

The

December 16, 2022

# ENGLEWOOD REVIEW

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Members of Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary Club, including Maurice Price (L) and Chris Atamanchuk, participated in the Club's "Make A Difference Day" clean up of Lemon Bay Cemetery, in preparation for Wreaths Across America. Read more on page 28. Photo by Eric Fogo

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# Live for Today. Plan for Tomorrow.



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.**

## **Bond Risk and How to Avoid It** **Tuesday, Jan. 10**

Learn how portfolio managers analyze and screen fixed income assets. Presented by Christopher Eckstrom, MBA, Portfolio Manager. **Englewood Bank & Trust Gulf Cove branch, 12651 S. McCall Rd. (near Home Depot)**

## **Estate Planning Basics** **Thursday, Jan. 12**

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**

## **Becoming a Floridian** **Thursday, Jan. 19**

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

## **Estate Planning 101** **Tuesday, Jan. 24**

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**

## **Mutual Funds vs. ETFs** **Wednesday, Jan. 25**

Explore the details of how each investment tool works, its costs, and performance measurements. Presented by Christopher Eckstrom, MBA, Portfolio Manager. **Englewood Bank & Trust Venice Conference Room, 207 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice**

## **Estate Planning Mistakes** **Thursday, Jan. 26**

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**

**While the seminars are free, reservations are required. Please register with any teller or personal banker, online at [www.engagewoodbank.com](http://www.engagewoodbank.com) or contact Kerry Hunter at 941-473-3629.**



Investments are not a deposit or other obligation of, or guaranteed by, the bank, are not FDIC insured, not insured by any federal government agency, and are subject to investment risks, including possible loss of principal.

# Around the Town



The Stillwater Ladies Group celebrated at Farlow's on the Water after holding their successful annual toy drive for the Boys & Girls Club. The toys in this picture are just a sample of the total toys collected. Kudos Stillwater Ladies!

**Community Crafting Event**  
Come out to Feodor's Plaza for a fun time on **Saturday, December 17**, during Barberstry's and Made in the Shade Ice Cream's Community

Crafting Event. For \$3, make kids crafts, enjoy snow cones, ice cream by Made in the Shade Ice Cream, and all sorts of treats. Mingle with the Englewood Fire Department and local sheriff's

department. There will also be merchandise and collectables. The event runs from **11am to 2pm**. Feodor's Plaza is located at 2411 S. McCall Road.

**Holiday Craft Fair & Country Breakfast**  
The United Women of Faith's Creative Workshop will sell affordable hand-crafted gifts and other treasures on **Saturday, December 17** from 8 to 11am.



Everyone is invited to enjoy the 31st annual Englewood United Methodist Church Community Christmas Dinner. The traditional free Christmas Day feast will be safely presented as drive-through only, pick-up, or arranged in advance delivery for the third year. Just quickly place and receive your order on **Sunday, December 25** between noon to 2pm by following signs around the church parking lot at 700 E. Dearborn Street. Reservations are required only for delivery to the homebound now (preferred) and no later than **noon Christmas Day**. Leave name and phone number only at **941-474-5588, extension 101**, for the returned call confirming the home delivery. Donations are appreciated but not required. For information only, call **941-474-5588, 8:30am thru 4:30pm, Monday-Thursday**.

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# The ENGLEWOOD REVIEW

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

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Sarasota County Sheriff Kurt A. Hoffman awarded four county sheriffs for their Heroic Achievements. Sergeant Britton Turner and Deputy Karla Small received Heroic Achievement Awards. Deputies Josh Show and James Barley each received a Life Saving Award. "The individuals who receive these awards are those who truly go above and beyond the call of duty," commented Sheriff Hoffman. "Our community can be extremely proud of these heroic acts and the deputies who brought them to fruition." Pictured here l-r: Josh Show, Britton Turner, Karla Small, James Barley and Sheriff Hoffman.

