

The

January 27, 2023

ENGLEWOOD REVIEW

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Trust Development Officer Kerry Hunter of Englewood Bank & Trust is offering a series of free estate-planning seminars to help you prepare for the future. **Seminars are held at 10 a.m.**

Estate Planning Basics **Thursday, Feb. 2**

Review the basic elements of an estate plan, including last will and testament, power of attorney, and health care directives. Presented with Attorney Lori Emery of Wellbaum & Emery, P.A. **Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 South Indiana Ave., Englewood**

Mutual Funds vs. ETFs **Tuesday, Feb. 7**

Explore the details of how each investment tool works, its costs, and performance measurements. Presented by Christopher Eckstrom, MBA, Portfolio Manager. **Englewood Bank & Trust Gulf Cove branch, 12651 S. McCall Rd. (near Home Depot)**

Becoming a Floridian **Thursday, Feb. 9**

Explore your checklist to be a Floridian, common problems with other states' documents, and some helpful tips. Presented with Dean Hanewinckel of the law office of Dean Hanewinckel, P.A. **Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 South Indiana Ave., Englewood**

Estate Planning 101 **Tuesday, Feb. 21**

Learn the basic elements of an estate plan, including last will and testament, power of attorney, and health care directives. Presented with Attorney Callie Cowan of the Ledbetter Law Group. **Venice Area Beautification, Inc., 257 North Tamiami Trail, Venice**

Bond Risk and How to Avoid It **Wednesday, Feb. 22**

Learn how portfolio managers analyze and screen fixed income assets. Presented by Christopher Eckstrom, MBA, Portfolio Manager. **Englewood Bank & Trust Venice Conference Room, 207 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice**

While the seminars are free, reservations are required. Please register with any teller or personal banker, online at www.engagewoodbank.com or contact Kerry Hunter at 941-473-3629.



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Around the Town

Sarasota Fire Fest

Sarasota County's Fire Fest returns on **Saturday, January 28** to educate and inform the community about the importance of prescribed fire to the ecosystem. The event will be held from **10am to 2pm** at T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Preserve, 1800 Mabry Carlton Pkwy, Venice, and will feature the importance of prescribed burns, local exhibitors, games for children, and light refreshments. For more information, call **311**.

Winterfest Festival

Come for a day of music by area bands at the Winterfest Food Truck & Music Festival on **Saturday, January 28, 1 to 9pm**, at the American Legion Post 254, 6648 Taneytown Street, North Port. Bands scheduled are Whiskey Corners, Ricky Valido, Paisley Craze, and Maiden Cane. All day entry is \$20 adults, \$10 kids (cash only). 50/50 raffle & booze raffle. Hosted by When All Else Fails, an organization to help struggling individuals achieve self-sufficiency through resources and aid.

Downtown Venice Craft Festival

The 15th Annual January Downtown Venice Craft Festival is happening **Saturday & Sunday January 28 & 29** from **10am to 5pm**. Come browse all the outdoor art and craft vendors on West Venice Avenue. Free admission.

Lunch and Learn Lectures

Marine mammal rescue involves the coordination of emergency responses to sick, injured, or dead seals, sea lions, dolphins, porpoises, and whales. Who does this and how is it accomplished on the Gulf Coast? Meghan Sutton, a Marine Biologist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, will address these questions on **Monday, January 30**. On **Monday, February 6** Rachael Kangas, underwater archaeologist and Director of the West Florida Public Archaeology Network, will discuss "Offshore Site Reveals Manasota Prehistory: Recent Changes and the Impact of Hurricane Ian." Curious? Attend the upcoming lectures as part of the 34th annual series at the Manasota Beach



Come out and join the Rotary Club of Englewood Sunset for their annual Englewood Beer Fest on **Saturday, January 28, noon to 5pm** at Pioneer Plaza, 325 W. Dearborn Street. There will be live music, activities, food, drinks, and plenty of beer. Your ticket purchase will get you into the popular beer garden for unlimited beer samples. Several craft breweries from Southwest Florida will be on hand to share samples of their signature beers as well as some of their seasonal favorites. Tickets are \$30 and may be purchased online at www.eventbrite.com/e/englewood-beerfest. Tickets are \$35 at the gate.

Club (MBC). All are welcome to join the annual "lunch and learn" series. Presentations will be outside. MBC is located at 7660 Manasota Key Road, and the presentations are from **noon until 1:30pm**. The cost is \$35, plus taxes/gratuity for talk and delicious lunch buffet. Reservations are required. For additional information and reservations, contact MBC at **941-474-2614**.

Chamber Photo Contest

The Englewood Chamber of Commerce invites you to enter their annual photo contest. Your photo could be featured in the Chamber's 2023 Community Guide. One lucky winner will be showcased on the coveted cover. Several others will be featured in the publication as content photos. Send your photos to Kim.Parks@EnglewoodChamber.com (please limit entries to ten per person). The submission deadline is **Tuesday, January 31st**. The top twenty photos will be posted on the Chamber website, www.Englewoodchamber.com, to be voted on by the public with the winner being featured on the cover. For questions, call the Chamber at **941-474-5511**.

DIY Heat Packs

For a usable craft, you can make a microwavable aromatherapy heat pack on **Tuesday, January 31, 10:30am to noon**, at the

Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. All supplies are provided to create your own heat pack from scratch. For questions, call **941-861-1225**.

Houseplant Renaissance Class

UF/IFAS Extension Charlotte County will be hosting a class, "The Houseplant Renaissance", at Centennial Park Recreation Center, 1120 Centennial Blvd., Port Charlotte on **Tuesday, January 31** from **6:30-8pm**. The guest speaker, Marc Frank, extension botanist at UF/IFAS Plant ID and Information Services, will talk about growing and collecting houseplants. Houseplants are back in style and this class will look at what's driving this renewed interest in houseplants, as well as the factors that contribute to success in growing them. Registration is \$10 per person and pre-registration is required. Online registration is open on www.Eventbrite.com. For information, contact Holly Bates at **941-764-4340** or Holly.Bates@CharlotteCountyFL.gov.

Pine Lake Yard Sales

The Pine Lake Community will be holding Yard Sales on **Saturday, February 4, 8:30am to 1pm**. Pine Lake is located at the corner of 776 and Old Englewood Road. Lots of great items. Don't miss this sale!

The Englewood REVIEW

www.Englewoodreview.com

"Our mission is to accurately inform, educate and entertain the area we serve with the goal of fostering community."

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the Old Englewood Village Association. Don't forget to visit the businesses that are open for your shopping pleasure and stop by the broadcast booth and get your raffle tickets for prizes.

Black History Bash

Come celebrate the achievements of five notable African Americans with activities for the whole family at the Black History Bash on **Saturday, February 4, 11am to 1pm**, at the Port Charlotte Library, 2280 Aaron Street, Pt. Charlotte. Embark on a journey through time with a story walk, make crafts, and get to know the important men and women who have shaped the world throughout history. For questions, call **941-764-5562**.

Community Yard Sale

Find unique items to take home at the Community Yard Sales, which will be hosted by North Port Parks & Recreation, on **Saturdays, February 4 and March 18, from 8am to noon**. The event will be held at the City Center Front Green, conveniently located right by City Hall at 4970 City Hall Blvd. In addition to household items, shoppers will also have the chance to support local business at the Crafter's Corner. The Crafter's Corner features handmade items from creative local vendors, giving attendees an opportunity to find one-of-a-kind items. For more information, visit www.NorthPortFL.gov/w.

Learn to Sail

Englewood Sailing Association is pleased to offer two adult introductory sailing sessions. Registration is currently open for the February class which will be held on two consecutive weekends: **February 4 & 5 and 11 & 12**. The next class will be four consecutive days from

March 6 to 9. Each 16-hour camp is \$195 for four days, **10am to 2pm**. Space is limited so register now. Visit the website at www.Englewoodsailing.org or email info@Englewoodsailing.org.

Charlotte County Fair

The Charlotte County Fair is here for your enjoyment through **Sunday, February 5th**. Go for the rides, showtimes, agricultural shows, arts & crafts competition, and the Midway. Gate admission is adults \$7 and students \$5, with special pricing on Senior Day (**Sunday, January 29th**), free admission on **Tuesday, January 31st**, and free student admission on **Sunday, February 5th**. The fairgrounds are located at 2333 El Jobean Road, Pt. Charlotte. Learn more at www.thecharlottecountyfair.com or on their Facebook page.

Cracker Fair

The 19th Annual Cracker Fair takes place on **Saturday, February 11 from 10am to 4pm** at Pioneer Plaza, 325 W. Dearborn Street. Come and enjoy live entertainment, a cracker whip demonstration, and Peace River Wildlife. There will be vendors, food trucks, local authors, artists, lemon dessert baking contest, and all sorts of crafts & fun. Musical entertainment will be Vinyl Recall, Gottfried Creek, James Hawkins, and John Tuff & Friends. The Fair is presented by the Lemon Bay Historical Society as their gift to the community. Free admission. The Cracker Fair is the culmination of the week-long Lemon Bay Fest, "Englewood History with Zest." For more information, visit www.lemonbayhistory.com.

Lemon Dessert Contest

Lemons played a major role in Englewood history in 1894 when

the Nichols brothers purchased property to develop a town with lemon groves. Two years of hard freezes doomed the lemon crops, but one namesake remains: Lemon Bay. Be a part of an Englewood tradition and participate in the Lemon Dessert Contest – Zesty Lemon Treats: Turn the Sour into Sweet. This popular annual contest provides applicants a chance to earn a prize and bragging rights for the year. On **Saturday, February 11th**, participants are asked to bring a dessert to the Cracker Fair at Pioneer Plaza (325 W. Dearborn Street) between **10 to 11am**. It must include lemons as a main ingredient. There are four categories: Pies, Cakes, Cookies, and Other. Judging will take place between **11am and noon**. Sample plates of the lemon desserts will be available at the big tent at **noon**, when the winners are announced. Entry forms are available at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce (601 S. Indiana Avenue), the Englewood Charlotte Library (3450 N. Access Road), Elsie Quirk Library (100 W. Dearborn Street), and online at www.lemonbayhistory.com. This year's Lemon Dessert Contest will be sponsored by the Lemon Bay Woman's Club with the tent sponsored by Michael J. Looney, Inc.

Say I Do Again

Just in time for Valentine's Day, couples are invited to participate in a wedding vow renewal event. "Say I Do Again" will be held on **Saturday, February 11 from 4-7pm** at the Garden of the Five Senses (4299 Pan American Blvd.) in North Port. The price is only \$15 per couple, and includes a group toast, gift bag, renewal certificate, and a professional photograph.

Oak Forest Rummage Sale

The Oak Forest Subdivision is holding a community rummage sale on **Saturday, February 4, 8am to noon**. The subdivision, located at Route 776 and Yosemite Drive, will offer many treasures to be found, from household items, furniture, tools, and books, to sporting goods, electronics, and more. See what you can find!

Cruisin' on Dearborn

With construction on West Dearborn Street completed, 'Cruisin' on Dearborn gets even better, as it continues on the first Saturday of the month from **2 to 8pm**. Anyone with a classic car or a love of cars is invited to this free event. **Saturday, February 4** is the next Cruise In. Enjoy music to cruise by and music trivia sponsored by



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The Englewood Amateur Radio Society (EARS) will be demonstrating their communications skills from 7am until dusk on Saturday, January 28 and from 7am to 2pm on Sunday, January 29 at the pavilion at Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park, 6791 San Casa Drive. They will be operating several "off-the-grid" radio stations as part of the Ham Radio Winter Field Day. Find out more about this nation-wide communication exercise at www.winterfeldday.com. Learn more about your local radio club at www.earsradioclub.org

Attendees will be asked to check in at least thirty minutes before the event starts and are welcome to wear whatever they are most comfortable in. Pre-registration is recommended. Couples ages 18 years of age and older can sign-up online at <https://bit.ly/SayIDoAgain2023>. For more information, call 941-429-PARK (7275) or email Parks@NorthPortFL.gov.

Cross Stitch Craft
Love is in the air at the Englewood Charlotte Library on Saturday, February 11 at 2pm. Come in and learn how to make a handmade, heartfelt cross stitch gift for your Valentine. Don't know how cross stitch, don't worry as you will learn. All ages welcome. Please register online at www.charlottefl.net under calendar or call 941-681-3736.

Pastor Installation Services
Community Presbyterian Church, 405 S. McCall Road, invites you to the installation service for Pastor Scott Andrews on Sunday, February 12 at 3pm. Weekly Sunday morning worship services are at 10am with a message by Pastor Scott Andrews, organ, hymns, choir, handbells, children's message, and first Sunday communion. Services are also available online at www.cpcenglewood.com. For more information, call 941-474-9579 or email cpcenglewood@gmail.com. You can also follow the church on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CommunityPresbyterianEnglewood.com.

