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"By Islanders, For Islanders"

November 16, 2018

FREE

FMB Woman's Club Renaissance Organization Enjoys a Rebirth



Woman's Club building as seen in 1992 photo. Courtesy of Estero Island Historical Society.

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

Three years ago, the Fort Myers Beach Woman's Club was nearing its 65th anniversary, but with less than one-third that many members. Then Beverley Milligan attended a Board Meeting, though she had no intention of joining.

"I came here to discuss using the FMB Woman's Club as the host location for the newly-formed Estero Island Taxpayers Association meetings," she recalled. "As I learned more about the Club, I saw the opportunity, and by the time I walked out, I was a member! While I heard many exciting things, I learned about the dwindling membership and realized the Club needed to do something besides hosting bridge. It needed to appeal to younger people or there would not be a next generation of members. Also, the building itself was underused, showing its age and needed work, so I promised myself I would do everything in my power to help turn the situation quickly around, because I loved the sense of comradery and community

I experienced here. The Club has a rich history and legacy, and I wanted to ensure another generation would share that." Beverley hopped in with both feet and is now Club President! Claire Langer is a Past President and current Board member. "I have been in the FMB Woman's Club for about 10 years and that still makes me a 'newbie,'" she said with a smile! "Even though the Woman's Club started in the 1940s and we have been in this building since the 1950s, it is the people who keep me coming back, because they are an unbelievably tight group! I don't know any Woman's Club member who is not truly a nice person, and you especially discover that when life throws you a curve, should you become sick or in the hospital, or are a widow or widower, because everyone rallies around you."

"If Claire is a 'newbie,' than I am a 'newbie's newbie,'" laughed Mari Torgerson. "Beverley began a community membership drive about a year ago and approached me, not only about the Woman's Club history, but its future plans and I was hooked! Now I am a Board Member-at-Large as

[Cont'd pg. 6]

"Toy For Kids" Shamrock Hosts Xmas Benefit

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

Mike Hotz may own a bar more associated with St. Patrick's Day, but this Sunday, the Shamrock Irish Pub is all about Christmas! The "Toys For Kids" benefit is at the Shamrock on Sunday, November 18, at 2201 Estero Boulevard from 1 to 6 p.m. While this is the 18th annual "Toys For Kids" event, it is the first hosted by the Shamrock.

"Toys For Kids" started with the Stott Family when they owned the former Casey's Alley," Mike explained. "After they closed, it shifted to The Beach Pub, and with their recent ownership change, they asked me to carry the torch. This is such an on-going Fort Myers Beach tradition, to ensure all beach kids enjoy a Merry Christmas, I said I would! It is such a worthwhile annual event, it was important to me we keep it running."

Mike emphasized that you do not need a ticket to attend, nor is there a charge. "Your price of admission is a new and unwrapped toy! There will be great music by a new beach band called 'Play Dead' who are contributing their talents to get out the word about themselves. They play classic Rock-&-Roll, with their mainstay music from 'The Grateful Dead,' and will entertain from 1 to 5 p.m. We have a terrific cook, and Robbie will be providing plenty of pulled pork with all the fixings, donating a portion of each sale to 'Toys For Kids,' so even when you are eating, you will be making a contribution. We will offer 'Happy Hour' prices throughout the afternoon, so come thirsty!"

In addition to the music, food and drink, the Shamrock will have a silent auction, raffles and 50/50 drawings all afternoon. "We received so many great donations from island businesses and the

[Cont'd pg. 12]

Town Getting Out of Trash Biz? Council Talks TS Trash & Rent

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

Sometimes when you are discussing a complicated issue, the answer can be staring you right in the face!

At its Management & Planning Session on Thursday morning, November 8, the Town Council of Fort Myers Beach struggled for over two hours to determine a possible solution to end its Times Square trash hauling deal with 13 merchants that goes back to Lee County's closure of the public roadway to create the pedestrian-only plaza. The Town subsidizes, through taxpayer dollars, approximately two-thirds of the roughly \$80,000 annual labor cost, with Times Square businesses paying the remaining third.

While Council members reviewed complex charts, price breakdowns, and a Times Square history based part in fact and part

in lore from stories passed down through word-of-mouth from one Town staff to another, like a bizarre family genealogy, two Advanced Disposal representatives sat silently in the audience. With Council members stating repeatedly into the third hour that they want out of the Times Square trash business, Town Staff once again received direction to prepare another possible solution for an upcoming meeting. At this point, Council member Anita Cereceda, almost as an afterthought, stated that perhaps they should hear from Advanced Disposal.

"We've assisted the Town in its various scenarios," began Advanced Disposal General Manager Larry Wynberg, referring to Town staff discussions about potential Times Square trash compactor and recycling option locations. "We have, however, smaller trucks that could operate in Times Square, just like for any other street that needs

[Cont'd pg. 10]

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Letters to the Editor

PAINT THE BEACH

Fort Myers Beach Art Association and Paint the Beach chairmen would like to thank everyone involved in making the plein air festival a wonderful event once again. Thank you to our sponsors here in the town as well as those national sponsors who provided prizes for the artists. Without their support the event would not occur.

Thank you to the Island Sand Paper for advertising space and to them, the Observer, and River Weekly for all the coverage of our event.

A very special thank you to Al Durrett and the Greater Fort Myers Beach Friends of the Arts who support Paint the Beach. Without Al's vision, this event would never have happened. It's been nine years since we began, and Al is still behind us all the way. Thank you!

Lastly, thank you to the residents and businesses of Fort Myers Beach who welcomed the artists. The warmth with which they are received is especially appreciated by all.

A very special thank you to the following local sponsors for their support large and small: Greater Fort Myers Beach Friends of the Arts, Smokin' Oyster Brewery, Oyster Bay Park, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Junkanoo's on the Beach, Matanzas on the Bay, Red Coconut RV Park, Nervous Nellie's, Island Sand Paper Media, Publix, Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel, Skye's Mexican Restaurant, Krusty Pete's, Tuckaway Café and Panther Printing.

A huge thank you to the national sponsors of prizes and gifts: Plein Air Magazine, Cheap Joe's Art Supplies, Blick Art Materials, Gamblin Oil Colors, Golden Artists Colors, Jack Richeson & Co, Rosemary's Brushes and Watercolor & Artist Magazine

Marie Crist
2018 Paint the Beach Co-Chairman

ROOM FOR BOTH

We recently read, in another publication, a statement by Robert Conidaris. This was part of an advertisement for the Lani Kai Island Resort which Mr. Conidaris owns and developed. He stated the following, "...but when an out-of-state development firm comes onto our peaceful little island trying to build a monstrosity three times the size of what the north end can handle, it's outrageous."

Perhaps Mr. Conidaris has forgotten that he came to Fort Myers Beach from Rochester, New York and was the out-of-state commercial developer who built the Lani Kai, a monstrous 6 to 7 floor structure (the roof is being used extensively) that was the largest commercial property on the beach for quite some time. Wasn't he fortunate to not be under the current building codes and that he has made quite a good profit on his monstrous facility! Mr. Conidaris should spend his time and advertising dollars on improving his facility as we're sure his concern is a new and

beautiful competitor will be eating into his profits.

There's room for both facilities on the island and the TPI Margaritaville development will not only enhance the attractiveness of Fort Myers Beach but bring new life to a worn out area of our town.

Diane Wilson, Karen Perreira & Sandy Bostic
Fort Myers Beach

GIVING TUESDAY; SUPPORT GOLISANO

Imagine having a critically injured or sick child in need of immediate medical attention, but the nearest pediatric hospital is a two-hour drive from home. Just a few short years ago, that was the situation faced by many Southwest Florida families who traveled to Tampa or Miami for specialized pediatric care.

Thanks to this community's generosity, the state-of-the-art Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida opened in May 2017 and allowed local children to undergo lifesaving care in close proximity to their homes.

But just because we have a spectacular new building doesn't mean private support is no longer needed. Inside the hospital are world-class medical professionals, cutting-edge technologies and innovative, life-changing programs like dialysis and a burn treatment service that wouldn't be possible without philanthropic support. With your generosity, Golisano Children's Hospital is able to deliver exceptional health care and expanded services that the children of this community deserve.

On Tuesday, Nov. 27, the Lee Health Foundation is participating in Giving Tuesday, a nationwide movement to support nonprofit organizations that rely on philanthropy to carry out their missions. Giving Tuesday donations will be directed toward the Little Red Wagon Fund, which helps finance our outstanding pediatric programs and services.

Nearly 70 percent of pediatric patients at Golisano Children's Hospital are uninsured or on Medicaid, so the fund assures those children have access to the same level of medical care as others. The Little Red Wagon Fund also helps Golisano Children's Hospital recruit and retain top talent, ensuring that local children are being treated by the best and brightest health professionals in the medical field.

We've made donating very simple this year. Just visit bit.ly/Golisano and click on the "Donate" button.

For more information about Giving Tuesday, please call 239-214-0898 or follow Lee Health Foundation on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Armando Llechu
Chief Administrative Officer
Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida



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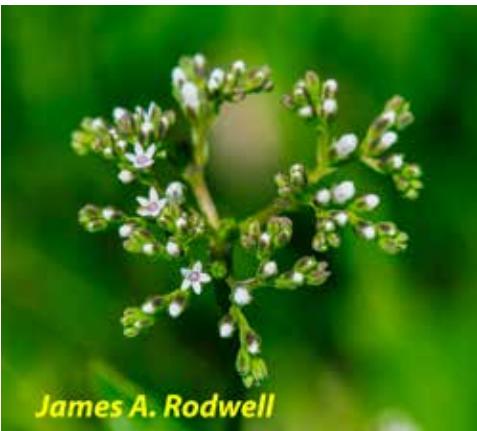
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Beach Botany by Jim Rodwell



James A. Rodwell

LAX HORNPOD

Lax Hornpod, *Mitreola petiolata*, is a wetland plant that grows in swamps, pond margins, marshes and wet flatwoods in every county in the State. An erect herbaceous annual grows to a height of about 30 inches. Leaves are opposite and widely spaced. Leaf shape is lanceolate with slightly toothed margins. Length of leaves 1 to 3 inches. Several secondary branches occur from the leaf axils.

Clusters of tiny flowers grow in a cyme inflorescence at the tip of each branch. Corolla has five white petals surrounding five fused pink stamens. Fruit is a capsule holding several tiny seeds. Blooming occurs spring and fall.

There are three native species in the genus *Mitreola*. Family is Loganiaceae. The specimen in the picture was found growing alongside a swell in my favorite prairie along Daniels Parkway.

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

The Mound House kicked off its 2nd annual Lecture Series on Tuesday evening, November 13, before an overflow crowd of over 50 people. Brandy Norton, a field technician from the Seminole Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO), discussed the diets of the Native American population. The Series began one month later than planned, as Hurricane Michael forced the Mound House to cancel the October program, as the storm prevented the October meeting speaker from attending.

Norton earned her Bachelor's degree from DePaul University and her Master's in Bioarchaeology from The University of Chicago. "I am originally from Michigan and moved to Florida to start working with the Seminole THPO in March 2017," she told the audience. "Now that it's snowing up north, I am happier than ever that I did!" Norton explained that the Seminole Tribe in Florida established the THPO in 2002, that it employs 18 people and oversees more than 90,000 acres on 6 reservations, as well as working with the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, the first tribal museum to earn accreditation, and their current mission is to help similar tribal institutions to do the same.

The Seminole Tribe governs themselves through the 2013 Cultural Resources Ordinance.

What's For Dinner? Mound House Lecture Series



Brandy Norton, archeologist for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, kicked off the monthly Mound House Lecture Series this week with a discussion of the Seminole diet. PHOTO BY GARY MOONEY.

"That is similar to the National Register of Historic Places, for which the Mound House is now up for inclusion," Brandy related. "That is why you do not see many Seminole properties on the National Register – there are only two. This means the Seminole Tribal community has full authority over what we unearth and what we will and will not preserve; all we do is make recommendations. What is important to them, we protect and I am not a tribal member – obviously!"

TREE PEOPLE

She explained that her research is on the dietary and environmental implications of animal

use on the North American population in the Okeechobee Basin area. "We call them the 'tree people,' and I examined 19,149 bones from a 2016 excavation. When we conduct archaeology, we are looking for people and not dinosaurs, to study material remains for past human life activities through excavation, and we coordinate these with oral histories from the Seminole to reach our conclusions. In Tribal archaeology, the work we do with the community itself is as important as what we unearth, and we run everything past them and ask them questions, almost interrogating them, to understand their priorities."

The areas the Tribal archaeologists study are called 'Tree Islands.' "These are elevated lands in the Everglades," Norton related, "where water flows on all sides to carve out higher areas that became places where people lived, on dry land, called hammocks. They had a great deal of oak and palm trees, with yummy food all around. The specific site we examine is North Crescent, with a bushy bunch of trees near the center. Since it is a hammock, there would be a high probability that people lived there, so we put shovels in the ground, up to about the top of my head, and found a lot of artifacts, like animal bones and hides and scales and shells, with those called 'faunal remains.' That made it a perfect test unit."

Cont'd next pg.

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Mound House Lecture Series, Continued

24,258 & COUNTING

Brandy explained that archaeologists study faunal remains "because they tell us a lot! What animals lived there; where people lived by discarded trash; what people ate; how they prepared food; their dietary preferences and tools. In my research, I examined 24,258 faunal remains. Through radiocarbon testing, burning and cutmarks, we tie those together with climate studies between the years 375 BC to 1630 A.D. and compared results. We discovered that turtles, fish and snakes were the most common, while the biggest surprise was that deer were so low on the list. Turtles, for example, dramatically increase in numbers when the climate gets warm and wet, and decline when it turns colder, as climate change impacts the availability of all resources. More rain, for example, leads to more fish, with less rain less fish."

When Norton examines burn marks, "these tell us quite a few things, like cooking techniques, and which animals died for food versus those killed by forest fires, though I am not a big dead animal fan as I am a vegetarian! Cutmarks are another indicator, though I only studied 870 bones so far, so there is a lot more research to do in this area, but that is what we do! Cutmarks are interesting because a high amount makes me think they were for food, because why else

would they interact with a sharp object."

Norton stated in conclusion: "What we do as Tribal archaeologists is different because we integrate oral histories into our research. While archaeology is a science, I appreciate that perspective is equally as important. Bones do not tell us everything, as listening to the tribal members can change your perspective. We will never know everything, but in doing Tribal archaeology, you never have the final say because the land belongs to the Seminoles, and I just work for them."

An audience member asked Norton how her research actually pertains to the Seminole Tribe, since her latest study date of 1620 predates the Seminoles by roughly 200 years. "I get that question a lot, but to me it makes sense! When you talk to the community members, they utilize similar resources in a very similar manner in a similar environment, with these similarities meaning a lot to the Seminoles. An example is the Seminoles like to think of themselves as descendants of the Calusa Indians, who lived right here where we are tonight at the Mound House. We cannot prove this, but they are a very proud people who think of themselves as a culture that was strong enough to outlast the European invasion. The fact that they survived, stuck around and made this land their own is a cultural history that is

very important to them."