Their craft sales are held in Englewood United Methodist Church's Fellowship Hall (700 E. Dearborn Street) on the same day as the popular United Methodist Men's Country Breakfasts, **7:30-11am**. The sale features Christmas decorations and paraphernalia that include holiday wreaths, towels, table runners, placemats, and cozies to hold microwaved bowls. The Creative Workshop also will sell desirable gifts such as children's items, sewn sports-team treasures, kitchen accessories, and hand-painted glass wares. The \$8 Country Breakfast adult ticket includes unlimited pancakes, orange juice, bottomless coffee or tea, and a choice of sides.

### Wreaths Across America Ceremony

Wreaths Across America started as a simple gesture of thanks that has grown into a national movement of dedicated volunteers and communities coming together to not only remember the nation's fallen and honor their service, but to teach the next generation about the sacrifices made to live freely. Gulf Pines Memorial Park & Lemon Bay Historical Cemetery in Englewood will have their Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Gulf Pines Memorial Park, 2401 Englewood Road, at **noon on Saturday, December 17**, with an escorted motorcycle parade of bikes to Lemon Bay Historical Cemetery,

500 S. Indiana Avenue, to honor those 139 veterans laid to rest there, after the ceremony. Sponsor a wreath to honor fallen heroes for \$15 each. You may go to Wreaths Across America Gulf Pines Memorial Park, or Wreaths Across America Lemon Bay Historical Cemetery to sponsor a wreath. Please arrive no later than **11:30am** for parking. For more information, call **941-474-2413**.

**The Nitemare BE4 Christmas** Tickets are available now for The Nitemare BE4 Christmas, the reincarnation of Pumpkin Palooza. Presented by Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County, the event is scheduled for **Saturday, December 17, 1 to 8pm**, at Pioneer Plaza on downtown Dearborn Street (325 W. Dearborn Street). Play pumpkin putt-putt and games, have fun with the Elf Snowball Fight, see Halloweentown

House, Christmastown, have a pony ride, and visit the petting zoo. Shop vendors and more. Live entertainment by "Pure Country of SW Florida". General admission pass for anyone ages 4 and up is \$10; children 3 years and under are free. Purchase tickets online at [www.pumpkinpalooza.givesmart.com](http://www.pumpkinpalooza.givesmart.com).

**Christmas at Community Presbyterian**  
Community Presbyterian Church, 405 S. McCall Road,

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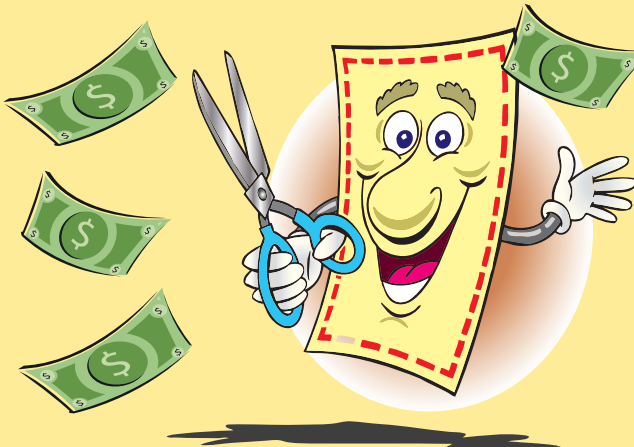


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Venice Area Pregnancy Care Center (VAPCC) attended a holiday luncheon at Pelican Pointe Golf and Country Club on December 1st. Each volunteer brought an unwrapped toy to be displayed at the Center's Annual Christmas Cottage which allows registered parents to choose one gift for each of their children when visiting the Center. Gifts can be seen on the table among the volunteers. The Center hopes to make the holidays just a little bit brighter this year for many deserving children. VAPCC, 301 Bayshore Drive, assists families with young children with basic needs. Phone: 941-485-1776. Website: www.vapcc.org.

invites you to experience the Christmas season with them. Sunday morning worship service at **10am, Sunday, December 18**, will include a sermon by Pastor Scott Andrews, children's message, hymns, and the chancel handbells. The Christmas Eve Service on **Saturday, December 24th** will be a candlelight service at **5pm**. On **Sunday, December 25th**, there will be a Christmas Day Worship Service at **10am**. Services are also available online at [www.cpcenglewood.com](http://www.cpcenglewood.com). For more information, call **941-474-9579**.

