancy Elting, Barbara Joy Cooley, Maria O'Brien and Bob Terry
photos provided

Health Care Policy Discussed At Luncheon

submitted by Robyn Cook

The League of Women Voters of Sanibel (LWVS) kicked off their 2017-18 season with a luncheon and speaker on November 16 at the Sundial Beach Resort & Spa. With a number of LWVS members just returned to the island from various parts of the country, the league was happy to welcome them with friends to greet and an excellent speaker to hear from.

The Sanibel league decided to begin the series of five luncheons with a focus on one of the most important issues of our time: health care policy. They invited a well-known expert in the field to help unravel the mysteries and myths of health care policy making. Dr. W. David, PhD, economics and public administration, is currently with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, where he teaches a course in state healthcare policy. His career has been focused on advancing health care improvements through planning, policy analysis and research, and the development of new initiatives to expand coverage for the uninsured. He also worked on the implementation of federal and state health exchanges established under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

In an informative and fact-filled presentation, Dr. Helms discussed the current stalemate in U.S. health policy, lessons from major eras in American health policy, basic health reform options, and what needs to happen to move past the current impasse. He outlined the many structural issues in the health markets that policymakers struggled with in the past and when creating the template for the ACA. He discussed issues dealing with federal vs. state authority, how the uninsured have severely impacted U.S. health expenditures and more.

Given that the political left and right are basically unwilling to risk much compromise, Dr. Helms recommends consideration of possible changes to the current market-based approach: Enact a public option for the individual marketplaces, being careful to build in transition steps and time; restructure Medicaid; continue to promote health



Dr. W. David Helms

system integration following the ACA; accountable care organization demonstrations; shift from fee-for-service to capitated payments for health plans; and adopt global budgets for health systems such as those now being tested in Maryland.

Dr. Helms left time for the many questions asked by the audience. To a query about why U.S. health care costs run so high, Dr. Helms said it boils down to higher marketing and administrative costs; the U.S. leads the world in administration costs. Even though countries like the Netherlands limit profit taking by medical institutions, they have found that hospitals are able to achieve higher revenues. As to pharmaceutical costs, Dr. Helms highly recommends limiting marketing overall in addition to managing drug costs. Since the Bush-era passage of the Part D bill, government has been prohibited to negotiate drug prices for Medicare.

The LWV of Sanibel will hold its next luncheon on Thursday, January 18 at the Sundial Beach Resort & Spa. The featured speaker will be Patti Brigham, co-founder and chair of the Florida Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, an alliance of over 125 state and national partners representing education, minority communities, faith-based organizations, health care and other gun safety groups. Brigham is the first vice president of the League of Women Voters of Florida Board of Directors.

Visit www.lwvsanibel.org for more information. If you would like receive the LWV of Sanibel newsletter or if would like to become a member, send an email to lwvsanibel@gmail.com.*

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 | Sanibel Community House (Women Only)

Health & Wealth – A Dazzling Duo

- Sarah Mitchell, Health & Wellness Coordinator, Lee Health Wellness Center
- Robin L. Cook, Wealth Services, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company

Your exercise and activity routine needs freshening just like your financial plan. Join us for this re-energizing health & wealth fitness program.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 | The Sanctuary Golf Club (Co-ed)

Digital Dilemma – Access to Your Assets

- M. Travis Hayes, J.D. - Grant, Fridkin, Pearson, P.A.

Access to your passwords is critical in order for your loved ones or designated Trustee to manage your bill payments, tax returns, etc. Learn how to easily include this in your estate plan so directives are managed the way you intended.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6 | Sanibel Community House (Co-ed)

Investment Trends and Hot Topics

- Timothy P. Vick, Director of Research, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company

As Director of Research, Tim will discuss some of the most popular investment options to consider for 2018 portfolios.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11 | Sanibel Community House (Co-ed)

Passing the Vacation Home to Your Heirs

- Craig R. Hersch, P.A. - Sheppard, Brett, Stewart, Hersch, Kinsey & Hill, P.A.
- Robin L. Cook & Steven Greenstein, Wealth Services, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company

Vital points to consider when including family vacation homes or other real estate in your estate plan.

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When You Don't Avoid Probate With A Trust



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

A couple of years ago, a very nice couple visited with me in my office. They had moved from Wisconsin, where their attorney was also licensed in Florida and had just completed a revision of their revocable trusts and related pour-over will, durable powers of attorney, health care surrogates and living wills.

They wanted me to represent them now that they had become permanent Florida residents, but they were quick to say that they had the utmost of confidence in their Wisconsin attorney who they assured me had taken the necessary steps to update their documents to Florida law. This couple merely wanted to meet with me and to seek my assistance when something happened to either

of them.

"Normally, I would review your documents and your assets to ensure that your plan is up to date and congruent with your intent now that you live here," I said.

"No, thank you. We'll call you when we need you," the husband replied.

That was the last I heard until recently, when the wife called me to tell me of her husband's passing. I asked her to provide me current deeds and financial statements so that we could implement the testamentary trusts found within their revocable trusts.

That's when we discovered that nothing had ever actually been transferred into either her trust or his trust. "The assets in your husband's name alone will be subject to a probate proceeding in order to get them into the trust for you," I said.

"But we were told that our trust avoids the probate process," she said.

"It does. But only when the accounts and properties are actually titled into the trust name," I continued. "Here, there are accounts in your husband's name. So his pour-over catches those assets and deposits them into his revocable trust, but only through a probate process."

Looking through the trust instrument carefully, I noticed another problem. "The disposition of your home inside of your husband's trust is an invalid devise," I counseled.

"What does that mean?" the wife asked.

"Well, Florida law contains unique and peculiar homestead provisions. This doesn't really have anything to do with your homestead property tax exemption nor your Save Our Homes property tax assessment cap. Instead, the law centers on to whom you can leave your primary residence. When you are survived by a spouse, you need to leave it outright to him or her, or else you have an invalid devise."

"Well, isn't his trust mine now?"

"Yes and no. You are the trustee of his trust and you are the primary beneficiary of the credit-shelter trust created for estate tax purposes. But despite these facts, the home as a part of his trust creates an invalid devise."

"So what happens?" she asked.

"Well, you get to share the home with the children. You can either choose a one-half interest in the home or you could choose a life estate and they would get a current vested remainder interest," I said.

"That doesn't sound so bad," she said.

"It might not be, unless you go to sell the home and you need the children's permission, their agreement on the sales price, and they get a portion of the sales proceeds. Hopefully none of the children have any divorces or creditor problems going

on now as that might affect the title as well."

Needless to say, the wife wasn't very happy with all of the obstacles that appeared before her in a most difficult time – after the loss of her husband. All of these problems could have been avoided with a review of the trust and the assets, and corresponding action taken before anything happened to the husband.

While you might point out that the Wisconsin attorney could have done more, one doesn't know the extent and scope of his representation. Perhaps he wasn't engaged to also help transfer the assets to the trusts that he created. As far as the homestead laws, those are very particular to Florida. While the Wisconsin attorney indicated that he was licensed to practice law in Florida, he may not have had many clients here and may have been unaware as to the issues involved in the disposition of Florida homestead. Or it could have been that the clients assured him that the home was owned differently than it really was. It all could have been an innocent misunderstanding or a lack of depth of the engagement itself.

In any event, the moral of the story is clear. Even if you have a trust, you might not avoid the probate process if all of your assets were never actually transferred into the trust, and when moving to a new state, beware of how your new home state's laws affect your estate planning.

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From page 1B

Star Award

7,409 U.S. public libraries qualified to be rated in the Index, but only 259 received three-, four- or five-star designations.

Three of the Star Libraries are in Florida—Sanibel, New Port Richey and Lake Park.

LJ Index scores measure the levels of library service delivery relative to peer libraries nationally. Sanibel Public Library's expenditure category peers include the Star-award winning libraries in Darien, Connecticut and Telluride, Colorado.

This year, *Library Journal* also based the star rating on circulation of electronic materials. Sanibel Public Library's eShelf was originally funded in 2010 with a grant from the Sanibel Library Foundation, to fund bestseller eBooks and audiobooks.

The following year, the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club provided funds for an eBook business collection. Since 2011, the eShelf usage has grown by 20 percent every year, and more than 43,000 eBooks have been checked out in the past six years, including 9,000 audiobooks. Sanibel Public Library offers several e-reader apps, including Hoopla for downloadable eBooks, movies, music and audiobooks as well as Overdrive.

The library also offers Mango, an online

language learning tool. Downloadable magazines are available through the RB digital app. Library cardholders can also use the popular on-demand video streaming service Kanopy. Sanibel Public Library was the first public library in the state of Florida to offer Tech IT Out service, a kiosk where patrons can borrow MacBook Air and Dell laptops for use in the library. These eShelf services are offered to Sanibel Public Library cardholders at no extra charge.