MONTHLY LECTURE

The Mound House Lectures are offered on the 2nd Tuesday of each month through April 2019 for a \$5 fee. Amy Clifton, a regional biologist with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, will discuss the "Imperiled Species Management Plan" on December 11. On January 8, the Mound House hopes to reschedule Archaeologist Ivor Mollema and "Underwater Archaeology" that Hurricane Michael canceled in October. February 12 is a program on bees and their importance to our environment. March 12 focuses on water quality, and Andrew West of "The News-Press" closes the series on April 9. A Social half-hour with refreshments begins at 5:30 p.m., with the lectures from 6 to 7 p.m.

The Mound House, Estero Island's oldest standing structure now operates as a museum complex, offering roughly 50 programs each month. Admission is \$10 for ages 13 & up, \$8 for students with IDs, \$5 ages 6 to 12, and 5 & under free, with Town residents receiving a 50% discount. It is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Mound House is at 451 Connecticut Street, with additional parking at 216 Connecticut; for information call 239-765-0865 or see www.moundhouse.org.

Candidate Announcement Rexann Hosafros Town Council



I am happy to announce that I am running for the Fort Myers Beach Town Council. I recently served a term as a council person and am honored that I was Vice Mayor for part of that time. I learned a great deal about the job of council person, and I definitely will apply that knowledge to making the town work better. If you are new to the area, I invite you to ask other islanders about my performance. The office of council person is a job. There is a great deal of preparation necessary for the meetings. My legal career prepared me for this work, and I believe in doing the mounds of reading and asking lots of questions. I also believe that the citizens are entitled to a representative that will act in a professional manner. Civility and diligence should always be present. I look forward to talking with all who have a love of Fort Myers Beach.

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 March ballot. All announcements are provided by the candidates.

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by Fort Myers Beach Observer



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FMB Woman's Club members (L to R) Claire Langer, Mari Torgerson & Beverley Milligan.
PHOTO BY GARY MOONEY.

well as Events Committee Chair." In large part due to Beverley's recruiting, membership rose from 19 to 62 people and continues to grow. "That was and is no easy task," she explained. "We spent a year with the Board members, sorting out and redefining the Club's mission, then started recruiting last October. I put together a PowerPoint presentation and showed it to my friends and other area non-profits, then to friends-of-friends, and people showed an immediate interest and signed up."

NOT FOR WOMEN ONLY

Despite its title, the FMB Woman's Club allows men! "Of our 62 members, a handful are guys, including our 1st Vice President," related Beverley. "And while they are not official members," Claire added, "many of our husbands might as well be, because they volunteer to our various causes and renovation work on the building."

One new aspect of the FMB Woman's Club immediately appealed to the non-profits. "We created the 'Fort Myers Beach Alliance of Non-Profits,'" Beverley offered. "Representatives meet every other month, to support one-another, compare notes, share respective activities and partnership opportunities. This led us to create the 'Community Calendar,' so we compliment rather than compete with each other."

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This partnership is already paying off through a new FMB Woman's Club program, the inaugural "Christmas Tree Festival" from Friday, December 14, through Sunday, December 16. "We will have at least 16 decorated Christmas trees from various beach non-profits," said Mari. "The individual groups will wholly design, develop and decorate their own tree, so each will be completely unique. Guests will then bid on them in a Silent Auction, with the funds going back to the Woman's Club. The goal is that when we walk out of here on Sunday, all the trees are gone!"

"The Woman's Club is working hand-in-hand with the Beach Kids Foundation through the 'Christmas Tree Festival,'" added Beverley. "They collect and distribute toys to all island children so everyone celebrates a

FMB Woman's Club Renaissance Organization Enjoys a Rebirth, Cont'd from pg.1

Merry Christmas. We suggest you bring an unwrapped new toy on Friday and Sunday, and that is your admission on Saturday. We are co-promoting 'Christmas Market at The Mound House' on that Saturday that includes free Mound House admission from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m."

"Christmas Tree Festival" hours on Friday are from 4:30 to 8 p.m., and will feature the Southwest Florida Drill Team, Cypress Lake High School Holiday entertainment, light refreshments, and Cash Bar. Saturday is from 4:30 to 8 p.m., with a \$5 or unwrapped new toy admission, with a People's Choice Award Chili Tasting Contest, along with Christmas treats such as cookies and peanut brittle for sale. Sunday is from 4 to 7 p.m., with Santa Claus giving a gift-wrapped book to each child, acoustic music from David Rojas, Jr., Carballo's Catering food truck, desserts for sale from Truly Scrumptious, cash bar, and the conclusion of the Christmas Tree Silent Auction, "so if there is one you really like, you better return that night," smiled Beverley! The Woman's Club is seeking donated baked goods, particularly for Saturday, so please contact them.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Another exciting upcoming event is their 55th anniversary celebration at their current location at 175 Sterling Avenue on Friday evening, January 11. "We are still formulating details," Beverley said, "but it will be a fundraiser to launch our Capital Improvements Campaign for the building and campus, so we can get another 55 years out of this facility. We will improve the kitchen and make the restrooms ADA-accessible, and will install a 'Sleepy Verandah' to the outside, along with appropriate landscaping. Our thanks to landscape architect Michael Ekblad of Morris-Dewey Associates, who donated his talents to us."

Prior to becoming the FMB Woman's Club, the building had already played an important role in Fort Myers Beach history. "It was the island's first structure built exclusively for the Fort Myers Beach Elementary School, until that moved to the current campus," related Beverley. "There are photographs at the Estero Island Historic Society that show school dances and other activities here. When the school moved, the Woman's Club purchased it for \$10."

For more information on the club or these programs, or to join at \$75-per-year, visit fmb-wc.org email events@fmb-wc.org or find them on Facebook.

"We encourage everyone on the island to join the FMB Woman's Club," concluded Beverley. "It takes many people to make a club like this a success, because each new person brings their own unique talents to the mix. We recently began a newsletter and Facebook page and updated the website, and now we have all these new and exciting events and the Community Calendar. If you want to make Fort Myers Beach a better place to live, work and play, join us because that is why we do what we do!"

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Bike Helmet Donation



Rotarian Joe Hensley speaks to Beach Elementary 4th graders about bike helmets and safety.



John Dommer, left, and Lloyd Adams help two students get just the right fit on their new helmets.



Lloyd Adams assists one student while another waits their turn.

Many kids have a bike or access to one, but not all of them have all the right safety gear for riding. Joe Hensley of the Rotary Club of Fort Myers decided to do something about that. Before moving back to Fort Myers Beach, Joe belonged to a Rotary Club in California that donated bike helmets to area school children and decided to begin a similar program here.

On Wednesday morning, Beach School 4th graders filed out of the school to their playground pavilion to be fitted with free helmets donated by Helmets R Us. Each student picked out a red, blue or silver helmet and then had volunteer John Dommer or Fort Myers Beach Fire Department Prevention Specialist Lloyd Adams fit the helmet to their head. "This is mine? To take home



The 4th grade class with their new helmets. In the back, from left: Rotarian Joe Hensley, Lloyd Adams and John Dommer. PHOTOS BY M. LAYFIELD

and keep? Wow!" one student said excitedly.

Hensley grew up a beach kid himself and attended Beach School, so when asked how he decided where to begin this program he said, "Where else? The beach of course!" He explained that in order to obtain the helmets, he had to attend a safety training presentation and have trained helmet fitters

on hand as well as provide proof that the students had received the helmets. The FMB Fire Dept. also offers free helmet fittings if anyone needs a fine-tuning on their helmet fit. Hensley hopes to make the Rotary helmet donation an annual program. From the smiles on a classroom full of 4th graders, that would be a great idea!

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Mermaid Fireworks Fundraiser



The iconic Mermaid Lounge hosted a Fireworks Fundraiser raffle last Saturday. The Fireworks Fundraising Committee is working to raise funds for New Year's Eve fireworks. The committee is a group of island business owners and residents who have stepped forward to help cover the cost of Fort Myers Beach New Year's Eve fireworks show. FMB Fireworks are an island tradition that thousands of residents and guests anticipate and enjoy each year. The shows are critical to the success of our businesses and bring a spirit of community to our island. Donations can be made at the Chamber of Commerce office, on the FMB Fireworks Fund Facebook or GoFundMe page.

The Mermaid Lounge has announced that they will close at 10pm on November 30, 2018. The land has been sold and will be part of the Margaritaville Resort-FMB. Photos by Sarah List and provided by the Fundraising Committee.

CANDIDATE ORIENTATION

Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 5:30 PM at Town Hall –Council Chambers, 2525 Esterio Blvd., Fort Myers Beach. The Town of Fort Myers Beach's Qualifying Officer will be available to explain the State of Florida's process for prospective local candidates participating in the March 5, 2019 Elections.



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Editorial

KUDOS

As we emerge from a summer that bought us unprecedented environmental and economic challenges and begin to sense the beginnings of season, it's Thanksgiving week - a perfect time to focus on the many reasons we have to feel grateful. Studies abound showing that grateful people are happy people. Let's start Thanksgiving week off right, saying Thank You and Kudos to those who continue to make our Island home the very special place that it is...

The Harry Chapin Food Bank and those who support it. They have helped to keep our Islanders who work in the service industry going during a time when their income fell dramatically.

TPI Margaritaville for proceeding with the demolition of the former Ocean Jewels building at the 5th Street corner at the base of the skybridge. With other work halted by a lawsuit, this sign of progress was appreciated.

The FMB venues and the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau for bringing the 5th annual Island Hopper Songwriter Fest to FMB in late September.

Everyone who watches for & stops for pedestrians at crosswalks. Pedestrians who use crosswalks and the buttons on the flashing lights at crosswalks.

Chief Warrant Officer Joshua A. Janney on his command position at the FMB Coast Guard Station beginning June 20. Welcome to FMB!

FMB Community Foundation and Keep Lee County Beautiful for their joint efforts with Coastal Cleanup and Monofilament Madness to clean up our beaches.

Lee County municipalities, including Fort Myers Beach for challenging the South Florida Water Management District on the amount of water they will send down the Caloosahatchee River during the dry season. While most are familiar with the "too much" water situation during the rainy season, our estuary also suffers from "too little" during the dry season.

Fright Night volunteers, including the FMB firefighters for an awesome Haunted House!

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission for their ongoing, scientific testing of our area water. Looking at our water is one thing, actually testing it for algae is another. So long as there is Red Tide in our area, we will continue to bring you weekly reports on what the scientific testing shows for our area and provide readers with the resources so they can check for themselves.

The Town of FMB and the FMB Fire Department who, along with Golisano Children's Hospital and a flurry of other sponsors, hosted the first Water Safety Symposium recently.

Katie Moses, new Lovers Key State Park Manager. She will usher in the new Welcome & Discovery Center which will break ground December 6.

The Calusa Waterkeeper for hosting the Florida Economic Water Summit, and all the other public panels, forums and presentations hosted this summer that provided much-needed factual information on water quality.

All the local Hurricane Michael relief efforts. It was us last year, it's the Panhandle this year and we know how they feel.

Mike Yost and the Pirate Pub Crawl for a fun pirate afternoon that supported Island servers and bartenders.

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association and FMB Friends of the Arts for another great Paint the Beach event.

FMB Friends of the Arts for their tasty and educational 3rd annual Southwest Florida Sustains culinary arts event.

The Town of FMB and Budweiser for bringing the Clydesdales to town.

The winners in the November 6 election and all who ran for office. Congratulations to Bob Raymond, Jacki Liszak and John Bennett on winning seats on the Fire Board.

St. Raphael's Episcopal Church on the dedication of their revamped Comfort Hall!

The Kiwanis and Lions for their support of Beach School through the PTO fundraiser, High Rollin' on the Beach.

Drivers who STOP for school busses with red lights flashing.

The Beach Library and the Estero Island Historical Society for joining together to bring in speakers from the Florida Humanities Council this season.

Matanzas on the Bay on their first Craft Beer Fest benefitting Operation Open Arms.

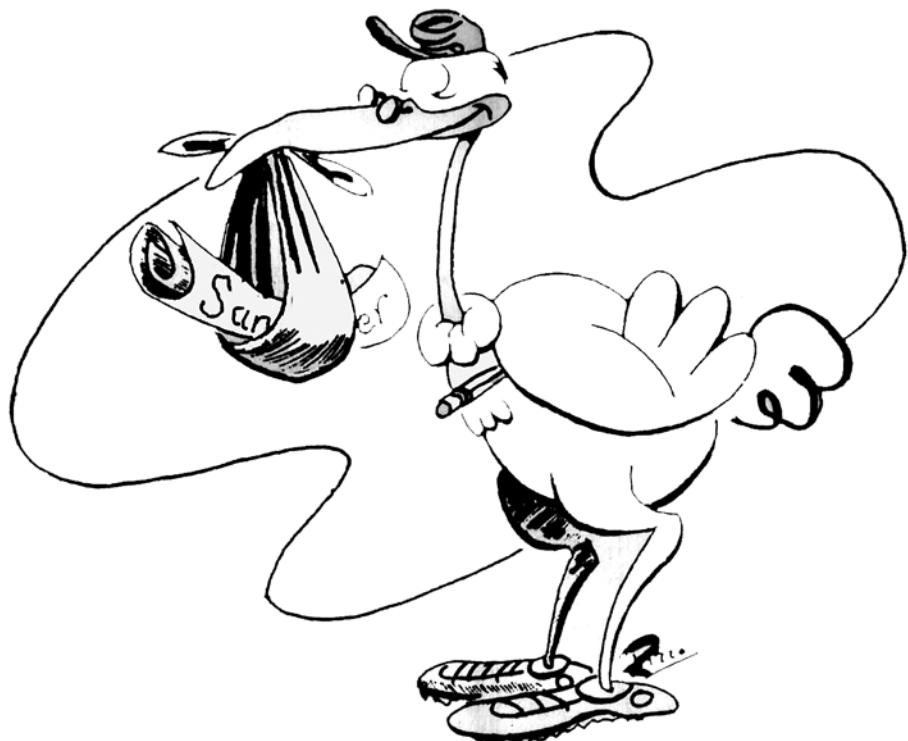
The Zombie Crawl participants who raised over \$100 for Beach School.

The Beach Kids Foundation for their ongoing efforts to make Christmas special for Island kids through the Spirit of the Holidays fundraisers.

Fort Myers Kiwanis Club & Beach School grad Joe Hensley for the donation of a free bicycle helmet and fitting to every 4th grader at Beach School. And to the FMB Fire Department that offers free helmet fittings anytime.

Every Islander who has volunteered, donated or helped in any way to make our Island home a better place to live, work or play.

Missy Layfield
Editor



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Bob Layfield, Publisher

Publisher@fortmyersbeach.news

Don't bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself. William Faulkner



Missy Layfield, Editor

Editor@fortmyersbeach.news

Resistance is never the agent of change. You have to embrace the actions that are going to get you closer to your goal.

