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By Islanders, For Islanders Fort Myers Beach, Florida

May 25th, 2018

# TPI-FMB YES Project Receives Final Council Approval

By Gary Mooney  
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The Town of Fort Myers Beach Council once again unanimously approved the controversial TPI-FMB Downtown Redevelopment Resort Proposal, after a three-year process, and nearly 14 years following the devastation from Hurricane Charley on Friday the 13th of August 2004. While roughly 75 citizens packed Council Chambers, the Town did not need an overflow tent, nor was there any organized opposition, as occurred for the First Reading and Public Hearing for the Ordinance on April 9 and 10 when Council unanimously voted to move the ordinance to this week's Final Hearing.

Prior to Council's discussion and its subsequent vote, 27 people addressed them, with 18 favoring TPI-FMB, 7 opposed, and 2 indifferent; of the 7 against, 3 represented the Lani Kai Island Resort, including owner Robert Condaris.



"What's Up, Neighbor?" Mayor Tracey Gore and Tom Torgerson congratulate each other following the vote. Photo by Gary Mooney.

Of those supporting TPI-FMB, Miffie Greer stated that, "I am really excited about how TPI will change and beautify our Town in a wonderful, wonderful way, so when you come across that bridge, you will say, 'WOW!'" Kevin Johnson, who lives at the island's north end, said, "We all agree something needs to be done downtown after years of neglect and TPI is the answer. We will never find another developer like TPI, so please allow them to build this, to clean up this island and make it attractive to families and businesses." Bobbi Kemp put her comments succinctly: "Vote for TPI-FMB, for the good of Fort Myers Beach!"

Of those opposed, Christine Patton, a Primo Drive resident since 1975, said, "I've accepted lots of changes over the years, mainly in the increase in population. Who wouldn't want to live in paradise? But paradise is being threatened. When DiamondHead was allowed to be built because we were part of the county, the people of Fort Myers (Beach) [Cont'd pg.4](#)

## Save Our Water

### 2nd Summit Examines Water Issues & Projects

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

Several hundred people gathered at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Conference Center on Friday, May 11, for the 2nd "Save Our Water" Market Watch Summit, hosted by the News-Press, where water professionals and environmental advocates discussed the condition and progress of local and regional water quality issues. This was a follow-up to the initial "Save Our Water" Summit held in October 2016.

After opening remarks, the summit began with News-Press photojournalist Andrew West and environmental reporter Chad Gillis

detailing their 9-day, 134-mile canoe trip along regional waterways. "Our water system in reality starts near Orlando and continues all the way south to the Florida Keys," said Gillis, "with everything interconnected, including Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades, so clean and safe water means we all need to work together to balance a multitude of issues and needs."

"We encountered a lot of open pastures and wildlife, including raptors, bald eagles and an amazing variety of animals," added West. "We saw one alligator on the first half of the trip, then a thousand or more, between 12 to 14 feet, on the second half, and that was scary, so it [Cont'd pg.12](#)



Several hundred people pack the 2nd "Save Our Water" Market Watch Summit.

## The Price of Freedom Marauder Crash Families Honor the Ultimate Sacrifice

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

The Memorial Day Holiday Weekend means different things to different people: The unofficial start of summer. The end of school. Neighborhood picnics. For Southwest Florida, a weekend soaker from the 2018 Hurricane Season's first tropical system. To many families, however, it is a time to honor those who served our nation in the military, especially those brave souls who made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure our

freedom, even if that occurred decades before.

A B-26 Marauder left Fort Myers' Page Field on November 16, 1942, shortly after 6 p.m., with its last radio transmission at 6:55, over the Gulf, near Sanibel. When it failed to return, the military initiated search & rescue efforts. Six crewmen lost their lives; the pilot, Lieutenant (Lt.) Donald Vail, and copilot, Lt. Fred Dees, were able to bail out, but ultimately drowned, with their bodies found five days later. Authorities never located the other four: Staff Sergeant [Cont'd pg.6](#)

## A Good Way to Spend A Life Steiger to Retire as Park Manager

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

In the mid-1990s, two significant things happened to Lovers Key State Park (LKSP): the property that the State of Florida acquired for preservation in 1983 merged with the existing Carl E. Johnson County Park to form the 1,616-acre state park, and Bob Steiger became the manager of both that fledgling area and Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park in North Naples. Though Bob's career would take him to other State Parks over the next quarter century, he would

return to Lovers Key as its manager again in December 2016, and now wraps up his 35-year career with a July 31 retirement, with his actual last-day-on-the-job of May 30.

"I have some time built up," explained Bob, "so for the month after May 30, I will still be here. As manager, I live in a house on-site, but will relocate to North Carolina to start my new life with my partner, Shannon, who works in Campus Recreation at Elon University, so I need to move my personal things. I am going to load up one of those big pods, and need to drag my boat as well!" [Cont'd pg.14](#)

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# LETTERS to the EDITOR

## GOOD JOB

Congratulations and Thanks to Mayor Gore, Vice Mayor Shamp, Council Members and Town Manager Roger Hernstadt, for your time, efforts and hard work to come together for a unanimous vote to approve the TPI-FMB Resort.

You were diligent in protecting our codes and zoning regulations and I admire that you always put the FMB residents first as you moved forward to negotiate and compromise on your vote. It was very emotional for everyone concerned.

Thanks to Tom Torgerson and the entire TPI-FMB team for respecting our Council and the FMB residents as we presented our concerns. Thanks for negotiating and compromising and being so willing and open to work together to make it work.

A job well done by all.

Gentleman (and, ladies!), start your engines and let's get this project started!

Bobbi Kemp  
Fort Myers Beach

## COUNCIL-BIASED ARTICLE

I found Gary Mooney's article, last week ("EITA Forum Talks Code Enforcement," Island Sand Paper May 18, 2018), a very lop-sided account of that public hearing on the evening of May 16. His article definitely favored Town Council's new "over-bearing," so called, progressive code enforcement policy, and Anita Cereceda's kumbiya, "Let's all go along to get along" philosophy, so much so, it made me gag when I read it!

I was there that night at this forum, and I don't recall Mr. Mooney ever asking any of we, the angry resident citizens of FMB, our frustrated side of the story!

Mr. Mooney's article would've been much more honest and relevant if he had, instead of his town council biased article, Why? The anger in that Baptist Church hall was palpable! Yes...it was.

J.D. Burdge  
Fort Myers Beach

## REMEMBER WHEN

As being a frequent visitor to the beach i have seen a lot ,and very little, What is the problem with this development? Is it there is to many people who enjoy seeing the large storage lot that used to be seafarers mall? is it they like to see tax dollars roll down the sewer? Or is it that the city council has no idea what they are doing and have no business attempting to run a city? YEP THAT MIGHT BE THE ANSWER. Do all the city members even remember the day when you could get a hotel room at a reasonable price? Or a nice gift for the kids that we leave at home?

Here is my idea. Why not give up on the plastic straw and newspaper box problem and just let the builders put the resorts in and TAX them so you can pay the city staff to clean the beaches, that means JOBS, INCOME and A place for tourists. seems simple enough to me. maybe then someone will get a backbone and find a road crew that can do their job.

Don't get me wrong i still love to come and see my friends, have a cool cocktail and watch the world cruise by. Just look at reality, it takes money to be a destination and you have that ability, or — leave it alone and complain about the small things like shoes on the beach, and stealing sand Just a thought.

Matt Leonard  
Iowa



Sunset with May clouds, taken in front of Sandarac on Fort Myers Beach, May 21, 2018 by John Hall of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.



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### Beach Botany by Jim Rodwell



#### WALTER'S GROUNDCHERRY

Walter's Groundcherry, *Physalis walteri*, is a perennial herb with slender stems that anywhere else but the beach could be two feet high. The plant in the picture is less than six inches in height. *Walteri* is both drought and salt tolerant but it still struggles to survive like many other beach plants. *Walteri* make its home on sand hills and coastal strands where I found the specimen in the picture. A coastal strand is the upper portion of the beach that is usually covered with grasses and trees. Leaves are alternate on the stems. Leaf shape varies from ovate to lanceolate. Margins are entire to slightly toothed. Tiny star-shaped hairs are found under the leaf. A hand lens is needed to see them.

Solitary flowers grow from the leaf axis. The flower is trumpet shaped with five fused greenish yellow petals that hang downwards. Five stamens also hang from the center of the flower. Flower length is 1/2 to 3/4" long. Fruit is a berry that is encased in a lantern like calyx. Blooming occurs year around.

*Walteri* is a member of the Solanaceae (Nightshade) family. There are 10 species in the genus *Physalis* including *walteri* that grow natively in Florida.

## TPI-FMB YES Project Receives Final Council Approval, Cont'd from pg.1

voted to incorporate to control its own destiny. Now is the time to implement that control...this is worse than DiamondHead." She added that the Lani Kai and Pink Shell are already considering large developments based on TPI's project that will effect the entire island. Dave Ennis, also of Primo Drive, said, "TPI has too much density. Your vote today will determine if the Comp Plan will live or die." Most vocal was Conidaris, who complained about parking on the island, "Right now I have a lawsuit against you people that you're allowing illegal parking next door...we don't need anybody else to come in here and help with parking that we have. I own the Lani Kai and I've been here for 40 years...this is the worst I have ever seen it with parking." After Gore reminded him that his comments should focus on TPI-FMB, Conidaris said the project should not have more than 80 rooms as it does not have enough parking. "If you allow him to do what he's doing - you can't allow it - he does not have what he needs - parking...If you do that I know I'll get the whole town and everybody is gonna sue you."

Following Public Comment, Council addressed the 4 TPI-FMB Deviations and 27 Conditions in minutia for over three hours and 45 minutes, including a 45-minute lunch break. They set several stipulations and made minor changes, though none of significance. From his comments, it seemed Council member Dennis Boback would not support the Ordinance, over building heights, room density and setting a potential precedent.



Council Chambers was packed before the TPI-FMB vote. Photo by Gary Mooney.

#### MARATHON MOTION

Finally, Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp made a motion most likely not heard before in the Town's 22-year history, as it took her 39 minutes to read.

"This has been three contentious years, and it is nice we can finally go forward," said Mayor Tracey Gore. "There will be some people who will love this and some who will hate it, but the great thing about Fort Myers Beach is we will all come together because we are a community."

Council member Anita Cereceda, who favored TPI-FMB throughout the process, turned to Boback on her immediate right: "Let me say something to my right-handed partner here! And to anyone and everyone who wants to stand up and say, 'Well,

now I can do this.' There are 19 pages of stipulations, that have been addressed, readdressed, massaged, manipulated, transcribed, rescribed for almost 3 years on this project. There are public benefits that I do not know of another location on this island where you could achieve these same conditions. So in order for someone to stand up and say, 'I can do this, too,' they would have to meet ALL of these criteria and until they can meet ALL of these criteria, I think they should do everyone a good favor of just settling down a bit because this would be extraordinarily difficult to match. Never in the town's 22-year history has something this profound occurred; this comprehensive occurred and I'm proud to be in the room today." Then, in an almost a personal plea, she Cont'd next pg.

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turned to Boback and said, "They can't do it, Dennis!"

## HORSE LEAVING BARN?

"I still think it's too high and too dense...I still think we set a precedent and when we do an affirmative vote, the horse is going to leave the barn," replied Boback. "I hope all that don't come true, but I'm fearful that it will. That said, Tom (Torgerson), I want to thank you and your team. You have done a tremendous job of working with the residents and the Town and the Town staff, so you've done an excellent job on that. Like I've said I've had my issues with this whole thing, however in a sense of unity with my council members, I will bow to their will." As he said that, the audience let out an audible gasp.

Gore stated, "I said this to Tom and will say it again - I respect my Council and there was a consensus reached. I wouldn't have reached this consensus. I think it's too big and too high as well. But there are extraordinary things that nobody else can match, and if they can, God love them - let 'em have it. I am just so thrilled to get past this so this community can heal. The people who really wanted this, now have it. The people who don't like what's happening, I promise you, they're going to be ok, because this island is just so awesome like that. I want to thank everybody."

Council member Bruce Butcher stated his colleagues already said anything he might add, then jokingly thanked Shamp for her 39-minute "verbal skills!" Shamp replied that with TPI-FMB

seemingly settled, "My husband is looking forward to a little more attention from me!" Cereceda joined in on the good humor, adding "He probably won't want you to read anything to him in the near future!"

Turning serious, Shamp said, "I know how difficult this is. This is really monumental for our Town and an exciting time and I look forward to all of us working together. We have a fabulous



Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp, reading her historic 39-minute-long TPI-FMB motion. Photo by Gary Mooney.

community. This is just one of many issues, that we always seem to work out, so let's remember to be, indeed, good neighbors -- everyone at all times and at every opportunity. I feel, as a lover of the Comp Plan and Land Development Code, that we have done what we need to do to identify that this is an extraordinary circumstance and opportunity for our town, that I highly doubt can be replicated. I appreciate Town staff for making sure that we had this buttoned up, you took a lot of heat for it. Thank you, that was your job. And for TPI,

for all of you, for your investment, ongoing investment and future investment in this town, Welcome! We look forward to having you all as new neighbors."

Before the vote, Town Manager Roger Hernstadt thanked council for their understanding of staff's "tremendous effort." He also thanked Bill Spikowski for his help on the project. Addressing council, he said, "I want you to understand

that everything we do, up to the last minute before you cast your vote, is to make sure that you have thoroughly and completely considered all the possible factors that we can anticipate on what might be happening to the town in the future and give you every opportunity to solve any problem we anticipate in advance and we appreciate your understanding in support of our efforts Cont'd pg. 23

## TPI Moves Forward San Carlos Village Planned

By Missy Layfield  
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

Following Town Council's approval of the TPI-FMB downtown project on Monday, May 21, 2018, Tom Torgerson announced that the project would move immediately into Phase II, which includes permitting, design and construction. TPI-FMB officials met early Tuesday morning with DeAngelis Diamond, a national construction firm based in Naples, FL, to begin that process.