**GCUMC Blue Christmas Service**

Not everyone is upbeat and cheery for the Christmas holidays. There are many reasons to feel blue – dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over your future. These and many other situations can make parties and joviality painful for many people. If you or someone you know is having a difficult time this Christmas season, please join Gulf Cove United Methodist Church on **Monday, December 19, at 6:30pm**, for a special service of remembrance and hope. Gulf Cove UMC is

located at 1100 S. McCall Road in the Gulf Cove area of Port Charlotte (941-697-1747).

**Extending Holiday Plant Life**

Learn to extend the life of holiday plants when the Charlotte County Master Gardeners discuss "Life Beyond the Holidays" on **Tuesday, December 20 at 2pm**. This informative session will be held at the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library, 401 Shreve Street, in Punta Gorda.

**EUMC Christmas Eve Services**

The community is invited to attend the annual Christmas Eve services at Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 East Dearborn Street, on **Saturday, December 24th**. Details on the services are as follows: **4pm** – Joyful celebration in traditional style. The Christmas Story will be retold through word and music with organ, piano, and vocal ensembles, and will conclude with a candlelight service. **6pm** – A family friendly service offering a children's message with congregation participation, the Christmas Story shared by youth and families, contemporary Christmas worship music and candlelight service. **8pm** – Joyful celebration in traditional style. The Christmas Story will be retold through word and music, with organ, piano,

choir, vocal and instrumental ensembles, and will conclude with a candlelight service. **10pm** – Reflective worship with communion. The Christmas Story will be retold through word and soft music, with piano, vocal and instrumental soloists, and will conclude with a candlelight service. Nursery care will be provided for the **4pm and 6pm** services. For more information call **941-474-5588**.

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**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**

The congregation of Gulf Cove United Methodist Church (GCUMC) invites you to join them in celebrating the birth of Jesus at one of their two candlelight services on **Saturday, December 24**. The first service, at **6pm**, is a combined traditional and contemporary service for the whole family. At **11:30pm**, partake of Holy Communion at a quiet, more meditative service. Please join GCUMC on this holy night. On Christmas Day, come at **10am** for a family service, and hear the story of the three trees. Gulf Cove UMC (phone **941-697-1747**) is located at 1100 S. McCall Road in the Gulf Cove area of Port Charlotte.

**Christmas Eve Services**

Join Faith Lutheran Church for Christmas Eve Services on **Saturday, December 24**. Two services will be held, the first at **5pm** and the second at **7pm**. Then join them in celebrating Christmas on **Sunday, December 25 at 8:30am and 10:30am**. All are welcome.

**Winter Ice Breaker**

Are you brave enough to enjoy

a traditional cold water plunge for New Years? Try a cool water plunge at the North Port Aquatic Center on **Saturday, December 31 from 1 to 3pm**. Solidify your resolutions with a blast (of cold water!) as you get ready to begin the year with an exhilarating ride down the Barracuda Blast, splashing into the icy waters of the Relaxahatchee Lazy River. Too cold for comfort? Don't worry! There will be hot chocolate to warm you back up! Admission is \$12 adult and \$10 kids under age 12. The Aquatic Center is located at 6205 W. Price Blvd., North Port. For more information, call **941-429-7275**.

**NYE Celebration/Fireworks**

Ring in the New Year Fishermen's Village style! This family friendly event runs from **6pm-midnight on Saturday, December 31** and will keep you entertained throughout the night. Hundreds join the celebration and keep the dance floor at Center Court groovin' until the clock strikes midnight! Enjoy family fun activities and live music featuring the Shane Duncan Band on the Beach, DJ Michael White at Center Court, a photo booth, tarot card

readings, face painting, T's Fairy Fragments, and more. Plus, don't miss the fireworks at midnight. Fishermen's Village is located at 1200 W. Retta Esplanade in Punta Gorda. Website: [www.fishermensvillage.com](http://www.fishermensvillage.com).

**Cruisin' on Dearborn**

In spite of the construction on West Dearborn Street, 'Cruisin' on Dearborn continues to take place on the first Saturday of the month from **2 to 8pm**. Anyone with a classic car or a love of cars is invited to this free event. **Saturday, January 7** is the next Cruise In, and maybe, just maybe, the construction will be completed. Enjoy music to cruise by and music trivia sponsored by the Old Englewood Village Association. Don't forget to visit the businesses that remain open for your shopping pleasure and stop by the broadcast booth and get your raffle tickets for prizes.