Ali Vincent



Mike Buster, Circulation Manager

c/o Info@fortmyersbeach.news

Better shun the bait, than struggle in the snare.

John Dryden



Mark List, Production Manager

Production@fortmyersbeach.news

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

Krishnamurti



Sarah List, Photographer

If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.

The Dalai Lama



Sandy Sandness, Advertising

info@fortmyersbeach.news

One cannot find peace in work or in pleasure, in the world or in a convent, but only in one's soul.

W. Somerset Maugham



Gary Mooney, Lead Writer

info@fortmyersbeach.news

The generation of random numbers is too important to be left to chance.

Robert R. Coveyou

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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.

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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OFFICE HOURS
MON-FRI 10AM-3PM
Subject to change due to
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Town Getting Out of Trash Biz? Council Talks TS Trash & Rent, Cont'd from pg.1

garbage service, so from our standpoint, serving Times Square would not be an issue, based on each individual business, and with

enhanced recycling, could do this with less a bill than their current Town charges."

"Based on a 96-gallon cart,



Advanced Disposal's Ron Clayton (L) and Larry Wynberg crunch Time Square garbage numbers with Town Public Works Director Chelsea O'Reilly.

once-a-week, the cost would be approximately \$34-a-month to each business," explained Advanced Disposal Contract Manager Ron Clayton. "When you include recycling at \$9-a-month, the total is \$43-a-month. Someone who does not have as much trash and recycles will gain a greater benefit. For those businesses with more trash, we can do a daily pickup first thing in the morning for a weekly service fee at six-times-a-week at a \$242.59 monthly charge." "I will take that deal," Cereceda enthusiastically stated, as she owns two Times Square businesses. "That is an interesting option!"

"So the Times Square businesses have the option to use them or us," said Mayor Tracey Gore. "Why give them the option," countered Council member Dennis Boback. "Just go with Advanced Disposal; that sounds pretty simple to me!" "Times Square businesses could regulate their service, scheduling less pickups

in the offseason" added Wynberg. "We would need to look at each individual customer to work out the details, but certainly the end of January 2019 would be feasible for us." "I am so glad you guys are here," said Gore! "We never realized Advanced Disposal could go through Times Square because of potential damage to the pavers," said Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp. "This could get the Town out of the trash business."

Council called John Gucciardo, who represents the Times Square merchants, to the podium for his reaction. "This is a bit confusing, as this is occurring at the last minute," he said. "We expected a staff proposal at the November 19 Council meeting, so we will need to see exactly what Advanced Disposal costs will be." Cereceda suggested Town staff still prepare those figures, so Council can compare the two. Shamp agreed, saying that Council wants an appropriate long-term solution, "but my preference is to get out of the trash business as soon as possible," with Gore, Boback, and Council member Bruce Butcher adding their enthusiastic support. "We can still go forward with the policy on the 19th in case this does not work out," said Gore, before adding, "you cleared up a lot – we should have called on you first," with Boback concluding, "you would have saved us two hours of conversation!"

UP NEXT: TIME SQUARE RENT

Council next began to discuss revising the Times Square rental fee per square-foot for those merchants with outdoor tables-and-chairs. Cereceda noted the current plan ties increases to the Consumer Price Index and suggested Council stick to that. Boback thought Council should use the recently-negotiated contract with Smokin' Oyster Brewery on Old San Carlos Boulevard as a blueprint, saying, "the Consumer Price Index only goes up like 2 or 3 percent – that is like nothing!" Town staff provided an option based on the Lee County Property Appraiser's tax roll values. "That is ridiculous," responded Butcher. "That is not charging people rent but the assessed value! A rental value should be around 10%; if I go buy a building and pay one million dollars, I expect the renter to pay 10% a year and not the whole thing." "This still seems like a huge deal compared to indoor space," said Shamp, with Gore adding, "they can certainly afford this," though Butcher repeated, "charging an assessed value is ludicrous!"

Gucciardo again came to the podium, stating, "I am a little confused again. I did not come here today prepared to discuss anything other than the trash issue, but I agree with what Council member Butcher said. Times Square merchants are prepared to discuss this in good faith, but at a separate meeting when we are ready." Gore suggested Council "take this to a different Management & Planning

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Town Getting Out of Trash Biz? Council Talks TS Trash,

Cont'd fm prev pg.

Session, as no one is ready for this," then said to Gucciardo, "you are very lucky you have a Town Council willing to discuss these issues, because in my shrimp business, the government just tells us what we have to pay and there is no discussion!"

SOUTH END TRAM?

Under "Lee County: Lee Tram," Gore stated that south Fort Myers Beach residents complain to her that they should be able to ride a free seasonal Lee Tram as well, like those at the north end do from Bowditch Point Park to near the Fort Myers Beach Public Library, with Boback stating that he hears that as well. "Tell them to cough up their 50 cents for the Beach Trolley and quit their whining," countered Butcher! "Why call that whining," replied Gore. "What is wrong with you! Some people think these are just for the businesses but these are paid for with taxpayer money." Shamp said the Town should ask Lee County to extend service to the entire island, but Butcher thought that would tie up the trams in two hours of traffic, with Shamp suggesting perhaps the routes could be cut in half. Butcher thought a better solution may be to ask Lee Tran to make the Beach Trolleys free-of-charge. Council instructed Town Manager Roger Hernstadt to make this request, along with a list of present and future trolley stops, as the Town will consider installing trolley shelters for protection from the elements for the riders, at the Town expense.

"They may not know the locations until the Estero Boulevard road reconstruction projects are done," thought Boback. "We may all be dead by then!" "I do not understand why Lee County is not installing these in the first place," said Butcher, "but if we have to pay for that, I am good with that," with Gore adding, "I am too." Cereceda stated that Manatee County has solar-powered shelters "that would fit our community perfectly! When you will see one, you will go, 'OHHH!' They improve the streetscape and do not employ advertising. I agree that shelters are extremely important."

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Council next heard Town Departmental Reports. Under "Beach Water," Shamp said she would like to see the remainder of the reFRESH Estero Boulevard Projects' plans as soon as possible. "I don't want to inflict any surprises on our residents or any future Town Councils," with Cereceda agreeing. Boback asked why Lee County personnel were not at the Management & Planning Session to provide a project update, stating, "I have not seen any work near the Red Coconut RV Park in the last three weeks, meaning we will have one-lane traffic there in the middle of the season. There is no way around that, as it is not wide enough." "They said that would be done by the time school started," reminded Gore. "Talk about hurting

the businesses there."

Under "Community Development," Cereceda stated that she continues to "get complaints about building permits on any type of project, and I don't know how to respond." Gore agreed, "me too." "We are not just sitting here," replied the Town Manager. "We are working everything we can. If you have a permit problem, call me and I will move it back through the system to see what is holding it up. For small repairs, like a deck or a door, we sit down with people every Wednesday. We will work this out, as our goal is to have zero issues."

Council heard reports from Cultural Resources, Parks & Recreation and Public Works, before recessing at 12:27 p.m., to reconvene for the Stormwater discussion at 1 p.m.

Key Club Bake Sale



The Fort Myers Beach Kiwanis Club proudly sponsors the Key Club of South Fort Myers High School. One of the Kiwanis' primary goals is to foster future leaders and volunteers in our community. They do this by promoting the community's youth by sponsoring the K-Kids at Fort Myers Beach Elementary School and the Key Club at South Fort Myers High School. Last month, the South Fort Myers Key Club held a very successful Bake Sale to help raise money for their club. Salle Komar, left, serves

as the Key Club Faculty Adviser, promoting Kiwanis values with the group. The Kiwanis Club supports Key Club members as they continue their education and all seniors are eligible for scholarships. Support the FMB Kiwanis Club by donating to and shopping at the Fort Myers Beach Kiwanis Thrift Shop, located at the corner of Pine Ridge Rd and Summerlin Rd, and by joining the FMB Kiwanis Club. For more information see fortmyersbeachkiwanis.org. PHOTO PROVIDED.

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"Toy For Kids"

Shamrock Hosts Xmas Benefit, Cont'd from pg.1

private sector," Mike related. "We have gift certificates from many of our best restaurants and overnight stays from terrific hotels and resorts, along with items like a free yearly membership from 'Planet Fitness.' I am amazed by how many people stepped up, considering how tough business was this Summer due to the water quality, but then that is Fort Myers Beach, especially when it comes to benefitting our kids. Despite the bad times, our auction is doing great!"

CHILDREN IN NEED

The Shamrock's partner in "Toys For Kids" is the Fort Myers Beach Fire Department. "We prefer you bring an unwrapped new toy," Mike stated, "but will accept a cash donation. Once we collect all the toys and tally up the money from the raffles, silent auctions and 50/50s, we turn all of that over to the Fire Department and they take care of the rest, including coordinating with the families and distributing the presents." If you know a child or children in need, contact Todd Williams or Chris Arminger at the Fire Department at 239-590-4200.

"If you cannot attend Sunday, drop off your toy or donation either before then or through Wednesday, November 21," Mike said. "I am stunned by how many 'early bird' gifts we already have – they are filling up not only my storage shed and garage, but my daughter's as well! After the 21st, the Fire Department will swing by



The annual Toys for Kids benefit gathers toys for kids of all ages, as seen in this photo showing just some of the 2017 donations.
PHOTO BY SARAH LIST.

with a truck and collect everything." While this is the first time the Shamrock hosts "Toys For Kids," fortunately for Mike, the annual event comes with built-in volunteers! "These folks have been doing it for years, and I welcome their experience. We have everyone that we need for the raffles as well as the outside beer area, so we are fully-staffed."

His volunteers may have the expertise, but this is all new for Mike. "I have always been the person on the other side of these

things, bringing the toy to the party, so I had no idea about how much time and effort goes into this benefit. I started really working it about a month ago, getting out all the invitations and notices, and was pleasantly surprised about how early the toys and donations began to arrive. Since this is my first time, I cannot say how we are doing compared to previous years, but it seems like everything is terrific so far." If you have any questions, contact Mike directly at the Shamrock at 239-463-8881.

The "Toys For Kids" benefit is important to Mike "because I have children and now grandkids, and I see the need the children on the island have, especially after what their parents endured over the past Summer due to the water issues. I have always had a big place in my heart for kids, and any of them who ring my doorbell for a fundraiser always gets a contribution from me. I am glad the opportunity came to me to keep this going!"

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LPA Reviews LDC Code Changes Sent to Council

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

The Town Staff for Fort Myers Beach is undertaking a review of the Land Development Code (LDC), to clarify sections it finds confusing, repetitive and lacking in definitions. At their June meeting, the LPA prioritized several "glitches" in the LDC that they wanted to address. Those included: Pre and post disaster buildback; Open Space, Buffering, and Landscaping; Building Heights; Administrative Setback Variances; Parking; Personal Watercraft and Parasailing; Sea Turtle Conservation/Lighting; Density and Existing Subdivisions; Intensity and FAR, Swimming Pools and Residential Accessory Uses/Structures. Since then, the LPA has addressed Engineering Standards; Sea Turtle Conservation; Subdivision Density and Pre-and Post-Disaster Buildback.

As part of the effort to clean up the Code and expanding it to an area not previously identified as a priority, Town staff presented three sections to the Local Planning Agency (LPA) to obtain their input on Tuesday morning, November 13, before a nearly-empty Council Chambers at 9 a.m. The sections up for review were the Environmentally Critical (EC) Zoning District, Location of Construction Near Beaches, and Coastal Zones. Jason Green, the Town's contract

Community Development Director, and contract planner Sarah Probst made the presentation to the 7-member LPA panel.

"Part of the challenge of the LDC is it often reads like it is a puzzle and is piecemeal," said Green in explaining the process. "We want to make it more consistent by separating these sections so they deal with a common topic. The goal is to make it easier to find whole thing that is required."

LPA member Jane Plummer inquired if "there is anything in the pipeline right now that these changes might affect; is there anything in these changes that might stop?" Green replied that "any previous projects under application right now would not be changed by anything we are proposing. You cannot change the rules under any current project, whether they are 20 percent or 90 percent complete, as they are only subject to the regulations at the time of the approval of their application."

EC & SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

The Environmentally Critically Zoning District is to designate beaches and significant wetlands whose preservation the Town deems critical through its Comprehensive Plan, including recreational beaches and wetlands on the future land use map.

"Environmentally Critical Zoning sections are found in various places through the Code,"

said Probst. "We want to move these to the places that make the most sense, along with appropriate definitions to lessen any confusion. We also want to clarify what are Special Exceptions that will require approval from the LPA and Town Council rather than just administrative approval, to provide the opportunity to make sure these make sense and are reasonable, and are not subject to the feelings of the staff. This includes a new definition for Minor Structures."

These now include but are not limited to pile-supported elevated beach and dune walkovers, beach access ramps, stairways, gazebos, boardwalks, tennis courts, privacy fences and other ornamental structures that are considered expendable by design to wind, wave, and storm forces. Green stated, however, that the struggle for staff is to list all the possible Minor Structures or remove them for the sake of consistency, because if one particular item is not in the definition list, it could be even more confusing over what is and is not allowable. LPA member Scott Safford saw Green's point, saying "if your example is not in here, people will start to freak out!"

The suggested revisions to the Environmentally Critical Zoning District would include Permitted Use and Structures, such as recreational activities, residential accessory uses, wildlife management, and temporary, movable, and minor structures; Special Exception uses

and structures; and additional regulations, especially for dune walkovers.

Because the suggested changes to the Environmentally Critical Zoning District section now contain most of what was formerly under the "Location of Construction Near Beaches" information, Green and Probst suggested the deletion of most of that verbiage. Under "Coastal Zones," development other than for Minor Structures is prohibited seaward of the 1978 Coastal Construction Control Line that is on the future land use map of the Town's Comprehensive Plan as the landward boundary of the Beachfront Recreation category and EC Zoning District respectively, with any development prohibited that would alter the dune system.

Following these discussions, LPA Chair Megan Heil made a motion to forward the recommended and suggested LDC changes to Town Council. Plummer seconded the motion as long as the document included a map, to make it easier for citizens to locate the appropriate zones. Probst stated that would be no problem, but that a map can be quite extensive, and suggested including it as an addendum. The LPA then unanimously approved that the LDC document move on to Town Council.

Green said that Council would begin to review these items at its upcoming November 19 meeting, before

Cont'd pg.14

LPA Reviews LDC Code Changes Sent to Council,

Cont'd from pg.13



Jason Green and Sarah Probst explain the potential Land Development Code changes.
PHOTO BY GARY MOONEY.

providing the LPA with a friendly heads-up that "there are a lot of moving parts all through the LDC, and the hardest part is to properly find a place for them in the document. We will be bringing more suggested clarifications like this for other sections to you in the future, so I just want to warn you!"

THAT'S HISTORY

The LPA then recessed at 10:35 a.m., to open with the same members as the Historic Preservation Board. "Council

officially authorized the 'Historic Advisory Committee' at its November 5 meeting," reported Safford. "We will have our first meeting on November 27, and have five members, with two spots yet to fill. We will meet the 4th Tuesday of each month, except for December, as that falls on Christmas Day."

