



Code Enforcement or Compliance? Town Policy Creates Confusion & Frustration

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

Code Enforcement for the Town of Fort Myers Beach traditionally was on a complaint-driven basis. Town personnel, however, recently began a process to seek out violations where no complaint has been received. It sees this as a proactive formula to enhance property values, while those on the other side of the equation feel there may be a vindictive element to the process.

"I requested that our Code Enforcement team begin at the north end of the island and work their way southward, to identify potential violations," said Town Manager Roger Hernstadt. "The most common issues so far have to do with parking, as the island has legal parking lots and others that are not fully authorized, so we need to protect those parking lots that have spent a lot of time and money to come into compliance, meaning

we are obligated to bring those other lots up to that same level, out of fairness. We are also trying to identify commercial properties that use the Town Right-of-Way for overflow parking without a permit or agreement with us. It is my job to implement the laws and policies of the Town Council, and we try to be proactive while preventing community issues. That said, we will do our jobs diligently until such time that Council modifies the code or policy."

When asked about his experience with Code Enforcement, however, local real estate developer Joe Orlandini replied with exasperation, "Which one!? The Town through Code Enforcement in my opinion has become not only a revenue-generating business but also as a weapon to come after people and businesses that are out of favor with Town government, so it has a police state-type feel to it, kind-of like I assume it would be under Communism, with [Cont'd pg.8](#)



Noise Dispute Among Council M&P Items

By Gary Mooney
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The Fort Myers Beach Town Council met for its monthly Management & Planning Session, before an empty gallery chamber, on Wednesday, May 9, at 9 a.m. Council again attempted to find a solution to a long-simmering noise dispute between residents and a business in the Old San Carlos Boulevard district. They received the latest update from Lee County personnel on the reFRESH Estero Boulevard Projects, discussed potential Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts, set their remaining 2018 meeting dates and heard Staff Department Reports.

Council for months has wrestled with noise complaints about early morning deliveries from adjacent residents concerning Nervous Nellie's Restaurant, with some as early as 4:30 a.m. "These people are getting woken up a couple of times a week, on a regular basis, between 4:30 and 5 a.m.," explained Mayor Tracey Gore. "They have been trying for relief for years and years, and no one is listening. They hear these loud 'BEEP, BEEP, BEEP' noises; this is what happens when commercial creeps into residential neighborhoods."

"This is a case of residential creeping into a business district is how I see it," [Cont'd pg.12](#)

"An Inspiring Place to Live" Joanne Shamp Paints FMB

By Gary Mooney
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"While advancing my professional career, art was the furthest thing from my mind," said accomplished artist Joanne Shamp, who doubles as Vice Mayor for the Town of Fort Myers Beach! "I was in science and rehabilitation medicine, but always thought of myself as a creative person. When we sold our business and moved to Fort Myers Beach, my husband Dan actually bought me for my birthday, art lessons at the Fort Myers Beach Art Association, and I took about 10 classes from the great Lee Ackert, a woman who was a [Cont'd pg.14](#)



Town Council presents a Service Award to Town Clerk Michelle Mayher for her 18 years with the Town.

Long Term Solution for Short Term Rentals?

Council Ends Months of Debate

By Gary Mooney
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After months of debate over Short Term Rentals, the Fort Myers Beach Town Council passed an updated Ordinance in a divided vote before roughly 25 people on Monday, May 7, 2018 at 9 a.m. In a separate action during its ambitious agenda, Council adopted the Short Term Rental Registration Fees in a majority vote.

Council began its 2nd Reading & Final Public Hearing for Short Term Rental Regulations with

Public Comment. Jessie Titus was one of four people to speak against it, asking why the Town does not enforce its current regulations, "since the Town had not one single complaint ever!" Dave Ennis, however, was one of two speakers in favor. He no longer wants crying children all day and 15 to 20 people partying every night, "so I don't see anything wrong with this."

Council member Bruce Butcher believed it unnecessary for each individual condominium unit to register, with Mayor Tracey Gore stating that an [Cont'd pg.4](#)

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LETTERS to the EDITOR

NOT GOVERNMENT LITE

Another great spot-on editorial! ("The Island of More-No" Editorial, Island Sand Paper, May 4, 2018) The Town vehicle cruises down our street on a daily basis looking for construction and checking if anyone has overstepped their boundaries and violated a town ordinance. (We live in Laguna Shores) This is usually a Water Department vehicle. Sure doesn't sound like Government Lite to me.

Bill Pohlman
Fort Myers Beach

RIGHT ON

Your editorial in today's Sand Paper is so right on!! ("The Island of More-No" Editorial, Island Sand Paper, May 4, 2018) I couldn't have said it or thought it any better! Any of your editorials are remarkable but this one regarding the mafia that is running this beach community into the ground is amazing!

Keep up the GREAT work!

Johnette Nelms
Fort Myers Beach

REGULATION IS GOOD

The Sand Paper editorial is again attacking the Town Council. ("The Island of More-No" Editorial, Island Sand Paper, May 4, 2018) Nine "NOs" were listed and only one was addressed in the editorial. What about the other eight? Electric bikes on sidewalks and the beach traveling at 20 mph are a safety hazard. When I pedal at all of 5mph I many times am barely able to dodge little kids and old people.

The Sand Paper had a good article by Gary Mooney about plastic straws. He found that people are mostly willing to put up with a little inconvenience for the sake of our environment. We dump 8 million tons of plastic into the ocean every year! This is a start.

Control of the newsracks will help clean up a mess. No noise makes sense. Who wants loud noise? Parking in the right-of-way needs to be controlled or everyone will be parking in the right-of-way. Beach accesses are important and needed but who wants a public restroom a few feet from a private house or condo?

This addresses 7 of the editorial's 9 "NOs". However, taking the Sand Paper's endorsement of deregulation to the federal level, and we are deregulating at the federal level, I would just remind everyone of 2008. Deregulation was one of the reasons for the Great Recession. I don't think we want to go thru that again.

Gerry Trantina
Fort Myers Beach

COWARDLY EDITORIAL

I found your editorial, ("The Island of More-No" Editorial, Island Sand Paper, May 4, 2018) interesting in that you didn't name names, but inferred a culprit.

And then on page 15 after the fluff stories about the library, Mound House nesting shore birds, local artist, etc. you ran the article about Tracy Gore's response to a group e-mail ("Mayor Gore Opposes TPI-FMB; Defends Lani Kai" Island Sand Paper, May 4, 2018), that for your clever investigative journalism sleuthing, no one outside of the recipients of the expose e-mail would have ever gotten a whiff of. You spoke of vendettas in your editorial, pointing the accusing finger, cowardly I might add, in that you shrank from naming your prey, and then wrote the article you hoped would embarrass Ms. Gore. You fooled no one with your journalistic slight of hand. And that whiff of something foul, is coming from this fish wrapper.

Kirk Whitacre
Fort Myers Beach

Editor's note: The Editorial is an opinion piece. We welcome letters that agree and disagree with the opinion expressed in the Editorial, as illustrated by this week's letters. The May 4th Editorial clearly named Town Council as the source of new restrictive ordinances. The Mayor Gore email story was unrelated to the Editorial. The Town's Mayor expressing a strong opinion contrary to her recent vote is newsworthy. We are in the news business. Anyone who believes that particular email exchange was only seen by the original recipients prior to our story knows nothing about the coconut telegraph on this island.

FILM FEST WINNERS & CHANGES

The Fort Myers Beach Film Festival is pleased to announce its 2018 award winners during Sunday, April 29's closing awards ceremonies and the Festival's breaking news -- The Fort Myers Beach Film Festival becomes the Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival for the 2019 season. The Festival plans to attract an even wider variety of submissions and selections with this new change. The Festival's new director of programming is Kyle Thompson of Red Flight Pictures based in Philadelphia, PA.

The 2018 winners are as follows:

- Local Film: Actors Anonymous.** Directed by Mark Stozenberg, Cinematographer and Editor Erik Alexander and Producer/Actress Judy Copeland
- Best Short Film: Against the Grain.** Directed by Samantha Artese
- Best Student Film: The Magic of Disneyland.** Directed by Zane Swift
- Best Feature: Killer Island.** Executive Produced by Barbie Castro and directed by Alyn Darney
- Best Actor: Judy Copeland**
- Best Documentary: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack.** Directed by Dr. Chris McDaniel
- People's Choice Award: Sometimes Lucky is More Important Than Smart: Conversations with Mace Neufeld** by Documentarian Stanley Isaacs
- Rising Star Award: Jeffrey A Johns**
- Star Achievement Award: Kyle Thompson,** Red Flight Pictures

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Janeen Paulauskis
Executive Director
Fort Myers Beach Film Festival

Letters cont'd pg.4

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Beach Botany by Jim Rodwell



GROUNDSEL TREE

The Groundsel Tree, *Baccharis halimifolia*, a member of the Asteraceae family, is a woody, evergreen shrub. *Halimifolia* is a multi-trunked perennial that can reach a height of 12 or more feet. Simple leaves are arranged in an alternate order growing from nodes on the branches. Leaf shape is spatulate (spoon shape) to 3" long and 2" wide. Tips of these pale green leaves are coarsely toothed.

Halimifolia is dioecious, which means there are male and female flowers on separate trees. Clusters of flower heads hold creamy to white cotton like fibers that is the fruit. Fruit occurs only on the female trees. The fruit is distributed by the wind. There is so much fruit that it forms a shiny whitish cloud that covers the tree.

I found this juvenile plant trying to grow in a coastal strand surrounded by grasses. If it were in an upland habitat, it could easily grow to maturity. It is, however, on the beach. Even being salt tolerant and drought resistant, a beach habitat is unforgiving. It just may turn into a dwarf like many other beach plants.

FMB Community Foundation Awards Scholarships



On May 9, 2018 The Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation distributed \$28,000 to scholarship recipients and organizations that serve the Beach community. The donations represent the proceeds of a variety of fundraisers, supported by Foundation members, beach residents and seasonal visitors, which make their charitable donations possible.

2018 Community Foundation Scholarship recipients shown here are Austin Tezak, Sydney Wallace, Alexis Gore and Sarah Swierze. Not shown: Annie Salyers, Madison Tezak and Jordan Wallace.

In addition, the Community Foundation supported these organizations with awards: A.C.T (Abuse Counseling Treatment Center); Beach Baptist Church After School Program; Fort Myers Beach Elementary School Arts Program; Choice Market; Friends of Lovers Key; God's Table at Chapel by the Sea; Keep Lee County Beautiful (KLCB); Ostego Bay Foundation; St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Mound House.

Photos by M. Layfield.

LETTERS to the EDITOR, Cont'd from pg.3

VILLAGE SUPPORTS FIREWORKS

In response to the article last week with Tracey Gore ("Mayor Gore Opposes TPI-FMB; Defends Lani Kai" Island Sand Paper, May 4, 2018), I have personally worked with the Fireworks Committee to raise funds for the 4th of July and New Year's Eve for 3 years. Yes, Mr. C. has given generously in the past, and we hope he will continue. Yes, Bill Semmer worked tirelessly for 20 years to make it happen, and we thank them both.

What she failed to mention was the rest of the "VILLAGE" that has made the fireworks happen ever since. I only have 200 words so I will try to get everyone: Cottage, Mermaid, Beached Whale, Lighthouse, Times Square Group, SOB, Beach Pub, Silver Sands, Pierside, Salty Crab, Dave Blunt, Joanne Sharp, Profiles, Bonita Bills, Matanzas, Beach Peddler, Outrigger, Sea Gypsy Inn, Yucatan, The Goodz, Print Shop, Trish & Keith Thomas, the gentleman walking out of Topps who gave \$3 that he had left over from shopping. Everyone that contributed to Give-Aways and Baskets.

It takes a community to make things happen. If the town would do for their constituents like it is this 4th of July, all of us could get back to work and maybe even squeeze in a chance to enjoy our beach!

Andrea Carriere
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Long Term Solution for Short Term Rentals? Council Ends Months of Debate, Cont'd from pg.1

Ordinance option, if approved by Council, would allow condominiums to opt out in favor of administering their own regulations that are often more strict than those proposed by the Town. Council member Dennis Boback met in March with representatives of 30 condominium associations on Fort Myers Beach, and 27 support having condominiums in the Ordinance, to help enforce their rules. His bigger issues are complaints and enforcement: "You cannot complain anonymously; you must identify yourself so you can't put anyone out of business with false claims."

"It doesn't matter what I say at this point," stated Council member Anita Cereceda, "as this vote will clearly go against me, but we had a previous Town Manager estimate that it would take \$60,000 to \$80,000 to administer this program." She then asked Town Manager Roger Hernstadt his figure, and he said those amounts would be insufficient. "I am the dissenter on this Council," continued Cereceda. "I am used to bringing people together, so this is uncomfortable for me. I cannot speak to the level of anxiety that is prevailing in our community now, and Short Term Rentals is just one reason why people are upset right now. I know those of you are upset with me for not putting this to bed by a 3 to 2 vote last time, and I am sorry I could not do any better." Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp, however, countered that the Ordinance is a good balance between business and the public interest.