The library, partnering with the Sanibel Public Library Foundation, is also celebrating 10 successful years in bringing high caliber, best-selling authors to Sanibel. Past guests of the Author Series include Joyce Carol Oates, Sue Monk Kidd, Jodi Picoult, Clive Cussler, Lee Child, Dennis Lehane and Margaret Atwood. Sanibel Public Library Foundation President Ken Nirenberg was awarded the 2013 Library Advocate of the Year Award for his support and advocacy for the library.

Sanibel Public Library loans cooking kits for patrons to check out and take home. The library's reference area offers general research help, as well as access to many databases, including Morningstar investment services, NewsBank, Consumer Reports and Ancestry.com.

For more information, call 472-2483 or visit www.sanlib.org.✪

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From left, Darrin Grotrian of Bank of the Islands, Maggi Feiner of FISH of SanCap, Rev. Deborah Kunkel and Ana Abella of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, winner Judith Maurer, Erick Lindblad of SCCF and Willy Ocasio of Bank of the Islands

photo provided

Three Nonprofit Groups Chosen For Donations

Bank of the Islands recently made a nonprofit donation through its We Love Our Islands program. The winner, bank customer Judith Maurer, was spotted with a We Love Our Islands decal on her vehicle, winning her the right to select which local nonprofit group would receive a charitable contribution from Bank of the Islands. Maurer chose to donate her winnings among three island groups. She directed \$500 to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF), \$700 to Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ (specifically the Sanibel Christian Preschool) and \$100 to

FISH of SanCap. Those donations mark \$76,000 given away to date through the bank's program.

"We are so happy to present these donations at Ms. Maurer's suggestion," said Willy Ocasio, Bank of the Islands assistant vice president and Sanibel-Captiva office manager. "With so many worthwhile nonprofits making our islands so special, we can see how she chose to split her winnings among all three. Helping SCCF, FISH and the Sanibel Christian Preschool is such a great way to show how much we appreciate being your island bank."

All islanders are invited to stop by the bank's Sanibel and Captiva offices to get a free We Love Our Islands decal and details on how you and your favorite charity can become our next lucky winners.*

Agents Complete Training Program



From left, Patti Trongard, John Hunt, Sheila Hammons, Art Corace, Sarah Ashton, Robin Roberts and Broker Dustyn Corace

photo provided

RE/MAX of the Islands sales associates recently celebrated the completion of real estate trainer Brian Bufinni's Peak Producer program. Each year, the company offers its regular fall "refresher" training. This year, the Peak Producer training was offered simultaneously.

"I want to congratulate our most recent graduates and thank Sarah Ashton for coordinating the program for our office," said RE/MAX broker/owner Dustyn Corace. "Sarah successfully completed the Peak Producer program several years

ago. Since then, she has been a big advocate of the program and has been instrumental in getting our associates involved. We offer the program for all our associates from time to time throughout the year. They learn a lot, become more professional and effective for their customers."

This Peak Producer series had three participant graduates - Pattie Trongard, Robin Roberts and John Hunt.

Afterwards, there was the traditional Champagne graduation party and former graduates were invited.*

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Association Of Realtors Working To Make A Difference In 2017



From left, Pat VanAlstyne, Tom Louwers and Sally Cheney

photos provided

Since the first of the year, the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Association of Realtors has been reporting the progress in their 2017 Working Together to Make a Difference campaign. Many island realtors, association affiliate members and business partners have volunteered and provided financial and hands-on support to many local charities during monthly community projects throughout the year.

Their November event, called Fall Into Christmas, was a benefit for Friends Who Care. It was done early to kick off the season's fundraising and to ensure that plenty of contributions of unwrapped toys, gift cards and donations were collected to support this organization that anonymously helps needy local families, through the year and especially during the holidays.

Thanks goes out to member sponsors: David Arter (Private Client Insurance Services), Nanci Berlin (Barrier Island Title), Lisa Cochrane (Dorado Property Management), Amanda Curran (Superior Title), Robert Duncan (Tru-Clean Carpet & Tile Care), Dan Krispinsky (Florida Community Bank), Angela Larson-Roehl (Rosier Insurance) and Denise Monahan (Seacoast Cottage Company), music by Danny Morgan, photography by Jim Anderson (JMA Photography) and plenty of cooking and set-ups by members of the association's communications/public relations and special events committees. It was a huge success.

Friends Who Care founder Tom Louwers was on hand to thank association members for their long-time support. Louwers and his late wife Theresa founded Friends Who Care in 1983. Realtor Karen Bell, who for many years spearheaded the association's Friends Who Care donations, introduced Louwers and the organization's other principals, Sally Cheney and Pat VanAlstyne.

Over \$3,800 was collected in checks and cash donations, while many donated unwrapped gifts will be sorted and wrapped by volunteers at The Community House on December 19. They then will be delivered by Kiwanis Santas on December 23.

Behind the scenes or out in the community, the local association of realtors is proud of its member participation. More events like this in 2018 already are in the planning stages. ✨



Debbie Kazmierczak and Angela Larson-Roehl



Caroline Boland and Denise Monahan



Jim Hall and Nanci Berlin



Connie Walters and Carolyn Benjamin



From left, Kerri Maw, Anna Turner, Patty Holston and Susan Andrews



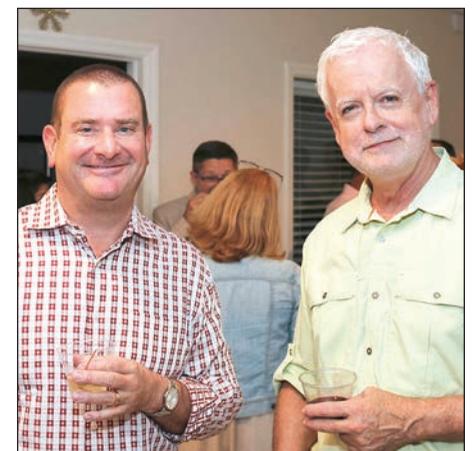
Valerie Tutor and Anna Turner



Amanda Curran



Tom Louwers and Karen Bell



Jim Hall and Bob Radigan



From left, Danny Morgan with Lisa and Bruce Cochrane



From left, Kerri Maw, Cathie Lewis and Anna Turner



Jayne Lumley and Mary Lou Bailey



From left, Tami Treuheit, Kim Kovacs and Tina DiCharia



Kelly Huguenin looks over the gifts under the tree

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1. Gulf Access Canal Home – Sanibel

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NEW PRICE



7. White Pelican – Captiva

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8. Snug Harbor Town Home – Sanibel

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Tiffany, Jeff, Joan & Joe Burns

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Kathy Haungs, Denice & John Beggs

Island Seniors At Center 4 Life

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

Christmas and New Year's Holiday Operation Schedule:

The center will be closed Monday, December 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday. Normal operating hours resume Tuesday, December 26. The center will be closed Monday, January 1 in observance of New Year's holiday. Normal operating hours resume Tuesday, January 2.

Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald and Ann Hartman – If you are not on the Page Turners list and wish to be, email oceann@comcast.net or contact the center. The next book discussion will be held on Wednesday, January 13 at 2:30 p.m. The featured book is *A Walk in the Woods, Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* by Bill Bryson.

Genealogy Presentation – Friday, December 15 at 11 a.m. Linda Warschauer and her mother Estella will be leading a group discussion on genealogy and will share their knowledge on how they researched their own family tree. They will also share how to create a book about your own family. There will be a question and answer session. There is no fee to attend, but you must register in advance as seating is limited.

Museum of Fine Arts and Walking Mural Tour, Central Arts District of St. Petersburg – January 23. Cost is \$80 for members and \$95 for non-members.

The day begins with audio guided tours of the visiting exhibit, Rebel, Jedi, Princess, Queen: Star Wars and the Power of Costume, the only Florida venue of the nationally traveling show. Sixty-one handcrafted costumes and concept drawings by top professionals in the film industry are included in the show. They have been culled from the archives of the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, founded by filmmaker George Lucas, who created and directed the first *Star Wars* film in 1977 and developed it into a mega-franchise. Many of the characters in the saga have become iconic, closely identified with their attire (visit www.mfastpete.org).

Lunch is on your own in the MFA Café, with indoor and outdoor dining overlooking the waterfront. The walking tour is an hour and a half and covers a four-block area with over 30 murals painted on the outside of various buildings. Hear the inside stories about the murals that were commissioned to benefit the local St. Pete community. Advance registration is required. Limited to 30 participants, first come, first served.

Games

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

Bridge

Monday and Wednesday. Registration begins at noon; the game begins at 12:30 p.m.