Potential historical structures must fall into one or more of four categories of historical importance, and after the Historic Advisory Committee makes a recommendation, first the LPA in its role as the Historic Preservation

Board, then Town Council must approve. "Our goals will be to preserve the island's historic cottages," said Safford. "If we cannot save them, then provide enough time and come up with a location to which we can relocate them." Green said an Historic Designation would most likely not be enough to prevent any demolition but could provide up to a 30 to 60 day delay to allow historic documentation or a potential preservation in a different location.

The LPA reconvened at 10:45 a.m. Under LPA Member

Item Reports, Safford stated that, in representing the LPA before Town Council at its November 5 meeting, "it went well. They called upon me for almost every issue present on that agenda that was relevant to the LPA." With that, Safford will again represent the panel at the November 19 Town Council meeting, and Dan Hughes doing the same on December 3.

Safford reported as well that he did request a joint LPA/Town Council meeting, particularly to discuss density in existing subdivisions, Pre- and Post-Disaster Build-backs, and Right-of-Way issues, but that Council did not set a meeting date.

Hughes found an item that Council decided at its November 5 meeting to be particularly interesting: the granting of a Special Use Permit to allow a Donora Boulevard resident to finish a partially-complete swimming pool. "This matter came before us, and then to Town Council, and they punted. The property owner alleges that the land between his plat and the seawall belongs to the Town, but that would only be true if the original developer vacated it to the Town. If that did not occur, it would still belong to the developer or any of his heirs. They need to clear that up."

The LPA adjourned at 11:10 a.m.; its next meeting will be in Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 11, at 9 a.m.

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Stormwater Deja Vu Controversial Issue Returns

By Gary Mooney
gary@fortmyersbeach.news

You know the holidays are right around the corner when "The Three Wise Men" come to Fort Myers Beach!

In this case, the three wise men are Charlie Eck of the Bay Beach Condominium Association; Dan Hughes, former FMB Mayor and current Local Planning Agency member; and former Interim Town Manager Jim Steele, and their area of expertise is not the upcoming Christmas Season but amending the Town's 2015 Stormwater Ordinance. Each brings a significant expertise to the complicated and controversial issue, and they spent the past several months working with Council member Bruce Butcher to provide Town Council with suggested improvements at a special Stormwater Management & Planning Session on Thursday afternoon, November 8. Unlike two years ago, however, when a Stormwater meeting would have jammed Council Chambers, only a dozen people were in attendance.

Eck is a Bay Beach Condominium Association Board Member with the Estero Bay Improvement Association, a private stormwater operation that mitigates roughly 132 acres of runoff from the 16 Bay Beach condominium associations regulated by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Since it is self-sufficient and does not contribute water to the Town system, Council excluded Bay Beach from the Stormwater Ordinance through a 2016 Resolution.

Hughes was highly critical of the Stormwater Ordinance, calling it in October 2016 "the worst ordinance I have yet to see in my life." He encouraged Council to re-examine the entire process and to charge only those in affected zones rather than everyone across the board. Steele could be called the "Father of the Town Stormwater System," as his in-depth work with it prior to, and after becoming Interim Town Manager for roughly one year beginning in mid-2016 led to much of the current design, along with the \$20.3 million funding component and Town residents' \$19.98 monthly fee.

Fort Myers Beach first studied a comprehensive Stormwa-

ter system in 2006, to end severe flooding and clean water before draining it into the back bay. In September 2015, the Town adopted the Stormwater Utility Ordinance and in January 2016 implemented the monthly \$19.98 fee. A crucial Stormwater component is the center lane storm drain that is a significant aspect of the reFRESH Estero Boulevard Projects. In December 2016, Council rejected an amended Stormwater Ordinance, leading to Butcher's committee's work to research a new draft.

"People have expressed numerous concerns over the Stormwater Ordinance," said Butcher. "The three people sitting here have some fundamental differences with the Ordinance, and we had quite a few meetings with myself and the Town Attorneys. Then I met with Town staff to provide suggestions as to how to make it viable for enforcement. These gentlemen, however, do not like some of those changes, so we want to hear their comments to see what we can work out."

The three men quickly made it clear they did not learn until just before the Management & Planning afternoon session that Town Staff revised their original work, so they only had a brief time to compare the two documents. Eck stated, "The current Ordinance is unacceptable, as it says the entire Town shares in the Stormwater system, as it benefits everyone, so you are automatically in, but in reality, that is not the case. We spent long months coming up with an Ordinance we feel is correct, and anticipated we would come before you today to discuss that, but on Monday the Town came up with something else that we are seeing for the first time today at 11:30 this morning, as the one Town Staff did is different than ours."

LIVABLE AND UNLIVABLE

Steele agreed, "There is some confusion. I received the Town copy just this morning from the Town Attorneys and they do not match. Some differences are minuscule while some could make a difference, but we only had 30 minutes to look at the two," causing Mayor Tracey Gore to sigh in frustration, "Oh, Geez!" Council mem-



"The Three Wise Men of Stormwater," from left: Charlie Eck, Jim Steele & Dan Hughes.
PHOTO BY GARY MOONEY.

ber Anita Cereceda suggested that the gentlemen only concentrate on fundamental differences, "over what is livable and unlivable."

Steele stated that a significant difference is that Town Staff struck the term, "Town-wide." Town Manager Roger Hernstadt agreed, saying the phrase "probably appeared in the draft 50 times, if not more, so this is an issue we must resolve." Cereceda felt the conflict would be over "a stormwater utility versus a Town-wide stormwater utility; how critical is 'Town-wide'?" Council member Dennis Boback asked, "What is the difference," with Steele replying, "I am not an attorney." "I don't know how important it is to have that in there," said Cereceda. "It is a very fine symmetrical line that I can live with legally either way."

Steele next brought up "Exempt Customers," with Eck saying the current Ordinance "assumes everyone on Fort Myers Beach is a stormwater customer, but there are exemptions. You must accept that there are people on this island who are not customers of this utility. The Town says you are a customer, so it is up to the Town to exempt you, as it did with Bay Beach through a 2016 Resolution. The 2015 Ordinance says everyone must pay into the system because everyone benefits."

TOWN-WIDE

Cereceda asked, "if 'Town-wide' goes away, does 'Exempt Customer' go away?" Town Co-counsel Jack Peterson replied, "To gain an exemption, you must apply that you do not receive a benefit," with Cereceda saying, "I am not so sure of that." Gore added,

"There are clearly properties that do not benefit us or use our system." Vice Mayor Joanne Shamp stated that "I personally believe we have a Town-wide system but people will come in and out of it. What happens if a SFWMD-approved system fails or is abandoned and you then use the Town system? We have been struggling with this for three years, and need to understand what 'Town-wide' means." Butcher thought, "maybe just having a stormwater utility is sufficient."

Shamp wondered how the Town can be sure a system like Bay Beach continues to work independently. "We report to SFWMD – Period," stressed Eck. "We can't report to two masters! I encourage the Town to call SFWMD to come out every 2 or 3 years to inspect these systems for you." Hernstadt will contact SFWMD to assure the Town in writing that it will perform that service. Gore, "It says in our Land Development Code that if you have a SFWMD permit, that is all you need for compliance," but Hernstadt replied, "You are talking about a snapshot in time: you are in compliance today and out of compliance tomorrow." Hughes stressed, "This is totally subjective, as the Ordinance has no design standards." Shamp added, "We do not want to flood someone's home to discover a private system is not working."

Cereceda asked Steele if he would work with Town Staff to keep this process moving forward, with the former Interim Town Manager replying, "Of course!" "We are still up in the air about 'Town-wide,' 'Exempt Customer' and the SFWMD wording," summarized Shamp, with the Management & Planning Session adjourning.



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Lame Duck Fire Meeting Sanctions & Conflict

By Missy Layfield
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

The Board of Commissioners of the Fort Myers Beach Fire Department held a meeting on Tuesday, one week after an election that saw two incumbent commissioners voted off the Board. State law calls for new commissioner terms to begin no sooner than 10 days after the election (November 16), so the November 13 meeting was held with two lame duck commissioners. The meeting was at times awkward and angry as outgoing commissioners Carol Morris and Ted Schindler let loose with criticism of Commissioner Ron Fleming, the firefighter's union, previous Fire Chiefs and previous commissioners.

Re-elected commissioner Bob Raymond was not present for the meeting. Chair Carol Morris, Vice-Chair Ted Schindler, Larry Wood and Ron Fleming attended. Morris and Schindler lost their re-election bids on November 6 to Jacki Liszak and John Bennett, both in attendance at Tuesday's meeting as members of the public.

The work session meeting began with Morris giving an attorney report explaining that board attorney, Andrew Salzman, had informed her that a Summary Judgement Hearing would be held November 15 following his request for dismissal of all five counts in the case of former Fire Chief Darren White. In February 2015, the board voted to not renew White's contract, then began a process to change the job description and search for a new Fire Chief. In August 2015, the board placed White on admin-

istrative leave. His contract expired on September 30, 2015. White filed a lawsuit against the district in November 2015. A jury trial is expected to be held in March or April 2019.

Assistant Chief Ron Martin gave a brief report on the inaugural Water Safety Symposium held recently on Fort Myers Beach. He cited it as an example of a successful private-public partnership with the Fort Myers Beach Chamber and Golisano Children's Hospital participating, along with the FMB Fire Department and Lee County EMS among others. Chief Matt Love mentioned "touching moments" during the event as those who had lost children to drowning spoke. Morris suggested that future symposiums include pet safety around pools.

The tension rose as the board discussed commissioner meeting attire, with Fleming suggesting that the topic be postponed until the new members are sworn in. Morris countered that the guidelines applied to whoever was on the board and her clarification on commissioner uniform shirts passed 4-0.

PARTING SANCTIONS

Morris then brought up her concerns about Fleming's comments regarding Station 31 at the October 18th Estero Island Taxpayers Association (EITA) meeting. She asked for a motion and Schindler moved to sanction Fleming for his comments. Schindler said that commissioners should always clarify that they represent only them-

selves and not the board if they speak in public. He also said that some of Fleming's comments were from a "closed door meeting."

At that EITA meeting, Fire Board candidate statements were read and Executive Director Beverley Milligan asked about district infrastructure. Fleming responded from the audience, identifying himself as a commissioner in Seat 2 and stating that Station 31 is not ADA compliant and will need to be replaced or repaired in the next few years and the preferred location of a new station is between current Station 31 and Times Square. He discussed the district budget, reserves and possible funding options for a new station, all items that have been discussed in public meetings the Sand Paper has attended. Fleming's statement at the October 18 EITA meeting is available on the EITA Facebook page under videos. It begins at about 1:17:00.

Morris said Fleming did not know what he was talking about in regard to district reserves and it was "very upsetting to see this," before asking about board sanctions. Neither she nor Schindler identified what it was that Fleming said that was from a closed door session.

"This is ridiculous!" Fleming responded. "What closed door meeting did I violate? The only thing we discuss in closed door meetings is litigation or the CBA. Carol you lost, give it up. Ted, you too. I did not violate anything...I reject your charges."

Schindler said the board has a manual covering commissioner conduct. "I think we should have sanctioned you years ago

for your comments to other board members."

Morris then told Fleming he could not vote due to a conflict of interest, as per the board attorney. The board then voted to sanction Fleming 2-1, with Morris and Schindler voting Yea and Wood voting Nay.

WATER IN DISTRICT?

The conflict carried over into the following discussion on Water Incident Response as Fleming requested Morris provide a hard copy of the district charter that she frequently cites in response to discussions of a district boat. Morris stated that district boundaries do not include any water so the district does not need a boat and to spend money on anything not in the district's charter would be illegal. Fleming said he had spoken to the board attorney and the attorney was unaware of any statute that relieves the district of responsibility for anything that happens on the water.

"Sixteen other Lee County districts have boats. Are they all spending their tax money illegally?" Fleming asked. "I'm not responsible for what other districts do," Morris responded.

Morris said that the description of the district in House Bill 999, is very detailed and reflected on a map in district offices. She also asked that the topic be put on the board retreat agenda.

Fleming suggested moving the board's December 4 meeting so that commissioner-elect Liszak, who will be out of town in early

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Lame Duck Fire Meeting Sanctions & Conflict, Continued

December, could be sworn in and present during board reorganization.

Love suggested Friday, November 30 at 9:30am at the Beach Library and the board approved it 4-0, with Morris noting that the district was spending extra money to notice the new meeting date when it could be held without Liszak on the previously scheduled date.

DECORUM & RESPECT, OR NOT

During Commissioners Remarks, Fleming said he had hoped that the meeting would be smooth and without contention, however, addressing Morris and Schindler, he said, "I believe your actions are unprofessional and not in the best interest of the district. I intend to file an appeal on the sanctions that I believe are unfair and unjust. You lost. You should have bowed out gracefully."

Larry Wood welcomed Bennett and Liszak and thanked Morris and Schindler for their years of service.

Schindler, leaving the board after 8 years, introduced his comments as a bio, then more of an obituary. He then reviewed his experience in the military and as a financial planner, noting that he initially ran for the Fire Board in order to lower taxes and use his financial expertise to help the district. During his parting comments he criticized the hiring of Darren White as Fire Chief in 2012, noting he and Morris had voted Nay and then clarified that White was not fired in 2015; his contract was not renewed.

He offered advice to the new board: "I'm a little worried about decorum and lack of respect." Regarding the board's relationship with the firefighter's union, "Be friendly, but don't be their best friend."

"To the union, I'm incredibly disappointed that you did not support Carol Morris because she went to bat so many times for pay and other benefits. It's kind of a slap in the face." District 3 of the IAFF Local 1826 endorsed Liszak. "Beware of Greeks bearing gifts," he said.

When her turn came, Morris said she had no regrets, not about her 12 years on the board or her life in general. She then shared her background and noted that she became involved with the fire district after the Libertarian Party urged local government participation. "I started attending meetings and I was so upset at what I saw not happening correctly, I decided to run." She then voiced some of her disappointments, including encouraging her then neighbor (David Brower) to run for the board and that this year's candidates did not specify what they wanted to do differently.

"Our Chair (Brower) became buddy-buddy with the Fire Chief, Morris said. "Because he was so close, he couldn't see what was going on. I actually walked into the admin building one day and the guy (Fire Chief) was so high he couldn't even meet with me."

Morris did not specify which Chief she meant. Both Mike Becker and Darren White served as Chief during the three years Brower was Chair. In April 2015, the Board agreed to settle a lawsuit by Beck-



Outgoing Fire Commissioner Carol Morris has served on the board for 12 years.



Ted Schindler has served as a Fire Commissioner for 8 years. 2017 PHOTOS BY M. LAYFIELD.

er. He was paid \$34,000 and both parties agreed to a non-disparagement clause. White's lawsuit is pending.

Morris also blasted the union's endorsement of her opponent, Liszak, in the recent election, noting her long support for firefighters. "There is no sour grapes about my losing the election. The only reason I ran is to make sure that this board didn't change so much that the things we want to be done get done."