THE HORSE & JACKASS

Butcher was bothered by the price estimate to administer the program, saying "maybe we put the cart before the horse, without discussing the cost." Shamp disagreed: "I don't think the cart is ahead of the horse at all, because you cannot know the cost of the cart until you purchase the horse!" Butcher made a motion to allow condominiums to opt out of the Ordinance, with Boback stating he could not vote for it with that stipulation, emphasizing, "Every person who has a rental on this island should register." With that, the Short Term Rental Ordinance passed 3 to 2, with Boback and Cereceda Against. The two, often in disagreement over such issues, shook hands in defeat, with Boback saying, "This doesn't happen very often, does it?" In the audience, a frustrated Titus headed for the exit, calling out: "It wasn't a cart before the horse; it was a jackass!"

Short Term Rentals (private dwelling units renting for less than 180 days) must register and pay the fee with the Town within 90 days of passage of the ordinance or conducting short-term rental business; receive a registration number for all advertisements; supply the unit address; owner contact information; 24/7 contact to address any issues within one hour; and renew this information and fee annually, among other items.

COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Later in the meeting, Council set Short Term Rental Regulation Fees under the following rules: \$125 for registration prior to July 1 through 2019; \$150 after July

1 through 2019; \$100 annually beginning January 1, 2019; and \$50 annually if made prior to December 15 of each subsequent year without violations. If the Special Magistrate finds that a property has three violations in a 365-day period, the fee increases to \$1,000 for the next year, and for those with four or more violations, it is \$1000 for each of the next three years.

Boback asked if this would cover the program cost, with condominiums opting out. Hernstadt felt it sufficient, with Council able to adjust the fee up or down each year during the budget process. Butcher said he would like to lower the fee to \$50 and make it for more than one year. Shamp said the Town should ensure that people could register and pay online, but favored annual registration in order to have accurate contact information. Council then approved the Short Term Rental Registration Fee 4 to 1, with Cereceda Against.

In other Public Hearings, Council unanimously approved the 2nd Reading & Final Public Hearing to set the 2019 Town Council elections on Tuesday, March 5, to match other Lee County jurisdictions; approved 4 to 1 the 2nd Reading & Final Public Hearing to Amend the Town's Advisory Committee Qualifications, with Cereceda Against over the preference for Town voters over professional expertise; unanimously passed with substantial revisions the Mango Street Parking Lot Rezoning request to its 2nd Reading & Final Public Hearing at the June 4 Council meeting; unanimously approved the 2nd Reading & Final Public Hearing for the Master Concept Plan for 855 Lagoon Street; unanimously approved a 15-foot Water Body Setback Variance for 135 Driftwood Lane; and continued a potential Right-of-Way lease agreement for Fun Rentals at 1901 Estero Boulevard until Council can clarify discrepancies at its Management & Planning Session on Thursday, June 14.

In other action, Council recognized 6 Town employees who reached five years of service; 3 with ten or more, and 2 who have 15 years or over; heard an Audit Committee update; unanimously approved a Safe Boating Week Proclamation and Mound House Member Appreciation Event and continued a Moss Marina Easement Agreement for language clarification.

Under the Connecticut Street Multi-modal Improvement Project Modification, Cereceda again implored her colleagues to reconsider shortening the proposed Connecticut Street sidewalk from Estero Boulevard to the Mound House, to stop at Shell Mound Boulevard. "Governing is making decisions beyond the immediate needs of the requests and pressures and sensitivity of neighborhood issues, for the safe passage for those of us who travel that path daily and our visitors." It soon became obvious Boback was the swing vote, with him saying: "I understand the need to Shell Mound, but once you pass there, traffic is minimal." Council voted 3 to 2 to request the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization scale back the project, with Butcher and Cereceda Against.

Town Attorney John Turner reported that Council would meet in Executive Session on Wednesday,



Town Council presents the Safe Boating Week Proclamation to Coast Guard representatives. Photos by Gary Mooney.

May 9, to discuss a potential settlement over encroachment litigation for the contested housing construction near Junkanoo's; a lawsuit regarding the Hercules Drive dock and pier replacement project; and a Lani Kai Island Resort lawsuit against the Town over a Consumption of Beverage License and parking issue with Shucker's at The Gulfshore.

NO, NO, NO!

Under Council Member Reports, Butcher asked about parking tickets issued in the Right-of-Way. Hernstadt stated that commercial establishments who park there receive citations, in the hopes they will enroll in a Town parking agreement. "I dislike this immensely," said Cereceda, with Hernstadt quickly adding, "Me too!" Shamp acknowledged that the Town Manager is implementing Council's policy, "This puts Roger on the hot seat!" Cereceda likened this to the current large signs at the island's entry bridges regarding the parking situation. "These huge signs say 'NO, NO, NO,' and that is a heck of a welcome that says we are unfriendly. Our charm is we are

inherently a welcoming community, not an aggressive one."

Butcher and Cereceda brought up complaints about swimming pool installations and stormwater management procedures that Hernstadt said he hopes the Local Planning Agency will determine solutions for at its Tuesday meeting. Shamp discussed two issues of concern for the upcoming TPI-FMB Downtown Redevelopment Proposal meeting on May 21: that the Crescent Street corridor not one day become a canal marina for the resort, and that TPI-FMB be a "Good Neighbor" during site preparation and construction phases. Gore reported on her recent meeting with District 3 Lee County Commissioner Larry Kiker, who indicated the County prefers to retain control over the former Seafarer's property, adjacent to the proposed TPI-FMB bayside parcel, for potential traffic mitigation issues; and that Lee County has no interest in establishing any further Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Districts. Finally, under "Town Manager Evaluation," Council unanimously awarded Roger Hernstadt, on his first year of service, a 5% salary increase totaling \$7,750. Following this, Council adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

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Concrete Barrier to Return to Estero Boulevard

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

While the reFRESH Estero Boulevard Projects continued throughout tourist season, the saving grace for island residents and visitors was they did not include a concrete barrier wall, used during installation of the center-lane drainage system. Those days will soon end, however, as the dreaded concrete wall will return for the balance of summer.

"Sometime from mid-to-late May, we will reinstall the wall, from just south of Donora Boulevard to St. Peters Drive," reported Kaye Molnar of Cella Molnar & Associates, spokesperson for the projects. "Crews are rebuilding the northbound roadway now, and when that is done, the wall comes back, as painful as that is to say! A positive, however, is we were able to delay this until off-season, when there are less people and cars, making it more palatable for year-round residents."

The center lane drainage system requires crews to dig down several feet; lay the pipe, rock, and filter fabric; then the pervious brick pavers on top. "This is a long process," reminded Kaye. "When we complete that, we will rebuild the second side of the road. The concrete wall is necessary due to the significant elevation difference from the bay to beach roadway lanes for the storm drainage installation."

Kaye expects the concrete barrier to be up in this section until late July. "Following that, we double back to Lovers Lane to the south of Donora, with the wall there from late July until mid-September. There may be some alternating traffic for brief periods when this

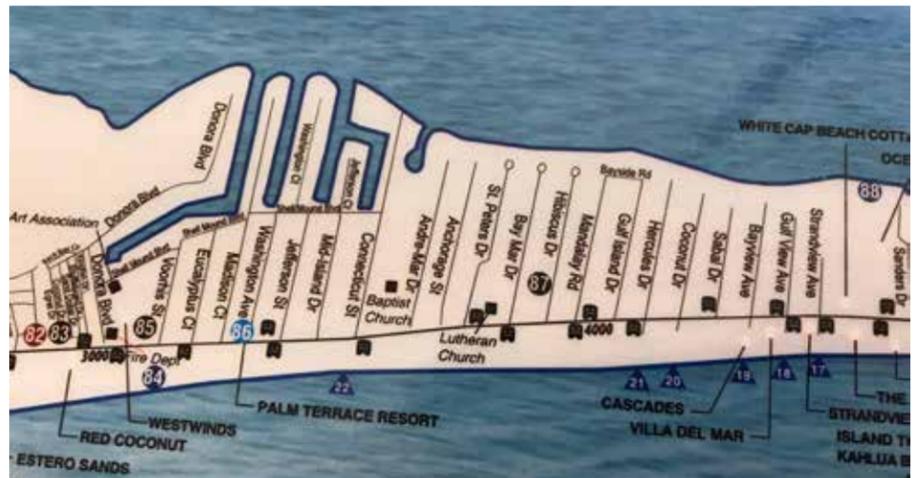
occurs, as that part of Estero Boulevard narrows to just 50 feet of right-of-way, especially around the Gulfview Shops."

CURBS, SIDEWALKS & INLETS

In other Segment 2 work, from Lovers Lane to Strandview Avenue, crews are forming and pouring the bayside curb and sidewalk from Donora to Hibiscus Drive. "From Mandalay Road to Strandview, we are installing conduit for bayside sidewalks," offered Kaye. "We are laying the drainage inlets from Gulf Island Drive to Strandview, on each bayside sidestreet, and these are huge structures that move stormwater out to the Bay."

Work continues on Segments 3 and 4, with new bay side sanitary sewer force mains from Aberdeen Avenue to Flamingo Street. "We will be able to do underground directional drilling for force mains down to Flamingo," Kaye related, "to avoid tearing everything up. Once we reach Curlew Street, most of the force main work will be done, as there is a sanitary sewer master lift station there, so south of that all we need to do are some small connections and replacements."

Kaye said work in moving well on the eight Phase 2 joint outfall sidestreets for the Town's waterline project, installing new water mains and storm drainage on Bay Road, Bay Mar Drive, Bayview Drive, Connecticut Street, Donora, Eucalyptus Court, Hercules Drive and Jefferson Street. "Drainage is done on Eucalyptus, Jefferson, Connecticut, and Hercules, and almost on Donora. Crews are



Estero Blvd Segment 2 work continues. A center wall will soon be placed along Estero Blvd, from about Donora Blvd. to St. Peters St. Map courtesy of Print Shop, Ink.

doing waterlines on Bay Mar, with Bayview under construction, along with waterlines on Bay Road and Nature View Court. We will start the storm drain there as soon as the Beach Elementary School begins summer vacation. The sidestreets are going fast!"

PATIENCE & COMMUNICATION

Phase 3 waterline work starts soon, said Kaye. "We hope to get Town Council approval shortly. There will be nine total outfalls there, five joint ones and the other four solely funded by Lee County, with several, like Curlew, Driftwood Lane and Ibis Street, relatively short. The goal is to have Mitchell & Stark, the Town contractor, do that work, with Lee County reimbursing them, as they have the system down, so if it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

She hopes the community continues to practice patience: "For those who live on or adjacent to Estero Boulevard, when you see the sidewalk installation, that is like

putting frosting on the cake! Pay special attention when you see construction coming toward you, and if you have special needs, like important medical appointments, please contact us for help. A main concern is parking when we are in front of your drive, so we issue a special pass to park in the closed lane to easily access your home. We try to contact neighbors in advance, but if we miss you, get a hold of us." For assistance, information, or email updates, see www.reFRESHFMBeach.com or contact Cella Molnar & Associates, Inc., at 239-337-1071, 877-496-1076, or kmolnar@cella.cc.

Kaye cautioned that the reFRESH Estero Boulevard Projects have yet to reach their halfway point. "Over the last few months, everything moved quickly, but once we reinstall the concrete wall, it will sadly slow down again, because storm drain work is tedious. Everything combined, though, is coming together well, and that is a good thing!"

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Parks & Recreation Ponders Future Focuses on Long Range Plan

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

The Parks & Recreation Department for the Town of Fort Myers Beach suffers from an identity crisis. A segment of the public only thinks of it as the Bay Oaks Recreational Center; others view it through the prism of the Fort Myers Beach Community Pool. Even its own Town Advisory Committee title is the Bay Oaks Recreational Campus Advisory Board (BORCAB)! To help analyze its present and plan for its future, the Parks & Recreation Department hosted the first session of a three-part long-range planning effort on Thursday afternoon, May 3.

Michelle Marchand Canseco of "Michelle, Motivate Me" of Hollywood, Florida, led the encounter, joined by Parks & Recreation Director Sean DePalma, programmer Sarah Mayher, the BORCAB Board, and guest John Goggin. BORCAB members are Betty Simpson, chair; Rae Sprole, vice chair; Dan Allers, David Anderson, Becky Bodnar, Janna Holmes and Lee Melsek.

"Let's start on the positive side," began Canseco. "Let's tap into the part of us that thinks things we never thought before!" She then broke the assembly into three small groups, to conduct an out-of-the-box activity to draw the perfect strategic planner, allowing participants to envision what an extremely successful person would be. The groups found commonality that included strength, positivity, vision, communication, optimism, compassion, open-mindedness, leadership, intelligence, fundraising and people skills.