Mahjongg – Monday and Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

New: Rummikub – Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Hand & Foot – Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

New: Canasta – Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

Hearts – Friday at 12:30 p.m.

Kayaking on Tuesdays – December 19 at 8:30 a.m. (weather permitting). There is space for 16 people on eight two-person kayaks and limited space for those who own their own kayaks. Island Seniors will provide kayaks, paddles and life jackets. Bring water, a snack, sun lotion, bug spray, sunglasses, towel, hat and change of clothing. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Advance registration is required.

Fitness Classes – Island Seniors, Inc. members pay \$4 per class, visitors pay \$7 per class. Annual membership is \$20. Sanibel Recreation Center members must show their membership card to attend. Fitness class schedule is as follows:

Happy Hour Fitness – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m. Keep your brain fit and your heart, lungs and muscles strong with a combination of aerobics and muscle conditioning exercises. Hand weights, stretch cords and body weight are used. Athletic footwear required. Connie DeCicco is the instructor.

Essential Total Fitness – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

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

Power Hour Fitness – Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m. Hand weights, stretch cords, stability balls and mats

are used. Improve core strength and balance. Athletic footwear required. Mahnaz Bassiri is the instructor.

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

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

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

BIG ARTS Benefit Committee Announced

BIG ARTS announced the members of the 2018 Annual Benefit Committee who have coordinated the event to be held on February 23, featuring Motown legend Darlene Love.

Melissa Congress and Susan Heisler, co-chairs of this year's benefit, have announced the evening's schedule which will kick off with lavish hors d'oeuvres and drinks, followed by what promises to be a high-powered, on-your-feet concert by one of the greatest voices of our time. Dessert and dancing in Boler Garden will finish the night.

"We are thrilled and honored to have Melissa and Susan leading the benefit this year," said BIG ARTS Executive Director Lee Ellen Harder. "They are longtime BIG ARTS supporters who have always been gracious and generous with their time."

Heisler previously co-chaired the annual benefit in 2011 and 2012, as well as chaired the successful 2016 Celebrating Rauschenberg week on Captiva Island. Congress, a full-time Sanibel resident,

continued on page 20B

Shoes for Homeless Vets



The VA Hospitals in St. Petersburg and Tampa have over 150 homeless veterans living onsite. The one thing the hospitals said they needed for the vets is shoes. If you don't have a decent pair of shoes, it's hard to get hired or, in many cases, do the work that is required. A new group, Sanibel Shoes for Vets, is holding a drive to get new shoes for the vets.

We need work shoes, sneakers and dress shoes in sizes 9 to 11.

These are the current drop-off sites:

SANIBEL

American Legion Post 123, 4249 Sanibel-Captiva Road
Bailey's General Store, 2477 Periwinkle Way
The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, 949 Sand Castle Road
St. Isabel Catholic Church, 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road

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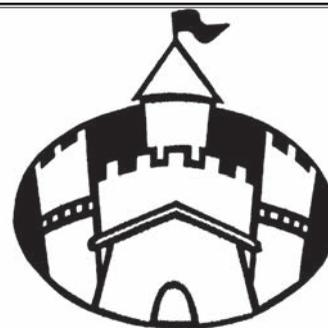
St. Columbkille Catholic Church, 12171 Iona Road

CAPE CORAL

Southwest Florida Military Museum, 4820 Leonard Street

If you want to make a difference in a veteran's life, send him a new pair of shoes. This program will run until the week of Christmas.

Any questions, please call Dan Perkins at 973-687-4826



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2017 Golf Course Report Card Presented

by Jeff Lysiak

During the December 5 Sanibel City Council meeting, Environmental Biologist Holly Milbrandt and Environmental Specialist Dana Dettmar of the city's Department of Natural Resources delivered a presentation on the report card summary for the island's Golf Course Nutrient and Lake Management Recommendations program.

Two island golf courses are in full compliance with the city's recommendations for lake management to help reduce nutrient loading, while one golf course is "partially in compliance" but significantly improved, the city council learned during last week's meeting.

Milbrandt and Dettmar explained during their PowerPoint presentation that annually evaluates the progress local golf courses have made in implementing the Sanibel Golf Course and Lake Management Recommendations, which was established in 2011. She explained that city staff met with representatives from each of the golf courses, reviewed each item on the Best Management Practices (BMPs) checklist, toured and inspected the facilities, and evaluated implementation of the recommendations.

"The Sanctuary Golf Club and The



Untrimmed vegetation along the Sanibel Island Golf Club ninth hole fairway is an example of best management practices in action for Sanibel's Golf Course Nutrient and Lake Management Recommendations program

photo by Jeff Lysiak

Dunes Golf and Tennis Club remain in 'full compliance' with the city's recommendations and continue to make progress in implementing the BMPs," said Milbrandt. "Although there are additional opportunities for improvements at both courses, reductions in nutrient loading to their lakes are likely if they continue with their current practices. While improving since 2013, the Sanibel Island Golf Club earned a lower score in 2017 than in 2016, due primarily to failure to complete the recommended semi-annual water quality sampling and implement their interim goals. Sanibel Island Golf Club remains in 'partial compliance' with

the city's recommendations."

Dettmar then explained that the 2017 Golf Course Report Card concluded:

The Dunes Golf and Tennis Club earned 61 out of 65 points, for a score of 94 percent and a 31 percent improvement since 2011, and a one percent improvement from last year. The Dunes is in "Full Compliance" with the city's BMP recommendations.

The Sanctuary Golf Club earned 64 out of 65 points, for a score of 98 percent and a seven percent improvement since 2011, the same score as last year. The Sanctuary is in "Full Compliance" with the city's BMP

recommendations.

Sanibel Island Golf Club earned 53 out of 65 points, for a score of 82 percent and a 28 percent improvement since 2013, but a decrease of six percent from last year. The Sanibel Island Golf Club is "Partially In Compliance" with the city's BMP recommendations.

"Again, this is a voluntary program," said Milbrandt. "We're not telling them how to run their golf course. We only want to provide them with some expertise in lake management."

Dettmar noted during her presentation that during the past year, The Dunes moved 400 feet of irrigation line and six sprinkler heads 25 feet away from the water body along the fifth hole fairway as well as re-contouring slopes adjacent to one of their lake retaining walls. A new weir was also installed at the property.

The Sanctuary, meanwhile, installed additional plantings along several lake banks, replaced some turf grass with native plantings, and replaced 480 feet of cart path with shellrock. Kyle Sweet, The Sanctuary golf course superintendent, also produced a pocket guide identifying native plants found on site.

Sanibel Island Golf Course, whose lower score is attributed to not providing the city with updated water quality monitoring data, continues to maintain untrimmed grass buffers along a number of water bodies and removed several turf grass areas that were replaced with natural groundcover and wildflowers.✧

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That Time Of The Year Again To Name The Top Sports Stories Of 2017



by Ed Frank

As we roll towards the end of 2017, it's time to select the top sports stories of the year. It's an annual imperfect practice that has no conclusion and will never have an agreement among sports fans.

But to get the ball rolling, allow this writer to list his choice of epic 2017 sports stories in no particular order of importance.

1. The New England Patriots unbelievable 34-28 overtime victory over the Atlanta Falcons after trailing 28-3. It was the greatest comeback in Super Bowl history.
2. The Golden State Warriors second NBA championship in three years, defeating the Cleveland Cavaliers four games to one.
3. Clemson's 35-31 win over Alabama for the football national championship.

4. The Houston Astros World Series championship in seven games over the favored Los Angeles Dodgers. It was the first title for the Astros – a sentimental victory for the hurricane-ravaged city.

5. Why can't Colin Kaepernick get a job? The quarterback remains unemployed, leading many to believe he's being blackballed from the NFL for protesting during the playing of the National Anthem.

6. The Cleveland Indians 22-game winning streak outscoring opponents 142-37 over more than three weeks of play. They went on to win 27 of 28 games.

7. North Carolina's 71-65 victory over Gonzaga for the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship. It was North Carolina's sixth national championship, 11th title game and 20th Final Four appearance.

8. On a more local basis, the 2017 Minnesota Twins made baseball history by becoming the first team to reach the playoffs after losing more than 100 games the previous year. Manager Paul Molitor was named American League Manager of the Year and given a new three-year contract.

These are my choices and I'd be interested in yours. I'm certain I've left out other important sporting events of the year.

Twins 1991 World Series Hero Voted Into Hall Of Fame

It's been a long, long wait for Jack Morris, the Game 7 hero of the 1991 Minnesota Twins World Championship, their last.

Early this week, Morris, currently a Twins broadcaster, was voted into baseball's prestigious Hall of Fame, and will be inducted next summer in Cooperstown. He will be joined by Alan Trammell, a teammate on the last Detroit Tigers team to win it all. Both

From page 18B

BIG ARTS Benefit

served as chair of the annual benefit 10 years ago and is delighted to return as co-chair this year.

