

Mayor Moves to Sue Sand Paper Claims Defamation

By Missy Layfield
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

Following last week's Island Sand Paper article about Mayor Tracey Gore and Council member Dennis Boback's meeting with the plaintiff in two lawsuits against the Town ("Gore, Boback Support Patton, Island Sand Paper, September 21, 2018), Gore sent a demand through her attorney that the Sand Paper publish a statement of retraction of a supposed statement in the article that Gore was "acting unethically by supporting a legal action against the Town." The letter, which you can read for yourself in this issue, stated that unless a retraction was published by Monday, September 24, 2018 on our website and Facebook page and in print in this issue, Gore had instructed her attorney to file suit against the Island Sand Paper and the Estero Island Taxpayers Association.

The Island Sand Paper has not published a retraction and has no plans to do so. As of press time, neither Sand Paper nor the EITA have been served with notice of a



Mayor Tracey Gore and Council member Dennis Boback at a Town Council meeting. File photo.

defamation lawsuit.

With a story this important to our community, we would like to explain to our readers how we came to publish it.

THE TAPES

We were provided three audiotapes totaling about 40 minutes last weekend, along with a still photograph and a short video.

The photo ran last week on our front page and shows Mayor Tracey Gore and Council member Dennis Boback at a bar with Chris Patton, the plaintiff in the two lawsuits challenging the Town's approval of Margaritaville-FMB in May. The video confirms the people in the photograph.

There is no law that says friends, including elected officials, can't get together for a drink anytime they'd like. But the law does clearly say that if two or more of them are on the same elected board or council then they are prohibited from discussing anything that may come before them. For our Town Council, which will be asked to make decisions regarding the defense of two lawsuits over their TPI-FMB zoning approval, that would prohibit them from discussing anything to do with TPI-FMB/Margaritaville FMB with each other or within hearing of any other council member.

We have listened to all the audio we were provided at least three times. In that 40 minutes of audiotape, the words lawsuit, TPI

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6 Questions Rob Moher of "Conservancy of SW Florida"

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

The Island Sand Paper periodically asks a community leader 6 Questions to provide readers an in-depth look at a topic of local interest. This edition features Rob Moher, who is the President & CEO for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida for the past 4-1/2 years. For information on the Conservancy, see www.conservancy.org.

1: What is your biggest environmental concern at this time: Red Tide, Blue-Green Algae, Lake

Okeechobee releases, all of the above, or some other issue?

My primary concern is the excessive nutrients in our ecosystem, as that ties all those together. The Blue-Green Algae blooms are more man-made, while Red Tide is a natural occurrence that generally begins deep offshore, out in the Gulf of Mexico, but the problem occurs when it moves on-shore and interacts with the microcystins produced by human-related activities, like runoff and nutrients from agriculture and fertilizer, and those things make

[Cont'd pg.12](#)

Complicated Council Session Controversial Topics Dominate

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

The Town of Fort Myers Beach Council held a split-session meeting on Monday, September 24, full of controversial topics, such as Community Development personnel, continued discussions over a new Town Attorney, naming a new Town Magistrate, and approving the 2018-19 Ad Valorem Tax Rate & Budget, but perhaps the most interesting were two items not on the agenda that came up during Public Comment.

Recent reports of a potential Sunshine Law and Ethics violations

against Mayor Tracey Gore and Council member Dennis Boback, concerning the two lawsuits filed by resident Chris Patton to halt the Town approval to construct the TPI-FMB Resort, led to a packed Council Chambers, with several residents revisiting the TPI-FMB issue as well as being supportive or against those Council members. Of the seven speakers, three spoke in favor of TPI-FMB or condemning the two Council members, while four offered their encouragement, including Joanne Semmer, Gore's mother.

Public Comment began with TPI-FMB spokesperson

[Cont'd pg.8](#)

For The Birds! FMB Library Artist Geoff Coe

Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

"I was in graduate school in the mid-70s, at Johns Hopkins, working on my Ph.D. in Earth and



Dry Clean Only.
Photo by Geoff Coe.

Planetary Sciences," recalls Geoff Coe, who is the Fort Myers Beach Library Artist of the Month through October. "Around the end of my first year, my advisor called me in and said graduate students do a presentation on their research for the faculty and I said, 'no problem!' I was all smiles when he said, 'it would be really good if you had photographs to accompany your talk,' and I broke into a flop sweat! I did not know the first thing about photography, but my best friend, Steve, gave me a Minolta camera to use, then showed me how to develop film. We put the first picture in the developing tray, it suddenly came to life and was the coolest thing I ever saw! Six

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Performers enjoy the bay view before a show at Matanzas on the Bay during last year's Island Hopper Songwriter Fest. Photo courtesy of the Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel, fortmyers-sanibel.com
More info on page 15

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Letters to the Editor



FOOD BANK DONATION

The impact of the environmental disaster that has impacted Fort Myers Beach and other areas of South Florida is hurting local businesses, especially those that cater to tourism, specifically the hotel and restaurants. One of the consequences of this is a reduced income for the employees who work in these industries. These employees are trying to pay their rent, car payments, utilities, and food bills on incomes that don't add up to the total amount needed. Where can they cut back? As we all know, you can't cut back on rent, care payments, or utilities, so the only logical place is food. That is what is happening here on Fort Myers Beach and everywhere when people are underpaid and living on the edge.

Last Friday morning at our regular scheduled Kiwanis meeting, our guest was Richard Leber the President and CEO of the Harry Chapin Food Bank that services both Lee and Collier County. Mr. Leber explained that this is the fifth week that the mobile food bank has serviced the workers of Fort Myers Beach. During this five-week period they have distributed 21,000 lbs. of food to 1786 individuals. Each recipient receives approximately 30 lbs. of food which includes fresh produce, canned goods and fresh poultry and meat.

Our club was honored to give a check of \$2,000 to help support the mission of the Harry Chapin Food Bank. We truly appreciate the work that they have been doing to help our Islanders in their time of need.

Edward McCarthy
FMB Kiwanis Club

Editor's note: The Harry Chapin Mobile Food Pantry will continue to be available on Fort Myers Beach each Wednesday from 10am-noon through October 31 at 1510 Estero Blvd., FMB.

CENSURE NEEDED

Thank you for your coverage and thoughtful article. ("Gore, Bo-back Support Patton," Island Sand Paper, September 21, 2018)

I am sure I am not alone at feeling embarrassed to be represented by these two individuals making a mockery of an oath of office with vulgar and demeaning language. While we may disagree with other opinions, nevertheless, after a vote any of us who have served understand that we then march on without insult to those who have disagreed. Nor do we harp and carp about previously decided issues. The most nefarious action is to surreptitiously support contrary opinion thru third party fronts. We tolerate a great deal in our community and value our differences in open discussion. The actions and words of these two individuals violate that history.

Silence on this should no longer be tolerated. While other council members may take seriously their oaths and also respect differences of opinion, they need to now speak and challenge their fellow members. They need to put forth a motion to censure them.

They also need to ensure that discussions about the pending litigation not include these members who may not feel compelled to abstain as would be appropriate.

No doubt there will be efforts to minimize the incident in question. The responsibility for next steps rests with Mr. Butcher, Ms. Shamp, and Ms. Cerededa to ensure this does not happen.

Hank Zuba
Fort Myers Beach

ONE OF OUR OWN

I find it incredibly sad that we as a community choose to tear apart one of our own. Tracey Gore has done nothing but look out for the best interest of this community, asking difficult questions, and often being the odd woman out to protect the island's best interest. I'm pretty certain that if you saw her out in public and had a concern about anything that was being discussed, she would be straight with you. I will say that this is one of the most refreshing things about an elected official; being a straight shooter. If any one of us saw someone who has been a neighbor for a long time out in public on this beach, we would sit down and shoot the breeze with them. Only a coward would stand by, making assumptions, and attempt to destroy the career of one of our own. I can't imagine the disappointment she must feel in representing and working for an island that looks for every opportunity to bring her down.

Sara Westcott
Fort Myers Beach

Letters cont'd pg.4

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Beach Botany by Jim Rodwell



PYGMY FRINGE TREE

This week we are back on the sandhills in the middle of the State with another rare and endangered species. The Pygmy Fringe tree, *Chionanthus pygmaeus*, is a perennial that can be a shrub or a small tree to 10' high. Height depends on the conditions of its habitat. *Pygmaeus* is supported by erect woody stems that are often buried in sand. Stem bark is a dark gray with noticeable leaf scars. Yellow to green leaves are opposite on the stems. Leaf shape is elliptic to oval. Margins are entire. Length 2" to 4".

Bell shaped flowers grow from the leaf axils. The corolla has four elongated and narrow petals that are separated. Color is white to green. Flowers are in dangling, finger-like clusters that divide and divide again. This would be a panicle inflorescence that is quite showy. Flowers are about 1/2" in length. Fruit is a purple drupe 1" long. Blooming occurs in the spring.

Pygmaeus is found in sandhills, upland scrubs and xeric hammocks in the central counties in the Lake Wales Rise. It is endemic to central Florida. Family is the Oleaceae (olive). There are only two species in the Genus *Chionanthus*. Unfortunately, Florida's central counties are being heavily developed into housing. Populations of *pygmaeus* are smaller and fewer. Extinction of this species is on the horizon. The specimen in the picture was taken at the Box Tower Gardens.

Letters to the Editor, Cont'd from pg.3

COME ON DOWN

I'd like to send a big shout out and thank you to the Chamber and the Town. Everything that you are doing to help the hard(ly) working hospitality friends is so greatly appreciated by us all:

- free parking for guests
- the Harry Chapin Food Bank
- the "tip The Check" initiative, and
- the Tapa Hop!

The Tapa Hop seemed to be a success for all. I know from my position behind the Pinchers bar, I was so happy to see customers....even if they did all come up to the bar 50 at a time!

I highly suggest that the next time a Pub Crawl or another group event comes along that both locals and businesses participate....it's a win/win.

There are so many restaurants on the island offering great deals. If you are locals, invite your friends from inland down to the beach!

Donna Swatscheno
Fort Myers Beach

RE-ELECT FIRE BOARD

In the upcoming November elections it is important that we re-elect the three incumbent Fire Commissioners, Carol Morris, Chair, Ted Schindler, Vice Chair, and Bob Raymond, Treasurer. It is with the support of these three Commissioners that the residents of the south end of Fort Myers Beach have enjoyed the cooperation and the expertise of the Fire Marshal, in supporting our efforts to replace the Big Carlos Pass draw bridge with a similar drawbridge, rather than the proposed 60 foot high, Matanzas type, fixed bridge.

Their assistance and support will ensure, we believe, that the threat of the proposed high bridge blocking all three driveways at Islands End Condominiums will not occur and that the Fire District will always be able to continue to fulfill its promise of fire safety and rapid ambulance response for everyone on Fort Myers Beach, including the residents of Islands End.

As President of Islands End Condominiums

for over 21 years, now retired, I have dealt with the Fire District Board on many issues. Prior to these three Commissioners joining the board, it was difficult if not impossible to get fair treatment from the "good old boy" board. These three Commissioners have put the Fire District Board back into the hands of the people and with their skill and knowledge have helped to create a well-run department that works for the needs of all residents of Fort Myers Beach. Electing three new people with little or no experience or background would be foolish. I would suggest that you re-elect Robert Raymond, Fort Myers Beach Fire 1, Carol Morris, Fort Myers Beach Fire 3 and Ted Schindler, Fort Myers Beach Fire 5.

George Repetti
Fort Myers Beach

ESTERO BAY SUNRISE

I would like to share this photo, "Estero Bay Sunrise" with your readers. Great job reporting about our polluted water. I thought your readers would enjoy seeing a different view of beautiful Estero Bay. Hope your readers enjoy. Thanks!

Stephen Staack
Fort Myers



Letters cont'd pg.7



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For The Birds! FMB Library Artist Geoff Coe, Cont'd from pg.1



Ibis gathering.
Photo by Geoff Coe

weeks later, I did not renew my scholarship. The advisor asked why and I said to become a photographer; he said, 'Aren't you the guy who panicked over pictures for your presentation?'"

Geoff moved back to his old college town of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, opening his own freelance business for two years, "then I worked four years at 'The Washington Post,' but as an in-house publication employee and not a staff photographer. I took advantage of the opportunity, though, and learned a lot to perfect my craft, particularly with color photography, as not a lot of people were working with that, as color was pretty cutting-edge back then."

ALL THESE COOL BIRDS

Life took Geoff to Colorado, then eventually to Southwest Florida, "because I have family here. I did white-water kayaking in Colorado, and after my first few months here, I borrowed my brother's kayak, though the flat water was a different experience. Just when I was bored out of my mind, I noticed all these cool birds flying around, so the next time I went, I brought my camera. My nephew, who lived in Maine, was 15 or 16-years-old and already a well-known bird expert, so I sent him photos to identify. A few months later, to get me off his back, he mailed me 'The Golden Book of Birds,' with a note he

was happy to get me started, and I still have it! Social media was just getting going, around 2004, so I posted my work and people asked why I did not sell them."

A few years later, in 2008, Geoff had a job taking photographs at a Downtown Fort Myers Art Fest, and met RJ Wiley, who is a bird photographer and exhibitor. "He was having so much fun, talking to everyone, and we chatted between customers. He advised me on what I needed to start my own business, including improving my lens quality. That spring, I bought a tent, signed up for some craft shows, Plan B became Plan A, and I have been a bird photographer ever since! I do shows fulltime, up & down the East Coast, and in Florida from Naples to Sarasota during the Winter."

