



# Welcome to Crescent Beach? M&P Session Yields Surprising Topic

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

One of the key components to the Town of Fort Myers Beach Council's unanimous approval of the TPI-FMB Downtown Redevelopment Proposal, after two marathon sessions of Monday & Tuesday, April 9 & 10, was when TPI Board Chair Tom Torgerson agreed to the suggestion by Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp to donate the former Ocean Jewels building, at the base of the Matanzas Pass Bridge, now home to the Greater Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce, to the Town for a future Gateway entrance to the island. Soon, and for generations to come, residents and visitors may cross the bridge and see, "Welcome to Crescent Beach!"

Crescent Beach?

The surprising topic came up in an unexpected forum. After meeting for almost 16 combined

hours on TPI-FMB earlier in the week, before a packed Council Chambers, the Management & Planning Session on Thursday, April 12, did not even have a full panel, with Council member Anita Cereceda on an excused absence. The audience section, with the exception of a few Town staff and media, was completely empty.

Everything began innocently enough, under "Tourist Development Council (TDC) Beach & Shoreline Funding," for the 2019-20 Fiscal Year. Town Manager Roger Hernstadt reminded Council that the moneys the Town receives from Lee County's TDC is essential, "as our beaches are our #1 tourist attraction, as well as bringing needed funds to the Mound House and Newton Cottage, and related projects." With that, he introduced Alison Giesen, the Director of Cultural Resources for the Town of Fort Myers Beach and Mound House Director, the

Cont'd pg.8



The Council Chambers audience section looked vastly different from the TPI-FMB meetings earlier in the week! Photos by Gary Mooney.

## Town Takes Over Permitting "Easy & Comfortable" Experience Predicted

By Gary Mooney  
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It was no April Fool's when the Town of Fort Myers Beach took over the building permit process from Lee County on April 1. To discuss this, the Estero Island Taxpayers Association (EITA) devoted its monthly program to permitting on Tuesday evening, April 17, at the Beach Baptist Church before roughly 20 people and a live-stream audience. EITA Executive Director Beverley Milligan hosted Town Manager Roger Hernstadt and Building Services Manager Robert Bogart

in a question & answer format to explain what this means for our community.

Hernstadt provided the background: "The Town's permitting agreement with Lee County expired last September, and we sought a renewal, along with asking them to improve their turn-around times, and have an employee work out of Town Hall for some hours a week, so people with questions could interact with them face-to-face, as we felt those were reasonable objectives. The County eventually replied that the Town should take over permitting on its own. Town Council was initially

Cont'd pg.12

## Protect Our Sea Turtles Unofficial Season Began April 15

By Gary Mooney  
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"We have not seen any turtle indications on our first few walks, except that it was really cold earlier this week," exclaimed Eve Haverfield, the founder of Turtle Time, Inc., a non-profit established in 1989 for the benefit of marine turtles on Big Hickory Island, and Bonita, Bunche, and Fort Myers Beaches. "Loggerhead turtles will wait to nest until it gets a bit warmer, as they have turtle necks and not turtleneck sweaters! What was great was how many people welcomed us back to the beach, saying how neat it was to see us again, so it felt good to be back out there."

Turtle nesting season is officially from May 1 through October 31, "but the State of Florida asks us to start monitoring our zones beginning Sunday, April 15," Eve explained. "Gulf of Mexico waters are already warming into the high 70s, with turtles seen gathering in the area. Once the water reaches 80 degrees, that makes conditions conducive for nesting, with mothers coming on-shore to lay eggs, so that is why we start early, to not miss any nests. Our colleagues already discovered some on the East Coast, and in previous years we found one on Fort Myers Beach as early as April 25 and on Bonita Beach on April 20."

To prove Eve's point, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) announced that it found its first 2018 nest on Monday, April 16 on Sanibel Island. What makes this even more exciting is it is a Kemp's ridley, only the third time the SCCF Sea Turtle Program has found a nest of this species in its history! Kemp's ridley is the smallest and most endangered of all sea turtles. Last year, the SCCF enjoyed a new record, for its fourth consecutive season, with 684 nests on Sanibel - 650 loggerheads and 34 greens - with another 189 on Captiva. Of Turtle Time's four beach areas, almost all nests will be loggerheads.

### THE CENTURY MARK

Like the SCCF, Turtle Time established new records each of the last three years, with 327 in 2017 at its total sites and 99 on Fort Myers Beach. "We tried as hard as we could to coax out one more nest, to hit an even 100, so maybe this year," joked Eve! She is hesitant, however, to make any 2018 predictions, as loggerheads return to nest every other year. She is optimistic, though, as 2016 was the previous record, with 92 nests on Fort Myers Beach and 270 all-together. "We want that upward trend to continue and, as we always say, are cautiously optimistic. A nice perfect summer, weather-wise, is what we need, thank

Cont'd pg.6



Read the story on page 5 to see how you can get in on the fun!

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# LETTERS to the EDITOR

## PUBLIC BENEFIT?

The sentence below is copied from the Island Sand Paper ("FMB Town Council Unanimously Approves TPI-FMB," April 13, 2018) and appears to be evidence of a violation of Florida State Ethics laws, relevant portions of which I have copied below. Vice Mayor of FMB Joanne Shamp is quoted:

"There are also several public benefits this provides that are not likely to be replicated by any other property that this offers to the public, such as the donation of the Ocean Jewels property to the Town that has a tremendous benefit."

Here are State statutes on Ethics in Government:

112:313: (2) SOLICITATION OR ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS.—No public officer, employee of an agency, local government attorney, or candidate for nomination or election shall solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the public officer, employee, local government attorney, or candidate would be influenced thereby.

(6) MISUSE OF PUBLIC POSITION.—No public officer, employee of an agency, or local government attorney shall corruptly use or attempt to use his or her official position or any property or resource which may be within his or her trust, or perform his or her official duties, to secure a special privilege, benefit, or exemption for himself, herself, or others.

Did the Town council secure a benefit to the public by doing this swap?

Leon Moyer  
Fort Myers Beach

## EDITORIAL WRONG

Missy & Bob Layfield's recent editorial in the Sand Paper ("This Is It" Editorial April 6, 2018, Island Sand Paper) regarding the TPI application demonstrated all that is wrong with our current political climate and the dissemination of information by the press.

In order to justify their position that the TPI application should be approved, they call into question the motivation of town staff in producing supplemental staff reports, label people with different opinions as the "opposition group" and discounts the content of their concerns based on their assumptions of their motivations, and challenges the integrity of an LPA member based on their assumptions about his wife's association with this same "opposition group".

I am that LPA member. My wife did not financially contribute to any group as Missy & Bob Layfield have suggested. ("Voice of FMB Sup-

porters Revealed,' Island Sand Paper, April 6, 2018) She considered contributing to Voice of FMB following the LPA hearing because her position aligned more closely with theirs than with the request being made by TPI, particularly regarding density and height. She appreciated their efforts to avoid personal attacks. If she had decided to financially support them, I would have supported her. She is fully capable of forming her own opinions.

Missy & Bob Layfield's implication in their editorial that I was somehow compromised or did something outside of the public eye requiring disclosure at the LPA hearing is simply wrong. I wish they would have asked me before writing that piece. I wish they would stick to the facts, and express their editorial opinions without assuming they know the motivations of others. The TPI product that was ultimately approved reflects not only the hard work of TPI and it's supporters, but also the conscientious efforts of those asking difficult questions.

Daniel Hendrickson  
Fort Myers Beach

**Editor's note:** The President of CONRIC PR & Marketing and spokesperson for the Voice of Fort Myers Beach, Connie Ramos-Williams sent an email on March 30, 2018 to Beach Area Civic Association President Charlie Whitehead listing the financial supporters of Voice of Fort Myers Beach in advance of the April 2nd BACA forum featuring TPI and Voice representatives. The list did not include any dates or amounts of financial contributions. Colleen Tallen (Hendrickson) was one of the 17 names on that list. We contacted Mr. Hendrickson on April 12, shared that email with him and offered to run a correction if Ms. Ramos-Williams were to acknowledge that the list was inaccurate. We have not received any response to date.

## MORE ACRONYMS

In response to both Mr. Cude and the Editor, the correct answer to the question "what does TPI-FMB stand for" is Torgerson Properties Inc. Fort Myers Beach. Torgerson Properties Inc. is doing business as (DBA) TPI Hospitality. Everyone should understand this as this company now owns FMB. RIP FMB! Sorry for more acronyms.

Nelson Brindle  
Fort Myers Beach

**Editor note:** TPI-FMB is not an acronym. It is the name used during the application process for TPI Hospitality's Fort Myers Beach Project. TPI Hospitality is officially Torgerson Properties, Inc, but has been known for decades as TPI Hospitality. The company is owned entirely by TPI Hospitality employees since Jan. 2, 2015. Tom Torgerson does not own any stock in the company. For more information on the company, visit [www.tpihospitality.com](http://www.tpihospitality.com)

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# Beach Botany by Jim Rodwell



James A. Rodwell

## YELLOW NECKLACE POD

The Yellow Necklace Pod, *Sophora tomentosa* var. *truncata*, is a member of the Fabaceae (Pea-Bean) family. It is an evergreen shrub with several arching semi-woody stems that can form thickets and reach a height of 10 feet. Compound leaves are arranged alternately on the stems. Each compound leaf has up to 20 pairs of elliptical leaflets with a single leaflet at the tip. The compound leaves can be as much as 12 inches in length and 3 inches wide. Stems and leaflets are pubescent when young and glabrous when older.

Pea-shaped bright yellow flowers are clustered in terminal raceme inflorescence. The lengthy seed pods are yellow in color. There are several rounded seeds in each pod. The pod wraps around each seed giving the appearance of beads on a necklace. Seeds are poisonous.

I found this *truncata* growing on one of the beach's coastal strands. It is a small juvenile plant that is surrounded by grasses while blooming. It will be hard to grow to full size in a saline environment, if it survives at all.

# Beach Happenings

## READING IS FUNDAMENTAL



Beach School 3rd-graders inspect the selection of books.

Fort Myers Beach School students love to read and eagerly await their turn to head into the school's Media Center to celebrate Reading is Fundamental (RIF) Day, held Monday, April 16. Originally funded by a federal grant, the Fort Myers Beach community and local service organizations have stepped up to keep the program going since federal funding was cut in 2011. This year RIF Day was sponsored by the Beach Kids Foundation. On RIF Day, each student goes home with a new book. This year's theme was Super Powers, with volunteer Kathy Delbalzo reading a book to 3rd-graders about Super Heroes. Students then played Super Hero Bingo with Beach School Information Specialist Terry Jacobs before choosing their book from a wide selection of new books.



Volunteer Kathy Delbalzo reads to third-graders on RIF Day.  
Photos by M. Layfield.

## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS NAMED



Hannah Gatof was awarded 1st Place in the Student Art Show.

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association held its annual Student Artwork Exhibition in early April, showcasing the art of young local artists from Cypress Lake Center for the Arts, Cypress Lake High School and Cypress Lake Middle School. The judging team of Marge Lee and Renee Chastant determined the winners. 1st Place was awarded to Hannah Gatof; 2nd Place to Sara Miller and 3rd Place to Emma Wigington. Merit Awards went to Tyler Bell, Aurianna Clark, Darby Debolt, Mary Deloach, Samuel Finley, Hannah Florell, Shana Jakowlew and Luis Sanchez. Middle School students receiving Merit Awards included 1st Prize - Tommy Kendall, 2nd Prize - Yaritza Ittai Soto and 3rd Prize - Brandon Lee. The FMBAA Gallery, located at 3030 Shell Mound Blvd, FMB, is currently exhibiting the Summer Art Show and is open during summer hours - every Wednesday and Thursday from 9am-noon.



Second Place in the Art Show was awarded to Sara Miller.  
Photos by Sarah List.

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# Lights, Camera, Action!

## FMB Film Festival Returns April 25 - 29

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

A little bit of Hollywood returns to Southwest Florida with the 12th Fort Myers Beach Film Festival from Wednesday, April 25, through Sunday, April 29, at The Beach Theater at 6425 Estero Boulevard.

"The FMB Film Festival originally began in the year 2000," explained event spokesperson Tanya Kaish Keller. "A major sponsor was the Town of Fort Myers Beach, but in 2005, a new Council came in with different priorities. They cut the Film Festival funding, so it faded to black for a few years! The Fort Myers Beach Friends of the Arts felt the Film Festival was a great community event, so they reorganized it in 2012 and remain the driving force today, along with our sponsors. The thought was, let's get back into it, because the Film Festival was fantastic for business and wonderful for the locals, as it is just one more fun thing to do on Estero Island."

A small committee under the direction of Janeen Paulauskis from the Fish-Tale Marina selects the films. "This is not as glamorous as it seems," Tanya related, "as they must preview every submission to decide which ones do or do not make the cut, as not every movie is good enough or appropriate for our audience."

Tanya said one of the Festival highlights are the short films. "These are fun and popular selections, as you can see 3 or 4 during one screening, and that is



Jeffrey A. Johns in a scene from "Still Waiting in the Wings." Johns wrote and stars in the film. Photo submitted.

a tremendous bang for your buck! Another popular event occurs away from The Beach Theater, with the free 'Movie on The Mound' on the front yard of the fantastic Mound House, right on gorgeous Estero Bay, on Saturday evening, April 28. This year's family-friendly feature that begins at dark is the 2017 smash Disney hit, 'Coco!' This is ideal for those who have yet to visit the Mound House, to see how cool it is!" The Mound House is at 451 Connecticut Street; with light refreshments for a nominal fee. Bring blankets and lawn chairs, dress for appropriate weather, and pack bug spray and a flashlight, to guide you back to your car when the film ends.