Additional members of the committee include Judy Adler, Paige Babcock, Mary Ann Brown, Barb Dunham, Susie Freund, Allison Goss, Lisa Ann Miller, Chris Schluter and Penny Wilkinson.

"BIG ARTS has always been synonymous with what makes Sanibel so special," said Adler.

An exciting feature to this year's event will be a drawing for four carved and hand-painted chairs and a table designed in 1989 by renowned artist,

the late Ikki Matsumoto, valued at \$1,500. The drawing will also include a yacht trip to Useppa Island and lunch at the private club, a gift certificate to Congress Jewelers valued at \$2,500 and a \$300 gift certificate to the Captiva House at Tween Waters Inn.

Ticket packets will be sold in bundles of three for \$100 with only 300 to be sold. Purchase tickets at the BIG ARTS box office or by calling 395-3900. You do not need to be present to win.

Sponsorship opportunities for the 2018 BIG ARTS Annual Benefit and season are currently available. Contact Annie Campbell at 472-9700 or acampbell@bigarts.org for more information. Learn about BIG ARTS at www.bigarts.org.*

were selected by the Hall's Modern Baseball Era Committee.

Morris had an 18-year Major League career, 14 with the Tigers, winning 254 games against 186 losses, posting a 3.90 ERA. He was a five-time All-Star and named the MVP of that memorable 1991 World Series.

He played for the Twins only that one season – a season etched in Twins history.

He was 2-0 in three starts against the Atlanta Braves with a miniscule 1.17 ERA. He hurled a complete 10-inning Game Seven win in what many consider one of the most exciting in World Series history.

Everblades Keep Winning With Best Record In The Entire League

The Florida Everblades hockey team started the week with the best record in the entire 26-team ECHL at 18-2-1-2 totaling 39 points.

In their last 12 games, they were unbeaten in regulation, recording a 10-0-1-1 record.

A sold-out crowd of 7,554 last Saturday at Germain Arena saw an exciting 3-2 shootout win over the Jacksonville Icemen.

The local hockey team continues their home stand this week at Germain with a three-game series against South Carolina – Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. The puck drops at 7:30 p.m. Friday and 7 p.m. Saturday.

The homestand concludes next Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. with Jacksonville.*

The Dunes Golf Club

Presidents Cup, Grand Seniors

submitted by Chris Shaul

On December 5 and 6, The Dunes Golf Club hosted this year's Presidents Cup and Grand Seniors event for members of The Dunes Mens Golf Association. This year, we had 47 members participate in the combination of events.

We had perfect weather, and Mitch and Roy put a little extra effort into making the greens perfect. I heard more than one comment about the green speeds on day one. Make sure you stop and thank the two of them the next time you pass by.

Below are the results for this year's events – congratulations to all of our

winners.

Presidents Cup

- 1st Jerry Muench 137
- 2nd David Murphy 141

Vice Presidents Cup

- 1st Brad Thompson 133
- 2nd Jim Fantozzi 138

Treasurers Cup

- 1st Terry Finzen 134
- 2nd Skip Jewett 137

Governors Cup

- 1st Joe Mason 152
- 2nd Knud Christensen 153

Grand Seniors

- 1st Skipp Jewett 63
- 2nd Don Hunter 67
- 2nd Lou Scariot 67

Upcoming Schedule of Events:

December 20 – 2-Man Scramble (Pick your partner)

December 27 – Quota Points GCMI Qualifier (Magnolia)*

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 2016, Corey Seager, with 26 home runs, broke the Los Angeles Dodgers' franchise record for most homers by a shortstop. Who had held the record?
2. Name the last major-league team before the San Francisco Giants in 2016 to have at least four homers and four triples in the same game?
3. Dallas quarterback Dak Prescott set a record for most consecutive passes without an interception to start an NFL career (176). Who had held the mark?
4. When was the last time before the 2016-17 season that the Florida State men's basketball team finished a season undefeated at home?
5. Nashville's Pekka Rinne tied an NHL record in 2017 for most playoff wins by a Finnish-born goalie. Who else holds the record?
6. In 2017, Kyle Busch became the third NASCAR Cup driver to have back-to-back pole wins at Indianapolis. Name either of the other two.
7. Who was the last unseeded tennis player to win the women's singles title at the French Open before Jelena Ostapenko in 2017?

ANSWERS

1. Glenn Wright hit 22 home runs in 1930. 2. The New York Yankees, in 1998. 3. Tom Brady, with 162 passes in 2000-01. 4. It was the 1975-76 season. 5. Antti Niemi (2010-2016). 6. Jeff Gordon (1995-96) and Ernie Ivan (1997-98). 7. England's Margaret Schwan, in 1933.

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HeartWalk Series:

James Rudin:
A Rabbi's
Heart Storysubmitted by
Sandy Teger

James Rudin is a distinguished rabbi, an author and editor of 17 books – including one nominated for the Pulitzer Prize – and he has met 11 times with two different Popes. None of that matters when a person develops serious heart problems – it is an equal opportunity challenge. No matter who you are, when you face heart surgery, you do so with dread as one of your emotions.

What led up to Rabbi Rudin's surgery is a story that developed for more than 10 years. He has a family history of heart disease, but in April 2003, he felt well, had a healthy and active lifestyle, was not overweight, did not smoke and did lots of biking.

The first inkling of something unusual happened while he was sitting at his desk writing. He felt lightheaded and wisely decided to see his internist. He immediately recommended seeing a cardiologist who discovered he had a low heart rate – a family health pattern – and needed a pacemaker.

He subsequently saw the cardiologist



Rabbi James Rudin photo provided

twice a year for the next decade, but in April 2013, she was concerned about his stress test. That led to the decision to place a stent, and things moved quickly after that. However, the procedure to place the stent was not successful. The surgeon found three massively blocked arteries, a surprise since the rabbi never experienced any symptoms except for the lightheaded incident 10 years earlier.

Most people are not as intimately familiar with death as Rudin. He had witnessed many deaths in hospitals

and officiated at countless funerals. His personal experiences of possible death included an emergency landing in Korea when he was a United States Air Force chaplain. His C-124 aircraft lost three of its four engines and the crew chief warned passengers to get their parachutes ready for a possible jump from the stricken aircraft. Rudin was even more alarmed when he participated in civil rights marches in Mississippi and Georgia.

Heading to the operating room at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City, lying on a gurney, the rabbi again experienced anxiety and questions about life and death. He found comfort in knowing that his surgeon had performed more than 2,500 successful heart bypass operations. He was also surrounded by his family and had an outpouring of support and prayers from his friends.

Rudin did not have an easy post-surgery recovery in the hospital, but he does not dwell on that. The rabbi believes his active participation in rehab three times a week for six weeks and his continuing regular exercises – an average of six days a week in a fitness center – have enabled him to return to an active life. Although Rudin and his wife, Marcia, believed they had healthy eating habits, he has taken further dietary steps of eliminating all cheese and sharply reducing his salt and red meat intake.

In addition, he clearly makes good decisions. Those included paying attention to his lightheaded incident,

seeing his cardiologist twice a year, using a surgeon in a major teaching hospital who had extensive experience, participating in rehab and then continuing the physical exercise and special diet. Those decisions have made all the difference in how his story unfolded.

Rudin, who grew up in Alexandria, Virginia, roots for the Washington Nationals baseball team. His picture shows that he has his team jersey all set and will be in shape to go to spring training in 2018.

James and Marcia Rudin will join this year's heart walk as they have done previously. It takes place on Sunday, January 28. Festivities for the walk begin at 2 p.m. and the non-competitive, family-friendly walk starts at 3 p.m. at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. Walkers enjoy a safe, closed loop and may do as many as laps as they wish to complete a 3.2-mile 5K or optional one-mile course.

To join a team or donate, visit www.SanibelCaptivaHeartWalk.org. If you are interested in becoming one of our sponsors or for further information regarding the walk, contact Lee Heart Walk Director Kelly Glewa at 340-2407 or Sandy Teger at 973-420-3233. The social media hash tag for the walk is #sancapheartwalk.

To learn more or become a sponsor contact Kelly Goodwien at kelly.goodwien@heart.org, call 495-4901 or visit www.SanibelCaptivaHeartWalk.org.✪

Meditation Class

Meditation classes will be held on Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at The Community House with Kelsang Chopag, resident teacher at the Samudrabadra Kadampa Buddhist Center in Fort Myers. He will lead an hour-long guided meditation.