Geoff's favorite location is Bunche Beach. "It is a little bit under the radar, a great spot for migratory shorebirds, and I always recommend it to budding bird photographers. I tell newcomers the best way to learn is find one or two terrific locations, then know them like the back of your hand. Stay there at least through one entire season, to observe not only the wildlife but the lighting and related conditions, and you will be amazed how much better your photographs become. I also do a lot at Six Mile Cypress Slough, as it is a wonderful place."

Every piece Geoff sells offers the story behind the shot. "With my background in science and as a writer, this is an indispensable part of the artist-customer relationship, as when you learn the inspiration behind the picture, it provides an added value. So many people love this so much, they often end up liking the backstory as much as the photo!"

"I HAVE DONE MY JOB!"

Coe did a FMB Library exhibit several year ago. "They called again a few months back, since 2018 in 'The International Year of the Bird,' with it running September through October, though I will tweak it halfway through. I gave Dr. Leroy Hommerding, the Library Director, 28 pieces to start, but I will need several of those for my October travels to sell, so I will provide replacements,



Roseate Spoonbill feeds in a freshwater pond. Photo by Geoff Coe.

giving the show a slightly different look for the second month. All the works are shot locally in Lee County, and I have not even printed the new shots yet, but they will be of great quality and well worth the wait!"

Geoff comments on his bird photography, in relation to current water conditions. "Until we start understanding the things we see in nature, we won't know how to come to grips with what it would mean to start to lose them. My work hopefully educates people, and that is my real gift. I feel, in some small way, that in buying my photography, they will look at this environmental crisis with the insight as to what our quality of life would be without our wildlife. I am hearted that these environmental crises occurred before and we solved them, and Red Tide has been around since the 1940s or longer and we successfully managed those, so these are the positives I keep in the back of my mind. If my photographs save some of our magnificent creatures, I have done my job!"

To view Geoff's photography, visit the Fort Myers Beach Public Library's 3rd Floor Gallery through October 31. The Library is at 2755 Estero Boulevard, with hours Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and closed Sundays and holidays including Columbus Day on October 8. For information on Geoff, see www.wildimagesfla.com for the Library, www.fmb.lib.fl.us or call 239-765-8162.

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Letters to the Editor, Cont'd from pg.4

DOUBLE DEALINGS

There's no misunderstanding about what the social gathering/meeting was about when Boback, Gore and Patton got together.

It's clear who the real low life individuals are by reading and listening to their conversation at the bar meeting.

It's time for the resignations of the Mayor Gore and Councilman Boback.

Tom Nielsen
Fort Myers Beach

SHOCKED

I am a frequent visitor to Fort Myers beach as my mom owns a home on the beach. I met Tracey Gore many years ago before she became a council member and mayor. She always amazed me with how much knowledge she had about the island and the rules and codes. How she found the time to serve on committees and volunteer her time for fund raisers, part time teacher, and manages Gore Seafood. My mom called me and said pull up the local newspaper on my computer I was shocked to see her picture and the story about her. This EITA clan should be ashamed to sneak around and record folks having a friendly good time.

Danielle Hopkins
West Chester, PA

ISLAND DESERVES BETTER

You were at a Bar! You were with a person in a lawsuit with the City! ("Gore, Boback Support Patton," Island Sand Paper, September 21, 2018) This Island deserves better! We all know you didn't want the TPI development. Why in secret takes sides against your town? You need to resign & join the other side. Have a conscience. Believe what you want! Fight for what you want but don't hide behind a town that wants to grow!

Carolyn Hardy
Fort Myers Beach

TAKE A WALK & SEE

As I sit behind my desk and read the Sand Paper I am so shocked

at the people who literally have their Head in the Sand when it comes to the TPI Development. I often wonder if the person(s) opposing the development actually walk to Time Square and LOOK at the buildings. Everything is run down, out of business and it just embarrasses me as a hotel employee to describe Town Square and the not so beautiful walk to get there.

I just can't wrap my head around why the people can't see this. I believe they don't even walk down the street because if they did they sure as hell wouldn't be opposing this project! GET YOUR HEAD OUT OF THE SAND and actually take a walk and See It for Yourself!!!

I was shocked to read about our Elected Mayor and Elected Council Member. What a disgrace! What a way to show your True colors!

I'm sure the State Attorney's office will get all of the dirt on Mayor Gore and Dennis Boback as there may be a lot more crooked business with these Two considering Mayor Gore stated several times about "Going to Jail".

It's sad when you vote for someone and believe in them for the better of Ft. Myers Beach and you realize they do just the opposite.

I'm hoping at this moment Mayor Gore and Mr. Boback, that you are writing your letters of resignation. You've showed your true colors to the community and you should be ashamed!

Sandra Collins
Fort Myers Beach

ISLAND DIVISION

My husband and I are friends and neighbors with Chris Patton and Mayor Gore. Dennis Boback is also our friend. The island is only 7 miles long I thought we were all friends. Many a happy hour we have spent with these folks. To see their picture on the front page of the newspaper and that they were recorded by the EITA clan shocked me. Mayor Gore is a fighter and we are lucky to have her. Any islander who knows her knows she is for the residents.

She is our Trump and the EITA clan is the opposition. Certain council members, TPI, and the EITA clan are dividing our island. What a shame for paradise to be torn apart. We must now be careful where we go to eat and drink, the EITA clan may be watching and recording.

Bonnie Ennis
Fort Myers Beach

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Complicated Council Session Controversial Topics Dominate, Cont'd from pg.1

John Gucciardo reporting that the resort team will demolish the former Ocean Jewels and Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce building on Tuesday, September 25, per its agreement with the Town, calling this "our first tangible step in the project going forward."

Andrea Carriere, of the Silver Sands Resort, said to Council that "you are my neighbors, but we have to respect the process. We have done due diligence and spent three years voicing our opinions and going through every last detail to get this done and it is done; the baby is born. Let's get this thing built!" Gore replied, "Just for a note - the vote is done; it is over. The only thing we are talking about now is someone asking for it to be checked. There is nothing we can do about that."

Marty Harity, an owner of The Whale, stated he previously served on the Sanibel City Council, comparing TPI-FMB to the Sanibel Causeway Bridge reconstruction during his terms. "You want contention; you want fights; you want arguments; you want behind-the-scenes stuff; it happened - there were lawsuits - hundreds of thousands of dollars that were absolutely wasted, but we wound up building the fixed-span bridge. Ever since that bridge has been open, not one person ever said to me that was a mistake. This TPI-FMB project - talk about scrutiny for 2 or 3 years! You voted on this process 5 to 0, not 3 to 2, not 4 to 1, but 5 to 0, not once but twice, so there should be shovels in the ground! It was analyzed, it was reviewed; it was voted upon; it's time to move on. It is unfortunate it created more division in this city, but we need to grow the city and anyone that thinks it will not help the city is making a major mistake." Former FMB Mayor Ray Murphy



Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane, at podium, asks for Town Council support over Water Quality issues. Photo Gary Mooney

took it a step further. "You ignored the elephant in the room here today and that is what I am going to talk about. I have known the Semmer family for 35 years; I have known the Pattons almost that long, but that doesn't matter to me. When two council members are together, and talking to other people about something that is coming up, from what I have seen so far, that's a violation of the Sunshine Law! You can cut it no matter how you want, and with so much more to come, we got a problem here! Dennis Boback, you too, and Tracey. Do the right thing - if you know in your heart of hearts that you were discussing that meeting that was to be held today, do the right thing - resign; resign! Do not drag the Town through this agony that is sure to come here in the next several weeks!"

At this point, Gore attempted to reply, but her fellow Council members shouted in unison, "NO, NO, NO!" reminding her that Council members do not react to anything under Public Comment. Gore said, "I am not going to have someone attack me!" Vice Mayor

Joanne Shamp advised, "But this is not the time to respond," with Gore saying, "I will say it under 'Council Member Items' then - I did not do anything wrong!"

Bobbi Kemp supported the Mayor: "This whole situation in the newspapers has my heart broken. Thank you and we support you and let the process go on and be resolved. The train left the station; let's get on with it."

Former Town Vice-Mayor Summer Stockton emotionally came to Gore's defense. "Tracey, you are a strong woman and people don't like strong women, but you are a better person than they will ever be! You are the best person that's been on this Council since incorporation. You represent the residents on Fort Myers Beach and the silent majority supports you, and you did know it in March of 2016, because you won overwhelmingly, by a landslide, because the silent majority supports you; not the loud

minority. To quote the great Taylor Swift, 'Haters Gonna Hate! Hate; Hate; Hate; Hate, But Just Shake It Off - shake it off, Tracey!'

Gore, now in tears, called a recess, stating, "I need a minute." When Council reconvened, she explained, "Excuse me; as you can see, I am only human!"

'WEAPONIZE' COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Council pulled two items from its Consent Agenda: a contract from Calvin, Giordano & Associates for Sarah Probst for Planning Services for the Community Development Department, at \$85-an-hour, not to exceed 30 hours-a-week, not to exceed \$132,600; and a Weiler Engineering Group contract for Jason Green as Community Development Director at \$95-per-hour, and as a Planner at \$78-an-hour, for Planning Services not to exceed \$130,000.

Council member Anita Cereceda stated to Town Manager Roger Hernstadt, "With all due respect to Jason and Sarah, my question is when do we move beyond this, as we are going to have Planning Services here at Town Hall."

Hernstadt replied, "Unfortunately, my experience at Fort Myers Beach is that folks in the community have weaponized Community Development. The unfortunate part is that whether a recommendation is for or against a particular item, it appears the common enemy is the Staff. Until the Town accepts that the Planning Staff is giving their best professional recommendation

Cont'd pg.10

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Editorial

CROSSROADS

Our community is at a very uncomfortable crossroads and the direction we go from here affects all of us.

Two weeks ago, two members of our Town Council, Tracey Gore and Dennis Boback, sat down with the plaintiff of two lawsuits against the town and had a lengthy discussion, part of which included mention of the two lawsuits against the Town as well as an interesting commentary on how our Mayor feels about representing the entire Town.

A complaint has been filed with the State's Attorney office regarding possible Sunshine Law and ethics violations and an investigation opened.

Our role as the community newspaper carries a responsibility to keep our readers informed of what our local government is doing. We know it's very popular these days to blame the messenger for bad news but that would be misdirected anger.

Before the cries of "fake news" rise, remember that we actively solicit corrections to any of our articles. We are not perfect. If we get something wrong, a quote, a vote, a statement, we want to know and correct it. Our articles are based on facts and what we have seen and heard ourselves from reliable sources. If we have an opinion on an issue, it will appear only here on the Editorial page and be signed by the author(s).

Over the last two weeks, the Island Sand Paper has reported on that meeting and shared clips from audiotapes of that conversation. Those are the facts. This editorial is our opinion.

What were they thinking? Public bar, crowd, alcohol – hey this is a great place & time to discuss town business? Their conversation may have included other topics, but it veered into the lawsuits, which is town business that will indeed come before the council. In fact council was set to hold a closed session just four days after that bar gathering to discuss defense strategy for the lawsuits.

That is the primary issue. Two people whose elected position requires them to make decisions on how the Town defends itself against two lawsuits should not ever be discussing those lawsuits with the person suing the Town. Ever. Not in any way, shape of form. Not in passing, not as a joke. These are not personal lawsuits, this is against the Town they represent. Any negative legal decision will cost the Town plenty, paid by us taxpayers. Plus there are non-financial issues at stake, like the delay in downtown redevelopment.

The recorded conversation also included Mayor Gore bragging about how many people she's spoken to that she's encouraged to support Patton in the lawsuit. Is that appropriate behavior for the head of the governmental body that Patton is suing?

Our mayor is actively supporting lawsuits against the town she represents. And she seems to think that's perfectly okay. It's not. Whether the State's Attorney determines her conduct rises to the level of violation of state ethics law or not, this behavior surely illustrates a conflict of interest and is a disservice to Island residents.

Council members can certainly continue their friendship with the plaintiff, Patton. But we expect them to be smart enough to understand that they shouldn't be discussing the lawsuit with her.

Island residents feel betrayed and they have lots of questions: Their elected officials appear to be trying to sabotage a project that they voted for. Why would they vote yes if they didn't support the project? Did they know when they voted in May that these lawsuits were coming so it was safe to vote yes as the lawsuit would stop the project?

REPRESENT ALL

When someone is elected to the Fort Myers Beach Town Council, they take an oath to serve the Town of Fort Myers Beach - the entire town. Not just their friends or family or neighborhood or people who agree with them. They are expected to listen to the entire community and put the whole community's welfare above any personal agenda. Town Council is not a social club where the most popular person gets to run the show and make the rules. It's a serious governmental body that should be taken seriously.

This week has shown that is not the case with some of our council members.

Gore and Boback were elected by a minority of Island voters to stop the TPI-FMB project yet they both voted to approve the project. They speak as if they represent the majority of residents in their ongoing opposition to the project, but they don't.

Some history: Gore and Boback won their council seats in 2016 with a combined 45% of the total vote. 55% of voters cast their two votes for the other five candidates. Remember that when you hear words like mandate and majority. It's just not so.