Torgerson announced that their proposed schedule includes completing all permitting and beginning construction on the project by early 2019. At that point Phase III would begin, including construction and pre-opening operations that are expected to take two years. If this schedule holds, the as yet unnamed resort would open to the public in early 2021.

The TPI-FMB project is expected to select and announce a marketing affiliation for the resort in the next few months.

News on an affiliated project, introduced during TPI-FMB discussions with Town Council, a residential community to provide housing options for resort employees, was released Tuesday. The purchase of fifteen acres at the corner of Pine Ridge Rd. and San Carlos Blvd, was completed last week. "San Carlos Village" the working title of the project, will be "linked to the TPI-FMB Resort in many ways, enhancing the Resort operations while simultaneously enhancing its immediate surrounding neighborhood," Torgerson explained. A market study is underway.

They reside at attention in long straight lines on fields of grass without a blade out of place,



long forgotten and hidden from sight amongst the Oaks, Hickories and Wildflowers.



weatherworn on lonely hilltops,



Take time to search them out, for they all have stories they wish to share.



DAH duffynk.com

# Marauder Crash Families Honor the Ultimate Sacrifice, Cont'd from pg.1

(SSGT) William Kittiko, Lt. Louis Mikes, SSGT Milton Newton and SSGT Richard Treat.

## BATISTA'S GOLD

In 1991, Fort Myers fishing boat captain Tim Wicburg discovered a crashed airplane, thinking he found a United States Central Intelligence Agency craft long rumored to have gone down in those waters, carrying millions of dollars stolen from Cuba by its former dictator, Fulgencio Batista, who Fidel Castro overthrew on New Year's Eve 1958, hence the legend of "Batista's Gold!" Thinking he would one day be a rich man, Captain Tim kept the location to himself, waiting for the perfect opportunity that would not occur for 17 years.

In May 2008, he felt he finally found the right partners, and teamed with divers from the Fort Myers-based Underwater Historical Explorations (UHE), including UHE cofounder Tom O'Brien, legendary Fort Myers Beach Hall-of-Fame diver Jon Hazelbaker, and retired Air Force crash investigator Major Kevin McGregor, to undertake an extensive crash site excavation. They did not find "Batista's Gold," but something even more important – the radio call tag that identified the missing B-26 from 1942!

## NIGERIAN PRINCES

Mark Casey is the nephew of the late William Kittiko. "UHE cofounders Tom O'Brien and Tracy Miller contacted my Mom, Abigail, in 2008. She was then 84-years-old and still alive, telling her they found the airplane of her long-lost brother. Unfortunately, Mom was



Bill Kittiko stands with a B-26 during World War II. Kittiko, a turret gunner, was one of six crewmen lost when their plane went down in the Gulf of Mexico on November 16, 1942. Photo provided.

quite elderly and tended to believe in Nigerian Princes, so I became concerned when she contacted me about this almost unbelievable story, so I called them to learn what was going on, and we had a pretty intense conversation, but they convinced me they were telling the truth. This was on a Wednesday, with Mom and my sisters in Pennsylvania and I in Arizona, and by that weekend, we were in

Southwest Florida, where UHE took us to the crash site to hold a beautiful memorial service."

While Mark is not sure this gave his Mother complete closure, "it definitely allowed her to close the loop, to understand what happened to her brother, because her Mom, my Grandmother Rose, never really believed her son was gone. She was already a widow, and losing William was devastating.



UHE divers inspect the wreckage of the B 26 Marauder aircraft lost in 1942. Copyright UHE Divers by Valerie Chelley/Paradigm Productions

There was a rumor around the base at that time, that the military found the airplane and everyone was still alive somewhere, but kept this secret for security reasons, and she believed that until the day she died in the 1980s."

## "ONE A DAY IN TAMPA BAY!"

Many B-26 Marauders called the Sunshine State home throughout the 1940s, conducting countless training flights in preparation for service in the Second World War. Marauders were twin-engine planes that flew at nearly 300-miles-per-hour, with slightly over 5,000 produced between 1941 and 1945. Pilots had difficulty, however, landing them at the recommended 150-miles-per-hour, as that was significantly faster than other planes, causing them to try to slow it down, resulting in stalled engines and crashes. This originally earned them the nickname, "The Widow Maker," while coining the Southwest Florida phrase, "One a Day in Tampa Bay!" Following design changes and improved pilot training, the B-26 Marauder ended World War II with the lowest loss rate of any United States Air Force bomber.

"The US was rushing into war, despite being an isolationist nation," explained Mark, "and President Franklin Roosevelt sold it to the American people by saying it would be mostly fought by the Air Force, with few ground troops, so we produced a lot of planes rapidly, with little testing, meaning crews conducted the tests while learning to fly them. The Marauder was incredibly difficult to fly, with serious

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# Marauder Crash Families Honor the Ultimate Sacrifice, Cont'd from pg.1

design flaws, and in this particular case, whatever occurred happened out over the water, in the dark. A subsequent Air Force investigation placed the full blame on Vail."

The UHE team, based on their investigation, came to a different conclusion, especially after they raised one of the propellers in 2008. Their analysis leads them to believe the propeller became a "runaway." This occurs from an engine design flaw that lets it accelerate in a rapid and uncontrolled fashion, forcing the airplane to flip, spin and ultimately crash. They feel that if Vail had proper training, he would have shut off the improperly-operating engine, with the disabled aircraft having enough maneuverability to safely return to Page Field. Despite this theory, the United States Air Force has yet to reopen the official inquiry, with no plans to do so.

"I feel bad for the memories of Vail and Dees," said Mark, "as the Air Force seemed to forget they had families. The government ended up admitting there was a design flaw, and corrected it, with the Marauder being a very effective aircraft, particularly over Europe, but too late for these pilots."

## TEN YEARS AFTER

With the 10th anniversary of the crash site's discovery approaching, UHE contacted Mark, suggesting another memorial to mark the occasion. "I established relationships with many of the other families over the years, so I contacted them. Fred Dees III was all in favor, and we actually discovered Christine Spitz, the grand-niece of Lt. Vail, who lives



On Memorial Day 2016, a ceremony at the Fort Myers Beach VFW, honored the six crewmen who perished in the 1942 crash. One large memorial for the crew, plus six smaller individual memorials were placed near the site of the crash in the Gulf of Mexico afterwards.

Photo by T.M. Jacobs.

in Cape Coral, with no knowledge of this. Members from the other families could not attend, and unfortunately we have never made any connections with the Mikes family, though we continue to research them."

The families gathered from May 11 to 13: "We had a get-together on Friday," Mark related, "then we boated to the crash site for the memorial on Saturday, and on Sunday we dedicated a refurbished exhibit to the mission at the IMAG History & Science Center at 2000 Cranford Avenue, near Downtown Fort Myers. Those three days flew by!" The May 12 memorial included prayers, remembrances and flower wreaths in the water, with divers taking family items to the crash site. On

Sunday, Mark gave a presentation, discussing the deceased crew. For more information on the mission, exploration and exhibit, see [uhexplorations.com](http://uhexplorations.com)

## YOUNG MEN, WITH BRIGHT FUTURES

"These were young men, with bright futures, who left behind grieving families," Mark explained. "Lt. Dees was to take over his family's pharmacy business when through with his service, and SSGT Treat was to do the same for his family. Lt. Vail was a scholarship winner who planned to be an athletic coach. Perhaps Lt. Mikes was the most tragic, as two months earlier, his brother Emil passed

away in another military air crash, with neither body being found. The irony is they were what the military called a 'Replacement Crew.' The US was really ramping up its war effort, so they came to Fort Myers to train as replacement members for other crews already in service. The Air Force put this group together quick, so they did not really know each other well."

Mark could not be more complimentary toward UHE. "They started all this by searching for gold, and came up with a dry hole. It would have been so easy to just walk away, but they got involved completely, and treat our lost relatives with such honor and respect. In our society, where people seem to care so little about one-another, this speaks volume about their character!"

He is happiest for Fred III and Christine, "This was their first memorial. I also think this story reminds the average American about the sacrifices that young men, and now women, make for our nation. War is not a movie or video game, and we fight it with real people, for the good and sometimes not so good of our nation. These six young men gave their lives in an experiment, to prepare their country for action. In our modern world, fewer families have a direct military connection, as we no longer have a draft, so not everyone supports the military the way we used to. For many, Memorial Day is a day off work or time to buy a new car on sale, and they forget that actions like this cost the lives of real people, so I am glad Fred III and Christine participated, to understand that reality, and the price of freedom."

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# National Treasure Mound House Seeks to Join National Register

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

"Thursday, May 24, will be one of the most important days in the long history of the Mound House," said Cultural Resources Director for the Town of Fort Myers Beach and Mound House Director Alison Giesen. "That is when Mound House representatives, including myself, appear before the four-person Florida National Register Review Board, who will consider accepting our application to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)!" Joining her will be Becky Werner, the President of the Friends of the Mound House and Ceel Spuhler, one of its earliest proponents and volunteers.

Giesen believes the Mound House has "a very strong application. We submitted it in February, after learning last November we passed the initial step in the process. The Division of Historical Resources from the Florida Department of State informed us on November 14, 2017, we qualified under three of its four potential criteria. Max Adriel Imberman, the Florida Historic Preservationist, stated the Mound House qualified under these categories: the local level for its contribution to the exploration and settlement of the community of Fort Myers Beach; its status as a locally-significant example of Tudor and Bungalow/Craftsman-style architecture; and the potential of archaeological study of the 2,000-year-old Calusa Indian mound. State approval is huge, as attaining the NRHP is a strenuous, multi-step process."

The NRHP is an official listing from the National Parks Service; U.S. Department of the Interior, of historically-significant sites and properties throughout the country that includes districts, sites, buildings and objects of importance to American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture that reflect the prehistoric occupation and historical

development of our national, state and local communities.

A NRHP listing encourages the preservation of significant historic resources in three ways: by providing official recognition of the historic significance of the property and its historic value in future developmental planning; imposing limited protection from activities involving funding, licensing or assistance by federal agencies that could result in damage or loss of its historic value; and making the property eligible for federal financial incentives for historic preservation.

## A LONG STRANGE TRIP

Over 2,000 years ago, Calusa Indians in small fishing villages dominated Southwest Florida, and were the first inhabitants of our barrier island. The Calusa were fish-gatherers whose lives depended on their rich and diverse habitat, but by the 1750's they vacated the area. In 1898 Robert Gilbert filed his claim to build what is now the Mound House that, over the next century-plus, underwent numerous owners and renovations. The construction of the Shell Mound subdivision partially destroyed the mound and it received further damage in 1958 with the installation of an outdoor swimming pool.

Roughly forty years later, the newly-formed Town of Fort Myers Beach acquired the Mound House in 2000 to save the structure and its 2.77-acre grounds from demolition for prospective villas and condominiums. Today it is a walk through time where the Calusa first set foot all those years ago. Improvements since the Town purchase include the Shell Mound Exhibit where visitors walk inside the Calusa Indian Mound and landscape signage to identify the property's distinctive flora and fauna. As Estero Island's oldest standing structure and restored to its 1921 grandeur, the Mound House opened to the public

on November 14, 2016, as a cultural and environmental learning center. It is a unique historic and archeological attraction that sits atop an ancient Calusa Indian shell mound, directly on Estero Bay, offering a variety of programs for residents, visitors and school groups.

"I find it good karma," smiled Giesen, "that we opened on November 14, 2016, and exactly one year later, on November 14, 2017, learned we passed the first stage for NRHP inclusion!"

## PRESERVATION IS PROGRESS

One thing Giesen will highlight in her testimony is how the Town took such a chance on preserving the Mound House, "as it only incorporated five years before, with limited financial resources to undertake such a monumental purchase. When you think of it that way, it is an amazing achievement, and speaks well of the Town's leadership, then and now. One I will mention for sure is the late Ted FitzSimons, who spearheaded the original effort under the phrase, 'Preservation is Progress!' That should be the mantra for every organization like ours!"

Giesen calls the NRHP inclusion "essential to secure official significance for the Mound House, while making it eligible for financial preservation programs from the federal government, to ensure our long-term existence. This is, quite simply, the

highest possible historic designation. We have Letters of Support from the Town, Lee County Review Board and Bill Marquardt, Director of the Randall Research Center and Florida Museum of Natural History for The University of Florida, as well as Paul Palmer, a noted architect who worked on Mound House renovations, and the Lee Trust for Historical Preservation. Of special note are Bill and Susan Grace, not only for their Lee Trust assistance, but because Bill is the great-grandson of William and Milia Case, the Mound House owners from 1906, so in a way we are preserving their family story."

Mound House admission is \$10 for ages 13 & up, \$8 for students with IDs, \$5 ages 6 to 12, and 5 & under free, with Town residents receiving a 50% discount. It is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Mound House is at 451 Connecticut Street, with additional parking at 216 Connecticut; for information call 239-765-0865 or see [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org).

The Mound House contingent will immediately learn at the conclusion of the Florida National Register Review Board whether its application moves forward to the Federal Level; if it does, "we should know the final outcome by the end of July," Giesen explained. "Attaining it would be such an honor and tribute to our site, staff, volunteers and to the Town, for its vision that was far ahead of its time, so a big 'Thanks' to everybody who has helped us get to this point, and stay tuned!"