Chopag is an ordained monk and has studied for many years in the Kadampa Buddhist tradition. He has completed

many meditation retreats and is an inspiring example of how to practice the spiritual path in this modern age. His teachings are light, clear, authentic and practical for modern people living modern lives. His background is both meditative and scholarly, and he has learned to mix Buddha's profound spiritual teachings with everyday activities.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. The cost for each class is \$10.✪

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Doctor and Dietician

Ligament Creep



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

Did you know that ligament creep is the cause of much neck pain in our modern society? Creep signifies the slow stretching of soft tissue. Ligament creep most commonly occurs because of forward head posture from hours of computer work, playing on mobile devices or texting on a smart phone. Keeping the head and neck in this position stretches the neck ligaments beyond the point they should be stretched while stabilizing the head. For every inch of forward head posture, the force on the spine increases by an additional 10 to 12 pounds. Therefore, a 12-pound head held three inches forward can put 42 pounds of pressure on the spinal ligaments. Hunching over a cell phone or computer for as little as 20 minutes can increase the laxity

of these ligaments. Many tech activities encourage this forward head posture and put the cervical vertebral ligaments in a stretched position.

Creep can cause a chronic cycle of neck pain and headaches. As the ligaments become weaker, the head-forward position increases, because the ligaments can no longer keep the cervical vertebrae in proper alignment. Then the neck muscles start to tighten, to limit the range of motion and decrease the load on the ligaments, resulting in muscle spasms. In this pain scenario, muscles can atrophy in a relatively short time. Injured ligaments unfortunately heal very slowly, because they have minimal blood supply, which limits the necessary nourishment to promote healing. The result is acute pain, followed by chronic pain and possibly nerve pathologies. Muscle, posture and realignment therapies may only be temporarily beneficial since the ligament tissue that holds the vertebrae in alignment is weak. Prolotherapy, a regenerative treatment to tighten and strengthen ligaments, can typically resolve the root cause of neck pain and effectively eliminate the problem.

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

Beautifulife:

Share The Joy

by Kay Casperson



Are you full of joy and ready to spread it around? This week is a good time to focus on the joy that is in your heart or maybe even the joy that is not in your heart yet?

Some of you may be too focused on getting things done before Christmas or your holiday celebration and don't feel joyful yet. Some of you are trying to complete the end of year tasks for work that needs to be done to close out 2017 successfully. Others may be getting ready to travel or even prepare for out of town guests to arrive. Regardless of what is happening in your life during the holidays, it is extremely important to remember that having joy and sharing joy is the number one most important thing to do right now. Some of you are saying, "easier said than done." I know, but important regardless since joy is what everyone needs, not only now but throughout the year to continue on the path to a beautiful life.

Let me help by giving you some simple reminders as to how you can keep joy in your life and share joy with others this holiday season and beyond, even when things are a bit hectic and your time is so scarce.

Smile more than usual and be extra cheerful.

Spend a little extra time with older people or someone who is alone and lend them a listening ear.

Call a loved one that you have not spoken to for awhile and wish them

happy holidays.

Buy a little gift for those that are good to you through the year and drop it by as a surprise.

Have a baking day for cookies or holiday treats and share them with others.

Give more compliments than usual and make someone's day.

Have a couple of Christmas shopping days to enjoy purchasing items in person instead of online.

Create a Christmas card and send it regular mail or email.

Play Christmas music and sounds of the season to get everyone's spirits high.

Send a few gift baskets to loved ones far away.

Take time to wrap, even just a few items yourself, if you rely on others for this.

Pray for joy for your own life and for the life of others.

I am confident that by remembering just a few of these things, you will find yourself feeling more joyful and able to better spread the joy to others so that this season is merry, bright and full of love and peace.

My affirmation for you this week is: "I am taking extra time to share joy with others this holiday season so that my light will help others to shine more brightly."

Kay Casperson is a beauty and lifestyle expert, founder and CEO of Beautifulife by Kay Casperson. She owns resort spas on Sanibel and Captiva Islands and in Disney. Casperson has lived on Sanibel and Captiva Islands for many years with her husband and two daughters and enjoys her beautifulife everyday.

*For more information, visit www.kaycasperson.com or follow her on social media @kaycasperson.**

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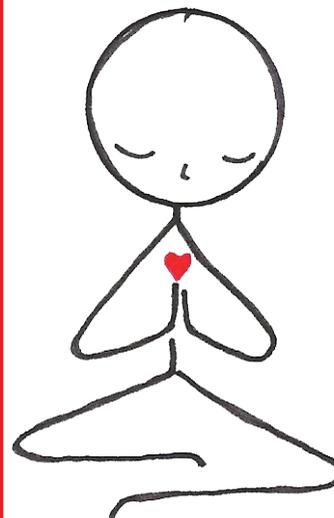
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dearRPharmacist

Grow A New Brain With Blueberries And Super Mario



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: If you want to know how to grow a bunch of new brain cells termed "neurons" and keep them as healthy as possible, let me tell you one quick thing about neurogenesis.

Neurogenesis is the science of spurring the growth of neurons in your brain. Without neurogenesis, you'd be dead. In fact, we can grow as many new neurons as 700 a day. Scientists have found that several things actually

help spur on neurogenesis. The bigger challenge, however, is keeping your new neurons.

Neurogenesis is a dynamic process that reduces risk of Alzheimer's, insomnia, anxiety, dementia and other cognitive problems. Avoiding foods high in glutamate and MSG will help you, and so will eating a clean, fresh diet of foods filled with a lot of what I call "light foods" meaning plant-based salads and veggies that contain light from the photosynthesis process. Contrast that with 'dead' foods.

Additionally, there are foods that are particularly adept at growing brand new neurons in our brains, while also activating protective pathways to nurture them and keep them thriving. It's hard to believe but it's true, what we choose to eat impacts our mind to some degree. The most potent neuron-loving foods include:

Green tea, berries, citrus apples and dark chocolate due to the flavonoids

Blueberries (due to the flavonoids and anthocyanin)

Red grapes (because the skin has resveratrol)

Wild-caught salmon and other fatty fish due to the DHA fish oils

Researchers have oddly found that eating chewier foods as opposed to soft, mushy foods are helpful to neuronal growth. As you eat a baked potato (instead of mashed potato) figure that one out. On the topic of food, we also have well-designed trials to show that intermittent fasting, caloric restriction and exercise promote the growth of new brain cells for you. So keep that up too.

Everyone talks about enhancing BDNF (brain derived neurotrophic factor) as a method of growing new brain cells and while that is still important, there is some new research that suggests that the hormone that makes you feel hungry, called ghrelin, may be THE thing that triggers the whole birth of new neurons in the first place.

On the topic of exercise, I definitely want you to go to Body Pump and

Zumba, but you should also be exercising your brain too. By that, engage in puzzles, math problems and spatial video games. This brings me to my next idea for you. How about playing Super Mario 3D?

This particular video game (and also Super Mario 64) have been used in two important research studies on the brain, where it was proven that spatial video games increase brain activity in the hippocampal region and help you create new neurons. This gives us a whole new perspective when it comes to healing the brain and growing new healthy brain cells.

So, try a big bowl of blueberries, a long workout, and then crash on the couch for some fun video gaming, and just feel your mind ignite with newfound brainiac-ness.

*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.**

Three Part Series On Betrayal (part 3)

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy-Fisher

Q: When should you forgive a betrayal?

A: This really has to be up to each individual based what he/she feels is the best solution at any given time.

There may be a one-time occurrence that warrants forgiveness. There may be several acts where you caught your partner in lies, therefore, you feel this is not repairable. It's always good to attempt counseling. Individual and couples. If one partner makes excuses not to go to counseling, then one cannot do it for two, and you have to question why they are making excuses not to go. Most likely, they don't want to be called out on their wrong doing, or they simply don't want the relationship to continue.

Below are some questions to explore before making a decision on forgiveness. One piece of caution, if you choose not to

forgive, you are only hurting yourself.

1. Is the person continuing this inappropriate and unacceptable behavior, or does he/she realize the hurt they have caused, and are they willing to change their behavior to be worthy of receiving your forgiveness?

2. Is that person deserving of forgiveness and even want the forgiveness? If so, the person needs to see the hurt and betrayal as wrong, admit it and have every intention to not further engage it the behavior.

3. Did the person learn the lesson from this behavior and is willing to stop or pursue it again?

4. Do you know if this is a typical behavior or a first-time transgression? If you know this behavior occurred prior to you, it is likely it will happen again.

5. Has the person accepted responsibility? If the person takes no accountability, it most likely will recur.

6. Was the behavior malicious and intentional in order to hurt or punish you due to some action you took against them? This doesn't necessarily mean you are aware of what that action is.

7. What makes this relationship worthy of forgiveness?

8. Are you needing to forgive so that you can move on in your life? You can forgive (the other person does not even

have to know as it is for you) and not maintain the relationship. This will help you to move on in a healthy manner.