Newcomers Group
New to the area and looking for information and want to meet new friends? Drop in and join Elsie Quirk Library staff for board games, snacks, and conversations on Monday, February 13, 2 to 3pm. For more information, call 941-861-1225. The library is located at 100 W. Dearborn Street.

Luncheon & Fashion Show
The Gulf Theater in the Military Heritage Museum is the site for the Sweetheart Luncheon & Fashion Show on Monday, February 13 from noon to 2:30pm. Lunch will include Mimosas. Fashions are by Anthony's Ladies Apparel and fashions will be modeled by the Calendar Girls. The Fashion Show will begin at 1pm. Silent auction & 50/50 raffle. Admission is \$35 per person. The Military Heritage Museum is located at 900 W. Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda. Please register by Thursday, February 9th at www.militaryheritagemuseum.org/upcomingevents.

Renew Your Wedding Vows
Celebrate a renewal of wedding vows at sunset on beautiful Siesta Beach in Sarasota or Nokomis Beach on Tuesday, February 14. Event includes a commemorative certificate and gift, a flower, music on the beach, and light refreshments. Check-in begins at 4:30pm and activities begin at 5pm. The non-denominational service begins promptly at 6pm. Register by

Monday, February 6th. Cost is \$15 per couple in advance, \$25 on-site, day of event. For more information or to register, call 941-861-PARK (7275) or visit online at scgov.net/park.

Garage Sale
Save the date now for Englewood's Annual Community Garage Sale on Saturday, February 18, 8am to 1pm, at the Englewood Sports Complex. Registration is now open for vendors who wish to participate. Indoor spaces are \$15; outdoor spaces are \$10. All vendors must pre-register online at www.scgov.net/parks or call 941-861-1980. Free admission and parking for shoppers. Please use the Pine Street entrance to the Sports Complex.

Braves Welcome Weekend
CoolToday Park, 18800 S. West Villages Pkwy in Venice, invites you to join them in welcoming back the Atlanta Braves on Saturday, February 18, starting at noon. The stadium will be open from noon to 3pm for you to preview seats, spring merchandise, grab a drink at the Tiki Bar, and purchase tickets. At 4pm, the opening act "Sound Waves" will perform and the "B Street Band," the Bruce Springsteen Tribute Band, takes the stage at 7pm. General admission is \$18, and VIP is available for \$120. Bring your own seating. Purchase tickets online at www.cooltodaypark.com/events.

Puttin' on the Glitz
You are invited to Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County's mystery dinner theatre

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gala, "Puttin' on the Glitz," on **Saturday, March 11 at 6pm.** Old Hollywood celebrates the awards ceremony, but someone is missing. Come dressed to walk the red carpet and expect plenty of surprises. The event will be held at Hotel Venezia, 425 US 41 Bypass North, Venice. Tickets are \$150 per person; \$250 couple. Tickets may be purchased online at www.habitatsouthsarasota.org and select Events.

Cookie House Tours

Charlotte County Libraries and History invites the public to visit the historic Cookie House, built in 1931 as part of the Bass Biological Laboratory, the first full time marine station on the Florida mainland. The only surviving structure from that facility, the Cookie House was relocated from its original site on New Point Comfort Road to Cedar Point Environmental Park in 2006 to ensure its permanent preservation. The Cookie House will be open **every Friday through March 31**, from **10:30am to 2:30pm**, as well as **Saturday, February 11**, for Lemon Bay Fest. Libraries and History staff will be on site to answer questions. Cedar Point Environmental Park is located at 2300 Placida Road.

One Book, One Community Sarasota County Libraries & Historical Resources announces

"The Personal Librarian," by Victoria Christopher Murray and Marie Benedict, as the 2023 "One Book, One Community" selection. The book tells the story of Belle Da Costa Greene when she, at the age of 26, was hired by financier & investment banker J.P. Morgan for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library. She became a fixture in New York City society and one of the most powerful people in the art & book world. However, Da Costa had a secret. Author Victoria C. Murray will be speaking at **10:30am, Friday, March 3** at Suncoast Technical College Conference Center, 4445 Career Lane, North Port, and that evening at **7pm** at Selby Public Library, 1331 First Street, Sarasota. The book is available for check-out at Sarasota County Libraries. For more information call **941-861-1225**.

Surrey Ride Season

It's Surrey Ride season at The Legacy Trail, a multi-use trail that runs from Venice to Sarasota. Presented by Sarasota County and the Friends of The Legacy Trail, the 2023 schedule just started and will run until **Wednesday, April 12**. Experience the beauty of The Legacy Trail as you ride in the comfort of the surrey: a four-passenger, four-wheeled canopy covered bicycle. The surrey runs three times a day with departures on the hour from **10am to noon**,

every Tuesday and Wednesday from Laurel Park, 509 Collins Road, Nokomis. Grab your friends and register to claim your spot. Call **941-486-2757** to register.

Free Tax Prep

United Way of South Sarasota County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides free federal income tax preparation to individuals and families with a yearly household income of up to \$74,000. Tax preparation is completed by IRS-certified preparers and is by appointment only. Appointments are now open to schedule at one of the three VITA Locations (Venice, North Port or Englewood). You can schedule your appointment today by visiting www.uwssc.org/vita. The three VITA Sites will operate from **February 1 through April 18**. You must come to your appointment with the necessary documents. Without these documents, your appointment is subject to being rescheduled. Please visit: www.uwssc.org/vita for a full list of documents needed for your appointment. If you have questions, please contact Teri Andrews, Director of Programs, at tandrews@uwssc.org or by calling **941-484-4811, ext. 104**.

Tax Help Available

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program is accepting

appointments for their free tax preparation program at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. All appointments must be made in person at the library, using the AARP reservation book located at the front desk. For questions about the program, please contact AARP directly at **941-281-5231**. Additionally, Elsie Quirk Public Library has received tax instruction booklets, but is still waiting to receive the tax forms. Keep checking in person, online, or by phone for updates about the tax forms.

Venice Walking Tour

Explore Venice's history and architecture on walking tours of the city with architectural historian, Sebastian Liseo. Tours begin and end at the gazebo in Centennial Park on **Tuesdays & Thursdays through April 13th at 10am**. Ninety-minute tour. Space is limited, and registration is required via email to venicemuseum@venicefl.gov or call **941-486-2487**. Cost is \$25, exact cash payable the day of the tour. Sorry, no walk-ups.

Immunizations for the Homebound

The Department of Health in Sarasota (DOH-Sarasota) in coordination with Sarasota County Health and Human Services now offers in-home vaccination services to residents of Sarasota County if they are not able to go to a

clinic or other location to get vaccinated. This may include people with disabilities, chronic health conditions, children, and caregivers. The homebound immunization service offers flu, pneumonia, and all authorized COVID-19 vaccines. For more information regarding the new offer and appointments, call **941-861-2784**.

Library Wellness Kits

Sarasota County Libraries are happy to introduce Wellness Kits. Each kit focuses on a different topic, including anxiety, dementia, divorce, and grief (with more topics to come). Within the kit are a mix of books pertaining to the topic for children, teens, and adults, so that the whole family can work together. Sarasota County Libraries strive to support the community with helpful resources. To request one to borrow, go the catalog at www.scgov.net/government/departments/libraries. For more information, call **941-861-1225**.

Affordable Rental Rehab Funds

The Charlotte County Human Services Housing Division announces the availability of State Housing Initiative Partnership funds for the rehabilitation of qualified affordable rental housing units impacted by Hurricane Ian.

ENRICHING PROGRAMS

Offered by Charlotte County

Kids Craft
Englewood Charlotte Public Library
Friday, Jan. 27,
4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Dress for a mess and prepare to have some fun in our monthly kids craft for children ages 4-12! Please register each child so we can be sure to have enough supplies for everyone! 941.681.3736





Valentine Card Class
Englewood Charlotte Public Library
Saturday, Jan. 28, 2 p.m.

Join us for a fun paper crafting class where we will create Valentine's Day cards. All supplies and instruction are provided. 941.681.3736

Lemon Bay Fest - Englewood History with Zest!



Englewood Charlotte Public Library
Saturday, Feb. 4, 3 p.m.

The 21st annual Lemon Bay Fest: Englewood History with Zest! is celebrated February 4 - 11, 2023. This event is a weeklong celebration of Englewood's past, featuring tours, a series of informative Englewood history programs, and a day-long Cracker Fair. Motion Pictures at a Great Savings! A History of Florida's Film and TV Industry

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Funding is available for non-profit, special needs, and other rental housing providers with units reserved for income eligible tenants. Funding is limited. For information, access the request for application and instructions on how to apply at: <https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/boards-committees/affordable-housing-advisory-committee/>.

SRQ Year in Review

The Sarasota County 2022 Year in Renew is now available online at www.srqcountyyearinreview2022.com. Detailing initiatives, major events such as Hurricane Ian response, awards and recognitions, financials, and county leadership, the annual Sarasota County Government also highlights where county tax dollars are spent and the report dives into the county's commitment to fiscal responsibility while providing quality services and creating destination amenities. For more information, call 311.

Caring & Sharing

Volunteers Needed

Will you join Leadership Englewood as they invest and renew Englewood waterways? Hurricane Ian left waterways and canals littered with debris and your help is needed to help clean-up the local waters. During February, there are three opportunities to get down and dirty collecting debris out of the canals. On **Sunday, February 12th**, there will be a clean-up at Mobile Gardens, **Saturday, February 18th** at Edgewater Club; and **Sunday, February 26th** will be Holiday Estates 3. All three locations are off S. McCall Road (Rte. 776) between San Casa Drive and Placida/Pine Streets. Check-in time for all three is **7:30am** with clean-up running from **8am to noon**. High school students can earn volunteer hours. Contact Erica Raymond at Erica@DMartinPlumbing.com for more information and to register.

OneBlood Blood Drives

The following OneBlood "Big Red Bus" blood drives have been scheduled in the Englewood area during the month of February. Please note that blood drives are subject to change at any time. Donors are requested to visit the OneBlood website, www.oneblood.org, to schedule an appointment. **Saturday, February 4, 10am to**

4pm: Walmart, 2931 S. McCall Road. **Sunday, February 5, 2 to 5pm:** Publix-Merchants Crossing, 1500 Placida Road. **Monday, February 6, 10am to 4pm:** Bealls Outlet, 425 S. Indiana Avenue. **Tuesday, February 7, 1 to 5pm:** Bealls, 1500 Placida Road. **Tuesday, February 7, 9am to noon:** Brook to Bay Mobile Home Park, 1891 Englewood Road. **Friday, February 17, 10am to 3pm:** Xpertech Auto Repair, 101 N. McCall Road. **Saturday, February 25, 9am to 2pm:** Symbiont Service Corporation, 4372 N. Access Road.

Sports

Senior Softball

Season Underway

The Englewood Men's Senior Softball League held its annual entry draft for the 2023 Winter season in early January with over 50 players involved. "We were expecting a low turnout due to the hurricane," said Mark Johnson, Commissioner. "We were pleasantly surprised, though, and it was a strong draft class." The league continues to draw players from the Suncoast region, with players from Venice, North Port, Arcadia, Port Charlotte, Boca Grande and Englewood. The league is open to all men 60 years of age and older, and each team will play 20 or more games through March. "We hold a second draft after the first few weeks of play to give teams a chance to add players if they need them," continued Johnson. This year's supplemental draft is **Monday, January 30** starting at **8am**. The Bronze division is still accepting players; if interested, contact Mark Johnston at **717-982-8456**. For more information, visit the League's website at www.EnglewoodSeniorSoftball.weebly.com.

Trek for CHEC

Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center welcomes all runners & walkers to the fourth annual Trek for CHEC event on **Saturday, February 4**. This event will feature competitive 10K and 5K runs and a one-mile fun walk for people of all ages. Start time for first event is **8am**. There will be a fabulous door prize raffle and more. Cost is \$45 for 10K, \$27 for 5K, and \$10 fun walk. CHEC's mission is to build awareness and encourage conservation of our area's rich natural resources while

protecting the environment. Proceeds will help further environmental educational programs for children and adults. Hope to see you there!

Fill the Freezer Fishing Tournament

Sign up now for the 2023 Annual Fill the Freezer Fishing Tournament sponsored by The Learning Center for Dyslexia. Entry fee is \$400 per vessel for up to four anglers (must provide your own boat). Winners will be determined by a Points System. Guaranteed pay outs based on total entry fees. Register and pay at www.TLCforDyslexia.com/events-calendar.

Please call the listed numbers for confirmation and further information. If you have an upcoming event you would like to have considered for "Around the Town" please send info and/or photo to The Englewood REVIEW, 370 W Dearborn St, Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223, or email: englewoodreview@comcast.net.