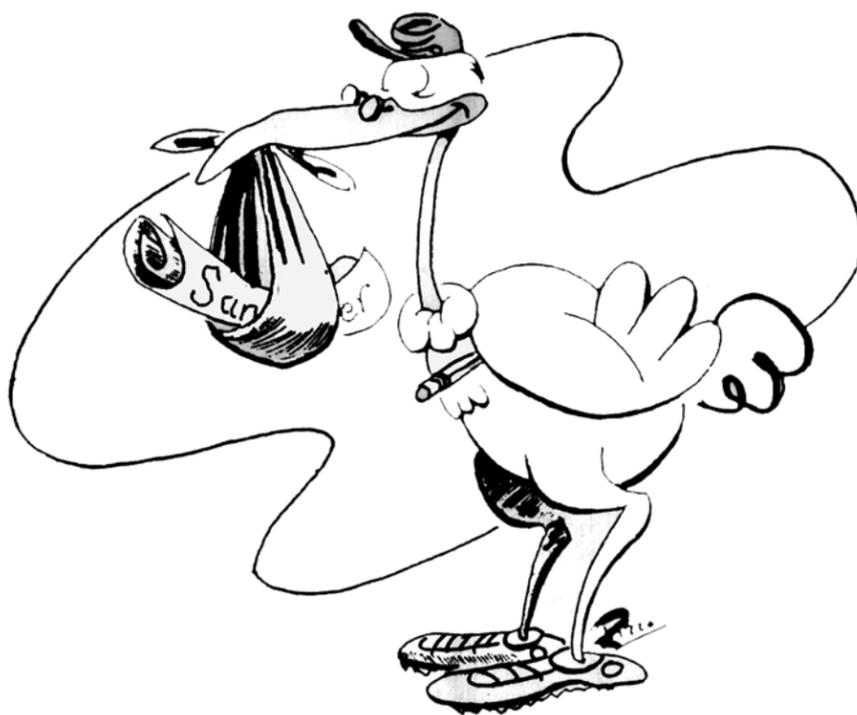
They've done only a fair job of seeming to represent the entire Island the past 2 years as they've ushered in an era of onerous regulation and enforcement, but we now know that's been only an act for our mayor. An act she's vowed to drop as she focuses on her own neighborhood whether it's good for the entire island or not.

Whether the State's Attorney investigation returns any charges or not, it's clear that our community deserves better from their elected council members.

Our community is facing a very serious economic challenge due to water quality. It does not need a protracted council drama and more dysfunction.

If Gore and Boback wish to truly serve our community, we urge them to seriously consider resignation from council. Spare our community further ridicule and division.

Missy & Bob Layfield
 Editor and Publisher
 Island Sand Paper



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	<p>Bob Layfield, Publisher <u>Publisher@fortmyersbeach.news</u> <i>It is better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret.</i> Jackie Joyner-Kersey</p>
	<p>Missy Layfield, Editor <u>Editor@fortmyersbeach.news</u> <i>We are here on Earth to do good to others. What the others are here for, I don't know.</i> W. H. Auden</p>
	<p>Mike Buster, Circulation Manager <u>c/o_Info@fortmyersbeach.news</u> <i>Self-esteem is the reputation we acquire with ourselves.</i> Nathaniel Branden</p>
	<p>Mark List, Production Manager <u>Production@fortmyersbeach.news</u> <i>Parents were invented to make children happy by giving them something to ignore.</i> Ogden Nash</p>
	<p>Sarah List, Photographer <u>info@fortmyersbeach.news</u> <i>I've never quite believed that one chance is all I get.</i> Anne Tyler</p>
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	<p>Gary Mooney, Lead Writer <u>info@fortmyersbeach.news</u> <i>Never hold discussions with the monkey when the organ grinder is in the room.</i> Sir Winston Churchill</p>

The Island Sand Paper
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LETTER SUBMISSION POLICY

The Island Sand Paper welcomes letters from Islanders on local issues. Signed letters up to 300 words are welcome. All letters should be the original work of the author, include city of residence and a phone number for verification. No pseudonyms. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length, accuracy and to prevent libel. Repetitive letters from the same individual on the same subject will not be printed. We will publish a maximum of two letters from the same individual every 30 days. Submissions over 300 words may be considered for publication as a Guest Commentary based on available space, relevance and the quality and coherence of the piece submitted. Deadline for letter submission is noon Wednesday. Submit letters via email to editor@fortmyersbeach.news, online at fortmyersbeach.news or mail to address on this page.

OFFICE HOURS
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 CALL TO BE SURE!

Islanders are invited to submit original articles and photos for publication. Publication is based on available space, relevance and quality. The Sand Paper uses artistic license for humor and to amuse its readers. Nothing contained in this publication is intended to embarrass or offend anyone.

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Complicated Council Session Controversial Topics Dominate, Cont'd from pg.8

based on the Code, where people are not attacking the Staff, we need to continue to utilize consultants, because they are not influenced with their future job security and will just do their jobs. If the Town decides in the future we can find qualified staff to perform that function here, where Staff recommendations are taken as intended, as the best professional recommendation, and people are not being utilized to advance different agendas, we must continue to use professional staff from outside. It is more expensive and is not my preference, but unfortunately these are just the growing pains communities go through, and we are in that phase. Hopefully we will come out of it and can use inside Staff rather than consultants."

Cereceda said, "That is not at all what I thought you would say! I never heard people say that Community Development is 'Weaponized' – that is a very interesting comment! I suggest you force the growing up, because these are your employees. If you perceive

that as a Town weakness, it is time to move on. I don't like to outsource Community Development, when it is as important an agency to the Town as anything, so I will support this, but I encourage you with the sentiment you just shared to move it forward!"

She asked if the Town Manager envisioned the contract services lasting more than the next Fiscal Year, with Hernstadt replying, "I hope not, but I don't know not. There is an opportunity for this community to come together and hopefully that will occur. The Staff is just trying to interpret and implement the policies of this Town as set forth by Council and I think we made a lot of progress in the last 18 months, but we have a ways to go, so I am hopeful we will transition off of that this year, but I cannot guarantee it." With that, Council unanimously approved the two contracts.

LAWYERS & STREET PERFORMERS

After a spirited discussion that examined several possible options, Council by a 3 to 2 vote, with Council member Bruce Butcher and Cereceda Against, issued another Request For Proposal (RFP) for a new Town Attorney. As this takes roughly 60 days, The Peterson Law Group will remain Town Attorneys throughout the search process. Boback recommended that the RFP state that the Town expects applicants to have a minimum of five years' experience practicing Florida law as a requirement rather than a preference as in the last RFP, saying "Marco Island is hiring a Town Attorney and had 48 applicants, while we had 4. Why they got that many and we did not, I don't know."

Council then unanimously named Myrnabelle Roche, of MRN Law PA of Pompano Beach, as the Town's new Special Magistrate, effective in either October or November, following the last session of the current Special Magistrate, Joe Madden. They selected Roche over Jack Peterson,

who will remain Town Co-Counsel during the Town Attorney selection process, and Thomas Thanas, who recently turned down the Town Attorney position due to the lack of unanimous Council support over not having five years' experience in Florida law.

In other matters, Council heard from Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane, who asked them to sign a Letter of Support to the South Florida Water Management District, to increase the minimum water flows from Lake Okeechobee in the dry season, to mitigate the effects of Blue-Green Algae and Red Tide. Should that fail, he asked the Town to join other Southwest Florida cities in a possible Administrative Appeal legal proceeding that Council unanimously approved.

Council received Advisory Committee Reports from the Cultural and Environmental Learning Center Advisory Board and Community Resources Advisory Board; unanimously approved an 2018-19 Interlocal Agreement for Animal Control Services with Lee County for \$19,451; unanimously approved the 32nd annual American Sand Sculpting Championship permit, waiving its \$1,290 fee for this year only, due to water quality conditions; moved to a Second Legislative Hearing on October 15 a potential Temporary 180-Day Density Moratorium for residential units in existing subdivisions on lots smaller than 15,000-square-feet by a 3 to 2 vote, with Butcher and Cereceda Against; unanimously approved \$33,058 to repair the Town Hall air conditioning system; and unanimously approved changes to the January 2019 Council Meeting schedule.

Under "Council Member Items," Cereceda reversed her previous position to place a Moratorium on Times Square street performers effective October 1, due to supportive comments she received from Times Square merchants and the community. Council will, however, continue to examine this issue.

Gore concluded the morning session by saying, "I don't know if I want to address the whole scandal in the newspaper; is this the time to address it?" "No," responded Shamp. "It is putting a cloud on the Town and I don't like it," replied Gore. "No," Shamp repeated. Gore added, "Don't address it? Just to let everybody know, OK, I am pursuing it." Council then adjourned at 12:19 p.m., before reconvening to discuss the 2018-19 Budget at 5:30 p.m.

2018-19 TOWN BUDGET

Under the Second Public Hearing to Establish & Levy Ad Valorem Taxes for Fiscal Year 2018-19, Council unanimously approved a tax rate of 0.87 mills, or 87 cents per \$1,000 of property valuation, more than the rollback rate of 0.8443 mills. Council unanimously passed the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Final Operating Budget, Capital Budget & Fee Schedule, with Revenue and Expenditures of \$18,106,265 that is \$15,000 less than the initial figure from the First Public Hearing on September 10. Finally, Council unanimously approved the Second & Final Legislative Hearing to Amend the Town Personnel Policy to adjust employee work hours and exchange annual leave for pay, with Council adjourning at 6:12 p.m.

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Sue Sand Paper Claims Defamation,

Cont'd from pg.1

and Torgerson came up several times.

The tapes do exist. They were obtained legally. No one's private home or property was violated. Anyone walking past that bar on September 13, 2018 heard parts of the conversation as there was no apparent effort made to prevent the conversation from being overheard. We heard interaction with others at the bar and the bartender on the tapes. All of those people heard parts of that conversation. And the person who recognized the topic of conversation and recorded it, heard the whole conversation. The tapes are simply a record of what that person heard.

Those tapes reveal that one of the topics of conversation was Patton's lawsuit against the Town: who was supporting her in the lawsuit, who wasn't, who Gore and Patton were shunning as a result of her public support for TPI during the May Public Hearings. There is a discussion of why Patton was approached by Robert Conidaris for the lawsuit and how wonderfully Conidaris treated Gore and her friends when they were kids. At one point Boback said, "We can't talk about it," and Gore challenges him with, "You didn't just tell her that." When Patton asks Gore about attending meetings, Gore explains that she doesn't have to come to meetings as what Patton is doing is "not a council thing."

So, yes, the tapes exist and we have heard them.

Beyond the potential Sunshine Law violations, the tapes bring up a question of a possible conflict of interest. Members of Town Council will make decisions about how to defend the two Patton lawsuits. Those decisions will affect the outcome of those lawsuits and the cost to Town taxpayers. For members of Town Council to openly support the plaintiff, talk about the lawsuits with her and encourage others to support the plaintiff, as is heard on the audiotapes, appears to be an obvious conflict of interest. The State's Attorney office will make that call.

Neither The Sand Paper nor the EITA were following council members around, recording their every conversation. A single citizen concerned about the presence of two council members recorded what may turn out to be a violation of the Florida Sunshine Laws. The tapes were provided to The Island Sand Paper. We listened carefully to them and determined that they were recordings of two council members, having recognized their voices. And then we shared the information we heard with our community in the pages of this newspaper.

We are not authorized to release the entirety of the audiotapes. The person who made the recordings, passed them on to the EITA, whose Executive Director, Beverley Milligan, passed them on to an attorney. That attorney has provided them to the State's Attorney office. Milligan reported that as of Wednesday, September 26, an investigator had been assigned to the case.

Both Gore and Boback were provided an opportunity to respond to questions or offer comment on this story and neither responded.

DEFAMATION

Defamation is a [Cont'd pg.13](#)

Signs of Progress Corner Building Down



The former Ocean Jewels building came down Tuesday morning at the most visible corner on Fort Myers Beach - Estero Blvd. & 5th Street. An agreement reached during a Public Hearing on the TPI-FMB downtown redevelopment project, now Margaritaville-FMB, included a provision that TPI donate that lot to the Town after it was cleared, asking that it be

done by September 30. While the remainder of the demolition and the donation is on hold pending resolution of two lawsuits filed by a Town resident, TPI chose to go forward with this demolition as the most recent tenant, the Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce already had moved to another office location in the Keller Williams building at 2450 Estero Blvd. Onlookers ap-

preciated the effort and the symbolism, cheering as the building came down. "Progress, baby! Progress!" exclaimed former building owner John Richard. The site is expected to be landscaped and eventually offer a Welcome to Fort Myers Beach.

Photos by M. Layfield.

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6 Questions

Rob Moher of “Conservancy of SW Florida”, Cont’d from pg.1

it much worse and longer lasting than it should be. That means we need to look at all of the above concerns, because right now, our ecosystem is completely out of balance and that is the big problem. We have a lot of hard work to do, to get the system back in balance, and that will take a comprehensive response, and not just working on each of them piecemeal.

Another major concern is the health implications from the Blue-Green Algae, as it can not only bring issues like liver toxicity, but research indicates it can lead to ALS and other neurological problems. Those type of human impacts go way beyond anything we have dealt with so far, and we have no clue yet how much it can impact human life, as the science is still out. We already know these microcystins are fatal to wildlife and seem to be for pet health, and now we need more research on its impact on human health. That is why it was so encouraging to see Senators Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio get \$1 million in funding for the Center for Disease Control to do additional studies.

Another piece of recent good news is the Red Tide seems to be decreasing, though a lot of that literally depends on which way the wind blows, while the Blue-Green Algae is something made by mankind, so mankind can manage it, once we get serious about water quality. This is fixable; we already know what we need to do, we just need to get about the business of doing it!