The FMB Film Festival is once again home to two workshops, Tanya stated. "We have Kyle

Thompson of Red Flight Pictures hosting the first, on Friday, April 27, about the art of filmmaking and acting for the screen. Stanley Isaacs and Alyn Darnay hold theirs on Saturday the 28th, to explain how to get people interested in your film, from pre-production through completion and distribution. They begin at 11 a.m., with the cost for Friday at \$30 and Saturday \$40, including lunch with each. There is limited seating so reserve your spot now on-line or in person at the Fish-Tale Marina."

The Festival begins with the free Opening Ceremony on Wednesday, April 25, at 2 p.m. "We encourage everyone to attend," related Tonya, "as immediately after, we show Festival Artistic Director Stanley Isaacs' new documentary, 'Sometimes Lucky is More Important Than Smart: Conversations with Mace Neufeld,' as well as 'JFK - The Last Speech.' Movies continue through Saturday, April 28, starting between 3 and 9 p.m. Each screening is \$7, including the short film bundles, with weeklong VIP Passes at \$150 that do not include Workshops.

"There are roughly 17 films in the Festival," explained Tanya, "with several that we feel will have great demand screened twice, such as 'JFK - The Last Speech' and the musical, 'Still Waiting in The Wings.' Speaking of the latter, there is a lot of Hollywood buzz surrounding its star and writer, Jeffrey A. Johns, who appeared on the television series, 'BoysTown,' on 'America's Got Talent,' and is an accomplished stage actor who received the Best Actor Award at the Pasadena International Film Festival."

The Award Ceremony concludes the Festival on Sunday, April 29. It is free and open to the public at Fish-Tale Marina at 7225 Estero Boulevard at 2 a.m., with Jeff Butera of ABC-7 the emcee. A three-judge panel determines the "Best Film," while audience members vote throughout the week for the "People's Choice Winner." Following the Award Ceremony, return to The Beach Theater to see these films at 4 p.m.

Film Festival sponsors include the Beaches of Fort Myers and Sanibel, Fish-Tale Marina, Lovers Key Beach Resort, SunStream Properties, TPI Hospitality, Inc. and the Fort Myers Beach Friends of The Arts. "We always need volunteers," said Tanya, "especially ticket takers, so if you can assist, see our webpage."

All events except for "The Movie on The Mound" on Friday evening and the Award Ceremony on Sunday afternoon occur at The Beach Theater at 6425 Estero Boulevard. To see the full schedule of movies and activities, as well as to volunteer or to purchase tickets, see Facebook at fmbfilmfestival or go to FMBFilmFest.com.

The FMB Film Festival benefits the Fort Myers Beach Friends of the Arts that promotes creative arts on the island, including the visual, sound and taste varieties. It sponsors four large-scale annual events, with the Sustainability Dinner, Paint the Beach Plein Air Art Festival, and Winter Concert Series joining the Film Festival. Become a member of the Friends of the Arts through its website, to help bring the arts and its various festivals to the beach community; for information or to join, go to FMBarts.org.

For Tanya, the best part of the Fort Myers Beach Film Festival is "you may be lucky enough to discover, right in your own backyard, a movie or star you will talk about for years to come, because smaller festivals like ours can produce people like the next Steven Spielberg or Wes Anderson. Film fans travel here from Orlando, Tampa, Miami, and all over the State to attend, to enjoy national and even international filmmakers. All islanders have to do, however, is take a walk down the block or take a short bike ride to see these magnificent movies from independent filmmakers and be ahead of the curve!"

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# Protect Our Sea Turtles

## Unofficial Season Began April 15, Cont'd from pg.1

you very much!"

While Turtle Time began patrolling on April 15, coastal regulations officially start on May 1, so Eve urges Islanders to initiate their preparations now. The primary bane to nesting turtles and their hatchlings is artificial light from beach properties. Turtles for millennia had quiet dark beaches to themselves, but now compete with businesses and coastal residents. Lights from these developments can prevent females from coming ashore or choosing an inferior nesting location from which few hatchlings survive. Lights disorient hatchlings, causing them to move toward that source and away from the Gulf, resulting in death from dehydration, exhaustion or automobiles. Turn off, shield and direct downward all balcony and outside lights. Close drapes or blinds after dark, and use Wildlife Friendly Fixtures. Never shine a flashlight or use flash photography on a sea turtle, nor approach them on the beach.

"Please, Please, Please fill in any holes you dig in the sand," Eve implored, "as not only can hatchlings fall in and die, but so can adult turtles; do you know how difficult it is to remove a trapped, upside-down 300-pound loggerhead? Remember holes can be equally harmful to people, resulting in injuries and even broken bones. Most important, replace all your light bulbs with Amber LED lights – not yellow party lights or other cute varieties – but Amber LED lights. If you have



Loggerhead turtles are headed our way for nesting season, May 1- October 31.

trouble finding these at local stores, go online to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission website at [myfwc.com](http://myfwc.com) and search for the turtle light link. They have a plethora of products and prices from which to choose, and anything on there is an approved light, so consumers do not have to worry about any misleading items."

Amber LED lights emit a particular wavelength to which sea turtles do not respond or adversely affect their ability to find their way back to the Gulf. "Better yet for homeowners," Eve continued, "is that Amber LED lights can burn for up to 75,000 hours and become more reliable every year, so they last longer, provide plenty of safe lighting, the cost is quickly coming down, and you will notice additional savings in your electric bill. We always look for ways to motivate people to switch to Amber LED lights, so if we can't convince you to

do it for the turtles, maybe helping out your own personal bottom line will. We call this a Win-Win-Win-Win!"

### HELP THEM HELP US

For those who leave their homes during Turtle Season, Eve asks these residents to make appropriate preparations for the safety of the endangered animals. "Turn off your porch lights before going, especially if you live in a condominium where they can be on at many different levels, as it can be almost impossible to contact a building manager to shut off those lights or, better yet, convert to Amber LED bulbs. Leave your guests information on turtle nesting season, and remind them about placing furniture behind the beach vegetation line at night, that dogs on the beach must be on a leash, and to not walk at night with a bright

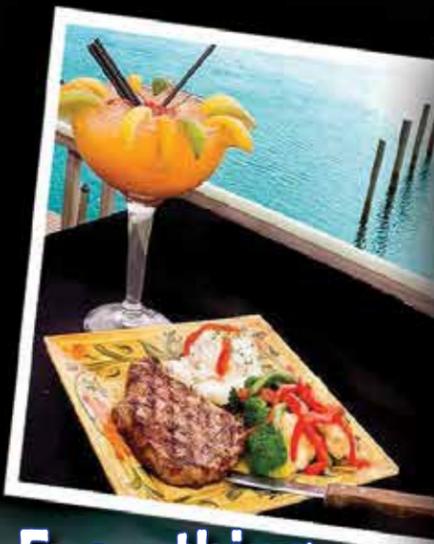
flashlight that can disorient turtles – remember that a Fort Myers Beach walk by moonlight is more romantic! Contact us at Turtle Time and we will happily provide you with that information."

Southwest Florida has been struggling with a persistent Red Tide for months, but this is not yet a concern to Eve. "Red Tide has been around a long time and it is not at a particularly high level now, and more spotty than all through the region. If the numbers spike or the bloom should suddenly significantly grow, that may be a problem, but I do not see it that way at present. The potential issue is that hatchlings swim out into the water on the surface and that is right where we find Red Tide."

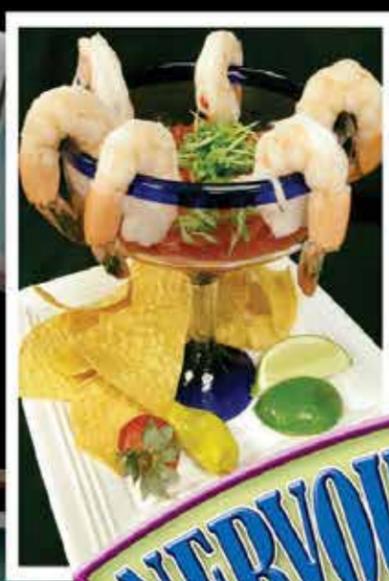
If you would like to be a Turtle Time volunteer, contact Eve for availability. She cautions, however, that you must be in Southwest Florida for the bulk of the summer, through October. If you accidentally hook or catch a sea turtle, or to report a disoriented, lost, injured or dead hatchling or turtle, contact Turtle Time, Inc., at 239-481-5566 or [www.turtletime.org](http://www.turtletime.org), the Town of Fort Myers Beach at 239-765-0202, or the FWC Hotline at 888-404-3922.

"Sea turtles depend upon our beaches being safe for them and their very existence," Eve concluded. "They are the caretakers of the oceans, and we need healthy oceans for our very existence, so by helping sea turtles, we help ourselves!"

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# Chamber Prepares to Relocate Again No Good Deed...

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

When the Town of Fort Myers Beach Council met on Monday, April 9, to begin its debate on the TPI-FMB Downtown Redevelopment Proposal, everyone felt it would be a long day. Council already set aside Tuesday, April 10, should the conversation require an additional day, for another marathon session. Both those predictions held to form, with Monday lasting almost 9 hours and Tuesday just under 6. These lengthy forums left many to wonder what they would do for lunch, to keep them going during two extended meetings.

Enter the Greater Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce to the rescue! The Chamber surprised everyone by announcing that when Council took their Monday lunch break, they would provide a mid-day meal for the roughly 75 citizens in Council Chambers and the approximately 50 others in the adjacent outside viewing tent, with light sandwiches, savory cheeses, delicious cookies and ice water! Though the crowd was just half as large on Tuesday, the Chamber came through again, with chicken wings, light sandwiches, delectable cookies and ice water. Lunch for Town Council members was provided by the Town.

What was the Chamber's reward for these magnanimous gestures: As the old saying goes, 'No Good Deed Goes Unpunished!'



By the end of Tuesday, Council unanimously voted its initial approval of the TPI-FMB Plan, with one of the prime components coming together on Monday afternoon. Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp asked TPI Board Chairman Tom Torgerson if he would donate the former Ocean Jewel building, at the base of the Matanzas Pass Bridge, to the Town for a Gateway entrance as well as for potential traffic mitigation. When Torgerson agreed, Council's approval seemingly became a foregone conclusion. At that point, the Town won; TPI-FMB won; the Fort Myers Beach community won; but the lunch time benefactor, the Greater Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce, that has called the landmark building home for almost a year, got the short end of the stick, and now needs to find a new home for the second time in the last 12 months!

### JOHNNY ON THE SPOT!

"We provided the lunches because it was the right thing to do," emphasized Chamber Executive Director Jacki Liszak!

"We at the Chamber had a serious concern about the many community members who would be there all day, as we did not want anyone to get ill. We knew Council would have full days, and would take brief lunch breaks, but we suspected these would not be long enough for people to go out for food and return in time, or that they would lose their seats. The lunches were a collaborative effort by our entire team, to get the food there and on time, as everyone moved quick and was 'Johnny on The Spot,' particularly on the second day, so I can't thank our team enough."

Jacki felt the Chamber building might come into play during the negotiation between TPI-FMB and Council. "Well, of course! We know we are a tenant, and once you start to put all the pieces together to make everything fit, anything can happen. It was anyone's guess as to what the final agreement would be, to attain a permanent solution. We are grateful for the time we will ultimately have here, as it was absolutely a pivotal period for the Chamber, as it proved that 'Location, Location, Location' is a

key for our success, but change is a part of life."

When the donation went through, Jacki's reaction was, "This is business! Had I been Tom, I would have made the same choice. The property donation to me was the game-changer for Council, and the right thing for the island and residents and businesses and community, as the Town's Comprehensive Plan identified this as the ideal Gateway location since Day One!"

The Chamber is just beginning to plan its next move. "The greatest thing about this building," Jacki reflected, "is it proved to our team that the Chamber must be in a high-profile location, as this site is the first thing you see when you come on the island, and we need an office with this visibility to best serve and give back to our members, because our exposure is outstanding. If I had to describe my wish list for our next perfect location, it would be somewhere with a little better parking, high visibility and enough space to serve our membership in a positive and proactive manner. I have confidence that our business community will help the Chamber to locate our next office, to find our 'Forever Home!' We do have a little time on our side, as we may be able to stay here for up to one year, but that exact date is still up in the air. If you have any ideas, I am all ears!"

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# Welcome to Crescent Beach? M&P Session Yields Surprising Topic, Cont'd from pg.1

point person on the TDC process.

She stated that Council member Bruce Butcher would begin the presentation. Butcher shared a PowerPoint presentation featuring photographs he took of several tourism destinations while on various personal trips around the United States and Canada, featuring attractive designer benches, informational signage and maps, smoke-free and electric bicycle speed limit regulations, and related variables that make each location unique. Council member Dennis Boback cautioned against too many signs, as they can lose effectiveness, and even be safety concerns on the Town's crowded sidewalks, but Butcher stated, because Fort Myers Beach is so small, it would not need more than 3 or 4 placed strategically to cover the island. Shamp thought that Crescent Beach Family Park and the Heart of The Island neighborhood would be prime locations.

Giesen said that TDC funding could pay for some of these options, like the decorative beach access signs on which the Town is currently working, and she presented examples, with these color-coordinated to match Town Hall, for better branding. At this time, the TDC does not fund information for environmental issues or safety concerns, "The criteria changes all the time, so we should not rule that out for next year, as it could be something that matches. We do not submit these until February



Alison Giesen explains the TDC funding process to the Town Council.

2019, when they open again for submissions."