Dave Anderson, Janna Holmes and Rae Sprole draw the perfect strategic planner!

hardest of all." "We are building a plan for the Parks & Recreation Department, of which Bay Oaks is just a part of that, and then we have to expand upon that," added Dave Anderson. "There is more to Parks & Rec than just Bay Oaks!" "But how do you separate Bay Oaks from Parks & Rec?" asked Melsek. "By programming," said DePalma. "We already do programming island-wide, from Times Square to the Back Bay and beyond, and will soon expand to other venues, like the Fort Myers Beach Woman's Club. These outlets have nothing to do with Bay Oaks, but take up a lot of the time and talents of our staff. We may not operate those sites, but we still do things there! If we just focus on Bay Oaks, then that is all we will ever be, but Parks & Recreation can be something bigger, with a

The session examined the Parks & Recreation Department's existing conditions. Allers and Holmes said they saw a need to get people from all over the island involved with Parks & Rec, and not just those folks who live near Bay Oaks and the Community Pool. DePalma and Bodnar thought that the Bay Oaks location is a negative, as it is not on Estero Boulevard and therefore hidden from the view of most people. Holmes believed that better and increased signage was a priority, while Sprole would like to see the department increasingly utilize the nearby beach for activities.

Needs and preferences included more land, lack of senior facilities, additional fulltime staff,

more large-scale community events like The Fourth of July Fireworks and Fright Night, a fitness trail, sporting events such as baseball and basketball tournaments, additional island playgrounds and a community-wide health enhancement program to bring the entire island together. Plan priorities feature better marketing, greater community outreach to use the facilities of other groups while making them aware of what Parks & Recreation offers, increased funding, a higher profile on social media, more signage and a central place for senior programming.

Parks & Recreation will soon conduct a community survey, and the planning session determined the question topics, such as expanding communitywide events, more children and dog parks, a senior center, increased sports & athletic tournaments, musical events, a fitness trail, an historical neighborhood, additional land, more signage and enhanced education courses.

Canseco stated that the second part of the long range planning program will be the Public Engagement Session, to hear from the citizens and what they want, at Bay Oaks on Thursday, May 24, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The final forum will be the reconvening of the group, sometime in June, with Canseco providing a written report from her perspective that they can either take or leave. They will receive assignments at this last meeting, to ensure that there will be follow-up on their collective decisions. "After that," Canseco concluded, "I step out and you get it done!"



Michelle Marchand Canseco led the Parks & Recreation Long Range Planning Session. Photos by Gary Mooney.

"I want you to visualize successful strategic planning," Canseco continued. "One of the keys is that you want to accomplish a million things, but there is not enough time or energy or money to do everything, so we need to realize what we can't achieve and focus on the things we can. We will work today to narrow our focus and determine our achievable goals." In this spirit, she led the group through revisions of the Parks & Recreation Department's Vision and Mission Statements, with most people feeling each was relevant and on-target, needing only minor tweaks but significant editing due to their length.

MORE THAN BAY OAKS

With that complete, Melsek commented, "We still have a long way to go! When you start to think about how we got to this point, you need to consider our history and failures and successes to determine the best way to proceed. This is really the most difficult part and the

branch that is a facility called 'Bay Oaks.'" "We should not pigeon-hole ourselves," added Sprole.

They next examined the department's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Strengths include location, uniqueness, programming, staff, budget, recent facility enhancements, community support and a Capital Improvement Plan. Weaknesses are location and the budget as well, in addition to the lack of marketing and awareness, negative community image, aging facilities and minimal amount of accredited staff. Opportunities were regional growth potential, revamped facilities, island resort employees for increased memberships, the budget again and enhanced community collaborations. Threats are Town Council withholding financial support, lack of affordable land for expansion, a limited number of children and families on the island, and a shrinking middle class.

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Code Enforcement or Compliance?

Town Policy Creates Confusion & Frustration, Cont'd from pg.1

a level of aggression that has taken off beyond the point of just issuing citations for legitimate violations."

COMPLAINT DRIVEN VS. PROACTIVE

In an effort to provide clarity to this complicated situation, the May 16 meeting of the Estero Island Taxpayers Association (EITA) will discuss Code Enforcement. "This came about as a result of our previous meeting in April, where we discussed permitting with Town staff representatives," explained Beverley Milligan, EITA Executive Director and co-owner of The Myerside Resort with husband Roland Weinmann. "There was a lot of information covered then, with a lot to digest, and one thing we touched on concerned inspectors and the Code Enforcement office. A question came up about Code Enforcement and using beach patrol personnel as Code Enforcement Officers, and that just kind of hung out there. That got me thinking that we heard for years from Town Council that Code Enforcement was complaint-driven, but now they are actually out in the community looking for infractions as a forward-driven approach, and that should make for an interesting discussion."

"The Town currently has two Code Enforcement Officers," said Hernstadt, "and we augment that with members from the Beach Patrol and Parking Enforcement Teams, when they have time in their schedules that does not take

away from their primary duties. We do not have any plans at this time to hire any other Code Enforcement employees, though that has been suggested by a Town Council member, and we will deliberate that as part of the 2019 Town budgetary process. Some people think the Town is only interested in Code Enforcement, but what we are really trying to accomplish is Code compliance! To that end, we offer any potential violator the opportunity to achieve this through a compliance agreement with the Town, as an alternative to the Special Magistrate process whenever feasible."

Orlandini disagrees: "One of my citations was because I had a rain gutter fall down, and I received it before I could make the repair. My larger concern occurred at a Code Enforcement hearing, when the Town brought in the previous owner of one of my properties, and grilled him for an hour as to the previous condition of the premises before turning it over to me, to ascertain its original condition, and I had to listen to that in detail at length, so that is a pretty elaborate way to create violations over some simple cosmetic things, like paint and a little bit of flooring that in my opinion should be allowable or something you can work through without a huge issue. It is difficult to even obtain permits now, with the process out of control - I still have some ongoing since 2015! Financially, I have not kept a total, though I should, but the fines and citations against me are easily in

the tens of thousands of dollars!"

OVERPARENTING

Situations like Orlandini's will be part of the May 16 EITA forum, explained Milligan. "We need to discuss and understand whether the Town is overparenting, as this seems especially harsh to some residents, so why was this change in policy necessary. This is a pretty big subject, and we want to examine it in a balanced manner to inform all taxpayers. The biggest challenge will be hearing from many, many, angry, unhappy people, without sensationalizing the topic, but to tell the necessary story to really understand the basis for this change and what it means for our island and residents, and perhaps most importantly, how it will impact tourism."

Speakers will include Council member Anita Cereceda; Orlandini; Jessie Titus of Fort Myers Beach Realty and Amy Lefebvre-Loughrey of Distinctive Beach Rentals. EITA hopes to add a local attorney for a legal perspective. The program will be at the Beach Baptist Church at the corner of Estero Boulevard and Connecticut Street, with social time and refreshments

at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 6:30. Another important date occurs on Thursday, June 14, when Council discusses commercial parking and its enforcement methodology at its Management & Planning Session in Town Hall at 9 a.m.

As to what reaction he is receiving from the general public, Hernstadt said, "Some people are upset, and we are attempting to educate them on the Town policies, to help them come into compliance or make an agreement with the Town. If a business wants to implement a parking agreement with us, they should contact the Public Works Department to initiate the process to lease the appropriate amount of the Right-of-Way for their activities. There is no fee to take out the application that we then present to Council for its approval. This process has an entire matrix of fees, based on the duration of your rental time frame and area of need, down to the square foot. If you only need parking in the Right-of-Way from January to March, for example, you do not have to rent it for the entire year, but just for that time frame."

Hernstadt strongly disagreed that Code Enforcement is targeting any one Cont'd pg.10

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Editorial

PRESS FREEDOM

Last week the world media marked World Press Freedom Day. Dozens of competing news organizations joined forces to promote Freedom of the Press around the globe and to honor those journalists who lost their lives in the quest to provide information to the public. 24 have died so far this year, with dozens more locked up for pursuing that information.

Once taken for granted in the United States, freedom of the press is under attack as more and more people want only news that spins in their preferred direction. And make it short, easy to understand and entertaining, while you're at it. If they don't understand it or they don't like it, it's a lie. People are more and more isolating themselves to reading about and speaking only to those who agree with them. That is not only boring, that kind of echo chamber threatens the future of our culture and country.

Some news stories have a spin to them. It might spin right or left or in the direction of the owners of the media company. But most of the mainstream media strive to produce news stories that report facts and fair analysis. If you don't like the spin, the solution is simple, read more. Read the same story in at least 3 different publications, preferably with different spins. In the end, you'll have the truth. You may not like it, it might not be what your personal spin wants to hear but sometimes truth is uncomfortable. And for the love of all that is holy, do not get your news from Facebook or anyone who is not held to any standard of ethical journalism. As some Russians learned, it's really easy to sit in a room and make stuff up and put it online and have people believe it. Don't be one of them.

In an unusual move, the slogan for Press Freedom Day was "Read more. Listen more. Understand more." National news outlets encouraged people to seek out additional sources of news, listing their competitors and encouraging people to seek out other news outlets. The Wall Street Journal encouraged people to read the Washington Post. The New York Times urged readers to also read the National Review. You don't see that everyday.

Read more. Listen more. Understand more. It all starts with a free press.

The New York Times Company's Chief Operating Officer Meredith Kopit Levien recently said of the diversity of news sources, "While we all share common values, we often give our readers, viewers and listeners different perspectives on the same issues. That diversity is critical at a time when people are retreating to echo chambers that confirm biases and reinforce preconceived notions."

Daily newspapers struggle to stay alive, cutting reporters and editorial staff, using nationally syndicated writers to cover national news. Meanwhile local news, which requires reporters on the ground with relationships with local government and businesses, sees less and less coverage.

Community newspapers, like the Island Sand Paper, whose focus is on the local community, are alive and well. Partly because the news we gather and print is not available elsewhere. Sure you can catch a TV newscast with a 2-minute story on a local issue. But if you want the details, you won't get them on TV, with very few exceptions. 60 Minutes and Dateline are unlikely to do a segment anytime soon on Fort Myers Beach taxing districts and how they're spending your money.

Our job is to report on local issues of interest to our readers. Not every story will interest every reader. We are a community with diverse interests. In our reporting on local government, our job is not to make public officials look good. Our job is to report what our elected officials say and do with our tax money and how they represent us. Florida still has a fairly strong Sunshine law, making most of what elected officials say and do a public record. We don't go looking to make anyone look bad, but sometimes they do a fine job of that on their own.

Maybe they didn't have the guidance of a wise grandmother, "If you don't want to see it on the front page tomorrow, don't say or do it."

A free press has been called a keystone of democracy by no less than Ronald Reagan, John McCain, Thomas Jefferson and John Quincy Adams.

Without a free press, citizens know only what their government wants them to know. History shows us that tyrannical governments do not want a free press to expose what they do. If you control what a country's citizens read and hear, you can control them. History is full of examples.

Read more. Listen more. Understand more. It all starts with a free press.

Missy Layfield
Editor

"Wherever despotism abounds, the sources of public information are the first to be brought under its control. Where ever the cause of liberty is making its way, one of its highest accomplishments is the guarantee of the freedom of the press."

Calvin Coolidge

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Bob Layfield, Publisher

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How simple a thing it seems to me that to know ourselves as we are, we must know our mothers' names. Alice Walker



Missy Layfield, Editor

Editor@fortmyersbeach.news

Sooner or later we all quote our mothers. Bern Williams



Mike Buster, Circulation Manager

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A mother is not a person to lean on but a person to make leaning unnecessary. Dorothy C. Fisher



Mark List, Production Manager

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The central struggle of parenthood is to let our hopes for our children outweigh our fears. Ellen Goodman



Sarah List, Photographer

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The art of mothering is to teach the art of living to children. Elaine Heffner



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There is...nothing to suggest that mothering cannot be shared by several people. H. R. Schaffe



Gary Mooney, Lead Writer

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God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers. Jewish Proverb

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The Island Sand Paper encourages all Islanders to submit original articles and photos. Publication is based on space and takes into account relevance and quality. The Sand Paper uses artistic license for humor and to amuse its readers. Nothing contained in this paper is intended to embarrass or offend anyone.

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Gretchen Johnson 1926 - 2018



A Memorial Service for Gretchen Johnson will be held on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Raphael's Episcopal Church on Fort Myers Beach. Gretchen passed away on March 27, 2018 at the age of 91. Honored by the Fort Myers Beach Town Council as the 2016 Citizen of Distinction, Gretchen was a devoted volunteer for God's Table, Lee Memorial Health System and Iona Hope Thrift Shop. She was also an active member of the Fort Myers Beach Art Association and a member of the Transition Team following the town's incorporation. In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to the Multiple Myeloma Foundation or Fort Myers Beach Art Association Scholarship Fund. A full obituary ran March 30, 2018 and can be found at fortmyersbeach.news.