2: How much of our current water quality issues are related to Lake Okeechobee releases, as opposed to other sources, like the Caloosahatchee River water-



shed?

According to the Department of Environmental Protection’s “Basin Action Management Plan” (BAMP) for the Caloosahatchee River, 60% of the nitrogen loading into the river comes from its own watershed, and that is 2-1/2 times the size of Lake Okeechobee, so that means only 40% comes from the lake, so this tells you again there is no one single solution. Another issue is that nitrogen and phosphorous are not new but historic problems, so there are huge amounts of them trapped on the bottom of the lake and river that big storms can whip up and increase their discharges.

People must look at our environmental issues like a Rubik’s Cube, where you systematically solve it one move at a time. The problem is not just Lake Okeechobee or the Caloosahatchee River but the entire system, as it all links together. The good news again is that

BAMP offers a solution through its “Total Maximum Daily Load” indicator, that says there should not be more than “X” amounts of nitrogen and phosphorous going into any given body of water, and the BAMP provides a strategy based on technical information to accomplish that goal.

It is important to remember that all Floridians are part of the problem, so we all need to be part of the solution, and not just here in South Florida. That is why the Conservancy advocates a “Shared Adversity” plan. A lot of these nutrients come from upstream, from agriculture and around Orlando and Tampa, so those folks need to feel some of the pain, to understand their negative contributions to the overall system, and that the fix is not just the responsibility of our local residents. It will take lifestyle and business changes, as well as tax dollars from everyone to restore the ecosystem.

3: There seems to be a great deal of water quality testing by various agencies, but none for air quality or cyanobacteria in material like beach sand. How much of a concern is this to you?

We need to be concerned about these gaps, and we need to work much more closely with the Center for Disease Control and other health agencies that are the experts, to conduct a serious review based on the best available science, to protect human beings as well as our ecosystem. We already have a few documented instances, such as a lifeguard near the Saint Lucie River’s 2016 Blue-Green Algae outbreak. He was preventing people from going in the contaminated water when a little boy ran past him and jumped in. The lifeguard went in after him, and even though he was exposed to the polluted water for just a couple of minutes, he felt so bad so quick, he went to the hospital, where they found he had permanent liver toxicity! He is a 22-year-old lifeguard, just doing his job to protect people, and he comes down with this lifelong disability after just two minutes of exposure!

Dr. Larry Brand of The University of Miami is doing research right now, to try to close this air monitoring gap. That said, we should be doing a better job of monitoring water quality than we are right now, because we are only testing areas where there is Blue-Green Algae or Red Tide, or where people have watery eyes or scratchy throats. It is often the times you don’t feel anything or have any warning signs that bring about the biggest health issues and no one seems to worry about that. This should be a point of emphasis for our State govern-

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6 Questions

Rob Moher of "Conservancy of SW Florida", Cont'd from pg.12



ment, as the health of its citizens should be its #1 concern, and where it should place its greatest resource emphasis.

4: You led right into our next question! Some of your fellow environmental professionals say they are not so sure our present conditions are an environmental issue but a political one – what is

your reaction?

Red Tide is a natural occurrence, so to blame that on anyone seems disingenuous, but it becomes worse when it interacts with nutrients from the coastal waters, so it is something we have ownership over, making it a failure of society as well as a definite leadership policy failure, in both regulations and enforcement. The South Florida Water Management District and Department of Environmental Protection need to take better ownership, not only over current conditions, but things like Climate Change that will adversely affect us into the future. Our current State leadership believes we can only achieve economic growth at the expense of environmental protection, and now they want to take over wetland permitting, as they are the kidneys of our environment, as they contain heavy rain waters while purifying water at the same time. That

is probably not a good idea, especially now that we have rising sea levels, so that does not add up to a good environmental policy.

5: What steps can the average person take to improve our environment? Lifestyle changes, political initiatives, community involvement, etc.?

YES to all of the above and more! Look into your own backyard and employ sustainable Florida-friendly landscaping practices, including the suspension of nutrients. If you live in a condominium or golf course development, ensure your regulations allow for Florida-friendly practices. My own association used to want to fine me every time they saw a blade of yellow grass in my yard! Be smart with how you dispose of chemicals and things like motor oil. If you have a septic tank, inspect it to make sure there are no leaks. Become a mem-

ber of an environmental group, as there is power in numbers, to produce a change in State policy.

6: What is the Best Part about being the President and CEO of the "Conservancy of Southwest Florida?"

Every day, I work with 64 passionate problem-solvers who love Florida and our environment, who work long hours day-in and day-out without a second thought, and this is true of our volunteers as well! We are cognizant that anything we achieve today is because we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. I am an optimist by nature, and I really believe by working together, we can survive our current conditions. I know there are a lot of angry people out there, but if we can channel all that anger and frustration into something positive, in the end, we will all win!

Mayor Moves to Sue Sand Paper

Claims Defamation, Cont'd from pg.11

MICHAEL F. KAYUSA
ATTORNEY AT LAW

2077 First Street, Suite 201, Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Mailing address: Post Office Box 2237, Fort Myers, Florida 33902
(239) 334-8200 fax: (239) 334-2899 e-mail: mfk@mfkayusa.com

September 21, 2018

Sent via US Certified Mail and email

7018 0680 0000 7935 2466

7018 0680 0000 7935 2473

Island Sand Paper
450 Old San Carlos Blvd., Unit G-108
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
Info@fortmyersbeach.news
Editor@fortmyersbeach.news

Esteros Island Taxpayers Association
PO BOX 2502
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33932
esteroslandta@gmail.com

Notice to Pursuit to Fla. Stat. § 770.01

To Whom it May Concern:

Please be advised that I represent Tracey Gore. My client has forwarded on to me the statements that you have made to the community at large via Island Sandpaper weekly publication and online media to include your Facebook Page. Your statement that my client is acting unethically by supporting a legal action against the Town of Fort Myers Beach is defamatory on its face. It degrades my client, brings her into ill repute, and causes injury with innuendo. Your statements about my client are defamatory per se. As such, these statements injure my client's business, professional, and personal reputation in the community and beyond.

As you published this falsehood about Mrs. Gore, your negligence is actionable in Florida courts. Pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 770.01 this notice shall serve as the required 5 day notice prior to filing suit. My client has instructed me to file suit against The Island Sand Paper and Esteros Island Taxpayers Association for defamation unless a statement of retraction is published on the Island Sandpaper Facebook Business Page and any related electronic media by the close of business Monday, September 24, 2018 and printed in your next published edition.

My client will not accept publication of false information. We would ask that you act accordingly as we will not contact you with any further communication, but simply file suit.

Sincerely yours,

Michael F. Kayusa

MFK/srm
cc: Tracey Gore

legal term meaning that someone has damaged another's good reputation by saying something about them that is untrue. In Florida, a "public figure," which an elected municipal council person would certainly be, must prove "actual malice" which in layman's terms means the paper must have printed something that was not true, known it was untrue and printed it anyway.

CHAMBER STATEMENT

On Wednesday, the Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met and discussed the allegations against Gore and Boback under investigation by the State's Attorney office. They drafted the following statement and delivered it to Town Manager Roger Hernstadt for distribution to the full Town Council:

"The Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce believes in an open, ethical and transparent government. The Chamber fully supports a thorough investigation into the allegations of the elected officials involved. If the investigation concludes there is wrongdoing with either sunshine laws or pending litigation, then appropriate actions must be taken.

The Chamber expects the elected officials to cooperate fully with any investigation which will allow for a timely resolution.

Due to the economic hardship the Ft. Myers Beach community is currently facing, we urge the State's Attorney to move quickly on this so that we may get back to the business of economic recovery."

Notice received by the Island Sand Paper and the EITA from Mayor Gore and her attorney.

To hear a clip of the audiotape, see fortmyersbeach.news

Transcription of clip:

Tracey Gore: Okay, so now the good news. They're getting together with the City.

Chris Patton: With who?

Tracey Gore: TPI Attorneys.

Chris Patton: Well of course they are!

Dennis Boback: TPI

Tracey Gore: So, now. And now these people hate me... Now they hate me. But I won.

Chris Patton: You didn't vote against them. You're against, you went.

Tracey Gore: No. The attorneys. To replace the attorneys.

Tracey Gore: I voted against. I voted to replace them.

Dennis Boback: We voted against.

Tracey Gore: Now they hate me.

THE ISLAND SAND PAPER PRESENTS

A HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE TOUR

OCTOBER 26-31, 2018

**CALLING ALL FORT MYERS BEACH
REAL ESTATE AGENTS • BUILDERS
REMODELERS • CRAFTSMEN • DESIGNERS**

**Feature a home for sale, a project done within a home,
or your product/service for the home.**

WE ENCOURAGE TWILIGHT OR EVENING HOURS CONSISTENT WITH HALLOWEEN THEME

**The Island Sand Paper will promote the event throughout October.
A full page announcement will appear in the October SAND LIFE Magazine.
In addition, event promotional ads will appear in the Sand Paper,
on FortMyersBeach.news and Facebook.**

**INDIVIDUAL OPEN HOUSE ADS WILL PRINT IN THE ISLAND SAND PAPER
OCTOBER 19TH AND 26TH IN A SPECIAL HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE TOUR SECTION.**

FULL PAGE - \$550 PER WEEK*

HALF PAGE - \$395 PER WEEK*

QUARTER PAGE \$215 PER WEEK*

* Weekly rate x2 for 10/19 & 10/26 Island Sand Paper issues.

Ads may reflect one or multiple Open House properties or no Open House.

Promote your home services during this highly publized event.

DEADLINE: Ads, property locations and payment final October 12th.

THE BEST HALLOWEEN DECORATED PROPERTY

AND (ENTRY WAY AND DOOR)

WIN!

BEST COSTUMED HOST(S)

**WILL EACH WIN A HALF PAGE ADVERTISEMENT SPACE
FOR FUTURE ADVERTISING IN THE ISLAND SAND PAPER (\$395 VALUE.)**

PLUS, \$500 CASH

WINNERS RECEIVE ISLAND SAND PAPER PHOTO & CAPTION RECOGNITION IN NOVEMBER 2 ISSUE.

AD PRIZES MUST BE REDEEMED BY JAN. 31, 2019

**CONTACT: SANDY SANDNESS
ADVERTISE@FORTMYERSBEACH.NEWS
816-863-8836**



If subject property in Oct 19 ad sells, a replacement property can be submitted by Monday, October 22.

Island Hopper Arrives on FMB This Weekend



Songwriters at Yucatan in previous festival. Sand Paper archives, Sarah List

This weekend is primed to be the best weekend in months for the Island as the Island Hopper Songwriter Fest wraps up its 10-day run with three days of live music here by nationally-recognized singer-songwriters September 28 – 30. The 5th annual Island Hopper began last weekend on Captiva with shows September 21-23 before heading to downtown Fort Myers September 24-27.

Fort Myers Beach shows will be held at eight different venues: Fountain Park at Nervous Nellie's, Matanzas on the Bay, Yucatan Beach Stand, PierSide Grill & Famous Blowfish Bar, Lighthouse Tiki Bar, Cabanas Beach Bar at DiamondHead, Pink Shell Resort and Pinchers Tiki Bar. Most shows are an hour long and feature two singer-songwriters. All shows are free with the exception of a 5pm concert at Pink Shell on Sunday, September 30 with Midland.

These Fort Myers Beach venues provide the perfect casual

atmosphere for these successful singer-songwriters to share the stories behind their songs as they perform them for a small audience.

Most venues (except Pink Shell and Pinchers) will have shows on Friday from 7pm to 10:30pm; Saturday from 2:30-9:30pm and Sunday 1:30-4pm. The Pink Shell will host performances on Saturday from 1-3:30pm and the Midland show Sunday. Pinchers Tiki Bar will host performers Sunday from 1:30-4pm.

A full, updated schedule of performances can be found at IslandHopperFest.com or on the festival app.

Remember to tip your servers. Parking at meters and lots owned by the Town of Fort Myers Beach and Lee County is free through Sunday, September 30. This includes Lynn Hall Park, Old San Carlos Blvd and under the bridge, as well as beach accesses and Bowditch Point Park.

Woman's Club Celebrates 55 Years



The Fort Myers Beach Woman's Club will celebrate their 55th anniversary in 2019 and plans to kick off the celebration with a capital campaign to restore their historic clubhouse.

"For the past 54 years, the Woman's Club has been home to small meetings and local bridge gatherings. In January 2019, it will be 55 years and we are going to have a big party to celebrate and launch a Capital Improvement Campaign because the building and property need updating.," stated Beverley Milligan, the Club's new President. "We decided it was the perfect time to resurrect the purpose of this club, as well as restore the historic beach clubhouse for the community of Fort Myers Beach. We have opened the membership up to anyone interested in revitalizing this historic community center."

"As we looked to the future, we knew that our community needed to come together and create a welcome setting for everyone to use. FMB has not had an active Community Center for years, a place where non-profits can hold fundraisers and meetings at little or no cost; a community meeting place to support cultural and other events, like weddings and cor-

porate meetings. The new and improved FMB Clubhouse will offer a private gathering space as well as a commercial kitchen for events," added Mari Torgerson, Chairperson of the Events Committee.

The club has a new website, FMB-WC.org, which will carry information on upcoming fundraisers planned for the refurbishing of the historic building. It also has a community calendar which allows anyone to enter their public events.