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# Editorial

## HONOR THIS MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day, Decoration Day, red poppies, grave flags, taps, mattress sales, shoe sales, car sales.

Wait, those last three don't belong, do they? Memorial Day is observed on Monday, May 28. The traditional date before Congress opted in 1971 to convert it into a three-day weekend for federal employees, was May 30. That conversion over 45 years ago is still a sore spot for some veterans' organizations as they feel the switch to a three-day weekend took away from the spirit and meaning of the day. And they have a valid point.

Memorial Day was set aside as a day of remembrance for those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in our nation's service. Some communities, not as many as there once were, hold services or mark military graves with small flags. Our community's three veteran organizations will each hold a Memorial Service at 11am on Monday, May 28th and invite everyone in the community to join them.

Since the late 1950's, 1200 soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry blanket Arlington National Cemetery to place flags at over 228,000 headstones in Arlington. The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of St. Louis began placing flags on the 150,000 graves at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in 1951 and continue to do so today. Volunteers and scouts near Fredericksburg National Cemetery place luminaries at over 15,000 graves while taps is played.

These touching exhibitions of respect and honor are often lost in the holiday frenzy as Americans rush into the traditional first weekend of summer - the three-day Memorial Day weekend. The airwaves are full of Memorial Day sales. Need shoes, a refrigerator or how about a new car? We've got you covered with a Memorial Day sale.

Not to say that we should all spend the entire weekend at a local cemetery. Our military dead gave their lives to preserve our American way of life and summer weekends with friends and family are surely a part of that.

While you're enjoying that BBQ or that cold one or the lazy day with the kids at the beach however, take a moment to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Participate in the "National Moment of Remembrance" at 3pm Monday. Take a moment to remember those in your family who died in military service, or those from your hometown, or those who have no one to remember them. We all owe each of them a debt of gratitude.

The numbers who have died in our country's service are staggering, well over a million and worth noting as we ponder Memorial Day and the meaningful remembrance of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for every American. Records are sparse and conflicting for pre-20th century wars. But the major wars (is there such a thing as a minor one?) alone account for thousands on thousands of lives lost.

World War I, the "War to End All Wars," claimed 116,000 in just 2 years 1917-18.

World War II -- 405,000 dead, 1941-46.

Korean War -- 36,000 dead, 1950-53.

Vietnam -- 58,000 dead, 1964-1973.

Iraq -- 4497 dead, 2003-2011.

Afghanistan -- 2,271 dead, 2001-present.

These numbers can be numbing and our national attention span is short.

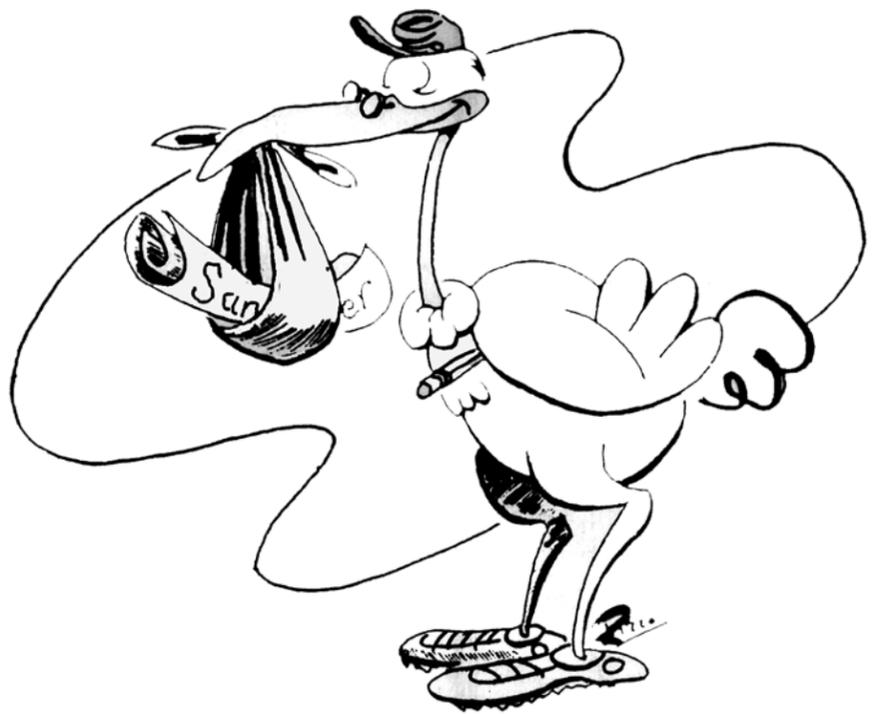
Memorial Day often conjures up visions of elderly World War II vets saluting the flag in a cemetery memorial service. And we often associate our war dead with those lost in long past battles: Battle of the Bulge, Brittany, An Lao or Saigon.

I wonder if this is not one of the reasons that we feel so removed from the true remembrance of Memorial Day. So few of us have a personal connection.

Every life sacrificed in service to our country is precious, but perhaps it's time we focus on more recent battles that have claimed American lives: Fallujah, Nasiriyah, Kabul, Syria or Kandahar. It might help connect the American public with the fact that, after 16 years of conflict, we remain at war in Afghanistan and those flag-draped metal caskets still arrive at Dover Air Force Base, though thankfully not as often as they once did. And that there are over 700 American military bases in more than 70 countries overseas, staffed by American service members, ready to defend our country at a moment's notice.

This Memorial Day weekend, remember those who gave all for their country.

**Missy Layfield**  
Editor



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*When a thing ceases to be a subject of controversy, it ceases to be a subject of interest. William Hazlitt*



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*There can be no happiness if the things we believe in are different from the things we do. Freya Madeline Stark*



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



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*He will always be a slave who does not know how to live upon a little. Horace*



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*If you don't make mistakes, you're not working on hard enough problems. And that's a big mistake. Frank Wilczek*



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*Honest differences are often a healthy sign of progress. Mahatma Gandhi*



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*Life is like an ever-shifting kaleidoscope - a slight change, and all patterns alter. Sharon Salzberg*

## The Island Sand Paper

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## A Youthful Outlook

# FMB Chamber Utilizes College Interns

By Gary Mooney  
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

Chances are, if you recently received an email from, made a call to or stopped by the Greater Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce, the young lady who assisted you is studying Resort & Hospitality Management! Four different college interns have served the Chamber over the past few months, interacting with members and visitors while gaining valuable experience.

Three of the ladies attend Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU): Christi Comrie of West Palm Beach, who graduates in December; Danielle Egeland of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, who will enter her senior year; and Anna Prodoehl of Cecil County, Maryland, a junior. Lexie McClure of Tecumseh, Michigan, traveled from Central Michigan University, where she is a senior. Danielle wrapped up her internship May 15, Christi finished hers at the end of May, while Anna and Lexie are just beginning.

They learned about the Chamber opportunity in various ways. "I cold-called – a lot," laughed Lexie! "Probably 18 times, as Jacki Lyszak, the Chamber's Executive Director, is a busy person. When we finally spoke, I explained I wanted a different experience than I could get in Michigan, she explained what the Chamber offered, and I said I would be down in two weeks!" Danielle heard about it from Jennifer McGurk, the FGCU Internship Coordinator, "so I reached out to Jacki and she interviewed me. At that time, Anna was to begin her internship, but suffered a foot injury that required surgery, so we switched places."

"I actually volunteered for the National Sand Sculpting Championship last November," recalled Christi, "and worked closely with Jacki. I told her about school and she offered me the internship on the spot, beginning last December!" Anna found out about it at the Resort & Hospitality Management Job Fair last Fall, "where I spoke to Jacki. I immediately fell in love with her enthusiasm and was thrilled

when she offered me an internship. I began on May 7, then attended the Chamber luncheon on May 10, to hear the Town's original Mayor, Anita Cereceda, discuss the founding of Fort Myers Beach."

### IGNORANCE IS BLISS!

One thing the interns have in common was they did not know a great deal about Fort Myers Beach, and even less about its Chamber! "Every Summer, my family visited Sanibel," said Christi, "and in high school, I would sneak away to Fort Myers Beach! That said, I knew almost nothing about the Chamber. I never worked at one before, so it was sink-or-swim for a while, and hope you make it." "I did not know much either," agreed Danielle. "Being at FGCU, I come to the beach, but being a student, I don't have enough spending money to go to the nice restaurants, so it was a real crash course. I asked a lot of questions, and Christi helped a lot, as she was already here. I did not get much training, because Anna was to have the spot until her injury,

so the previous interns were unable to pass the torch to me, as usually happens."

"I do not know much," Anna also admitted. "That, though, is what makes it so special! Danielle told me how we network with and connect to the membership, and how that benefits the entire beach community, and that we are a key focal point so, to me, that sounds just like the spectacular opportunity I hope to experience, so I am super excited." Being from Michigan, Lexie knew even less than the others: "I didn't even know this was an island, or that Fort Myers Beach wasn't Fort Myers," she laughed! "Jacki told me a little about the Chamber in our calls, but other than that, I am coming in blind!"

With six months of experience now behind them, it is different for Danielle and Christi. "Networking! Networking! Networking!" emphasized Danielle! "Learning about beach businesses and all they offer, and developing the tools to find that. When a visitor comes through that door, they never leave unhappy, as they are here to experience the best vacation of their life, so when you provide them with that fun information, that is a great feeling. Personally, how to act like a business leader and present myself in a professional manner, as Jacki stresses this is extremely important. This is such a small island, and everyone is so friendly and looks after you and helps you. I also learned a valuable lesson in small town politics, especially concerning the potential TPI-FMB Downtown project."

"I know a lot," agreed Christi. "I've made personal relationships with island business owners and Chamber Board members, and know all the people Jacki name-drops. I can answer most visitor questions and even how to acquire Town permits, as fun as that is!"

### WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

As for their career aspirations, Christi said, "After I graduate in December, I would like a position with a convention or similar company." "In about five years, I want my own company in partnership with a friend, including our own venue, to host a variety of events. I am really good at making personal and professional connections, and hope to utilize that to my best benefit." "I want to get into the event industry and own my own company as well," agreed Danielle. "I am not sure yet in what exact aspect, but would like to also be a serial entrepreneur, to have a side gig, as those go hand-in-hand. And I love to travel, to see where life takes me."

"I am honestly not exactly sure," countered Lexie. "Event planning is a broad category, so I am considering convention centers and sports arenas and large chain resorts, because you never know when a door opens at the last minute, like it did for me three weeks ago with the Chamber opportunity." "While I know Resort & Hospitality Management is my future, I don't yet know where I belong," admitted Anna. "That is the point of experiencing internships – to determine your exact niche, as the more positive experiences you have, the more you grow, develop, and change, to discover what eventually clicks for me."

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# VIEWPOINTS

## SLEAZE NEVER CHANGES

By Bob Franken

A couple of generations ago, there was a story about a well-connected Washington figure who encountered a corporate type who was having trouble with government regulatory officials.

"Oh," said the insider. "I can help you with that." Quickly, the bad situation went away. The delighted executive insisted that he be charged for the favor, and very soon thereafter, received a bill for \$10,000 (remember, this was way back when).

The businessman was taken aback: "That's outrageous," he complained. "I need you to itemize the fees." It wasn't long before he received another voucher:

"Phone call: 10 cents.

Knowing who to call: \$9,999.90."

Other than inflation, the swamp never changes. Those who lucked out by attaching themselves to Donald Trump have proven, now that he's in power, that they're just the latest gang that couldn't drain straight. How else to explain the millions of dollars that major companies, already employing tons of lobbyists, tossed at the likes of Corey Lewandowski and particularly at Michael Cohen? Neither of them has any policy chops whatsoever.

Lewandowski latched on to the Trump whale early on. Never mind that he had been tossed aside in one of The Donald's nonstop purges. He knew the players like few did, and now it was time to be paid. So he set up shop, and the money came rolling in.

Michael Cohen's entire claim to fame was that he was The Donald's "fixer," the one who cleaned up the mess after the Trumpster indulged one of his appetites. Suddenly he, too, was taking on new clients and raking in the bucks as a "consultant," feeding on the same marsh scum that Trump had promised to eliminate.

Then Stormy Daniels, porn star, suddenly spotted her own opportunity to make a quick buck, angling to tell the story about the one-nighter she'd once had with Trump. The problem was that Cohen -- acting, as it turns out, on Trump's behalf -- had paid her \$130,000 not to in 2016. That escapade, and others, led to federal agents raiding various Cohen properties and seizing tons of documents.

Suddenly, Cohen had become a pariah, a huge embarrassment to those who had thrown money his way. The heads of AT&T and Novartis both hastily put out statements admitting that their companies had made a "big mistake" by retaining him.

Need I tell you that the "big mistake" was getting caught? Or that there already is a massive, lucrative business known as "lobbying," populated largely by those who have held public jobs or somehow accumulated a network of contacts among those who operate the government? That's not just the case in Washington, but at the state and local level, too. Wherever there's a jurisdiction, there will be lobbyists. One can argue that the entire United States is a swamp.

Every once in a while, something or someone particularly smarmy gets outed. Those who are splattered quickly get as far away as possible and clean off. Then it blows over, and everyone goes back to the same old unprincipled way of doing business. "It's not what you know, but who you know" may be a cliché, but it always has been and always will be true.

*Bob Franken is an Emmy Award-winning reporter who covered Washington for more than 20 years with CNN. (c) 2018 Bob Franken Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.*

## DONALD TRUMP'S JERUSALEM TRIUMPH

By Rich Lowry

In the second century A.D., Jewish rebels who had stunned the Romans and liberated a portion of Judea overstruck imperial coins with images and a message of their own, "Year One of the Redemption of Jerusalem."