There are no easy answers in terms of where you need to go with this. At some level, you have to work through the pain in order to move on with your life. This is very emotional, and I would suggest getting the assistance of a professional to facilitate the process. Whatever you decide, go easy on yourself and please avoid self-blame. It's all about lessons,

and this lesson will help you in future endeavors so the lesson does not get repeated. Allow yourself to work through the stages of grief at your own pace, for it is your way and only you can decide what is in your highest good for your life.

*Constance Clancy-Fisher, EdD is a licensed mental health therapist, hypnotherapist, author and holistic stress management instructor. If you have a question, email Constance at constanceclancyfisher@gmail.com.**

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Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
Chamber of Commerce	472-1080
City of Sanibel	472-4135
Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Planning Department	472-4136
Library - Sanibel	472-2483
Library - Captiva	239-533-4890
Post Office - Sanibel	472-1573
Post Office - Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
Post Office - Captiva	472-1674
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Center 4 Life - Senior Center	472-5743
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Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
BIG ARTS - Barrier Island Group for the Arts	395-0900
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Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	472-6197
Lee County Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Naples Philharmonic	597-1111
The Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
Sanibel Music Festival	336-7999
Sanibel-Captiva Art League	sancapart.com
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Symphonic Chorale of SW Florida	560-5695
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
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American Legion Post 123	472-9979
Angel Flight SE	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Audubon Society	472-3744
CHR Community Housing & Resources	472-1189
Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva	274-5900
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CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife	472-3644
Democratic Club of the Islands	Demclubislands@gmail.com
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FISH. OF SANCAP 24-hr service	472-0404
Sanibel Island Fishing Club	472-8994
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Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva	472-8334
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MOAA - Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie	395-9232
Newcomers	472-9332
Notre Dame Club of Southwest Florida	768-0417
Optimist Club	472-0836
PAWS	472-4823
Rotary Club	472-7257 or 472-0141
Sanibel Bike Club	sanibelbicycleclub.org
Sanibel Beautification Inc.	470-2866
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron	www.usps.org/localusps/sancap
Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus	395-1202
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club	facebook.com/sancapshellclub
Sanibel Youth Soccer	www.sanibelsoccer.org
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline 24 hour	211 or 433-3900
Zonta Club	728-1971
ISLAND ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Sanibel Historical Museum & Village	472-4648
SCCF Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation	472-2329

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press@islandsunnews.com

PETS OF THE WEEK



Xander ID# 717787 photos provided

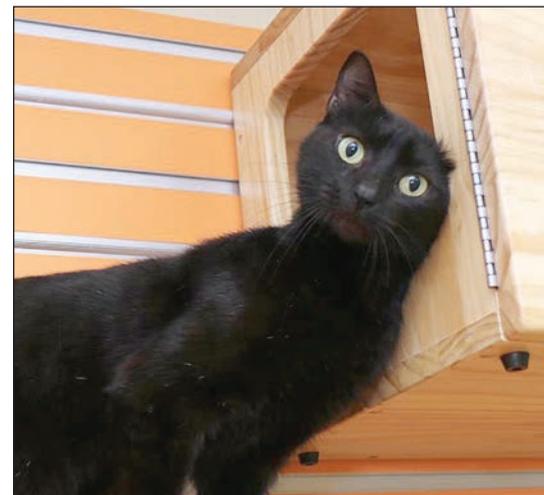
Lee County Domestic Animal Services Xander And Jolli

Hello, my name is Xander. I'm a 1-year-old male hound mix who is the "11 Stray of Christmas." The perfect home for me is one where I have room to run and another dog around for company. I am a high-energy dog that is working on my training with our volunteers. I do well listening to other dogs when they correct me. My adoption fee is \$75.

Hi, I'm Jolli. I'm a 2-year-old female domestic shorthair who is the "12 Stray of Christmas." I am perfectly named for the holiday season. I would love to go home with my sister Cookie. You can adopt me and her adoption fee is free. That's two for the price of one! Everyone loves a bargain at Christmas.

My adoption fee is \$50. Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) is celebrating the "25 Strays of Christmas" with a gift giving tree and a pet photo event to benefit the Animal Care Trust Fund.

The gift giving tree in the adoption lobby at LCDAS is decorated with ornaments



Jolli ID# 718520

featuring adoptable pets and their Christmas wish list. Visitors may pick one up and return it by Thursday, December 21 to help make the animals' holiday a little brighter. If a selected pet is lucky enough to find a home for the holiday, the pet will be able to take its gifts to the new home.

For information about this week's pets, call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS) or log on to Animal Services' website at www.LeeLostPets.com. When calling, refer to the animal's ID number. The website updates every hour so you will be able to see if these or any other pets are still available.

The shelter is open for adoptions from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office off Six Mile Cypress Parkway.

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, rabies vaccination and county license if three months or older, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs six months and over, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, training DVD, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Science Diet pet food. The adoption package is valued at \$500.*



Moe photos provided

Haven on Earth Animal League Moe And Ginzee

Hi there! I'm Moe - short for Maureen. I am a very sweet girl just waiting for someone to take me home. I just have one request: I'm not real crazy about other cats, so I want to be your one and only. I'm 2 years old, up-to-date on all vaccines and spayed. Just look at my beautiful green eyes and pink nose - don't you want to kiss me on the head? I'm currently residing at PetSmart on Six Mile Cypress Parkway. My adoption fee is \$75.



Ginzee

Hello, I'm Ginzee! I'm only 8 months old and look how cute I am. I have big golden eyes and a little pink nose. I'm neutered and up-to-date on all vaccinations. I've been stuck in this cage at Petco at Gulf Coast Town Center for two months. Please come adopt me so I don't have to stay in this cage - and maybe adopt a friend for me too. My adoption fee is \$100.

