

The

November 18, 2022

ENGLEWOOD REVIEW

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Creating Art from Disaster

Artist Aaron DeLuca of Fatboy Tiki uses a chainsaw to carve a wolf from a large eucalyptus tree that fell during Hurricane Ian. When finished, the totem will stand guard and protect its surroundings. To see more of Aaron's creations, visit Fatboytiki.com.

Photo by Susan Smith

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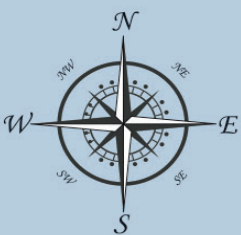


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Visit the Website For Updates
www.EnglewoodBeachWaterfest.com

***BUSES** run from 8:30am to 8pm

NO

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Rev. 11/22

Around the Town



The 34th Annual Venice Christmas Boat Parade is set to sail on **Saturday, December 3rd at 6pm** this year. The free boat parade starts just north of the Albee Road bridge and travels south along the Intracoastal Waterway, ending just before the Circus Bridge in Venice. No boat too small to join. Arrive early and bring your own seating. Visit Venicechristmasboatparade.com for more information. Facebook page will also have updates and information. Rain date is **Sunday, December 4th**.

Power Up for Waterfest! Englewood Beach Waterfest excitement is here in Englewood **November 17 through 20**. The Offshore Powerboat Association (OPA) World Championship Race takes place offshore of Manasota Key. Start out at the official pre-race party, "Power

Up," at the Lighthouse Grill on **Thursday, November 17 from 5 to 10pm**. The Lighthouse Grill has a specially priced race menu planned and a full cash bar. There will be live music by local band TBD. The Block Party is not to be missed on **Friday, November 18,**

5 to 9pm, at the Englewood Shopping Center, 262 S. Indiana Avenue. See some of the race boats up close and enjoy food, drinks, and live music. On **Saturday and Sunday (Nov. 19 & 20)**, speed, power, and excitement come to Englewood during the OPA Offshore World Championship races. The races start at approximately **10am** with the gate opening at **9am**. Races are offshore of the southern end of Manasota Key. Note: there will be no public parking at Englewood Beach so plan to ride one of the free buses from Lemon Bay High School, Englewood Elks Lodge, and Obie's. Between races, visit the Family Conservation Center **Saturday & Sunday from 10am to 4pm** where you will find fun hands-on exhibits for the entire family. Area residents impacted by Hurricane Ian receive free admission. For more information and tickets, visit www.Englewoodbeachwaterfest.com. Guests are asked to bring a non-perishable food item and/or an unwrapped toy for a girl or boy to the Block Party or Waterfest weekend event for distribution by the Jubilee Center.



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CoolToday Park, the Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves, has set the first pitch times for their 2023 Spring Training games while also announcing that single game, season, and group game tickets are now on sale. The Braves are scheduled to begin the 2023 Grapefruit League season on **Saturday, February 25** at CoolToday Park against the Boston Red Sox. The team's 30 game schedule will be played against 11 different teams as well as a World Baseball Classic game played at CoolToday Park on **Wednesday, March 8**. All games will be played at **1:05pm**, except for **Tuesday, March 7** vs. the Boston Red Sox, and **Saturday, March 18** vs. the Philadelphia Phillies, which are scheduled for **6:05pm** starts. Tickets can be purchased at the CoolToday Park Box Office or by visiting www.cooltodaypark.com/tickets. For more information, please contact the CoolToday Park Box Office at **941-413-5004** or visit cooltodaypark.com.

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Park, visit www.cooltodaypark.com.

Englewood Turkey Trot
Start your Thanksgiving morning off at the annual Englewood Turkey Trot on **Thursday, November 24, 7:30 to 9:30am**. This family-friendly fun run/walk benefits the Englewood Area Cancer Foundation, and all money goes directly to Cancer Warriors in this area. Cost is \$15 adult and \$5 kids. The run/walk is held on Ann & Chuck Dever Park Trail, 6791 San Casa Drive. To sign up using a credit card, go to Runsignup.com or register by cash or check at Real Bikes Englewood (445 S. Indiana Avenue). For questions, call **941-445-7324**.

Free Thanksgiving Dinner
On **Thursday, November 24**, from **noon until 3pm**, Gulf Cove United Methodist Church will serve a free Thanksgiving dinner for the community, with turkey and all the traditional fixings. Because of Hurricane Ian, this year's dinner will be drive-thru only; there will be no seating inside the church. Just pull up in the drive-thru lane and request the number of dinners you need! Conversation over



Stop by Pioneer Plaza (325 W. Dearborn Street) to view and comment on a new mural on the wall of Vintage Rehab. Created by Englewood artist Robert Casler, the mural is for everyone whose lives were affected by Hurricane Ian on September 28th. Robert used bent sheet metal from a building that was destroyed on his property and pieces of his neighbor's fence. He intended this to represent the homes that were torn apart and the heaps of debris that line the streets. The crudely painted lettering reflects the hand painted signs that many people put on their boarded windows and discarded items. Viewing the devastation and having so many neighbors without a home can cause your heart to grow heavy with despair. Robert encourages you to continue to assist each other. Even if all you can give is a smile or a kind deed: "Together We Shall Overcome!" If you would like to show your support, please sign the wood sections of the frame or fence panels. Please do not write on painted mural. The mural will be auctioned off at <https://www.ebay.com/usr/renovareartist> starting on **Thursday, December 1st** to help raise funds for relief. For auction details, please follow the Facebook page, www.facebook.com/Renovareartist/

the dinner table will be missed, but blessings will be with you wherever you go. If you are homebound and live within 10

miles of the church, you can call the church at **941-697-1747** by **noon on Tuesday, November 22**, to request delivery. GCUMC

Grilled Cheese Festival
CoolToday Park, the Spring Training Home of the Atlanta Braves, announces the return of the wildly popular Grilled Cheese Festival. The free, family-friendly event will take place on **Saturday, November 19, 11am-6pm**, and will feature food trucks, a beer garden, live music, kids' activities, and more. Parking is \$5 per car. Each food truck will offer grilled cheese

themed items along with their regular menu. Armbands will be issued to those aged 21+ for free beer samples. Craft and domestic beers will be available for purchase on the Front Plaza lawn, kids' activities will include face painting and a speed pitch game. Also, there will be live music, community booths, and the Braves Street Team. For more information on the Grilled Cheese Festival or CoolToday

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Gulf Coast Community Foundation has generously awarded \$10,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast for gift cards for Sarasota County Littles & their families recovering from Hurricane Ian. Many of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast's Littles and their families have suffered tremendous losses in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian. The Gulf Coast Community Foundations \$10,000 grant will be used to provide gift cards for Sarasota County Littles and their family's groceries, household needs, and other essentials during this time of continued restoration. "With the devastation so many of our families are facing, the generous gift from Gulf Coast Community Foundation will help to ease the burden during these challenging times. Photo: The staff of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast assisting with the distribution of gift cards for those families impacted by Hurricane Ian.

is located at 1100 S. McCall Road (Route 776), in the Gulf Cove area of Port Charlotte.

Venice Holiday Parade

The Venice Holiday Parade returns to downtown Venice on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, **November 26**. Continuing an over 40-year-old tradition, the parade is the perfect "kickoff" to the holiday season. Participants represent local companies, schools, churches, music groups, plus more. The parade officially begins at **6:30pm** at the corner of Park Blvd. and W. Venice Ave (south side). It will proceed on the north side of W. Venice Ave. after crossing over Harbor Drive. From there, it will make a turn on Nokomis Avenue and go all the way down to Turin Street, where it turns right, ultimately making its way to the Venice Community Center, where the parade ends. Pre-parade entertainment begins at **5:30pm** at Harbor Drive and

Venice Avenue and at Nokomis and Venice avenues. For more information, visit www.venicegov.com.

Punta Gorda Craft Festival

The Thanksgiving Weekend Sullivan Street Craft Festival is back on **Saturday & Sunday, November 26 & 27, 10am to 5pm**. Artists come from across the country to participate, so don't miss your chance to shop from a wide array of unique works. Admission is free and the festival is located at 331 Sullivan Street in Punta Gorda. Website information: www.artfestival.com/festivals.

Boca Grande Christmas Walk

The Annual Boca Grande Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Walk will be **Saturday, November 26 from 5 to 8pm**. Boca Grande Village will be ringing with Christmas Cheer! Stroll down the luminary-

lit town to visit with the local businesses and get a jump on your holiday shopping on Small Business Saturday. Santa Claus will come to town at **6pm** on the Boca Grande Fire Department fire truck to visit! For questions, please call the chamber at **941-964-0568**.

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Make sure to stop by Pioneer Plaza (325 W. Dearborn Street) to view Englewood's postcard mural. The mural is the Englewood Chamber of Commerce Leadership Englewood Class of 2022's class project and was created by area artist Matt McAllister. It was dedicated on November 3rd in between rain showers.



Englewood Museum, on **Monday, November 28** from **4 to 6pm**. There will be music & food, and free tours of the house/museum. Peruse 100 years of Englewood history. The Lampp House is located at 604 W. Perry Street. Learn more about the Lampp House at www.eahmuseum.org. For questions, call **941-475-2696**.

Estate Planning Mistakes Seminar

“Oops” is not a word someone wants associated with their estate plans. Englewood Bank & Trust presents a free seminar on Estate Planning Mistakes on **Thursday, December 1, 10am**, at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 S. Indiana Avenue. This seminar,

presented with Leslie Lohn of the law office of Leslie Lohn, Inc., will discuss the basics of estate planning, including last will and testament and power of attorney, and offer examples of real-life mistakes to learn from and apply to your personal plans. To register, visit www.Englewoodbank.com or contact Kerry Hunter at **941-473-3629** or khunter@ebtfl.com.

Plant Sale & Gift Boutique

It's a win-win! Buy cards and gifts for those on your holiday shopping list or for yourself and support Lemon Bay Garden Club as it restores its butterfly garden and club grounds damaged by Hurricane Ian. Shop for handmade crafts and cards, purchase Florida-friendly

plants, and buy a chance to win one of the raffle baskets during their Plant Sale & Boutique **Thursday, December 1 through Saturday December 3**. Hours are **December 1, 9am to noon; December 2 & 3, 9am to 2pm**. On **December 3**, enjoy a hot dog and root beer float combo for only \$5 from **11am to 1pm**. The Lemon Bay Garden Clubhouse is located at 480 Yale Street.

Rotonda Holiday Parade

Get in the Christmas spirit at the annual Rotonda West Association Christmas Parade set for **Saturday, December 3 at 2pm**. This year's parade will celebrate Rotonda West's 50th anniversary with the theme “50 Years of Christmas.” The parade will stage on Rotonda

Blvd. West between Parade Circle and Rotonda Circle. It will travel along Rotonda Circle through Pebble Beach, Pinehurst, and Broadmoor sections to the Rotonda West Community Center at 646 Rotonda Circle. The judging stand will be located at Pinehurst Memorial Park. Of course, Santa Claus will be there. For questions, email parade@rotondawest.org.