The leader of the Jewish rebellion, Bar Kokhba, was fired by a vision of a united Israel with Jerusalem as its capital, which had been the exception during the prior millennium, thanks to the depredations of the Assyrians and Babylonians, among others. But such was the power of the national idea -- and his messianic zeal -- that Bar Kokhba ventured all on regaining it.

And lost. Not for nearly another 2,000 years would the vision come to fruition. At a ceremony in 1982 burying bones of some of those long-ago rebels with military honors, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin declared: "Israel and Judea are reborn. We have redeemed Jerusalem."

King David conquered the city in 1000 B.C. and made it the capital of the kingdom of Israel. His son Solomon built the First Temple. But Jerusalem would repeatedly be captured and the Temple destroyed (first by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar and then by the Roman Emperor Titus).

The Jewish people never forgot. In one of the miracles of our age, after long centuries of exile punctuated by genocide at the hands of the Nazis, they re-established Israel in 1948, and then gained control of all of Jerusalem in 1967 (prior to that, when Jordan held East Jerusalem, Jews couldn't visit the Western Wall).

The notion that the City of David isn't the capital of Israel was an impolite fiction, honored by the U.S. and the West for fear of provoking Arabs hostile to the very idea of the Jewish state. Its prime minister, parliament and highest court are based there, and it's unimaginable that Israel would ever agree to any peace deal that didn't recognize it as the capital.

The tired, conventional arguments against it haven't held up well in the wake of President Donald Trump's decision to move our embassy. The Arab street hasn't exploded. The West Bank has been relatively quiet. Arab capitals haven't erupted in outrage. The flashpoint has been in Gaza, the terror statelet ruled by Hamas. Israel pulled out of Gaza more than a decade ago and has been rewarded with constant attacks emanating from a territory where the infrastructure of mayhem and destruction -- rockets, tunnels and the like -- is the only growth industry.

Hamas has goaded rioters to storm the Israeli border, defended by Israeli soldiers who fire on them if necessary to protect local communities (more than 50 were killed on a recent Monday). This isn't "the caravan" that arrived at the U.S. border with peaceful migrants seeking asylum, but a violent provocation that is a function of Hamas' commitment to Israel's destruction.

For now, that poisonous ambition looks more fantastical than ever. Trump's move is an acknowledgment of reality. It is also a symbolic statement of permanence, that Menachem Begin was correct when he said at the ceremony for the Bar Kokhba rebels 36 years ago, "Glorious fathers, we are back and we will not budge from here."

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

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# Save Our Water

## 2nd Summit Examines Water Issues & Projects, Cont'd from pg.1

was pretty amazing to witness that!" Gilles found it surprising that they encountered so many people along the route, "and they were happy to see us, as there are not a lot of newspapers in these areas, and they thought it was great that a large newspaper was concerned about water quality. Bass fishing is a way of life to many of these folks, as it seemed like everyone was pulling or driving a boat."

### FUTURE IS NOW

Phil Flood, the regional representative of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), and Lieutenant Colonel Jennifer Reynolds, the Deputy District Commander of the South Florida U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, spoke during a segment titled, "Since We Last Met: Water Project Updates."

"The SFWMD serves 8.1 million residents that covers over 18,000 square miles in 16 counties," stated Flood, "to provide flood prevention measures and water quality projects to ensure an adequate water supply, while interconnecting natural systems. We do this through a variety of methods, such as canal and floodplain restoration projects, estuary protection deep wells, Herbert Hoover Dike rehabilitation, 10,500 acres of Everglades Agricultural Area storage reservoirs, and similar strategies. The C-43 Reservoir, just outside LaBelle, will improve the estuary during rainy season, to limit water releases down the Caloosahatchee River, then release water during



Steve McQuillen (L) asks Andrew West and Chad Gillis about their 134-mile canoe trip. Photos by Gary Mooney.

dry season to retain its salinity. This project is massive, going 6 miles east-to-west, and 3 miles north-to-south, with construction to be complete in 2022. Another important component is the Lake Okeechobee Restoration Planning Project that will capture water for storage before it ever reaches the lake."

"The Trump Administration made a huge commitment to the U.S. Corps for the Everglades," reported Lt. Col. Reynolds. "The future is now, with a lot of these projects that have been on the drawing board for 20 years now becoming a reality. What hasn't

changed is we still need a flood control system in Central and South Florida, to help us to live here, allow our economy to flourish and our ecosystem to thrive. This is an even greater concern than during the planning of these projects over 2 decades ago, because we estimated the area population to grow to between 2 to 3 million people, and now we are already over 8 million, with no slowdown in sight so flood control is essential and we must accomplish that with the cooperation of our many local partners. Our track record proves that these completed projects work; we just need more of them!"

She listed several important components, such as more Tamiami Trail bridges to allow water to flow naturally underneath them to the Everglades National Park; as well as the massive C-43 and C-44 reservoirs to control basin runoff, to store and release water at the right times to move water from Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir, to Florida Bay and Everglades National Park and Big Cypress Preserve. "SFWMD does a fantastic job in working with us to coordinate federal, state and local projects, to be more successful and make the system function properly. This is not easy, because if it were, we would already be done."

### ONE VOICE

Eric Eikenberg, the Chief Executive Officer of The Everglades Foundation, said, "We took the science to the decision-makers at Washington, DC and Tallahassee, explaining what needs to occur, and we now see these leaders coming on-board, turning policies into projects, and that is great. It was a long haul but just two years ago, when we had the first Summit, we were coming off the states of emergencies from the Lake Okeechobee releases, that affected anglers and boaters and manufacturers and realtors and businesses, and said to our government leaders, 'enough is enough!' We have had so many groundbreaking, and now is the time for ribbon-cuttings, and we are getting really close to hosting those!"

Eikenberg Cont'd next pg.

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## Save Our Water Water Issues & Projects, Cont'd from pg.12

said Florida Senate President Joe Negrón led the charge to create a storage reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee that began over 17 years ago, steering the passage of legislation signed by Governor Rick Scott. "Not only did those horrific algae blooms leave their mark on Tallahassee, but on DC as well. Now many national legislators know that our Everglades are really America's Everglades, and they are increasing federal funding to various projects, so that message come through loud and clear. The real key is that local groups speak with one voice, to deliver clean and safe drinking water to all our citizens, to solve this problem now!"

Marisa Carozzo, Senior Environmental Policy Specialist for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida discussed the "Estuaries Report Card." "What we learn about water quality and wildlife habitat teaches us how we can tackle the challenges facing our estuaries and associated watersheds, from coastal Venice down to the Ten Thousand Islands, as this is critical to our recreational and local economies. We look at the entire estuary watershed, as what happens upstream is just as important as the downstream areas, to maintain a healthy environment for our Southwest Florida tourism and economy. We translate this into grades for Wildlife Habitat and Water Quality. For the Caloosahatchee River, unfortunately, both are a D-; for the Estero Bay, it is good and bad news: Wildlife Habitat is a B-, but Water Quality a D."

### BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Dr. Greg Tolley, Florida Gulf Coast University Professor of Marine Science, presented "Water Security." "Water is essential to our lives, economy, tourism, fishing and agriculture, making water secure is the issue of our time. A healthy ecosystem produces natural beauty, a fine quality of life, recreation, a functioning ecosystem, water purification and habitat, so a resilient ecosystem is extremely important. But water-related hazards like climate change, rising water and more and stronger hurricanes chip away at our 421 miles of coastal zones, and due to our system interconnectivity, when one thing goes wrong, it sends tremors throughout the entire system, impacting human health, economic growth and social development. Rising sea levels already impact many South Florida areas, putting billions of dollars of property at risk as early as 2050. All water is valuable, so we must conserve and recycle it, meaning we need to take advantage of the newest technologies to harvest more, to avoid the consequences that plagued us in the past."

Jim Beaver, Principal Planner for the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, offered "What YOU Can Do." "Each of us individually can do four things to address Southwest Florida water quality issues: 'Avoidance, Minimize, Mitigation & Adaption. Avoidance is source reduction, fertilizer ordinance compliance, retaining native landscapes and not filling in wetlands. Minimize is the water we use in our homes, like for irrigation. Mitigate means the restoration, recharging and retention of native habitat through

things like conservation easements and Adaption is not fighting against Florida's native landscaping, but using it. If you long for a Midwest yard, go north to visit one, but live in Florida! Public participation should not be forced upon you from the top down but built from the bottom up!"

Mitch Hutchcraft, the former SFWMD Governing Board Member, cautioned, "We still have a long way to go. We must identify our priority projects and see them through to completion. For me, the C-43 Reservoir is a major necessity, to get water down the Caloosahatchee River when it is dry, and store it during peak season, to address water quality treatments and challenges. Our water network is a big complicated system, and we must make all these components fit together into a complete solution, as there is no easy fix. We have to attack the problem from a variety of different (angles), as one, to find the answer, including taking a personal responsibility in everything we do, as we all have to be a part of the solution."

## Memorial Day Observances

Begun as Decoration Day following the Civil War, as a day to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers, Union and Confederate holiday traditions were later merged to become Memorial Day in the 20th century. Celebrated on May 30th for years, the celebration of Memorial Day was moved to the last Monday in May in 1971.

Set aside as a day to honor the men and women who died while serving our country, Memorial Day is marked by solemn ceremonies, flag raisings and laying flowers on veteran gravesites. Locally, our community has three active veteran organizations, each of which will be holding a Memorial Day ceremony at 11am Monday, May 28th. The public is welcome to attend all of them.

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16701 San Carlos Blvd, Fort Myers. 239-466-3177

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, Post 10097,**  
17770 Pine Ridge, Fort Myers Beach. 239-466-6400

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# A Good Way to Spend A Life Steiger to Retire as Park Manager, Cont'd from pg.1

Don't expect a rocking chair in Bob's future, however! "I was an Art Major in college and look forward to getting back into that, and already checked into volunteering at the local County park. I am a lifelong Floridian, so I want to explore North Carolina, as we will live between the mountains and the Outer Banks, with the state full of small towns and local festivals. Roy Underhill from PBS runs a small nearby school, so I would like to take woodworking classes, as there are a lot of crafts in the area, like glassmaking and pottery, and those appeal to my creative side. Plus we want to visit our kids and grandkids, get back to gardening, and of course there is always fishing, as I love fishing! All these require time, and now I will have that."

## 50 CENTS-A-PERSON

In addition to Lovers Key and Delnor-Wiggins, Bob spent significant time at Honeymoon Island, Tomoka, Anastasia and Paynes Creek Historic State Parks, building an impressive list of accomplishments. "I helped get Honeymoon Island up-&-running. Before we built the Ranger Station, there was no entrance fee, with over a million in attendance. We started charging 50-cents-a-person, and the next year that fell in half, with people so mad they swore they would never return! Those numbers rebounded over the years, and now it is Florida's most visited State Park

with about 1.5 million people per year. At Tomoka, we implemented the first cash register in the State Parks!"

While at Anastasia, Bob helped add the Fort Mose property that was the first legally sanctioned African settlement in the United States. "At Paynes Creek, we built the first ADA-accessible trail in the system, with braille booklets and cassette players for those with hearing issues. We brought Delnor-Wiggins up to accessibility standards, including restrooms, boardwalk and picnic pads. One of the first things I did was to break the beach into designated swimming, fishing and boating sectors, to keep swimmers safe from vessels."

Then there is Lovers Key! "This was mostly undeveloped when I first arrived," Bob recalled, "and I was part of the team that negotiated with Lee County to merge it with their Carl E. Johnson County Park." Lovers Key, Black Island, and Inner and Long Keys compose the park that includes shelters, swimming, picnicking, boating, sunbathing, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, bicycling and wildlife viewing for manatees, dolphins and over 40 bird species.

Today, Lovers Key ranges between the 2nd to 4th most-visited State Park, with roughly 1.2-million visitors, and that presents its own challenge. "It is a delicate balance," Bob said, "as that much visitation can literally love a park to death." It is open daily from 8 a.m. to sundown,

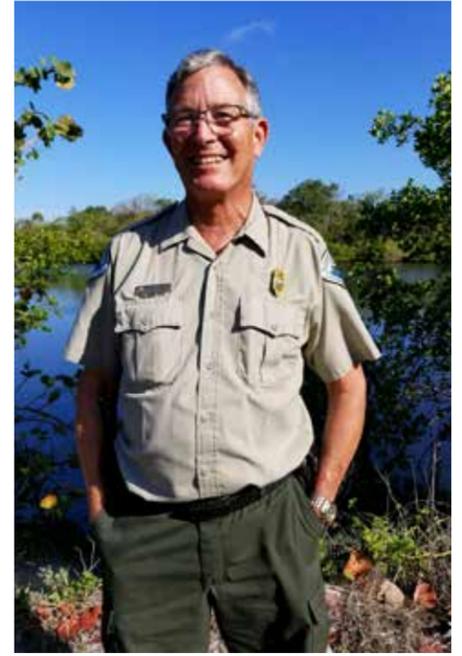
with \$8-per-car admission for 2 to 8 people, \$4 for single occupant vehicles or motorcycles, and \$2 for pedestrians and bicyclists. It is at 8700 Estero Boulevard, just south of Fort Myers Beach; for information call 239-463-4588 or see [www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org).

"While we accomplished a lot here, its future most excites me," exclaimed Bob. "The new Welcome & Discovery Center that breaks ground this year will be fabulous when complete, and a real plus, not only for the park, but Fort Myers Beach, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers, as it will be a wonderful tourist attraction. We hope for a Fall 2019 ribbon-cutting, and I certainly plan to return for that!"