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ENGLEWOOD HISTORY WITH ZEST LEMON BAY FEST SCHEDULE

Florida Double Feature

Kick off Lemon Bay Fest 2023 with a Florida-themed double feature on **Saturday, February 4, 11am to 1:30pm**, at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. The first feature will be "Patrick Smith's Florida: A Sense of Place," and follow that with "Cracker: The Last Cowboys of Florida." There will be a brief intermission between films. Seating is limited to a first come, first served basis. "Patrick Smith's Florida": in this film, Patrick Smith, Pulitzer Prize nominated writer, takes the audience off the tourist path to learn about a "Florida Cracker" heritage upon which his novel, "A Land Remembered," is based. He provides a sample of Florida in the 1930s and shares a rare glimpse into the mind of a writer whose work preserves Florida as it once was and will never be again. "Cracker": For more than 250 years, cowboys have ridden the plains of central Florida. This film captures the

beauty of the old ways with the drama of encroaching civilization. Included in this film are interviews with ranchers across Florida. Sponsored by the Friends of Elsie Quirk Library.

Florida Film History

Join Professor David Morton for a look at the history of Florida's film and TV Industry on **Saturday, February 4, 3pm**, at the Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road, when Lemon Bay Fest presents "Motion Pictures at a Great Savings". Starting with the first film pioneers in Jacksonville during the 1900s and 1910s to South Florida's TV boom during the 2000s and 2010s, Florida has inspired countless exciting stories captured by the camera. The library is located at 3450 N. Access Road. Sponsored by the Friends of Englewood Charlotte Library.

The Great Florida Invasion

From pythons to pepper, all are welcome to hear Sanibel-based

author Charles Sobczak as he shares an exciting lecture on invasive species in Florida on **Monday, February 6, 10:30am**, at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. Take an in-depth look at the invasive flora and fauna that have spread over the past 100 years.

Seashells 101

The Englewood Shell Club will share their enthusiasm for shells and the local environment in this all ages program on seashells on **Monday, February 6 at 2pm** in the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. Shells from the club's collection will be on display as members share an overview of local shells and best conservation practices on the beach.

Soap Making with Zest

Learn how to make soap from scratch using essential oils and dried flowers on **Tuesday, February 7, 10:30am**, at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. In true Lemon

Bay Fest style, there will plenty of citrus scents to choose from.

History of Florida Maps

Review 500 years of Florida maps during "Charting the Land of Flowers" on **Tuesday, February 7, 2pm**, at the Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road. Join historian & curator Rodney Kite-Powell for a presentation on the changing shape of Florida from the 1511 Martyr Map to a 21st century view of Florida from space.

Gilded Age Connections

Sarasota County Historical Resources Manager, Dr. Josh Goodman, will take us through an in-depth look into a fascinating chapter in local and regional history during Sarasota County's Gilded Age Connections on **Wednesday, February 8, 10:30am**, at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. America's

Gilded Age was a fast-paced era of growth and change at the end of the 1800s.

Englewood History

Learn about Englewood history during this presentation with historian Dr. Jennifer Zobelein from Charlotte County Libraries & History at **2pm, Wednesday, February 8** at the Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road.

Author Talk: Todd Cameron On **Wednesday, February 8, 2pm**, local author Todd Cameron will read from the latest book in his series of nautical Florida-set thrillers, "Hurricane Hole". A time for Q&A will follow. Free electronic copies of "Hurricane Hole" will be available. Signed print copies will be on hand for purchase. The author talk will be at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street.

Haunted Florida Love Stories

Wide eyes, sweaty palms, and a racing heart. Are these the tell-

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tale marks of a love story or a haunted tale? If the story is set in Florida, chances are it's both. Across Florida, love is in the air - but that isn't always a good thing. Author and folklorist, Christopher Balzano, follows lingering campus whispers and trails that vanish into swamp to track down the urban legends and ghostly lore of the Sunshine State's love affairs that live on even after death. This fascinating program will be **Wednesday, February 8, 5:30pm**, at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street.

Hidden Places & Museum

Join author D.L. Havlin for a presentation about best places to explore the history of Florida when Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road, presents "Florida's Hidden Places and Museums" on **Thursday, February 9 at 2pm**. This presentation provides recommendations of places not to miss and how to get to the most places in five adventurous weekends.

Florida Cuisine

Join Chef Warren as he shows you how to prepare quick and healthy meals using a variety of seafood, poultry and meat with locally grown fruits and vegetables on **Friday, February 10, 10:30am**, at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn Street. He will explain the various cultures that have contributed to Floridian cuisine and how it rivals the lauded Mediterranean cuisine for its health benefits and ease of preparation. He will also share creative ways to use fruits and spices to liven up run-of-the-mill entrees, healthy options for your next cookout, and deliciously simple desserts that will wow your guests. Chef Warren will end his presentation with a cooking demonstration, preparing a healthy entree that anyone can replicate in their own home in less than 15 minutes! Seating is limited to 50 participants. Registration is required.

Hidden History of Florida

Beginning in 1565 with the founding of St. Augustine, Florida has been making history, but much of it is hidden. Join Dr. Jim Clark for a presentation based on his book, "Hidden History of Florida", on **Friday, February 10 at 2pm** at the Englewood Charlotte Library,

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

Pioneer Plaza, 325 W. Dearborn Street

Schedule of Events

10am: Opening Announcements and Greeting
10-11am: Entries for Lemon Dessert Baking Contest accepted.

10:15-10:45am (approx.): Crack Whip Demonstration by Bit of Hope Ranch. (Note: Only presented once at this time)

10:45-11:30am (approx.): Music by James Hawkins, a singer/songwriter from Venice whose current focus is on Florida history through stories and songs.



11am: Judging for Lemon Dessert Baking Contest.

11:30am-12 noon: Demonstration by Peace River Wildlife (plans for a visit by great-horned or albino screech owl).

Noon: Lemon Dessert Baking Contest winners announced.

12:15pm-1pm: Music by Gottfried Creek. Bob Kinsley & Bill Keehne perform an eclectic mix of folk, bluegrass, and 60s & 70s rock.

1-1:45pm: Music by Vinyl Recall. Paul Quinn, Jeff Dillon, and John Munn are a three-piece eclectic classic rock band.

2-3:30pm: Classic Country Music with John Tuff and Friends who feature classic country music of the country legends.

All day (10am to 4pm): Crafts, food vendors, artists, authors, music, and more. Free admission. Englewood history books will be on sale at the Historical Society tent.

3450 N. Access Road. Learn about the story of the state flag, origin of Florida's largest grocery store chain, Coca-Cola billionnaires, and origin of cars on the beach.

Cookie House Tours

Join Charlotte County Libraries & History staff for a tour of the historic "Cookie House" between **10:30am and 4pm on Friday, February 10** at Cedar Point Environmental Park, 2300 Placida Road.

Elsie Quirk's 60th Anniversary Celebrate Elsie Quirk Library's 60th Anniversary (100 W.

Dearborn Street) for a live music concert with Lisa Brande and Mark Trichka of Vermont's Easy Street Duo on **Saturday, February 11, 11am-12:30pm**. They have been strummin' and singing together professionally for 30 years. They feature Bluegrass, Old-time, Country, Cajun and Zydeco played on the fiddle, mandolin, guitar and of course, plenty of singing! Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources Director Dr. Renee DiPilato and Sarasota County Commissioner Ron Cutsinger will be guest speakers.

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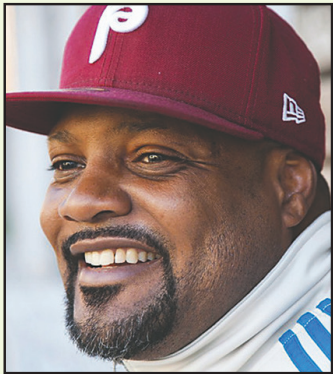
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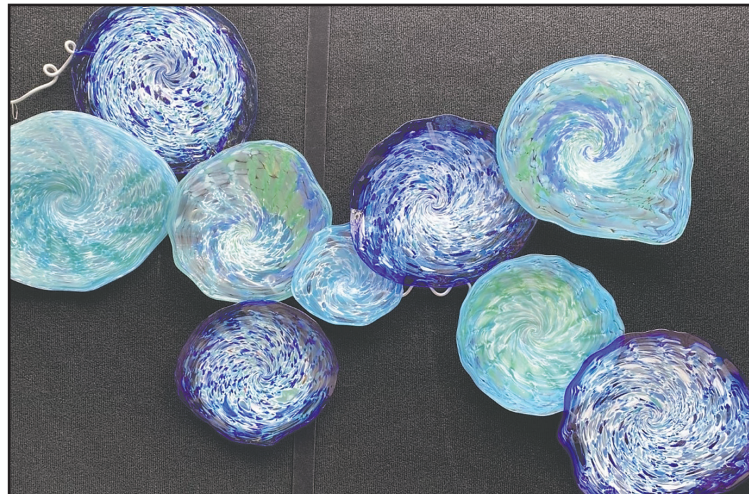
Dance & Choreography winner



Sandy Rodriguez

Visual Art winner

The Hermitage Artist Retreat announces the two winners of the 2023 Hermitage Greenfield Prize, presented in Dance & Choreography and Visual Art. Rennie Harris, Dance winner, has been a pioneer in street dance movement since founding "Rennie Harris Puremovement" in the early 90s, bringing authentic hip-hop experiences to the dance concert stage and educational spaces around the world. Raised on the U.S.-Mexico border, Visual Art winner Sandy Rodriguez creates poignant landscapes that weave together history, social memory, contemporary politics, and cultural production. The winners will each receive a six-week Hermitage residency and a \$30,000 commission to create a new work in their field.



The Englewood Invitational Winter Art Festival takes place on **Sat. & Sun. January 28 & 29** on the grounds of the Englewood Elks Club, 401 N. Indiana Avenue. Some of the artists participating in this year's show are Tom Krause, Ben Foster, Judy Goskey, Kathleen Lapso, Rich Fizer, John Cheer, Steve Whitlock, HJ Herrera, and of course, Carroll Swayze. Come browse and purchase incredible original art at the Best Little Art Show in Englewood! Photo: glass creations by Rich Fizer.



Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota will present three concerts in February: the groundbreaking accordionist Hanzhi Wang on **Thursday, February 9, 11am**, at the Sarasota Yacht Club; Sarasota's own Broadway star Maria Wirries on **Thursday, February 23, 5:30pm**, outdoors at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens; and Olivier Messiaen's moving masterpiece written in a WWII prisoner-of-war camp, "Quartet for the End of Time", featuring Lincoln Trio and Bharat Chandra, clarinet on **Tuesday, February 28, 7:30pm**, at the Historic Asolo Theater. For more information and tickets, visit www.ArtistSeriesConcerts.org or call **941-306-1202**. Photo: Hanzhi Wang will perform works by Bach, Lohse, Tchaikovsky, and Piazzolla.

Saxton Cornet Band

The Saxton's Cornet Band is America's premier 19th century brass band preserving history and entertaining audiences of all ages

all over the world. Performing the musical story, "A Day in the Life..." the band will chronicle the lives of civil war soldiers and Americans in the 1860s through music and narration. Come see them perform at Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn Street, on **Saturday, January 28 at 3pm**. Tickets: \$15, available now online at www.EnglewoodUMC.net/events or in the church office (Mondays-Thursdays).

Valentine Card Class

Englewood Charlotte Library invites you to join them for

a fun paper crafting class to create Valentine's Day cards on **Saturday, January 28 at 2pm**. Free. All supplies and instruction are provided. Please register by calling **941-681-3736**. The library is located at 3450 N. Access Road.

Bluegrass Bash

The next Heartland-Southwest Bluegrass Music event will feature some amazing talent on **Saturday, January 28**. The Jam Band will kick things off at **1pm**, followed by Jon Garon and the world-renowned guitarist, Jack Lawrence. At **3pm** the popular Swinging Bridge bluegrass

band takes the stage. At **10am** that morning, there will be Beginner Friendly Bluegrass for aspiring musicians. The music is happening at Craig's RV Resort, 7895 NE Cubitis Avenue, Arcadia. Admission is \$7 for non-members. For more information, call **941-467-2051**.

2023 Visions in Black

The Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative invites you to the 2023 Visions in Black exhibition, a three-part gallery collaboration and cross pollination of painting, drawing, photography, mixed media, and sculpture, featuring artists of color who reside in Florida. The exhibition gallery will open with a reception on **Thursday, February 2, 5:30 to 7:30pm**, at the Arts & Cultural Alliance, 1226 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Manatee Performing Arts Center, 502 Third Avenue West, Bradenton, on **Friday, February 3, 3 to 6pm**, and **Saturday, February 4, 4 to 6pm**, at Arts Advocates, 3501 S. Tamiami Trail & Siesta Drive, Sarasota. The exhibit runs to

Saturday, February 25 and art works will be available for sale. Learn more at www.suncoastblackartscollaborative.org/2023.