“Tea With Betty”

On the **first Saturday of the month**, enjoy a cup of tea and learn about Englewood's history during “Tea with Betty.” Betty Nugent, owner/curator of the historic Lampp House and location of the Englewood Museum, will share Englewood's past. Learn more

about your new hometown or this town you are visiting. The Englewood Museum is located in the historic Lampp House at 604 W. Perry Street. The tea is free, but donations towards the upkeep of the Englewood Museum are greatly appreciated. The December date is **Saturday, December 3 at 3pm**. Learn more about the museum at www.eahmuseum.org.

Poinsettia Parade & Festival

Enjoy a holly-jolly holiday at the signature Poinsettia Parade and Festival event on **Saturday, December 3, 4 to 8pm**. This year's theme is “What a Wonderful North Port Life!” The event is perfect for the whole family, and includes a tree lighting ceremony, food

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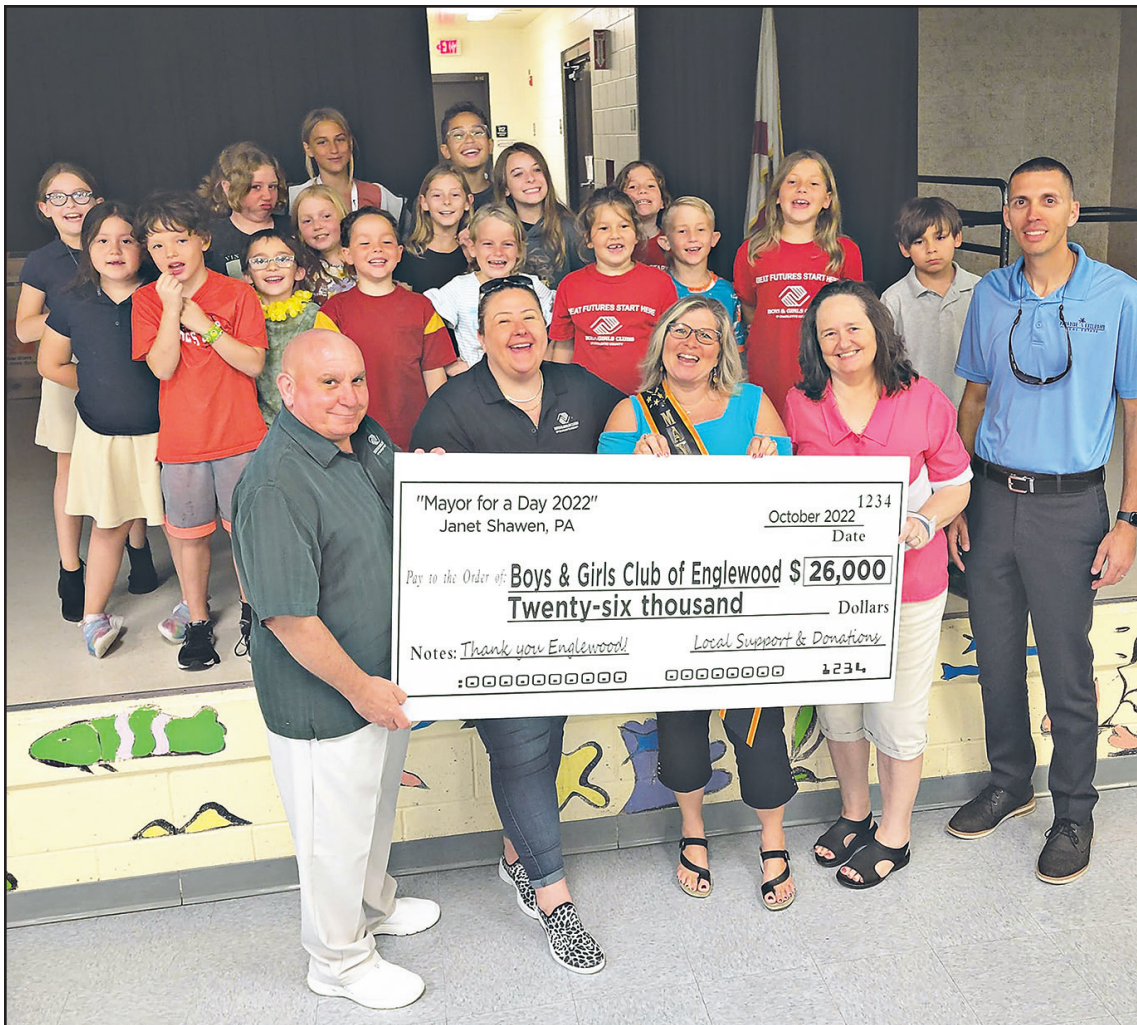
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On November 7th, Janet Shawen presented a check for \$26,000 to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Charlotte County -Englewood Club to be added to their building fund. Shawen raised the money during her run for Mayor of the Day, an Englewood Pioneer Days event. If you would like to donate to the building fund, please visit www.bgcofcc.org/donate. Pictured here are (l-r :) Lynn Dorler, Jessica Anderson, Janet Shawen, Jeannie Joyce, and Brian Faro.



A rainy day doesn't keep Karen Allen and her dog Billie-Jean inside. This photo was snapped as they set out on their daily bike ride/walk. It was a yellow kinda day. Billie-Jean is quite a lady and receives compliments on her lovely manners and patience.

and merchandise vendors, entertainment, attractions, and a parade. The Poinsettia Parade will travel south from Sylvania

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Raggedy Ann and Andy will return as stars of the Englewood United Methodist Church Creative Workshop's Christmas Bazaar, on **Saturday, November 19 from 8am-1pm**. Included will be wall hangings, afghans and quilts, kitchen and dining accessories, hand-painted glass and other wares, jewelry, knitted baby items, children's gifts, sports team sewn treasures, and baked goods. This traditional event has been popular since it started kicking off the holiday season 62 years ago, providing an abundance of affordable quality gifts while raising funds to help support a variety of charitable programs. The church is located at 700 E. Dearborn Street. For questions, call **941-474-5588**.



On October 13th, the Englewood Moose #1933 presented a \$1,000 check to the Jubilee Center Food Pantry at St. David's. Pictured (L to R) are John Bienkowski, Ruth Hill, Newt Webb, and Bill Purvis.

and other entertainment. The Poinsettia Festival will take place throughout the grounds of the City Center Campus where attendees of all ages can enjoy an array of holiday festivities. Admission and parking are free.

CoolToday Jingle Jam

The Jingle Jam at CoolToday Park returns for its fourth year on

Saturday & Sunday, December 3 & 4. The event will feature the Tomahawk 5k, Holiday Market, Caddy Carts golf cart parade, carriage rides, kids crafts and activities, holiday entertainment, and appearances by Mr. & Mrs. Claus. The fun starts at **10am both days**. Visit www.cooltoday.com for more information.

Water Quality Virtual Update

Sarasota County invites you to attend their Water Quality Virtual Update 2022 on **Monday, December 5 from 3 to 5pm**. This opportunity will provide information from county and community leaders about what is being done locally to protect the water quality. Hear from experts about the science of

water quality, local efforts, and opportunities to take action! Registration is required for this free event at this link: bit.ly/VirtualUpdate2022. For more information, visit www.scgov.net/waterquality.

Health in Motion Bus

The Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County, Health in Motion staff will be on-site at the Elsie Quirk Library on **Tuesday, December 6, noon to 4pm**. Receive no-cost health screenings and referrals for general health and



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On September 20th, Ivy's on Dearborn organized a Fundraiser Fashion Show at Magnolias on the Bay with a portion of the proceeds to benefit Kids' Needs of Greater Englewood. A check for \$2,610 will help local families in need with clothing, school supplies, and personal hygiene items. Pictured here (l-r) at the check presentation is the owner of Ivy's on Dearborn, Karen Tyree, along Board Members of Kids' Needs: Marie LaForge, Rebecca DeRosa, and Marcia Ziegler.



Englewood Bank & Trust locations are once again serving as collection points for donations to help brighten the holiday season for those in need. Donations will be distributed by two prominent charitable organizations, the Salvation Army and Toys for Tots. The Marine Corps Reserve's annual Toys for Tots campaign is once again being supported by Englewood-area locations. Residents are invited to bring unwrapped toys to the following branches during business hours through **Wednesday, December 14**: Englewood Bank & Trust Gulf Cove branch, 12651 S. McCall Rd., Englewood Bank & Trust Cape Haze branch, 8725 Placida Rd., #10; and Englewood Bank & Trust Boca Grande branch, 301 Park Ave. The age groups currently in the highest need of gifts are 0-24 months and teenagers. Suggested gifts for teens include sporting equipment, bags, and balls; books, backpacks, cosmetics, purses, watch/wallet gift sets, bath gift sets, board games, radio control cars/trucks, hand-held electronics, skateboards and helmets, curling irons, hair straighteners, and hair dryers. Salvation Army wish lists are on display at the bank's new Venice branch, located at 207 S. Tamiami Trail. The names of area children and senior citizens in need are written on cards. Customers and visitors to the bank are invited to select one or more of the cards, purchase appropriate gifts, then return the unwrapped gifts and wish lists to the bank office by **Tuesday, December 6**. Pictured here with last year's donation box is Accounting Assistant Danielle Del Colle.

wellness. Nursing staff will help individuals who lack medical insurance find a medical home for ongoing health care through referrals to the Community Health Centers of Sarasota County. No appointments needed. The bus will be in the west parking lot at 100 W. Dearborn Street. Wellness staff will also be available in the front lobby of the library.

Estate Planning Basics
Englewood Bank & Trust will offer a seminar on Estate Planning Basics on **Thursday, December 8, 10am**, at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 S. Indiana Avenue. This free seminar will

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The Women's Resource Center (WRC) continues its Wonder Women Collective series with "Helping Others to Activate Access to Social Capital", featuring TEDx speaker and CEO of Results 1st, Robyn Faucy, on **Thursday, December 1, 5-8pm** at The Grove, 10670 Boardwalk Loop, Lakewood Ranch. Tickets are \$50 and include an interactive program, appetizers, and drinks. All proceeds from the Collective support the programs and services of the Women's Resource Center. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit mywrc.org/wwc22.

married couples and couples who have remarried, plus ways to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your assets. Presented with Lori Wellbaum Emery of Wellbaum & Emery, P.A. To register, visit www.Englewoodbank.com or contact Kerry Hunter at **941•473•3629** or khunter@ebtfl.com.

Private & Commercial Debris Removal

The Charlotte County Commission has reached an agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management to collect Hurricane Ian debris on private and commercial property. FDEM is now accepting applications from private and commercial property owners who would like assistance for the assessment and removal of qualifying debris, including vehicles. To apply, visit www.IanDebrisCleanup.com or call **850•961•2002**. For information, call the Hurricane Ian Debris hotline **8am to 8pm, Monday through Friday and 9am to 5pm on weekends** or email IanDebrisCleanup@em.myflorida.com.

review the basic elements of an estate plan, including last will and testament, power of attorney, and health care directives, focusing on the specifics and benefits of each and the pitfalls to avoid. The seminar will also include planning tools for non-

Truex Appointed to NACO
Charlotte County Commission Chairman Bill Truex has been appointed to the National Association of Counties (NACO) Housing Task Force, comprised of more than 30 county leaders from across the



On October 11th, the Englewood Moose #1933 Board of Officers presented a \$1,000 check to Gina Barber. The check is for sponsorship of Lemon Bay High School Theatre.