## THE BEST IMPACT

While proud of his construction accomplishments, what makes Bob happiest is, "I hired good people over the years and it is a tremendous satisfaction to see them succeed in their own right and move forward with the Park System. I had opportunities over the years to move into other areas, but determined long ago I could make the best impact by remaining in the park manager role, to get others started, and to see them move up, so they will implement good things for our visitors. So many are more like family than co-workers, and such good people."

As for what he foresees for Lovers Key, Bob hopes people



Bob Steiger, near the water at Lovers Key State Park. Photo by Gary Mooney.

appreciate the importance of barrier islands. "There are not a lot of undeveloped ones left, and they are crucial natural storm buffers, as we learned from Hurricane Irma. Weather patterns are changing and climate change is real, so maintaining barrier islands is their wisest use, from my personal point-of-view. They are estuary nurseries, the future for sea life and we can never replace them. We are already losing shorebirds because they lack suitable places to nest and rest, as people on the beach push them out, and if they go away, we all lose something special."

As Bob reflected on his career, tears welled up: "I raised my two kids in the State Parks, and no one had a better backyard; this has been a good way to spend my life!"

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# RPD Applicant Hears 'No' from LPA Hopes for a 'Yes' from Council

By Missy Layfield  
editor@fortmyersbeach.news



In an unusual second meeting during May, the Local Planning Agency met with just five members (Chair Hank Zuba and Jane Plummer were absent) this week to hold two hearings.

In the first hearing, the Dullard Residential Planned Development (RPD) at 764/768 Estero Blvd., Agent Charles Capps told the LPA that his clients, Robert and Dana Dullard, had considered the LPA's previous suggestions, consulted with town staff and decided that they just wanted to "ask for closure," so they can take their request to Town Council.

The RPD request first appeared in front of the LPA on April 17, 2018 asking for rezoning to an RPD to allow redevelopment of a lot that currently holds a single family residence and two duplex buildings with an estimated total square feet of 3,570, into a single family residence and a 3-unit building, with an estimated 9,520 sq. ft. with 6 deviations. Robert Dullard told the LPA that they have been working on the project for over two years and sought assistance from town staff, who suggested he utilize pre-disaster buildback provisions. The staff report, prepared by Jason Green, recommended approval with conditions.

Dan Hughes and Jane Plummer both told Green and the applicant at the April 17 hearing that the Comprehensive Plan does not allow an increase in square

footage in residential pre-disaster buildback. Dullard and Capps emphasized that their plan reduced density by going from the current 5 units to 4 units and preserved the neighbors' view corridors.

On April 17, the LPA told them that their choice was to apply pre-disaster buildback with the original square feet or go to new development, which would allow only two units on the property. The LPA continued the hearing to allow changes to be made.

At the May 8 meeting, the suggested changes had not been made and the Dullard's received the same response despite Green providing a 2011 RPD that he suggested was a precedent. Green also asked the LPA if they'd approve a deviation in pre-disaster buildback, but LPA members said that the Comp Plan tied their hands and they could not approve an RPD based on pre-disaster buildback that had a large increase in size. The hearing was continued a second time to allow changes to be made to the plan.

No changes were made and at this week's continued hearing Capps asked for a vote so they could take their request

to Town Council saying that the applicant "respectfully disagrees" with the LPA on the interpretation of the Comp Plan and LDC. He got a 5-0 vote rejecting the RPD request based on inconsistency with the Comp Plan.

## NEIGHBORHOOD FLOODING

The second hearing was for an ordinance change regarding neighborhood flooding. Vice Chair Dan Hendrickson introduced the hearing. "The purpose of the original change was that we were trying to prevent flooding of neighbors by neighbors."

The ordinance amending the Land Development Code Chapter 6, Article 1, Section 6-14 requires stormwater management systems for existing lots if any fill or impervious material is added. It also specified that no more than 67% of the lot area in a residential zoning district could be covered with impervious surfaces. The addition of impervious surfaces, such as a pool deck or patio, requires an engineering study to indicate how the lot would hold 1 inch of rainfall for an interior lot or 1.6 inches for a waterfront lot.

That requirement has led to multiple pool installation plans being held up as costs for engineering and drainage studies became prohibitive. "People are trying to build pools and pool companies are not wanting to build on Fort Myers Beach or are raising the price of pools as a result of this ordinance,"

said Scott Safford.

Jason Green added, "This was part of the glitches that we wanted to talk about in August or September, but it needs attention now."

Town Manager Roger Hernstadt explained, "It's important to recognize that there is not a perfect fit for every situation. Based on the cases coming across our desks, we have a problem, inadvertently created – unintended consequences."

Town Council held their first reading of this ordinance June 6, 2017. The LPA held their hearing on June 13, approving it 6-1. Council then held a Public Hearing on August 21, 2017, approving it 5-0. At that time Hernstadt and then Director of Community Development Kara Stewart presented the ordinance as a solution to flooding related to new construction and modeled the ordinance after Marco Island and Marathon's codes.

This week Green and Hernstadt both indicated that staff might bring back additional changes as they work with the ordinance, but the town needs a fix on this issue now. Green asked for a firm line that staff could use to evaluate plans.

The solution proposed was the addition of "when more than 500 square feet of impervious surface is proposed," to the drainage plan requirement. The LPA approved the change 5-0.

The next LPA meeting is scheduled for June 12 at 9am at Town Hall.

## Library Plans Christmas in July

It's going to be Christmas in July at the Fort Myers Beach Library on July 25 & 26 this year! At their May 22, 2018 meeting, Library Director Dr. Leroy Hommerding told the board that staff is working on plans for the new event that will involve other community organizations, some of which are encouraging their members to put up Christmas lights that week to get in the spirit. The library will have special holiday programming, holiday puzzles and holiday treats. Hommerding said he hopes to continue gathering ideas during May and begin finalizing plans in June. Any community group that would like to work with the library is invited to contact him at the library.

Anyone who has visited the library in windy weather knows that getting into the library in those conditions might require a detour through the parking garage. Wind often causes the front entry doors to blow open and stay open, allowing wind, rain and debris to blow into the foyer. The board discussed

plans for an entry canopy at their May meeting and Dr. Hommerding showed sketches of a proposed canopy with retractable sides that would shield the existing power entry doors from wind in most circumstances. "The roll-down side shutters would allow us to continue using the front doors in windy conditions." A planned Tesla solar tile roof for the canopy was scrapped for now, as the tiles are not available. Board members suggested not using solar panels on the canopy, as they would not match the roof or the aesthetics of the building. Hommerding said he would take their requests back to the architect for suggestions.

During the Director's Report, Hommerding reported that April saw a 7% increase in those using the library and items checked out compared to April 2017. A survey offered during material check out September 2017 – April 2018 revealed that library patrons would like to see more fiction, mystery and biography titles. The survey also



The Board of Directors of the Fort Myers Beach Library. From left: Ed Scott, Rick Sebastian, President Sallie Seabury, Treasurer Miffie Greer, George Ballantyne, Debbie Whitehead and Secretary Mark LaFave.

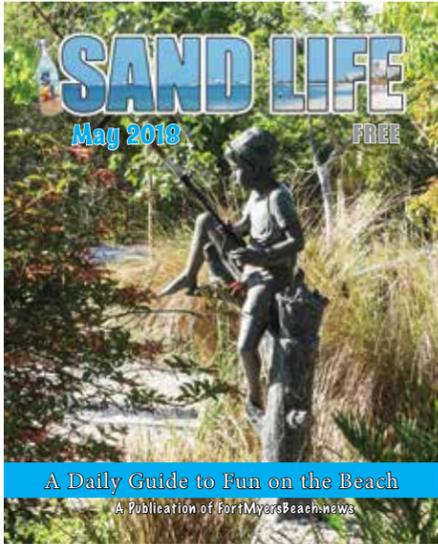
showed that classes on computers, history and travel were in demand.

Board President Sallie Seabury gave each member of the Library Board a Library Director evaluation packet and asked that

they return them to her prior to the June 26 meeting. "It's our job to do this. We will review them at our next meeting."

# FortMyersBeach.news

# AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND



Lani Kai Resort are teaming up to help the Lopez/Ramos family, after their family suffered a fatal car accident. Funds raised will go toward funeral expenses and medical bills. Funds will be raised through a dual 50/50 raffle held Thursday-Sunday at both locations. Winners announced at the Lani Kai Beach Stage at 4:30pm Sunday. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and can be purchased at the Lani Kai (front desk, Island View or during the A200 show in Club Ohana FR and SA nights) or at the Salty Crab. Contributions can also be made at GoFundMe.com/5jglmb

### SWIM LESSONS

Summer is swim lesson time. The Beach pool offers lessons for just \$20 thanks to the support of the Beach Kiwanis Club's "Every Child a Swimmer" program. All classes are 30-minutes for 8 sessions. The next Sunday lessons will be held June 3- July 22. Start times 11am-12noon. The next weekday lessons, Monday - Thursday, will be June 4-14. Start times 8:15am-9:15am. For more information and class times call the pool 239-463-5759.

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!

### MEMORIAL DAY FUNDRAISER

The Salty Crab Bar & Grill and the

### WOMANS CLUB

The FMB Woman's Club will hold their monthly meeting on June 6 at 6:30pm at 175 Sterling, FMB. All are welcome. The Woman's Club is also sponsoring a meeting of Island Not For Profit Presidents on June 6 at 10 am at the Woman's Club. They hope to launch a community calendar and discuss opportunities to work together and support the community.

### MOUND HOUSE

The historic Mound House needs immediate volunteers to serve as Museum Store Assistants, who help guests with tickets, memberships and Museum Store products, with on-site training by staff and volunteers. The Mound House, at 451 Connecticut Street, is open TU, WE & SA from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call Dexter Norris, Mound House Environmental Coordinator, at 239-765-0865.

### NATIONAL SEASHELL DAY

Mark your calendar now for the morning of June 21! Be a part of an attempt to break a Guinness World Record for the largest human image of a seashell. The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau is hosting this attempt at the Outrigger Resort on FMB and asking volunteers to sign up now at bit.ly/SeashellFMB. Check in is from 6:30-8:30am with the event wrapping up by 11:30am. All volunteers will get a free hat and t-shirt and the first 100 to pre-register and check in at the event will receive a special gift. Registration is mandatory. There will be no parking at Outrigger. Free trolley shuttles from the Beach Park & Ride at Sum-

merlin Square Drive and the Lovers Key Park & Ride will be available. Watch for details in the Sand Paper or visit [www.leevcb.com](http://www.leevcb.com).

### MORNING MEANDER

Join an experienced Bird Patrol Guide in Lakes Park, 7330 Gladiolus Dr, Fort Myers, on SA June 2 at 8am for Morning Meander, an easy walk along clear paths with an opportunity to see birds in native vegetation. Lakes Park is a birding hot spot and crucial nesting area for many birds. Wear comfortable shoes and dress to be outside. Bring water, sunscreen and binoculars. For more information call 239-533-7580 or 533-7576.

### PUBLIC SAFETY SEMINAR

The Lee County Sheriff's Office will offer a free community presentation, "A Citizen's Response to Active Shooter & Mass Casualty Events" on SA June 16 at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, 13350 FSW Parkway, Fort Myers, from 9am-1pm. Doors open at 8am. Be part of this compelling presentation by law enforcement and public safety officials designed to improve your level of preparedness should the unthinkable occur. No firearms allowed. All bags subject to search. Register online at [www.sherifflee.org](http://www.sherifflee.org)

### GOLF TOURNNEY

Join the Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce for their 2nd Annual Golf Tournament on June 8 for an 8am shotgun start at the Spring Run Golf Club in Bonita

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# AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND

Springs. Registration is \$100/person or \$350/team. Entry includes a BBQ lunch, amazing prizes, \$10 mulligans, raffles and much more. To register or for more information contact the Chamber at 239-454-7500 or email events@fmbchamber.com

### LOST & FOUND

The FMB Chamber of Commerce is now serving as a depository for lost and found items on FMB. Anyone who has found an item is asked to bring it to the Chamber office at 1054 5th St. MO-FR 8am-4pm. Their phone number is 239-454-7500. After 7 days, items will be turned over to the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

### 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 26 – 9am – Family Fun Kayak Tour; 10am – Archeology of the Mound House; 11am & 2pm – Shell Mound Tour; 1pm – Guided Tour.  
TU May 29 – 9am - Guided Beach Walk at Newton Park; 11am & 2pm – Shell Mound Tour; 1pm – Guided Tour.



<b>FORT MYERS BEACH</b>	
NESTS.....	10
FALSE CRAWLS...	29
HATCHED.....	0
<b>BONITA SPRINGS</b>	
NESTS.....	20
FALSE CRAWLS..	16
HATCHED .....	0

WE May 30 –10am – Tools of the Calusa; 10am & 1pm – Guided Tour; 11am & 2pm - Shell Mound Tour.  
FR June 1 – 8am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour  
SA June 2 – 9am – Family Fun Kayak Tour; 11am & 2pm Shell Mound Tour; 1pm – Guided 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 June 1 – Sea Turtle Talk  
FR June 8 – Sensational Sharks

## Focus on Bike Safety Saturday Morning at Bay Oaks

May is National Bike Month, sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists. Established in 1956, National Bike Month provides an opportunity to showcase the many benefits of bicycling and encourage more people to give biking a try.

The Parks & Recreation Department of the Town of Fort Myers Beach cares about the safety of island residents and all those who come to visit our island. As a result they are hosting a Bike Safety Awareness event this Saturday, May 26 from 10am to noon at Bay Oaks Rec Center.

Earlier that morning there will be a couple of group rides offered: At 8:00 am a group will ride to Bonita Beach Road or at 9:00am a FMB Fun ride that stays right here on the beach. Both rides begin at Bay Oaks, 2731 Oak St., Fort Myers Beach.