Carole (Kelly) Leary 1940 - 2018

Carole (Kelly) Leary, 77, of Fort Myers Beach, Florida, passed away peacefully on April 30, 2018 after a long illness. She was the daughter of Lawrence and Helen Leary of Ridgefield, Connecticut, where she was born in 1940.

Kelly lived in Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Florida and worked as a customer service representative for United Airlines until her retirement. She was an avid animal lover, having rescued dozens of cats and dogs throughout her life and an active traveler. She enjoyed a full and happy retirement in Fort Myers Beach, where she volunteered for many organizations and events and supported animal welfare causes. She always found joy in the community and beach that surrounded her. Kelly was fortunate to have many wonderful friends in her life, including her closest companion, Audree Inglis, who lived with her until her death in 2008.

Kelly is survived by her brother, Larry Leary (Christian), her sisters, Inez Barrett (Bob) and Roberta Montanari (Guy) and her sister-in-law, Sharon Leary. She was predeceased by her eldest sister, Lorraine Conklin and brother, Daniel Leary.

Kelly's family would like to thank Jo and Lee Robins, her closest friends in Fort Myers Beach who supported her during her illness and the Regional Hospice of Danbury, Connecticut. The funeral will be a private family affair.

Code Enforcement,

Cont'd from pg.8

person or business. "When there is an effort to enforce the code, particularly if the government has been lax in the past, the first group of alleged violators typically will feel like they are being singled out, but in fact they are just the first wave of many whose situation the Town will address. In some case, they may be the most frequent violators and hence are subject to more attention."

HOMETOWN FEELING

In reflecting on what the Code Enforcement policy says about the Town of Fort Myers Beach, Milligan stated, "To me, it is that the Town is changing and becoming more of a policing jurisdiction. This personally tells me that Fort Myers Beach is no long an easy relaxed place to live and work, and that goes against the very reason why we incorporated over 20 years ago, and that our community is no longer citizen-controlled." Orlandini said succinctly, "It is now very unfriendly; a very unfriendly environment!"

Hernstadt had a different take: "We are moving away from people taking actions on their property without checking for the applicable codes, then either claiming they have the 'Grandfathered Right' or simply seeking forgiveness. What we are trying to do is to encourage property owners to come to Town Hall and to get educated on the codes before they begin an improvement or any use on their property, to verify that the action will not violate the code. Having these direct communications with property owners prior to them taking any action that could be in violation of the code is the best possible outcome for all concerned."

Milligan hopes the May 16 EITA meeting "will balance the personal concerns of the citizens, with those of our leaders, in a dialog that will be an unbiased examination of the issue, so I personally will attend with a very open mind, to learn about this apparent change in Town policy."

Hernstadt added, "By working together, correct compliance with the codes can have a positive impact on our community's property values, and property values are everything on this island, so we encourage everyone to keep that in mind when considering code enforcement and compliance."

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Sarah List

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VIEWPOINTS

BUYING DEMOCRACY

By Bob Franken

Let's face it, the United States of America's government is not a democracy like the textbook propaganda claims. No matter the intent of the founders, we have evolved into a pay-to-play oligarchy, where money rules.

I have to say, I appreciate it when someone is so honest about his or her own dishonesty. Rarely, however, is someone so candid as Mick Mulvaney. He now heads the Trump administration's Office of Management and Budget, and even more damagingly, has been appointed by the president, on an interim basis, to head the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The CFPB was formed out of the rubble of the economic debacle in 2008 to, as the name suggests, protect the consumer, particularly against the excesses and outright thievery of the financial industry. Over consistent Republican objections, the agency issued regulations that would offer some federal protections against these behemoths whose executives ran the monetary system into the ground with their greed.

Until Trump. Donald Trump came into office demonizing regulation, and he certainly has lived up to his campaign rhetoric by gutting the rules that were set out to create a greed shield. Mulvaney is a willing executioner. He had already established a harsh record as a South Carolina GOP congressman, a tea party favorite for his limited-government extremism -- except when it came to protecting the rich, particularly those who threw crumbs of their ill-gotten gains at politicians like him.

Now in his new role, there he was, speaking to a group of bankers (what else?) when he took his amazing detour into remarkable candor: Speaking of his days as a congressman, he said that, when it came to scheduling meetings: "If you're a lobbyist who never gave us money, I didn't talk to you. If you're a lobbyist who gave us money, I might talk to you."

There's no "might" about it, actually. Like just about every American politician who wishes to get elected and re-elected, a huge amount of time is spent fundraising -- which is to say groveling for campaign contributions, which is another way to describe legalized bribes. This corruption saturates our political system. It is bipartisan; Democrats are as guilty of selling their souls as Republicans. It's just that the Trumpsters are more blatant about it.

Scott Pruitt is the latest one to wallow in the self-created muck. His public life has been lavishly subsidized by energy companies that don't want to be bothered by government limitations. In Pruitt's native Oklahoma, where he was a state senator and later attorney general, he had a reputation of opposition to anything his private-industry benefactors disliked. Naturally Donald Trump picked him to head the Environmental Protection Agency, where after being barely confirmed by the U.S. Senate, he has been hellbent on gutting rules long established to protect the planet from corporate profiteering.

He also has been hellbent on living a cushy life in Washington, financed by these same fat cats (think of his low-cost condo accommodations) and more egregiously, the taxpayers (think of prohibited first-class airfare, etc.).

Again, Pruitt and the other Trumpsters' conduct is not unique and certainly not limited to Republicans. The Clintons have faced similar accusations. It was Will Rogers who described Congress as the "best that money can buy." Regrettably, that stain covers our entire political system.

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TRUMP'S NOBEL CAN WAIT

By Rich Lowry

Who would have guessed that a Trump crowd 15 months into his presidency would be chanting, "Nobel! Nobel! Nobel!"

As in Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor and philanthropist who created the prizes, including one for peace. The prize was on the minds of Trump fans thanks to developments on the Korean peninsula, where Kim Jong Un has stopped testing missiles and started love-bombing the South.

Donald Trump has a typically modulated view of how much he had to do with this. "Everything," he told his Michigan rally. If that's too boastful, the president deserves credit for breaking with Barack Obama's policy of "strategic patience" that effectively meant accepting North Korea's march toward a nuclear-tipped ICBM.

Trump tightened up on a sanctions regime. And he undertook a Trumpian pressure campaign consisting of insults, fiery rhetoric, extreme ambiguity about his true intentions and braggadocio about the size of his nuclear button. If many in the United States were freaked out, it stands to reason that Kim took notice.

This is all to the good, but nothing we have seen so far from Kim is inconsistent with the decadeslong North Korean diplomatic pattern of selling us the same fake concessions in exchange for sanctions relief and economic benefits.

Inspiring talk with the South Koreans about a breakthrough to a new era of peace? To paraphrase Barack Obama's famous put-down of Mitt Romney, 1992, 2000 and 2007 all want their foreign policies back. High-flying joint declarations in each of those years proved meaningless.

Mothballing nuclear facilities as a sign of good faith? Kim is inviting the press to witness the shuttering of a tunnel complex used to test nuclear weapons. His father destroyed a cooling tower in front of the international media in 2008.

Promises to the U.S. to disarm? Pyongyang said it was ending its illicit plutonium program in the 1994 Agreed Framework. It said it was giving up "all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs" in 2005 as part of the so-called Six-Party Talks. It said in 2007 that it was agreeing to specific steps to follow through on its 2005 commitment. All came to naught.

This is why the ultimate test of Trump's mettle isn't getting Kim to the negotiating table, but being willing to walk away from it.

He'd do well to familiarize himself with Ronald Reagan's high-wire summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at Reykjavik in 1986. They audaciously discussed eliminating all nuclear weapons, before the Soviets demanded an end to the SDI missile-defense program. Reagan walked away. The summit was considered a failure, but Reagan had convinced the Soviets that we weren't going to give up our technological advantage over them.

Trump should conceive of his meeting with Kim as a continuation of his campaign of coercive diplomacy. Should it (in all likelihood) fail to elicit a credible decision by the North to give up its nukes, it should be the pivot toward an even harsher clampdown on the North.

None of the great and good are going to shower Trump with accolades for being cleareyed and tough-minded, but that's what his negotiations with Kim require. The Nobel can wait.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Noise Dispute Among Council M&P Items, Cont'd from pg.1

countered Council member Bruce Butcher. "Perhaps these condo units should upgrade their noise dampening measures." "We are listening to them," added Council member Anita Cereceda, "but I can't solve their issue without complicating the lives of a lot of other people." Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp stated that "this is a problem I am trying to solve, but not by making it harder for other people. The issue is how do we deal with this specific area that does not involve the whole island."

Town Manager Roger Hernstadt suggested time delivery restrictions on businesses within 1,000 feet of residential areas, but Council member Dennis Boback stated that "there are no businesses anywhere on the island that are not within 1,000 feet of some sort of residential area." Gore agreed, saying "you cannot throw a rock on Fort Myers Beach without hitting someone's house! I am more concerned, however, with the residential over commercial." If Council took action, Shamp asked, "How you avoid a global solution that will create more problems, rather than just helping out one person?"

X DOES NOT EQUAL M-N-O-P!

"We all want to help," agreed Cereceda, "but if you fix a problem for Mr. X, you create problems for 'M-N-O-P!' That is not fair to everyone who does not share this issue." Butcher said he does not want "Budweiser trucks stacked up and down Estero Boulevard at 10 a.m., as that creates traffic for everyone and a whole new set of problems that will affect more residents."

Shamp suggested conducting noise monitoring, to see if there is a pattern. Gore said that no one is attempting to solve this problem, but Shamp responded: "I am trying to help, but you cannot solve their problem at the expense of creating 100 other problems. We are trying to come up with a small solution to a particular problem that does not become a global situation for the entire island. I have tried a couple of suggestions; you are passionate about this, so what is your idea?" Gore suggested preventing deliveries

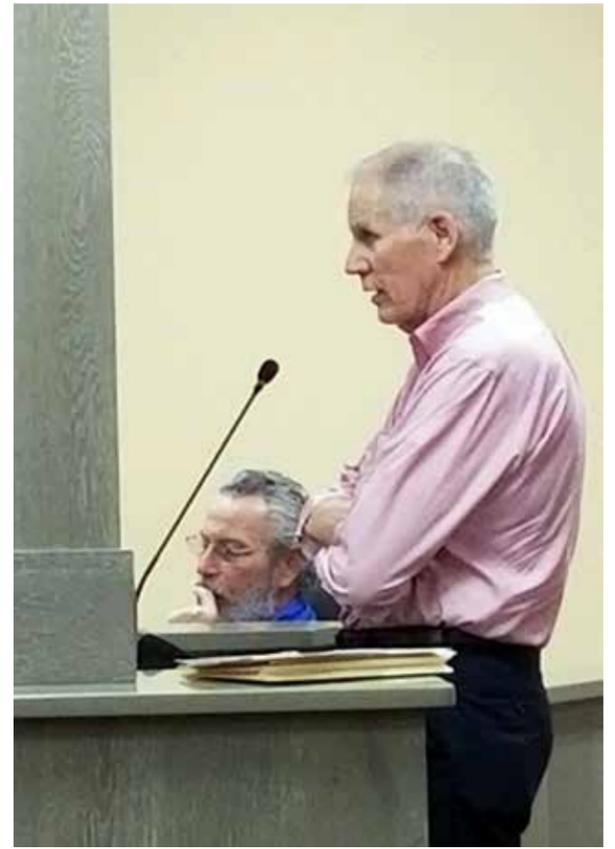
before 6:30 a.m. Boback, however, noted the unnamed complaining party had suggested that "7 a.m. would not be bad, and 8 would be great," calling those unrealistic. Cereceda reiterated, "I am sorry they have an issue, but I don't see how we can fix this for them, as a global solution to a single situation never works. Sometimes you just have to say, 'I am sorry but we cannot help you.'"

Hernstadt said the business owner seems to sincerely want to find an amicable solution, so he will arrange for a face-to-face meeting. Boback encouraged Hernstadt to include the delivery company, as "you will need both to solve this." "I hope you can," concluded Cereceda, "so we do not have to discuss this again!"

"COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE"

Under the reFRESH Estero Boulevard Projects review, Lee County Assistant County Manager Doug Meurer reported that Segment 2 work should be complete by the end of this year, with everything done by 2021, well ahead of the original estimate of 2027-28. When he stated, however, that the center drain installation near the Red Coconut RV Park would necessitate the return of the concrete dividing wall from late July through October, Boback became visibly upset: "You have been sitting on that for two years and now you will start at the beginning of season! To me, that is ridiculous!" When assured the crews would maintain two-lane traffic, Boback added, "I don't believe that!" He then questioned whether the Town contractor, Mitchell & Stark, employed enough people or scheduled them correctly, as the sidestreet projects in his opinion were taking far too long, saying "the time to finish these is completely unacceptable."