"I wish the best to the two new commissioners. I hope you don't come in here with all kinds of fancy new ideas."

She also brought up the EITA meeting again and criticized Fleming's "obnoxious comments"

during meetings, before closing, "I have truly enjoyed working with all of you....Believe me, I have plenty to do, at a higher level than this board."

In other business the board approved their 2019 meeting schedule, 2017-2018 Budget Amendments, procurement of two vehicles for new inspection staff members, Board Policy Manual changes and discussed January board retreat topics

John Bennett, Jacki Liszak and Bob Raymond will be sworn into office on Friday, November 30 at 9am in the Community Meeting Room at the Beach Library. At their 6pm, December 18 meeting at Town Hall, Driver Engineers Alex Gonzalez and Shaun Jensen will be sworn in.

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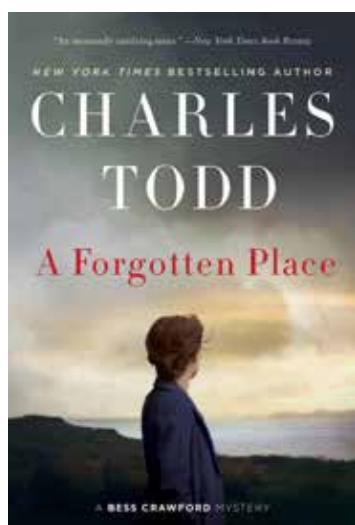
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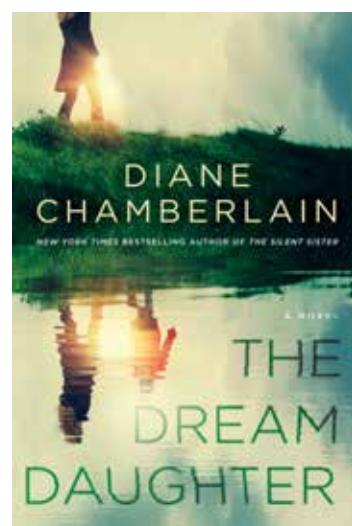
Library Treasures

By Dr. Leroy Hommerding
Beach Library Director

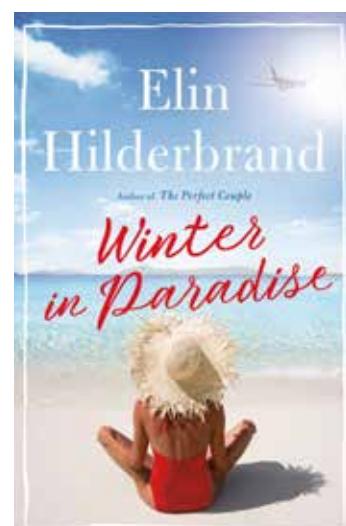
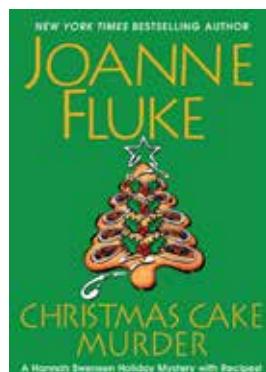


A Forgotten Place (New Books M TODD) by the mother and son writing duo Caroline and Charles Todd is the tenth book in the Bess Crawford Mystery Series. The rocky coastal Headlands of Wales is the setting for the latest edition of this Post World War One, historical fiction saga. Protagonist Bess must sleuth out the perfect clue trail to leash a mysterious fugitive serial killer.

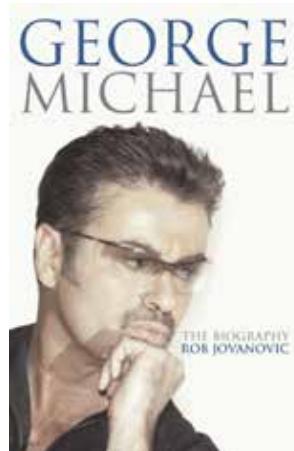
The Dream Daughter by Diane Chamberlain (Large Print & Regular, New Book CHA) is a present-future novel with potentially lifesaving time travel. Nothing can transcend pain and suffering more than the power of a parent's love. With an unborn patient in North Carolina's Chapel Hill life saving measures must be created by a trip to visit and learn from future medical miracles.



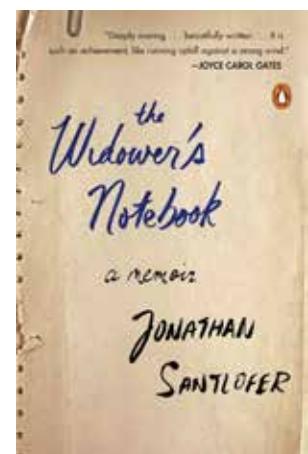
Joanne Fluke is the author of the well-known Hannah Swenson Murder Mystery Series. **Christmas Cake Murder** (New Book Large Print M FLU) is the prequel to her series. All the better, because it is Christmas time in Lake Eden, Minnesota, a small town that shares home baking recipes for a publishing recipe project. If you are hungry for previously unknown details, this is the story behind the story.



Winter in Paradise (New Book Fiction HIL) by Elin Hilderbrand introduces you to characters with secret lives, love rivals and mystery on the lush Caribbean island of Saint John, U.S. Virgin Islands. This novel will grab you with its cliff hanger style of sequel writing. This is book number one so place a hold on this title and you can have a first class seat on this adventurous series.



Author Rob Jovanovic is the author of seven musician biographies. **George Michael the Biography 1963-2016** (BIO MICHAEL) is the new updated death memorial version of his 2008 edition. A great deal of the information is directly from and granted by George Michael himself. George Michael's life influences are covered well, his deep relationships, media scandals and private home life are revealed.



The Widower's Notebook: A Memoir (New Book BIO SANTOFER) by Jonathan Santofer is a writer with fortitude and familial love without bounds. To lose your spouse on a fateful day in Bellevue hospital on the Island of Manhattan would be an unbearably isolating experience for anyone. That day Jonathan Santofer lost joy, he lost his Joy Santofer. He lived on by journaling about her loss for two years. This story is not just an autobiography of one person it is the biography of two lives together, built and invested by great love.

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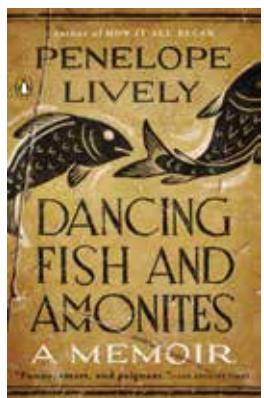
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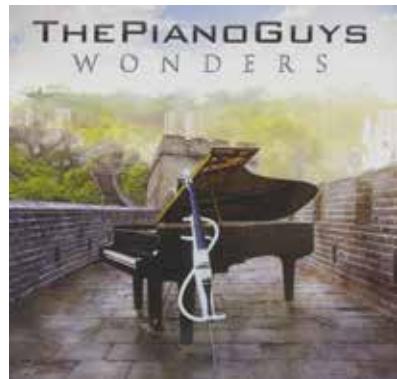


son and wild gambler shares his brutally honest story, his risk inspired life, in his own words "on the edge." This book like the author avoids boredom at any cost. Check this book out to enjoy the experience without the risk.

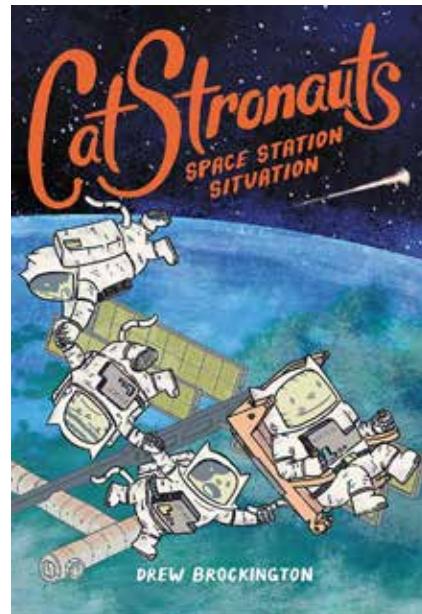


Pete Townshend's Classic Quadrophenia (781.66 TOW) A new spin on a rock and roll classic, The Who's 1973 opera is now performed by The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. The new rendition is performed by Pete Townshend, Billy Idol, Phil Daniels (original film star in the original silver screen version of Quadrophenia) and tenor Alfie Boe. The newest full orchestral score was written by Rachel Fuller and lead by conductor Robert Ziegler. There is also a supplemental **Pete Townshend's Classic Quadrophenia** DVD (DVDS 781.66) this has behind the scenes creative process interviews and video.

The Piano Guys present, **Wonders**,



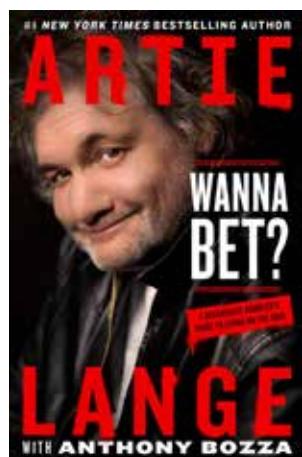
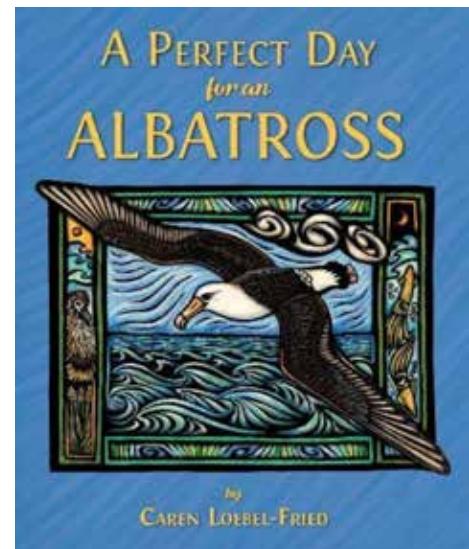
their new Deluxe Edition in our CD collection under (781.64 PIA) and in our DVD collection (781.64 PIA). The DVD includes 6 musical videos and the CD, twelve songs. The Piano Guys have a life mission to bring great uplifting music to everyone in the world.



CatStronauts: Space Station Situation (J-Graphics Novels CATSTRONAUGHTS) by author/

artist Drew Brockington is the 3rd book in the problem solving CatStronauts Series. The comic book style or graphic novel type reading is fun, easy and artistic because the imaginary world is designed with humor for the reader.

A Perfect Day for an Albatross (J-Nature Animals Birds LOEBELFRIED) is by artist/author Caren Loebel-Fried, she is inspired daily by the Hawaiian Rainforest she calls home. She studied the life of the Albatross in its natural environment on a remote US Minor Outlying Island called Midway. (Atoll National Wildlife Refuge and Battle of Midway National Memorial) This book is for seabird and art lovers of all ages. Her hand carved block prints that accompany her writing are colorful, bold and bright. Her descriptive educational text is written in the style of an Albatross's moment by moment diary.



Wanna Bet: A Degenerate Gambler's Guide to Living on the Edge (BIO LANGE) is written by Artie Lange and Anthony Bozza. Artie Lange, New Jersey's native



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Craft Beer Fest on the Bay



The Matanzas Craft Beer Fest brought a lot of thirsty people to the Matanzas on the Bay restaurant last Saturday. The event, a fund-raiser for the Operation Open Arms charity, included a variety of craft beers from local breweries, along with live music, great food and prize drawings. Operation Open Arms (OAA) has been the beneficiary of previous fundraisers at Matanzas on the Bay, but this was the first Craft Beer Fest fundraiser for them. OAA provides support for veterans dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Learn more at operationopenarms.org.
PHOTOS BY SARAH LIST



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Veterans Day Car Show

The Knights of Columbus held their second annual Veterans Day Car Show & Cookout at Ascension Catholic Church last Saturday, November 10. The show cars all looked like they'd just rolled off the showroom floor. Trophies were awarded for the top three cars based on votes from those who attended the show.

One of the 1st Place winners was George Bomba and his 1963 Ford Galaxie 500 convertible. This immaculate car is owned by

former Navy Seal and Vietnam veteran, George Bomba. It has a 390 C.I.D V8, a pair of dice hanging from the rear view mirror, and chrome half-moons on the four headlights.

The other First Place car was an immaculate 1953 MGTD Roadster in original MG Red owned by Jim Gerlock. It is all original with matching engine and chassis numbers, though many show attendees tapped on the hood to see if it was metal or a fiberglass replica.

Second Place was awarded to Johnny

Long and his 1964 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud III. It is "The Ultimate Street Rod" with a 454 C.I.D. Chevrolet 550hp engine. This was Long's third Knights Car Show and he's brought a different winning car to each one.

Veterans and First Responders were guests of the Knights of Columbus and ate free. All proceeds from the show are donated to the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.

-Information provided by Ken Platt.



Winners of the Knights of Columbus Veterans Day Car Show, from left: Johnny Long-2nd Place; Jim Gerlock-1st Place tie, Bill Paolercio, Show Coordinator, and George Bomba-1st Place tie.



George Bomba's 1963 Ford Galaxie 500 convertible tied for First Place.



Tied for First Place was Jim Gerlock and his 1953 MGTD Roadster.



Johnny Long and his 1964 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud III, previously owned by Elton John, won Second Place.



2006 Cadillac XLR-V



1986 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz

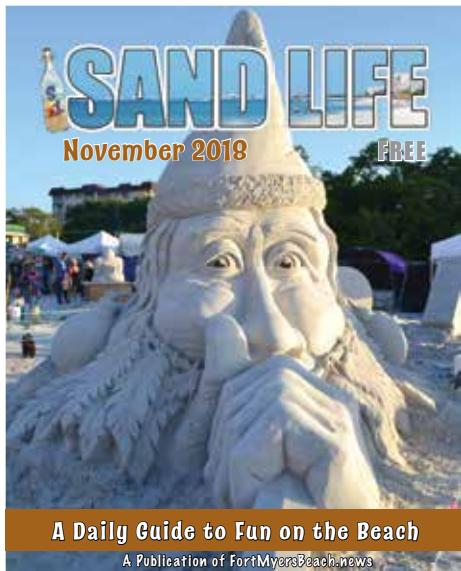


1941 Chevrolet Custom



1958 Chevrolet Impala

AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND



BOOK SALE

Head to the Beach Library this weekend for a Book Sale SA Nov 17 and SU Nov 18. Open 9am-2pm each day, plenty of variety to choose from and minimal prices!

TOYS FOR KIDS

Mark your calendar now for the annual Toys for Kids, formerly held at

the Beach Pub. This Island event, marking the beginning of the holiday season for many an Islander, will be held at the Shamrock Irish Pub on SU Nov 18 from 1-6pm. They will collect new, unwrapped toys for local kids. There will also be raffles, silent auctions, 50/50 raffles, plus Pulled Pork by Robbie and Live Music by Play Dead from 1-5pm.