Beginning at 10:00 am, the Bike Safety event kicks off. "There will be bicycle demonstrations, safe riding tips, giveaways including free bike helmets, opportunities to join a Bicycle Club and speak to a professional mechanic and a bike rodeo on an obstacle course, with ice cream for everyone," said Sean DePalma, Fort Myers Beach Director of Parks & Recreation. "Come early with your family to take a group bicycle ride to Bonita Beach Road at 8 a.m. or on Fort Myers Beach at 9 a.m. As this is National Bike Safety Month, the Town is actively advocating bicycle safety, especially with its recent Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan, as well as to navigate our many roadways that remain under construction. This is a free program that does not require reservations."

Riding a bicycle on Fort Myers Beach can be fun, but it can also be a challenge. Come to this Bike Safety event and learn how to ride safely and enjoy the Island!



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# GUNS, GANJA & GAMBLING FLORIDA NEWS

**By: The News Service of Florida**

Last week a federal judge reluctantly refused to keep secret the identity of a 19-year-old Alachua County woman who wanted to join a lawsuit filed by the National Rifle Association challenging a state law that raised the minimum age from 18 to 21 to purchase rifles and other long guns.

In seeking to keep the identity of "Jane Doe" secret, lawyers for the NRA relied heavily on a declaration filed by the gun-rights group's Florida lobbyist, Marion Hammer, who detailed threatening emails she had received featuring derogatory words for parts of the female anatomy.

U.S. District Judge Mark Walker wrote that, if it were up to him, he "would not hesitate to grant the NRA's motion," pointing to "the harassment suffered by some of the Parkland shooting survivors" as evidence of "the vitriol that has infected public discourse" about guns.

But legal precedent --- which limits the use of pseudonyms to issues such as abortion, prayer and personal religious beliefs --- forced him to side with the state, the judge wrote, prompting him to note that the courts haven't kept up with the times.

"Today we have the internet, social media, and the 24-hour news cycle. What this means is that if a person attaches their name to a lawsuit --- and especially if that

lawsuit is sensational --- then everyone will quickly be made aware of it. Articles get posted online, and the responding comments, tweets, and whatever-else-have-yous often devolve into a rhetorical barrage of hate," he wrote, adding what might be the understatement of the year. "Unfortunately, it seems the Internet just doesn't always bring out the best in us."

The dispute over Jane Doe, however, isn't finished. The NRA gave notice that it will take the anonymity issue to a federal appeals court.

## SMOKE 'EM IF YA GOT 'EM?

A Tallahassee judge heard arguments last week in a case focused on whether Florida patients can smoke marijuana if their doctors recommend it.

One of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, Cathy Jordan, credits smoking pot with helping her defeat the odds in the battle against Lou Gehrig's disease she's waged for more than 30 years.

The plaintiffs are challenging a state law that bans smoking pot as a route of administration for the hundreds of thousands of patients who are eligible for medical marijuana treatment in Florida.

With her husband, Bob, serving as her interpreter, Jordan told Leon County Circuit Judge Karen Gievers and a packed courtroom that she started smoking pot a

few years after she was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, in 1986.

Last week's hearing came more than 18 months after voters overwhelmingly approved the constitutional amendment that broadly legalized marijuana for patients with debilitating medical conditions like Jordan.

Lawmakers last year enacted the prohibition on joints --- derided as "no smoke is a joke" by critics --- largely to protect the public from the ill effects of smoking, lawyers for the state argued.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Karen Brodeen said smoking "should never be a route of administration for any medicinal product" and "is a crude delivery system that delivers harmful substances." The amendment nowhere specifically authorizes smoking while it does give the state "broad authority" to regulate medical marijuana use, the state argued. Gievers did not rule on the challenge immediately.

## DOGGONE IT

A U.S. Supreme Court decision that overturned a federal law prohibiting states from allowing sports betting won't have an immediate impact in Florida, where lawmakers say they're not going to bring up the issue before voters weigh in on a constitutional amendment in the fall. The ballot proposal, Amendment 3, would give voters

control of gambling expansions, decisions now largely left up to the Legislature.

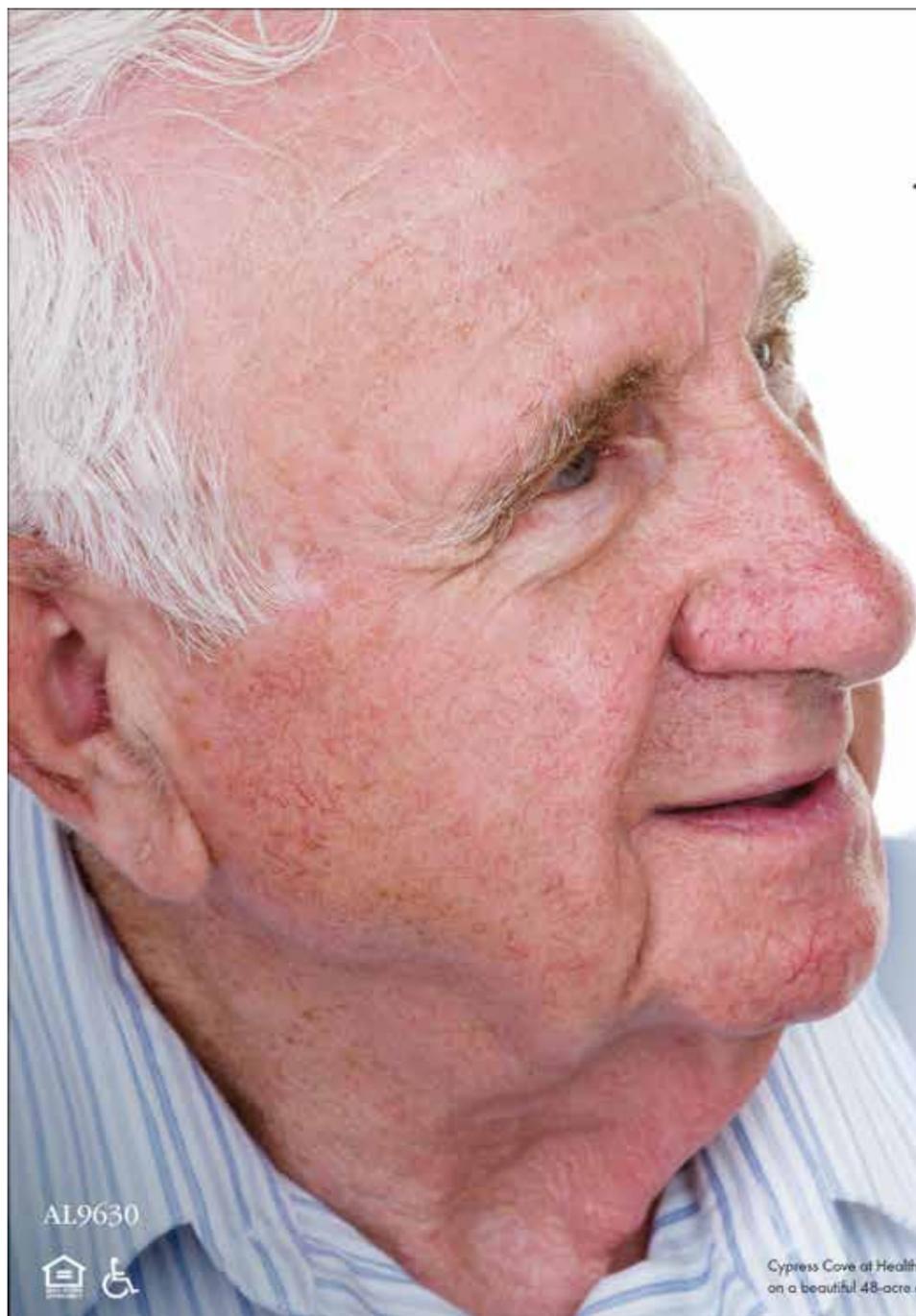
But opponents of another amendment asked a judge this week to strip from the ballot a proposal that would do away with greyhound racing.

Amendment 13, placed on the ballot by the Constitution Revision Commission, would outlaw greyhound racing at dog tracks by 2020, a process known as "decoupling," but would allow tracks to continue to operate other, more lucrative gambling activities, such as slot machines and poker rooms.

The Florida Greyhound Association and its president, breeder James Blanchard, maintain that the proposed ballot title and summary don't fully inform voters about the impact of the amendment if approved.

The proposal does not advise voters that dog tracks still would be allowed to broadcast live greyhound races from other states, and would only ban "commercial" dog racing, which means that kennel clubs would be allowed to continue dog competitions, according to the complaint.

The lawsuit also alleges that the text of the proposal --- which voters won't see on the ballot --- could have implications far beyond the greyhound-racing industry and could apply to racehorses as well as hunting dogs.



# visionary

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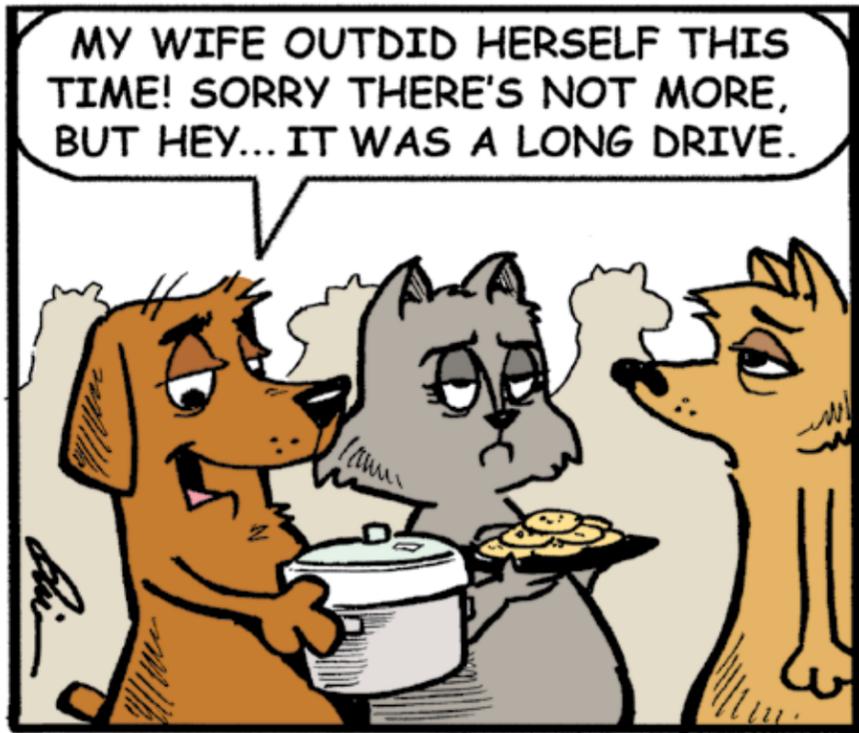


# Funnies Page



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



A mother make her son intelligent in 20 years, but a woman can make him stupid in 30 seconds.

1st man: It is sickening the way my wife keeps talking about her ex husband..

2nd man: Than's nothing, mine keeps talking about her next husband.

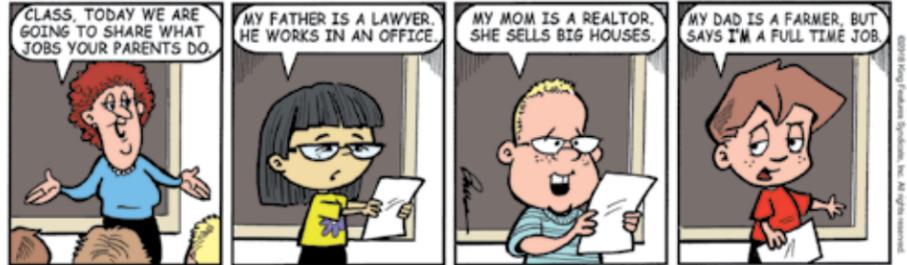
After an accident ....

1st Driver : I flashed the headlights and told you to let me go first.

2nd Driver : I also started the wipers and said NO NO....