United States. The group will identify county-led solutions and innovations for addressing America's housing affordability and stability crisis. The Housing Task Force will explore intergovernmental partnerships that support housing solutions among federal, state, and local officials, along with private, nonprofit, and homeownership and rental partners. "In my roles as a leader in the Florida home-building industry and in county government, I'm

thrilled to have the opportunity to help my colleagues around the country find solutions to our nation's housing challenges," Truex said. To see the task force members and more information, visit www.NACO.org and click Housing under Topics.

Caring & Sharing

Senior Giving Tree
It's the holiday season and once again Aveanna Home Healthcare is seeking your help with their Senior Giving Tree. There are many deserving elderly folks that have no one to give them a gift



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A Food Drive was held November 5th at the Rotonda West Community Center for Englewood Helping Hand and St. David's Jubilee Center. Over 200 cars drove through the line to drop off canned goods, pasta, sauce, paper goods, cash, and gift cards. The food pantries raised over \$2,600 between the two. Three truckloads went to St. David's and a trailer went to EHH. The Englewood community is so very generous... the shelves are full and so are their hearts. Donations are always welcome at both food pantries. Englewood Helping Hand is located on the campus of Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn Street (open **Wednesday & Thursday 9am to 1pm**) and the Jubilee Center is on the campus of St. David's Episcopal Church, 401 S. Broadway (open **Monday through Wednesday, 10am to noon**).



this holiday season. The Giving Tree provides a meaningful gift to these individuals. Beginning **Thursday, December 1st**, you may pick up a senior's request for a gift. Purchase and wrap the gift, tape the name card on it and return it to The Giving Tree, which is located at Heritage Oaks Assisted Living & Memory Care, 7374 San Casa Drive. For

more information, please call Sue McNamara at **941•270•2505**.

Toys for Tots Tailgate

The Englewood Chamber of Commerce is once again hosting a Toys for Tots Tailgate Party on **Friday, December 2** from **11am to 1pm**. Stop by the Chamber, 601 S. Indiana Avenue, to donate a new, unwrapped toy to Charlotte County Toys for Tots and enjoy lunch. The

event is courtesy of Tailored Inspections. For questions, call **941•474•5511**.

Giving Tree Toy Drive

Fifth Third Bank is partnering with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast for its annual Giving Tree Toy Drive campaign. The Giving Tree Toy Drive program is currently underway and will end on **Saturday, December**

3rd. Each Fifth Third financial center will host a "Giving Tree" decorated with gift tags with specific information pertaining to the needs of a child in the community. The Englewood branch is located at 1550 Placida Road, and you are encouraged to stop by to pick up your gift tag. Fifth Third is also making a gift that will support the Littles via gift cards for holiday meals as

well as directly supporting the mission with sponsorships. Your donation of a gift or gift card will help make a difference and ensure a brighter holiday season for the underserved youth in the community. All donations can be dropped off at any local Fifth Third Bank.

OneBlood Blood Drives

The following OneBlood "Big Red Bus" blood drives have been

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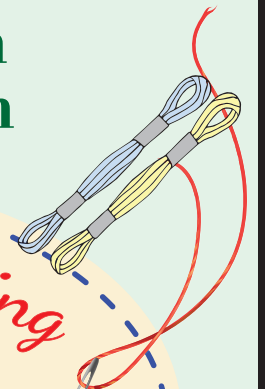


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On October 13th, the Englewood Moose # 1933 presented \$500 in Walmart Gift Cards to The Douglas T. Jacobson Veteran's Nursing Home. The gift cards were given to veterans so they can buy personal items.

scheduled in the Englewood area during the month of November. 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. **Monday, November 21, 9am to 4pm:** Bealls Outlet, 425 S. Indiana Avenue. **Tuesday, November 22, 9am to 4pm:** Bealls, 1500 Placida Road. **Sunday, November 27, 2 to 5pm:** Walmart, 2931 S. McCall Road. **Tuesday, November 29, 11am to 5pm:** Publix – Merchants Crossing, 1500 Placida Road.

Sports

Sandy Claws Beach Run

Kick off the holiday season by participating in the 46th annual Sandy Claws Beach Run on Siesta Beach in Sarasota on **Saturday, December 10**. To register, visit www.runsignup.com (keywords Sandy Claws). Registration will close at **7:45am** on the day of the event. Early packet pickup will be from **3-6pm on Thursday, December 8**, at the New Balance Sarasota store, 1872 Stickney Point Road. The one-mile fun run will start at **8am**, followed by the 5K run

at **8:20am**. The holiday-themed costume contest winners and race awards will be announced starting at **9:15am**. For more information, call **941-861-5000**.

YMCA Sandbar Half/5k

The Englewood YMCA Sandbar Half Marathon and 5k on Manasota Key has been moved to **Saturday, January 14**. Runners will enjoy a race route without many turns and with much of the course under tree canopy. Free draft beer and a hot meal at the Sandbar Tiki & Grille starting at **8:30am**. Live music while you wait for

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Leadership Englewood is designed to educate local business leaders about their community and the societal and economic challenges it faces. Armed with that better understanding, the individual can best determine how to be of value to the community and to affect positive growth and change. The program is open to any Chamber member, but it is limited to 20 participants each year. An application process determines who is accepted into the program. The program consists of monthly "field trips" that teach the class about the community's needs and focuses on both Charlotte and Sarasota Counties in regards to healthcare, education, nonprofits, tourism and arts/culture. The class of 2023 members are Sam Beaugrand (Lasbury Tracy Realty); Dylan Cates (CAPS Home Accessibility Solutions); Mary Jo Claudius (Michael Saunders & Co.); Janet DeLaney (HCA Englewood Hospital); Deanna Devine (Paradise Exclusive); Lisa Eby (CC Board of Commissioners); Austin Fogo (Key Agency); Allyson Garcia (Wampler Varner Ins. Group); Kris Hartley (Joe Maxx Coffee); Merrill Hollinger (Englewood on Dearborn Restaurant); Krista Jennings (HarborOne Mortgage); Erin Morey (Custom Mortgage); Robert Page (Galloway Roofing); Erica Raymond (D. Martin Plumbing); Amanda Russell (Endurance Aire); Jessica Souza (Paradise Exclusive); Tracy Stephens-Miller (YMCA of SW Florida); Jaimie Walczak (Shipwreck Saloon); and Kim Weaver (Beautiful Blinds & Designs).

awards. Start time is 7am for the half marathon and 7:15am for the 5k. Registration is now open and runs until **Friday, January 6th**. Current cost is \$85 for half marathon and \$45 for the 5k. Sign up available at www.runsignup.com.

Be Scam Aware
 The holidays bring out the best... and the worse in people. Use caution this season, as many callers may not be who they say they are. If you are contacted by phone, text, email, social media or otherwise and the initiating party asks or mentions a payment method, discontinue communication immediately. Never give out or confirm sensitive information (like your bank account, credit card, or Social Security number) unless you know who you're dealing with. If someone has contacted you, you can't be sure who they are. If you suspect a potential scam, report it to your local law enforcement.

Celebration!



Congratulations to newlyweds Blake and Alyssa Lipstein of Englewood! Blake Lipstein, son of Linda and David Lipstein, is a true Englewood native. He was raised on Manasota Key his whole life, enjoying the beach, skimming, and spending time with friends on a boat. Alyssa Lipstein, daughter of Dawn and Peter Havens, is originally from New Jersey but has been in Englewood since a child. Alyssa and Blake met while both attending Lemon Bay High School. In 2019 they reconnected and fell in love and got married at Sarasota Yacht Club on October 22, 2022.



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Alfred Current

ROTARIANS MAKE ENGLEWOOD STRONGER

By Alfred Current, Rotary District Governor-Elect 2023-24

On Wednesday afternoon, September 28, 2022, technically a category 4 hurricane, but for us, clocked as a category 5, Ian washed ashore and terrorized SW Florida including our beautiful Englewood community and peninsula with howling winds, blinding rain, and surging water for over eight unrelenting hours, resulting in imploding windows that allowed rainwater to pour in, twisted metal from falling gutters and destroyed lanais that screeched across lawns, roofs ripped apart as shingles and tiles flew, trees snapped and toppled like toothpicks, communication towers tumbled to the earth, and fear struck the hearts of those riding out the storm. The carnage proved to be enormous, unbearable for the multitudes that lost everything. No electricity, water, phone, or internet. No access to gasoline or working ATMs; only flooded streets and neighborhood exits blocked by fallen trees and blown debris greeted those trying to escape the prisons of their homes. Our quiet, tropical paradise had been hit hard and left devastated.

There are five Rotary clubs in Englewood totaling 243 members that form The Rotary Club of Englewood, The Englewood Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary Club, The Englewood Sunset Rotary Club, The Englewood Sunset Impact Club and The Rotary Club of Rotonda. Like siblings, each has its own personality and sense of purpose. They are different ages, enjoy various activities, and sponsor different fundraisers. The competition between them is healthy, but their hearts are all about service above self. Many businesses in Englewood are owned or managed by this prestigious group of Rotarians. The membership rosters read like a *Who's Who* list.

One may not know much about Rotary, what it is and what it does. You may, however, recognize an annual arts festival, July 4th fireworks, a farmer's market on Dearborn, a seafood festival, high school scholarships, Josh the Otter water safety events and free swim lessons, backpack funding, school supply drives, shopping with a cop, sponsoring an Interact club, RYLA, S4TL, RotaKids, and exchange students, both inbound and outbound. All of these and much more are from the efforts of Rotarians in our community.

While one may want to



A fellow in Michigan donated 82 pallets of cleaning supplies. Pictured here l-r: Gary Vasbinder and J.D. Preston are moving pails of cleaning supplies for distribution.

know more about what Rotary is, it may be more proper to understand why we do what we do. Rotarians believe in giving back and making a difference in the human condition. Through our passion for service, we are able to use our time, talent, treasure, and connections to get things done. When Hurricane Ian blew into town and knocked us to our knees, Rotary

responded. The collective efforts of our five community clubs made a huge difference to many in need. All five clubs came together for the common good leaving behind individual club cultures in order to make a unified relief effort efficient and effective.

Immediately, through the generosity of one Rotarian that owns a shopping plaza, we were

able to set up a collection point for donations that came from places far and wide. Rotary, an international organization, used its connections to bring in an estimated \$500,000 worth of donations to help begin the cleaning up process. Donations required sorting, staging and distribution to the public in need. For two weeks following the storm's appearance, Rotarians showed up to unload semi-trucks full of supplies. One day, two trailers appeared that had 82 pallets, each with 40 cleaning buckets per pallet, which required a forklift. The call for help went out and thirty minutes later we had three forklifts delivered by Rotarians.

Englewood is blessed with many giving souls with huge hearts. Rotarians are also quick to partner with other community stakeholders such as neighborhood associations, and community programs. Results happen quickly when it doesn't matter who gets the credit. We all have our hurricane stories and are eager to share. My purpose is to share a glimpse of Rotary and to say thank you for the numerous volunteer hours given with sweat and tears by so many that have come together to make it better. My heart is full of an attitude of gratitude.