### SURF'S UP!

Butcher used as an example a California community that up-plays its surfing culture, with surfboard-themed benches and other devices. "Now that we have the newfound parcel of land for a Gateway entrance at the Matanzas Pass Bridge, how cool would it look to have an 8-foot-tall guy surfing a gigantic wave, only obviously of something equally creative that better relates to our Town.

You take that image and affix it to trash containers and benches and sign posts and the fishing pier and street signs; in our case maybe different kinds of fish, like redfish and grouper and snapper, and of course shrimp! When it comes to marketing, we ought to be stealing shamelessly!"

Shamp said that when Hernstadt first began, "I spoke to Roger about the symbolism of our island. The logo with the palm tree is nice but it does not symbolize us. I am an artist, and have not yet come up with anything better, but

perhaps something like a beachball may be our theme. When you visit Key West and see the most-southern marker in the nation, you know exactly where that person is, and we need something like that. Maybe the TDC can help us with the creation of that identity."

"A universal look is so important," said Giesen, though Mayor Tracey Gore cautioned: "But nothing that it would look junky." "We are already working on this now," added Giesen, "as a visual reference point, so people know they are in our Town, in a nice and tasteful way." The Town Manager suggested that perhaps Council may want to assign this project to an existing Town committee, or even create a new ad hoc one. "I like that," said Shamp. "We have a lot of creative people in our Town." Shamp and Gore suggested sending the assignment to either or both of its standing Cultural Resources Advisory Board (CRAB) or Marine Resources Task Force (MRTF) committees.

### WE'RE NUMBER ONE!

"It bothers me that Lee County markets itself as 'The Beaches of Fort Myers and Sanibel,'" said Boback, "even though Fort Myers Beach is the #1 attraction, and we are neither of those." Butcher hopped all over that: "People don't know the difference between Fort Myers and Fort Myers Beach! When I travel and introduce myself,

[Cont'd pg.10](#)



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# Editorial

## PREPPING FOR OFF SEASON

Many Islanders are getting ready to head north for the summer. They button up their homes, visit their favorite haunts for the last time this season, file their change of address with Mr. Terry or Tony at the Post Office and wait for spring to finally come to their northern homes. That seems to be taking a bit longer this year than most. No matter, we're happy for the company.

Irma's visit to our Island last September is a fading memory these days with blue-tarped roofs now a rarity, most pool cages and seawalls repaired and landscape growing at its usual rapid rate – hiding any greenery damage. But that hurricane experience brought lessons with it. One of them should be on every property owner's mind if they are seasonal residents – you need someone to care for your property while you are out of town, especially before and after any storms that head our way.

Islanders tend to be a neighborly bunch. We lend a hand when needed. We watch for strangers in our neighborhoods. We bring forgotten trashcans back to neighbor's garages. We keep an eye on homes that we know are empty during the summer. And we're all happy to do that. It's part of being a good neighbor.

For many locations in the country, that's enough to lock up your house and leave it for 5-6 months or more, secure in the knowledge that it will be ok while you're gone. It's not enough here. That is one of the lessons learned last September. After a storm, you need to know if there's been any damage to your property and take steps to mitigate that damage, whether it's putting a tarp on the roof or pulling downed trees to the curb. You need someone who knows the house to inspect it inside and out. And someone to call in whatever repair services are needed in the short term.

This is a delicate issue among neighbors and we want to both encourage neighbors helping neighbors and yet, let seasonal residents know that it can become too much in some circumstances, like after a hurricane.

Our Island is full of incredible, selfless people, especially after Irma. They helped neighbors without asking, they hauled landscaping, they brought food and water to neighbors. We can't say enough good things about how Islanders rallied to help each other after Hurricane Irma. It was inspiring!

Yet, if we're honest, we all heard stories about requests from seasonal residents who wanted their properties inspected and photographed and checked and rechecked for water damage. Some Islanders received those requests and did the best they could to accommodate them. Despite having a mountain of work of their own to do. In some cases, they took care of their neighbors' houses before they did their own.

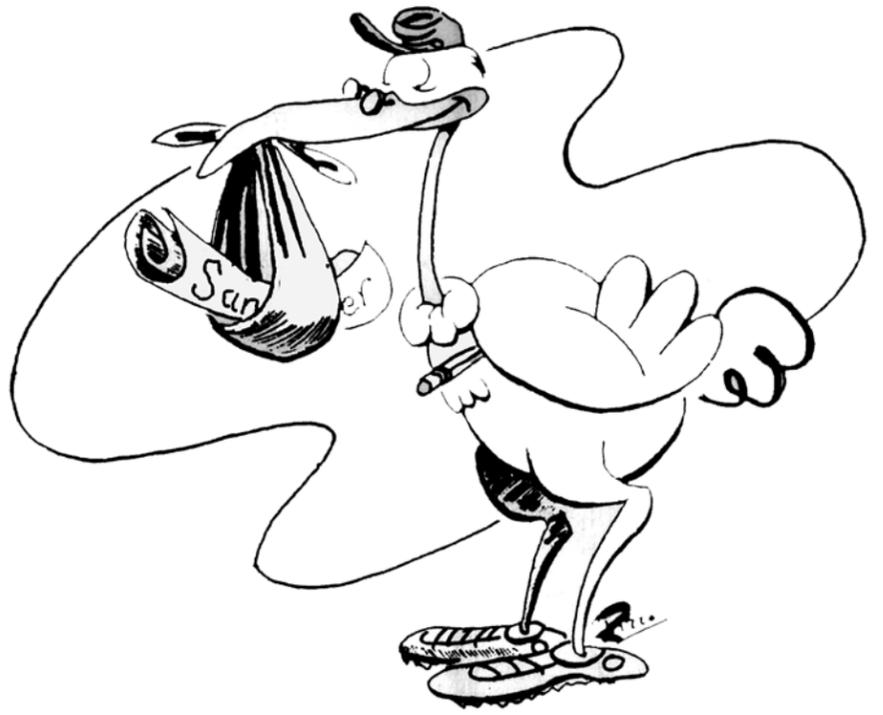
That's the delicate part. No one wants to say no to any neighbor in need. And there surely are people who had little personal damage and were fully willing and capable of responding to any and all requests. Bless them for their efforts. But it bears mentioning that after a bad storm, just about everyone living on the Island has a full plate of chores to do for their own property.

If you are heading north soon, please consider making arrangements for someone to take care of your property in your absence. It might be a neighbor or a professional service. Someone who will put up/take down storm shutters, check your property regularly, inside and out, for wind or water damage, check for broken windows, make sure the air conditioning works so you don't come back to a mold problem. We live in a harsh environment, even without a hurricane or tropical storm coming through. Be a good neighbor and don't assume your full-time resident neighbors here will be able to take care of their own property, plus all the empty seasonal homes around them after a storm.

There's an entire industry that's grown up around this need -- home watch or home management. We have no financial interest in any home care business. We do know you have to pick one carefully and make sure they are not the first ones to evacuate and the last to return. And that they won't take a vacation the week a storm is predicted, which happened to some friends of ours. We do have some experience being on the Island after Hurricane Irma took a swipe at us. We were happy to take as many photos for our neighbors as we had time for and do what we could to help. We've spoken to countless Island residents though who, in addition to their own home, were asked to take care of several of their neighbors homes after the storm. They did what they could willingly, but admitted afterwards that it was a lot to ask.

Islanders will do the same the next time a storm hits us. Islanders won't tell you no. We'll be good neighbors. We're just putting the question out there to seasonal residents – Can you be a good neighbor and make arrangements for someone to care for your property while you're gone?

**Missy Layfield**



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*If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything.*

*Mark Twain*



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*It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society.*

*Krishnamurti*



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*If they give you ruled paper, write the other way.*

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*James A. Garfield*



**Gary Mooney, Lead Writer**  
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*Anything not worth doing is worth not doing well. Think about it.*

*Elias Schwartz*

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### Charles J. Ferrari 1929-2018



Charles J. Ferrari, 89, was born on January 17, 1929 and died April 15, 2018 in Fort Myers Beach, Florida.

He was a Devoted Husband to Lillian Ferrari, a Loving Father to Charles V. Ferrari (MaryAnn), Barbara Moccia (Richard), James Ferrari (Francileide), Joan Dragone (Michael), Catherine Ferrari and Paul Ferrari (Tammy) and a Loving Grandfather to Charles, Joseph, Richard, Jillian, Susan, Lauren, Angela, Rebecca, Hannah, Jordan and Kailas.

Charles was a U. S. Army Veteran of WWII, successful businessman and investor, with homes in Somers, NY and Fort Myers Beach, FL. He was born and raised in the Bronx, NY.

There will be a Funeral Mass at 11:30 a.m. on April 25th, 2018 at St. Joseph's Church, 95 Plum Brook Rd., Somers, NY 10589. Instead of flowers, the family requests donations in Dad's memory to: Monastery of St. Clare, 6029 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, FL. 33931-4325

## M&P Session, Cont'd from pg.8

everyone thinks that Fort Myers Beach is in Downtown Fort Myers, and no one knows the difference if you don't live around here!" "We clearly have a long road to hoe to bring this to people's attention," added the Town Manager, with Shamp saying, "This is the time to do it!" Gore exclaimed, "Crescent Beach! Not as an official name change, but for marketing."

Hernstadt, however, felt if the Town made such a change, it should do so completely, "with a whole new campaign and program. I have been with other jurisdictions that hesitated to do so, because of the cost to change letterhead and business cards and similar materials, but if you can create a better community identity, it is worth those few dollars." Gore felt that before the Town could undergo a name change, it should do so following a referendum, "to let the citizens decide." The Town Manager suggested that if the Council were serious, it should consider hiring a

marketing firm to plan the program.

### RED-HEADED STEP-CHILD!

Gore stated that Sanibel "does a good job of taking care of its residents, and is very good about getting TDC funds. Fort Myers Beach is often treated like the 'red-headed stepchild' by Lee County. We have to really get it together and brainstorm ideas on how to get projects funded that are important to our citizens, as we are a tourism site too, so we have to put time into it." Butcher added, "It is all about the vision; that we have something to rally around, then to build support for the idea, so that everything falls into place."

"I see a lot of opportunity with the TDC," said Gore, "if we are really creative with our strategy, for our residents." "We are heading in the right direction, with a creative strategy," agreed Giesen, "as that is what it is all about!" "Let's pick projects for appropriate funding," added the Town Manager, "so I encourage you to all begin to think about these initiatives, and to work to get them implemented as, like you, I see all these millions in available funding!" "Let's kick this off now, and not wait," encouraged Butcher.

Under "Strategic Plan Quarterly Update," Council instructed staff to take appropriate measures, including fines, for businesses that do not have Town agreements that illegally park in the right-of-way; the Town will investigate the creation of Special Taxing Districts to dredge residential canals; and will explore potential options to conduct a comprehensive Town survey. Under "Departmental Reports," the Town Manager reported that the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District will conduct fire hydrant safety tests for the next year, allowing the Town time to hire a new employee to take over this duty next year; the Town will soon prepare to replace the sidewalk from the Lani Kai Island Resort to Times Square; and it is initiating preparations to host the annual fireworks celebration and related community activities for the Fourth of July that the Town will completely fund.

Finally, Butcher posed an interesting question for which Town staff did not have an answer. Since the Town late last year raised its parking rate from \$2 to \$3-per-hour, why does its parking income not reflect a corresponding 50% increase. "Are there less drivers," he asked, "or is our tourist population way down?" Gore felt that perhaps there are still too many illegal parking lots that allow people to park for \$10 to \$20-per-day, and those are taking away Town income, as she finds a lack of tourism hard to believe. At this point, Shamp and Hernstadt exited the meeting for a previous appointment at 11:28 a.m., with the Management & Planning Session adjourning at 11:30 a.m.

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# VIEWPOINTS

## PRUITT AWAITS HIS FATE

By Bob Franken

In spite of all the controversy about Scott Pruitt's cushy D.C. condo, it's entirely appropriate that he was getting a sweetheart deal on a place to sleep. After all, for his entire political career, he's been in bed with the special business interests who resist any and all government efforts to protect against their ravaging of the environment.

In Oklahoma, as a state senator, then attorney general, and now the Trump administration's Environmental Protection Agency administrator, Pruitt has been a stalwart opponent of any regulation that would get in the way of the energy companies that have been his patrons. They and their extremist advocates have rewarded his efforts on their behalf handsomely.

Now that he has brought their bought-and-paid-for agenda to Washington, he has turned the EPA into the "Environmental Punishment Agency." He has been dismantling clean-planet rules left and right, and dogmatically ignoring climate change science as he represents big business in pushing President Donald Trump's anti-regulation agenda.

He's also been living large, or trying to. His ridiculously cheap living arrangement at a lobbyist-owned apartment within spitting distance of the Capitol has been exposed by media reports, so he violated scoundrel rule No. 1 -- which, of course, is "don't get caught." He was charged \$50 dollars a night, far, far below market rate in D.C., but even with all the industry largesse, he's gotten greedy. And clumsy.

In fact, Pruitt is quickly becoming legendary, even by Washington's dreary standards. His insistence on spending \$40,000-plus of taxpayer money to construct a soundproof telephone room at his agency for his use was just one embarrassment. Until the drumbeat of criticism got too loud, he insisted on flying first class. EPA policy requires economy seating, with permission granted for an upgrade in exceptional circumstances.

Pruitt has adopted a policy of avoiding any but the friendliest, churning out interviews with the likes of Fox News and the right-wing Washington Times. However, even the Fox News interview was awkward, with correspondent Ed Henry asking tougher questions than he expected. He fumbled them, plain and simple. Looking bad on TV is the original sin in the Gospel According to Donald Trump.