Benny Benack at Lemon Bay HS

Get your tickets now for "Benny Benack III & The Brandon Robertson Trio" who will be performing at Lemon Bay Performing Arts Center, 2201

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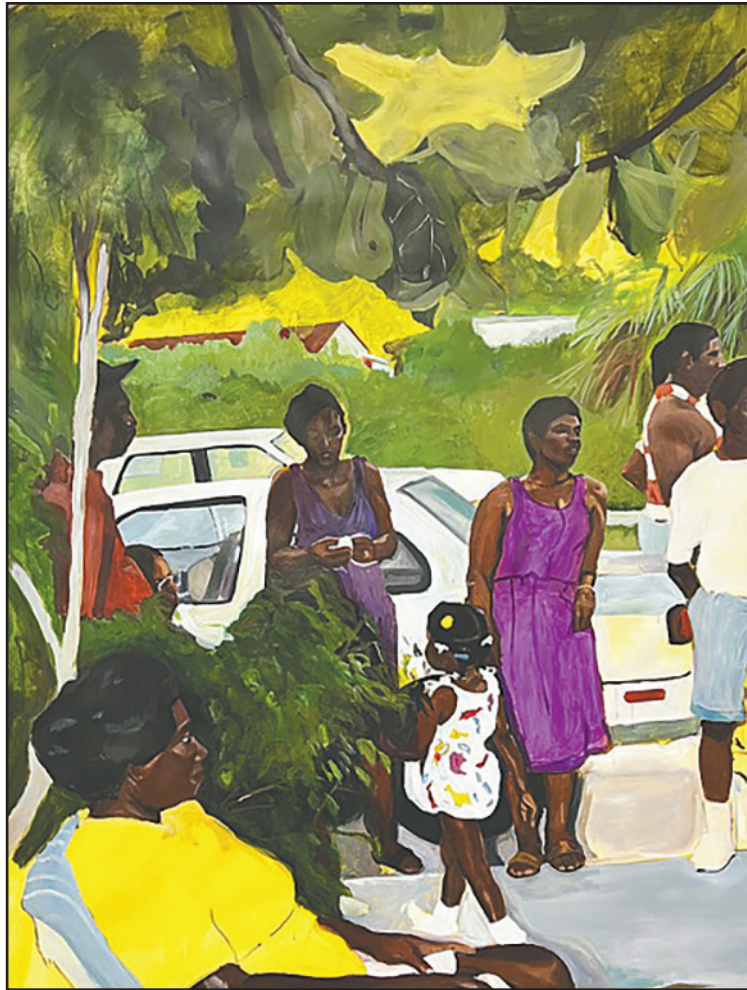
Pastor Gary Clark of Fellowship Church invites the community to come and hear singer/songwriter Jerry Salley in concert on **Sunday, February 5th**. He will be performing two full, free concerts at the **8:30am & 10:30am** Worship Services. Jerry has written eight #1 Hits and has been featured as a soloist on the Grand Ole Opry! Fellowship Church is located at 140 Rotonda Blvd. West, in the bullseye of Rotonda. The concerts will also be live streamed & can be watched on www.watchFCLive.com. Complimentary refreshments of coffee, juice, pastries & fruit will be served at the Fellowship Hospitality Café at **9:45am**. Free childcare is available. For more information, please call **941-475-7447** or log on at fcenglewood.com. All are welcome!

Placida Road for one show only on **Monday, February 6** at **6:30pm**. This show will also feature the Lemon Bay HS Jazz Rays. Benny is a jazz musician from New York City, Tickets are \$10 for General Admission and \$20 for VIP Seating! Don't miss out! Purchase your tickets at: bandsofblhs.ticketleap.com/febjazz/

How the Other Half Loves

Charlotte Players present "How the Other Half Loves." There are three couples in this play, the men all working for the same firm. One of the younger men is having an affair with the wife of

the oldest, and when each returns home suspiciously late one night or early one morning, they invent a story about having to spend some time smoothing domestic matters in the home of the third couple. Of course, the third couple show up to put the fat in the fire, but that complication only adds to the fun of this famous farce. The play runs **Thursday, February 9 through Sunday, February 26**, with evening curtain times at **7:30pm** and matinees at **2pm**. Tickets are \$25 adult and \$13 student. Purchase tickets online at www.charlotteplayers.org. Langdon Playhouse is located at 1182 Market Circle in Pt. Charlotte.



First Place winner Dandria Carey's work "Black Reunion." The winning artists have been announced for Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative's 2023 "Visions in Black" exhibit. This juried art exhibition celebrates the talents of Black artists who live in Florida. The three exhibits will show 99 works from 54 selected artists at three galleries: Arts & Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County, Manatee Performing Arts Center, and Arts Advocates Gallery at the Crossings at Siesta Mall, **through February 25th**. The First Place winners are Dandria Carey (Miramar), Destiny Luv (Riverview), and Frederick Woods (St. Petersburg). Second Place winners are Thomas Anderson (Tarpon Springs), Mynah Moody (Gibsonton), and Omar Richardson (Tampa). Third Place winners are: Gwendolyn Aquí-Brooks (Wesley Chapel), Donna Richardson (Wimauma), and Phyllis Anne Taylor (Winter Park). Honorable mentions went to Samantha Balikowa (Sarasota) and Allen Pettigrew (Riverview). To learn more, visit www.suncoastblackartscollaborative.org.



On **Friday, February 3** at **5pm**, the Hermitage Artist Retreat presents "Artists & Thinkers: The Art of Producing," with Tony Award-winning producer Tom Kirdahy. Kirdahy is a champion of new work as well as reimagining classics to make them vital for today's audience. The program will be held at Longboat Key's Bayfront Park, 4052 Gulf of Mexico Drive. Registration is \$5 per person. For more information and registration, go to www.hermitageartistretreat.org.

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2023 marks the 20th anniversary of Embracing Our Differences and the anniversary theme is "Embracing Kindness." There were 13,733 entries from 19 countries received this year. The Best-in-Show Adult winner is "We Are All Pearls" by Whitney de Araújo of Brazil. The Best-in-Show Student winner was Alexis Lee from California with "Stretching Beauty." The Best-in-Show Adult inspirational quotation was "It takes more courage to speak in a silent room than to become another voice in a crowd" by Alexis Morrell of Connecticut. The Best-in-Show Student inspirational quotation was given to Hartley Livesey at The Out-of-Door Academy for "Always remember you are braver than you think and stronger than you believe." The exhibit, at Bayfront Park (Five Bayfront Drive, Sarasota), runs through **March 12th** and then it will open in North Port at Butler Park (6205 W. Price Blvd, North Port) on **March 22 through April 19**. Photo: Alexis Lee's work, "Stretching Beauty," depicts a thin ballerina who sees herself as much larger in the mirror, an example of body dysmorphia.



Are you a fan of Fleetwood Mac? If so, you won't want to miss this tribute band, Sweet Fleet, with a youthful twist who will be performing on **Tuesday, January 31, 7pm**, at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center, 75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda. Five young adults recreate the songs of Fleetwood Mac in the 1970s, so you are in for an uplifting, fun experience with classics such as "Rhiannon" and "Go Your Own Way." Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased in advance at www.charlotteharborecc.com/events.

for all to the realm of beautiful artistry. Join two cutting-edge thinkers and practitioners in this field: Hermitage Fellows Shannon Finnegan and Chella Man on **Friday, February 10 at 5:30pm** at the Hermitage Palm House, 6630 Manasota Key Road. Both multidisciplinary artists defy genre and call attention to facets of daily life unexamined by many through their visual, performative, film, and written works. Shannon Finnegan explores how "Alt Text," a tool designed to improve

internet accessibility, can become poetry, and Chella Man shares his experiences directing, writing, and co-producing "The Device That Turned Me into A Cyborg Was Born The Same Year I Was." Come see, hear, and connect with what you might be missing as these creators share work and insight. Registration fee is \$5, and you can register at www.hermitageartistretreat.org.

Rock to the Oldies
"Dare to Dream" is hosting a free concert for the public and will be singing rock songs of the 40s to



John Tuff and Friends make their eighth appearance on the Lemon Bay Playhouse stage on **Saturday, February 18 at 7:30pm**. This very talented group of musicians will provide the audience with a fantastic evening of music consisting of classic country hits of the past. Their performance will include classic country music of current and older country legends, such as Johnny Cash, Hank Snow, Ernest Tubb, George Jones, Johnny Horton, and more. The emphasis is on old-time country music and will lift your spirits. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased online at www.lemonbayplayhouse.com or at the box office, 96 W. Dearborn Street, **941-475-6756**. Pictured here are Patty & John Tuff.



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the 60s. The event will be held at Centennial Park, 200 W. Venice Avenue, on **Sunday, February 12** from **3 to 4:30pm**.

Hermitage Fellows Grammy Nods

The Hermitage Artist Retreat has announced that some of the

artists nominated for Grammy Awards in 2023 are part of its musical history. The Hermitage Fellow nominees are: Best Jazz Instrumental Album: "Live at the Detroit Jazz Festival" Esperanza Spalding; Best Musical Theater Album: "Caroline, or Change" Jeanine Tesori; Best Musical

Theater Album: "A Strange Loop" Michael R. Jackson & Rona Siddiqui; and Best Musical Theater Album: "Into the Woods Broadway 2022 Cast Recording" Gavin Creel. The Grammy Awards are scheduled for **Sunday, February 5**.

Conversation with Nadia Watts
In celebration of the Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition, "Tiffany: The Pursuit of Beauty in Nature", Marie Selby Botanical Gardens will host a conversation with Nadia Watts, the great-great granddaughter

of Louis Comfort Tiffany on **Tuesday, February 14 at 5:30pm**. Nadia is a Denver-based interior designer who will discuss her family's artistic legacy as well as her own design work and line of fabrics inspired by Tiffany's famous stained glass. Tickets are \$50 and will

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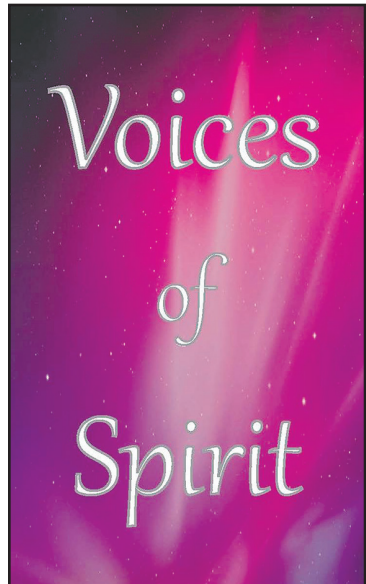



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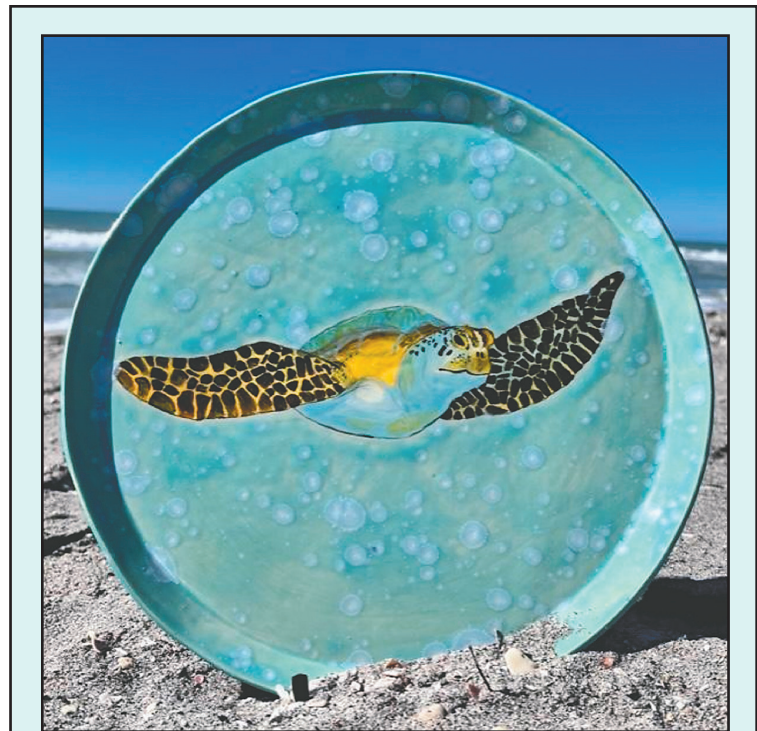
The Charlotte Chorale's upcoming concert, "Voices of Spirit" on **Saturday, February 25, at 4pm** in the Charlotte Performing Arts Center has all the ingredients for a superb presentation that will inspire the audience. The program will include "O Great Spirit" by Charlotte County composer Barbara Goldberg. The piece is a unique setting of a Native American prayer and is in keeping with the concert's theme of music inspired by the universality of mankind's relationship with creation. The concert will also feature "Psalm 150", composed by the late Ted Petersen. Randall Thompson's musical composition, "Choose Something Like a Star" (based on a poem from Robert Frost's "Frostiana"), will also be part of the program. Charlotte Performing Arts Center is located at 701 Carmalita Street, Punta Gorda. Tickets are Adults: \$25; Students: \$10. Get yours today by calling **941-204-0033**. Website: www.charlottechorale.com.