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Post Hurricane Ian Assistance

Disaster Recovery Centers

In-person disaster recovery assistance is still available at two area locations. The Shannon Staub Library, 4675 Career Lane in North Port, is open **daily 9am to 6pm**. Tringali Recreation Center, 3450 N. Access Road, is open **8am to 7pm daily**.

Business Recovery Center

The U.S. Small Business Administration has opened a Business Recovery Center at the Venice Community Center, 326 Nokomis Avenue S., Room E. The center will assist individuals with their SBA disaster loan applications. The operating hours will be from **9am to 6pm Monday through Sunday**. You can also apply for SBA disaster loans at the FEMA Recovery Center located at Tringali Recreation Center, 3460 N. Access Road. It is also open seven days a week.

Federal Disaster Assistance

Homeowners and renters who had uninsured losses from

Hurricane Ian may be eligible for federal disaster assistance. FEMA may provide financial help with temporary housing expenses, basic home repairs, vehicle replacement, and other essential disaster-related needs. You can apply online at www.disasterassistance.gov; download the FEMA app for mobile devices; or call FEMA toll-free **800-621-3362** from **7am to 11pm**. You can also apply in person at Tringali Recreation Center, 3450 N. Access Road, **daily from 8am to 7pm**. The last day to apply is **Monday, November 28th**.

Salvaging Family Treasures Tips

Survivors of Hurricane Ian can learn how to salvage storm-damaged household treasures from preservation specialists visiting six Disaster Recovery Centers. Among the heirlooms that might be saved are photos, artwork, quilts, important documents, and

other irreplaceable mementos. Specialists trained by the Heritage Emergency National Task Force will provide advice and show survivors how to handle, dry, and clean their damaged items on their own. HENTF experts will be available to assist survivors at Tringali Park Recreation Center, 3450 North Access Road, from **9am to 5pm, through Sunday, November 20th**. If you don't want to wait for the demonstrations or cannot attend, guidance and resources are available at www.fema.gov/disaster/recover/save-family-treasures.

Storm Debris Pickup Status

Charlotte County has created a storm debris webpage that provides real-time progress of debris collection, including an interactive map showing where debris collection is and has taken place. Also included is a zone map showing the zones where pickup is active, upcoming

and where the initial pass has been completed. To view the webpage and maps, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/debris.

Storm Debris Drop-off Sites

In Charlotte County, storm debris can be dropped off in Englewood **daily from 8am to 5pm** at the Placida West Boat Ramp, 12560 Placida Road, and the West Charlotte Mini-Transfer & Recycling Facility, 7070 Environmental Way. In Sarasota County, the nearest drop-off site is the Jackson Road Transfer Station, 250 S. Jackson Road, Venice (**until November 21st**).

Been Denied by FEMA?

Have you been denied by FEMA? Here is some advice on how to appeal FEMA's decision. An appeal should be filed in the form of a signed letter within 60 days of the date on the determination letter. In the appeal, explain why you disagree with the decision. Be sure to include the following: applicant's full name, current address, and damaged dwelling address; applicant's nine-digit FEMA application

number (found at the top of the determination letter); FEMA disaster declaration number; and applicant's signature and date. Mail the appeal letter to: FEMA Individuals & Households Program, National Processing Service Center, PO Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782. Appeal letters and supporting documentation can also be uploaded to your account on www.disasterassistance.gov or by fax to **800-827-8112**.

Mental Health Resiliency Tools

The Family Support Line connects families who were impacted by Hurricane Ian with individuals who were impacted and recovered from Hurricane Michael. Individuals who would like to talk with a Family Support Peer can call **888-850-SWFL**. The Department of Health and the Department of Children & Families have also partnered with BetterHelp to provide three months of free online therapy to those impacted by Hurricane Ian. To access these free services, Floridians can visit betterhelp.com/voucher and use code HurricaneIan.



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Arts & Entertainment

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Mr. Swindle's Peculiarium
Mr. Swindle's Traveling Peculiarium & Drink-Ory Garden is returning to Englewood in January with performance dates **Thursday, January 12 through Sunday, January 22**. Mr. Swindle is currently offering a 15% discount through **Tuesday, November 22**. Use Code FPS15. Get ready for an all new experience of world class artistry, comedy, and the unexpected from the Spinologist, Suspended Passion, the Contortionist, feats on the Gravitational Wheel, and the aerial death-defying stunts. The Big Top will be erected at Pioneer Plaza, 348 W. Dearborn Street. Purchase tickets online at www.mrswindles.com or call **941-445-7309**.

Mystics & Kings
On **Sunday, November 27**, Key Chorale violinist Daniel Jordan, sitarist Kanada Narahari, and The Sarasota Ballet Studio Company will take you on an unforgettable journey of the senses with "Mystics & Kings". Works by James Whitbourn and Jake Runestad incorporate texts of luminaries and mystics laced with Indian soundscapes, invoking musical settings, which are radiant, peaceful, and luminous. "Sing Wearing the Sky" will be performed by the sopranos and altos along with violinist Daniel Jordan, percussion, and piano. Key Chorale will feature Kanada Narahari, a very gifted musician, to play not only the tanpura, but also the sitar. Black composer

Margaret Bonds' rarely heard 1954 cantata, "The Ballad of the Brown King", sets texts by Harlem Renaissance poet Langston Hughes in styles of classical, jazz, gospel and calypso to tell the story of the journey to Bethlehem through the eyes of Balthazar, the dark-skinned king. The concert will start at **4pm** at the Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Avenue, Sarasota. Tickets are \$35-\$45 and may be purchased at www.keychorale.org or call **941-552-8768**.

place on **Friday, December 2** at **5pm** on the Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Road. This sunset beach program features two Hermitage Fellows whose talents cannot be contained in a single medium, style, or language. Raquel Acevedo Klein was named by The Washington Post as one of "2022's Classical Composers and Performers to Watch", and she is also an immensely talented visual artist. Award-winning playwright and screenwriter Guadalís Del Carmen creates original work across stage, screen, and film that doesn't shy away from the multifold perspectives of contentious issues, giving her audiences "no easy answers and no one to hate" while leaving them "more than a

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little entertained and a whole lot wiser”, (ChicagoOnStage). See and hear works from this incredible duo and dive into the unique, intersectional voices driving their work. Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/ person registration fee).

Charlotte Chorale Holiday Concert

The Charlotte Chorale invites you to indulge your senses and rejoice in the season as they present “Treasured Sounds of Christmas” on **Saturday, December 3, at 4pm** at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 701 Carmalita Street, Punta Gorda. Experience the pageantry of the season as you are regaled with classic pieces such as “Journey of the Kings” and “Angels from the Realms of Glory”, marvel in the beautiful renditions of sacred music such as the “Ukrainian Bell Carol” and “Still, Still, Still”, and feel the exuberant joy of familiar carols such as “Jingle Bells” and other traditional favorites with a special holiday twist. In conjunction with this concert will be the second annual Silent Auction with entertainment, recreational, dining, and personal services offerings, as well as gift baskets. Tickets are Adults: \$25; Students: \$10. Get yours today by calling: **941•204•0033** or online at www.charlottechorale.com.

Christmas Pageant Mayhem
Charlotte Players present the hilarious Christmas classic, “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”, **Wednesday December**

7 through Sunday, December 18. A couple, struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant, is faced with casting the Herdman kids – probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won’t believe the mayhem and fun when the Herdmans collide with the Christmas story head-on. Tickets are \$25+tax and may be purchased online at www.charlotteplayers.org or calling the box office at **941•255•1022**. The Langdon Playhouse is located at 1182 Market Circle, Pt. Charlotte.

Holiday Harmonies Concert
Venice Musicale’s Suncoast Duo Pianists present “Holiday Harmonies”, a four-hand piano program rich with music of the holiday season. Both sacred and secular works will help set the scene for a very happy holiday season. The concert takes place **Saturday, December 10, 3 to 4:30pm**, at the Jervey Venice Public Library, 300 Nokomis Avenue South, Venice. The concert is free and open to the public. Donations support the Venice Musicale Scholarship Program. For more information, visit www.venicemusical.com.

LBP Offers Acting Studio
A new Acting Studio is coming in January to Lemon Bay Playhouse. Nationally known for his decades-long stage and film interpretation of Mark Twain, founder Alan Kitty will offer techniques developed by Stanislavsky interpreters like Uta Hagen, Lee Strassberg, protege Terry Hayden, Sanford Meisner, and Michael Chekov. The Studio’s philosophy is



Lemon Bay Playhouse, 96 W. Dearborn Street, takes you through four separate one-acts in “You Know I Can’t Hear You When the Water’s Running” from **Wednesday, November 30 – Sunday December 18.** “The Shock of Recognition” breaks in on a difference of opinions in the producer’s office. “The Footsteps of Doves” tells of a married couple of 25 years who go bed shopping and run into a young blonde. “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” is light and humorous, but, at its base, it is serious and touching as it shows parents discussing the sex education of their almost adult children. “I’m Herbert” is a sketch about two

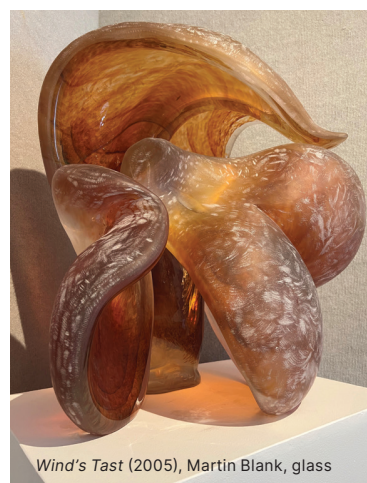
old people sitting on a porch in rocking chairs and talking. Each story is comedic in its own way but does have some adult language and suggestions. Curtain time is **7:30pm Wednesday through Saturday and 2pm on Sundays.** Reserved seat tickets are \$25. Student tickets are available at \$18 each. Visit www.lemonbayplayhouse.com or you can also call the box office **Monday-Friday, 10am to 2pm, at 941-475-6756.** Cast Photo: Standing (L-R): Bob La Salle, Sue Mayer, Dallas Rivers, Mike Gilbert, Drew Washburn. Seated (L-R): Donna Hadley, Jim Manns, Jill Schroeder, Charlotte Crowley, Jill Houghton.

that not everyone can become a star on Broadway. But everyone can learn to analyze a scene, a play, and a character so well that an audience will completely suspend disbelief and experience with their whole being the magic that is Theater. The classes will help students awaken and develop

the innovator within each of them. Classes will be offered in a trimester format, winter, spring and fall, beginning on **Tuesday, January 3**, with five classes and three instructors to teach basic and advanced techniques

Continued on page 20

Studio Art Glass | Mitchell Gallery
October 25 – December 16, 2022



Wind’s Tast (2005), Martin Blank, glass

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Loranger Gallery

Russ Burch Photography
Mangrove Gallery

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Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota will present classical, classical with a contemporary twist, and genre-defying acoustic concerts in December. First up is a double feature with violinists Blake Pouliot – performing the Southeastern premiere of Derrick Skye’s “God of the Gaps” – and Simone Porter on **Tuesday, December 6, 7:30pm**, at the Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Avenue, Sarasota. Then “The 442s”, a genre-defying St. Louis-based acoustic quintet, on **Tuesday, December 13, 7:30pm**, at the Historic Asolo Theater, 5401 Bay Shore Drive, Sarasota; and “Vision Duo”, featuring award-winning musicians Ariel Horowitz, violin, and Britton-René Collins, marimba, on **Thursday, December 15, 11am**, at the Sarasota Yacht Club, 1100 John Ringling Blvd., Sarasota. For more information and tickets, visit www.ArtistSeriesConcerts.org or call **941-306-1202**. Pictured here are Vision Duo’s Britton-René Collins (left) and Ariel Horowitz.

for both high schoolers and adults. Selected students will be given the chance to join an acting company that will perform new and contemporary works (& eventually the classics) for area audiences. Register at lemonbayplayhouse.com/acting-studio.