So down at Casa Blanca, el presidente is trying to determine whether all the bad publicity is enough to add Scott Pruitt to the list of those he must replace. On the one hand, Pruitt has been shamelessly effective at gutting environment-saving regulations at the EPA. That pleases POTUS, who insists he has full confidence in Pruitt.

But is that the Don Trump Kiss of Death? The indicators are becoming familiar. The president and maybe chief of staff John Kelly assure the unfortunate one that they have his back. At the same time, Sarah Huckabee Sanders or another White House-designated knife-wielder makes it clear that they possibly mean that his back is there to stab. So here was Sanders, making sure reporters knew: "We're reviewing the situation. When we have had a chance to have a deeper dive on it, we'll let you know the outcomes of that."

Scott Pruitt may be the next to take the dive ... with concrete. If he's smart, even while he struggles to stay on, he'll be making sure all those wealthy special interests are there when he leaves power, so he can cash in his chits.

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## MARK ZUCKERBERG'S INSUFFERABLE TRIPE

By Rich Lowry

Once again, Mark Zuckerberg is sorry.

The founder of Facebook, who has apologized for privacy breaches throughout much of his company's existence, is back at it, on a much larger stage than ever before.

The proximate cause is the Cambridge Analytica controversy. In violation of Facebook's rules, the Trump-linked political consultancy schemed to get access to the data of 87 million users. This has made Facebook a scapegoat for President Donald Trump's victory on par with the Russians and James Comey (at least before the FBI director got fired and became a Trump adversary).

It's not Zuckerberg's fault that he has suddenly been deemed on the wrong side of history, but the Cambridge Analytica blowup is bringing a useful spotlight on the most sanctimoniously self-regarding large company in America. Facebook can't bear to admit that it has garnered the largest collection of data known to man to sell ads against and line the pockets of its founder and investors.

The problem isn't that Mark Zuckerberg is a businessman, and an exceptionally gifted one, but that he pretends to have stumbled out of the lyrics of John Lennon's song "Imagine." To listen to him, Facebook is all about connectivity and openness -- he just happens to have made roughly \$63 billion as the T-shirt-wearing champion of "the global community," whatever that means.

It's this pose that makes him and other Facebook officials sound so shifty. In a rocky interview with Savannah Guthrie of the "Today" show, Sheryl Sandberg was asked what product Facebook sells. "We're selling the opportunity to connect with people," she said, before catching herself, "but it's not for sale."

Something or other must be for sale, or Facebook is the first company to rocket to the top ranks of corporate America based on having no product or profit motive. Guthrie, persisting, stated that Facebook sweeps up data for the use of advertisers. Sandberg objected: "We are not sweeping data. People are inputting data."

Uh, yeah. That's the genius of it. In a reported exchange with a friend while he was a student at Harvard, Zuckerberg boasted of having data on thousands of students because "people just submitted it."

Zuckerberg has now managed the same trick on a global scale. On the one hand, Facebook has indeed made efforts to protect the data of its users, knowing that it can't risk a fundamental breach of trust. On the other, Zuckerberg has repeatedly said he's sorry for offenses against his users' privacy because his business model contradicts his self-righteous public posture.

It's possible to imagine something like Facebook run as a nonprofit service for the global commons. That's not what Zuckerberg chose to do. To his credit, he created a compelling -- nay, for some people, addicting -- product and made a killing for the ages.

Perhaps the public pressure will force the social network to give its customers even more control over the use of their data. At a minimum, it will have achieved something if it gets Facebook to give up the saccharine one-world rhetoric about its mission and admit the bottom line is as important to it as any other profit-making company.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2018 by King Features Synd., Inc.

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# Town Takes Over Permitting “Easy & Comfortable” Experience Predicted, Cont'd from pg.1

a little nervous about this, but Lee County basically made the decision for us. I approached Bob Bogart, who I previously worked with, to join our staff and set this up for us, and fortunately he said yes, so we are in a good position to take over these services. If you have an upcoming project, we encourage you to make an appointment and come talk to us before you put yourself in a jam, as a little work at the front end of the process can save you a lot of grief on the back end!”

Milligan asked if residents might expect a quicker permit turn-around with the Town in charge. “One problem with being a small town is people expect Town staff to be their experts,” replied Hernstadt. “They turn in plans that are not quite perfect and expect the Town to identify the discrepancies, and we try to do that to some extent, but the more inaccurate the initial plan, the longer it takes to obtain your permit. Rather than reject these plans outright, however, we can make comments on them to continue the process rather than you having to start all over again.” “Often the simplest things slow the process,” added Bogart. “No documentation, inaccurate square footage or wrong survey data are simple items that create the biggest problems.”

Hernstadt explained that

projects that clearly meet the Town’s zoning and Codes should proceed smoothly and hopefully receive approval within four weeks, “but those that do not fit must proceed to the Local Planning Agency or Town Council so your neighbors can express their concerns in a public hearing.”

### OPEN DOOR POLICY

Another aspect that may slow down permitting is the volume of requests. “We don’t control who walks through the door, even though our Welcome Mat is out, as construction goes in cycles,” explained Hernstadt. “Our goal is to get you your permits in four weeks, but if 10 projects come through the door on a Monday morning, that may take longer. If you have a simple home repair, we feel good about that timeframe, but if you are a new 254-room resort, that is not realistic! Emergencies we should be able to address quick, so it is a balance between volume and staff and the projects.”

He clarified that the Town does not use the building inspection process “as an opportunity to get in your front door, then tag you for anything we find. If, however, we discover an electric issue that is life threatening, health & safety issues mandate that we take action, for



EITA Executive Director Beverley Milligan introduces Town Manager Roger Hernstadt and Building Services Manager Robert Bogart. Photo by Gary Mooney.

your good and your neighbors. An advantage that citizens will now have is the Town has the leeway to work with you in non-emergency situations. If we cite you for a violation, and you come in and say you will repair it, but you can’t for another month until your renters leave, we allow you to pick the completion date, rather than appearing before the Magistrate who will select it for you. You sign an agreement and complete the work in a timely fashion and there is no issue.”

Hernstadt feels that permitting through the Town will

be “an easy and comfortable experience. Will we make mistakes? Sure we will, but we will constantly review our operation to make sure those do not happen again. We run Town Hall on an open door policy, and we hope you call ahead and make an appointment with us, whenever possible, and we will do our damndest to work with you to solve your problems. We want you to interface with staff, and to feel comfortable about the process. We will not be able to say ‘yes’ every time, but you should always be able to get a satisfactory explanation.”



### FLORIDA HOT DOG CHAMPION

The Nathan’s Hot Dog Eating Contest for the Florida State Championship was held last Saturday, April 14 before the Fort Myers Miracle game. Pablo Martinez, right, won the contest by eating 25 hot dogs in 10 minutes! He now goes on to compete for the National Championship at Coney Island on The Fourth of July! Photo by Gary Mooney.

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# LPA Approves Setback Variance Preps for LDC Changes

By Missy Layfield  
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

The Local Planning Agency of the Town of Fort Myers Beach on Tuesday, April 17, approved unanimously a request for a 10-foot waterbody setback change for property at 135 Driftwood Lane, despite the applicant not appearing at the hearing. Another request, for 764/768 Estero Blvd. was continued to the LPA's May 8 meeting.

The Driftwood Lane property owner, James Sollars, submitted a variance request to reduce the 25-foot water body setback to a 15-foot setback to allow for construction of a new residence on the property. The variance was needed as a "notch" had been taken from the property years ago under a previous owner to allow for a boat access next to the property. The staff report recommended approval of the request. The LPA did so, voting 6-0 to approve the variance. LPA member Dan Hendrickson was not present.

The other request heard by the LPA was not dispatched nearly as quickly or simply. Robert and Dana Dullard, represented by Charles Capps filed a request to rezone property they own at 764-768 Estero Blvd. to Residential Planned Development (RPD) to permit redevelopment of a single family residence and a 3-unit multifamily residential building with residential accessory uses and 6 deviations. Currently there are 2 duplex two-family buildings and one single-family residence for a total of 5 existing living units on the property.

Robert Dullard explained that they want to use the pre-disaster buildback provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code (LDC) to redevelop the site as a family compound with a single family home plus a three-unit residential building for a total of 4 dwelling units. Dullard applied for the rezoning on April 25, 2017 according to the staff report prepared by Jason Green. The staff recommendation was for approval with conditions.

Capps summarized the requested deviations: 1. Allow maximum height of 35 feet above base flood elevation and three habitable stories; 2. Allow a side setback on the eastern side of the property of 7.5 feet; 3. Allow the Floor Area Ratio to be exceeded by 409 square feet; 4. Allow a total of 9,520 square feet on total interior space, an increase from the existing 3,570; 5. Allow a 5-foot buffer along the western property line and 6. Relocate the driveway.

Dan Hughes said the plan would definitely be an improvement, but the Comp Plan does not allow an increase in square footage in residential pre-disaster buildback, only commercial. Green responded that it had been done several times. Jane Plummer agreed with Hughes. "I also have a problem with this. With pre-disaster buildback, you can build back to the exact square footage you have... It's a beautiful plan. I do think there is great value in making a stronger, safer place. But you can't have it all."

Green added, "I've struggled with the square feet increase. What are the absolute impacts? I tried to weight decreased density. What impact does it have?"

Dullard told the LPA that he has been working with several

different members of town staff over the past 2 years on the project and just wants to be told what he can build. "We spent about \$75,000 on plans over the last 2.5 years.... tell us what we can build there."

There followed extended LPA discussion on the difference between pre-disaster buildback, which limits construction to no more than the existing square footage, and new build, which would limit the development to two living units.

"It appears that we've inherited a precedent of allowing additional square footage on pre-disaster buildback," said Hughes. "And in reliance thereon, these unfortunate people have spent a lot of money and worked with staff on something they thought was permissible, but this seems to be an apparent violation of the Comp Plan."

Capps summarized, "You have issues with the square feet. We spent a lot of time and effort to get here. We worked with staff, reduced density to 4 units, created

a view corridor, put the multi-family building on the front of the lot. We're willing to reduce the total square feet by 400 sq. ft. so that the building is no bigger than what could be built there otherwise."

LPA Chair Hank Zuba weighed in, "I think your choice is to apply pre-disaster buildback with the lesser square feet or go straight new development with only two living units, with more square feet."

"I don't want to see this denied today," said Hughes. "I want to keep it alive and see what we can resolve. They developed these plans based on staff recommendations. If there is some way we can continue this and let them act on our suggestions..." The LPA then voted 6-0 to continue the discussion at their May 8 meeting.

In other discussion, Hughes pointed out that resolutions passed by the LPA should be a part of the minutes that come back to the LPA for approval and that has not been

the case. Plummer questioned the insertion of \$500 fines in projects. "Why are we putting that in every single thing that comes before us. It seems we're becoming punitive instead of regulatory."

Green asked the LPA to consider what topics they'd like to consider for their next meeting when they will begin to "button up our code." Suggested topics included parking, procedures, roof heights and landscape buffers.



Proposed Residential Planned Development at 764/768 Estero Blvd. created by Bean, Whitaker, Lutz & Kareh, Inc.

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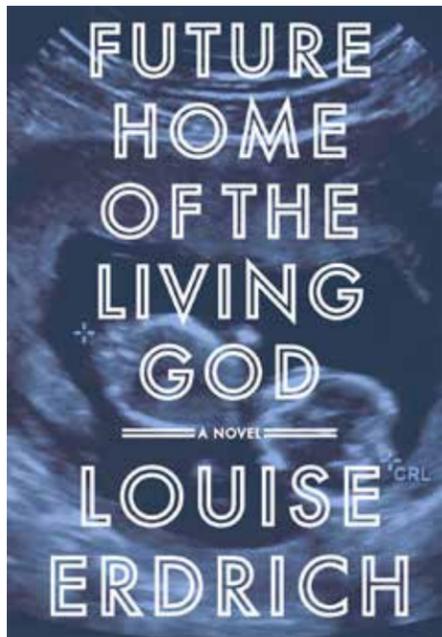
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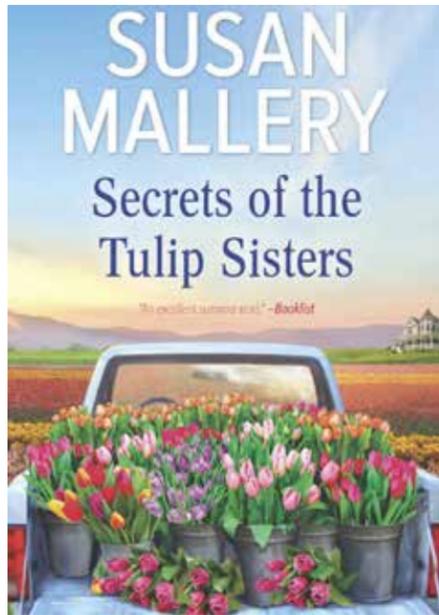
# Library Treasures

By Dr. Leroy Hommerding  
Beach Library Director

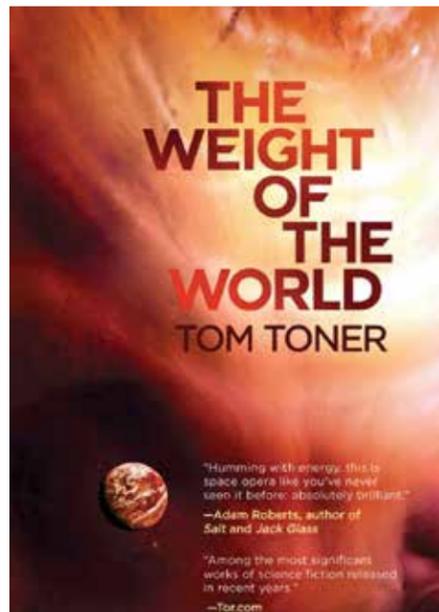


Louise Erdrich's, **Future Home of the Living God**, (ERD) is a thrilling novel of an adoptee's search for her native Ojibwe Family. The politics of maternity transform the life of Cedar, a twenty-six year old woman raised in Minneapolis. Profound experiences within the uncertainties of a cruel dystopian life tell the tale as Cedar navigates her pregnancy and loss of her adopted family.