SUNSET CRUISE

The Fort Myers Beach Woman's Club will host a Sunset Cruise on Tuesday, October 9. All are welcome to attend. The Cruise begins at Fish Tale Restaurant at 5pm with a Pre-Cruise Social before boarding the Estero Bay Express at 5:45pm for a 90 minute Sunset Cruise. Cost is \$24/members and \$29/non-members. Guests are encouraged to bring snacks and beverages on the cruise. Coolers will be provided. The cruise will depart from the Fish Tale Restaurant at Fish Tale Marina. Tickets may be purchased at bit.ly/WCSunsetCruise or FMB-WC.org under Upcoming Events.

**Newspapers Relevant?
Does Advertising
Work?**

**Island Sand Paper
August Audience
Stats Say **Yes!****



**August 2018
Print Issue
Readers:
30,000**

**August 2018
Website
Visits:
25,000**

**August 2018
Web Page
Views:
110,954**

August Facebook Posts mostly refer readers to website story and reached audience of over 89,000

**We'd say that's pretty relevant for any month.
Did we mention this was for August?**

Call us today to start planning a campaign to tell your story via ads in our newspaper, magazine, or website!

Call Sandy - Advertising Manager (239) 463-4461



Candidate Announcements



CECIL PENDERGRASS DISTRICT 2 LEE COUNTY COMMISSION

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Lee County Commissioner over the past six years. I have worked hard to bring transparency and common sense back to our county government as promised. I have tackled many issues some of which include: water quality/conservation, spending, staff recruitment and transportation.

This year we are confronted with algae blooms and red tide. As a lifelong Lee County resident, I have experienced this before, and enough

is enough! We must work together to push the Federal Government into funding ALL projects necessary to store water north of Lake Okeechobee and send the excess to the south. I've traveled to D.C. and Tallahassee urging elected leaders to reduce the releases into our estuaries and find solutions for red tide blooms. We have successfully secured over \$60 million for local water quality projects. I will continue to fight for funding.

Over the past years, I have negotiated the purchase of thousands of acres of conservation land and with policy changes made by our board, we have placed 5,700+ acres into conservation from developers at no cost to taxpayers. I fully support Conservation 20/20 and will continue to preserve our paradise. In addition to preserving natural resources, it is my job to safeguard your tax dollars. After elected, I immediately asked the hard questions saving taxpayers millions of dollars in wasteful spending.

I challenged Algenol and VR Labs for misappropriation of taxpayer funds. I questioned Algenol for lack of honoring their agreement with Lee County, which led to the CEO's resignation and VR Labs for misuse of county funds, prompting an investigation that led to indictment of the two company principals. Additionally, as chairman, I negotiated new county manager and attorney employment contracts, with no severance packages, because I do not support wasting tax dollars for staff who separate due to incompetence. In an effort to save time and money, transportation/road improvements are another priority.

I have been instrumental in accelerating several road improvement projects, including Estero Boulevard. The BoCC has accomplished this by using growth increment funding, where growth pays for growth, without raising your taxes. In fact, as a result of strong leadership, our commission reduced your taxes in 2017 and 2018, with 2017 being the first reduction in 10 years.

With your support, I can continue providing strong common sense leadership to the commission. I would be honored to have your vote! Thank you.

TED SCHINDLER SEAT 5 FORT MYERS BEACH FIRE BOARD



Ted and his family moved to FMB in 2000 from California. This year, he's putting his hat in the ring for a third time after serving two successful terms as an FMB Fire District Commissioner. First elected when the fire district was on the brink of bankruptcy, Ted, a Certified Financial Planner (CFP), advocated for drastic budget steps that were unprecedented for the district. The budget Ted and his fellow commissioners inherited reflected the days of ever-increasing property values and district revenue, but it did not plan for inevitable property value decreases and economic stagnation. To get the district back on track, Ted and the board made major revisions to spending and were able to avert fiscal disaster, saving all jobs at the district.

Almost eight years later, the district now has reserves in place and has been able to grant modest pay raises. Ted authored a clause to tie new pay raises to property appraisals—if local property values do not increase enough to support new pay raises, the raise is reduced or eliminated. He also expanded the search for a new fire chief to include candidates nationwide. The district now has lower personnel turnover and its management policies serve as a model for all fire districts within Lee County.

Why is Ted a good candidate? A graduate of The College for Financial Planning and a Certified Financial Planner (CFP), he also holds a degree in mathematics from San Diego State University. While serving for over 20 years in the USAF as a lieutenant colonel and command pilot, he dealt with multimillion-dollar budgets. Later, he was a financial consultant for a major civil service union. He also sat on the board for a major San Francisco Bay Area credit union. In all of these capacities, Ted dealt with budgets and, in some cases, unions. These are two of the areas that still need addressing in the FMB Fire District.

Ted is fiscally conservative and the only commissioner who voted against raising the millage rate. He prioritizes job preservation and long-term economic stability. Ted is a highly decorated combat-disabled veteran deeply passionate about his country, and his community. An avid boater, fisherman, dedicated husband and father to children who grew up on FMB, he is committed to preserving the safety and welfare of the community, its first-responders and its residents. He hopes to receive your vote for Commissioner Seat 5.

Space for Candidate Announcements in the Island Sand Paper is provided without charge to local candidates as a way for readers to learn more about those on the November ballot. All announcements are provided by the candidates. Sand Paper election coverage will include Ask the Candidate questions for Fort Myers Beach Fire Commission candidates during October. Readers are invited to send their questions to editor@fortmyersbeach.news

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Candidate Announcements



BETSY VAUGHN AT LARGE DISTRICT 6 LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Lifelong career educator Betsy Vaughn emerged as the top vote-getter of four candidates in the Lee County School Board District 6 (At Large) primary on August 28, 2018. She advances to the November 6th general election.

Vaughn's roots are in New Jersey, where she earned a B.A. in English from Upsala College and a M. Ed from The College of New Jersey. In May 2014 Vaughn retired from 38 years in the classroom, including 19 years as a teacher leader at a large suburban Dallas high school and the last eight years of her career in Lee County as a Language Arts teacher at Estero High School. In Texas Vaughn was involved in curriculum development, budgeting, textbook adoptions, professional development presentations, and school-based decision making as well as overseeing a department of 15+ teachers. At Estero High School she was a Summer Cadre participant, a TALC representative, sponsored A-Team, and initiated and chaired the "Phenomenal Academic Wildcat" program to recognize outstanding EHS scholars.

An active community volunteer, Vaughn is currently a Guardian ad Litem child advocate, a member of the county's "Partnering for Results" review panel, and a discussion leader with the Lee County Public Library's "Community Conversations" program for senior citizens. Last year she chaired the School Board Continuous Systemic Improvement Advisory Committee.

As a member of the Lee School Board, Vaughn wants to "build bridges rather than create walls" by establishing a productive working relationship between the School Board and local government entities and community resources so that these organizations may work in tandem to enhance the quality of life in our community. Her priorities include:

- Ensuring fiscal responsibility by cutting costs and eliminating wasteful spending and by being proactive in seeking necessary revenue.
- Recruiting and retaining high quality teachers by offering competitive salaries and benefits for veteran teachers as well as for beginning teachers and by offering teachers meaningful input into their own professional development and into school-based decision making.
- Assuring safe schools with campuses that are controlled single entry with updated security measures to protect from intruders and providing environments that are free from bullying and/or prejudice.
- Improving high school graduation rates and ensuring that all students are college or career ready as well as offering expanded vocational education opportunities.

Further information is available at Betsyvaughn2018.com

CAROL MORRIS

SEAT 3 FORT MYERS BEACH FIRE BOARD



I am Commissioner Carol Morris, Chairperson of the FMB Fire District Board of Commissioners. I am running for reelection to Seat #3, requesting your vote. You may recognize me as the woman that often rides in the area on her white Can Am Motor Trike, but I want you to know me as the woman that has seriously helped to change the FMB Fire District environment from a good old boy department to a highly professional well run district.

I have been on the Board for 12 years and debated about running again for reelection but this is what made me decide to do it. I and my two fellow incumbents, Bob Raymond and Ted Schindler, were the ones responsible for making most of the changes to the improvements that have occurred to the District. If 3 new people that have no knowl-

edge of the Fire District, and have not been attending meetings to know about the areas of importance, were to be elected, I worry that the department might not continue on the path that we have put into motion. I now have firefighters approach me to say that we have given their life back to them. I have firefighters thank me for the most recent great labor agreement that the Board helped develop and approve. We have put the best professional Fire Chief in charge of this District and we did that by changing how previous boards selected a Fire Chief. We went through a lengthy process to define new position requirements, recruit the best candidates and then eventually through a series of interviews select the most qualified. We constantly get thank you notes from people who have used our services and were extremely satisfied.

As a fiscal conservative, I make sure that your tax dollars are being spent wisely and that every decision I make goes through the same scrutiny as if it were my personal budget. I could make this article quite lengthy by listing all the changes that we have made to the District but I am limited by the paper's editor. If you want to ask me questions or get more information from me, please feel free to email me at cmorris@fmbfire.org. Give me four more years and I promise to give you the best professional fire dept. that your tax dollars can buy.



**JOIN US FOR
Happy Hour**
Monday - Friday 2-5pm

- \$2 Domestic Drafts
- \$3.50 Wells & Wines
- \$3 Corona & Corona Light
- \$4 House Margarita
- \$1.00 off all Craft Beer

**YUCATAN Island Hopper
Song Writers Festival Schedule**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th

7:00-8:00pm Kurtis John & Tim Montana
8:15-9:15pm Shelby Lee Lowe & Kylie Morgan
9:30-10:30pm Lee Thomas Miller & Wendell Mobley

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th

2:30-3:30pm Jay Allen SONG/CHANCE WINNER
4:00-6:00pm Will Bowen & Marc Fortney
6:00-7:00pm Bob DiPiero & Wendell Mobley
7:15-8:15pm Megan Linville & Tim McGeary
8:30-9:30pm Danny Myrick & Amie Miriello

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th

1:30-2:30pm Will Bowen & Sheena Brook
3:00-4:00pm The Bass Brothers



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AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND



New Vocal Duo/Group, will perform on Sept 30 at Pink Shell Resort during a ticketed event. Schedule and tickets available at islandhopperfest.com

FREE FMB PARKING

Parking at FMB meters in beach accesses and downtown are free through this Sunday, September 30. Meters in county-owned lots on FMB (Lynn Hall Park, Bowditch Point Park) are also free through Sept 30. This will include free parking in those lots during the Island Hopper Songwriters Fest on Fort Myers Beach Sept. 28-30. This applies only to Town and County owned meters on FMB, not private parking lots.

CYPRESS LAKE 70'S REUNION

A 1970-1979 Cypress Lake High School Reunion is being planned in conjunction with a Restore Fort Myers Beach Arches fundraiser for SA Sept 29 at 5:30pm at Bonita Bill's Waterfront Café. Enjoy a buffet meal for \$17, music and the company of 70's CLHS grads,

while you help support fundraising for 3D images for the remaining pieces of the iconic FMB arches. The imaging will allow the remaining arch pieces to be incorporated into a new Arch Project. For more information see bit.ly/CLHSReunion or visit Restore Fort Myers Beach Arches on Facebook.

MEET THE LCSO

Lee County Sheriff's Office will hold a Celebrate Safe Communities event and they invite area residents to a "meet & greet" with LCSO crime prevention specialists, detectives and district personnel on WE, Oct 3 from 9am-noon at the West District substation, 15650 Pine Ridge Rd, Fort Myers. No reservations needed. Come learn about crime prevention strategies and how to work with the LCSO to keep out community safe.

FOOD BANK

The Harry Chapin Food Bank will continue to bring their mobile food truck to 1510 Estero Blvd every WE from 10am-noon through the end of October to help local resi-

dents faced with decreased earnings related to our water quality problems. Choice Market is also available every TH from 10am-3pm at Beach Baptist.

TIP THE BILL

The Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce is challenging the community to participate in a Tip the Bill Challenge to support our local restaurants and servers that are economically impacted by Red Tide. When you Tip the Bill, write #tipthebillFMBCC on the bill and share on social media Facebook @FMBChamber; Twitter and Instagram @FMB_Chamber. Realizing that not everyone can afford to double their bill, the community is encouraged to tip what they can and try to patronize beach businesses.

BEACH KIWANIS CLUB

The Fort Myers Beach Kiwanis Club invites anyone interested in supporting the community to join them for breakfast on FR Oct. 5 at 7:30 am at Bonita Bill's. The Beach Kiwanis Club supports the community by donating the proceeds from their Thrift Store located at the intersection of Pine Ridge Road and Summerlin Road. Some of the causes the Beach Kiwanis supports each year are: Golisano Children's Hospital, local student scholarships, Beach Elementary School, Little League, Beach Soccer, Needy Families, God's Table, Swim Lessons and other projects as they surface. All are welcome to attend their breakfast meeting or visit fortmyersbeachkiwanis.org for more information.

MORNING MEANDER

Join an experienced Bird Patrol Guide in Lakes Park, 7330 Gladius Dr, Fort Myers, on SA Oct 6 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.

REGISTER TO VOTE

The deadline to register to vote or change your party affiliation is Tuesday, October 9, 2018, for the November 6, 2018, General Election. Florida law requires Florida residents must be registered to vote or make a party affiliation change 29 days before an election. All registered voters may vote in a General Election regardless of party affiliation. To register to vote you must use a Florida Voter Registration Application or use the Online Voter Registration to submit an application and update an existing registration. To submit an online application, you will need your Florida driver license (Florida DL) or Florida identification card (Florida ID card) issued by the Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles. Click here to access the Florida Online Voter Registration Website. Online Voter Registration has multiple safeguards in place to verify and protect a person's identity and personal information. For more information on registration or legibility, call 239-LEE-VOTE or visit lee.vote.