In other matters, Council has no plans to establish TIF Districts, though it will keep this as an option should an appropriate project present itself. Council set the balance of its 2018 meeting schedule, retaining meetings on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month and the first Thursday following the first meeting for Management & Planning Sessions, with the following exceptions: M&P moves to Thursday, June 14,



Lee County Assistant County Manager Doug Meurer explains the reFRESH Estero Boulevard Project updates. Photo by Gary Mooney.

due to a conflict with Gore's schedule; Council will go on break in July; it may reschedule the August initial meeting and M&P due to conflicts for Gore and Cereceda, and will set September dates to discuss the 2019 budget when other Lee County agencies establish their times.

Finally, Council heard Town Department Reports from Beach Water, Community Development, Cultural Resources, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Public Works and a waterline project update from Tetra Tech Engineering, after which Council unanimously directed Hernstadt to add Lovers Lane to the Tier #1 "Hot Streets" list for flood prevention improvements for roughly \$150,000. The Management & Planning Session adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

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Lani Kai Sues Town and Cottage Bar Parking, Noise Lead List of Issues



By Missy Layfield
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

The Lani Kai Island Resort has filed a lawsuit against a neighboring business and the Town of Fort Myers Beach. The lawsuit claims that the Lani Kai has been harmed by code violations by businesses located at 1250 Estero Blvd, Fort Myers Beach. There are three businesses at that address, owned by Colorado East, LLC – Shuckers, The Cottage and Beach Dog House, which Islanders know as the Beach Bar.

The suit, filed Monday, May 7, 2018, claims that the Gulfshore businesses expanded their Consumption on Premises (COP) into the Environmentally Critical (EC) Zone with Town approval that was not appropriate. Administrative approval for COP expansion into the EC for the Gulfshore Grill was granted January 23, 2013 by the Director of Community Development Walter Fluegel. The Town adopted a COP in the EC ordinance 12-03 in September 2012, allowing limited expansion of existing downtown area COP licensees on the sand. The process for expansion was defined differently than a new request for a COP license, with administrative approval allowed in certain circumstances.

The Lani Kai claims that COP expansion should never have been granted to Gulfshore without a Special Exception Public Hearing because there is another business with a liquor license within 500 feet and there are private homes within 500 feet. They also claim that the Gulfshore liquor license is in violation of their license requirement to sell more food than liquor and the Cottage operates as a nightclub and bar with loud music.

The lawsuit also claims the Gulfshore's 2018 renovation was done with "inaccurate construction estimates provided to the Town of Fort Myers Beach required to show compliance with Town floodplain regulations."

The other primary charge in the 37-page lawsuit is that the popularity of the Gulfshore businesses is leading Gulfshore's customers to park in Lani Kai parking lots, forcing the Lani Kai to pay employees to monitor their lots. They claim that the Gulfshore has only 17 parking spots and valets double and triple park cars there, leading to the inability of first responders to reach the building.

Guests of the Lani Kai have been disturbed by loud music from the Gulfshore property, the lawsuit claims, leading the Lani Kai Resort to issue refunds. The lawsuit also claims that the Cottage serves liquor to youth under 21 years of age.

OVER \$1MILLION/YEAR DAMAGES

The Lani Kai Resort is seeking damages in excess of \$15,000 due to loss of hotel revenue, parking spaces, additional employees and contract hours to monitor parking. In a November 2017 letter sent

to the Town regarding their problems with Gulfshore, Lani Kai attorney Ralf Brookes claimed business damage in excess of \$1 million per year.

The lawsuit requests a cease and desist order from the court along with an order stating the "illegal nightclub and bar uses" of the Cottage and Beach bar, along with outdoor seating and COP on the sand be stopped until a public hearing can be held and until the COP is brought into compliance with the Town of Fort Myers Beach's alcohol and parking code requirements. Also requested is an order declaring that the Town violated the notice and public hearing requirements for expansion of alcohol beverage service as well as parking code rules. They ask that the Town revoke the Administrative Approval for the Gulfshore's expanded COP and a public hearing scheduled.

Representatives of the Gulfshore and Town of Fort Myers Beach declined to comment on the lawsuit.



Gulfside view of Shuckers and beach bar at Gulfshore. Above Photo courtesy of Shuckers at Gulfshore. Other Photo copyright iqoncept/123RF

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Joanne Shamp Paints FMB, Cont'd from pg.1



(Front Pg) Colorful watercolor paintings that capture the spirit of Fort Myers Beach reflect Joanne Shamp's artistic style. (Above) Joanne Shamp, next to a portrait she painted of one of her grandsons.

legendary beach artist who sadly passed away a few years ago. I was so inspired by her and our island landscape! Everything here is so colorful and vibrant, and translates well through the paintbrush onto the watercolor canvas."

To start, Joanne more dabbled than anything else, but eventually worked up the confidence to register for the "Paint the Beach" Plein Air Art Festival that the Fort Myers Beach Art Association hosts each November. "I did a painting of the beach from the top of the Lani Kai Island Resort and, lo-and-behold, received an award in my first competition! The judge said how much he loved it and it was very marketable. My next painting was from the top of Snug Harbor and that won an award as

well, so I guess I need to paint from up high, with a great beach view! I do not sell my work, preferring instead to donate my paintings to island fundraisers to help my fellow citizens."

Joanne never painted as a child: "I come from a family of mechanical and electrical engineers, so I constantly took apart and put together record players and radios, to understand how they worked! My sister is a successful fashion designer in New York City and a great artist, so I assumed she received all the artistic ability from our gene pool and left me with science! I still see that in my artwork, particularly in my early paintings, as they are very architectural, so I constantly work to make them less structured and

more liberating. That is all part of the journey, for as an artist, you adapt and grow, as there is no right or wrong. You can be in a roomful of artists, all working on the same image, and no two will produce the same portrait, as we paint what we feel."

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Joanne encourages anyone with an interest to sign up for beginner classes at the Fort Myers Beach Art Association, "even if you have no previous experience. You will find them tremendously interesting, learn how to express yourself and make new friends to boot! There are so many talented people on this island, and we are so blessed to have such an outstanding Art Association. Going there adds enrichment to my life in ways I never imagined nor guessed; they are such a welcoming and talented group."

At this point in Joanne's life, she does not paint as much as she would like, between being Vice Mayor and preparing for her youngest son's wedding later this year. "I am just too busy to step back to let the creative process happen. Once I am done with Council, art is the direction I plan to take." Despite her time constraints, Joanne's family completely supports her. "I did a portrait of my granddaughter about 8 years ago, and am working on one for one of my grandsons, and now the other one is anxious to know when I will do his, and my daughter-in-law wants a portrait! I did one of my oldest son when we visited Cuba, but have yet to do a painting of my second son, and



An award-winning painting with artist Joanne Shamp. Photos by Gary Mooney.

then of course there is my future daughter-in-law, and hopefully one day more grandchildren! Dan, who started it all by buying me those lessons, is the most supportive, maybe just to keep me out of the way!"

She has already hosted several exhibits. "I was 'Artist of The Month' at the Fort Myers Beach Public Library, and a few months back had a show at the Art Association with a friend that featured Plein Air works I did outdoors, especially from trips to Italy and Nova Scotia."

Joanne reflects on what art means to her: "At my age of 66, it is an accumulation of all of the experiences I have, intellectually and emotionally, to express the world around me. When I finally have time, I would love to paint the historical cottages we still have on the beach, to preserve them for future generations. There is not another place I would rather paint than Fort Myers Beach, as this is such an inspiring place to live!"

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Fort Myers Man Serves Aboard USS Hawaii

By Kayla Turnbow
Navy Office of Community Outreach

PEARL HARBOR – A Fort Myers, Florida, native and 2015 Lee High Senior High School graduate is serving in the U.S. Navy aboard one of the Navy’s newest attack submarines, USS Hawaii.

Seaman Sebastian Lopera works as an electronics technician (navigation) serving aboard the Pearl Harbor-based submarine, one of 56 fast attack submarines in the U.S. Navy.

A Navy electronics technician (navigation) is responsible for troubleshooting, repairing and replacing computer and electronic systems.

“Growing up, my father always said ‘there are two ways to live life, the easy route and the hard route,’” said Lopera. “You try to work hard in the beginning then cruise toward the end, or else you can slack off in the beginning and have to work harder in the end.”

Jobs are highly varied aboard the submarine, according to Navy officials. Approximately 130 men and women make up the submarine’s crew, doing everything from handling weapons to maintaining nuclear reactors.

Navy officials explained that attack submarines are designed to hunt down and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships; strike targets ashore with cruise missiles; carry and deliver Navy SEALs; carry out intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions; and engage in mine warfare. Their primary tactical advantage is stealth, operating undetected under the sea for long periods of time.

“Our submarine teams are small, elite and rely heavily on extraordinary individual performance,” said Rear Adm. Daryl L. Caudle, commander, Submarine Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. “It is no surprise that our sailors continue to set the standard for excellence, and the country continues to be well served by their service and sacrifice. I couldn’t be more proud to lead this professional fighting force.”

According to Navy officials, because of the demanding environment aboard submarines, personnel are accepted only after rigorous testing and observation. Submariners are some of the most highly trained and skilled people in the Navy. Regardless of their specialty, everyone has to learn how everything on the ship works and how to respond in emergencies to become “qualified in submarines” and earn the right to wear the coveted gold or silver dolphins on their uniform.

“I am the first in my family to serve in the military,” said Lopera. “It is very humbling to be the first. My family feels honored that I serve in the military. I am carrying on their name and making a legacy for us.”

Challenging submarine living conditions build strong fellowship among the elite crew, Navy Officials explained. The crews are highly motivated, and quickly adapt to changing conditions. It is a busy life of specialized work, watches and drills.

“Serving in the Navy means protecting my family back at home,” said Lopera. “It means setting up a future for myself so when I do have my own children they can have the best life.”



Seaman Sebastian Lopera. Photo provided by the U.S. Navy.

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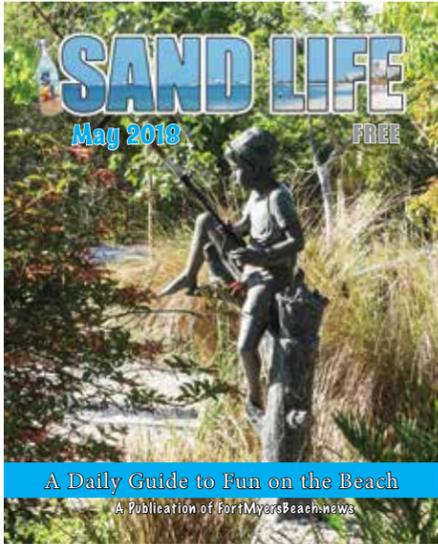
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AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND



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!

STAMP OUT HUNGER

The nation's largest single-day food drive, "Stamp Out Hunger" will be held on SA May 12 as letter carriers collect non-perishable food that has been left by mailboxes. Any kind of unopened, non-perishable food is welcome, but especially needed are peanut butter, tuna, rice, beans, canned meats, fruits, vegetables & soups. Just leave your food donations by your mailbox early on SA, May 12. If you prefer, you can drop food off at any Post Office between now and May 12. Volunteers will be collecting and sorting the food. Donations will be given to food agencies, such as Harry Chapin Food Bank.

TURTLE TROT/ FAMILY DAY

The 13th Annual Lovers Key Turtle Trot/Family Fun Day will be held

on SA May 12 at Lovers Key State Park. Sponsored by the Friends of Lovers Key, the unique 5K-trail course, sanctioned by the Fort Myers Track Club, takes runners/walkers through a shady maritime hammock ecosystem on a hard-packed shell path. No beach running required. The finish line is near the pavilion overlooking the beach. Race is at 8am. The whole family is invited to Stay & Play afterwards for a fun-filled Family Day at the park. Children's races, a hula-hoop contest and children's activities will be offered. Children can create a special Mother's Day gift. Race registration is \$35 through May 11. Race Day cost is \$40. Registration and more information at www.friends-of-loverskey.org.

EDISON FORD ESTATES

On Mother's Day, May 13, all moms will be admitted to visit the Edison & Ford Winter Estates for free. Flowers are blooming all over the estate. Families can enjoy a cool beverage or ice cream at the Ford Cottage Shop while enjoying a relaxing view of the river. Open 9am-5:30pm daily. edisonfordwinterestates.org

BUNCHE BEACH BIRDS

Join a naturalist guide to explore the mud flats of Bunche Beach on WE, May 16 at 5:00pm. Bunche Beach offers an amazing opportunity to view shorebirds, shells and possibly a manatee or dolphin. Bring camera, shoes that can get wet, bug spray and drinking water. Bunche Beach, 18201 John Morris Rd. Meet on the beach. Free with paid parking. Leeparks.org for more info. 239-707-3015

MEDICARE 101

Current and future Medicare beneficiaries are invited to attend a free presentation about the ins & outs of

Medicare at Chapel by the Sea on TU May 22 at 9:30am in Silver Hall. Advance registration is not necessary. The Florida Dept of Elder Affairs SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) program provides free, unbiased information and assistance for Florida Medicare beneficiaries year-round as they evaluate health care options. This presentation will cover the basics of Medicare Parts A, B, C & D and learn about options available. For more information about this presentation or receive one-on-one Medicare counseling from SHINE, contact 866-413-5337.