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

PUZZLES

Answers on page 29B

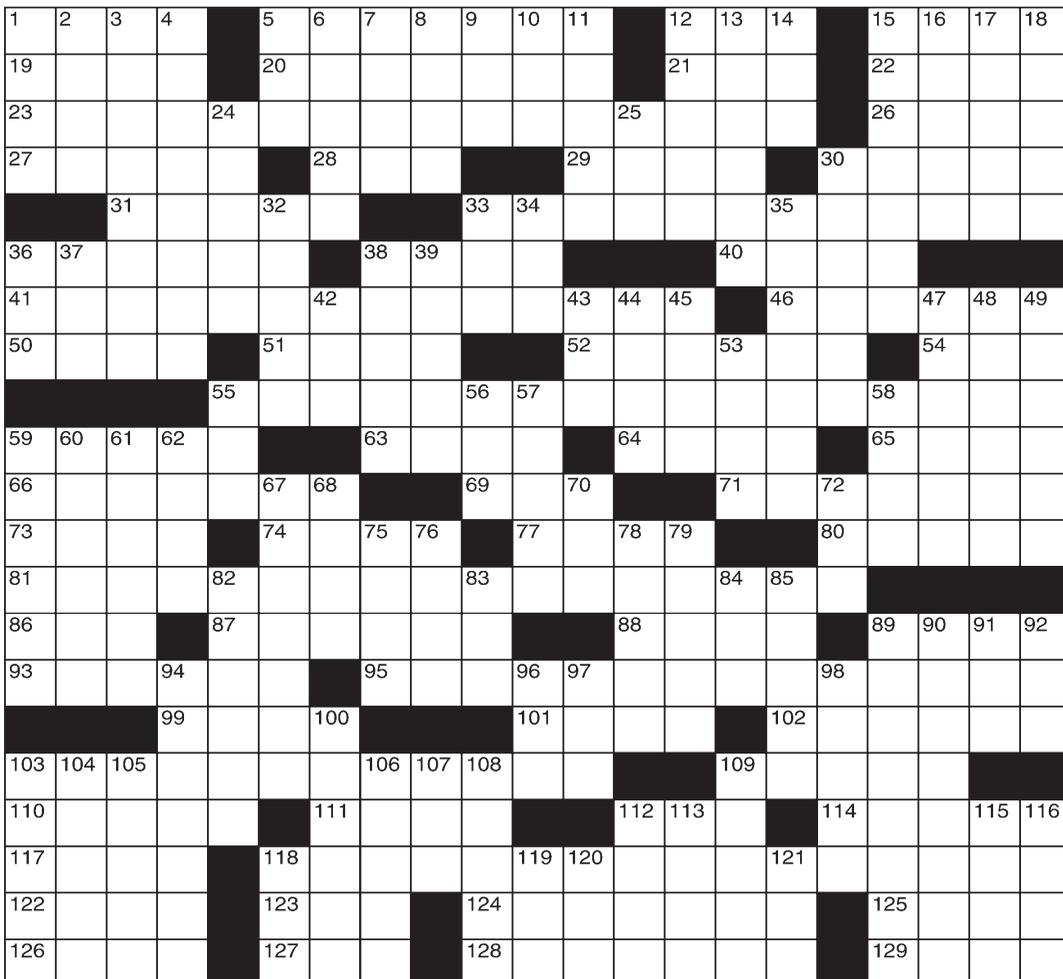
Super Crossword

STICKING TO THE GOAL

- ACROSS**
- 1 Roman god with a bow
 - 5 Knotting craft
 - 12 Move like a kangaroo
 - 15 Overquick
 - 19 Be a wanderer
 - 20 Moral
 - 21 Actress Gasteyer
 - 22 Comical Kett
 - 23 Jack London novel
 - 26 Dumbfound
 - 27 Flynn of films
 - 28 Prone (to)
 - 29 Big name in credit cards
 - 30 Cake coater
 - 31 Writer Verne
 - 33 Easy targets to attack
 - 36 Lacking a musical key
 - 38 Writer Bellow with a Nobel
 - 40 Mystery novelist — Stanley Gardner
 - 41 Relative of soul
 - 46 Infuse with oxygen
 - 50 Sphagnum, e.g.
 - 51 Cookie with a "Thins" line
 - 52 One-masted sailboats
 - 54 Chic, '60s-style
 - 55 Really, really quick
 - 59 Drive off
 - 63 Pretty low grades
 - 64 "That is — ask"
 - 65 "Picnic" playwright William
 - 66 With 13-Down, giant in internet service
 - 69 Sports org. with the eight teams featured in this puzzle
 - 71 Trip to a rain forest, maybe
 - 73 Vicious
 - 74 Eban of Israel
 - 77 Foreboding
 - 80 Shimon of Israel
 - 81 2011 Jim Carrey comedy
 - 86 Head sweller
 - 87 Tie up again, as shoes
 - 88 Don't skip, as an event
 - 89 Oaf's cry
 - 93 Waters off Eritrea
 - 95 2007-13 pickup truck model
 - 99 Clearasil treats it
 - 101 Designer Saarinen
 - 102 Old TV tube
 - 103 Be engulfed in fire
 - 109 Ate
 - 110 Writer Bret Easton —
 - 111 Know — fact
 - 112 Actor's help
 - 114 The blahs
 - 117 Rake feature
 - 118 Hawaiians and Tongans
 - 122 Tennis' Lendl
 - 123 TV producer
 - 124 In a very angry way
 - 125 Filmom's — Lund Laszlo
 - 126 Bird setting
 - 127 Sinuous fish
 - 128 Vilify
 - 129 Gambol
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
 - 2 Comic actor Jay
 - 3 Elates
 - 4 Tells in detail
 - 5 Ex-Giant Ott
 - 6 Gazetteer shelfmate
 - 7 Hew
 - 8 Falling-out
 - 9 Masquerade
 - 10 — jongg
 - 11 Chosen few
 - 12 Papa Doc's place
 - 13 See 66-Across
 - 14 Inflate falsely
 - 15 Hero, often
 - 16 Top-floor storage site
 - 17 Reeked
 - 18 With 56-Down, surfs like a pro
 - 24 God, in Islam
 - 25 Clever type
 - 30 Most lazy
 - 32 "St. — Fire" (1985 film)
 - 33 Hero in a deli
 - 34 Fluidish, say
 - 35 Shown with explicit detail
 - 36 It has biceps
 - 37 However, informally
 - 38 Golf's Sam
 - 39 — of one's own medicine
 - 42 Dog cry
 - 43 Naval vessel abbr.
 - 44 Fitzgerald of song
 - 45 Loam, e.g.
 - 47 Key of "Für Elise"
 - 48 Mouth organ
 - 49 Lawn care tools
 - 53 Eye creepily
 - 55 — Baba
 - 56 See 18-Down
 - 57 "... woman who lived in —"
 - 58 Evening, casually
 - 59 Rear-ending car, e.g.
 - 60 Arise
 - 61 Natural legume case
 - 62 Cube maker
 - 67 Peninsula northeast of Boston
 - 68 Brother in Genesis
 - 70 Pre-O trio
 - 72 Mil. missions
 - 75 Bric-a- —
 - 76 Yiddish writer
 - 78 Actress Samantha
 - 79 Italian for "new"
 - 82 Summary
 - 83 16th letter
 - 84 "Don't make — habit"
 - 85 Nick of "Warrior"
 - 89 Potato chip topping
 - 90 Singer Helen or actor Jerry
 - 91 Univ. award
 - 92 Envision
 - 94 Wise
 - 96 22nd letter
 - 97 "Indubitably"
 - 98 "Grease" actress Eve
 - 100 Erase
 - 103 Gain entry
 - 104 Drab color
 - 105 Forelimb bones
 - 106 Close-by
 - 107 "Exodus" protagonist
 - 108 Don's group as a tree
 - 109 Cuts down, as a tree
 - 112 Refer to
 - 113 Tech support seeker
 - 115 Bear, celestially
 - 116 "By Jove!"
 - 118 Adolescent leader?
 - 119 Taxing org.
 - 120 Beret, e.g.
 - 121 Senate vote

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Use an old phone
 - 5 Plastic user's accumulation
 - 9 Yon bloke
 - 12 Resting
 - 13 Neighborhood
 - 14 Expert
 - 15 Shipwreck site
 - 16 Ancient Briton
 - 17 Say it's OK
 - 18 It's right on the map
 - 19 Shell game need
 - 20 Took the bus
 - 21 — canto
 - 23 Mainlander's memento
 - 25 Flower cluster
 - 28 Heckle or Jeckle
 - 32 Baking potato
 - 33 Any of four that chase Pac-Man
 - 34 Aberration
 - 36 Last syllable of a word
 - 37 Ultra-modernist
 - 38 Meadow
 - 39 Dressed
 - 42 State of matter
 - 44 Infamous lyre player
 - 48 Fond du — horse
 - 49 Abrupt
 - 50 Fed
 - 51 Bonfire residue
 - 52 Soft cheese
 - 53 Dryer collection
 - 54 "How come?"
 - 55 Celeb
 - 56 Therefore
 - 6 Huron neighbor
 - 7 Soothe
 - 8 Body art, for short
 - 9 Good ring?
 - 10 On the rocks
 - 11 Apportion (out)
 - 20 90 degrees
 - 22 Overact
 - 24 American emblem
 - 25 Carnival city
 - 26 Throw in
 - 27 Scoundrel
 - 29 Luau bowlful
 - 30 Doctrine
 - 31 Greek H
 - 35 Dairy-section item
 - 36 Overcoat named for a region of Ireland
 - 39 Talon
 - 40 Whip
 - 41 Sore
 - 43 Bocelli show-stopper
 - 45 Eastern bigwig
 - 46 Pealed
 - 47 Aware of
 - 49 Letterman's employer
- DOWN**
- 1 Tragic
 - 2 Concept
 - 3 Hearty quaffs
 - 4 Forgotten, maybe
 - 5 Spotted



MAGIC MAZE ● WINTER —

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

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

- Berry
- Months
- Squash
- Wheat
- Blahs
- Olympics
- Storm
- Winds
- Carnival
- Park
- Time
- Wonderland
- Coat
- Sports
- Vacation



"It all started when she found an empty
_____ in the closet this morning!"

answer on page 31B

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!