Author Susan Mallery's, **Secrets of the Tulip Sisters**, (MAL) is an endearing testimony of the pitfalls, tenacity and triumphs of sisterhood. A theme of bittersweet homecoming is explored as family members reunite, without the benefit of the

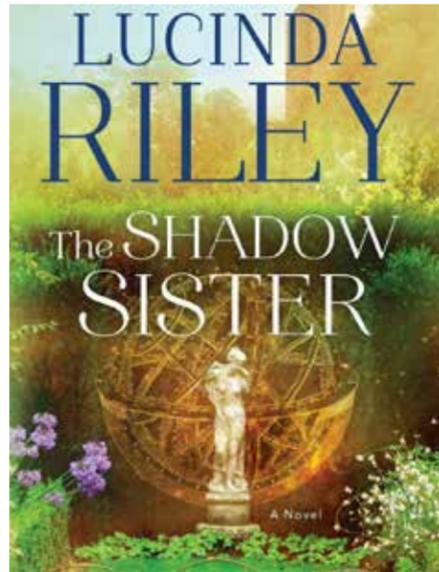


best of bonds. Despite serious family concerns, this story is written



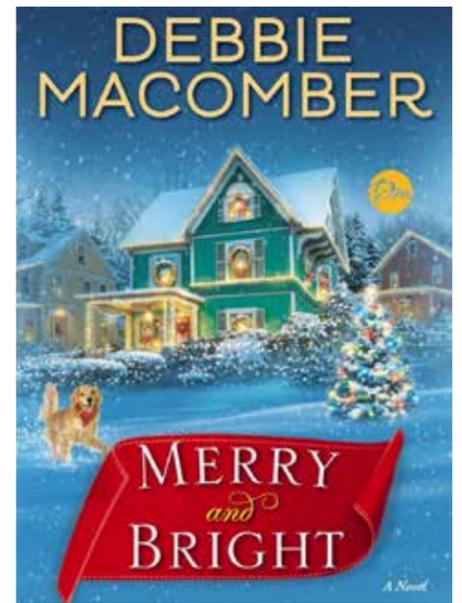
with a sense of humorous charm that entwines a proud family of tulip farmers.

Evil, greed and terror exist in the 147th Century. Fear is an ever present, ever changing challenge when deep space is home. The adventures of protecting a life so valuable it is above and beyond all treasure is the story of, **The Weight of the World**, (TON) written by author Tom Toner.



Lucinda Riley's novel, **The Shadow Sister** (RIL) is the latest edition to Riley's, Seven Sisters historical romance series. An Edwardian ancestral home is the setting of two love stories occurring an entire century apart. Following the death of their dear adopted father the seven D'Apeliese sisters receive

clues regarding their heritage and birth families.



Debbie Macomber's **Merry and Bright** (MAC) tells a love story of Merry Smith and her online dating experience. Merry Smith's mother and brother created a secret online dating profile for. Merry is matched with a surprising friend and experiences a new way of enjoying the Christmas season.

**The Bertie Project** is Alexander McCall Smith's eleventh novel (MCCA) in his 44 *Scotland Street Series*. Those familiar with the series will enjoy the cast of characters as they experience life's frets and foibles. These families living life in Scotland may likely find a warm home in your heart.

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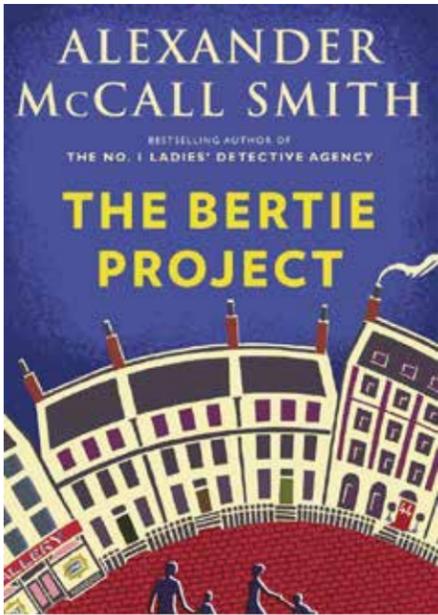
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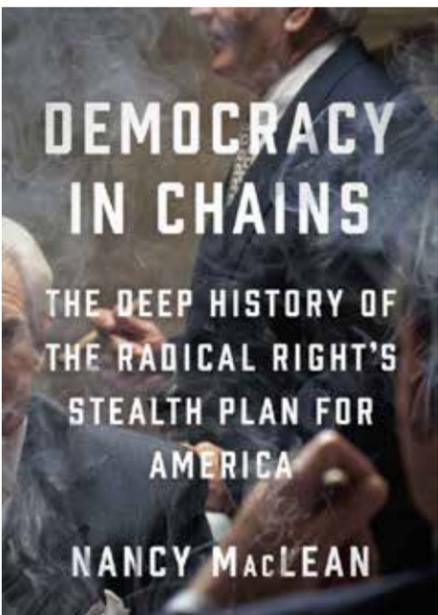
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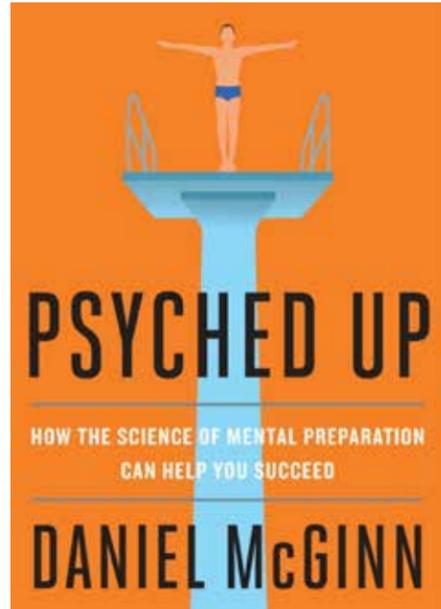
# Library Treasures



(Politics, US, Maclean) outlines the political, sociological and economic strategic thoughts of James McGill Buchanan. The author Nancy MacLean writes in detail, dissecting six decades of influence the Nobel Prize winner Buchanan has inspired. The author asserts the after effects of Buchanan's influence have contributed to the current governmental privatization, disenfranchised voters and other polarizing influences.

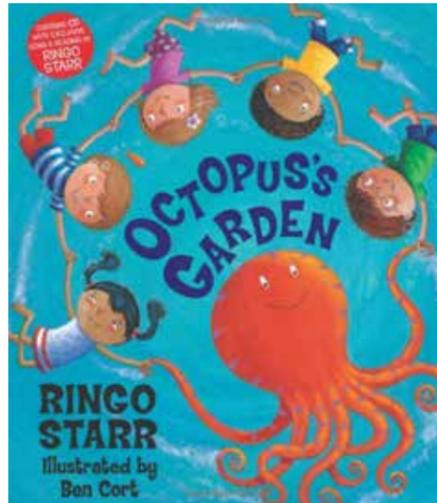


Democracy in Chains: The Deep History of the Radical Right's Stealth Plan for America

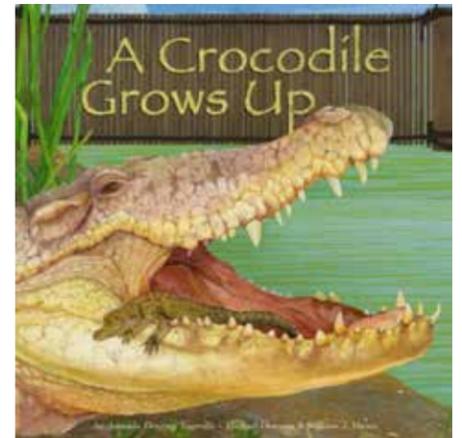


**Psyched Up: How the Science of Mental Preparation Can Help You Succeed**, written by Daniel McGinn (Personal Growth, McGinn) is a life strategy book that prepares you for life's brief yet crucial events. People invest months and years creating their lives; a majority of that time is spent working. McGinn points out

how best to plan for those moments that are vital and life changing. Preparedness strategies for being your best in the most significant moments will have a profound effect on that part of life.



The Beatles song "Octopus's Garden" written by Ringo Starr is the inspiration for a cheerful multimedia children's book, sharing the same title, **Octopus's Garden** (J 782.42 STA) and geared for K to Grade 3. The accompanying CD plays a new version of the familiar song and includes the read-aloud story narrated by Ringo Starr.



and glossary. The expertise and factual information for the text was provided by The San Diego Zoo. This is one book of ten from The Wild Animal Series, published by Picture Window Books.



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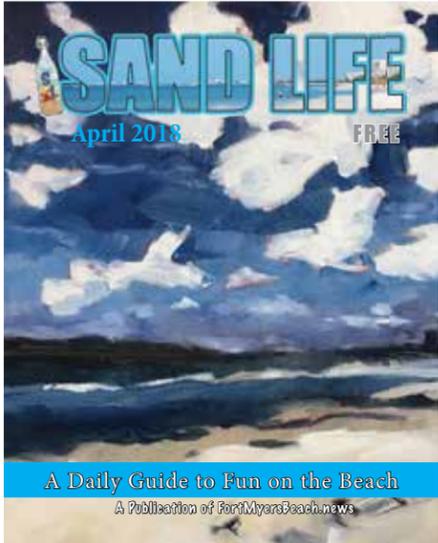
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# AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND



Each week Around & About features community announcements and events held by charitable and non-profit organizations that are open to everyone. Check the events listed here and pick up a copy of SAND LIFE entertainment magazine!

## GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP

Keep Lee County Beautiful will host the 20th annual Great American Cleanup at over 25 locations throughout Lee County on SA April 21, 2018 from 8-11am. Local sites include FMB Elementary School, Bowditch Point Park and Dog Beach. The FMB Community Foundation will assist at the school site, providing gloves and bags to all volunteers. Help make a difference in the community and environment!

## REELING FOR AUTISM

April is Autism Acceptance Month and Family Initiative, Inc, a local nonprofit dedicated to supporting children and families effected by autism, will hold a Photo, Catch & Release fishing tournament on SA Apr 21 at Nervous Nellie's. A mandatory

Captain's Meeting will be held on FR Apr 20. \$150/angler. The family-friendly event will include children's fishing, face-painting, other kid's activities, silent auction and live music. The fishing tournament will be held from 7:30am-4pm, with kids activities and Silent Auction from 11 am-4pm. Last year's event raised over \$8,000 for autism support programs. To register, call 239-233-5210. For more information on Family Initiative visit fi-florida.org.

## MUSIC ON THE MOUND

Make plans now to attend Music on the Mound featuring Sheena Brook on SA Apr 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Mound House. Bring your chairs or blankets. Food and beer available. No coolers allowed. Parking at 216 Connecticut St. or Beach Baptist Church. \$15 non-members/ \$10 MH members. Tickets available at the gate or by calling 239-765-0865.

## EARTH DAY OPEN HOUSE

Ostego Bay Foundation will host an Open House to celebrate Earth Day 2018 on SA Apr 21 from 10am-2pm at the Science Center, 718 Fisherman's Wharf, San Carlos Island. This year's teach-in will focus on plastics in our environment.

## HURRICANE RE-ENTRY PASSES

Fort Myers Beach residents and businesses may obtain a hurricane re-entry pass at Town Hall. In the event of an evacuation, passes may be required to re-enter the island. If you have a Purple (resident) or Yellow (business) pass, they are valid for the 2018 season. If you do not already have one of those,

pick up an application at Town Hall or online at fmbgov.com under Community > For Islanders > Emergency Preparedness. Applicants will need to provide photo I.D. and proof of residency. For details on what proof is needed, call 239-765-0202 or see website.

## BAY OAKS CLOSED

Bay Oaks Recreation Center will be closed through May 19 when a Grand Reopening Ceremony will be held at 10am with a ribbon cutting at noon. Several projects will be done during closure, including a new gym floor, sound system, refurbishing of scoreboards and strength equipment and some painting touch ups throughout the facility. Bay Oaks Social Senior (BOSS) trips and Club Rec will still take place during the closure, but indoor BOSS and fitness classes will not. The Bay Oaks Pool is also closed due to a pump failure. It is expected to reopen near the end of April.

## FILM FESTIVAL

The Fort Myers Beach Film Festival will be held April 25-29. Opening Ceremony will be held at 2pm on WE Apr 25 at the Beach Theater. Independent films, selected by the Film Festival Committee will be shown at 3, 6 & 9pm from WE-SA. The Festival concludes with the Awards Ceremony at 2pm SU Apr 29 at Fish Tale Marina, followed by screenings of winning

films at 4 pm at the theater. The Free Family Movie on the Mound will present "Coco" at the Mound House at sunset on SA Apr 28. For more details see fmbfilmfest.com.

## FEATHERS & FISH-TALES

Fish-Tale Marina will be the site of "Feathers & Fish-Tales" A Back Bay Family Fishing Tournament on April 27 & 28, 2018. All proceeds will benefit student scholarships in the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering at FGCU. Captain's Meeting at 6pm FR Apr 27 at Fish-Tale Marina Ships Store. Boats depart on SA Apr 28 at 7am, with scoring at 3pm and the tournament awards and dinner beginning at 4pm. For details and registration visit thefishtalemarina.com > News Blog.