Call for Artists
Visions in Black is a juried art exhibition celebrating the talents and love of the arts by showcasing artists of African descent who reside in the state of Florida. They are seeking artists of color to exhibit in their 2023 Visions in Black to

run **February 2-25**. All work must be for sale, original, and completed within the last three years. Application deadline is **Saturday, December 17th**. For more information, go to www.suncoastblackartscollaborative.org.



Designed to inspire and encourage generative work created by some of the best and brightest performers in the vibrant performing arts community, the inaugural year of the Cross Arts Collaborative celebrates the work of Tsebiyah Misheal Derry and Derric Gobourne Jr. “New Voices and New Work” will be presented on **Wednesday, November 30 at 5pm** at the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, 1012 N Orange Ave, Sarasota. Join these two remarkable performers as they share excerpts from the songs, poems, and other works that were developed during their residency at the Hermitage Artist Retreat. Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/person registration fee).

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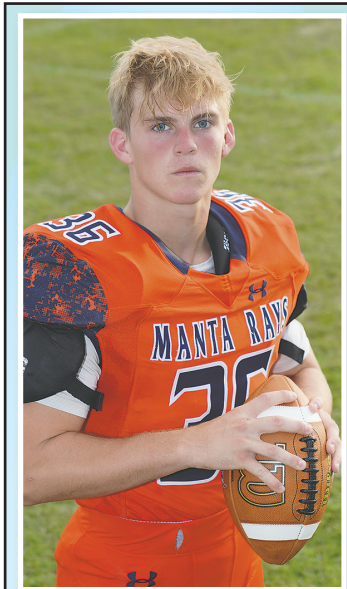


Keeping Up with KIDS

Is Girl Scouting for You?
 Girl Scouts will hold an information night at 6pm on **Wednesday, December 7**, in the cafeteria at Vineland Elementary School, 467 Boundary Blvd. in Rotonda West. This is a free event for girls in kindergarten through high school and their families to learn about Girl Scout activities and receive information on how to join. Adult volunteers are needed to help form new troops. No Girl Scout experience is required;

training is provided. Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida is committed to ensuring that every girl has the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouting; financial assistance is available for annual membership and uniform essentials to those who qualify. Fees may be charged for troop dues and some program activities. For more information, contact Connie Martin at 239•776•0751 or conniem@gsgcf.org.

Imagination Library Grants
 Charlotte County Imagination Library, an affiliate of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and a program of Gilstad Literacy



Selected for the October Sportsmanship Award is Carson Moore, senior. A dedicated member of the Manta football team, Carson Moore is a great example of a Lemon Bay Athlete. Week in and week out, he works very hard, with no complaints, and is constantly helping opposing teammates off the ground after putting them there. Carson will do whatever needs to be done to help his team. Receiving honorable mention for October Sportsmanship are Girls Golf: Madison Hanson (Sr); Volleyball: Mackenzie Long (Soph); and Girls Cross Country: Madeline Dufur (Jr). Photo by Tim Kern.

LBHS Athletes of the Month

On behalf of the Lemon Bay High School Athletic Department, congratulations to the October 2022 LBHS Athletes of the Month, Presley Engelauf and Sean Perry.



PRESLEY ENGELAUF



SEAN PERRY

Involved in Girls Volleyball, Swimming, and Weightlifting, senior Presley Engelauf ended October by hitting a 290-pound combined lift at the Venice meet as the Mantas defeated Venice 50-32. In addition to starting her weightlifting season, she won the district championship with the volleyball team and played through to the regional final. She was a 4-year varsity starter for the volleyball team and ended her senior season first in kills and second in aces and blocks. Presley competed in swimming districts, qualifying for the regional meet. Competing in three varsity sports successfully in one month is a rare accomplishment. Presley also excels in the classroom..

Competing in Boys Cross Country, Sean Perry, senior, won the North Port Invitational and the Mariner Invitational meet. He won the County Championship and was second in the Tri-County Championship meet. Sean was the Individual District Champion and led the boys team to their 4th straight trip to the state championship meet. He was named HT Preps athlete of the week and has a season best time of 16:23 for a 5k. If it was not for lost time from Hurricane Ian, he would have likely run sub 16:00, which is his goal at the state meet. Sean is an excellent student, very hard worker, and shows great leadership.

Earning Honorable Mention for the October Athlete of the Month are Volleyball: Riley Thibideau (Sr) and Lillian Abbott (Jr); Girls Golf: Sophia Stiwich (Fr) and Rachel Gillis (Fr); Girls Cross Country: Kenzie Martin (Fr); Football: Gabe Dickerson (Sr), Carson Moore (Sr), Peyton Mason (Jr), Ethan Grossenbacher (Jr), and Lorenzo Mauceri (Jr); Boys Swimming: Becket Koss (Sr). Photos by Tim Kern.



The Venice Area Pregnancy Care Center will be holding their annual Christmas Cottage Monday, November 28 through Friday, December 23. In addition to the regular items available, clients of the Center will be able to choose a new or gently used toy for each of their registered children. There will also be limited availability of holiday themed clothing and items for parents to choose from. The Center is located at 301 Bayshore Drive in downtown Venice and is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9am - 1pm. The Venice Area Pregnancy Care Center is a non-profit that assists families with young children who need items such as car seats, diapers, cribs, clothing and more. If you would like more information, please contact the center at 941-485-1776, visit their website at www.vapcc.org, or visit their Facebook page at [facebook.com/veniceareapregnancycarecenter](https://www.facebook.com/veniceareapregnancycarecenter).

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Foundation, Inc., has received multiple grants and donations to support the program which mails a free book to enrolled children every month from birth until age 5. All children in this age range living in Charlotte County are eligible and can be enrolled at www.charlottecountyimaginationlibrary.org or www.imaginationlibrary.com. The donations were made by Bruce Laishley (\$5,000), Gulf Coast Community Foundation (\$3,094), Rotary Club of Charlotte Harbor-Sunset (\$250), Board of Charlotte County Commissioners (\$17,100) and City of Punta Gorda (\$3,167). This generosity will provide 1,145 children with 13,740 free books over the next year.

Don't miss a thought-provoking drama when Lemon Bay High School Theatre presents a public preview of "Dark Road" on Tuesday, November 29 at 7pm. This production will be taken to competition at USF on December 1st. When Greta, a young girl living in Nazi Germany, reads that the nearby women's concentration camp is hiring guards, she sees it as a chance to find her place in the world and provide for her sister Lise. But soon she learns the reality of her duties, and so too does she learn how to justify her crimes, heading further and further down the dark road laid by the Third Reich. Kind-hearted Lise is shocked at what her sister becomes, and though the two drift apart, their fates remain inextricably and dangerously linked. A powerful drama about the choices that allow evil to become ordinary. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at www.lbhstheatre.net.



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Record Year for Manasota Key Sea Turtle Nests

Submitted by the Coastal Wildlife Club

October 31st marked the “official” end of the sea turtle nesting/hatching season in Florida, but ... we’re not done yet! A few nests remain on the beaches of Manasota Key even now in early November. Coastal Wildlife Club (CWC) volunteers will continue to monitor those nests until the very last one has been inventoried. “It’s possible that some of us might be patrolling into December!” said

Carol McCoy speaking for the group.

CWC volunteers are responsible for daily monitoring of about 14 miles of beach in Charlotte and Sarasota counties. In 2022 we documented a total of 5,509 nests! Of those nests, 5,155 nests were Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), 353 Green (*Chelonia mydas*), and one Kemp’s ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*). For loggerhead and green sea turtle nests on Manasota Key, these are record numbers! While

these record nest numbers are certainly encouraging when considering the total population, it is important to note that each mother turtle lays several nests during the season and the number of turtles out there is less than the number of nests counted. Each turtle species still warrants protection.

Many people have inquired about Hurricane Ian’s impact on sea turtle nests here. While our community unfortunately suffered major destruction, most local beaches were not severely eroded, and most sea turtle nests had hatched prior to the storm.

The Coastal Wildlife Club thanks the public for their ongoing support and concern for the sea turtles that use our beaches for nesting habitat. You can continue helping turtles by reporting any struggling or dead sea turtles you encounter. Please report them to FWC Wildlife Alert 888•404•3922.

Every day during the six-month turtle season, Coastal Wildlife Club volunteers monitor

the beaches on Manasota Key and part of Knight Island (about 14 miles). Learn more about

the Coastal Wildlife Club at www.coastalwildlifeclub.org or Facebook: /CoastalWildlifeClub.



A nesting loggerhead turtle. Photo by Dana Power.



A pair of turtle patrollers are conducting a nest evaluation (aka inventory). This evaluation is a FWC permitted activity under permits MTP-085 and MTP-184. The patrollers are Pauline Logsdon (left) and Sue Prisco (right). Photo by Wilma Katz.

Live like a Local

Charlotte County Community Services invites you to check out what *Libraries & History* has to offer, enjoy our many *Natural Resources*, and spend the day in our beautiful *Parks!*

Some County parks have reopened after Hurricane Ian. For a full list, please visit CharlotteCountyFL.gov/Ian

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Nature Calls



Landscape Grants Available
 Due to plant loss from Hurricane Ian, the Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society is expanding its Landscape Grants to include private homeowners as well as public clubhouses, businesses, and non-profit entryways. These grants are meant to enhance or replace gardens with Florida native plants within the Chapter boundaries (Englewood, Venice, North Port, and Port Charlotte). Grants are limited up to \$100 for private homes and up to \$500 for public groups, per grant request. The private grant is available for this grant cycle only. For further information or to apply for a grant, download the grant application from <http://mangrove.fnpschapters.org/outreach/grants>. Complete the application and either attach to an email to mangrovechapter@FNPS.org, OR mail the printed form to: MCFNPS Grant Committee, PO Box 1153,

Englewood, FL 34295-1153.

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@checflorida.org. Go to www.CHECflorida.org for a complete program calendar.

Oyster Creek Env. Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine flatwoods, scrub habitat, and mangrove fringe of Oyster Creek Environmental Park

on **Saturday, December 3, 9am**. Meet in the parking lot near Lemon Bay High School on Placida Road. Please call **941-475-0769** to register or for more information.

Amberjack Environmental Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre Amberjack Environmental Park on **Monday, December 5 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 on **Wednesday, December 14** and **Wednesday, December 21 at 9am**.