DINNER DANCE

The Ascension Knights of Columbus will host a Turkey Trot Dinner Dance on SA Nov 17 in the Parish Hall, 6025 Estero, FMB. Enjoy dinner catered by "A Touch of Italy" and dancing to the music of "Side-by-Side." Tickets \$25/person. Doors open at 5:30pm. For tickets or more information call 630-546-4801 or 239-284-6516.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Be a part of the American Sand Sculpting Championships! Volunteer to work a 4 hour shift, either morning or afternoon. Nov 16-25.

Volunteers are needed for each day. Volunteers receive a free t-shirt, free lunch and a ticket for a future visit! There's also a thank you party at the Seminole Casino on Nov 28. Contact the Chamber of Commerce events@fmbchamber.com or call 239-454-7500.

OLD FLORIDA

Join the Estero Island Historical Society and the Beach Library for 'A Grab Bag Full of Old Florida Stories' by Dr. Caren Neile on MO, Nov 19 at 7pm at the Beach Library. Sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council, Dr. Neile will entertain and inform with true tales from our state's past. From the Barefoot Mailman to Addison Mizner and the Ashley Gang, old Florida history is brimming with fascinating characters and memorable events. You'll enjoy lively interpretations of some better-known Florida tales, as well as others you may not yet have encountered. Dr. Neile (Ph.D., MFA) teaches storytelling studies at Florida Atlantic

University. She has performed, lectured and published on storytelling and literature throughout the U.S. and abroad, including as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Jerusalem and Vienna. She co-produces and co-hosts The Public Storyteller, a weekly segment on Miami public radio, as well as numerous storytelling events throughout South Florida. Program is free but donations are welcome.

GARDEN CLUB

Join the Estero Island Garden Club on MO Nov 19 at 9am at the FMB Woman's Club, 175 Sterling St. for a program on "Everything You Wanted To Know About Herbs But Were Afraid To Ask," by Master Gardener from Miss Potter's Place, Adrienne Diaz. All are welcome to attend this entertaining presentation. For more information call 978-460-1814.

CAR SHOW

Parrot Key Caribbean Grill hosts two car shows each month, on the 1st and 3rd MO. Next show Nov 19 from 4-7pm. Stop by to see some cool hot rods, classic cars and custom trucks. Have a great car? Get arrive early for parking and registration. Free to show; free to look. For more information visit MyParrotKey.com or call 239-463-3257.

HOLIDAY NIGHTS

The Edison & Ford Winter Estates will kick off their 43rd Holiday Nights celebration with the annual tree-lighting ceremony on FR Nov 23 at 6pm at the estates, 2350 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers. This year's display offers more lights and new displays and decorations. Holiday Tradition Tours, Holiday Tea and a Children's Tree Trail also. Open 5:30-9pm nightly. For tickets and more information visit edisonfordwinterestates.org



Want to test your smarts & win prizes?

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

LOCAL'S NIGHT

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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!

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www.FishTaleDining.com

PUTT & PUB CRAWL

Registration is now open for the 2019 Putt & Pub Crawl! Get your team and sign up now for this 9 hole putt-putt golf event held in downtown FMB on SA Jan 19. Nine area non-profit organizations will benefit this year. Teams of 4 can begin at any of the 9 holes after 10am. All holes must be completed by 4:30. An afterparty with awards follows. Team entry fee is \$225, which covers entry, drink specials, raffles, 50/50, dinner & more! To enter contact the FMB Chamber of Commerce 239-454-

AROUND AND ABOUT THE ISLAND

7500.

YOGA AT THE GAZEBO

Friends of Lovers Key State Park offers Yoga at the beach Gazebo every MO morning at the park at 9:30am through May. Instructor Sandy McShane offers an hour of Open Vinyasa Flow. \$10/class plus park entry fee. Participation helps support the future Welcome & Discovery Center. Bring a yoga mat, water and any props you need. Arrive in time to park and take the tram to the beach. For more info call 774-563-8874

MOON WALK

The Friends of Matanzas Pass Preserve will host their monthly 'Moon Walk in the Preserve' on FR Nov 23 at 5:04pm. This experiential hands-on program will awaken and sharpen participant's senses of smell, touch, hearing and night vision. Join two volunteers carrying candle-lit lanterns through the Preserve as night descends and celebrate the darkness and Full Moon. Meet at the entrance to the Preserve behind the Historical Cottage on Bay Street. Program is free, but pre-registration is required. Adults only. Limited to 12 participants. To register, call Jim 239-565-7437.

FOOD BANK

The Harry Chapin Food Bank will continue to bring their mobile food truck to 1510 Estero Blvd every other WE from 10am-noon through mid-December to help local residents faced with decreased earn-

ings related to our water quality problems. Upcoming dates the Food Truck will be here: Nov. 28 and Dec 12. Choice Market is also available every TH from 10am-3pm at Beach Baptist.



OSTEGO BAY

Join Ostego Bay Foundation for their annual Silent Auction Fundraiser on FR Nov 30 from 5-8pm at Bonita Bill's Café on San Carlos Island under the bridge. The event includes a Fish Fry at \$10. Entrance to auction is free, but get there early to check all the auction items out!

SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS

Join the Beach Kids Foundation for their annual Dinner Auction on FR Dec 7 at 6pm at DiamondHead Resort. This fundraiser helps to provide Beach School kids and their siblings a special holiday. Live auction, raffles and more. Tickets \$100 each. To purchase call 239-980-0661 or stop by Century 21 TriPower Realty or Red Coconut. Or attend their Pancake Breakfast at the Red Coconut on Dec 1 from 7-10am or the Dec 18 Wrapping Party at Red Coconut beginning at 5pm.

HOLIDAY CONCERT

The FMB Friends of the Arts will host a Free Holiday Concert at Fish-Tale Marina in the Propeller Lounge from 7-9pm on SU Dec 9 featuring Al Holland, Jo List and the Pearl Street Band. Come get your Christmas Spirit on! The Winter Concert Series continues on January 17 with a Chicago Tribute Band, 'Back to Chicago'. On February 7, 'The British Invasion' will perform and on March 14, 'The Atlantic City Boys' will take the stage channeling Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. A special concert has been added January 24 to raise funds for Beach School, "School House Rock." Tickets for the January – March concerts are \$25 each. 239-463-3600. fmbarts.org

CHRISTMAS TREE FEST

Plan to join the FMB Woman's Club Christmas Tree Festival and Auction Dec 14-16 at the Woman's Club. Enjoy a Christmas Tree Silent Auction, musical performances, chili tasting, bake sale and food trucks. For more information email events@fmb-wc.org

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

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

The Spirit of Christmas Foun-

dation, Inc will hold their annual Dinner Auction on TU Dec 4 from 5-10pm at American Legion Post 274, 899 Buttonwood Dr, Fort Myers Beach. This fundraiser raises money for children of needy families in Southwest Florida for Christmas. Each year different families are selected from referrals made by social service agencies and schools. Live entertainment, Auction tables, 50/50 and more. Entry is free, but donations of canned goods are welcome. If you can't attend, donation checks can be sent to Spirit of Christmas Foundation, Attn: Jim & Sharon Jamieson, 131 Gulf Island Dr, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

SENIOR SOFTBALL

Want to get outside and have some fun? Join the slow pitch softball group for ages 50+ that gathers at the Bay Oaks field every TU and TH at 10am. No glove needed. Men & women welcome. Let's have some fun! Questions? Call Ed 248-891-8848

BRIDGE

The Woman's Club of FMB invites all bridge players to join them every TU & FR from 9:30am to 2:30pm for a day of social bridge. Players rotate throughout the day competing in six rounds. Bring a bagged lunch and enjoy good company and great bridge. Cost: \$5/non-members, \$3/members. Proceeds support community activities.

Government Meetings

Monday, 11/19 9:00am

Town Council (LDC changes, Lighthouse rezoning, Special Magistrate)

Tuesday, 11/20 9:00am

Town Public Safety Committee

6:30pm

Library Board, Beach Library
2755 Estero Blvd

Wednesday, 11/21 9:00am

Anchorage Advisory Committee

Thursday, 11/22

Town Hall Closed

Friday, 11/23

Thanksgiving Holiday

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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Funnies Page

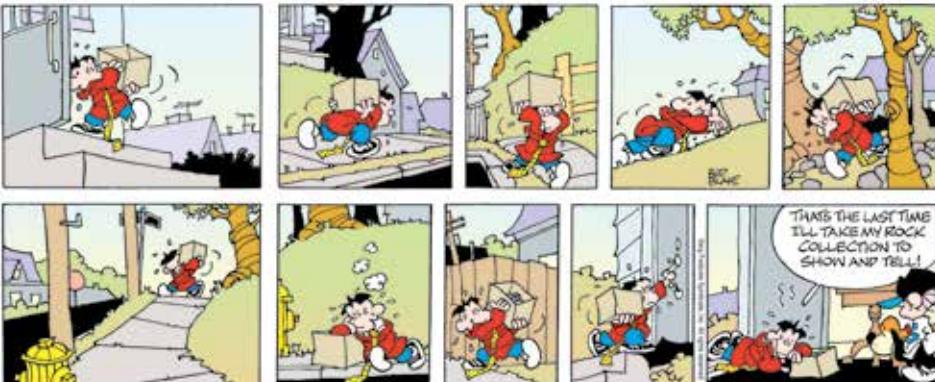


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Amber Waves

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Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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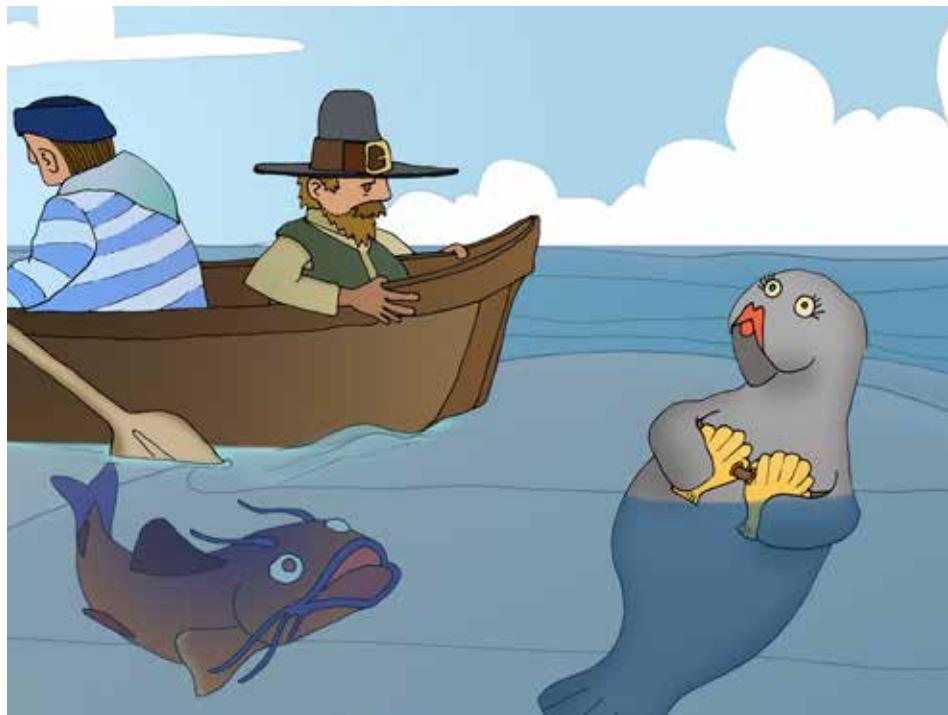
Tis the Season
THINK PIERSIDE
FOR HOLIDAY
GIFT CARDS.



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.



"Once again Mr. Standish's puritanical beliefs are tempted by a Manatee of the Evening."

Eric M. Huntsman

"Yes, I'm a manatee but I'm identifying as a womanatee!"

Jon Barnard

"That's supposed to be womanatee.."

John Malchow

"Are you catfishing me or are you a real pilgrim?"

Sue Harvel Lowry

"Mabel, get down. I think he wants your clams."

Sarah List

Funnies Page



The Spats

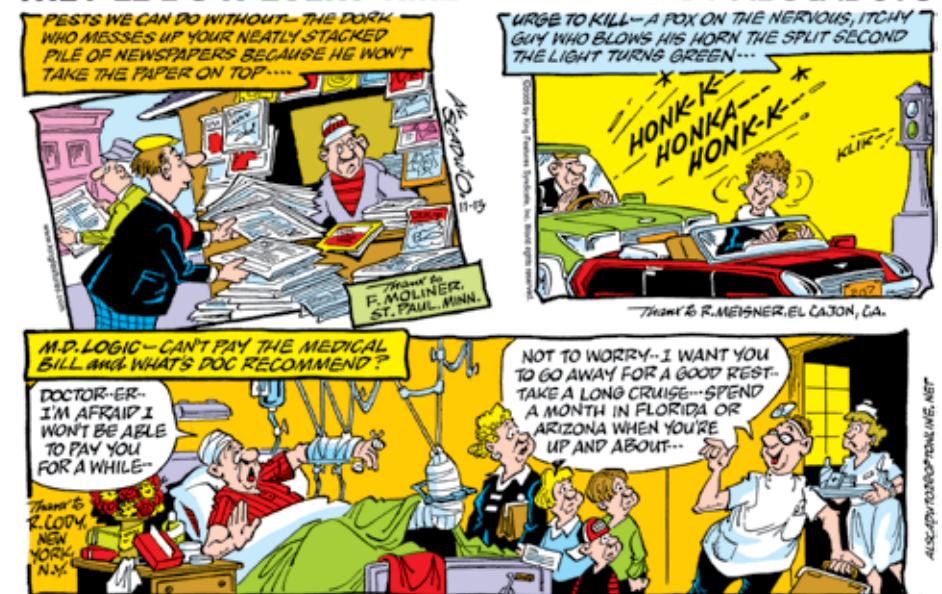


R.F.D.



by Mike Marland

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BY AL SCADUTO

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Super Crossword**ODD MUSICAL COUPLE**

ACROSS

- 1 Travel aimlessly
- 5 Sport— (vehicle)
- 8 Marsh fuel
- 12 See 124- Down
- 15 "Well, this — surprise!"
- 18 Extents of estates
- 20 Enjoying an African trek
- 22 Biscotti tidbit
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Swaying to and —
- 26 "Heaven Can Wait" director Lubitsch
- 27 "... — will!"
- 28 Diplomatic agent
- 29 Do injury to
- 30 Keeps hold of
- 33 Brit's 26th letter
- 35 Religious recluse
- 37 Riddle, part 2
- 42 Little guys
- 46 Socratic "T"
- 47 Inch or mile
- 48 Garden flowers, informally

49 Riddle, part 3

55 Part of a list

56 Thing pulled by a milker

57 Prefix with flooey

58 Mexican moola

59 Desertlike

60 Little tyke

62 Animal pen

66 "— a loss for words"

68 Bar drink

69 Riddle, part 4

73 To the — power

76 Replay mode, briefly

77 Sandy color

78 Crotchet

80 Runaway Gl

83 Seized auto, e.g.

85 Ending for count

88 Made less harsh

89 Good score in diving

90 Riddle, part 5

95 Lauder of fragrances

97 James of "Slither"

98 "How pretty!"