## CINCO DE MAYO BENEFIT

Shucker's at The Gulfshore will host their annual Cinco de Mayo party on SA May 5 from 2pm-1am featuring Authentic Mexican Food, 50/50 raffle at 9pm, Live Music and additional raffles from 2-9pm. This year the event will be a benefit for Joni Sutter, mother of bartender Sami and a regular on Fort Myers Beach and The Cottage, who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer. Proceeds will help pay for medical treatment. Donations of raffle prizes or donations for Joni can be dropped off at Shuckers, 1250 Estero Blvd, FMB.

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# AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND

## TASTE OF THE BEACH

The 23rd annual Taste of the Beach will be held on SU May 6 on Old San Carlos Blvd. Restaurants will offer samples of their signature dishes for purchase and compete for Taste of the Beach Award honors. Gates open at 11am. Food will be served until it runs out or 4pm. Admission is \$5 for adults and children over 12. Children under 12 are free. Food tickets are \$1 each with an average food serving \$5. Live entertainment included.

## FREE TRAM CONTINUES

LeeTran has announced that the Free Beach Tram will continue to run from Bowditch Point Park to Matanzas Pass Preserve until May 30. LeeTran routes 490 (Park & Ride), 410 (Beach Trolley) and 150 (Bonita to Lovers Key) will also continue its seasonal schedule until May 30. To view schedules or buy discounted passes visit rideleetran.com.

## BRIDGE

The Woman's Club of FMB invites all bridge players to join them every TU & FR beginning at 9:30am for a day of social bridge. Players rotate throughout the day competing in six rounds. Bring a bagged lunch and enjoy good company and great bridge. Cost: \$5/non-members, \$3/members. Proceeds support community activities. Coffee, iced tea and water served. For more information, call

Claire Langer 239-292-1900. FMB Woman's Club, 175 Sterling Ave, FMB.

## LIONS' SCHOLARSHIPS

The Fort Myers Beach Lions are soliciting candidates for their 2018 "WE SERVE" scholarships. Cash awards for college or vocational educational assistance are given to local students who demonstrate ability, need and a solid record of community service. Applications for this year's students can be found on the Fort Myers Beach Lions Website: fmbliions.com. Please make sure you receive an e-mail confirmation after you send in the application. All completed applications must be postmarked no later than May 31, 2018.

## LOST & FOUND

The FMB Chamber of Commerce is now serving as a depository for lost and found items on FMB. Anyone who has found an item is asked to bring it to the Chamber office at 1054 5th St. MO-FR 8am-4pm. Their phone number is 239-454-7500. After 30 days, items will be turned over to the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

## WATER CHANGE

Lee County Utilities, which is the source of FMB water, will be temporarily converting its disinfectant process from chloramines to free chlorine residual from May 1 - 29. This is a routine measure. Anyone who

uses a kidney dialysis machine at home should contact their equipment supplier for the proper filter. Tropical fish or aquatic animal owners should contact a local tropical fish store for appropriate pretreatment of water before adding to tanks. A temporary change in taste, odor or color of water may be noticed, but is not harmful. Call 239-533-8845 with any questions.

## KIWANIS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Fort Myers Beach Kiwanis Club invites students in the 33931 zip code area to apply for \$2,000 scholarships that can be used for tuition, books, room &

board at the vocational technical school, college or university of choice. Applications available at fortmyersbeachkiwanis.org. Applications and all required materials must be postmarked by July 16.

## ART GALLERY

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association Gallery is located at the corner of Donora and Shell Mound. (3030 Shell Mound Blvd.) The Summer Art Show is currently on display. Free admission. Gallery Hours: WE & TH 9am-noon. 239-463-3909. www.fortmyersbeachart.com.

## Government Meetings

Monday, 4/23	9:00am	Town Council
Tuesday, 4/24	6:30pm	Library Board, 2755 Estero Blvd., FMB
Thursday, 4/26	3:00pm	Cultural & Environmental Board

All meetings take place in Town Hall, 2525 Estero Blvd, Fort Myers Beach unless otherwise noted. Meeting times are accurate as of press time.

Town meetings can be confirmed at [fmbgov.com](http://fmbgov.com).

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The UPS Store at Summerlin and San Carlos Blvd has a variety of services available beyond the normal package shipping for this busy holiday season. Matt Ponzio and his staff also want everyone to know they can do wide format printing and photo enlarging, print posters, banners and photos or pictures on canvas, and can provide the finished canvas prints stretched and ready to be hung or framed. They have a 12-color printer in the store. This permits full color printing, folding and binding including newsletters and booklets. You can avoid the Post Office as they are an Authorized USPS

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# Popeyepalooza IX

## FMB Youth Sports Benefit April 29



A fun-loving crowd enjoys Popeyepalooza in 2017. Photo by Sarah List.

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

“How Popeyepalooza came about is an interesting story,” said Mike “Popeye” Dearden. “I hosted a Memorial Day party for nine straight years, and by the last one, the crowd grew to around 75 people. I turned to a friend, Jim DiMilia, who was in charge of the Fort Myers Beach Youth Soccer Club, and said, ‘This is nuts! If I am going to do this for this many people, I should be raising money for something!’ Jim said, ‘How about if we do it for my kids!’ We began kicking around ideas, as another guest telephoned a local radio station, and soon people yelled, ‘Hey, Popeye! You are on the radio.’ The DJ said, ‘If you want to go to a great barbecue, head over to the Popeyepalooza on Fort Myers Beach!’ Suddenly we had a name in need of an event and Popeyepalooza was born!”

Popeyepalooza IX is at The Beach Pub at 1668 I Street, on Fort Myers Beach, behind Hooters, on Sunday, April 29, from Noon to 7 p.m. This will be the fifth

Popeyepalooza at The Beach Pub. “The first remained at my house,” Popeye recalled, “but I said to myself: ‘We need a bigger boat!’ We then moved to the Mermaid Lounge, then to Valerie’s Lounge, and while they were wonderful venues and we enjoyed terrific associations with them, something always seemed to be missing, as I had it in the back of my mind that I wanted a beach barbecue, so we moved to The Beach Pub four years ago, and it is perfect!”

The first year Popeyepalooza was at The Beach Pub, “we raised \$1,600 and Rick Loughery, the Soccer League President, suggested we divide the kitty the next year between the Soccer Club and FMB Little League, for girls and boys. Through our first 8 years, we are up to \$25,951 for the kids, and we grow every year.”

Popeyepalooza draws between 300 to 400 people annually, with 50/50 raffles, door prizes, silent and live auctions, with t-shirts and hats available for \$10 each, and live music all day. “We have thousands of dollars in prizes,”

said Popeye, “as well as incredible hotel and resort stays on Fort Myers Beach and the surrounding area, including a 3-day, 2-night package at the DiamondHead Beach Resort that comes through for us every year and are fantastic! Of course, the main draw is my World Famous Captain Morgan Smoked Ribs and Chicken! I prepare all the meat myself, as I am a professional chef and smokemaster.”

### OUT OF PURGATORY!

Popeye thanks the Fort Myers Beach Kiwanis Club, TPI Hospitality Inc., Florida Helps Foundation, Print Shop Ink, Krusty Pete’s Printing, and of course The Beach Pub for their help. “Oh my goodness, we couldn’t do it without them! Then there are all the wonderful Fort Myers Beach businesses that contribute door prizes and auction items, as well as the incredible people of Fort Myers Beach who make it a huge success. I love this community!” If you would like to contribute financially, write your check to the Florida Helps

Foundation and mail it to P.O. Box 6437, Fort Myers Beach, 33932, and write “Popeyepalooza IX” in the memo section.

As for his well-known moniker, “I have been sporting it for 30 years,” Popeye smiled. “It came from my days in the Marine Corps, so leave it to the Marines to name me after a frickin’ sailor! I do impressions, and ‘Popeye’ is one of my oldest and best!” Then, in a perfect mimic of the cartoon character, he adds, “It comes out over the microphone during the event every now and then!”

Popeye’s Popeyepalooza plans get bigger and better. “This began as a fun thing to do, and as each year passed, it grew and grew, with our ultimate goal to become our own non-profit, to take our vision countywide. Come and enjoy yourself, as we have something for everyone, and we can’t wait to announce what we will have in store for our 10th anniversary next year. As for what I get out of it, I hope it shaves a few minutes off for me out of Purgatory!”

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# Funnies Page



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

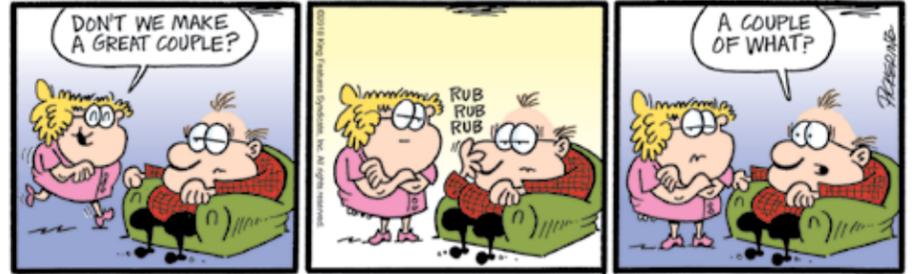
by Dave T. Phipps



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## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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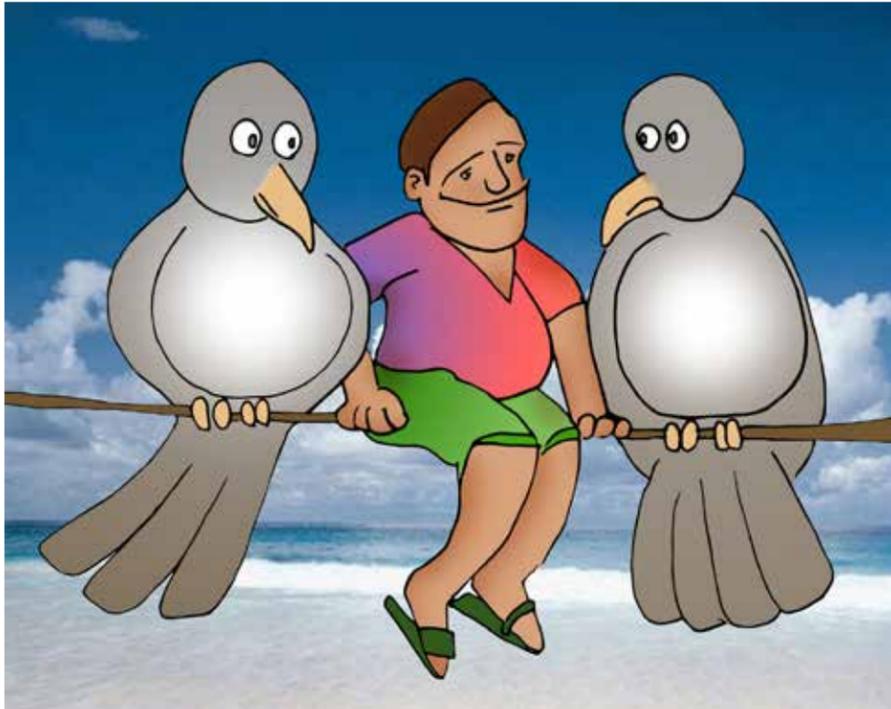
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# Funnies Page



## COMMUNITY COMICS



"I never imagined how lucrative divorce counseling for birds could be. Just wish it wasn't so darned dangerous."  
Eric M. Huntsman

"oh the weather up north is frightful, but up high it's so delightful, and since we have so much snow, I won't go Go go I won't go" ~international Snowbird Anthem~  
Renee Massie Hose

"Now Dude, the cleaner the car, the more points you get!"  
Ann Polizzotto Conidaris

"One of these things is not like the other!"  
Elizabeth D'Onofrio

"Here we have the great North American Snowbird trying to cohabit with our native SWFL birds."  
Kristen Strain

Every weekend I draw a cartoon and put it up on my FB page, and ask my friends to contribute captions for the cartoon. I also ask they vote for the ones they think are funniest ('Like' as many as you like). (The uncaptioned cartoons can be found on the FB pages of Mark List.)