Bayshore Live Oak Park

Join CHEC on a walk, **Wednesday, December 7, at 9am**, at Bayshore Live Oak Park, 23157 Bayshore Road, Pt. Charlotte, along the shoreline of

Continued on page 26

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Continued from page 25

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 walk in Cedar Point Environmental Park, 2300 Placida Road, on **Monday, December 9 at 9am**. Please call **941•475•0769** to register or for information.

Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve

Join CHEC on a guided walk at **9am**, on **Saturday, December 10**, 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.

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. 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.

Post-Hurricane Nature Walk

Join Tonya and Steve Bramlage on **Saturday, November 26, at 9am** as they lead a walk focused on the extraordinary resilience and revitalization of native vs. non-native plants, bird population, and other unique adaptations of post hurricane survival. This is an unprecedented opportunity to come explore Lemon Bay Conservancy’s Wildflower Preserve and witness the ecological effect of a category 4 hurricane on the subtropical environment. Hurricane winds

Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast recently honored their 2022 Conservation Partner of the Year and Volunteer of the Year. Nancy Milholland and the group Conserve Bobby Jones Now received the Conservation Partner of the Year award for their integral role in the conservation of the nearly 300-acre Bobby Jones Golf Club. Mary Lundeberg received the Volunteer of the Year award for her ongoing photographic contributions helping to tell the story of the land Conservation Foundation saves. “We consider ourselves very fortunate to have the supportive and passionate conservation community that we do,” notes Christine Johnson, president of Conservation Foundation. “It is because of people like Mary Lundeberg, Nancy Milholland, and the group Conserve Bobby Jones Now, that we are able to have such a significant impact on this region”. The Annual Conservation Reception was held at Conservation Foundation’s Bay Preserve headquarters in Osprey. Pictured here (l to r:) Christine Johnson, Conservation Foundation president; Mary Lundeberg, Volunteer of the Year; and Rhonda Deems, Conservation Foundation board chair.



and waves move sediment from bays into marsh areas, revitalizing nutrient supplies to the wetlands, uplands, and ponds. Be sure to bring along your camera to capture a shot of what

is believed to be the largest tree root ball in Charlotte County. Trail conditions are rough. Long pants and closed-toe shoes are required. Liability release forms are required. The walk will begin

at the preserve parking lot at 3120 Gasparilla Pines Boulevard.

The items appearing in this column are as accurate as possible. Please call the listed numbers for confirmation.

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Nola's Notes



DOGS at WORK

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Pedigree & Age: Roadie is a 12-year-old Mookie (Maltese & Yorkie).

Likes: Chicken and cheese.

Dislikes: Men wearing big boots or if they just have big feet.

Pet Peeves: Not really, unless you count men with big feet!

Office Jobs: Roadie sleeps in his bed behind Mom, Joanne, at Taz Flooring & Design. If you are a man, watch out as he bites ankles!

How Did You Acquire Your Human? My owner's youngest daughter was starting her senior year at Lemon Bay High School and talked her dad into getting a puppy. She told her father that she wouldn't get a boyfriend if she had me. Well, senior year was way too busy for taking care of a 21-pound baby, so I started



going everywhere with my new mother Joanne or O'Ma as she is known to her 16 grandbabies.

Owner's Remarks: Roadie has brought such joy into my life. As much as he needs me, I love and need him. Roadie's my traveling buddy and is so small that he fits in my purse and most people don't even know he's there!

Pop-Up Adoption Event Suncoast Humane Society is holding a Pop-Up Adoption Event on **Saturday, November 19** from **10am to 2pm**. Stop by for pumpkin kisses and paw print wishes. You just might meet the new furry love of your life at

the event. The open house also features staff illustrating how to set your pup up for success. Examples include harness wearing, crates, food, treats & Bones, toys, & enrichment ideas. Website: www.humane.org.

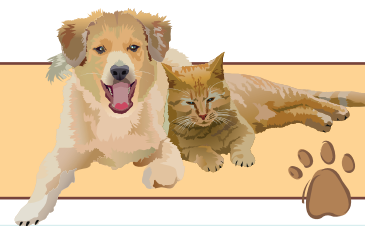
EARS Thrift Shop is holding a grand re-opening sale on **Saturday, December 3** from **10am to noon**. Stop by and see what bargains you walk away with and know that your purchases help the animals in the care of EARS as they await their new forever home. As part of this event, they are raffling off a Low Country Gourmet Basket! The sweetgrass basket is accompanied by a Black & Decker rice cooker and an assortment of southern gourmet sauces and mixes. All proceeds go to the furry friends at EARS animal shelter. This particular basket retails for \$300 at the "Sweetgrass Cultural Arts Festival". Tickets may be purchased at the EARS Thrift Shop, 280 S. McCall



Road or at EARS shelter at 500 N. Indiana Avenue. Learn more about EARS at www.earsanimalrescue.com or on Facebook.



Pets



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
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Max is a super sweet boy that loves to play! I am looking for a home that is active and I love adventures during the day, but at night let's relax on the couch together.



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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

Baby Girl is a spayed female Chihuahua Mix. She is 4 yrs. old and weighs 20 pounds. She is housebroken and likes other dogs and cats. She is a little shy at first until she gets to know you but will sit for treats. Baby Girl was surrendered when her folks moved to a no pets living arrangement.



My name is **Boots**. All four of my paws are white. My house was lost in a hurricane. But I am here at EARS with a good roof over my head, lots of food and water, my litter box, and many new human friends. I am very grateful, but I would really like my own home again. I am 10 years old and like quiet conversation and petting.

EARS Animal Rescue's Thrift Store Has Moved!

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

Calendar *at a Glance*

These are the shortened calendar events that were added to our website www.EnglewoodReview.com as of Friday, November 11. They represent events from November 18 - December 9. For the most up-to-date listings and to read about these events in full detail, visit our online calendar. All listings in our "Calendar At A Glance" must be entered on our website. Click on Calendar and fill out Event Submission Form.

PLEASE NOTE: POSTED EVENTS MUST BE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.
SOME CLASSES MAY REQUIRE MASKS. PLEASE CALL BEFORE ATTENDING.

SAT NOVEMBER 19

Christmas Bazaar Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St. 8AM-1PM 941-474-5588

Handfuls of Purpose Food Pantry Englewood Christian Church, 6900 Gulfstream Blvd 10-11AM 941-475-4973

THURS NOVEMBER 24

Free Thanksgiving Dinner at GCUMC 1100 McCall Rd. 12-3PM 941-697-1747

TUES NOVEMBER 29

A Chanticleer Christmas Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Ave. 7:30PM. 941-966-6161

FRI DECEMBER 2

Multihyphenate Multimedia: Music, Visual Art, and Theater Hermitage Artist Retreat 6660 Manasota Key Rd. 5-6PM HermitageArtistRetreat.org

SAT DECEMBER 3

Fellowship Church Men's Prayer Breakfast, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 8-9PM 941-475-7447

SUN DECEMBER 4

Fellowship Church Communion Service 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 8:30AM-12:00PM 941-475-7447

WEDS DECEMBER 7

St. Francis Parish Card Party 5265 Placida Rd., 11AM-2:30PM 941-697-4899

ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY DAY

Englewood Beach Yoga 2100 N. Beach Rd. 8:30-9:30AM 941-473-0135

MON, TUES, WED

Jubilee Center Food Pantry Jubilee Center at St. David's, 410 S. Broadway, 10AM-12PM. Clothes Closet Tuesday only. 941-681-3550

MON & THURS

Englewood Community Care Clinic Mac Horton West County Annex, 6868 San Casa Dr. 5-8PM 941-681-2081

MON & WED

Zumba Fitness with Denise Rotonda Elks, 303 Rotonda Blvd. E. 9:30 - 10:30 AM. \$7 a class. Bring water. 941-268-8086

MON, WED & FRI

St. Francis Food Pantry St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 5265 Placida Rd. 9:15-11:15AM 941-697-4899

MON - FRI

Men's Senior Softball (60+) Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 S. River Rd. 8-11AM 717-982-8456

MON - SAT

Manasota Beach Yoga 8570 Manasota Key Rd. 8:30AM 941-313-0358

WED & THURS

Englewood Helping Hand Food Pantry Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St. 8AM-1PM 941-474-5864

WED & FRI

Line Dancing with Eve American Legion Post 113, 3436 Indiana Rd., Rotonda 9:30-11:30AM. Learn to line dance! 941-697-8733 moraghan@comcast.net

MONDAYS

Zumba with Laurentz Elks Lodge, 401 N. Indiana Ave. 9-10AM 941-237-8983

Spaghetti Dinner

American Legion Post 113, 3436 Indiana Rd., Rotonda W. 5-7PM 941-697-3616

Music Jam Session Indian Mound Park, 210 Winson Ave. 5-8PM

Venetian Harmony Chorus

Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave. 6:30PM. A women's a cappella chorus meets weekly. Visitors welcome. 941-525-2376 venetianharmony@yahoo.com

Zumba with Laurentz

Elks Lodge, 401 N. Indiana Ave. 10:15-10:45AM 941-237-8983

TUESDAYS

Jubilee Center, St. David's Clothes Closet 401 S. Broadway 10AM-12PM 941-681-3550

Line Dancing with Eve Rotonda Elks, 303 Rotonda Blvd E, 10AM-12PM 941-697-8733 moraghan@comcast.net

Beginner Tai Chi Venice Community Center, 326 Nokomis Ave., Venice. 10:30-11:30AM 941-492-2167

Zumba with Laurentz Centennial Park, 1120 O'Donnell Blvd., 11AM-12PM 941-237-8983

Fellowship Church Friend-to-Friend Fellowship Worship Center 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 1-3PM 941-475-7447

Bar Poker at Post 113 American Legion Post 113, 3436 Indiana Rd., 4-6PM 941-697-3616

Open Mic Garden Party The Open Studio, 380 Old Englewood Rd. 5-8PM 941-473-8977

Writers on the Air 12735 US 41, North Port 5:30 - 6:30 PM FREE OPEN MIC for writers, poets, comedians. Sign up 5:30pm. Airs on 97.5 FM 501C-3, Sundays at 3:04pm. Lschell2@verizon.net, 941-223-1262

WEDNESDAYS

Englewood Car Crazy Englewood Square Shopping Center, 445 S. Indiana Ave. 8-10AM

TOPS Meeting EUMC

700 E. Dearborn St. 8:30-9:30AM 941-662-8079 overbyathome@gmail.com

Boogie Chair By Laurentz Elks Lodge, 401 N. Indiana Rd. (SR 776) 9-10AM 941-237-8983

Zumba with Laurentz Elks Lodge, 401 N. Indiana Ave. 10:15-10:45AM 941-237-8983

Show Me The Money-Post 113

American Legion Post 113, 3436 Indiana Rd. 2-4PM 941-697-3616

Grief Share Support Group

Fellowship Church, Worship Center 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 4:30-6PM 941-475-7447

Celebrate Recovery

Fellowship Church of Englewood, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 6-8PM 941-475-7447

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Englewood Christian Church, 9600 Gulfstream Blvd. 6-7M 941-475-4973

THURSDAYS

Farmers Markets W. Dearborn St. Area, 300 to 500 block of W. Dearborn St. 9AM-1:00 PM

Zumba Toning with Denise

303 Rotonda Blvd. E. 9:30-10:30AM \$7 a class. Bring 2 light hand-weights and water. 941-268-8086

Line Dance Club Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave. 9:30-11:30AM 941-474-6027