Art Center Sarasota's exhibition season continues with four exhibits, **February 2-March 11**. In "Same Source", Luca Molnar uses various media to explore the connections between historical figures and personal mythologies. In "Both Ways", Eugene Ofori Agyei works with earthenware or stoneware clay, African fabrics, acrylic paint, and yarn to create ceramic sculptures and wall pieces that start a dialogue about identity and home. Marlon Tobias' paintings celebrate precious moments in Black family gatherings. The Annual Juried Members Show is juried by Mary Moscatelli, CEO of Venice Art Center. The opening reception for all four exhibits is **Thursday, February 2, 6-8pm**. Art Center Sarasota, 707 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. For information, visit www.artsarasota.org or call **941-365-2032**. Pictured here is a work by Marlon Tobias.

include a celebratory Valentine's toast and sweet treat. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Go to www.selby.org/events/ keynote-lecture. Selby Gardens is located at 1534 Mound Street in Sarasota.

Gypsy
Venice Theatre presents "Gypsy," a musical fable based on the memoir by Gypsy Rose Lee, running **Friday, February 17 through Sunday, March 19**. This is the story of one woman's



The Artist Colony would like to introduce Wanda Stone. Wanda is a life-long artist who grew up in a small farming town in Connecticut but now lives in Florida. The long walks along the beach in the morning hours have been the inspiration for the colors, shapes, and subjects that she creates. Many of her pottery pieces include sea life shapes or paintings like the sea turtle on this large platter or tray. The Artist Colony will usually gather twice a month at their permanent outdoor gallery in Pioneer Plaza at 325 W. Dearborn Street. Unable to reserve the **first Wednesday of February**, the Artist Colony next gathers on **Wednesday, February 15th from 10am to 3pm**. Please save the date. With galleries closed by the storm, the Artist Colony invites Gulf Coast Artists to apply for space with the Artist Colony. Contact Sydney with questions at **773-983-6190** and i2garden@yahoo.com for application, (three photos are required).

efforts to get her daughters into show business. Evening performances start at **7:30pm** and matinees at **2pm**. Tickets are \$37 adult/\$21 college/\$15 youth.

Purchase tickets online at www.venicetheatre.org. Venice Theatre is located at 140 Tampa Avenue West, Venice.

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The Charlotte Chorale is pleased to present the Dallas Brass in performance on **Sunday, February 26 at 4pm** at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center. This concert will include selections from the album "Dallas Brass – American Musical Journey" an enjoyable selection of American music old and new. This ensemble has established a unique blend of traditional brass instruments with a full complement of drums and percussion, which creates a performing entity of extraordinary range and musical challenges. The repertoire includes classical masterpieces, Dixieland, swing, Broadway, Hollywood, and patriotic music. A Dallas Brass concert is intended for the entire family. Charlotte Performing Arts Center is located at 701 Carmalita Street, Punta Gorda. Tickets are Adults \$25; Students \$10. Get yours today by calling: **941-204-0033**. Website: www.charlottechorale.com

The Peace & Love Concert
Paisley Craze is a five-piece 60s Music Tribute Band from Sarasota, and you can catch them at Lemon Bay Playhouse on **Saturday, February 25**

at **7:30pm**. They deliver high energy, Rockadelic 60s music played by five rock musicians who lived the 60s music scene and still love it! Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased online at

www.lemonbayplayhouse.com or at the box office, 96 W. Dearborn Street, **941-475-6756**. For more information check out the Paisley Craze website at www.paisleycraze.com.

If you have an art event or happening you would like to have considered for "Art Chat," please send information and/or photo to The Englewood REVIEW, 370 W Dearborn St, Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223,

or email: englewoodreview@comcast.net. Visit our website at www.englewoodreview.com and check out our interactive calendar where you are invited to add your event.

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"The Creative Language of Accessibility"

Friday, February 10 @ 5:30pm • Hermitage Palm House (Manasota Key)
Multidisciplinary artists **Shannon Finnegan** and **Chella Man** call attention to facets of accessibility unexamined by many. See, hear, and connect with what you might be missing as these creators share work and insight.

"Comedy and Community"

Friday, March 10 @ 5:30pm • Hermitage Beach (Manasota Key)
Madeleine George, Pulitzer Prize finalist, Hermitage Major Theater Award winner, and writer for Hulu's hit series "Only Murders in the Building," will speak about building community through theater and what she has planned for her HMTA commission.

The Hermitage Major Theater Award is made possible with generous support from Flora Major and the Kutya Major Foundation.



To register (required) for upcoming programs:
HermitageArtistRetreat.org



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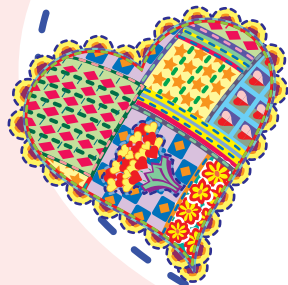
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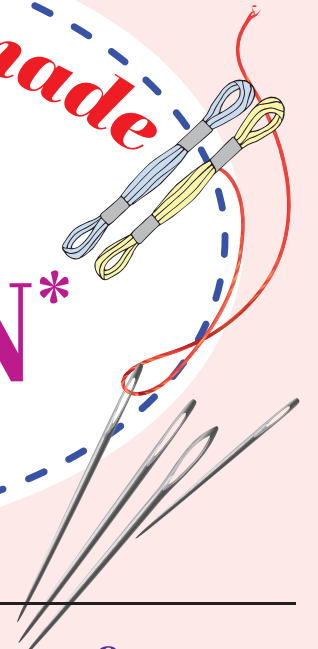
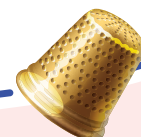
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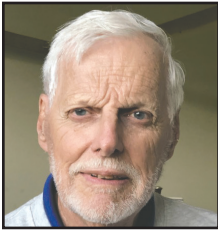
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By Dean M. Laux

Notable NEIGHBORS

Remembering The Lady Behind The Signs

Editor's note: We were saddened to learn of the passing of Englewood's "Peace Lady," Jean Ranallo. She suffered a serious stroke as she was about to take her daily swim on January 8. She passed on January 11. Services will be held at 10am on April 21 at St. Raphael Catholic Church, Englewood.

As a tribute to Jean, we are reprinting this article, originally published on July 31, 2020.

If you were to stand at a busy intersection in Englewood, waving a large sign in your hands, you'd expect at least some people to notice you. And Jean Ranallo can tell you it works. But she's not competing with cigar store owners or restaurants for business. She just wants to get an important message across: She is "For Peace." And she hopes to see our entire nation work toward that end.

It takes a bold woman to stand alone among passing cars and people and make her plea. These days especially, the nation seems divided, and violence all too often accompanies any public display of opinion. So how did Jean get into this kind of activity, anyway?

She was born in Hamilton, Ontario during World War II, and her family moved to



Jean Ranallo, the Sign Lady, on the now quiet streets of Englewood.

Schenectady, N.Y. when she was five. Raised a Catholic, she says, "I was always opposed to the folly of war, and to the Washington politicians doing nothing about it." Having read about the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in school, "I was and am antinuclear," she declares.

During her high school years she was fascinated with the plight of the Hungarian refugees who fled to Germany, Austria and Yugoslavia during their revolution, put down savagely by the Soviets in 1956. She always liked history and languages, and she did both at SUNY-Albany,

earning a bachelor of arts degree in German in 1965 and getting her master's degree in German there two years later.

That was just in time to take an interest in demonstrations against the Vietnam War that had begun in 1964 and continued, with increasing intensity, until the war ended in 1975. In 1967 Jean took a job as a teacher of German (and variously, history, English and Russian language as well) at Woonsocket High School in Rhode Island. "The Quakers in Rhode Island had a really good peace movement," she says, "and we'd go to demonstrations in Providence, Boston, Hartford or New York. We'd hear of something, and my brother and sisters and I would pile into the car and go."

Jean was never an organizer or leader, just a participant, a member of the audience. "There was always something," she recalls. "The Kent State shooting in 1970, peace in Central America after the murder of the Archbishop Romero in El

Salvador in 1980, peace in the Middle East." And Vietnam. Make no mistake: Jean was no flower girl. She was a respected teacher, "Miss Jones" to her students at Woonsocket High, where she taught for 23 years.

The Germans would say she's "Sprachbegabt," gifted in languages. She has the fluency of a native in English and German, and can get by in Spanish, Hungarian, and Russian. Chinese? She studied it "a bit" before going there "in this millennium," as she puts it. In fact, after taking early retirement from her teaching position in 1990, travel became one of her chief activities.

First she moved to Florida, where "my parents had discovered Englewood in 1978," she states. Then she was in Hungary in 1990-91, teaching English to local students. In 1992 she married Raymond Ranallo (now deceased), and thereafter they traveled extensively in Europe: Scandinavia, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, and Italy, among others. She also went to Russia and Ukraine in the winter of 1992 with a friend.

Other trips were for other reasons. She went to Guatemala for an anthropology course and to Transylvania on a Fulbright grant. Trips to Mexico, Central America, Chile and Catalonia were with School of the Americas Watch and Code Pink, two peace advocacy groups. In retrospect, Jean says, "I am so glad that I was able to travel and can look back during these boring hours sheltering in place and recalling visits without masks."

After so many years as a peace advocate, the first time she became associated with a local

peace organization was in 2003, after she had participated in a peace march in London. "When I came back, I wrote a couple of articles for the local papers on the peace march and also the demining (clearing of land mines) campaign in Croatia," she recalls. That put her in touch with an organization known as EPIC: the Englewood Peace Initiative Coalition. "They were the heart and soul of our peace movement," Jean says.

"There were a few dozen members, and we started out carrying signs on Englewood Beach on Manasota Key." When they moved their operations and their signs to the corner of Dearborn Street and Route 776, their numbers were down to about a dozen, as age had taken its toll. "From then on, the size of the group kept dwindling, and now I am pretty much the sole remaining member of EPIC," Jean muses. But she keeps on.

She puts in about three-and-a-half hours on Saturday and Sunday mornings, moving from one corner of the Dearborn intersection to another to stay in the shade as much as possible. "I try to make eye contact with passersby," she says. "People will wave to me, maybe honk their horn. One family asked to have their young son's picture taken with me." The immediate rewards are modest, although in 2020 the Englewood associates of a national group known as "The Indivisibles" honored her with an award and festivities at her favorite corner and at Elsie Quirk Library.

The real reward comes in getting people to heed Abraham Lincoln's warning: "America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."

For the record, Jean has been waving her sign at the corner of Dearborn Street and Route 776 for 18 years now, and she has no plans to stop doing so anytime soon. Why would she? "It's the only activity in town," she says wryly, and there's a lot of truth in that.



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Surviving Hurricane Ian

Part 2: Aftermath and recovery

By Ellen Livingston

It's been nearly three months since Hurricane Ian made its tortuously slow and calamitous giant monster-crawl through our community. We have survived an apocalyptic event here, and we have the scars to show it. I have no regrets for staying to ride out the storm, but it is not lost on me that I can say that because my home and person were spared. Our first weeks post-Ian, were a challenging adventure for us, and a relentless trauma for many across Florida whose homes were badly damaged or destroyed, or who suffered bodily injuries or deaths of loved ones.