99 "On the subject of ..."

100 End of the riddle

106 Inhale

107 "— Bravo"

108 50-50 chances

113 Barren

114 Pottery, e.g.

117 Trident, e.g.

119 The Evil One

120 Pig — poke

121 Riddle's answer

125 VIP on the Hill: Abbr.

126 Move to a new post

127 Iffy issue

128 Equine critter

129 Get a total

130 Hefty volume

131 Put in words

132 Got hold of

11 Little mountain lake

12 Spiritual goal of Zen Buddhism

13 Hunted, with "on"

14 Lung-filling stuff

15 Inspire with foolish passion

16 Cry uncle

17 The "H" or "O" of H2O

19 Stuffy room

21 Footrace a little over 3.1 mi. long

24 Rice-sized pasta

29 Hatchet man's roster

31 — one (zip)

32 Kiss noise

34 Chinese statesman — Xiaoping

36 Chow mein additive, for short

38 Immaculate

39 Co. board member

40 At the apex

41 J.D. Salinger heroine

42 Actress Innes

43 Vocalist Paula

44 Evade slyly

45 Litigious one

50 Fishing net

51 Black-and-white whale

52 Figure skater Johnny

53 Morales of "NYPD Blue"

54 Lover of Juliet

61 "American Beauty" actress Birch

64 Big name in SUVs

65 Cochlea locale

67 Madison Ave. solicitor

70 Future sign

71 Ray of —

72 Feels regret over

73 Ibis' homes

74 Fido's prize

75 Prefix with carbon

76 Rained pellets of ice

79 Probe org.

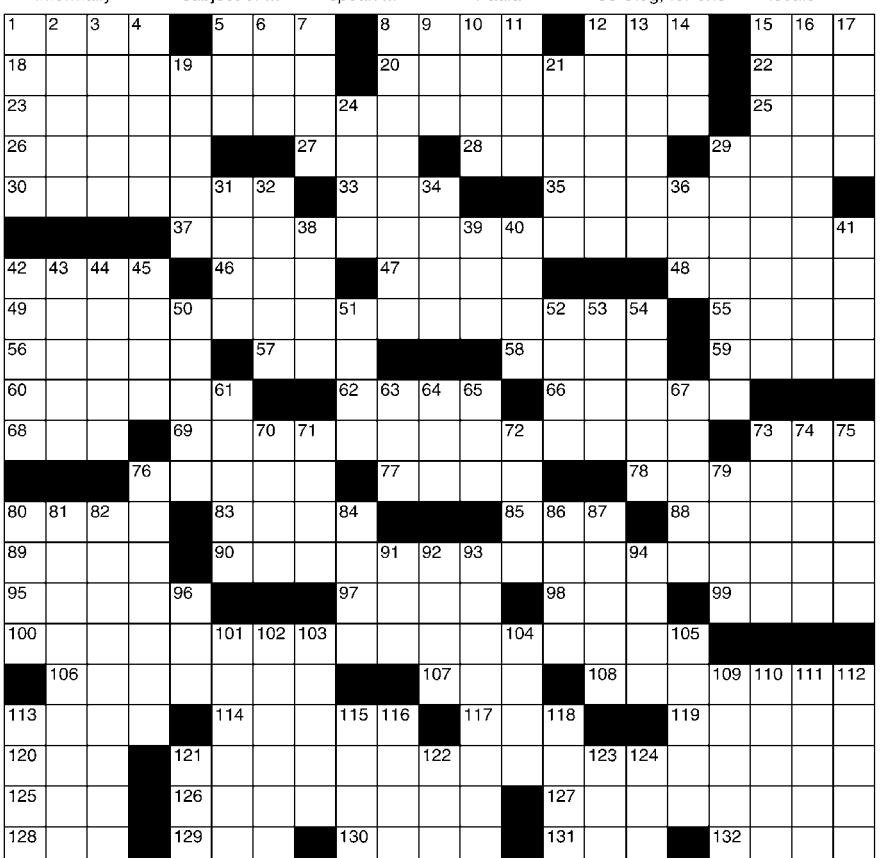
80 From the top

81 Pulled chicken leftovers?

82 Ottawa natives

84 Start of a fairy tale

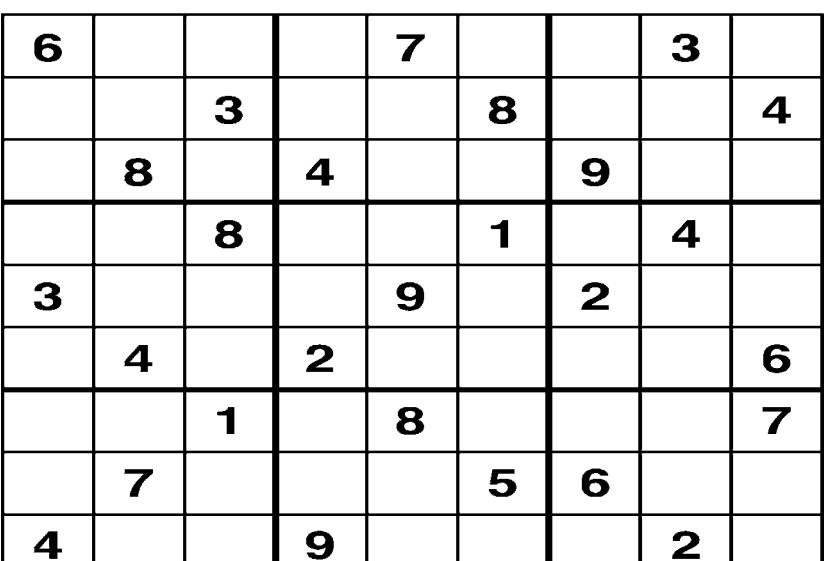
86 Clog, for one



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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.

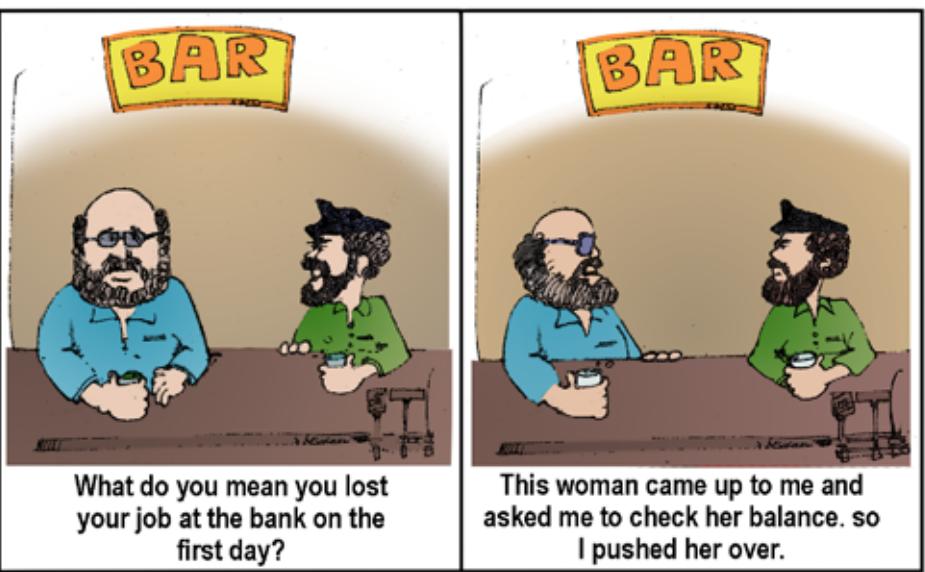
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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BARSIDE

(GEORGE)



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: Q equals A

SP SWWQEJSP, XOH EOHYOHBV

OQE OHQBV ESIH QPPSUHV QPV

VJEFDEXHV EOHHY WBUJPF

“KQQ, ODIKDF!”

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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!



Leer

LEGO

Supine

NOPER

Tally

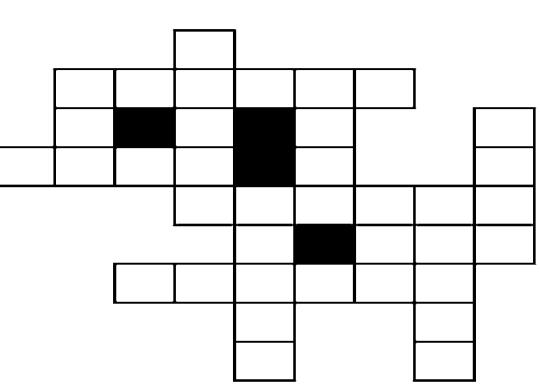
CORSE

Yearn

EACH**TODAY'S WORD**

FEAR KNOT
By: rj johnson
DOUBT? ... OR DARE!
TM

PIM
MEDRIA
♥AMORY
♥NPSA
PIAMOT
DIA
♥TPRA
NOMIA
ANM
PYNACO
NIPCA
♥ENDE



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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Cathie Lewis, Realtor

Cathie Lewis comes to Pfeifer Realty Group after spending over 30 years in public utility management, with an expertise in storm water management systems. Her lengthy experience with both the City of Sanibel and Town of Fort Myers Beach make her a uniquely qualified local real estate professional serving buyers and sellers of residential and commercial properties.

In addition to her work as a real estate professional, Cathie has been a CROW wildlife volunteer for several years and recently joined F.I.S.H. whose mission is to assist neighbors to live independently and with dignity in their homes. She believes in giving back to the community she loves. She is also a veteran sailor having sailed from Fort Myers Beach to Australia.

Cathie can be reached at 239-745-7367 and Cathie@pfeiferrealtygroup.com

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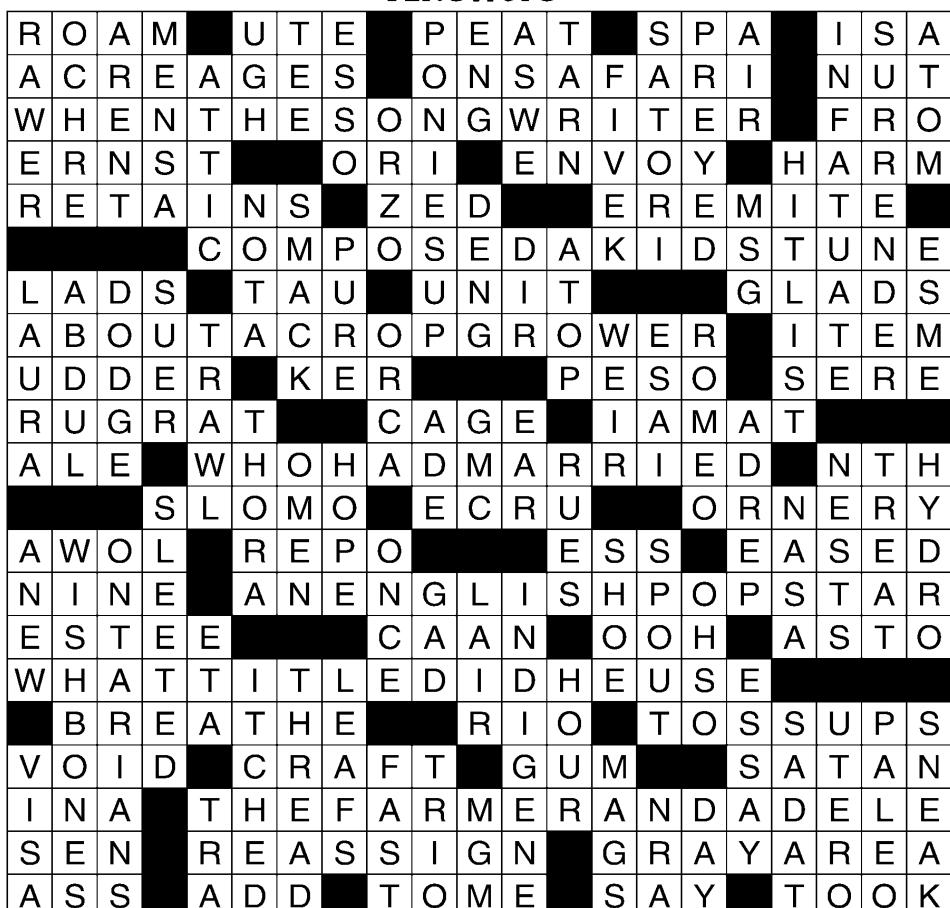
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Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
F 16	Low	12:54 AM	1.7	6:48 AM	Set 12:32 AM	51
	High	6:24 AM	2.1	5:38 PM	Rise 1:49 PM	
16	Low	1:27 PM	0.5			
16	High	8:59 PM	2.2			
Sa 17	Low	2:12 AM	1.3	6:48 AM	Set 1:25 AM	61
	High	8:03 AM	2.1	5:37 PM	Rise 2:24 PM	
17	Low	2:16 PM	0.6			
17	High	9:23 PM	2.3			
Su 18	Low	3:08 AM	1.0	6:49 AM	Set 2:17 AM	70
	High	9:21 AM	2.1	5:37 PM	Rise 2:59 PM	
18	Low	2:58 PM	0.7			
18	High	9:45 PM	2.4			
M 19	Low	3:53 AM	0.6	6:50 AM	Set 3:11 AM	78
	High	10:25 AM	2.1	5:37 PM	Rise 3:34 PM	
19	Low	3:34 PM	0.9			
19	High	10:06 PM	2.6			
Tu 20	Low	4:33 AM	0.4	6:51 AM	Set 4:06 AM	86
	High	11:20 AM	2.1	5:36 PM	Rise 4:10 PM	
20	Low	4:06 PM	1.1			
20	High	10:28 PM	2.7			
W 21	Low	5:12 AM	0.0	6:51 AM	Set 5:04 AM	92
	High	12:11 PM	2.1	5:36 PM	Rise 4:49 PM	
21	Low	4:35 PM	1.2			
21	High	10:52 PM	2.9			
Th 22	Low	5:52 AM	-0.2	6:52 AM	Set 6:04 AM	97
	High	1:02 PM	2.1	5:36 PM	Rise 5:32 PM	
22	Low	5:02 PM	1.3			
22	High	11:20 PM	3.0			
F 23	Low	6:33 AM	-0.5	6:53 AM	Set 7:06 AM	99
	High	1:53 PM	2.0	5:36 PM	Rise 6:20 PM	
23	Low	5:29 PM	1.5			
23	High	11:53 PM	3.2			

PUZZLE ANSWERS



CryptoQuip answer

On occasion, the shepherd has heard some annoyed and disgusted sheep crying
“Baa, humbug!”