BIKE SAFETY EVENT

Come to the Bay Oaks Rec Center on SA May 26 from 10am - 12pm to learn about Bike Safety, join a Bicycle Club and meet with a bike mechanic. In addition there will be an 8am Bonita Road Ride and a 9am FMB Fun Ride beginning at Bay Oaks. Enjoy Bike Demos, FREE kids' helmets, a bike rodeo, ice cream and more! For more information call 239-765-4222.

DINING DISCOUNT BOOK

The 2018 Lee County Delicious Dining Discounts Book from the Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands is now available for just \$28 online or \$25 at the FMB Chamber, Gavin's Ace Hardware, FMB Kiwanis Thrift Store or the UPS Store at Summerlin & San Carlos Blvd. The book offers BOGO (Buy One, Get One) dining discounts at 59 area restaurants,

including 12 FMB locations. Most are valid Apr 15-Nov 15, so pick up yours soon. The project supports Kiwanis youth-related projects and local children in need.

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. Passes will not be mailed this year, so stop in Town Hall to get yours!

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 applica-

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AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND

tions must be postmarked no later than May 31, 2018.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ostego Bay Foundation is seeking volunteers for a variety of tasks at the Marine Science Center. If you can help contact them at 239-765-8101.

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.

BEACH LIBRARY

The Fort Myers Beach Library is a great place to visit. Browse the library's many collections, find a new author or sign up for some time on the library's computers. Head to the 3rd floor to view the artwork of the artist of the month or stop in the Friends Used Book Store. The Library is open MO-FR 9am-5pm; SA 9am-1pm. 239-765-8162. Some upcoming programs include:
MO May 14, 10:30am - Old Time Radio
TU May 15, 10:30am - Book Discussion "News of the World"
FR May 18, 10:30am - Windows 10, pre-register
TU May 22, 10:30am - Memory Im-

provement, pre-register
WE May 23, 10:30am - The Moth II - More True Stories

MOUND HOUSE

A unique archaeological and historical site on Fort Myers Beach located directly on Estero Bay, the Mound House offers a variety of programs for local residents & visitors. Open TU, WE & SA 9am-4pm at 451 Connecticut St. Overflow parking at 216 Connecticut. Call for costs, reservations and additional information. 239-765-0865. Upcoming programs include:
SA May 12 - 9am-Conservation Café; 10am - Family Adventures Tour; 11am & 2pm - Shell Mound Tour; 1pm - Guided tour.
TU May 15 - 9am - Guided Beach Walk at Newton Park; 1pm - Guided Tour; 2pm - Shell Mound Tour.
WE May 16 - 1pm- Guided Tour; 2pm - Shell Mound Tour; 6:45pm - Sunset Kayak Tour
FR May 18 - 8am - Mangroves by Kayak.
SA May 19 - 11am Guided Tour; 1pm - Shell Mound Tour.

LOVERS KEY STATE PARK

Guided nature programs are offered in the park. All programs require registration, are free with park entry and take place at 10am. To register call 239-463-4588. Upcoming programs include:
FR May 18 - Beginning Birding
FR May 25 - Kayak Tour

ISLAND HOPPER

The 5th annual Island Hopper Songwriter Fest returns Sept 21-30 to fill our tropical venues with music and fun. The festival kicks off on Captiva Island Sept 21-23, then moves to historic downtown Fort Myers Sept 24-27 and wraps up

on Fort Myers Beach Sept 28-30. Sponsored by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, iHeart-Media, Cat Country 107.1 and BMI, the festival brings songwriters to SWFL, where they share their songs and the stories behind their songs. Headliners and songwriters will be announced later this year.



MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU!

Beach Elementary School Coach Heather Lodovico and parent Jennifer Walker dressed up last Friday, May 4, to celebrate Star Wars Day, or May the Fourth be with You Day, with some Kindergarten students. Photo provided.

Government Meetings

Tuesday, 5/15	6:00pm	Fire Board
Wednesday, 5/16	9:00am	Anchorage Advisory Committee

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

Open 11am - 10pm Happy Hour 3-6

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Taste of the Beach 2018



No one went away hungry at the Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce's 2018 Taste of the Beach held Sunday, May 6, 2018 on Old San Carlos Blvd. in downtown Fort Myers Beach. The event enjoyed beautiful weather and hungry crowds all day long as Jo List acted as Mistress of Ceremonies with local entertainers performed in Bayside Park. Sixteen restaurants participated. Winners this year include:

People's Choice:
1st Place - Nervous Nellie's; 2nd Place

- Doc Ford's; 3rd Place - Castaway's
Best Appetizer: Castaway's
Best Chicken Entrée: Bongos Beach Bar & Grille at Pink Shell
Best Meat Entrée: Sunset Beach Tropical Grill & The Playmore Tiki Bar
Best Seafood Entrée: Castaway's
Best Dessert: Fish Tale Waterfront Dining
Best Decorated Booth: Nervous Nellie's
Server Competition: 1st Place - Yucatan Beach Stand; 2nd Place - Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille; 3rd Place - La Ola Surfside Restaurant



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Funnies Page



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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Chuckles

Q. Why did the invisible man turn down the job offer?
A. Because he just couldn't see himself doing it.

Q: Is Google male or female?
A: Female, because it doesn't let you finish a sentence before making a suggestion.

My girlfriend said she wanted a perfect holiday, so I had to stay home!

Never lend money to a friend. It's dangerous. It could damage his memory.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

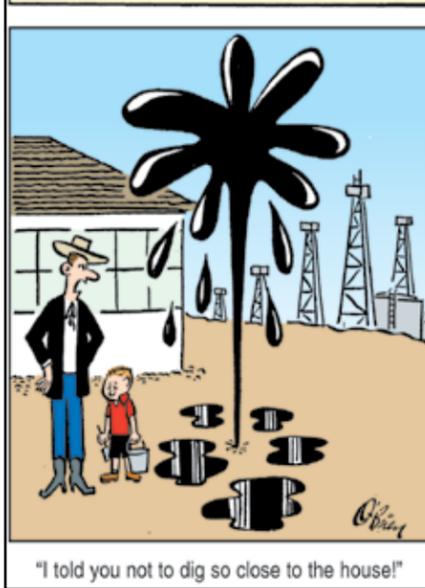


Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



LAFF-A-DAY



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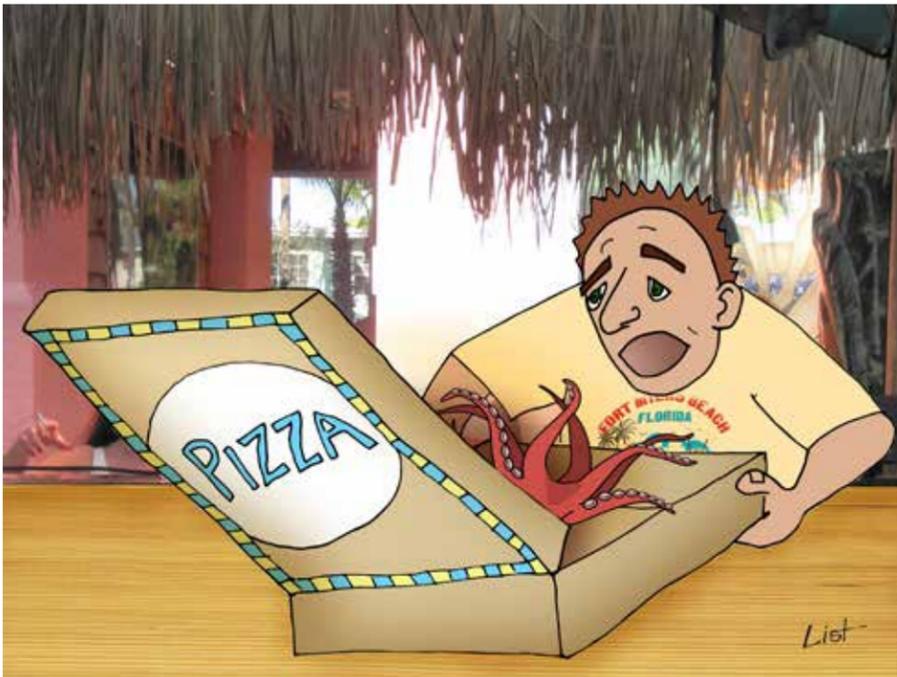
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Funnies Page



COMMUNITY COMICS



"I said I wanted my toppings fresh, not ALIVE."
Sarah List

"Put the pizzeria next to the bait shop.", they said. "It's a great location.", they said."
Mike Popeye Dearden

"I love anchovies but this just ain't right."
Eric M. Huntsman

"Attentively, he tenaciously contemplated the tentative alternatives to tentacles, counted eight and ate."
Susan Briody

"I squid you not ! I'm the new table side entertainment not your meal !
Did you hear about the guy who got an octopus tattoo? He got inked up !!
How long does it take to make an octopus laugh ? Ten-tickles!
I'll be here all week!"
Renee Massie Hose

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.)

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



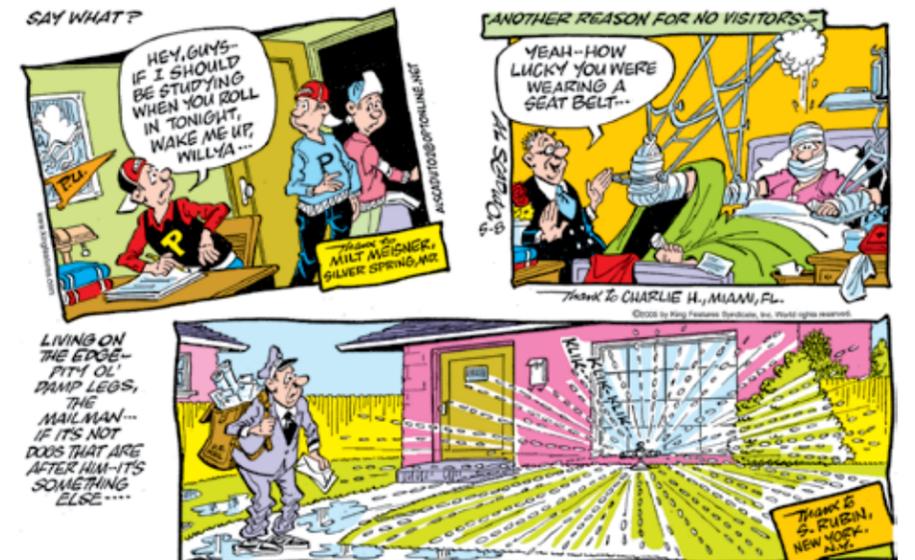
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