On the ground in my community, a group cleanup day was immediately coordinated to help our friend Helen begin to dig out. There was an entire large metal roof crumpled up in her yard, blown in from somewhere in the neighborhood. While we were working, a troop of National Guardsmen appeared on foot in their boots and uniforms, walking her heavily damaged neighborhood and checking in at every home, taking information to secure assistance. This scene was very moving, along with the incredible ongoing influx of trucks from out-of-state

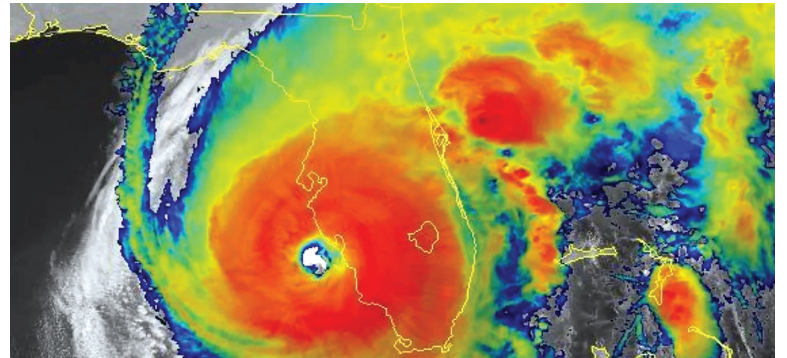
companies – electricians, tree workers, roofers, flood and mold specialists, and then the enormous black double-train FEMA debris removal trucks, which are still a constant sight here – it was wild. These rescue workers filled parking lots all over town for many weeks with their equipment and temporary RV homes. The FEMA trucks have taken over the small private-plane airport up the street from us, and the mounds of debris they have gathered there to process appears like a new mountain range on our flat Florida landscape. There have also been many groups of volunteers, some from states far away, who mobilized to offer their labors of love to our communities. A popular cafe in town posted that, although they had no food, they somehow had



Miraculously intact hen's egg found under a fallen branch after the storm.

electricity, which they offered freely for all who needed to charge phones and other devices.

We got busy on our own property setting up the solar power station and panels we had fortuitously purchased recently, and a smaller solar setup we use when we are camping. We were pleased to find that we were able to keep our household fridge and freezer going for the whole week that the power was out, along with our phones and lanterns (constant sunny weather helped!). It didn't seem worth it to charge our computers since we had no internet. But we did find that we could make quick smoothies in our Vitamix without draining our solar battery. That felt like luxury! We ran the chemical-free water from our hot tub through our carbon Berkey filters for drinking water. Our water district was able to give everyone a slowly increasing trickle of water to our homes, but was strongly cautioning us to try not to use drains, and to flush toilets as minimally as possible since there were many breaks in the main water lines, and sewage was backing up into many homes as well, so what we each did would affect the whole system. A neighbor tipped us off



to remove the sewer cover in our yard so that it would back up there instead of into the house. That relieved my mind some, and thankfully, we did not experience any backup at all. Our power was restored in a week, but the water/sewer restoration took another week or so. With our neighbors we reveled in the wonder of our tranquil star-lit nights while all the lights were out for a week.


We had to purchase a gas chainsaw, since our electric ones were useless under the circumstances. Fortunately, my partner Todd, got a paid week off from his day-job while their buildings got repairs. Instead, he spent the better part of each day behind a chainsaw. I laughed out loud when I discovered an intact hen's egg - not even hard-boiled! - underneath a branch in our yard (I still don't know how that happened). When I wasn't dragging branches to the street for the FEMA trucks to pick up, or moving our solar panels around the yard to catch the best sun rays, I was waiting in lines to apply for various forms of assistance. These long lines were, in a strange way, a therapeutic place for swapping our incredible tales of traumas and miracles.

The best thing to come of my time in line was the unforgettable tree-work assistance gifted to us by an energetic Samaritan's Purse church group from Ohio. A father and son and four of their comrades arrived on our land with three large landscaping machines, and worked intensively for two half-days, leaving their equipment with us overnight. No job was too big for this team fueled by love, and we cannot imagine what we would have done without them. They prayed over us several times, engaged us in lively discourses about the meaning of God and life, and proudly gifted us Bibles with their personal inscriptions. I understood that this was all part of the exchange. They were delighted with my description of a ripe mango as a perfectly complete expression of God's handiwork, and I sent them on their way with a bag of their favorite banana lara bars 'for the road,' and a heartfelt thank you card.

We accepted their persistent invitation to join them for a free dinner at the local Samaritan Church. They were so genuine and gracious, and eager for us to sit at their table and share

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bits of our lives with each other. We learned about their families back home, and things about the life of a samaritan traveling to disaster zones. There were about 200 people at this nightly community dinner for the work-teams and their invitees (like us), and it was touching to hear highlights of the day's recovery missions from those wishing to stand up and share.

Finding a body shop to repair my car, which was hit by a falling tree, was another adventure. The first shop my insurance company referred me to said they could fix my car in six months! The next shop they offered turned out to have been crushed in the storm. I did some legwork and my car did finally get repaired last week. We are still waiting on the roof repairs. Blue roof-tarps remain seemingly everywhere, but the generators and sirens have subsided and the chainsaws and trucks are less constant. Slowly but surely, the roadside debris piles are really diminishing.

Though each of us has our own unique journey through the aftermath of Ian, some common threads in our collective experience seem to be the early shock and disorientation (and actual dislocation for many), leading to grief and sadness, and some frustration and anger too. As the realization of the full extent of the damage gradually set in, along with the dawning of understanding that we were in this for a really, really long haul, a palpable sense of some

communal depression emerged. For the strong-hearted, we are offered an abundance of lessons in patience, acceptance, surrender, non-attachment and resilience. Many plants inspired us with their stunning revival and unprecedented sudden growth-sprouts and blossoms, in the endless sunshine following the deep storm rains.

A bold new sky-blue billboard at the entrance to our town proclaims: 'Englewood Strong'. We are strong together in this community, and we know it. Our downtown renovation project barely missed a beat, our farmer's market is back in full swing, and we had a cheerful vegan health festival last weekend in our beautiful new plaza. In the midst of ongoing major repairs, normal activities are resuming and the snowbirds are flocking in, as usual for this time of the year. Despite a dreaded red tide algae bloom

impacting our beach ecosystem temporarily after all the run-off from the hurricane, I delighted the other day in watching a pod of dolphins race by, likely chasing a school of fish.

My friend Evelyn, an artist, has respectfully allowed some of nature's newest sculptures to remain in place. A 100-foot pine tree fell and bisected her backyard, and she delights in the fairy-land of archways, tunnels and playful passages it has created, with its climbing vines now blooming at eye-level. The huge oak tree gracing the entrance of the community hub we all know as 'The Open Studio', lies dramatically on the ground, alive with fresh leaves and half of its roots still in the ground. A beautiful sign, hand-painted by Evelyn and placed next to a stone bench nestled comfortably in the branches reads: 'Honor What Is'.



Evelyn has left the huge oak tree gracing the entrance to the The Open Studio. Rather than removing it, it has been left as is with a sign that reads "Honor What Is".

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Club Chatter

LBWC Rummage Sale

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Pork Loin Dinner

The Englewood Lions Club Pork Loin Dinner is back on **Saturday, January 28, 4 to 7pm**. The menu is marinated pork loin, mashed potatoes, corn pudding, German sauerkraut, applesauce, apple crisp, and a beverage. Eat at the Clubhouse at 4611 Placida Rd or get a takeout. Advance sale tickets for \$13 are available from a Lion member or by calling **941-698-7408**. Tickets \$14 at the door. All proceeds benefit the Englewood community.

Making a Splash

The Rotary Club of Englewood presents the Fourth Annual Josh the Otter Water Safety Benefit on **Saturday, February 4, noon to 5pm**, at Pioneer Plaza, 325 W. Dearborn Street. This will be a showcase of everything water with a focus on water safety for infants and children. Fun games for kids, live music by "Hit-N-Runn", food & beverage vendors, the Swat Team's Bear Cat armored vehicle, Englewood Fire Dept.'s inflatable boat, and many vendors. Raffle first prize is \$1,000 gift card. And don't miss the event headliner – Josh the Otter! Visit www.therotaryclubofenglewood.org for more information.

Texas Hold 'Em Tournament

Rotonda Rotary presents Texas Hold 'Em Tournament on **Saturday, February 11** at the Rotonda Golf & Country Club, 100 Rotonda Circle. Blackjack, side games, 50/50, Superbowl pool, top 10 payout, rebuys, \$3,000 in cash prizes,

and professional dealers.

Registration **5:30pm**; first hand played at **7pm**. Tickets \$80 in advance; \$100 at the door. For tickets, contact David Kelly at **941-270-2575**.

Trivia Night

GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club is presenting a Trivia Night hosted by Mr. Trivia, Jim Wasowski, on **Thursday, February 16** at the Rotonda West Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, from **6 to 8pm**. Doors open at **5:30pm**. Teams are forming now or join some new friends on Trivia Night. Tickets are \$15 per person and are available at the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club monthly meetings. You can also contact Debra Sigismondo at squad7@aol.com. There is a \$100 first prize, \$50 second prize, \$10 wine pull. Proceeds from this event will benefit the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club Scholarship Fund. Light refreshments will be served.

LBGC Rummage & Plant Sale

Save the date for the Lemon Bay Garden Club Rummage and Plant Sale set for **Friday & Saturday, February 17 & 18** from **9am to 1pm**. Search for treasures, buy gifts, and find some plants to spruce up your landscaping. There will be a preview sale on **Thursday, February 16** from **10am to 1pm** with a \$3 admission fee. The Clubhouse is located at 480 Yale Street (corner of Yale and Cedar Streets). Proceeds to benefit the Scholarship Fund. For information, donations, call **413-336-7616**.

Rummage Sale

The GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club will sponsor a rummage sale on **Saturday, February 18**, from **9am to 1pm** at the Rotonda West Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle. Household items, clothing, craft items, jewelry, and accessories will be available. GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Proceeds will benefit the club's local charities. The GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club welcomes new members. Residency in Rotonda West is

not a requirement. If interested, contact Membership Chairman at rwwcmembership@hotmail.com.

Continuing Education Scholarships

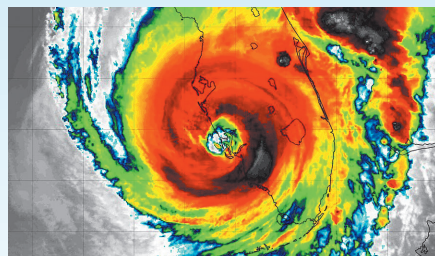
The RWWC is offering two Bella Williams Memorial Continuing Education Scholarships of \$1,500 each. Applicants should be from the Englewood/Rotonda West area and pursuing advanced education or retraining in a college or vocational school. The scholarships are intended for adults returning to school who have had an interruption in their studies. A resume, narrative, and optional letters of reference may be sent to GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, Attention: Scholarship, PO Box 672, Placida, FL 33946. Deadline for receipt of resumes is **Friday, March 31, 2023**. For additional information, call Debra **917-573-5512**.

If you have an event or happening you would like to have considered for 'Club Chat,' please send information and/or photo to The Englewood REVIEW, 370 W. Dearborn St., Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223, or email: englewoodreview@comcast.net.

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by Amanda Glam

Amanda's PICKS

I sprang for the \$5.99 to rent *Tár*, (R) mainly for star Cate Blanchett, who is a front-runner to win the Best Actress Oscar. Blanchett plays Lydia *Tár*, the mercurial conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic who seems to be on top of the world. She's highly respected, just wrote an autobiography, has a devoted wife and adopted daughter, distractingly-perfect hair, custom suits and is about to conduct Mahler's Fifth Symphony. But shocker, she didn't get there by being a sweetheart.

And that non-sweetheart behavior comes back to haunt Lydia when a former disciple/girlfriend commits suicide after Lydia wields her maestro power and blackballs her. Then there's the social media thing which Lydia has never paid much attention to because when you're that big a deal you don't need to right? Uh, wrong.

You don't have to like or know classical music to enjoy *Tár*. It's more a film about having power, abusing it. And it's about Blanchett who is truly magnificent. Even though Lydia is selfish, manipulative and dismissive of just about everyone, Blanchett magically makes you feel a tiny bit bad for her as you watch her inevitable downward spiral. And because she's so riveting, the film does not seem 157 minutes long.



Yes, there are some confusing and frankly unnecessary scenes but writer/director Todd Field (*Little Children*) who wrote *Tár* for Blanchett, has crafted a compelling and very contemporary narrative for our greatest contemporary actress.

Tár



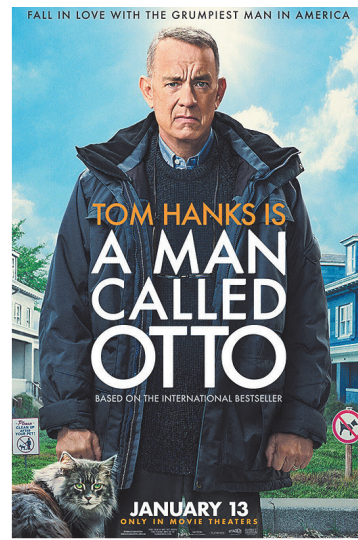
If you have HBO Max, you have free access to the film that narrowly replaced *The Fablemans* as my favorite movie of the year, *The Banshees of Inisherin* (R). Already an awards darling, by the time you read this, *Banshees* should have scored a slew of Oscar nominations, and may I say in advance, well-deserved.