Line Dancing with Eve Rotonda West American Legion Post #113, 3436 Indiana Rd. 9:30-11:30AM 941-697-8733 moraghan@comcast.net

Boogie Chair by Laurentz

Centennial Park, 1120 O'Donnell Blvd. 11AM-12PM 941-237-8983

FRIDAYS

Boogie Chair By Laurentz Rotonda Elks, 303 Rotonda Blvd E. 9-10AM 941-237-8983

Beginner Tai Chi Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave. 10-11AM 941-492-2167

Lemon Bay Woodcarvers

Community Presbyterian Church Kastner Hall, 405 S. McCall Rd. 12-2:30PM 941-473-0626

Dinner/Music - American Legion Post 113

3436 Indiana Rd. 5-9:30PM 941-697-3616

SATURDAYS

Zumba Fitness with Denise Lemon Bay Woman's Club, 51 North Maple St. \$7 a class. Bring water and a smile. 9-10AM 941-268-8086

Closet of Hope Gulf Cove United Methodist Church, 1100 McCall Rd. 9:30AM-12PM 1st and 3rd Saturdays. 941-697-1747

Cornhole - Amer. Legion Post 113

3436 Indiana Rd. 12:30PM-3PM 941-697-3616

SUNDAYS

Christ Lutheran Church 701 N. Indiana Ave. 9:30AM 941-474-1989

Englewood Christian Church, 9600 Gulfstream Blvd. Bible Study, 9:15AM; Service, 10:30AM 941-475-4973

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Englewood Christian Church 9600 Gulfstream Blvd. 9:15-10:15AM 941-475-4973

Englewood United Methodist Church

700 E. Dearborn St. 8AM, 9:30AM, 11AM. Also available online at www.Englewoodumc.net 941-474-5588

Faith Lutheran Church Worship 551 Rotonda Blvd. West 9:30AM. 941-697-3313

Fellowship Church Worship Center, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 8:30AM and 10:30AM 941-475-7447

Gulf Cove United Methodist Church

1100 S. McCall Rd. 10AM until after Thanksgiving. Online at www.GulfCoveChurch.com 941-697-1747

Living Hope Church

881 South River Rd. 10AM 941-460-8506

New Vision Church

6401 Sunnybrook Blvd. 9AM, 11AM 941-475-2906

St. David's Episcopal Church,

401 S. Broadway, 9AM 941-474-3140

NFL Sunday's Games American Legion Post 113, 3436 Indiana Rd. Kitchen Specials. Open to public 12:30-5PM. 941-697-3616

Gospel Singing Indian Mound Park, 210 Winson Ave. 3-5PM 941-889-8899

Drum Circle

1/2 hour before sunset, Englewood Beach North End

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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 Mistakes Thursday, Dec. 1

This seminar will discuss the basics of estate planning and offer examples of real-life mistakes we can learn from and apply to our personal plans. Presented with Leslie Lohn of the Law Office of Leslie Lohn, LLC. **Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 South Indiana Ave., Englewood**

Estate Planning Basics Thursday, Dec. 8

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**

Estate Planning 101 Tuesday, Dec. 13

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**

Stocks, Bonds, and ETFs Wednesday, Dec. 14

Review low-cost ways to build an efficient portfolio or to grow wealth with market-like returns. Presented with Portfolio Manager Chris Eckstrom, MBA. **Venice Area Beautification, Inc., 257 North Tamiami Trail, Venice**

Becoming a Floridian Thursday, Dec. 15

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**

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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Amanda's PICKS

by Amanda Glam

As I write this, take a guess at how many daily showings there are of the *Black Panther* sequel *Wakanda Forever* at my local cinema. Go on, guess. 19! That means if you arrived late for your desired showing you would only have to wait approximately 11 minutes for the next showing.

It also means the movie I saw there the previous weekend, *Armageddon Time*, is gone, as is the movie I wanted to see this weekend, *Tar*, starring Cate Blanchett.

The good news is *Armageddon Time* (R) is not a must-see on the big screen. It's a small film about a Jewish family in New York City in 1980, based on the life of its writer/director James Gray. If it is true to life, that means Gray was a very annoying 12-year-old.

Paul Graff (Banks Repeta) is a sixth-grade troublemaker. He acts out in school and gets in trouble. He ruins family dinners for no reason. He is defiant, angry and hates his life so much he wants to run away. The problem is he's such a brat that when things don't go his way and when he gets in serious trouble, you don't really care. I only felt badly for his parents. I wanted to yell, "Be nicer to your mom. She's trying her best and she cuts you way too much slack."

Paul's mom Esther is played by Anne Hathaway who does a lot with an underdeveloped role. Paul's dad Irving (Jeremy Strong) is less sympathetic since he feels the belt is the answer for Paul's bad behavior. But this kid is exasperating.

Paul finds a fellow troublemaker in Johnny (Jaylin Webb) a Black classmate who is repeating sixth grade. Johnny isn't doing well in school, has a troubled home life and is a victim of "the system". When Paul's parents move him to a private school he's picked on for being Jewish by his entitled classmates who include members of the Trump family. Jessica Chastain has a quick turn



as Mary Trump who delivers a pep talk to the students. It's all a bit odd and doesn't really go anywhere.

I enjoyed *Armageddon Time* most when Sir Anthony Hopkins appeared as Paul's grandfather. This relationship brings out the best in Paul and we see that he has the potential to be a decent kid. It reminded me of a much better movie, 2021's *Belfast*. Hopkins elevates every scene he



is in, as does Tovah Feldshuh as his wife and Paul's grandmother.

Gray does a very good job of conveying the time so you always feel like it's 1980. It would have been nice to hear more period music. The dinner table scenes also feel authentic as the best intentions of sharing

a meal with family disintegrate into yelling and bad feelings. Ultimately though *Armageddon* is a bit heavy-handed with its storytelling and worse, gives us a protagonist we just can't root for.

Armageddon Time
★★★★☆

If you enjoyed *Knives Out* (and who didn't) you should have fun watching the whodunit *See How They Run* (PG-13) now on HBO.

It's 1953 and there's been a murder at the theater where Agatha Christie's *Mousetrap* is enjoying a successful run. The victim is an unlikeable American film director (Adrien Brody) with, spoiler alert, a lot of enemies. Enter Inspector Stoppard (Sam Rockwell) and Constable Stalker (Saoirse Ronan), assigned to solve the murder.

Of course, there are plenty of suspects, but none are as interesting as Stoppard and Stalker. Rockwell is terrific as always, but Ronan, who is better known for her dramatic roles, is an absolute delight as the extremely dedicated and determined Stalker, who takes notes constantly and really enjoys arresting people. The two are gold together.

There's another murder (there always is), and eventually the detectives and all the suspects (including an actor playing the actor Richard Attenborough) end up at Agatha Christie's house. Like *Knives Out* and the works of Christie, *See How They Run* keeps you guessing. First-time director Tom George infuses the movie with upbeat energy and you can see a bit of director Wes Anderson in his style. It's all good fun and I would not complain if like *Knives Out*, *See How They Run* got a sequel, just to see Rockwell and Ronan spar on screen again.

See How They Run
★★★★☆

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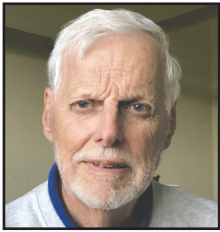
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By Dean M. Laux

Notable NEIGHBORS

Portrait Of An Artist As A Young Man

Bill Farnsworth has to be one of the most visibly notable persons in our neighborhood. Look no further than the Hughes Gallery in Boca Grande or the Dabbert Gallery in Sarasota—or in some of the finest art galleries in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, North and South Carolina, Texas and Colorado—for evidence. Heck, you can just google his website on the internet and judge for yourself.

For the record, others have judged him highly. He has won the Dickinson Signature Member Award at the national show of The American Society of Impressionists in each of the last two years, and he has been given awards of excellence at the national and regional shows of the Oil Painters of America. In recognition of his many stunning coastal landscapes, he was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Marine Artists.

So how did all of this come about? In this age of digital photography, how does one become a modern-day Monet or Cassat, competing with brush and eye against the high technology of the computer world?

For Bill Farnsworth, it seems like it just came naturally. “I remember drawing on the walls of my bedroom with a crayon when I was still in a crib,” he says. At age 4 or 5, he would lie on the living room floor, drawing pictures of birds on the graph paper his grandfather gave him. He remembers that by the time he was in third grade, he could draw Donald Duck very well. “I was a bit of a class clown, so they separated me from the rest of the class. I’d be in the back of the room, and I’d draw pictures, which my classmates would buy

for a nickel apiece.” Okay, he had to give it back, but it seems he already had the business acumen of a freelance artist.

“Disney was a big deal back then, and that was my big inspiration,” Bill recalls. “We’d see all the cartoons on a color TV my friend’s family had: Mickey Mouse, the Road Runner, Bugs Bunny, and it was so good I could almost smell and taste the color. That was what got me going.”

His first notoriety came at age 10. He was in the hospital to have his appendix out, and in the children’s ward he drew pictures of Charlie Brown and Snoopy on the glass walls for the entertainment of the other kids there. A local newspaper found out and did an article on him. As he grew older, he would do line drawings of cartoon characters for fun and use oil paint to fill them in, thereby developing some experience with oils while also enhancing his skills as an illustrator.

“I didn’t have any formal training in art until I went to art school,” Bill says. “I first heard about being an illustrator when I was 14. There were several high-profile illustrators living in our town in Connecticut, and I thought that might be a neat thing to do.” Bill graduated from New Milford High School in 1977 with every intention of becoming an illustrator.

He came down to Southwest Florida at age 18 to study at what was then known as the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota. “I liked the area, and that’s how I eventually ended up here,” he says. At Ringling he took the usual courses in drawing, graphic arts, illustration and painting. “They offered fine arts in my final



Artist Bill Farnsworth

year, but the course didn’t seem to do anything for me, because I wanted to be an illustrator. I learned a lot on my own after I graduated.” His classwork did involve painting with oils. “I remember doing a sports car calendar and a poster for the circus. That was a lot of fun. And in our final year we were putting together portfolios of our work to show when we applied for jobs.”

After graduating in 1980, Bill turned down an opportunity to work for American Greeting Cards in Cleveland and decided to go to New York City, the mecca, to find freelance work on his own. “That was tough, and I had bills to pay,” he says, so he went back home to work for his dad in land surveying for the next eight or ten years. In 1984 he married his wife Debbie, and he spent full time on the surveying work five or six days a week, while going into the City for freelance assignments in his spare time.

One of his first freelance jobs was for *Golf Digest*. “My studio for freelance work was at one point in the cellar of our rented cottage, at another time in my mother-in-law’s knitting room, and at still another time in what had been the embalming room of a funeral home. A lot of people got the heeby-jeebies when they came into that studio,” he jokes. “I didn’t care if it was creepy, because I wasn’t outside in the freezing cold, and I wasn’t surveying—I was painting!” He also took on a teaching job at an art school in Greenwich to help make ends meet.