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Super Crossword

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Ones doing stand-up
 - 7 Dancer's bodysuit
 - 14 Roosevelt's predecessor
 - 20 Wide road
 - 21 Work history summaries
 - 22 Unabridged
 - 23 What many a thin person has
 - 25 Be there for
 - 26 "What — is new?"
 - 27 Actor Benicio — Toro
 - 28 Here, to Yves
 - 29 — carte (not prix fixe)
 - 30 Prefix with fascist
 - 31 Beams
 - 33 Specialty of many emergency teams
 - 37 Is sore
 - 40 Ballet move
 - 42 Dawn deity
 - 43 Nutrition Facts group
 - 44 Alternative to jogging
 - 48 Recurrent theme
 - 51 Often-stubbed digit
 - 52 Used a saber
 - 54 Color-mixing board
 - 58 Smoke waste
 - 59 — port (PC connection)
 - 61 Ladderlike in organization
 - 63 Charlton Heston film
 - 64 Harry at Hogwarts
 - 67 Cornmeal mush
 - 69 Starting on
 - 71 Jim-dandy
 - 73 "Mean Girls" actress
 - 74 Stretches of history
 - 75 Vigilante retribution, perhaps
 - 81 Informant
 - 82 Snowden
 - 84 Hindu belief
 - 85 Moment
 - 87 See 56-Down
 - 88 China's Sun — -sen
 - 91 Keeping up contact
 - 93 Bait
 - 95 Without risk
 - 97 Some lap dogs, briefly
 - 99 It doesn't stop at a lot of stations
 - 101 Big hauler
 - 104 Dernier — (latest thing)
 - 106 Bad guy in "Othello"
 - 107 Spine-chilling
 - 108 Improv comic's skill
 - 113 Sail support
 - 115 Clickable address
 - 116 State of rage
 - 117 Mattel man
 - 118 "Emmy" has two
 - 119 Had to repay
 - 123 Element in antiseptics
 - 125 Wish for getting better
 - 129 Shells out
 - 130 Australian sheeppdogs
 - 131 Skittish
 - 132 Badger
 - 133 Moment
 - 134 Sculptures without limbs
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Small eatery
 - 2 Egg shape
 - 3 See 124-Down
 - 4 It accrues
 - 5 Summa — laude
 - 6 Dilapidated
 - 7 Kazakh river
 - 8 State north of Kan.
 - 9 The same, at the start?
 - 10 May bloom
 - 11 Friends, in Florence
 - 12 Have a home
 - 13 Brit. military honor
 - 14 Cures
 - 15 Scheduled
 - 16 Mel of the diamond
 - 17 Austrian port
 - 18 Borgnine with an Oscar
 - 19 Totally alters
 - 24 Coil deviser
 - 29 Fable author
 - 32 Invite to a movie, e.g.
 - 33 Lawn tools
 - 34 Not much, as of salt
 - 35 DVD — drive
 - 36 Wrongdoer
 - 37 "Mamma Mia" group
 - 38 NFL receiver
 - 39 Zenith
 - 41 Santa helper
 - 45 Part of SSW
 - 46 Bowl game gp.
 - 47 Hair care products
 - 49 — by Dana (perfume)
 - 50 Old TV's "Three Lives"
 - 53 Info to input
 - 55 Like college juniors
 - 56 With 87-Across, fishy hero
 - 57 Little bits of work
 - 60 Lover boy
 - 62 Cubs great
 - 65 Straying from the subject
 - 66 Diva Diana
 - 68 Increases fraudulently
 - 69 Sparkling wine city
 - 70 Duck relative
 - 72 TV-advertised music label
 - 76 Veritable
 - 77 It beats a 10
 - 78 Slush Puppie company
 - 79 Wheedle
 - 80 Leg on which a cello rests
 - 82 Wimpy type
 - 83 Tapers off
 - 86 Hip-hop headwear
 - 89 Others, in Latin
 - 90 Daly of "Cagney & Lacey"
 - 92 Anne of "Wag the Dog"
 - 94 Less than zero: Abbr.
 - 96 Worry about
 - 98 — Lanka
 - 100 Amiens' river
 - 101 Slogging-in-mud sound
 - 102 A moon of Jupiter
 - 103 Less harsh
 - 105 Bic buy
 - 109 Sorts
 - 110 Piece of hair
 - 111 Boat spines
 - 112 Like klutzes
 - 114 Natty tie
 - 118 In the past, in the past
 - 120 Takes as a spouse
 - 121 "And so ..."
 - 122 Hides gray, in a way
 - 124 With 3-Down, really disorderly
 - 125 Schuss, say
 - 126 Julio's "day"
 - 127 Strong wish
 - 128 Lennon loved her

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					
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115					116					117					118				119	120	121	122
123										124				125				126	127			128
129																					130	131
132																					132	133
																					133	134

(George)

BARSIDE

Ha-ha! The bartender asked me for an ID. Couldn't believe it! I left him a \$5 tip.

Works every time.

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.

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: **M equals C**

GY DUU PYC LQMP DGHKMPR
 NKHVI H MYQIGKR VD QDVIN,
 CYQXB RYQ MHXMQXHGU VGD
 MYIDQLUK KVMU VIBUS?

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

Deduce:

Huge:

Issue:

Ignite:

ANGEL

GATER

CIPTO

LIKEND

TODAY'S WORD

"I'll be back to pick up my kids when they're ready for _____."

FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

TJO
 GLAJMO
 ♥GNITH
 EORY
 GYNIKL
 ♥ASG
 ♥NETR
 MUTSR
 RYA
 NOARUT
 RYJKE
 ♥RSAT

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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LPA Sends RPD Back a Second Time Approves Carousel Inn & Anchorage Plans

By Missy Layfield
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

On Tuesday, May 8, 2018, the LPA approved the Carousel Inn request and a variance request for 3749 Estero Blvd, but sent a Residential Planned Development (RPD) for 764 & 768 Estero Blvd, back to the drawing board again.

Robert and Dana Dullard

follow. "They were led down a primrose path," said Dan Hughes referring to advice the applicants received from previous staff. "If we approve this somebody else is going to be led down that primrose path and we don't want that." He then moved to continue the hearing to the next LPA meeting and it was unanimously passed.

Jane Plummer said that all the Sunset Condos face the Gulf, so only the end units might have their side views impacted.

Plummer also asked why the staff report had a condition with a \$500/day fine. "Why do we keep seeing this \$500 fine? Don't we have a schedule of fines?"

Green responded, "It will be there so long as I'm instructed to put it in there."

"It seems punitive and over-regulatory and I will not support it in anything I see," said Plummer with nods from several other LPA members.

Following discussion, Scott Safford moved that the request be approved with staff conditions, though removing the \$500 fine and adding language that would restrict time extensions. It passed 6-0, as Dan Hughes was no longer at the meeting due to an appointment.



Jeanne Guzy listens as Jason Green explains a point in the hearing for her property at 3749 Estero Blvd. Photos by M. Layfield.



Artist rendering of the Carousel Inn project. Phase 1 is on the left; Phase 2 on the right.

returned to seek an RPD for their property on North Estero Blvd. for the second month in a row. The property currently has two duplexes plus a single family home, totaling 5 living units. The Dullards want to build a family compound that would have one single family home plus a 3 unit building. They explained that they have been working on this project for two and a half years and have done everything asked of them by Town staff. They were told to apply using pre-disaster build-back by staff. Last month, the LPA said pre-disaster build-back rules do not allow a large increase in the square footage of the new building. It has to be built to the size of the existing building. The LPA also told them that if they build new, without pre-disaster build-back, they would be limited to two living units on the property. They heard the same thing this month.

Several members of the LPA said the plan does not fit the pre-disaster build-back requirements. Jason Green, contract planner for the Town asked the LPA if they believed that they can't ask for a deviation in pre-disaster build-back, with the consensus being that the Comp Plan tied their hands. Green provided information on a similar request approved in 2011, the Rowe RPD at 324 Estero Blvd., though that has not been built yet and LPA members seemed not inclined to accept it as a precedent they must

CAROUSEL INN RPD

The property at 6230 and 6240 Estero Blvd, is best known as the Carousel Inn, a 28-unit motel. In 2005 part of the property was rezoned to Residential Planned Development (RPD). A Master Concept Plan (MCP) for a 12 unit multi-family development of 4 stories and 45 feet height was also approved. That MCP has expired. Tuesday's request was for the same 12 units and 45 feet height, but with an additional story so it would be four stories over parking, but still 45 ft. tall.

The project would have two phases, the first being the construction of 4 units on the south, now vacant, side of the property. The required timing on Phase 1 would be a development order within 3 years and completion within 5 years. Phase 2 would be an 8 unit building, with parking on the first floor and outdoor recreation areas. Phase 2 would require a development order within 5 years with completion within 8 years of approval.

During Public Comment, Dave Vieceli, who owns units in neighboring Sunset Condos, asked that the new development be set back an additional 30-40 feet so as to not compromise views from Sunset Condos. He also spoke of concern about the overall timeline of 8 years, which he said was ex-

LOT SPLIT AND VARIANCES

The lot at 3749 Estero Blvd. is an irregularly shaped lot that fronts on Estero Blvd and sits between Anchorage St. and St. Peters St. Jeanne Guzy purchased the lot two years ago and is seeking to split the lot to allow the construction of two single family homes, one facing Estero and the other facing Anchorage. She also requests a setback variance.

During Public Comment, Paul Larsen, the owner of 146 and 156 Anchorage told the LPA that if they allow the lot split, there could soon be requests to split the lot next door and then there would be four tall houses in a row.

Green explained that the lot has enough size to permit a lot split, but said the concern is in the placement of accessory structures. Plummer pointed out that the planned 10 ft. driveway was insufficient to hold a car. When Green explained that there was plenty of space between the lot line and the roadway Plummer pointed out that

the Town has an issue with parking in the right-of-way (ROW).

"Will they be charged \$50 to park there like in other areas?" she asked. Green admitted that there is an ongoing concern about the use of the ROW.

The LPA approved the request 4-2 with the added condition of a 17 ft. setback on St. Peters for the principal building. Hendrickson and Plummer voted NAY.

A planned Land Development Code (LDC) discussion was postponed until their June meeting as was a discussion requested by Town Council on Monday, May 7 regarding Neighborhood Flooding and pool setbacks and the problems caused by new guidelines for them.

Plummer and Hendrickson both commented on the need to look at the LDC in total rather than piecemeal or by focusing on 'glitches.' Zuba agreed and suggested a workshop on the entire LDC with a consultant, with Green adding, "We already have a consultant ready."

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Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise /Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
F	11 Low	4:19 AM	0.5	6:43 AM	Rise 4:18 AM	24
	11 High	11:16 AM	2.3	8:05 PM	Set 4:27 PM	
	11 Low	5:07 PM	0.7			
	11 High	11:25 PM	2.1			
Sa	12 Low	4:55 AM	0.6	6:42 AM	Rise 4:55 AM	16
	12 High	11:35 AM	2.6	8:06 PM	Set 5:24 PM	
	12 Low	5:50 PM	0.4			
Su	13 High	12:24 AM	2.1	6:42 AM	Rise 5:33 AM	9
	13 Low	5:27 AM	0.9	8:06 PM	Set 6:24 PM	
	13 High	11:57 AM	2.7			
	13 Low	6:31 PM	0.1			
M	14 High	1:19 AM	2.1	6:41 AM	Rise 6:14 AM	3
	14 Low	5:56 AM	1.1	8:07 PM	Set 7:26 PM	
	14 High	12:21 PM	2.9			
	14 Low	7:14 PM	-0.2			
Tu	15 High	2:14 AM	2.0	6:41 AM	Rise 6:59 AM	0
	15 Low	6:24 AM	1.2	8:08 PM	Set 8:30 PM	
	15 High	12:49 PM	3.2			
	15 Low	7:59 PM	-0.5			
W	16 High	3:11 AM	2.0	6:40 AM	Rise 7:49 AM	0
	16 Low	6:50 AM	1.3	8:08 PM	Set 9:35 PM	
	16 High	1:22 PM	3.3			
	16 Low	8:47 PM	-0.6			
Th	17 High	4:15 AM	1.8	6:40 AM	Rise 8:43 AM	2
	17 Low	7:15 AM	1.5	8:09 PM	Set 10:39 PM	
	17 High	2:00 PM	3.4			
	17 Low	9:40 PM	-0.6			
F	18 High	5:30 AM	1.7	6:39 AM	Rise 9:42 AM	7
	18 Low	7:40 AM	1.6	8:09 PM	Set 11:40 PM	
	18 High	2:43 PM	3.3			
	18 Low	10:37 PM	-0.6			

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

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



Virtual Reality Machine



CryptoQuip answer

To see how much starchy grain a country is using, would you calculate its consumer rice index?