**Bond Risk and How to Avoid It**

Are your "safe" assets actually the riskiest? Did they lose value more than expected when the market pulled back? Avoiding high yield (junk) bonds, step-up notes, indexed annuities, and leveraged assets can allow your portfolio to hold its value



All are invited to the Annual Christmas Sing-Along at the Historic Green Street Church on **Tuesday, December 20 at 6pm**. Pastor Don Burlock, with the Englewood United Methodist Church, will lead the event. He is an accomplished musician, playing organ, piano, accordion, and alto horn. The Methodist congregation's first church was originally on Green Street. Built in 1928, this building, recognized by the Sarasota County Register of Historic Places, was moved, and saved by the Lemon Bay Historical Society. Still known as "The Green Street Church", the iconic building is now located next to the historic Lemon Bay Cemetery at 510 S. Indiana Avenue. Admission to the Sing-Along is free but donations are welcome. Refreshments will be served. For more information visit [www.lemonbayhistory.com](http://www.lemonbayhistory.com).

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in bull and bear markets. Learn how portfolio managers analyze and screen fixed income assets at a complimentary Trust & Investment Management Services seminar on **Tuesday, January 10 at 10am**. If you have mutual funds, exchange traded funds or individual bonds, this presentation will help in many ways. Presented by Christopher Eckstrom, MBA, Portfolio Manager at Englewood Bank & Trust Gulf Cove office, 12651 S. McCall Road. To register, visit [www.Englewoodbank.com](http://www.Englewoodbank.com) or contact Kerry Hunter at **941-473-3629** or [khunter@ebtfl.com](mailto:khunter@ebtfl.com).

**Estate Planning Basics**

Englewood Bank & Trust will offer a seminar on Estate Planning Basics on **Thursday, January 12, 10am**, at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 S. Indiana Avenue. This free seminar will 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-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](http://www.Englewoodbank.com) or contact Kerry Hunter at **941-473-3629** or [khunter@ebtfl.com](mailto:khunter@ebtfl.com).

**A History of Florida Places**

Join author D.L. Havlin for a presentation about the history of Cypress Gardens, Weeki-Watchee Springs, Silver Springs, Marineland, and more on **Thursday, January 12, 2pm**, at the Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road. When America first discovered Florida, the meccas for tourists were quite different than those that now draw millions of visitors. Take a nostalgic look at Florida's past and visit the grandparents of Disneyworld, Universal, and Sea World. For more information contact the library at **941-681-3736**.

**December Manta Market**

Manta Market Season Five brings you more of the arts, crafts, artisanal foods, and other items that you have loved in

the years past one Saturday each month. The next market date is **Saturday, January 14, 9am to 2pm**. Shay's Legendary BBQ and a variety of goods will keep you replenished. Each Market is a little different; you will see your favorite vendors and always some new ones to check out! Watercolors, acrylic paintings, prints, photography, pottery, jewelry, fused glass, stained glass, mixed media art, customizable gifts, wearable art, home decor, gifts for your pets, beauty and health goods, custom wood-turned art, woodwork and carvings, garden sculpture, handmade furniture, holiday gifts, plants, seashells, and more. Convenient parking and restrooms, 2201 Placida Road (Lemon Bay High School).

**Sarasota Beer & Burger Festival**

For burgers and craft beers fans, you won't want to miss the Fourth Annual Beer & Burger Festival on **Saturday, January 14 from noon to 7pm**. There will be craft beer samples, artisan burgers, live entertainment, people's choice voting, vendors, and sponsored giveaways. The fun and food take place at The

Mall @ University Town Center, 140 University Town Center, Sarasota. Online tickets are \$10 and \$15 at gate. Purchase tickets online at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) and search for Sarasota Beer & Burger Festival.