POOL FUN

The Fort Myers Beach Communi-



Want to test your smarts & win prizes?

Tuesday nights are trivia night in September at Fish-Tale Waterfront Dining beginning at 7:00 pm. Join us in the Tiki Bar for all the fun!

LOCAL'S NIGHT

is the place to be on Wednesday nights!

Join us for half-priced drinks and \$6 Marina Bites, along with our regular menu from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

Bring your friends, meet your neighbors and enjoy a night of fun!

Now serving breakfast on Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00 am – 11:00 am.
Happy Hour from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm daily

Fish-Tale Marina

Behind Santini Marina Plaza

7225 Estero Boulevard
(239) 747-6500

www.FishTaleDining.com

AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND

ty Pool is open MO, WE, FR, SA & SU from 10am-4pm. The pool is a great place to cool off on hot summer days for a nominal fee. The pool offers 7,000 square feet of cool, clear water, a lap pool with accessible lift, a shallow family pool with play structure and plenty of shade. A Water Aerobics class is held every MO, WE & FR at 9am. Aqua Strength class is offered MO & WE at 10am. Aqua Yoga on FR at 10am.

WATER QUALITY LINKS

See what the latest water testing results are by using these links:
Lee VCB: bit.ly/LeeRT
SCCF Reports: bit.ly/RiverStatus
Lee County Algae Status: leegov.com/waterqualityinfo

COASTAL CLEANUP

The annual Coastal Cleanup on FMB, sponsored by Keep Lee County Beautiful and the Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation has been postponed until October 13 due to Red Tide concerns and low beach traffic. Mark your calendar for 9am – noon on October 13 to participate. Volunteer sites are Beach School, Lovers Key State Park, Bunche Beach and Dog Beach. For more information visit klcb.org

MOUND HOUSE

The oldest standing structure on Fort Myers Beach with a historical museum inside and beautiful grounds outside including an observation pier, kayak launch and amazing back bay views. Grounds open sunrise to sunset. Museum is open TU, WE & SA from 9am-4pm. Located at 451 Connecticut

St. with overflow parking at 216 Connecticut. Call for exact times on kayak tours, costs, reservations and additional information. 239-765-0865. Upcoming programs include:

- SA Sept 29** – 7am – Sunrise Kayak Tour; 11am & 2pm – Shell Mound Tour; 1pm – Guided Museum Tour
- TU Oct 2** - 9am – Beach Walk at Newton Park (beach conditions permitting); 11am & 2pm – Shell Mound Tour; 1pm Guided Museum Tour
- WE Oct 3** – 8am – Mangroves by Kayak Tour; 10aam – Calusa Indian Tools; 11am & 2pm – Shell Mound Tour; 1pm – Guided Museum Tour
- TH Oct 4** – 6pm – Sunset Kayak Tour
- SA Oct 6** – 10:30am – Mound Key Boat 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:

- WE Oct 3** – Sensational Sharks
- FR Oct 5** – Sea Turtle Program

BOAT TOURS TO MOUND KEY

The Mound House hosts boat tours to Mound Key October through April. The tour leaves port from Fish Tale Marina aboard the Estero Bay Express for an exclusive experience including a visit to the Mound House and then onto

Mound Key, Capital of the Calusa. Learn the rich history of the Calusa as well as new findings scientists are discovering about this ancient society. Guest will disembark and hike the trails of Mound Key. Along the way, discover the ecology of Estero Bay. This trip requires walking over rough terrain. **Dates include Oct 6 & 24; Nov 3 & 20; Jan 25; Feb 8 & 23; Mar 9 & 24 and Apr 10 & 23.** Times vary. \$55/person; Members \$50. Reservations required. Call 239-765-0865 for reservations.

FARMERS MARKET

The Beach Baptist Farmers Market will open Oct 3 and run through May 29. Look for a large produce selection, local arts & crafts, handmade jewelry, soaps and specialty foods, plus BBQ and local seafood. 160 Connecticut. St. FMB.



FORT MYERS BEACH	
TOTAL NESTS.....	68
REMAINING NESTS.....	4
BONITA SPRINGS	
TOTAL NESTS.....	203
REMAINING NESTS.....	14



Anne Fossum captured this beautiful full rainbow looking down her canal between Randy Lane and Williams Drive just before a storm.

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Monday, 10/1	9:00am	Town Council
Tuesday, 10/2	9:30am	Fire Board, at Beach Library, 2755 Estero Blvd, FMB
Thursday, 10/4	9:00am	Council Planning

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

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Drag Queen BINGO 7pm
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WED Motown Grooves with Barry Lawrence 5-9pm

THU Scotty Bryan 4-8pm

FRI Jenny Ve 1-5pm
CJ & Friends 6-10pm

SAT Clive Live 1-5pm
Dogfish 5:30-9:30pm

SUN DJ TJ 12:30-6pm

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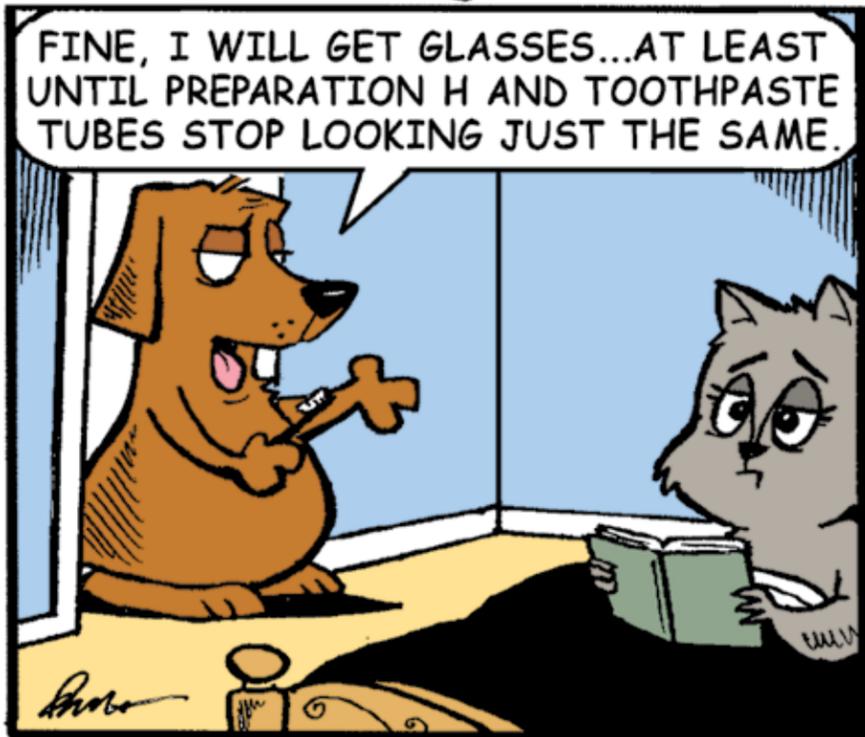


Funnies Page



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



Good Dog

A woman was with a group of friends talking about their summer activities and Sheryl asked Jeanie, "What have you been doing?"
 Jeanie: "Well, besides our trip, our little dog here, Oscar, went to the New Faith Obedience School."
 Sheryl: "Oh, that's nice, does he sit?"
 Jeanie: "Um, no, not really."
 Sheryl: "Does he roll over?"
 Jeanie: "No, he doesn't"
 Sheryl: "Well, what kind of school is that supposed to be, can't sit, can't roll over. Can he heel?"
 Just then as he heard the word, the dog jumped up in Sheryl's lap and put his paw on her forehead.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



CRIM BEAR IT

LAFF - A - DAY



"Speaking as a seasoned shopper, I am humbled by Congress' ability to"



"It's very therapeutic for her. She works at the public library!"

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- Cocktails
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Funnies Page



COMMUNITY COMICS

WHAT IS COMMUNITY COMICS

Each week I draw a cartoon and put it up on my FB page (Mark List) on Saturday morning, and ask all my FB friends to contribute captions for the cartoon. I also ask that everyone vote for the ones they think are the funniest. The ones with the most Likes by Monday or Tuesday get printed in the funnies pages that week. We do it simply for the fun of it.



"FMB town council meeting"
Sue Harvel Lowry

"Aaaargh!!! Who brings a bell to a knife fight?"
Renee Massie Hose

'Um, no, this isn't for Halloween.
This is how we normally dress!'
Keri Hendry Weeg

"FMB's Blended Family photo"
Corri Brown Francisco

"Tonight's the Pirate Pub Crawl.
You guys are 2 weeks early!"
Mike Popeye Dearden

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

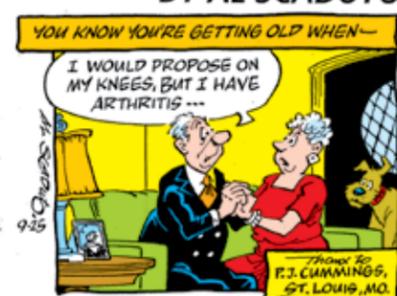
by Mike Marland



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO



OFFICE PESTS WE CAN DO WITHOUT-- THE NERD WHO COULD NEVER GET INTERESTED IN FOOTBALL TAKES A CHANGE IN THE OFFICE FOOTBALL POOL-- and LOOK AT HIM NOW...
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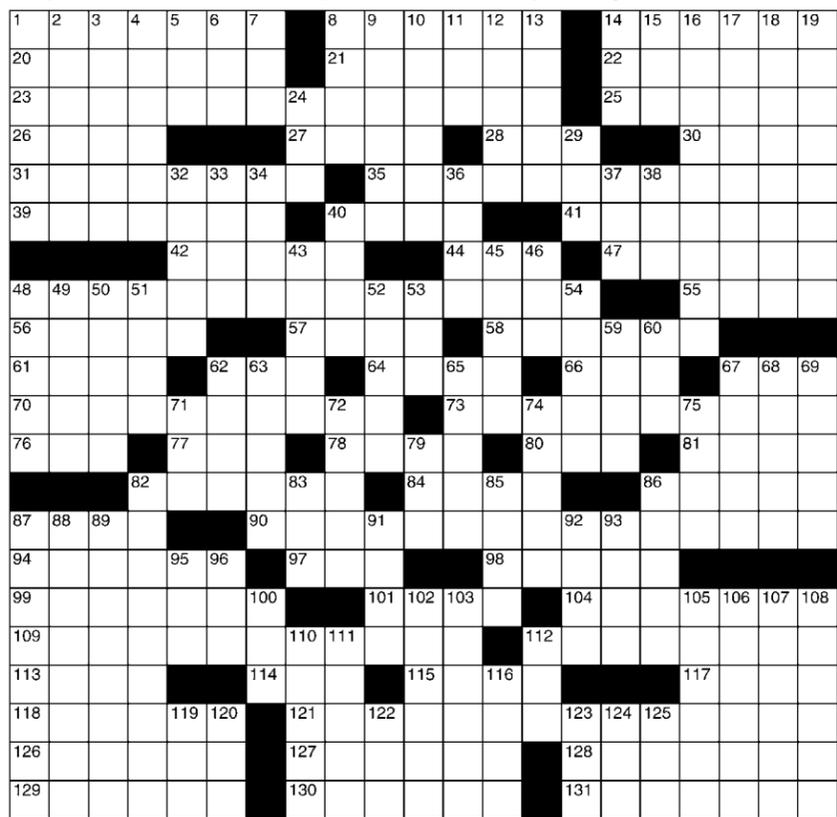
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Super Crossword