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## CRIM and BEAR IT



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# Funnies Page



## COMMUNITY COMICS



"Well Spicy, this is another fine pickle you've gotten us into.  
"Not to worry my sweet little gherkin. Just smile and all will be kosher, Dilly Dilly."  
*Eric M. Huntsman*

"Nothing like chilling to some Vlasic Rock!  
"Yeah we relish some Bob Dill-on!"  
*Renee Massie Hose*

"At least we are pickled instead of "ham"mered"  
*Teresa Williams*

"Did you hear the one about the pickle who walked into a jar?"  
*Jojo Wolf*

"Rub-a-dub-dub, Two pickles in a tub ...At the Pickle & Pub...Now THERE'S a rub!"  
*Mike Popeye Dearden*

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



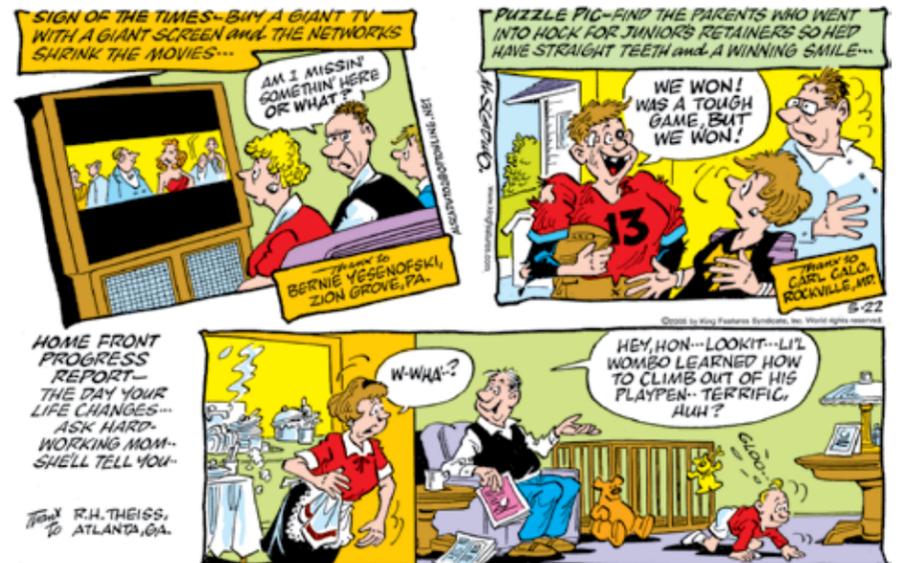
### Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



### THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



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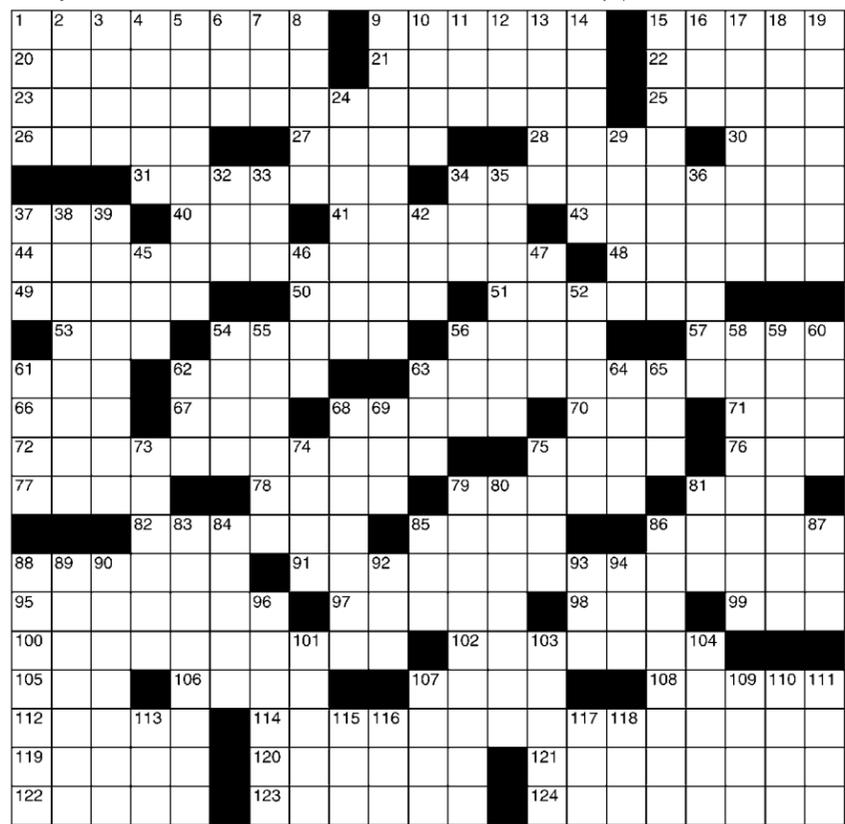
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# Super Crossword

## EIGHT LOW NOTES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Snakebite treaters
  - 9 Roomy rides
  - 15 Slowly, in music
  - 20 Tie in a race
  - 21 Actress Wilde of "House"
  - 22 — now and then
  - 23 Taft's foreign policy
  - 25 Jacket-and-tie affairs
  - 26 Look from a villain
  - 27 Word after lo or chow
  - 28 Non-U.S. gas brand
  - 30 Use a recliner, e.g.
  - 31 Forward, as a message with a hashtag
  - 34 Grand Prix racing
  - 37 A doc prescribes it
  - 40 Imbibers' hwy. offense
  - 41 Half-diameters
  - 43 He voiced Carl in "Up"
  - 44 Bachelor suitable for marriage, say
  - 48 Licorice-like herbs
  - 49 Novelist Ira
  - 50 Margaret Mitchell's plantation
  - 51 African nation
  - 53 — Trapp family
  - 54 Three-card game
  - 56 Some book blurbs
  - 57 Apollo program org.
  - 61 The girl
  - 62 Elderly Smurf
  - 63 Shifting of responsibility to another
  - 66 Co. name abbr.
  - 67 Golf rarity
  - 68 PayPal funds, e.g.
  - 70 Lead-in to skeleton
  - 71 Egg mass
  - 72 Edible soft-shell mollusk
  - 75 Burning liquid
  - 76 Bowl over
  - 77 Hens and heifers
  - 78 War group
  - 79 Bakery treats
  - 81 Mom's treatment
  - 82 Volkswagen family car
  - 85 Moore or Lovato
  - 86 Use profanity
  - 88 Very strong
  - 91 Late 19th-century political group
  - 95 De-creasing workers
  - 97 Gallery stand
  - 98 Laugh half
  - 99 Mao — tung
  - 100 Brand of flavored balms in tubes
  - 102 Tower atop a mosque
  - 105 Hack (off) abbr.
  - 106 Kitchen lure
  - 107 Actress Olin
  - 108 Day of song
  - 112 Beat poet Ginsberg
  - 114 University SSE of Spokane
  - 119 V-formation fliers
  - 120 Medieval balladeer, maybe
  - 121 French folk song
  - 122 Snaky curves
  - 123 Perplexes
  - 124 Eel-like fish
- DOWN**
- 1 Tosses in
  - 2 Sign light
  - 3 Narration
  - 4 Lazy type
  - 5 Partook of
  - 6 Always, to Donne
  - 7 "Too cool!"
  - 8 "Once upon — ..."
  - 9 Gem in a ring
  - 10 North Carolina university
  - 11 Not so bright
  - 12 Gardner of "Mogambo"
  - 13 Less nasty
  - 14 Bully's words of authority
  - 15 Block-filled theme park
  - 16 Entertainer Gabor
  - 17 Wrestling holds
  - 18 New hire
  - 19 Pearl makers
  - 24 Eyes closely
  - 29 African nation
  - 32 Bath fixture
  - 33 Wheaton of "Stand by Me"
  - 34 Fruit that's often dried
  - 35 Like OPEC nations
  - 36 Koreans and Laotians
  - 37 Ott of baseball
  - 38 High-school junior's grade
  - 39 Person with an ex-spouse
  - 42 Crime scene material
  - 45 — mill (bar)
  - 46 Sicilian volcano
  - 47 "Star Wars" creature
  - 52 Feature
  - 54 Royal staff
  - 55 "Faust" and others
  - 56 Greyhound transport
  - 58 Signal to pilots
  - 59 Treaded winter vehicles
  - 60 1940s film critic James
  - 61 Cobra sound
  - 62 Actress Dawber
  - 63 "Pow!"
  - 64 Pivot point
  - 65 Put turf over
  - 68 Graceful street liner
  - 69 Coral island
  - 73 Some poplars
  - 74 Cliff rock
  - 75 Solo often in Italian
  - 79 Slum abodes
  - 80 Moseying
  - 81 Old carrier
  - 83 Tentacler reef dwellers
  - 84 Fine violin
  - 85 — Moines
  - 86 Hits the gas
  - 87 Dark loaf
  - 88 Rob violently
  - 89 Twins' rivals
  - 90 Overturns
  - 92 Attention
  - 93 Part of a dance move
  - 94 Prefix with plop or flop
  - 96 Glowlers
  - 101 Frank topper
  - 103 Of birth
  - 104 Redcap at work, often
  - 107 Speech therapy topic
  - 109 \$20/day, say
  - 110 Really small
  - 111 Uses eyes
  - 113 Suffix with 29-Down
  - 115 Actor/comic Gilliam
  - 116 "That guy!"
  - 117 Suffix with pay or plug
  - 118 Moniker, in France



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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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**BARSIDE**
(George)

I once met an honest, caring, politician that listened when I spoke and tried to help the country.

Let me guess .... Then you woke up?

**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: **U** equals **W**

ASX MSBCA-BCPXC GBBJ UXVA

PQMSNVL NVAB ASX JNAGSXV,

RCQVANGQHFF QMJNVL "USXCX'M

ASX RCFXC?"

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"Up, up, up! \_\_\_\_\_ should be so lucky!"

### 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!

Bonus  
WARDER      

Glance  
DANGER      

Adapt  
JAUSDT      

Piles  
LOOSED      

**TODAY'S WORD**

- \_\_\_\_\_

## FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

- ♥ BOR
- LIBMEN
- PRILE
- BRCA
- ♥ PENIUL
- ♥ RFA
- ALNP
- ♥ ERFIL
- ♥ ABN
- VIPCLE
- BRELE
- ♥ OFLA

Unscramble these twelve letter strings 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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# TPI-FMB YES Final Council Approval, Cont'd from pg.5



Tom Torgerson and John Dammerman celebrate the approval of TPI-FMB with supporters Monday evening. Photo by M. Layfield.

in that regard.”

Gore voiced a final thank you to the town’s citizens, apparently for voting in the 2016 and 2017 elections, “Kudos to all the Fort Myers Beach citizens for coming out and voting and doing what you did because this would have been a monster three years ago. The citizens came out and asked for us to, ‘Drop a Benadryl on it,’ and we did.”

With that, Council unanimously approved the TPI-FMB Ordinance, and then received a prolonged standing ovation from the audience, before they rushed the dais to offer hugs, handshakes and congratulations. As they embraced, Gore asked Torgerson, “What’s up, Neighbor?” The revelry lasted over 10 minutes, before most of the crowd dispersed and Council concluded the meeting.

## 2021 OPENING PLANNED

TPI-FMB will be a 254-room resort, with 224 rooms on the bay side and 30 on the beach side, with a beach side waterpark, two restaurants, ground floor parking and related amenities. Construction is to begin in Spring 2019, with a 2021 completion date.

In other matters, Council unanimously approved an Estero Boulevard Phase 2 Change Order for four additional sidestreet fire hydrants and relocating an existing Connecticut Street Right-of-Way force main at a Town cost of \$38,700; and unanimously passed a Letter of Support to place the Mound House on the National Register of Historic Places. Hernstadt announced that Administrative Services Manager Marta Hernandez resigned for personal reasons on Friday, May 18. With that, Council adjourned its historic session at 3:32 p.m.

# 5th Graders Leave Their Mark

There is no surer sign of spring and the end of the school year than the concrete signing at Fort Myers Beach Elementary School! The Beach School tradition, going back 46 years to 1972, is for each 5th grade student to leave their name etched in fresh concrete before they leave for middle school. It’s part of being a beach kid. School staff also sign their names. For the last three years, Shannon and Joe Orlandini have contributed the concrete and site preparation that make this continuing tradition possible. The last day of school is May 30.



5th graders and school staff put their mark on fresh concrete in an annual Beach School tradition.



Mallory Amos and her father Randy sign their names. Randy is a Beach School alum himself, having first signed his name in concrete there in 1976. Photos by Bob Layfield.

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**May 26 & 27**  
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 Fort Myers Beach

## Tides • Matanzas Pass • Ft. Myers Beach

Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
F 25	Low	4:09 AM	0.7	6:37 AM	Set 4:12 AM	77
	High	11:07 AM	2.6	8:13 PM	Rise 4:46 PM	
	Low	5:24 PM	0.5			
	High	11:57 PM	2.0			
Sa 26	Low	4:43 AM	0.9	6:36 AM	Set 4:49 AM	85
	High	11:31 AM	2.7	8:13 PM	Rise 5:42 PM	
	Low	6:10 PM	0.2			
Su 27	High	12:59 AM	2.0	6:36 AM	Set 5:26 AM	92
	Low	5:13 AM	1.1	8:14 PM	Rise 6:38 PM	
	High	11:54 AM	2.9			
	Low	6:51 PM	0.0			
M 28	High	1:53 AM	1.8	6:36 AM	Set 6:05 AM	96
	Low	5:38 AM	1.3	8:14 PM	Rise 7:33 PM	
	High	12:17 PM	3.0			
	Low	7:28 PM	-0.2			
Tu 29	High	2:42 AM	1.8	6:35 AM	Set 6:46 AM	99
	Low	6:01 AM	1.5	8:15 PM	Rise 8:27 PM	
	High	12:41 PM	3.0			
	Low	8:03 PM	-0.2			
W 30	High	3:27 AM	1.7	6:35 AM	Set 7:29 AM	99
	Low	6:24 AM	1.5	8:15 PM	Rise 9:19 PM	
	High	1:07 PM	3.2			
	Low	8:38 PM	-0.4			
Th 31	High	4:10 AM	1.7	6:35 AM	Set 8:15 AM	98
	Low	6:48 AM	1.6	8:16 PM	Rise 10:09 PM	
	High	1:37 PM	3.2			
	Low	9:15 PM	-0.2			
F 1	High	4:53 AM	1.7	6:35 AM	Set 9:03 AM	95
	Low	7:17 AM	1.6	8:16 PM	Rise 10:57 PM	
	High	2:11 PM	3.0			
	Low	9:54 PM	-0.2			

For all tides go to [www.saltwatertides.com](http://www.saltwatertides.com)

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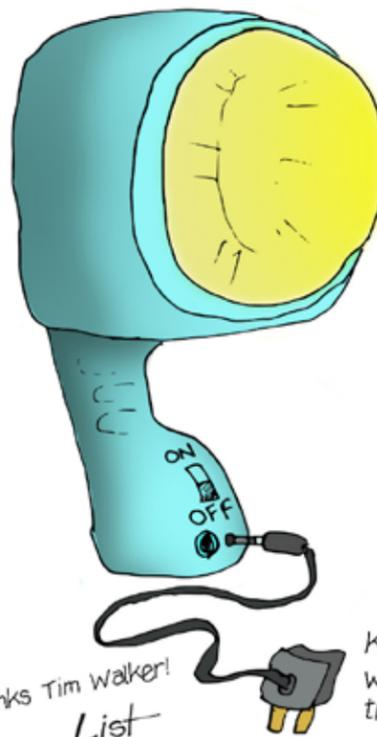
**FortMyersBeach.news**

# PUZZLE ANSWERS

A	N	T	I	S	E	R	A	S	E	D	A	N	S	L	E	N	T	O	
D	E	A	D	H	E	A	T	O	L	I	V	I	A	E	V	E	R	Y	
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E	S	S	E	S	S	T	U	M	P	S	L	A	M	P	R	E	Y	S	



## Non-lethal Home Security System



2 million candlepower rechargeable marine spotlight



Air horn

Thanks Tim Walker!  
List

Keep these handy when you've got unwanted trespassers on your property.