**Wine Tasting Event**

Come enjoy an evening out at the 12th annual wine tasting event, "Passport to Your Future". This is a benefit for the Business & Professional Women of Englewood & Venice's scholarship fund. The event takes place on **Friday, January 20, 5:30 to 8pm**, at Rumours Wine Bar, 1807 Englewood Road in the Lemon Bay Plaza. Music by The Beaches. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door, and may be purchased online at [www.bpwev.org](http://www.bpwev.org).

**Englewood Museum Tours**

Every Saturday the Englewood Museum is open to the public. The museum is located in the historic Lampp House at 604 W. Perry Street. Curator and homeowner Betty Nugent will share stories and give a tour for any visitors. The Englewood Museum hours are **Saturdays, 1pm to 4pm**. If you are interested in becoming an

Englewood Museum supporter, memberships are available for \$20 single and \$25 family. You can sign up at [www.eahmuseum.org/memberships](http://www.eahmuseum.org/memberships). For more information, use the contact form on the website.

**Vessel Turn-in Program**

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is accepting applications for its Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP). VTIP is a voluntary program designed to help owners dispose of their unwanted at-risk vessels before they become derelict. Upon approval of an application, VTIP will take a surrendered vessel and dispose of it at no cost to the boat owner. A derelict vessel upon waters of the state is a criminal offense and can carry serious penalties and fines or possible jail time. To qualify for VTIP, a vessel must be floating upon waters of the state of Florida and cannot be determined derelict by law enforcement. The owner must have at least one written at-risk warning or citation and possess a clear title to the vessel. To apply for or view program guidelines, visit [MyFWC.com/VTIP](http://MyFWC.com/VTIP) or call the



# Ernie's Dockside Marine



Ernie's Dockside Marine has been in business since 1981. My family and I moved to Englewood when I was 10 years old and have made Englewood home. My love of the water and boats started at a young age with my father who was also in the marine business.

Ernie's Dockside Marine recently moved to 2860 Avenue of the Americas. I am excited about this move as it gives the business a larger boatyard and is still in the heart of the commercial area of Englewood that is close to the water.

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A manatee rescue (activities were conducted under USFWS permit #MA773494-11). Photo: Jean Hall  
 If you'd like to learn more about the impact of Hurricane Ian, consider attending the 34th annual Monday Lecture Series at the Manasota Beach Club (MBC). The scheduled speakers will also address how Ian has impacted their subject area. The popular Monday luncheon/lecture series kicks off on **Monday, January 9** with Sidney "Buffy" Crampton, preservationist Steve Avdakov and engineer Charles Jordan addressing "Coastal storm resiliency: MBC's Past, Present and Future," with a walkabout tour following. Nora Demers, PhD, Professor of Biology, Florida Gulf Coast University, will speak on "Gulf coast water quality issues and the impact of Ian on **January 16**, Mammal Rescue and Research in Southwest Florida" will be discussed by Meghan Sutton, PhD, Marine Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission on **January 30**. On **February 13**, Biology Professors Jeff Goessling and Sarah Duncan, Eckerd College, bring you up to date on their recent "Manasota Key Gopher Tortoise Survey and Storm Impact." Roy Burroughs, Englewood Water District, will address development and natural disasters on water resources on **February 20**, and Kim Cool will assess storm damage and response in Venice on **February 27**. On **April 17**, Erin Dean, PhD, Professor of Anthropology, New College of Florida, addresses "Exploring coastal resilience through oral history." Finally, on **April 24**, Jack Sanzalone, USCG Master Captain, who writes the popular Waterline column, speaks on "Lessons learned: Gulf Coast Boating and Water Quality." Manasota Beach Club is located at 7660 Manasota Key Road, and the presentations are outdoors from **noon until 1:30pm**. The cost is \$30, plus taxes/gratuity for talk and delicious lunch buffet. Reservations are required. For additional information and reservations, contact Manasota Beach Club at **941-474-2614** or visit [www.manasotabeachclub.com](http://www.manasotabeachclub.com).

FWC Boating and Waterways Division at **850-488-5600** for more information.