DRUNK IN THE KITCHEN

- ACROSS**
- 1 Deceive
 - 8 Scarce supply
 - 14 Champaign's twin city
 - 20 Composer Vivaldi
 - 21 Concert bonus
 - 22 "La Cage aux —"
 - 23 What Swiss steak may be braised in
 - 25 Circular window
 - 26 Personal identity
 - 27 High-arcing shots
 - 28 "Gotcha!"
 - 30 To be, in Bordeaux
 - 31 Expanded
 - 35 Ballpark snack with lots of toppings
 - 39 Amtrak stop
 - 40 Care for
 - 41 Make sad
 - 42 Title for Tuck
 - 44 Big bird that doesn't fly
 - 47 Honeybunch
 - 48 They may be sprinkled on sauteed spinach
 - 55 Partner of Porgy
 - 56 Southern French city
 - 57 Yuletide
 - 58 Quits
 - 61 Arab prince
 - 62 Mine metal
 - 64 Genie's gift
 - 66 Actor Cariou
 - 67 Actor Jacobi
 - 70 Popular cookout side
 - 73 Armour product in a can
 - 76 With 96-Down, "Hang on a minute!"
 - 77 "I'm impressed!"
 - 78 Jane of fiction
 - 80 Suffix with pagan
 - 81 Final words from Caesar
 - 82 Superstars
 - 84 Two-masted craft
 - 86 Exhorting individual
 - 87 Abnormally deep sleep
 - 90 Movie theater tubful
 - 94 Staves off
 - 97 Colo.-to-Ga. direction
 - 98 Thrashes elk
 - 99 Old World
 - 101 "'Tis a shame"
 - 104 Middy snoozes
 - 109 Specialty of Popeyes
 - 112 Cause of heartache
 - 113 Elvis' middle name
 - 114 Go — spree
 - 115 Indian tourist city
 - 117 Ride ordered by app
 - 118 Like some census data
 - 121 Rollmop's main ingredient
 - 126 Big name in online brokerages
 - 127 Alternative to PJs
 - 128 Oozing stuff
 - 129 Teeterboard
 - 130 PC-linking protocol
 - 131 Head locks
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Unlike the Atkins diet
 - 2 Ending for phenyl
 - 3 Assistance
 - 4 "I" or "J" top
 - 5 Floor model
 - 6 Empower
 - 7 Follows, as advice
 - 8 Aussie hopper
 - 9 Tire feature
 - 10 Pronoun for both genders
 - 11 Aliens' craft
 - 12 Fabled bird
 - 13 Maryland crustaceans
 - 14 Mentally alert
 - 15 Woody Allen film subject
 - 16 Sizes up
 - 17 Prehistoric
 - 18 Total up
 - 19 Schisms
 - 20 '90s veep
 - 21 Al
 - 22 "Idylls of the King" lady
 - 23 Yemeni city
 - 24 Homer's TV neighbor
 - 25 Lummo
 - 26 Sextet half
 - 27 Sleeping woe
 - 28 Lotsa
 - 29 4x4, briefly
 - 30 Judo-like exercise fad
 - 31 Financial guru Suze
 - 32 Comparable
 - 33 Sahara-like
 - 34 Info-packed
 - 35 Lilly of drugs
 - 36 Sea dogs
 - 37 Look as if
 - 38 Termination
 - 39 Certain reed
 - 40 Program for getting clean
 - 41 Lance
 - 42 Turn loose
 - 43 Western film
 - 44 Do a 180
 - 45 Palme —
 - 46 Finches' homes
 - 47 Wavy mark in Spanish
 - 48 Bygone Ford make, briefly
 - 49 Reuben bread
 - 50 Fragrant white flowers
 - 51 Natl. voting day
 - 52 Spun traps
 - 53 Agitate
 - 54 Subway charges, e.g.
 - 55 Judge too highly
 - 56 So-so
 - 57 Ship wood
 - 58 UTEP part
 - 59 Big elevator innovator
 - 60 Nugent with a guitar
 - 61 See
 - 62 76-Across
 - 63 Pi-sigma link
 - 64 Enter via the cracks
 - 65 "Life of Pi" director
 - 66 Drinks loudly
 - 67 Memoirist Wolff
 - 68 Redress
 - 69 Durable coat fabrics
 - 70 Data for a database
 - 71 Michael of "Alfie"
 - 72 Sonny
 - 73 Be still
 - 74 Mouth rinse bottle abbr.
 - 75 Writer Wallace
 - 76 Cato's 450
 - 77 33rd pres.
 - 78 Eternally, to poets
 - 79 Singer Des —



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BARSIDE

(George)



Geez George! Your wife she is mad at you! What did you do wrong?

Behind every angry woman is a man who has absolutely no idea what he did wrong.

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: **S** equals **L**

K CJB'I SKUX IJ EPC-OJTIV

OXIPSRJFUXFH EXZPTHX K

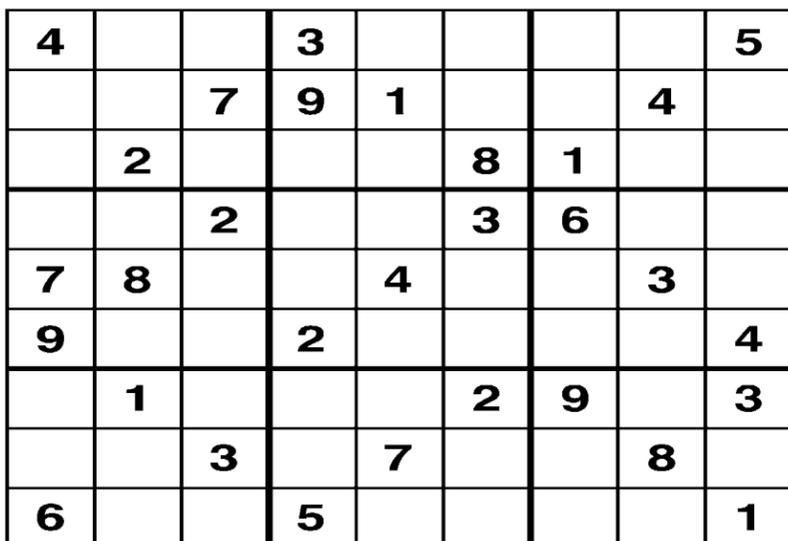
IVKBU WXJWSX HVJTSC

FXHWXZI IVXKF RXSCXFH.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the CAPITAL letters below to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word to complete the gag!



"I have two very good reasons for not taking you on the roller coaster — _____!"

Hidden:

Wild:

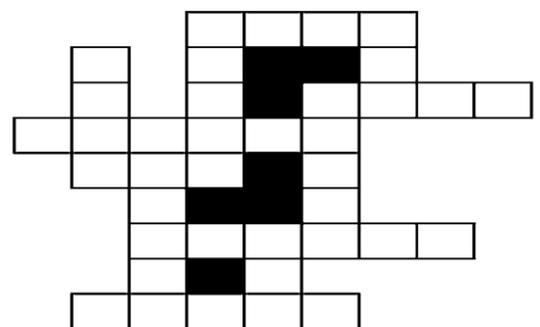
Rant:

Origin:

TODAY'S WORD

FEAR KNOT

- UHE
- LUDBOE
- ♥ GASET
- FEBE
- ADFETH
- ♥ PSA
- HARS
- ♥ TESBA
- FGA
- HOPTUS
- ♥ BRAUM
- ♥ OGSE



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

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Commentary: 'Voice of Treason'

By Jay Light

Somehow, I was not surprised to see all five Councilpersons on the dais at Monday morning's Council meeting. The "alternative reality" that has taken over the government in Washington has finally reared its ugly head in Fort Myers Beach.

It would have been too much to assume that Mayor Tracey Gore and Councilman Dennis Boback would have had the decency to resign - even after being caught red-handed and recorded by an alert citizen - discussing and offering support to Chris Patton, the local resident who is suing the Town over Council's approval of the TPI-Margaritaville project. The unnamed citizen, a member of the Estero Island Taxpayer's Association, gave the material to the group's executive director, Beverly Milligan, who turned it over to the State's Attorney's office to pursue. The story was released in a bombshell report in last week's Sand Paper. The whole recording is over 40 minutes long and so far, only a few snippets have been released. And they are plenty damning.

One only needs to read the transcripts of the recording, made in front of God and everybody at a local bar, to conclude that both Boback and Gore violated Sunshine and Ethics laws. The transcripts are the proverbial "smoking gun." And reportedly, there is more damaging evidence in the rest of the recordings.

Gore is now doubling down against the allegation, claiming that she has done nothing wrong. If she's done nothing wrong, why does she say several times, "...if I'm going to go to jail, I'm going to jail." Another quote, "I don't know if I'm going to make it to the end," confirms that she knew damned well that what she was doing was illegal, or at least, wrong. Her statement to Patton, "Well, let's get together and work on a strategy," can only be seen as willingness to

conspire with Patton against the Town, of which she is mayor and has sworn an oath to support and defend.

Gore stated to the News-Press that she was "stunned," and doubted that the recording even exists, or if it does, if it is truly her on the audio. Really? A concerned citizen recognizes them, overhears them conspiring against the town in a public place, records it, and Gore doesn't believe that it is she on the audio? Wow.

This lawsuit is likely to drag on for months and could cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. The idea that she and Boback could participate in Council strategy sessions on how the Town should defend the suit, while conspiring with the plaintiff to support it, is the best definition ever of a conflict of interest. Even Patton said that she's not supposed to talk about the lawsuit and Gore replied, "I don't care. I might quit and join you." She should follow her instincts.

Another interesting revelation was her dismissing the importance of people speaking in Public Comment at meetings: "Even if the entire world, everybody there wants something I don't want, if I don't like it, I ain't voting for it." It was for that reason that I didn't bother to say anything at the Monday meeting. It was nice, however, to hear her mother and some close friends tell her that they loved and supported her. I assume she didn't dismiss those statements. (I'm sure my mother loved me, too, but when she thought I had screwed up, she told me so.) Thanks to former mayor Ray Murphy for telling Gore and Boback that they needed to resign and spare the Town the anguish that this revelation of their betrayal is going to cause.

Boback apparently didn't say much, at least on the part of the recording that was released. Nonetheless, he was there and should have stopped the conversation. (He was on TV telling the reporter that he knew what the Sun-

shine laws were.) I do have to thank him for confirming my allegation, in a piece published several weeks ago, that it really is Bob Conidaris, the owner of the Lani Kai, who is funding the lawsuit and that Patton is fronting it for him. Patton's husband said that one of Conidaris' attorneys "grabbed" Chris for the lawsuit. Boback's statement, "Conidaris couldn't sue. It had to be someone else," says it all.

Furthermore, Gore's attorney has sent a letter to the Sand Paper and the EITA demanding that they retract what they are calling "defamatory" statements about her. I've got some bad news for her: The moment she announced her candidacy for office, she became a public figure, which, under the 1st Amendment of the Constitution, gives anyone the right to voice opinions, criticize others, and comment on matters of public interest. The other point is that, for any criticism to be defamatory, it has to be untrue. If her lawyer didn't explain this to her, she really should get a new lawyer.

Final thoughts; If Gore and Boback really cared about the well-being of the town, they would have persuaded their dear friend, Patton, to drop the lawsuit and refuse to be Bob Conidaris' pawn. Instead, they did the opposite. They should resign.

Secondly, whoever the yet-undisclosed citizen is who took the photo and made the recording, should be nominated for "Citizen of the Year."

Third, the Sand Paper should join the Washington Post and New York Times in being nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for being willing to reveal misdeeds of government officials.

Finally, the best quote came from a local resident who said about both Gore and Boback: "They ran for office as the 'Voice of Reason. They've revealed themselves to be the 'Voice of Treason'."

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Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
F	28 High	2:39 AM	3.0	7:19 AM	Set 10:27 AM	92
	28 Low	9:15 AM	0.5	7:18 PM	Rise 9:58 PM	
	28 High	4:08 PM	2.6			
	28 Low	8:56 PM	1.6			
Sa	29 High	3:12 AM	3.2	7:20 AM	Set 11:26 AM	85
	29 Low	10:08 AM	0.4	7:17 PM	Rise 10:43 PM	
	29 High	5:11 PM	2.3			
	29 Low	9:24 PM	1.7			
Su	30 High	3:50 AM	3.2	7:20 AM	Set 12:27 PM	77
	30 Low	11:12 AM	0.4	7:15 PM	Rise 11:33 PM	
	30 High	6:36 PM	2.1			
	30 Low	9:55 PM	1.8			
M	1 High	4:38 AM	3.2	7:20 AM	Set 1:27 PM	67
	1 Low	12:29 PM	0.4	7:14 PM		
	1 High	8:47 PM	2.1			
	1 Low	10:33 PM	2.0			
Tu	2 High	5:40 AM	3.0	7:21 AM	Rise 12:27 AM	57
	2 Low	1:54 PM	0.4	7:13 PM	Set 2:26 PM	
W	3 High	7:06 AM	3.0	7:21 AM	Rise 1:26 AM	45
	3 Low	3:12 PM	0.4	7:12 PM	Set 3:23 PM	
	3 High	11:22 PM	2.2			
Th	4 Low	2:14 AM	2.1	7:22 AM	Rise 2:29 AM	34
	4 High	8:47 AM	3.0	7:11 PM	Set 4:15 PM	
	4 Low	4:17 PM	0.4			
	4 High	11:50 PM	2.3			
F	5 Low	3:43 AM	1.8	7:22 AM	Rise 3:33 AM	23
	5 High	10:14 AM	3.0	7:10 PM	Set 5:04 PM	
	5 Low	5:09 PM	0.4			

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A	N	T	O	N	I	O	E	N	C	O	R	E	F	O	L	L	E	S	
S	T	E	W	E	D	T	O	M	A	T	O	E	S	O	C	U	L	U	S
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D.I.Y. COCONUT SHELL PLANTER



List

The late Joel Brown, local since 1947, told the story in a Historic Society lecture on Island Memories in 2001, that as a kid he sawed coconuts in half and stuffed them with orchids for Christmas gifts.

CryptoQuip answer

I don't like to bad-mouth metalworkers because I think people should respect their welders.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Secret;
2. Feral;
3. Tirade;
4. Source

Today's Word

COLD FEET

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer

		R	A	S	H				
E		U			U				
G		M		B	E	E	F		
D	O	U	B	L	E				
S	P	A		A					
	S			S					
	H	A	F	T	E	D			
	O		A						
S	T	A	G	E					

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Water Conditions FMB

Sept 26, 2018

By Missy Layfield
 editor@fortmyersbeach.news

Red Tide: The mid-week September 19, 2018 Florida Fish & Wildlife Report continues to show Red Tide along 135 miles of Southwest Florida coastline and extending 10 miles out into the Gulf, the same distribution as last week.

Observations of over 1 million *Karenia brevis* cells/liter ("high" concentrations) were noted in and/or offshore of Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte and Lee counties and over 20 miles offshore of Collier County. Fish kills and respiratory irritation were reported from Collier to Pinellas counties.

According to the September 21 FWC report, no location testing was done on Fort Myers Beach in the last week. The report lists only a September 13 test done 28 miles west of Estero Island that showed High levels of Red Tide. The next complete FWC red tide status report will be posted on Friday, September 28, 2018.