Athletic
EIGAL _____

Portion
HEARS _____

Frail
RENTED _____

Turned
WEAKS _____

TODAY'S WORD

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

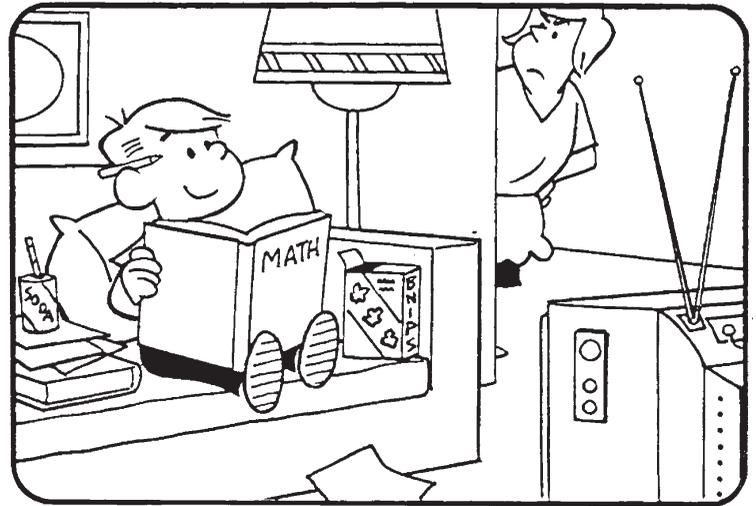
SUDOKU

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

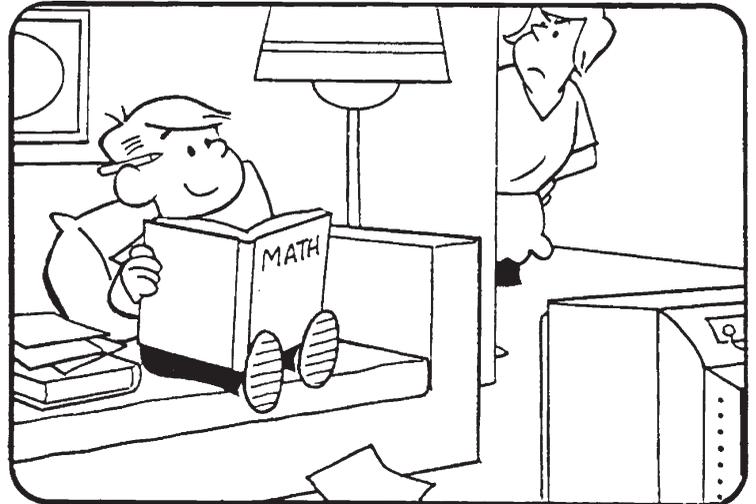
answer on page 29B

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTIHOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Can is missing. 2. Pillow is smaller. 3. Lamp shade is different. 4. Box is missing. 5. TV controls are missing. 6. Antenna is missing.

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Redfish Pass Tides					Point Ybel Tides					Punta Rassa Tides					Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
<u>Day</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Fri	12:43 pm	5:29 am	10:42 pm	4:15 pm	Fri	11:48 am	5:31 am	9:47 pm	4:17 pm	Fri	11:52 am	5:21 am	11:04 pm	5:08 pm	Fri	12:25 am	8:45 am	2:53 pm	7:31 pm
Sat	1:29 pm	6:05 am	11:09 pm	4:45 pm	Sat	12:34 pm	6:07 am	10:14 pm	4:47 pm	Sat	12:23 pm	6:02 am	11:33 pm	5:48 pm	Sat	12:52 am	9:21 am	3:39 pm	8:01 pm
Sun	2:09 pm	6:39 am	11:37 pm	5:13 pm	Sun	1:14 pm	6:41 am	10:42 pm	5:15 pm	Sun	12:54 pm	6:40 am	11:57 pm	6:22 pm	Sun	1:19 am	9:55 am	4:19 pm	8:29 pm
Mon	2:43 pm	7:12 am	None	5:42 pm	Mon	1:48 pm	7:14 am	11:13 pm	5:44 pm	Mon	1:29 pm	7:18 am	None	6:53 pm	Mon	1:47 am	10:28 am	4:53 pm	8:58 pm
Tue	12:08 am	7:44 am	3:13 pm	6:14 pm	Tue	2:18 pm	7:46 am	11:46 pm	6:16 pm	Tue	12:16 am	7:56 am	2:08 pm	7:21 pm	Tue	2:18 am	11:00 am	5:23 pm	9:30 pm
Wed	12:41 am	8:18 am	3:41 pm	6:52 pm	Wed	2:46 pm	8:20 am	None	6:54 pm	Wed	12:34 am	8:32 am	2:53 pm	7:50 pm	Wed	2:51 am	11:34 am	5:51 pm	10:08 pm
Thu	1:19 am	8:53 am	4:11 pm	7:39 pm	Thu	12:24 am	8:55 am	3:16 pm	7:41 pm	Thu	12:58 am	9:06 am	3:37 pm	8:25 pm	Thu	3:29 am	12:09 pm	6:21 pm	10:55 pm

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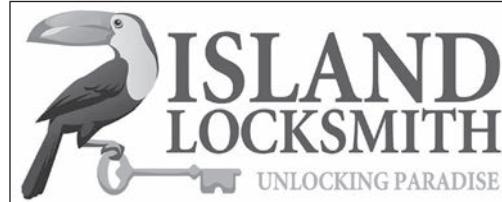
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3	7	5	4	2	9	1	6	8
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2	5	3	9	1	4	8	7	6

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My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 2017

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

Make a start on that new workplace challenge. But get more information before you find yourself too deeply involved without knowing in which direction you should go.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

You might find things becoming tedious as your schedule slows down for the holidays. Use this time to get information about a possible post-New Year job change.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

The creative Twin finds outlets for her or his ideas in the early part of the week. The practical Twin takes it a step further and rallies support to turn the ideas into reality.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

It's time to stop being intimidated by someone's negative behavior. Start taking positive steps on your own to help strengthen your position down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)

Look closely at that so-called golden opportunity. Best to be a cautious Cat who approaches things slowly, than one who pounces without knowing where you'll land.

VIRGO (August 23 to

September 22) Your apology can resolve that personal situation before it overshadows the holidays. You'll feel better, even if you're only partly to blame for what happened.

LIBRA (September 23 to

October 22) Avoid overtaxing yourself, even if your energy levels are high and you feel that you can do it all. Best to pace yourself so you won't run yourself down before the holidays.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your sense of humor helps get you through a stressful period. Some of your quick quips can take the edge off any remaining negativity being aimed at you.

SAGITTARIUS (November

22 to December 21) Your artistic talents not only help you express yourself these days, but they also set up a line of communication between you and someone very special.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) It's fine to appreciate

the importance of "proper form" for doing things. But relax a bit in order to allow newcomers on the project to feel less intimidated by you.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Use your boundless reserve of optimism to persuade others to work with you to resolve a difficult workplace problem before it can ruin your holiday fun.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You brim over with self-confidence as you begin to tackle a new challenge. And, before you know it, you're not alone: Others have taken the plunge with you.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a highly defined sense of commitment to others. You would make a fine social worker.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- On Dec. 18, 1912, two skulls that appear to belong to a primitive hominid and ancestor of man are discovered in England. In 1953, the fraud was exposed after the remains were found to be only 600 years old, not up to a million years old as claimed.

- On Dec. 19, 1732, Benjamin Franklin of Philadelphia first publishes "Poor Richard's Almanack," a book filled with proverbs preaching industry and prudence. It became one of the most popular publications in Colonial America and was published continuously for 25 years.

- On Dec. 20, 1989, Michael Moore's documentary "Roger & Me" opens in theaters. The film chronicled Moore's unsuccessful attempts to meet Roger B. Smith, the head of General Motors, which had closed 11 factories in Flint, Michigan.

- On Dec. 21, 1967, "The Graduate" opens. The film was an uneasy exploration of what it meant to be young and adrift at a time of extraordinary upheaval. It made a star out of Dustin Hoffman, as well as his car, an Alfa Romeo Duetto Spider.

- On Dec. 22, 1956, a baby gorilla named Colo is born at the Columbus Zoo in Ohio, becoming the first-ever gorilla born in captivity. Colo went on to become a mother, grandmother and in

1996, a great-grandmother. She died at age 60 in January 2017.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was 20th-century American author and journalist Emily Kimbrough who made the following sage observation: "Remember, we all stumble, every one of us. That's why it's a comfort to go hand in hand."

- In Finland, it is traditional to pay a visit to the steam baths on Christmas Day. Nice and clean, Finns then put on new clothes before enjoying their Christmas dinner, which is served in the evening.

- Most people -- even word nerds like yours truly! -- aren't aware that the plural form of Sphinx is Sphingis.

- You might not be surprised to learn that the only bones to be found in a shark's body are in its jaws and teeth.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"What is freedom of expression? Without the freedom to offend, it ceases to exist." -- Salman Rushdie

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1. Agile; 2. Share;
3. Tender; 4. Askew

Today's Word HANGER

HORTOONS



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Tarpon Estates	Cape Coral	2015	3,915	\$2,425,000	\$2,000,000	459
San Carlos On The Gulf	Fort Myers Beach	2017	3,637	\$2,195,000	\$2,075,000	65
Seminole Estates	Fort Myers	1960	3,429	\$1,750,000	\$1,400,000	139
Edgewater	Fort Myers	1996	3,772	\$1,240,000	\$1,100,000	20
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2014	2,883	\$1,225,000	\$1,075,000	3
Orchid Ridge	Estero	2001	4,044	\$1,190,000	\$1,079,000	411
Fairview Isles	Fort Myers Beach	1969	2,435	\$999,900	\$910,000	57
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1978	2,837	\$895,000	\$825,000	90
Hidden Harbor	Fort Myers Beach	2016	2,662	\$848,500	\$810,000	135
Grande Estates	Estero	2005	3,484	\$799,900	\$787,000	57

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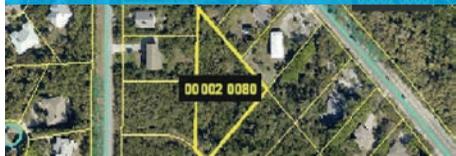
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