### Out on a Limb

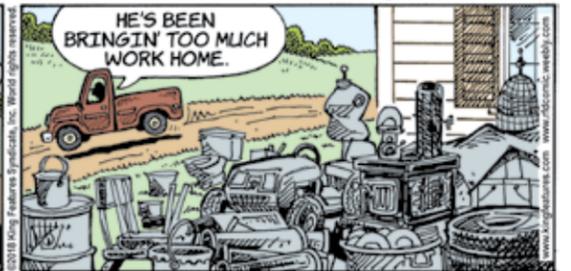
by Gary Kopervas



SLEEP NUMBER  
BED OF NAILS

### R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



### THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



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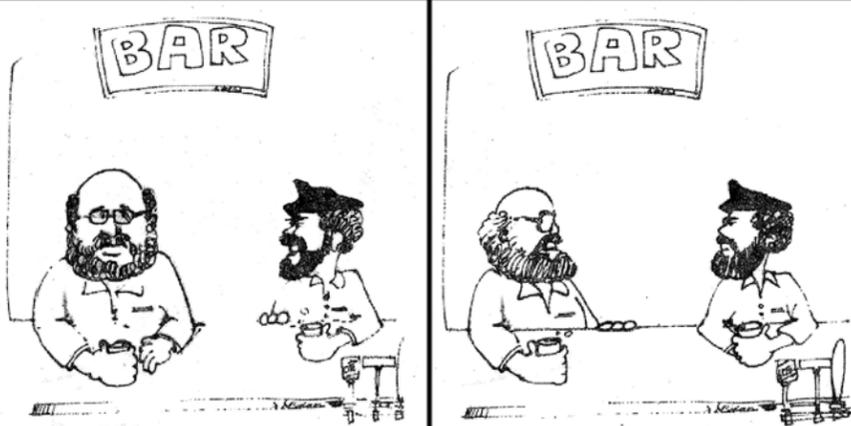
# Super Crossword

## CELEBRITY SPOONERISMS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Former Delta rival
  - 4 Humane org. since 1866
  - 9 Shining
  - 14 Birds' beaks
  - 19 On top of, in verse
  - 20 Nerd relative
  - 21 City in Utah
  - 22 Bugged a lot
  - 23 Support a female donkey?
  - 25 All fired up
  - 26 Flag sewer
  - 27 "Dies —" (Mass hymn)
  - 28 Squirmy
  - 30 "Listen up, warm-blooded animal!?"
  - 32 More itty-bitty
  - 34 African country
  - 36 Disfigure
  - 37 Horror director
  - 38 Open a new tavern?
  - 41 Magna — laude
  - 42 Baltique or Adriatique
  - 43 Units of bag thickness
  - 44 "Bridge of Spies" actor
  - 46 Core belief of orthopedic practice?
  - 48 Home to PAGO PAGO
  - 52 "Vesti la giubba," e.g.
  - 53 — Majesty the Queen
  - 54 IM-offering ISP
  - 55 Choose a wooden peg?
  - 57 Aromatic resins
  - 59 Chai or pekoe
  - 62 Pyle and Els
  - 63 Railcar walkways
  - 64 Sees
  - 66 Church call
  - 67 Makes a warden gentle?
  - 72 Australian avians
  - 73 Be the king
  - 75 Delilah
  - 76 Rub down
  - 78 Sketch show since '75
  - 79 Estate of a winegrower
  - 81 Curly-furred cat's giggle?
  - 84 The way, to Lao-tzu
  - 85 Undertake
  - 86 Thing to hum
  - 87 Wraith
  - 88 Descend upon a certain grainfield in droves?
  - 92 Circles around heavenly bodies
  - 94 Sails through
  - 95 Neither hide — hair
  - 96 Bad review
  - 97 Very tentative taste of food?
  - 102 Greek "H"
  - 103 Match unit
  - 104 Ballroom dance
  - 106 Dr. Seuss' real surname
  - 107 Pale people writing things quickly?
  - 110 Jetsons' dog
  - 113 Caffeine-laden nut
  - 114 Perrier rival
  - 115 Aristocratic
  - 117 Toast topper that's nifty?
  - 119 Tuscan town
  - 120 Bugs a lot
  - 121 Sporting site
  - 122 Big cat's lair
  - 123 Stunning gun
  - 124 Cries out
  - 125 Cyclist, e.g.
  - 126 Before, in verse
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Way of being thrilled or torn
  - 2 What to do if the shoe fits
  - 3 Esoteric stuff
  - 4 Modifying word: Abbr.
  - 5 Really rely on
  - 6 100-Down's partner in magic
  - 7 Euro fraction
  - 8 Big gulf
  - 9 Orang, e.g.
  - 10 Minister Billy
  - 11 Boston airport
  - 12 Outranking
  - 13 Guys on the job site
  - 14 Elephant king of kiddie lit
  - 15 Agenda unit
  - 16 "Open up!"
  - 17 The Bunkers' "old" car
  - 18 Hair salon employee
  - 24 Actor Dullea
  - 29 Agave plant
  - 31 Actress d'Abbo
  - 33 Online brokerage
  - 35 Receivable
  - 39 What "there oughta be"
  - 40 Uncommon
  - 42 Choice bit
  - 43 Hollywood's Gibson
  - 45 Zippo
  - 46 Celebrity lawyer
  - 47 Mix, as salad
  - 48 Pickle units
  - 49 Flying guys
  - 50 "Chicago Hope" doctor
  - 51 Assenting to
  - 53 — impact on (effects)
  - 56 East, in Ulm
  - 57 Small jewel
  - 58 Suffix of enzymes
  - 59 V8 ingredient
  - 60 Musician's exercises
  - 61 Affirm
  - 63 Analyze
  - 65 Australian state capital
  - 68 — whole
  - 69 Subject
  - 70 Manicure aid
  - 71 Scoundrel
  - 74 University sports org.
  - 77 Tuna variety
  - 80 Wasp variety
  - 81 1921 sci-fi play
  - 82 Sufficient, in verse
  - 83 TV "Warrior Princess"
  - 84 "Conan" network
  - 86 Pacific island country
  - 88 "My Little Chickadee" co-star
  - 89 Wife of Nero
  - 90 Head-hugging hats
  - 91 Mega Millions, e.g.
  - 92 Soup holder
  - 93 French forest region
  - 96 Soft shade
  - 98 Moped, e.g.
  - 99 "Tristan und —"
  - 100 6-Down's partner in magic
  - 101 Boosler of comedy
  - 103 Sub detector
  - 104 Quaver
  - 105 Actor Werner
  - 108 Tarzan's lady
  - 109 Author Wiesel
  - 111 Actress Polo
  - 112 Bog grass
  - 116 Slalom path
  - 118 Pickle holder

## BARSIDE

(George)



Imagine being completely naked in room full of people who speak a different language and everyone wants to touch you...

Sounds like the life of a dog.

In Memory: Gary Worman: 1947-2007. Long time beach resident & Rock Pack Member, Gary often supplied the Sand Paper with humor gathered while drinking in any pub that would have him. Gary is now drinking in a better place. Through Bar Side, his memory lives on.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19			20						21					22			
23			24						25					26			
27				28				29		30				31			
32				33			34		35				36			37	
38					39	40		41				42				43	
			44				45					46			47		
48	49	50	51			52				53			54				
55				56					57			58			59	60	61
62								63					64	65			
66				67	68	69	70						71		72		
73				74		75							76	77			
78				79	80							81	82	83			
			84					85				86				87	
88	89	90				91				92				93			
94				95				96				97			98	99	100
102				103				104				105			106		
107				108				109				110	111	112			113
114						115				116			117			118	
119						120						121				122	
123						124						125				126	

# CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: G equals H

U QLTULYL PIL EGPCTF ILYLV  
 GUZBGGUJL MKZLV FMVJ. DPC  
 BPCTF EMD UZ'E QLLI RD VCTL  
 PK ZGCRQ.

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# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆**

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## 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!



"We've been forced to downsize our \_\_\_\_\_ unit."

Swoop:

GULPEN:

Taunt:

LESASH:

Rebuke:

CLODS:

Consume:

SIGNET:

**TODAY'S WORD**

# FEAR KNOT

By: rj Johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

- RAO
- TURBLE
- SLOUB
- ♥ ODEM
- TADDOR
- EJO
- ♥ ELTA
- BATJO
- ♥ DBI
- ♥ RUESTU
- TAUMD
- ♥ TJSE

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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# Fire Board Approves 5-Year Chief Contract

By Missy Layfield  
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

At their April meeting Tuesday evening April 17, 2018, the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District Board of Commissioners voted unanimously 4-0 to approve a 5-year contract with Fire Chief Matthew Love. Commissioner Bob Raymond was absent. A spirited debate prior to approval on the meaning of the term "supermajority" in relation to dismissal of the chief, led to the addition of clarification in the contract that the term meant 4 out of 5 sitting commissioners or 3 out of 4. Board Chair Carol Morris said the meaning was obvious and didn't need to be spelled out, while Commissioners Ron Fleming and Larry Wood said they saw no harm in clarifying the term in the contract. Morris repeatedly referenced past board experience when there were only three sitting members due to resignations, but agreed to the contract addition.

In March the commissioners unanimously agreed to proceed with a 5-year contract and approved a 12% pay raise for Chief Love, bringing his salary base to approximately \$151,245. That brings the chief's pay from the lowest of seven neighboring district's chief pay to right in the middle with three paid more and three paid less.

During the Fire Chief's report, Love informed the board that the district had made job offers to 7 firefighters who will begin in May. The open Administrative Assistant position has been filled by Nancy



Members of the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District.  
Photo courtesy of the FMBFCD.

Rosback, who began April 9. Love also told the board that the district has reached a tentative agreement on the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1826, District 3. Once union members vote on the contract, it will come to the board for approval.

The district participated in a press event recently recognizing Governor Rick Scott's signing of Senate Bill 376, extending worker's compensation coverage for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to Florida's First Responders.

Love thanked area fire districts Iona-McGregor, Fort

Myers Shores, Bonita Springs and Lee County EMS and for their assistance in a high-rise fire on the south end. He reported that there were no significant injuries from the fire near the elevator in the 9-story building, but with the help of neighboring districts, the building was safely evacuated and seven ambulances were on the scene to provide assistance.

March calls for service, or incidents, totaled 404 with an average response time of 5:06. EMS calls accounted for 77% or the calls, with Good Intent 13%, Service 8% and Fire 2%. "Good Intent" includes situations where someone calls 911 and it isn't actually an emergency. Service' calls are not EMS or fire related. Year-to-date calls total 1032.

March district service anniversaries included Firefighter Kyra Adams – 12 years and Fire Chief Matt Love – 2 years.

Love also reported that the district is preparing to manage its own building plan reviews after Lee County ceased providing that service recently. Bonita Springs Fire Department has agreed to preform all plan reviews through the end of September as the FMB district searches for a solution. Fire plan reviews are required for commercial property plans, large residential or those with three or more units, explained Chief Scott Wirth.

Love explained that the district's rental registration database was helpful in notifying property owners of a recent smoke detector recall, noting that 173 property owners responded to the message.

During Commissioner Remarks, Fleming congratulated the district on handling two 2-alarm fires within a month. "It takes a lot of coordination to remove people from a high rise."

Wood commented that he was impressed with the car seat installation service offered by the district, sharing a friend's recent experience at Station 33. "He and I were so impressed!"

Commissioner Ted Schindler praised the district's response to recent fires. "You guys test yourselves and evaluate yourselves all the time, but the real evaluation is when you have the fire. And we've had more than one. You've shown your worth in a true evaluation by flawlessly performing. Kudos to everyone!"

Morris noted the many services the district provides, including pet chip readers and car seat assistance and suggested the district communicate these non-fire related services to the public.

The next Fire Board meeting will be held May 1, 2018 at 9:30am at the Beach Library.

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### Tides • Matanzas Pass • Ft. Myers Beach

Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
F 20	High	6:22 AM	1.6	6:59 AM	Rise 10:53 AM	17
	Low	8:44 AM	1.5	7:54 PM		
	High	3:47 PM	3.0			
	Low	11:47 PM	-0.4			
Sa 21	High	4:40 PM	2.9	:58 AM	Set 12:49 AM	26
				7:55 PM	Rise 11:52 AM	
Su 22	Low	1:02 AM	-0.2	6:57 AM	Set 1:47 AM	37
	High	5:51 PM	2.7	7:55 PM	Rise 12:53 PM	
M 23	Low	2:18 AM	-0.2	6:57 AM	Set 2:40 AM	48
	High	11:12 AM	1.8	7:56 PM	Rise 1:55 PM	
	Low	1:06 PM	1.7			
	High	7:31 PM	2.4			
Tu 24	Low	3:23 AM	-0.1	6:56 AM	Set 3:28 AM	60
	High	11:24 AM	2.0	7:56 PM	Rise 2:57 PM	
	Low	3:13 PM	1.6			
	High	9:19 PM	2.3			
W 25	Low	4:17 AM	0.0	6:55 AM	Set 4:13 AM	70
	High	11:43 AM	2.1	7:57 PM	Rise 3:58 PM	
	Low	4:31 PM	1.2			
	High	10:45 PM	2.3			
Th 26	Low	5:00 AM	0.1	6:54 AM	Set 4:54 AM	80
	High	12:02 PM	2.2	7:57 PM	Rise 4:57 PM	
	Low	5:28 PM	0.7			
	High	11:53 PM	2.3			
F 27	Low	5:36 AM	0.4	6:53 AM	Set 5:33 AM	88
	High	12:21 PM	2.4	7:58 PM	Rise 5:56 PM	
	Low	6:15 PM	0.5			

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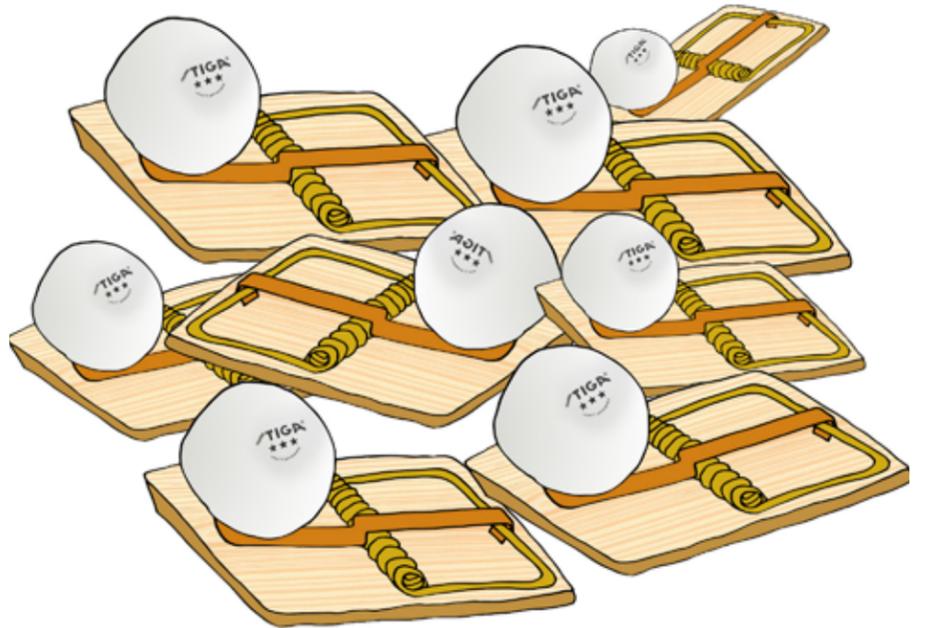
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[sandy2.sandpaper@gmail.com](mailto:sandy2.sandpaper@gmail.com)

# PUZZLE ANSWERS

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



## Planned Chaos



Set a bunch of mouse traps with ping pong balls in a closed space. Toss a ping pong ball into the space.