The SCCF recovered 14 dead sea turtles from Sanibel beaches in the past week: 5 loggerheads, 7 Kemps Ridley, 1 Green and 1 unknown due to decomposition. CROW's wildlife hospital treated 23 new patients with Red Tide symptoms, including birds and turtles.

Earlier this week, hundreds of dead crabs washed ashore at Bonita Beach and Barefoot Beach to the south. Observers reported visible darkening of the water at Lovers Key State Park on Tuesday with fish kill and odor noted. On Wednesday morning, the water at Newton Park, mid-island, was clear, with some red drift algae onshore and in the water. No odor, no dead fish noted. Lynn Hall Park beach was clear. No odor or dead fish, but the water was a dark, red-

dish color. Fort Myers Beach and Lee County continue to clean the beaches as needed.

Blue-Green Algae: On September 24, 2018, the Lee County Environmental Lab documented sparse cyanobacteria blooms of *Microcystis* at Franklin locks, upstream. *Microcystis* was not present at the Alva boat ramp, downstream of the Franklin locks, Davis boat ramp, Midpoint Bridge Park and North Shore Park along the Caloosahatchee River.

Summary: Some decrease in the levels of *Microcystis* cyanobacteria were noted in the past week in the Caloosahatchee River. Red Tide continues to be present along the SWFL coastline from Lee County northward. The Red Tide bloom extends more than 10 miles out into the Gulf of Mexico and High levels were found over 20 miles offshore of Collier County.

The SCCF previously reported a dead zone of no oxygen of about 25 square miles offshore of Lee County.

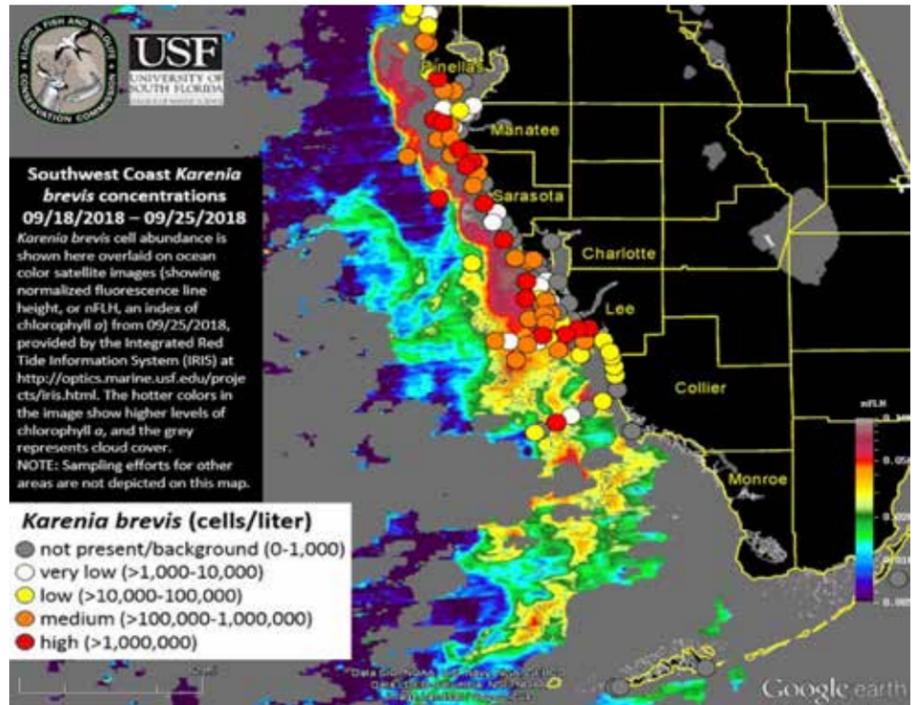
Water quality on Fort Myers Beach Dead crabs washed ashore at Barefoot continues to vary by day, location and time, as it has for the past 2 months, depending on wind and water currents.

Residents and visitors are urged to check the latest water quality reports:

Lee VCB: bit.ly/LeeRT

SCCF Reports: bit.ly/RiverStatus

Lee County Algae Status: leegov.com/waterqualityinfo



September 26, 2018 FWC Red Tide map. Courtesy of FWC.



Dead crabs washed ashore at Barefoot Beach and Bonita Beach earlier this week. Photo courtesy of Calusa Waterkeeper.



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Starts on **Friday Sept 28**

Doors open at 5:00 PM.



Smallfoot
 [PG] 6:00 8:15

Migo is a friendly Yeti whose world gets turned upside down when he discovers something that he didn't know existed -- a human.

Starring : Channing Tatum, James Corden, Zendaya, Common



A Simple Favor
 [R] 5:50 8:30

A woman seeks to uncover the truth behind the disappearance of her best friend.

Starring : Anna Kendrick, Blake Lively, Henry Golding |



Life Itself
 [R] 5:15 8:15

As a young New York couple goes from college romance to marriage and the birth of their first child, the unexpected twists of their journey create reverberations that echo over continents and through lifetimes.

Starring:: Oscar Isaac, Olivia Wilde, Annette Bening



Crazy Rich Asians
 [PG-13] 5:15 8:15

This contemporary romantic comedy, based on a global best-seller, follows native New Yorker Rachel Chu to Singapore to meet her boyfriend's family.

Starring: Constance Wu and Henry Golding

Ticket Prices: - Matinee - \$10.50 (\$12.50 3D) - Adult - \$13.00 (\$15.00 3D) - Senior (65) & Child (12 and under- \$10.50 (\$12.50 3D)

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WHO'S PLAYING WHERE ON AND AROUND THE BEACH

CLUB	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
THE WHALE 1249 Estero Blvd 463-5505	BOBBY BLAKEY 6PM	MEG ROSE 6-9PM	SAM DEARMOND 6-9PM			ROGER YOUNG 6-9PM	TYLER KLUSNER 6-9PM
CASTAWAYS Santini Marina Plaza 463-4644	BACKLASH 8-12PM	ROCKER 8-MIDNIGHT					ELECTRIC LIPSTICK 8-MIDNIGHT
COTTAGE Gulfshore Grill 765-5440	TROUBLEMAKERS 9PM-1AM	CHARLIE MOON 9-1AM	TROUBLEMAKERS 9-1PM	STEVE McDUGALL 4-7PM 3 CROOKED STEPS 9PM-1AM	BOBBY BLAKEY 4-7PM BAD BANDITOS 9PM-1AM	STEVE McDUGALL 4-7PM CHARLIE MOON 9-1	CHRIS CASDIA 4-7 NEW VINYLs 9PM-1AM
DIXIE FISH CO. Fisherman's Wharf 233-8837	MARK WESLEY 5:30PM-9:30PM	SOME LITTLE FISH 5:30PM-9:30PM	GIRL MEETS BOY 4PM		TEQUILA TOM 5:30PM	JEFF LYONS 5:30-8:30PM	SAM DEARMOND 5:30PM
DOC FORDS 708 Fishermans Whf. 765-9660			DEB AND THE DYNAMICS 1-4PM			GIRL MEETS BOY 6:30-9:30PM	
MATANZAS on the BAY 414 Crescent 463-3838	DANIEL D 5-9PM	SCOTTY BRYAN 12-5PM MARY WINNER 5-9PM	DONNA LEE HOLMAN 12-5PM SAILOR LARRY 5-9PM	SCOTTY BRYAN 5-9PM	SAILOR LARRY 5-9PM	PETE BEARD 5-9PM	MARY WINNER 5-9PM
NAUTI PARROT 19001 SAN CARLOS BLVD 314-5667				BUBBA LOVE 5-8PM EDM MOONDAYS 9PM - 2AM	FAWNY 4-8PM DRAG QUEEN BINGO 7-10PM	BARRY LAWRENCE 5-9PM	SCOTTY BRYANT 4-8PM
NERVOUS NELLIES 1131 1st St 463-8077	KEVON 6-10PM	KEVON 12-4pm SHAWN "HUSTLE" RUSSELL 6-10PM	SMOKIN BILL 12-4PM HIGH TIDE 6-10PM	JEFF JOHNSON 6-10	SMOKIN BILL 6-10PM	MICHAEL ANTOINE 6-10PM	RaSHIMBA BLOOM 6-10PM
OUTRIGGER 6200 Estero Blvd 463-3131	ALAN SMALL 5-8	MEAGAN ROSE & SMOKIN' BILL 2-5PM	PRINCESS & SMALLTOWN 2-5PM	JENNY V 5-8PM	MEAGAN ROSE 5-8PM	ENDRE D 5-8PM	TWO HANDS 5-8PM
PARROT KEY Salty Sam's Marina 463-3257		FRANK TORINO 7-10PM					
PETE'S TIME OUT Time Square 463-5900			DANIEL D 6-10PM	DAVE ROJAS 6-10PM	AARON SEYFFERTH 6-10PM	DAVE COLLATON 6-10PM	JAMES GRAGG 6-10PM
PIERSIDE BY TOWN PIER 765-7800	SHERRIN 1-5 JEFF WHIDBY 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 1-5 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 1-5 BILL ZINK 7-10	ANTHONY WAYNE 1-5 SHERRIN 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
SALTY CRAB 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
SHARK BAR & GRILLE				COLLABORATION BAND 7-10PM			BRENDA B KARAOKE 7-10PM
SOBs Old San Carlos Blvs 463-3474	ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10PM	WILL KAISER 6-10	LEE HAGAN 6-10PM	WILL KAISER 6-10	ANTHONY WAYNE 6-10	FRANK THOMPSON 6-10	SHAWN RUSSELL 6-10
SUNSET BEACH FMB TIMES SQUARE 463-1028	BARRY 8-12PM	MATT 1-5PM	BARRY 1-5PM		CLIVE LIVE 8PM		ACOUSTIC FIRE 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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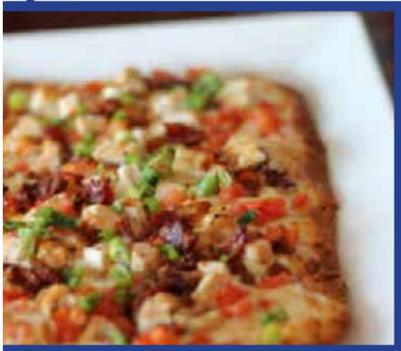
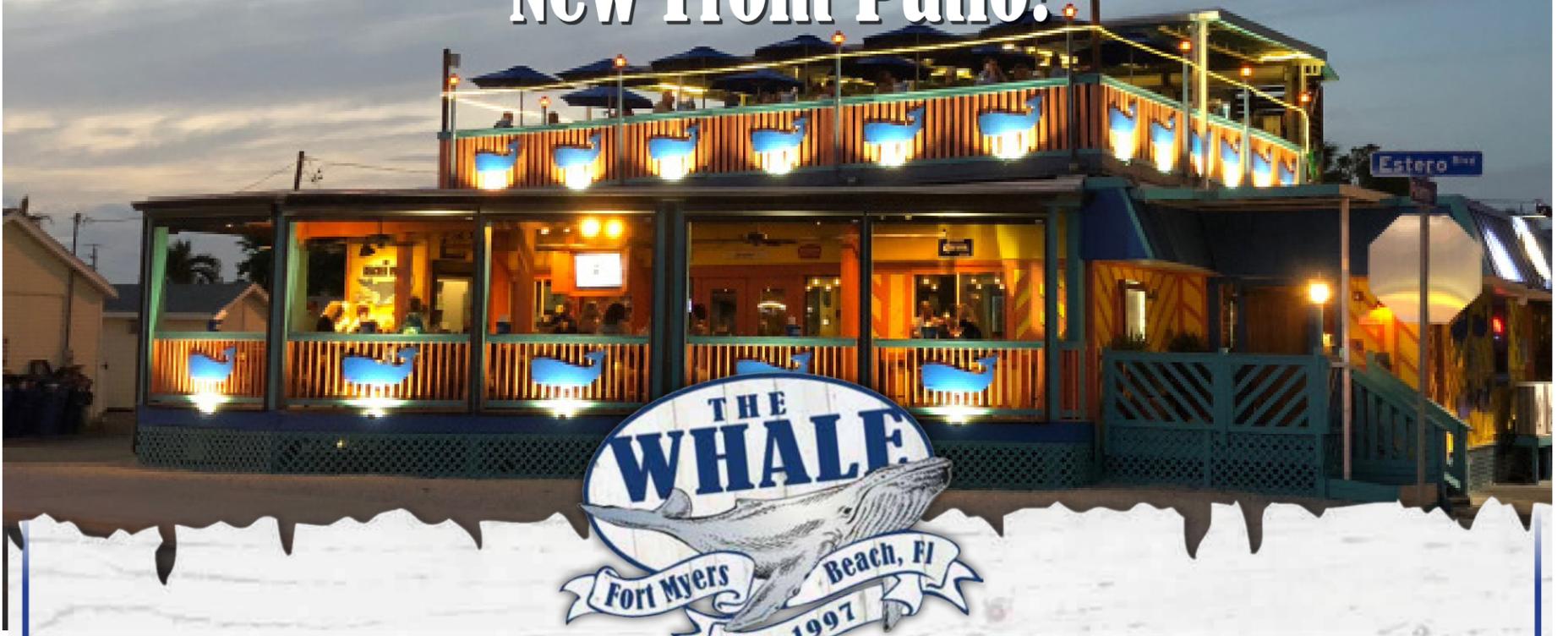
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