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Ogle; 2. Prone;
3. Score; 4. Ache

Today's Word

HOROSCOPE

FEAR KNOT™

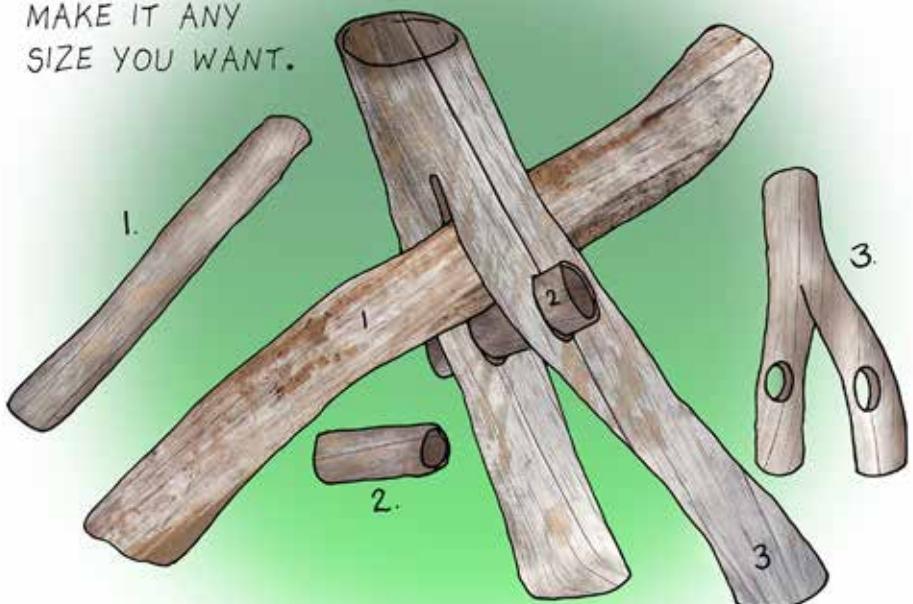
answer

A					S
I	I	A			
E	D	N	P		
O	P	T	I	M	A
A		M	A		
C	A	N	O	P	Y
I			O		
C			R		



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Water Conditions FMB

November 14, 2018

By Missy Layfield
editor@fortmyersbeach.news

Red Tide: Patchy concentrations of Red Tide persist in Southwest Florida from Pinellas to Lee counties according to the mid-week November 14, 2018 Florida Fish & Wildlife Red Tide Report. High levels (>1 million cells/liter) were found in and/or offshore of northern Lee as well as Pinellas, Sarasota and Charlotte counties. Medium (>100,000 to 1 million cells/liter) were found in the same areas plus offshore of Monroe County. Compared to last week, Red Tide has increased in and/or offshore of Lee County and in northern Pinellas County.

In the last FWC full report on November 9, 2018, High levels were detected from Pinellas to Lee counties. In Lee County, 14 samples showed background to high levels of Karenia brevis. High levels of K.brevis were found in Lee County at Boca Grande Pass on November 6, with Medium levels at Captiva Pass and Light-house Beach last week. Testing at Matanzas Pass, Lynn Hall Park and the Mound House dock on Fort Myers Beach all showed "Not Present" results. Lovers Key State Park tested as Low on November 7.

No fish kills or respiratory irritation were reported in Lee County during the past week.

In Northwest Florida, K. brevis was observed in or offshore of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Pasco, Bay and Franklin counties.

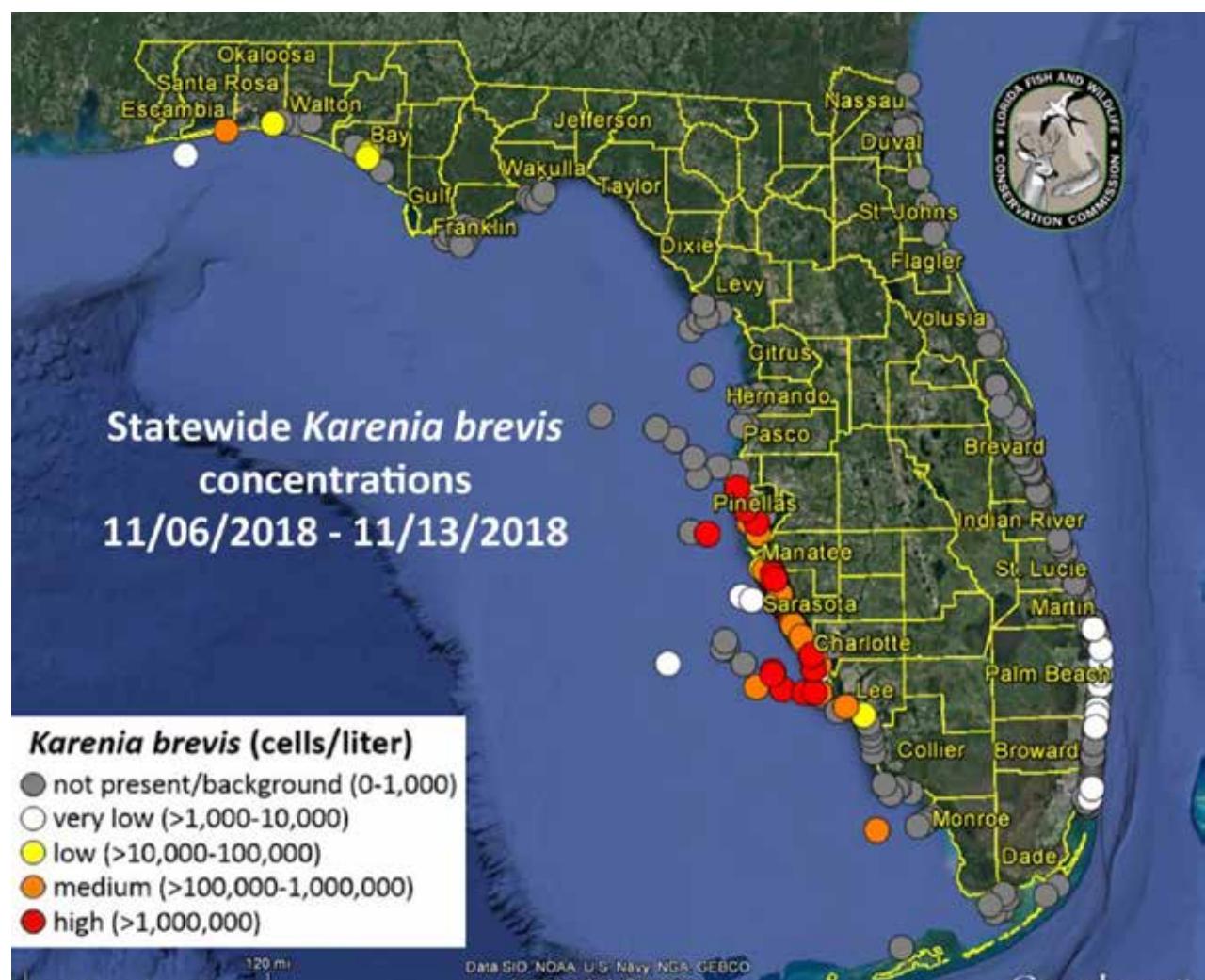
Along the East Coast of Florida, K.brevis was found from Brevard, Pam Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

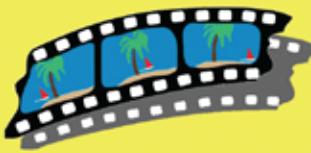
The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation found Medium K.brevis levels on November 13 at Tarpon Beach on Sanibel. The Sanibel Sea School found Medium levels on eastern Sanibel beaches on November 9 and Low levels on November 13.

Blue-Green Algae: According to the November 13, 2018 Caloosahatchee River and Estuary Report, Cyanobacteria blooms persist in Lake Okeechobee and in the Caloosahatchee River. The Lee County Environmental Lab found cyanobacteria at the Alva Boat Ramp and upstream and downstream of the Franklin locks on November 13.

Salinity in the estuary is rising as Lake Okeechobee releases are lowered. The weekly average flow of the Caloosahatchee at Franklin Lock is now 1002 cubic feet per second.

Summary: Cyanobacteria blooms persist in the Caloosahatchee River. Red Tide levels have increased in Lee County, with High levels in northern Lee and Medium levels near Sanibel. Testing in the last week showed no Red Tide present at testing sites on Fort Myers Beach.





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www.FMBtheater.com

* * Matinees are Back * *

Starts Friday, Nov 16



**Fantastic Beasts:
The Crimes of Grindelwald**
[PG-13] 2:30 5:30 8:15
2hrs, 15 mins

The second installment of the "Fantastic Beasts" series set in J.K. Rowling's Wizarding World featuring the adventures of magizoologist Newt Scamander.

Starring: Eddie Redmayne, Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler



Dr. Suess' The Grinch
[PG] 3:00 6:00 8:30
1hr, 30 mins

A grumpy Grinch plots to ruin Christmas for the village of Whoville.

Starring : Rashida Jones, Tristan O'Hare, Scarlett Estevez, Benedict Cumberbatch



Bohemian Rhapsody
[PG-13] 2:30 5:30 8:15
2hrs, 15 mins

A chronicle of the years leading up to Queen's legendary appearance at the Live Aid (1985) concert.

Starring : Rami Malek, Lucy Boynton, Ben Hardy



A Star is Born
[R] 2:40 5:40 8:15
2hrs, 15 min

A musician helps a young singer and actress find fame, even as age and alcoholism send his own career into a downward spiral.

Starring: Lady Gaga, Bradley Cooper, Sam Elliott

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)

Buy tickets online! www.FMBtheater.com! Like us on facebook.com/BeachTheater!

WHO'S PLAYING WHERE ON AND AROUND THE BEACH

CLUB	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
CASTAWAYS Santini Marina Plaza 463-4644	BACKLASH 8-12PM	ELECTRIC LIPSTICK 8-MIDNIGHT	ELECTRIC BRUNCH Benefit for Taylor ELECTRIC LIPSTICK				ELECTRIC LIPSTICK 8-MIDNIGHT
COTTAGE Gulfshore Grill 765-5440	ROGER YOUNG 4-7PM STEVE FARST 9PM-1AM	JOHN PAUL DUO 4-7PM BAD BANDITOS 9-1	ACUSTIC FIRE 4-7PM TROUBLEMAKERS 9-1AM	STEVE FARST 4-7PM 3 CROOKED STEPS 9PM-1AM	KELLY NEFF 4-7PM BAD BANDITOS 9PM-1AM	CHARLIE MOON 4-7PM STEVE FARST 9-1	CHRIS CASDIA 4-7 NEW VINYL 9PM-1AM
DIXIE FISH CO. Fisherman's Wharf 233-8837	MARK WESLEY 5:30PM-9:30PM	GIRL MEETS BOY 5:30PM-9:30PM	SAM DeARMOND 4PM		TEQUILA TOM 5:30PM	JEFF LYONS 5:30-8:30PM	
DOC FORDS 708 Fishermans Whf. 765-9660	HIGH VOLTAGE 6:30PM	GEORGE NEIL 6:30PM	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	JENNY VE 1-5PM CJ & FRIENDS 6-10PM	GEORGE LEWIS 5:30-9:30	DJ BROWN 1-6	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	JOE 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 VE 5-8PM	MEAGAN ROSE 5-8PM	ENDRE D 5-8PM	TWO HANDS 5-8PM
PARROT KEY Salty Sam's Marina 463-3257	BITS AND 7PM	FRANK TORINO 7-10PM		CAR SHOW 4PM	GATLIN 7PM	GATLIN 7PM	FRANK TORINO 7-10PM
PETE'S TIME OUT Time Square 463-5900			DANIEL D 6-10PM	DAVE ROJAS 6-10PM	AARON SEYFERTH 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	SHERRIN 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	
SALTY CRAB 1154 Estero Blvd 233-8224	ANTHONY WAYNE 12-4 BERNIE HYLAND 4:30-8:30PM	AWESOME SAUCE 1-5PM SUMMER GYPSIES 6-9PM					
SHARKBAR 19030 Old San Carlos Blvd 239-313-6012	MOTOWN ALL STAR BAND 7-10PM	COLLABORATION BAND 2-5PM		COLLABORATION BAND 7-10PM		COLLABORATION BAND 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 LAWRENCE 8PM - CLOSE	CHRIS KEMP 1-5 CLIVE 8-CLOSE	MIKE GLEAN 1-5PM		CLIVE LIVE 8PM		
THE BEACH BAR 1668 1 Street 765-6102	SEAN BRIGHT 2-6PM	REX BONGO 2-6PM	HEAVY WEATHER 2-6PM		SHERIN 2-6PM	THE LUCKETTS 2-6PM	REX BONGO DUO 2-6PM
WHALE 1249 Estero Blvd 463-5505	JIMI DREDD 6PM	MEGAN ROSE 6-9PM	SOAPY TUNA 9PM			ROGER YOUNG 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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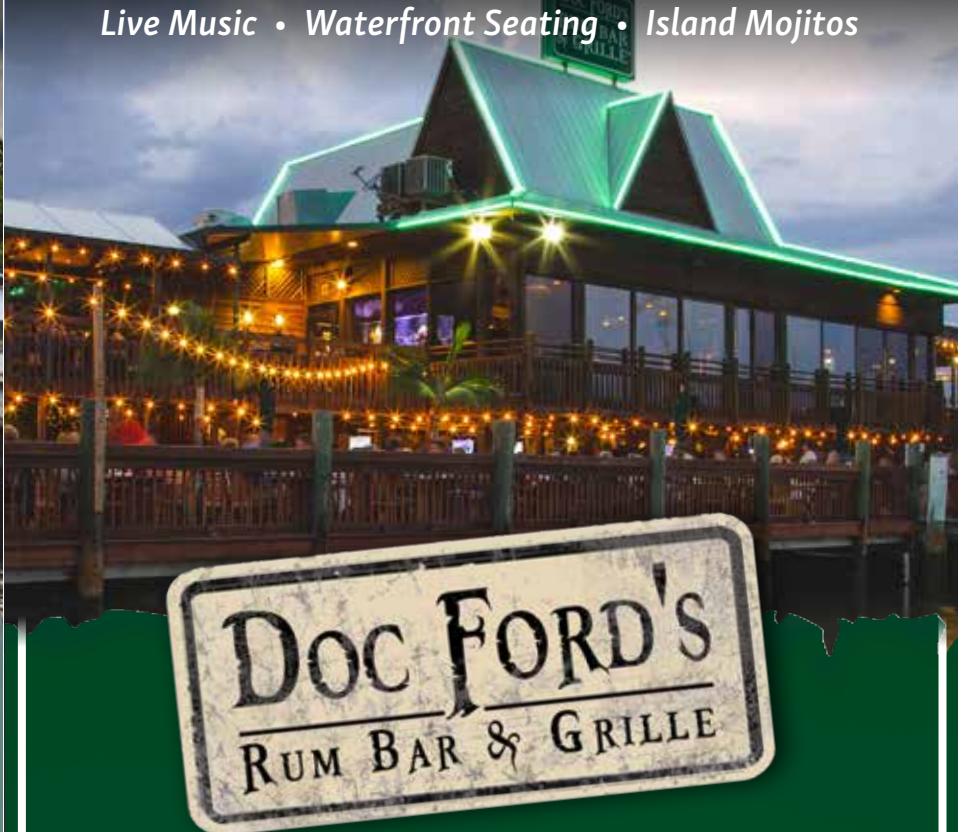


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