List

### CryptoQuip

answer

I believe one should never hitchhike after dark. You could say it's been my rule of thumb.

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

### SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Plunge; 2. Hassle;
3. Scold; 4. Ingest

Today's Word  
**CANINE**



answer

J	A	B	O	T				
O			U					
J	E	S	T					
			L		D	I	B	
	D	E	M	O				
O	A	R		T	A	L	E	
				T				
				U	T	E	R	U
				M				D

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**6 Cu. Ft. Steel Wheelbarrow** 7331705 **69.99** SAVE \$20

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## Suspect in Beach Murder Still on Run



Murder suspect Lois Riess in an undated photo. Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

By Missy Layfield  
 Editor@fortmyersbeach.news

In a story that's gone international, a woman suspected of killing a Fort Myers Beach visitor in order to steal her identity remains on the run as of press time. Lois Riess, of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota is a suspect in the murder of Pamela Hutchinson of Bradenton, sometime before April 9 when Hutchinson was found in a Snug Harbor Marina Village apartment on Fort Myers Beach. Authorities suspect the victim was selected due to her resemblance to the suspect. Riess is also a suspect in the murder of her husband, David Riess, in Blooming Prairie. He was found in their home on March 23. Authorities believe Riess used the same gun in both murders.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) reports that Riess drove her Cadillac Escalade from Minnesota to Fort Myers Beach before abandoning it at Bowditch Point Park.

The LCSO has surveillance videos showing Riess with her alleged victim in Smokin' Oyster Brewery on April 5 and leaving Snug Harbor with Hutchinson's car, as well as in Wells Fargo Bank withdrawing \$5,000 in the victim's funds, all on Fort Myers Beach. Hutchinson's ID, credit cards and vehicle were also stolen.

Riess next surfaced in an Ocala, Florida hotel on April 6. After that she was seen in Louisiana and then near Corpus Christi, Texas.

The LCSO reports that Mexican authorities and the U.S. Border Patrol are on full alert for Riess as they suspect she might try to cross into Mexico. There is a LCSO warrant for her arrest that includes Second Degree Murder, ID Theft, Grand Theft and Grand Theft Auto.

If anyone has any information on Riess, they are asked to contact the U.S. Marshal's Service, state or local law enforcement or Crime Stoppers at 800-780-8477.



## Beach Bizz Buzz



### Beach Barber Shop



There are many institutions on Estero Island and the Beach Barber Shop is one of them. The shop holds claim to being the oldest barber-shop on the Island dating back to 1980. Located at 1661 Estero Blvd, it anchors the Key Estero Shops located by the US Post Office.

Mary Kay Alspaugh recently took over the reins as only the third owner since it first opened. Mary Kay is no stranger to Fort Myers Beach, having worked for many years alongside Bonnie Blake, the previous owner. Blake recently decided the time had come to cut back, no pun intended, her work hours, and Mary Kay agreed to carry on the tradition. Bonnie continues to work part time, along with, Santo in the 3rd barber chair. Santo hails from Chicago, but now calls SW Florida home. Shown here in the Beach Barber Shop are, from left: Bonnie Blake, Santo and Mary Kay Alspaugh.

Services at the Beach Barber Shop include cuts and styles for both men and women, along with their signature quick electric shoulder and neck massage. Straight blade neck shaves are available now and Mary Kay plans to add full shave services in the future. The coming off-season will bring some shop décor changes also. Stop in soon to see the new stained glass barber pole design framed in the shop!

No appointments are needed. Hours are 8am-4pm Mon-Fri, and 8am to Noon on Sat. Call 239-463-6422. Check the Sand Paper Business Directory each week for new services and current hours.



# Beach Theater

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[www.FMBtheater.com](http://www.FMBtheater.com)

## Coming to Beach Theater!! Ft Myers Beach Film Festival!! April 25-29

Starts on Friday April 20

Doors open at 1:45 PM.



**I Feel Pretty**  
 [PG-13] 2:00 6:45 9:00

In I Feel Pretty an ordinary woman who struggles with feelings of insecurity and inadequacy on a daily basis wakes from a fall believing she is suddenly the most beautiful and capable woman on the planet. With this newfound confidence she is empowered to live her life fearlessly and flawlessly, but what will happen when she realizes her appearance never changed?

Starring: Amy Schumer and Michelle Williams



**Isle of Dogs**  
 [PG-13] 2:15 6:00 8:30

Isle of Dogs tells the story of Atari Kobayashi, 12-year-old ward to corrupt Mayor Kobayashi. When, by Executive Decree, all the canine pets of Megasaki City are exiled to a vast garbage-dump called Trash Island, Atari sets off alone in a miniature Junior-Turbo Prop and flies across the river in search of his bodyguard-dog, Spots.

Starring: (voices) Bryan Cranston and Edward Norton



**I Can Only Imagine**  
 [PG] 2:45 4:15 5:45 8:30

The film brings to life the true story behind the song of ultimate hope, 'I Can Only Imagine.' A transformed relationship with his troubled father inspired Bart Millard, the lead singer of the Christian band MercyMe, to write what is now the most-played radio single in Christian music history. The story beautifully illustrates that nobody is ever too far from God's love – or too far from an eternal home in Heaven.

Starring: Dennis Quaid and Michael Finley



**Rampage**  
 [PG-13] 3:00 6:00 8:45

A silverback gorilla, a wolf and a reptile grow to a monstrous size after a rogue genetic experiment goes wrong. Primatologist Davis Okoye soon joins forces with the military to prevent the mutated beasts from destroying everything in their path.

Starring: Dwayne Johnson and Naomi Haris

Ticket Prices: - Matinee - \$9.50 (\$12.50 3D) - Adult - \$12.00 (\$15.00 3D) - Senior (65) & Child (12 and under- \$9.50 (\$12.50 3D)

Buy tickets online! [www.FMBtheater.com](http://www.FMBtheater.com) Like us on [facebook.com/BeachTheater!](https://www.facebook.com/BeachTheater/)

# WHO'S PLAYING WHERE ON AND AROUND THE BEACH

CLUB	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>BEACHED WHALE</b> 1249 Estero Blvd 463-5505	MICHAEL O'NEILL 6-9PM	TOMMY VAN OYER 6-9PM	ROGER YOUNG 6-9PM			OBE GONZALEZ 6-9PM	JIMI DREDD 6-9PM
<b>CASTAWAYS</b> Santini Marina Plaza 463-4644	RELENTLESS FIRE 8-MIDNIGHT	ROCKIN HORSE 8-MIDNIGHT					TORCHED 8-MIDNIGHT
<b>SHUCKERS/COTTAGE</b> Gulfshore Grill 765-5440	ROGER YOUNG 4-7PM STEVE FARST BAND 9PM-1AM	CHRIS CASDIA 4-7PM BAD BANDITOS 9PM-1AM	RENEE MASSIE HOSE 4-7PM TROUBLEMAKERS 9-1PM	STEVE FARST 4-7 3 CROOKED STEPS 9PM-1AM	WENDELL RAY 4-7PM BAD BANDITOS 9PM-1AM	CHARLIE MOON 4-7PM STEVE FARST 9PM-1AM	JOHN HOUSLEY 4-7PM THE NEW VINYLs 9PM-1AM
<b>CRACKER BOX</b> 16910 McGregor 466-4344	CRACKER BOX BAND 7-10PM	JESSE ALLEN 7-10PM			JESSE ALLEN 6:30-9:30	OPEN MIC NIGHT 6:30-9:30	LIVE MUSIC 6:30-9:30
<b>DIXIE FISH CO.</b> Fisherman's Wharf 233-8837	MARK WESLEY 5:30PM-9:30PM	MIKE O'NEIL 1-4PM ANTHONY WAYNE 5:30PM-9:30PM		TEQUILA TOM 5:30-8:30	CHRIS CASDIA 5:30PM	ANTHONY WAYNE 5:30-8:30PM	BOBBY BLAKEY 5:30-8:30PM
<b>DOC FORDS</b> 708 Fishermans Whf. 765-9660	3 CROOKED STEPS 6:30-9:30	BAD BANDITOS 1PM KAPO KINGS 6:30PM	DEB & THE DYNAMICS 1-4PM		STEVE FARST 6:30-9:30PM	GIRL MEETS BOY 6:30-9:30PM	KAPO KINGS 6:30-9:30PM
<b>MATANZAS on the BAY</b> 414 Crescent 463-3838	WAYNE DELORIA 12-5PM DANIEL D 5-9PM	SCOTTY BRYAN 12-5PM MARY WINNER 5-9PM	GREG WATTS 12-5PM SAILOR LARRY 5-9PM	SCOTTY BRYAN 5-9PM	SAILOR LARRY 5-9PM	PETE BEARD 5-9PM	MARY WINNER 5-9PM
<b>NERVOUS NELLIES</b> 1131 1st St 463-8077	RASHIMBA 12-4 OLD SCHOOL CHARLIE 6-10PM	KEVON 12-4pm OLD SCHOOL CHARLIE 6-10PM	SMOKIN BILL 12-4PM HIGH TIDE 6-10PM	MICHAEL ANTOINE 12-4 SMOKIN BILL 6-10	TERRY CLEMSON 12-4 KEVON 6-10PM	HAZY, HOT & HUMID 6-10PM	MIKE GLEAN 12-4 MIKE GLEAN 6-10PM
<b>OUTRIGGER</b> 6200 Estero Blvd 463-3131	ALAN SMALL 5-8	MEAGAN ROSE & SMOKIN' BILL 2-5PM	SMALLTOWN 2-5PM		MEAGAN ROSE 5-8PM	ENDRE D 5-8PM	TWO HANDS 5-8PM
<b>PARROT KEY</b> Salty Sam's Marina 463-3257	ANGEL LEWIS PROJECT 7-10PM	FRANK TORINO 7-10PM					FRANK TORINO 7-10PM
<b>PETE'S TIME OUT</b> Time Square 463-5900			DAVE COLLATON 6-10PM	DAVE COLLATON 6-10PM	FRANK THOMPSON 6-10PM	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM
<b>PIERSIDE</b> BY TOWN PIER 765-7800	SHERRIN 1-5 JEFF WHIDBY 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 1-5 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 1-5 BILL ZINK 7-10	ANTHONY WAYNE 1-5 GREG WATTS 6-10	BILL ZINK 1-5PM JEFFREY WHIDBY 6-10	BILL ZINK 1-5PM MARY WINNER 6-10PM	BILL ZINK 1-5PM ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10PM
<b>PINCHERS TIKI BAR</b> 6890 Estero Blvd 463-2909	OLD SCHOOL 6-9PM	DAZZLING DELRAYS 6-9PM	LOVE HUNTER 5-8PM	SHAWN RUSSELL 5-8PM	SAM DeARMOND 5-8PM	AARON SEYFFERTH 5-8PM	N2L 5-8PM
<b>SALTY CRAB</b> 1154 Estero Blvd 233-8224	ANTHONY WAYNE 12-4 BERNIE HYLAND 4:30-8:30PM	AWESOMESAUCE 1-5PM AARON SEYFFERTH 6-9PM			BUSTED STUFF 5-9PM		JEFF GREENE 1-5PM CHRIS KEMP 7-10PM
<b>SHARK BAR &amp; GRILL</b> 17979 San Carlos Blvd 313-6012	NEXLEVEL 6-9PM	ELECTRIC LIPSTICK 7-10PM	GATLIN 2-5PM KARRIBEAN GROOVES 6-9PM	RASHIMBA 3-6PM COLLABORATION BAND 7-10PM	MARY WINNER BAND 2-5 DJ BRIAN SAVAGE 6-9PM	MARTY KEANE 2-5PM	LAURIE STARR DUO 3-6PM BRENDA'S KARAOKE 7-10PM
<b>SOBs</b> Old San Carlos Blvs 463-3474	ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10PM	DAVE COLLATON 6-10	LEE HAGAN 6-10PM	WILL KAISER 6-10	ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 6-10	DAVE COLLATON 6-10
<b>SUNSET BEACH</b> FMB TIMES SQUARE 463-1028	BARRY LAWRENCE 8-CLOSE	CHRIS KEMP 2-5PM CLIVE LIVE 8-CLOSE	BARRY LAWRENCE 1-5PM MIKE GLEAN 8-CLOSE				SHERRIN McCUNE 8-CLOSE
<b>SURF CLUB</b> 1167 Estero Blvd 765-0644	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM	THE REGULARS 6-9PM			SHAWN RUSSELL 6-9PM		KARAOKE WITH CAM 6-9PM

Who's Playing Where Page is a free service for current Island Sand Paper Advertisers. ALL LISTINGS ARE SUPPLIED BY THE ADVERTISERS. ALL LISTINGS FOR THE MONTH ARE DUE ON THE 15TH OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE WHO'S PLAYING WHERE. To qualify for listing, venue must have live music scheduled regularly on multiple days per week. CONTACT SANDY AT 463-4461 TO DISCUSS ADVERTISING OPTIONS!



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