Set on a remote island in



Ireland in 1923, Pádraic (Colin Farrell) and Colm (Brendan Gleeson) are old friends who have a comfortable routine that has become a bit too comfortable for Colm who without warning breaks off the friendship. Why? Not for any dramatic reason, but because Pádraic is boring. The break-up is as brutal as you'll see in any bad boyfriend rom-com. Colm ignores his former friend to hang with his fellow musicians at the pub, leaving Pádraic to seek solace from his sister Siobhan (Kerry Condon) and his beloved pet donkey Jenny.

When Pádraic refuses to let his former friend be, Colm reacts in a most surprising and desperate manner. You're like, "Nobody would ever do that" and then five minutes later



you're in. Why? Because Martin McDonagh knows how to write. He previously teamed with Farrell and Gleeson for 2008's terrific *In Bruges*. His screenplay is smart, funny, shocking, sad and surprising. And it's the best film about male friendship and the importance of connection that I've ever seen. *Inisherin* might be a beautiful island but Pádraic seems to be the only content person on the Island and that happiness evaporates when Colm "breaks up" with him. Siobhan, who lives with her brother and is bored to tears, feels trapped and their aimless friend Dominic (Barry Keoghan) has it even worse.

If I was a voting member of the Academy (and I should be) I would hand Oscars to Farrell,

Condon and McDonagh for writing. I'd also give an award to Jenny and the island, both crucial sporting players. Throw in the Best Picture Oscar and I'm good.

The Banshees of Inisherin



Sometimes a movie doesn't grab the critics but captures the audience. Judging by the crowd at the cinema at 11 am on a Sunday morning and a 97% audience rating on Rotten Tomatoes, that's the case with *A Man Called Otto*, based on the Swedish novel and film adaptation *A Man Called Ove*.

Tom Hanks stars as Otto, a down-on-his-luck curmudgeon who lost his wife, his job and his purpose. He dedicates himself to policing his neighborhood, yelling at people for illegal parking and throwing newspapers, and heaven forbid you don't clean up after your dog. But nobody seems to get mad at Otto, so you know this is a movie.

When Otto decides the neighborhood watch isn't enough he tries to end it all and despite his best efforts, fails. Then a noisy and needy family of four with one on the way, moves in next door. Tommy can't fix anything and Marisol can't drive. They need Otto. Soon Marisol is bringing Otto home-cooked meals, the kids are drawing him pictures and then there's a cat and a baby. There's always a cat. Throw in some flashbacks to Otto's courtship of his beloved wife Sonya and we begin to understand why he's such a Grumpy Gus.

I know *A Man Called Otto* (PG-13) sounds a bit shmaltzy, and it is, but it works, mainly because Hanks is perfect for the role and Mexican actress Mariana Trevino as Marisol is a fabulous foil. Like *Banshees*, *Otto* speaks to the life-changing significance of relationships and how we define family. Is it a bit manipulative? Yes. Are there issues with the story? Yes. Will it make you cry? I plead the Fifth. But if you just dig in and let these characters into your life, you'll love *Otto*.

A Man Called Otto





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Keeping Up with KIDS

Youth Soccer

Englewood Youth Soccer spring registration is underway now through **Friday, February 3**. Practices are at **6 to 7pm** beginning the week of **February 27** and games are played Friday evenings. Registration fees are \$105 and include jersey, soccer socks, and participation medal. Register online at www.Englewoodsoccer.com. Email questions to Trudy. EnglewoodSoccer@gmail.com.

CHEC's Little Explorers

Join Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) for "Dino Adventures", free nature classes for children between the age of 3-7 years old and their families on **Tuesday & Friday, February 7 & 10**. Bring your little explorers to learn about nature, animals, and science and participate in dynamic learning activities with environmental educators. Advance registration is required by calling **941•475•0769**. Meet outside the Cedar Point Visitor Center, 2300 Placida Road, from **9 to 10am**. "Backyard Birding" is the theme for classes on **Tuesday & Friday, February 21 & 24**.

Horses, Kids & Books

HorsePower for Healing and Gilstad Literacy Foundation are collaborating on a carnival event for families to benefit Charlotte County Imagination Library

on **Saturday, February 11, 10am to 2pm**. The location is HorsePower for Healing Ranch, 6210 George Road, Punta Gorda. Lizzie the Literacy Bus will be on site so the kids can go home with a free book, and preschool age children living in Charlotte or Lee County can register for the Imagination Library program. Families are invited to come, enjoy the day with games, horse activities, storytelling, face painting, hayrides, and other fun. The cost is \$5 per person and children 5 and under are free. Everyone will be asked to sign a release form upon arrival, and

closed toe shoes are required - the events are in the horse pasture. Food trucks will be on site.

Brianna Schrauf Named to President's List

Brianna Schrauf of Englewood has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Fall 2022 President's List. The fall terms run from September to December. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by

earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer. Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH.

Items appearing in this column are as accurate as possible. Please call the listed numbers for confirmation and further information. If you have an event or happening you would like to have considered for 'Keeping Up with Kids,' please send information and/or photo to The Englewood REVIEW, 370 W. Dearborn St., Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223, or email: englewoodreview@comcast.net.

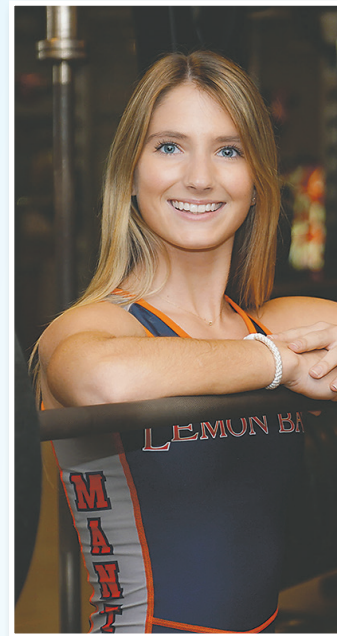
Receiving the December Lemon Bay High School Athletic Department Sportsmanship Award is **Peyton Mason**, a Junior in Boys Basketball. Peyton is an exemplary team leader. He plays with pride, courage, and honor in the face of extreme adversity. Peyton acts first class on and off the court and shakes hands with everyone after every practice & game and says thank you. Honorable Mention for the December Sportsmanship Award goes to **Madison Glidden (Sr.)** Girls Weightlifting, and **Omy Ordaz-Ortiz (Jr.)** and **Alaina Mast (Sr.)** in Girls Soccer.



PEYTON MASON

LBHS Athletes of the Month

Please join Lemon Bay High School Athletic Department in congratulating the December Athletes of the Month - **Addison Adcock**, Girls Weightlifting, and **Lucas Newcomb**, Boys Basketball.



ADDISON ADCOCK



LUCAS NEWCOMB

Addison Adcock (Sr.) competed at the River Ridge invitational on December 9th. This is the largest girls weightlifting event in the world, featuring 694 participants. Addison was the lone Manta to bring home a first-place medal. She also competed at the Charlotte Tarpon Invite on December 1st, placing first there, and leading the Lady Mantas to a first-place finish as the smallest school at the meet. Addison also took first place at the LaBelle Cowgirl Invite on December 17th. She is the current school record holder in the 110-pound weight class by over 20 pounds. The record she broke was done by a state bronze medalist in 2020.

Lucas Newcomb (Jr.) averaged 18 points per game, including three games over 24 points in December. Lucas helped lead his team to an eight-game win streak and record of nine wins and one loss for the month of December. Lucas was a First Team selection at the Tournament of Champions and a first team selection at the Sarasota Christian Christmas Tournament.



Receiving Honorable Mention for the December Athlete of the Month was Girls Weightlifting - **Madison Hanson (Sr.)**; Girls Soccer - **Izzy Ragazzone (Jr.)** and **Daria Lukash (Fr.)**; Wrestling - **Koen Hoffman (Sr.)** and **Ashton Tucker (Sr.)**; and Boys Soccer - **Tanner Martin (Sr.)** and **Keegan Noel (Fr.)**.

Thank you for your support of the Manta Rays. School website: www.lemonbayhigh.com; Facebook: www.facebook.com/mantathletics; Twitter: @mantaathletics.

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Nature Calls



25 Acres Now Protected
On December 21st, Sarasota County Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources acquired 25 acres along the wild and scenic Myakka River, near South River Road and South Tamiami Trail, adjacent to the Myakka State Forest. The county

purchased this land through the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Protection Program (ESLPP), which was designed to acquire and protect environmental land.

Volunteers Needed

Want to volunteer at a nature center? The Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC)

is recruiting new volunteers at the Cedar Point Environmental Park location. Volunteers are needed to welcome visitors at the visitor center, lead nature walks and wading trips, assist with youth programs, join the trail maintenance party, and do monthly water quality monitoring. For more information and to fill out a volunteer application, go to www.checcflorida.org/volunteer.

Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) Activities

On these casual walks with CHEC volunteers, you will search for and learn about plants, animals, fungi, and more that live in Charlotte County preserves. Prepare for each walk with plenty of water, insect repellent, sunscreen, and clothing that will protect you from insects and plants. Advance registration is required. For information on programs, mask requirements and Covid-19 safety precautions, please call 941-475-0769 or email tome@checcflorida.org. Go to www.checcflorida.org for a complete program calendar.

Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve

Join CHEC on a guided walk on **Saturday, January 28 at 9am** on through Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve, 16259 Joppa Avenue, Port Charlotte. This 150-acre preserve is home to several families of the threatened Florida scrub jay. Meet in the parking lot. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information. Also offered on **Monday, February 13**.

Amberjack Environmental Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre Amberjack Environmental Park on **Monday, January 30 at 9am**. Meet at 6250 Gasparilla Pines Blvd., where street dead ends. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information. Also offered **Wednesday, February 8**.

Bayshore Live Oak Park

Join CHEC on a walk, **Wednesday, February 1 at 9am**, at Bayshore Live Oak

Park, 23157 Bayshore Road, Pt. Charlotte, along the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor, to explore the various mangrove species found there. Mangrove identification will be covered, and you will learn about special adaptations that allow mangroves to thrive in salty environments and why mangroves are important and protected in Florida. Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

Cedar Point Env. Park

Join CHEC for a guided tour of beautiful Cedar Point Environmental Park on **Friday, February 3 at 9am**. Meet at the Visitor Center, 2300 Placida Road.

Oyster Creek Env. Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine flatwoods, scrub habitat, and mangrove fringe of 250-acre Oyster Creek Environmental Park on **Saturday, February 4 at 9am**. Meet in the parking lot right next to Lemon Bay High School. For registration, please email Tome@checcflorida.org or call 941-475-0769.

Bird Watching Intro Course

Join Mike Weisensee to learn about bird watching during his five-week introductory birding course offered on **Mondays, February 6 through March 13**. Topics include equipment, choosing binoculars, using E-bird & Merlin Bird Id, and identifying bird species seen in Charlotte County. The first class will be held at Cedar Point Environmental Park Visitor Center (2300 Placida Road) from **8am to 10:30am** with the rest of the sessions being field trips. Program fee is \$95. For registration, call 941-475-0769 or email tome@checcflorida.org.

Tippecanoe Env. Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through 308-acre Tippecanoe Environmental Park on **Monday, February 6 at 9am**. This Charlotte County park includes habitats such as scrub, pine flatwoods, marsh, and wetlands. Meet behind the Charlotte County Sports Park at 2400 El Jobean Road. For registration, email Tome@checcflorida.org or call 941-475-0769.

Bill Coy Preserve

Join CHEC at **9am, Saturday, February 11**, for a guided walk through the 81-acre Bill Coy Preserve. The scrubby flatwoods and mangrove swamp border Buck Creek, which flows into Lemon Bay. Meet in the parking lot at 5350 Placida Road. For more information and to register, call 941-475-0769.

Charlotte Flatwoods Env. Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through Charlotte Flatwoods Environmental Park on **Wednesday, February 15 at 9am**. This 487-acre Charlotte County property features mature pines, dry prairie, marsh wetlands, and freshwater ponds. Its location adjoining state lands make it an important wildlife corridor. Meet at the parking lot on U.S. 41 (15801 S. Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda). Please call 941-475-0769 to register or for more information.

Seagrass Wading Trip

Join CHEC for a free wading adventure through the seagrass beds of Lemon Bay on **Friday, February 17!** All participants will be guided approximately a half-mile to the wading site, where they will collect and view creatures of the bay. Participants will need to wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that may get wet during the trip. Participants are also encouraged to wear sunscreen and insect repellent and to bring plenty of drinking water. Meet outside the Cedar Point Visitor Center (2300 Placida Road) at **9am**. Advance registration is required by calling 941-475-0769. Trips fill up fast!

The History of Cedar Point

Join CHEC for a free presentation about the history of Cedar Point Environmental Park on **Friday, February 24 from 11am to 12:30pm**. Greg Brezicki will walk you down memory lane of Cedar Point's best accomplishments from its purchase by Charlotte County to how CHEC became involved and how the park has evolved. There will be a light lunch and a visit to the Cookie House. Must register in advance by calling 941-475-0769 or emailing tome@checcflorida.org.