Finally he started getting freelance assignments with publishers—Harcourt Brace,

Simon & Schuster, Houghton Mifflin, Random House, Holiday House, Cobblestone Books, as well as a children’s Bible publisher. “My specialty was children’s books,” he says, and he was at it full-time. “I did about 60 children’s books, and my specialty was historical subjects. They were mostly picture books.” The picture books were generally 32 pages in length, and Bill’s illustrations might include the cover, the book jacket if there was one, and as many as 28 pictures for the interior pages. Each book was almost a portfolio of his work in itself. And for many of these books, Bill did oil paintings as part of the process. “I’d also go out and do oil paintings for fun,” he says, “not as a means to an end.”

One of his big projects was for the American Girl series. “That was a two-year project,” he recalls. “I went out to Idaho and Oregon and took lots of photos and had them pinned all over my boards.” Typically, Bill would take the photos and use them as models for his painted illustrations. At about that time, in the 1990s, digital photography was coming into vogue. Illustrators were finding it easier to use digital photos rather than oils. In Bill’s words, “illustrating was heading south, and I didn’t want to trade my paintbrush for a pixel.” He was ready to move into plein air painting full time.

“Plein air painting started in the 1500s in Italy, where artists wanted to portray life where it was,” Bill says. “It is part of a process of collecting information from life, painting small field studies. I use the studies to do larger works, because they offer accurate color and values that a camera can’t.”

“Plein air is the most difficult form of painting,” he notes. “You can’t work from photographs. You have to work outside (hence the name), and you can’t control the lighting. Conditions change—time of day, rain, wind can all wreck your project, and you have to get your work done quickly.” When he got into plein air artistry, he entered regional and national competitions. The events typically

have 25 to 50 artists from all parts of the world for a week to 10 days. When the competition is over, the plein air works are sold, and if one is lucky, there is also award money to be won.

There was plenty of action. “In any given month, there could be as many as 15 events going on,” he recalls. “As the years went by, my work became known, and I would get invited to several competitions in the course of a year.” He also taught at workshops and showed his artwork at sponsored events. He placed paintings with fine arts galleries on consignment. “I’d set the price, and if they sold a piece they’d keep 50 percent,” he says.

Bill reckons that he’s done over 1,000 book illustrations and more than 1,400 paintings in his 40-year career. That is prolific. And he can’t claim to have ever been a starving artist. “My profession allowed me to do what I wanted to do and to live a comfortable life,” he says. That life includes Debbie, their two daughters, Allison and Caitlin, and their four grandkids.

“Yes, like everyone else I was painting to make money,” he admits. “But for me, painting is a way to document your life. As a painter, you go outside, find a place, and sit down for a couple of hours. Pretty soon things begin to happen. You establish understanding and empathy for what you see. You try to put that into your painting, so that others may see what you have seen.”

It’s fortunate for us that through his numerous landscapes, seascapes and touching portraits, Bill Farnsworth has given us thousands of chances to see and feel what he has seen.

Editor’s Note: This article originally published in the July 17, 2020 issue of the Englewood Review.

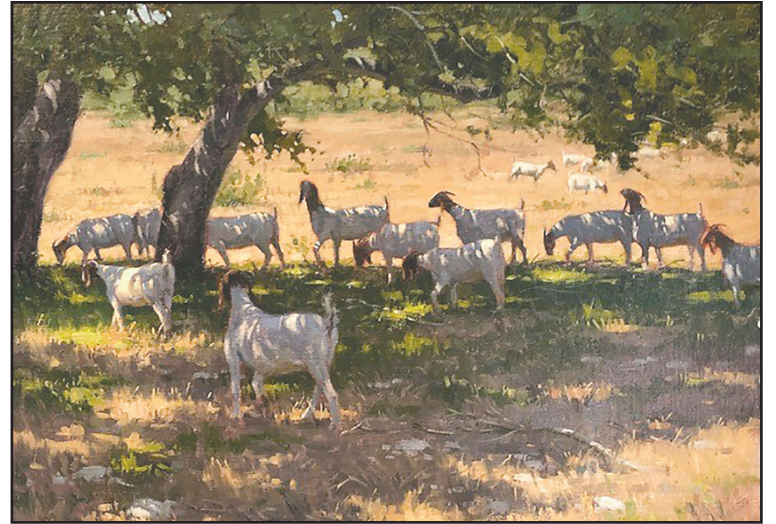
Dean Laux is exploring interesting folks living in our community. If you know of anyone with an interesting background please send an email to: tomnewton@englewoodreview.com. Include the person’s name, contact info and give a brief description of the person’s background.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS from page 34

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



Bill with one of his paintings at the Hughes Gallery.



"Oasis"



"Colors of Collioure"

Englewood/Cape Haze/Rotonda/Gulf Cove FLORIDA

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Manasota Beach Club's Sunday Brunch Buffet

is open to the community for the
months of December & January!

11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$50 (plus 7% tax and 20% gratuity)
By Reservation Only

Manasota Beach Club

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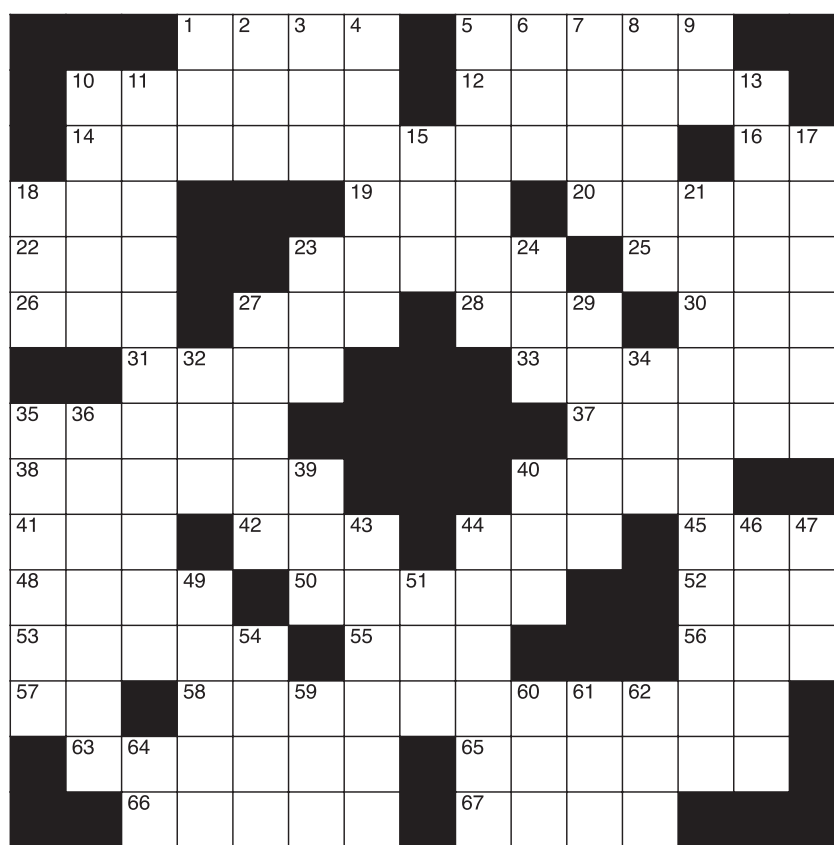
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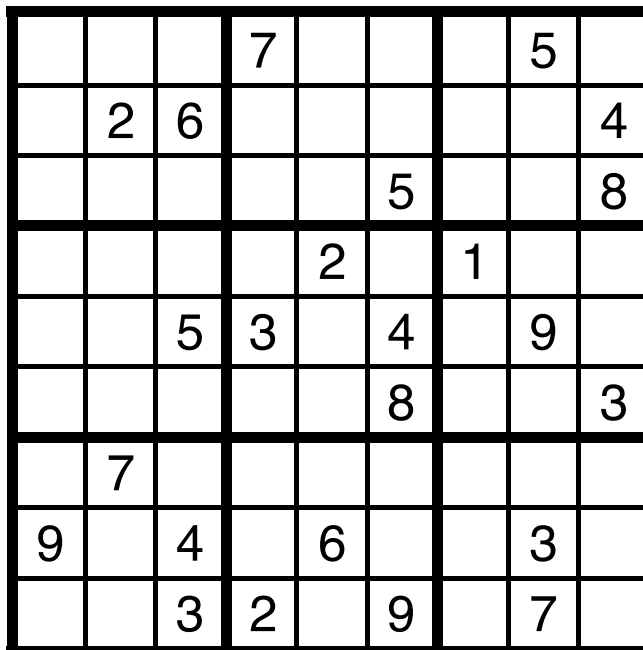
Crossword Puzzle

- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Crops sown in winter in India
 5. Nursemaids in East Asia
 10. Investigates
 12. Treated like a child
 14. About religious belief
 16. Widely used exclamation
 18. Car mechanics group
 19. Not good
 20. Indigenous people of Alberta
 22. Everyone has one
 23. Fencing sword
 25. Soaks
 26. The human foot
 27. Of she
 28. Erythrocyte (abbr.)
 30. Soldiers
 31. Energy, style and enthusiasm
 33. Playwright O'Neill
 35. Stone parsley
 37. Small stones
 38. Gas descriptor
 40. Monetary unit of Samoa
 41. Jeans manufacturer
 42. NHL great Bobby
 44. Cool!
 45. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
 48. Winged
 50. Partner to "oohed"
 52. Defensive nuclear weapon
 53. Coated
 55. Furry household friend
 56. Chinese principle underlying the universe
 57. Prefix meaning "within"
 58. Makes easier
 63. Transferred property
 65. Branched
 66. Hillsides
 67. Abba __, Israeli



- diplomat
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Eggs in a female fish
 2. Military mailbox
 3. Unit to compare power levels
 4. Line on a map connecting similar points
 5. One who accepts
 6. Partner to cheese
 7. Ancient Greek sophist
 8. About hilus
 9. Southeast
 10. Where actors ply their trade
 11. Beloved Philly sandwich
 13. Intend
 15. Talk excessively
 17. Bronx cheers
 18. Drain
 21. Renews
 23. Monetary unit in Asia
 24. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
 27. Carthaginian statesman
 29. Aged
 32. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
 34. Firearm
 35. Consolation
 36. An island in the north Atlantic
 39. Pitching statistic
 40. Disconsolate
 43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
 44. Call it a career
 46. Behave in a way that degrades someone
 47. Health insurance
 49. Recommend
 51. Baltic peninsula
 54. Father
 59. After B
 60. Bar bill
 61. Doctors' group
 62. 2,000 lbs.
 64. Equal to one quintillion bytes

Sudoku



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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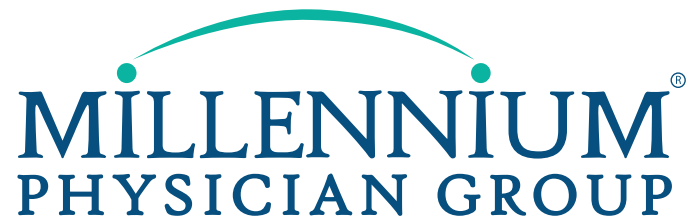
*To our Dear Englewood Community,
 We want to express our most heartfelt sympathy during these trying times as we navigate through the aftermath of Hurricane Ian. We pray for a stronger more beautiful community and that all of our recoveries are speedy. Although we sustained damage to our showroom, we 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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