### CryptoQuip answer

The short-order cook went dashing into the kitchen, frantically asking "Where's the fryer?"

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

### SCRAMBLERS

solution

- Reward; 2. Gander;
- Adjust; 4. Oodles

Today's Word

### DOW-JONES

### FEAR KN&T

answer

P	E	L	V	I	C					
E		U			R					
R		P			A					
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		F				O	R	B		
						A		L		
						R	I	F	L	E

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# Beach Happenings

## Coast Guard Open House



The United States Coast Guard Station Fort Myers Beach celebrated Safe Boating Week by holding an Open House on Saturday, May 19, welcoming the community to the station on San Carlos Island. Guests toured a variety of Coast Guard vessels and met with both Coast Guard members and volunteers with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. The theme of the day was life jacket use and boating safety, with free vessel safety checks offered. *Photos by Sarah List.*

## Little League Closing Day



The Fort Myers Beach Little League celebrated their Closing Day on Saturday, May 19 at the Bay Oaks ball fields. Most local Little League baseball and softball teams began play in early March and have played about a dozen games over the past two months. Little League officials thanked players, families, volunteer coaches, managers and concession workers for their part in making this a great season for all the kids participating in Little League this year. *Photo by Sarah List.*

## Heights Student Jalysa Pierce Wins "Do the Right Thing" Award

Heights Elementary second grade student Jalysa Pierce of Fort Myers, was honored last week at the Lee County Sheriff's Office "Do The Right Thing" recognition ceremony. Twenty-four Lee County School students were honored at the May 17, 2018 ceremony. Each month throughout the school year, the Lee County Sheriff's Office has honored the positive actions of the community's students through the "Do The Right Thing" student recognition program. The goal of the program is to recognize humanitarian concern, honesty, integrity, positive decision-making and heroism and to reinforce positive behavior among youths and establish students as role models for their peers. "Do The Right Thing" partners law enforcement, local government, the business and Lee County educational community together in an effort to make a lasting positive impact on



our community's young adults. In Jalysa's nomination letter Dorothy Troy wrote, "Jalysa was with an older friend when they scratched off a lottery ticket and discovered it was worth \$100. At the location where this occurred there was a homeless man. Jalysa saw him, made eye contact and they smiled at each other. Her heart immediately went out to this person. She felt bad for him, as he had no shelter or food. As they went into the store to redeem the lottery ticket for cash, she insisted that they spend some of the winnings on the homeless man. She got him bottled water and food and presented it to him. He was very grateful. Jalysa actions reflect her big heart and her thoughtfulness. Her compassion and concern for others is to be commended."

*Information provided by the Lee County Sheriff's Office.*



# Beach Theater

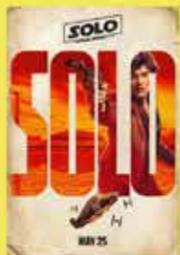
America's Original First Run Food Theater

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Fort Myers Beach, FL  
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[www.FMBtheater.com](http://www.FMBtheater.com)

## Solo: A Star Wars Story Early Screening Thursday May 24- 7pm

Starts on **Friday May 25**

Doors open at 1:45 PM.



### Solo: A Star Wars Story [PG-13] 2:00 5:15 8:45

During an adventure into a dark criminal underworld, Han Solo meets his future copilot Chewbacca and encounters Lando Calrissian years before joining the Rebellion

*Starring: Alden Ehrenreich, Woody Harrelson and Emilia Clarke*



### Deadpool 2 [R] 2:00 6:45 9:00

Foul-mouthed mutant mercenary Wade Wilson (AKA. Deadpool), brings together a team of fellow mutant rogues to protect a young boy of supernatural abilities from the brutal, time-traveling mutant, Cable.

*Starring: Ryan Reynolds and Josh Brolin*



### Show Dogs [PG] 3:00 6:00 8:45

Max, a macho, solitary Rottweiler police dog is ordered to go undercover as a primed show dog in a prestigious Dog Show, along with his human partner, to avert a disaster from happening.

*Starring: Will Arnett and Natasha Lyonne*



### Book Club

[PG-13] 2:45 4:15 5:45 8:30

Four lifelong friends have their lives forever changed after reading 50 Shades of Grey in their monthly book club.

*Starring: Diane Keaton, Jane Fonda, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen*

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

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

# WHO'S PLAYING WHERE ON AND AROUND THE BEACH

CLUB	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MEMORIAL DAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>BEACHED WHALE</b> 1249 Estero Blvd 463-5505	BOBBY BLAKEY 6-9PM	TOMMY V 6-9PM	SAM DeARMOND 6-9PM			ROGER YOUNG 6-9PM	JIMI DREDD 6-9PM
<b>CASTAWAYS</b> Santini Marina Plaza 463-4644	LIMITED EDITION 8-MIDNIGHT	WILDFIRE 8-MIDNIGHT					ELECTRIC LIPSTICK 8-MIDNIGHT
<b>SHUCKERS/COTTAGE</b> Gulfshore Grill 765-5440	ROGER YOUNG 4-7PM TROUBLEMAKERS 9PM-1AM	CHRIS CASDIA 4-7PM NEW VINYL 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 VINYL 9PM-1AM
<b>CRACKER BOX</b> 16910 McGregor 466-4344							
<b>DIXIE FISH CO.</b> Fisherman's Wharf 233-8837	MARK WESLEY 5:30PM-9:30PM	MIKE O'NEIL 1-4PM ANTHONY WAYNE 5:30PM-9:30PM	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
<b>DOC FORDS</b> 708 Fishermans Whf. 765-9660	BAD BANDITOS 6:30-9:30	3 CROOKED STEPS 6:30PM	3 CROOKED STEPS 1-4PM			GIRL MEETS BOY 6:30-9:30PM	HIGH VOLTAGE 6:30-9:30PM
<b>MATANZAS on the BAY</b> 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
<b>NERVOUS NELLIES</b> 1131 1st St 463-8077	CLIVE LIVE 6-10PM	KEVON 12-4pm KEVON 6-10PM	SMOKIN BILL 12-4PM HIGH TIDE 6-10PM	CLIVE LIVE 6-10	SMOKIN BILL 6-10PM	MICHAEL ANTOINE 6-10PM	RaSHIMBA 6-10PM
<b>OUTRIGGER</b> 6200 Estero Blvd 463-3131	ALAN SMALL 5-8	MEAGAN ROSE & SMOKIN' BILL 2-5PM	SMALLTOWN 2-5PM		MEAGAN ROSE 5-8PM	ENDRE D 5-8PM	TWO HANDS 5-8PM
<b>PARROT KEY</b> Salty Sam's Marina 463-3257		FRANK TORINO 7-10PM					FRANK TORINO 7-10PM
<b>PETE'S TIME OUT</b> Time Square 463-5900				DAVE COLLATON 6-10PM	AARON SEYFFERTH 6-10PM	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM
<b>PIERSIDE</b> BY TOWN PIER 765-7800	SHERRIN 1-5 JEFF WHIDBY 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 1-5 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 1-5 BILL ZINK 7-10	ANTHONY WAYNE 1-5 GREG WATTS 6-10	BILL ZINK 1-5PM JEFFREY WHIDBY 6-10	BILL ZINK 1-5PM MARY WINNER 6-10PM	BILL ZINK 1-5PM ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10PM
<b>PINCHERS TIKI BAR</b> 6890 Estero Blvd 463-2909	WAYWARD SOULS 6-9PM	BACKLASH 6-9PM	JESSE ALLEN 5-8PM		SAM DeARMOND 5-8PM	AARON SEYFFERTH 5-8PM	N2L 5-8PM
<b>SALTY CRAB</b> 1154 Estero Blvd 233-8224	ANTHONY WAYNE 12-4 BERNIE HYLAND 4:30-8:30PM	AWESOMESAUCE 1-5PM AARON SEYFFERTH 6-9PM					JEFF GREENE 1-5PM CHRIS KEMP 7-10PM
<b>SHARK BAR &amp; GRILL</b> 17979 San Carlos Blvd 313-6012	NOSTALJAH 6-9PM			RASHIMBA 3-6PM COLLABORATION BAND 7-10PM	MARY WINNER BAND 7-10PM	MARTY KEANE 2-5PM NEON SUMMER 6-9PM	LAURIE STARR DUO 3-6PM BRENDA'S KARAOKE 7-10PM
<b>SOBs</b> Old San Carlos Blvs 463-3474	ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10PM	DAVE COLLATON 6-10	LEE HAGAN 6-10PM	WILL KAISER 6-10	ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 6-10	DAVE COLLATON 6-10
<b>SUNSET BEACH</b> FMB TIMES SQUARE 463-1028	BARRY LAWRENCE 8-12PM	CHRIS KEMP 2-5PM CLIVE LIVE 8-12PM	BARRY LAWRENCE 1-5PM MIKE GLEAN 8-12PM	CLIVE LIVE 8-12PM	CLIVE LIVE 8-12PM		WENDELL RAY 8-CLOSE
<b>SURF CLUB</b> 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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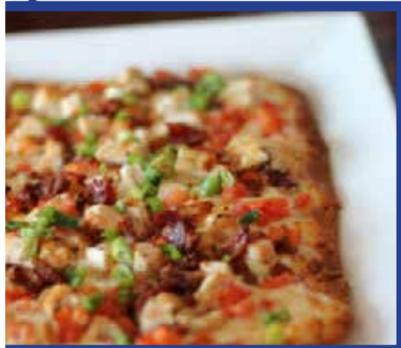
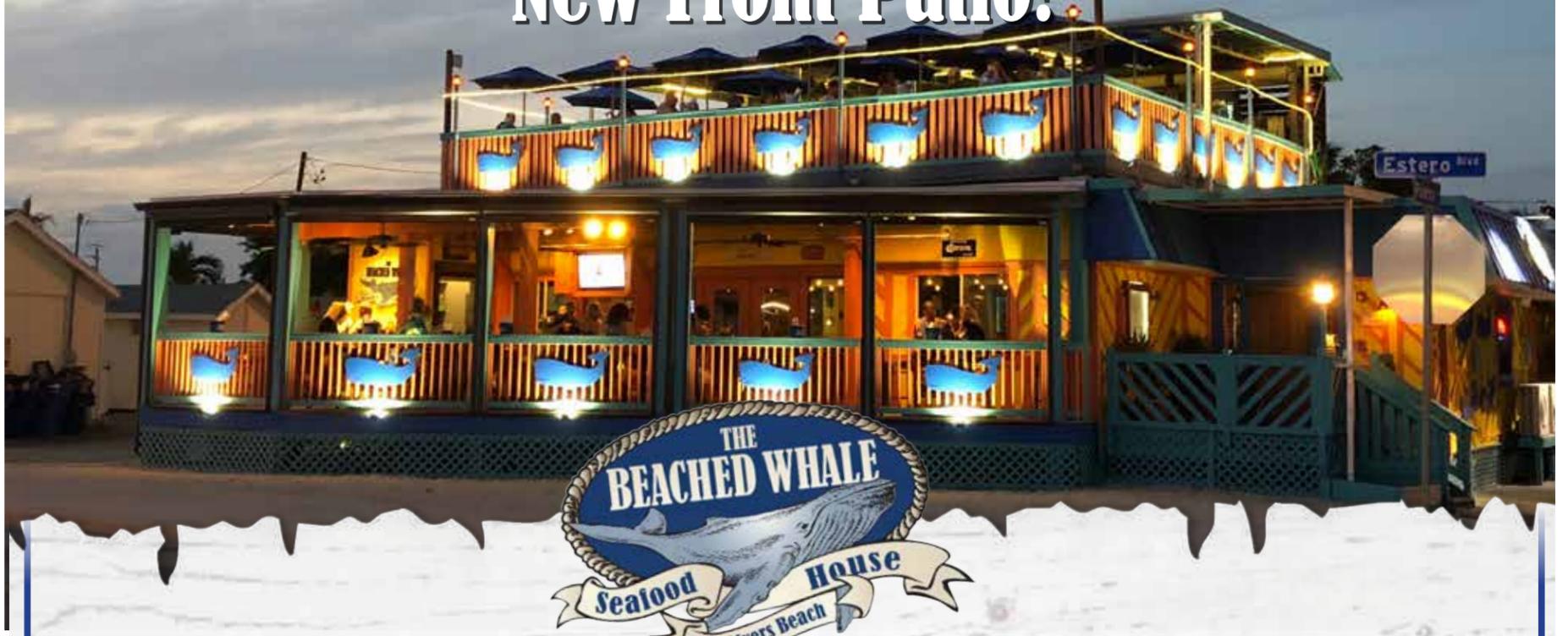
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