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Plant Society (FNPS) is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. The Mangrove Chapter serves Charlotte County and southern Sarasota County. For more information, contact them at mangrovechapter@fnps.org.

Saturday, January 28, 9-11am:

Join Kate Borduas, from the Mangrove Chapter of the Native Plant Society, for a nature walk at Amberjack Environmental Park, 6450 Gasparilla Pines Blvd. This walk will explore the impact of elevation on the scrub vegetation within the park. In Florida, it is a "Game of Inches"! The changes in trees, shrubs, lichens, grasses, and flowers can be observed while slogging a full 13 feet uphill. This walk also circumnavigates a large depression marsh and passes through areas of overgrown trees. Bird sightings are common, so bring binoculars. Meet in the parking lot at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd. A hat, closed toe shoes, water, and sunscreen are recommended. For information email mangrovechapter@fnps.org.

Insects in the Ecosystem

The Mangrove Chapter of the Native Plant Society will host "Insects in the Ecosystem – Why Insects Need Our Help" on **Tuesday, February 14, 1 to 3pm**, an educational program at Lemon Bay Park & Environmental Center, 570 Bay Park Blvd. Last spring, Master Naturalist and Insect Enthusiast Kate Borduas presented a program about the critical role insects play in the ecosystem. This year, Kate will explore the multiple causes of insect decline and what can be done as groups and individuals to support healthy populations of these little creatures that run the world. Meet at the Environmental Center. For information email mangrovechapter@fnps.org

Sunset Stroll

Join Dave and Linda Manley, from the Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, for a Sunset Stroll on **Wednesday, February 22, 4:30-5:30pm**, at the Venice Rookery, 4002 S. Tamiami Trail via Annex Road, Venice. The Rookery is behind the county building. The Venice Area Audubon Society will provide a guide through this beautiful nesting area for waterbirds.

The recently planted native tree thicket and understory offer great native plant viewing. For information email mangrovechapter@fnps.org.

LBC Guided Nature Walks

The free guided nature walks shown below are sponsored by Lemon Bay Conservancy and will be held at Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve, 3120 Gasparilla Pines Blvd., Englewood. Please come prepared for a hike. The preserve can be "buggy" this time of year. Consider wearing long sleeves and long pants. Water, a hat, sunscreen, bug spray and hiking shoes are recommended. Some people like to bring a walking pole. Binoculars are useful for observing more distant birds and other animals.

LBC Annual Meeting

Lemon Bay Conservancy will hold its Annual Meeting on **Monday, January 30**, beginning at **5:30pm**, at the Cape Haze Community Center, 155 Spaniards Road. After a short business meeting and LBC news updates, the guest speaker, Ronda Ryan, Executive Director of Sarasota Bay Watch, will be introduced. Ronda will speak about the im-

portant water quality initiatives that her organization has underway, including their interesting clam restoration initiative. And there will be a follow-on discussion about a possible clam program for Lemon Bay. The public is invited to attend.

Edible/Medicinal Plant Walk

Take a walk around Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve and learn about edible and medicinal plants in the landscape on **Friday, February 3 at 9am**. Many of the early successional plants currently common in the preserve are either edible or contain toxins that argue against any ingestion. But some of these toxins are valuable as medicines when they are purified. Bill Dunson will advise you NOT to ingest wild plants, but it is interesting to be aware of the possibilities if you were forced to do so under extreme conditions. The edibility of plants also reveals aspects of their life histories in relation to insects and birds. Meet in the parking lot at 3120 Gasparilla Pines Blvd.

Open House

Come check out Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve during an

Open House on **Saturday, February 11 from 8am to 2pm**. This event is open to the public and it's your chance to see how the former golf course is reverting back to nature. Special programs and walks will be held throughout the day. There will be hourly guided walks, beginning at **8am** with the "Early Bird" Birding Walk. Other walk topics include Introduction to Wildflower, Butterfly Walk, and Visit to Lemon Creek. Local environmental groups will have informational tents and will offer short nature talks on a variety of nature topics. Special golf cart tours will be offered for visitors who may have difficulty walking the trails. Visitors are invited to walk the newly created hilltop labyrinth and dedication. Additional details will be available at www.LemonBayConservancy.org. Parking lot is located at 3120 Gasparilla Pines Blvd.

If you have an upcoming event you would like to have considered for Nature Calls, please send info and/or photo to The Englewood Review, 370 W Dearborn St, Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223, or email: englewoodreview@comcast.net.

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DOGS at WORK

MEET: Max of Quick Signs and Promotional Products.

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Likes: Treats, visitors, and attention.

Dislikes: Loud noises, thunder, and fireworks.

Pet Peeves: People who stop by but don't pay attention to him.

Office Jobs: Welcoming customers. Security.

How Did You Acquire Your Human? We met at E.A.R.S. (Englewood Animal Rescue Sanctuary).

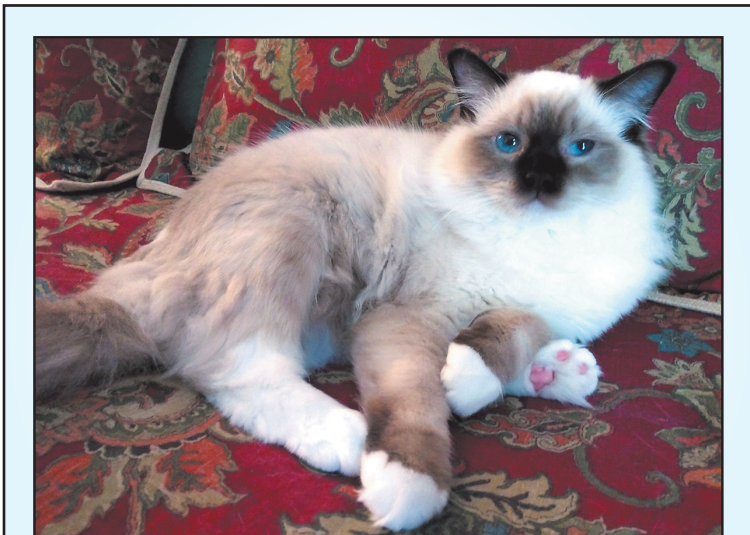
Owner Remarks: Max loves to go to work. If we ask him if he's ready to go to work, he grabs his leash in his mouth and heads to the door!



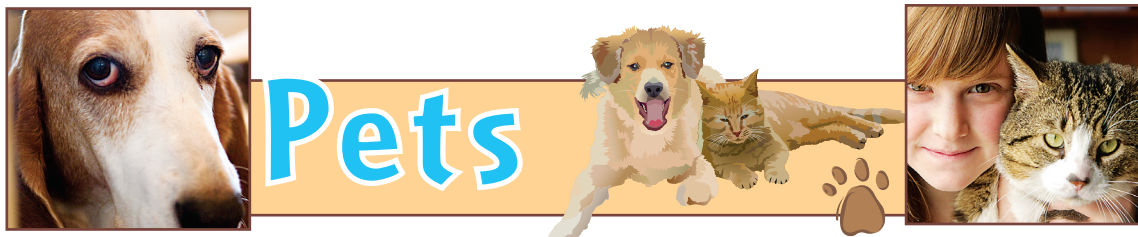
Every dog has its day at Woofstock

Woofstock, the annual pup-friendly event hosted by the North Port Parks & Recreation Department returns! This free event gives dogs and their humans the chance to browse food and merchandise vendor booths, taste test treats, participate in dog contests, enjoy K9 demonstrations, and meet new friends while participating in games. Woofstock will be held on **Saturday, February 11**, from

10am to 1pm at the Canine Club Dog Park, 6700 Appomattox Dr. Bring some dog food or supplies to donate to a local pet shelter. Dogs looking for their forever homes will be onsite and ready to adopt. Accessible parking will be available at the park and additional grass parking will be available in adjacent lots. For more information, visit www.NorthPortFL.gov/woofstock.



Meet Binky, a 1 1/2 year old Ragdoll cat who acts more like a dog. She is the light of her life for owner Gayle Yates.



These are just a few of the many animals waiting for adoption. You can see all of Suncoast Humane Society's adoptable animals by visiting their Website, www.humane.org.

Meet & Greet and Adoption Hours (By appointment only)

Tues – Fri: 10:00 AM–4:30 PM; Sat: 10:00 AM–3:30 PM

Contact our Adoption Specialists at **941-474-7884 x 419**
6781 San Casa Drive

Meet Paisley.

This gorgeous, sweet girl is both playful and loving! She would prefer to be an only dog; she was too much for the young family that had her previously. She would do best with an active family that has lots of time to give her. Her adorable face and freckle features will steal your heart, then her personality will win you over. Stop on by and see her cute freckle face today!



Macey is a sweetheart that will leave paw prints on your heart from the first time you meet her. She's a gorgeous kitty with lots of love to give to the right family for her. If you're looking for a great companion to keep you company, she's the right fit for you. Schedule an appointment to come meet her!



Ask how you can become a foster home for EARS. To see all the EARS animals, visit us at 500 N. Indiana Ave. (SR776), or visit Petfinder.com, or EarsAnimalRescue.com. For information, call 941-681-3877.

Adoptions events are at EARS Tuesday thru Saturday, 10a.m.-3:00p.m. All of EARS pets are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped in your name.

Animal Rescue & Pet Food Store
500 N. Indiana Ave. • 681-3877 (FURR)
Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 3pm

Photos by Bobbi Austin

Luna is a 3 yr. old, spayed female. She is a tan Chihuahua. Luna is friendly and has lived with other dogs. She is housebroken.



KitKat is a 5yr. old, spayed female. She is gray and has orange hairs mixed in her fur. KitKat has lived with other cats.



EARS Animal Rescue's Thrift Store Has Moved!

Our new home is at **280 S McCall Road**

Monday through Saturday, 10am to 3pm PH: 941-460-6757

Donations of clothes and housewares are needed to help the EARS animals.

EARS Animal Rescue's Thrift Store is the shelter's main source of income. We are a 501c3 non-profit organization, so any donation is tax deductible.

Crossword Puzzle

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Not invited
- 6. Whale ship captain
- 10. One point south of southwest
- 14. Small cavity in a rock
- 15. Recidivists
- 17. City of Angels hoopster
- 19. A way to mark with one's signature
- 20. OJ trial judge
- 21. Rice cooked in broth
- 22. One point east of due south
- 23. One point east of southeast
- 24. Complements an entree
- 26. Grouped by twos
- 29. Disfigure
- 31. Woods
- 32. Political action committee
- 34. Longer of 2 bones in the forearm
- 35. Kin groups
- 37. Philippine Island
- 38. Contrary to
- 39. Bluish-gray fur
- 40. Comprehend the written word
- 41. Natural depressions
- 43. Felines
- 45. Breathe noisily
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancake made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. Foot (Latin)
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal
- 58. Monetary units of Peru
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. High points

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15			16					
17					18								
19					20			21					
				22				23					
		24	25					26			27	28	
29	30							31			32	33	
34					35	36				37			
38				39						40			
	41		42					43	44				
			45					46					
	47	48					49				50	51	52
53						54				55	56		
57										58			
59					60					61			

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Green and yellow citrus fruit
- 2. A bright color
- 3. Thicket
- 4. Journalist Tarbell
- 5. A place to work or relax
- 6. Sharp mountain ridge
- 7. Helicopter
- 8. Mimic
- 9. Suggests
- 10. More musty
- 11. Large, flightless rail
- 12. Make beer
- 13. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 16. People who can account for you
- 18. Taunt
- 22. South Dakota
- 23. Cover the entirety of
- 24. Kids' favorite visitor
- 25. A way to save for retirement
- 27. Fencing swords
- 28. C. China mountain range
- 29. Type of sandwich
- 30. Team
- 31. Paddle
- 33. Partly digested food
- 35. Most cagey
- 36. Shoppers make one
- 37. Cathode-ray tube
- 39. Food supplies
- 42. Backbones
- 43. Concern
- 44. Blood group
- 46. Broadway songwriter Sammy
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Full-grown pike fish
- 49. Deity of a monotheistic cult
- 50. Type of bread
- 51. S. Nigerian people
- 52. Scottish tax
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. Brazilian city
- 55. Hide of a young animal
- 56. Midway between north and northeast

Sudoku

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

Fun By The Numbers

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 We want to express our most heartfelt sympathy during these trying times as we navigate through the aftermath of Hurricane Ian. We pray for a stronger more beautiful community and that all of our recoveries are speedy. Although we sustained damage to our showroom, we are happy to let you know that we can still bring the showroom to you! We are working hard to build back better than ever. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need our services.*

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