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

- Glean;
- Great;
- Topic;
- Kindle

Today's Word
COLLEGE

FEAR KNOT

answer

Y																			
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R			A																
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399⁹⁹

L.P. Tank Sold Separately

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24⁹⁹

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Outdoor Table Top Torch 8526501

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12⁹⁹

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23⁹⁹

Save \$15

Ace Sunflower Seed 81121

20 Lb. **9⁹⁹**

Miracle-Gro® Moisture Control® Garden Soil 1-1/2 Cu. Ft. Vegetables & Herbs or Flowers. 7438286, 7438336

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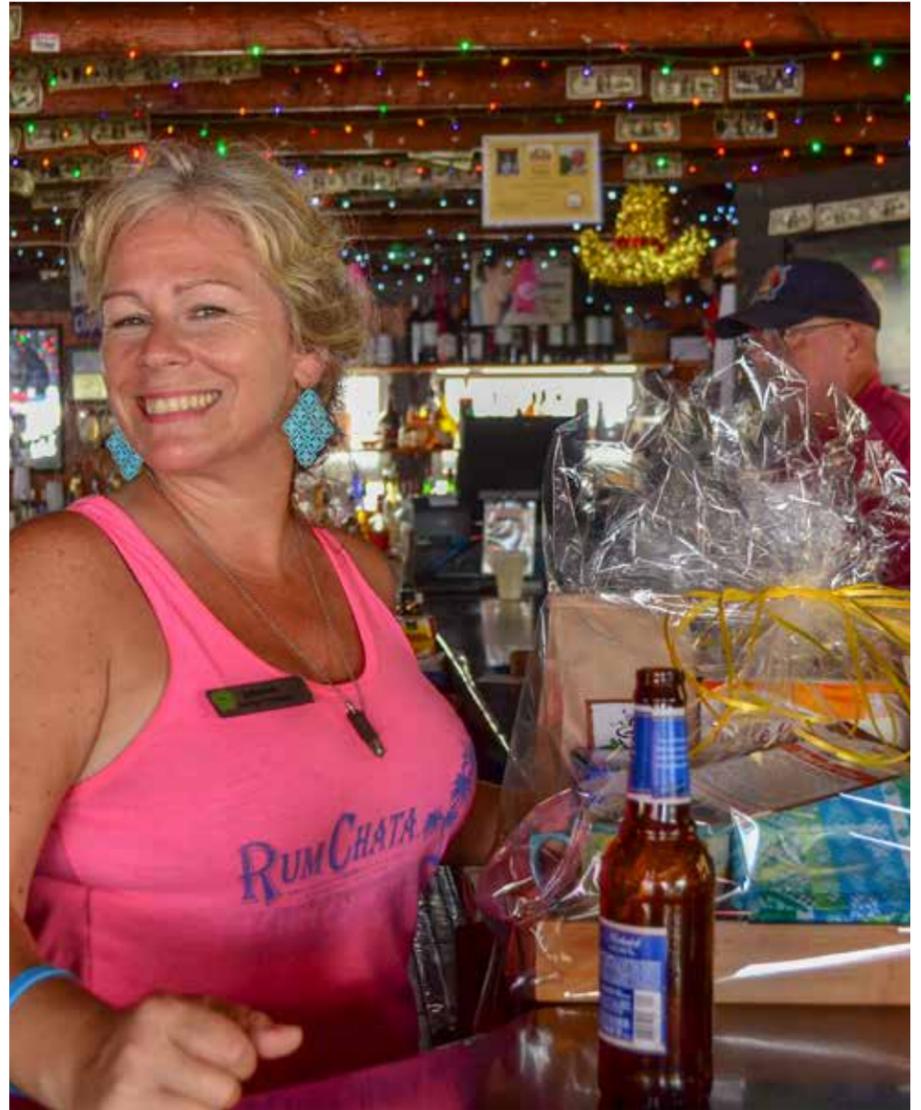
Beach Happenings

Rock the Arches Fundraiser



The first major musical fundraiser to restore the Fort Myers Beach arches was held on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Bonita Bill's Waterfront Café. Music by Bad Latitude, David & Jenny and John Sherman entertained attendees and raffle prizes, donated by FMB businesses, helped raise over \$1,000 for the cause. The group, Restore Fort Myers Beach Arches, wants to raise enough to fund imaging of the arch remnants as the next step in the process. The group hopes to work with the state, county and town to have new arches constructed on San Carlos Island that meet current height standards. For more information, visit Restore Fort Myers Beach Arches on Facebook. *Photo by Sarah List.*

Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser



The Cottage at Gulfshore put on another of their always entertaining parties last Saturday, May 5, 2018. This party had two excellent reasons, a Cinco de Mayo celebration and a Joni Sutter fundraiser. Joni, mother of longtime bartender Sami, is battling cancer and the Gulfshore family pulled together to host an all-day party that would make her life a little easier at the same time. Shown here is Johnna with one of the great raffle prizes. *Photo by Sarah List.*



Beach Theater

America's Original First Run Food Theater

6425 Estero Blvd.
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Join us for Mother's Day!! Special Menu Available!!

Starts on **Friday May 11**

Doors open at 1:45 PM.



Avengers: Infinity War
[PG-13] 2:00 5:15 8:45

The Avengers and their Super Hero allies must be willing to sacrifice all in an attempt to defeat the powerful Thanos before his blitz of devastation and ruin puts an end to the universe.

Starring: Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth, Scarlett Johansson, Jeremy Renner, Chris Pratt



Life of the Party
[PG-13] 2:45 4:15 5:45 8:30

After her husband abruptly asks for a divorce, a middle-aged mother returns to college in order to complete her degree.

Starring: Melissa McCarthy



Finding Your Feet
[PG-13] 2:00 6:45 9:00

On the eve of retirement a middle class, judgmental snob discovers her husband has been having an affair with her best friend and is forced into exile with her bohemian sister who lives on an impoverished inner-city council estate.

Starring: Vera Drake, Celia Imrie and Timothy Spall



Overboard
[PG-13] 3:00 6:00 8:45

A spoiled, wealthy yacht owner is thrown overboard and becomes the target of revenge from his mistreated employee. A remake of the 1987 comedy.

Starring: Anna Faris and Eugenio Derbiz

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 Like us on [facebook.com/BeachTheater!](https://www.facebook.com/BeachTheater/)

WHO'S PLAYING WHERE ON AND AROUND THE BEACH

CLUB	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	MOTHER'S DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
BEACHED WHALE 1249 Estero Blvd 463-5505	MARK KOBIE 6-9PM	TOMMY VAN OYER 6-9PM	SAM DeARMOND 6-9PM			OBE GONZALEZ 6-9PM	JIMI DREDD 6-9PM
CASTAWAYS Santini Marina Plaza 463-4644	BACKLASH 8-MIDNIGHT	WILDFIRE 8-MIDNIGHT					ELECTRIC LIPSTICK 8-MIDNIGHT
SHUCKERS/COTTAGE Gulfshore Grill 765-5440	ROGER YOUNG 4-7PM TROUBLEMAKERS 9PM-1AM	CHRIS CASDIA 4-7PM 3 CROOKED STEPS 9-1AM	RENEE MASSIE HOSE 4-7PM TROUBLEMAKERS 9-1PM	STEVE FARST 4-7 3 CROOKED STEPS 9PM-1AM	BOBBY BLAKEY 4-7PM BAD BANDITOS 9PM-1AM	STEVE FARST 4-7PM STEVE FARST 9PM-1AM	JOHN HOUSLEY 4-7PM THE NEW VINYLs 9PM-1AM
CRACKER BOX 16910 McGregor 466-4344							
DIXIE FISH CO. Fisherman's Wharf 233-8837	MARK WESLEY 5:30PM-9:30PM	MIKE O'NEIL 1-4PM ANTHONY WAYNE 5:30PM-9:30PM	MEGAN ROSE 4PM	BOBBY BLAKEY 5:30-8:30	CHRIS CASDIA 5:30PM	ANTHONY WAYNE 5:30-8:30PM	TEQUILA TOM 5:30-8:30PM
DOC FORDS 708 Fishermans Whf. 765-9660	3 CROOKED STEPS 6:30-9:30	KAPO KINGS 6:30PM	DEB & THE DYNAMICS 1-4PM			GIRL MEETS BOY 6:30-9:30PM	HIGH VOLTAGE 6:30-9:30PM
MATANZAS on the BAY 414 Crescent 463-3838	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
NERVOUS NELLIES 1131 1st St 463-8077	OLD SCHOOL CHARLIE 6-10PM	KEVON 12-4pm OLD SCHOOL CHARLIE 6-10PM	SMOKIN BILL 12-4PM HIGH TIDE 6-10PM	SMOKIN BILL 6-10	KEVON 6-10PM	MICHAEL ANTOINE 6-10PM	RaSHIMBA 6-10PM
OUTRIGGER 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
PARROT KEY Salty Sam's Marina 463-3257		FRANK TORINO 7-10PM					FRANK TORINO 7-10PM
PETE'S TIME OUT Time Square 463-5900				DAVE COLLATON 6-10PM	AARON SEYFFERTH 6-10PM	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM
PIERSIDE 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
PINCHERS TIKI BAR 6890 Estero Blvd 463-2909	HALF STEP DOWN 6-9PM	ROCKIN HORSE 6-9PM	DREAMKEEPER 5-8PM		SAM DeARMOND 5-8PM	AARON SEYFFERTH 5-8PM	N2L 5-8PM
SALTY CRAB 1154 Estero Blvd 233-8224	ANTHONY WAYNE 12-4 SHEENA BROOK 4:30-8:30PM	AWESOMESAUCE 1-5PM AARON SEYFFERTH 6-9PM					JEFF GREENE 1-5PM CHRIS KEMP 7-10PM
SHARK BAR & GRILL 17979 San Carlos Blvd 313-6012	KARRIBEAN GROOVES 6-9PM		RUSTY WRIGHT BAND 6-9PM	RASHIMBA 3-6PM COLLABORATION BAND 7-10PM	MARY WINNER BAND 7-10PM	MARTY KEANE 2-5PM GATLIN 6-9PM	LAURIE STARR DUO 3-6PM BRENDA'S KARAOKE 7-10PM
SOBs 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
SUNSET BEACH FMB TIMES SQUARE 463-1028	BARRY LAWRENCE 8-12PM	CHRIS KEMP 2-5PM CLIVE LIVE 8-12PM	BARRY LAWRENCE 1-5PM MIKE GLEAN 8-12PM		CLIVE LIVE 8-12PM		
SURF CLUB 1167 Estero Blvd 765-0644	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM	THE REGULARS 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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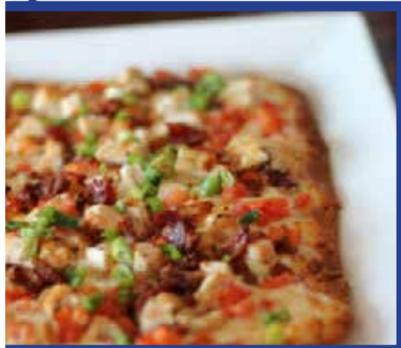
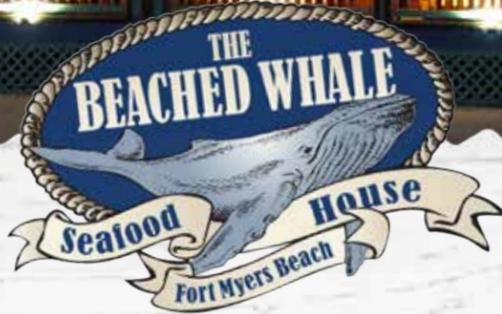
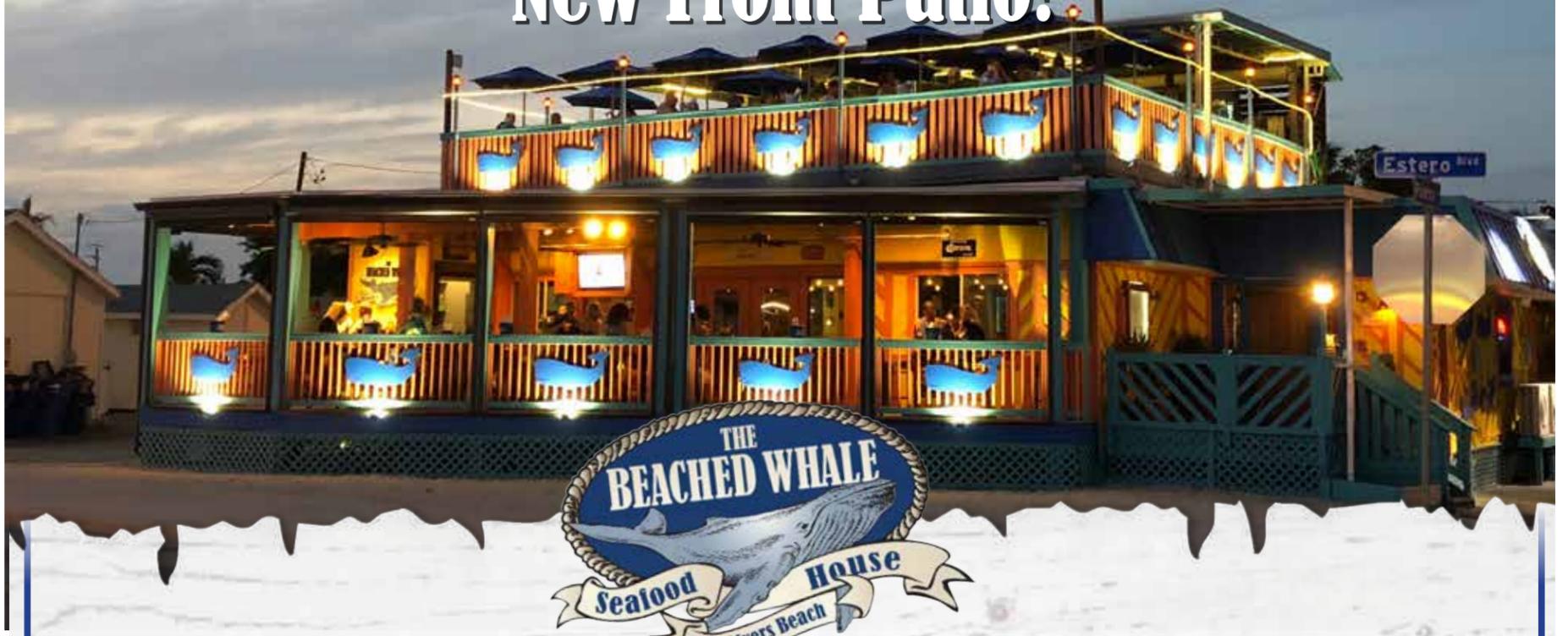
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