**Mosquito Traps Available**  
 UF/IFAS Extension Charlotte County Master Gardeners volunteers will be handing out mosquito traps to residents at the Englewood Charlotte Public Library (3450 N. Access Road) on **Tuesdays from 10am to noon**, while supplies last. Inzecto, a Gainesville FL-based company, made adult female and larvae mosquito killing traps to drastically reduce the mosquito population resulting from standing water left by Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. These traps, researched and developed in University of Florida labs, are part of Inzecto's donation made to Florida counties most affected by the hurricanes. Each person can receive two traps and Master Gardener volunteers will be available to answer questions about the traps. For more information contact Holly Bates at **941-764-4340** or [Holly.Bates@CharlotteCountyFL.gov](mailto:Holly.Bates@CharlotteCountyFL.gov).

**Hazardous Waste & Sharps Drop-Off**

The Mid County Mini-Transfer and Recycling Facility, 19765 Kenilworth Boulevard, Pt. Charlotte, is now accepting household hazardous waste and hypodermic needles (sharps). This service will be available from **8am to 5pm, Tuesday through Saturday**. Examples of items accepted: pool chemicals, batteries – lead acid and rechargeable, cleaners and polishers, cooking oil, gasoline, kerosene, diesel fuel, pesticides and herbicides, mercury, paint, strippers, stains, varnishers, fluorescent bulbs, used motor oil, syringes and hypodermic needles in approved containers. This service is for Charlotte County residents only. Proof of residency is required. Businesses are not allowed to participate. If you are physically unable to exchange your sharps container for medical reasons, please call Charlotte County to request a pick-up and exchange **941-764-4360**. Sharps are the only biomedical waste accepted at the transfer facility, as "red bag" waste will not be accepted. Please contact your

medical facility for disposal instructions for these types of bio-hazardous waste.

**Utilities Payment Scam**

Charlotte County cautions customers about providing credit card or other personal information, to callers claiming to be representing county departments. Multiple customers recently alerted the county's Utilities Department stating they were contacted via text message and a recorded phone message that their account was past due, and services would be shut off if they did not make a payment. "Charlotte County Utilities does not contact customers by phone or text message regarding past due accounts. "Our department will mail you an urgent notice if your account is past due", said Charlotte County Utilities Director Dave Watson. If a customer receives a phone call claiming to be from Charlotte County regarding a past due account, they should initiate a call contacting the department in question. "Should you be contacted by phone, text, email, social media or otherwise and

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The management and staff of Englewood Community Funeral Home with Private Crematory extend our warmest wishes to all for a most joyous and inspiring Holiday Season. It is that wonderful time of year when we share these special days with family and friends in a remarkable variety of visits, parties and celebrations. This special season also characterized by the joy of giving.

But, in the mad rush of these final days of the year, we are very mindful that this holiday season will be an especially difficult time for those whose lives have been deeply touched by the loss of loved ones; the passing of parents, spouses and children, brothers, sisters and special friends. The hearts of those who have suffered these losses will be heavily burdened just now and so we especially wish tender peace and comfort for them that come from remembering the reason for this season.

*May the beauty of this special season be with all both now and throughout the coming year!*

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*"O Christmas Tree" – Christmas on the beach. Neighbors put up a Christmas tree on the beach every holiday season. Photo by Paula Kaye.*

County Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer Claudette Smith. "If someone has contacted you, you can't be sure who they are. You are encouraged to report the scam attempt to Federal Trade Commission authorities at [www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scam-alerts](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scam-alerts). If you fall victim to a scam, please contact the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office at **941-639-0013**."

**Ovarian Cancer Prevention Study**

While ovarian cancer is relatively rare, it is the fifth-leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women. It is a stealthy disease, with no proven screening tests to help with early detection and no noticeable symptoms until its later stages when the cancer is harder to treat. That's why the Sarasota Memorial Research Institute is among 318 research sites across the nation participating in a clinical trial aimed at preventing ovarian cancer in women at high risk for the disease. "At Sarasota Memorial we have multiple trials looking at targeted therapies for ovarian cancer, but this one is probably the most exciting because prevention is better than treatment," said SMH

gynecologic oncologist Beverly Long, MD, principal investigator of the SMH study. "The study is designed to help determine the next best preventable surgery for premenopausal women with a genetic mutation that markedly increases their risk of dying from ovarian cancer." Known as the SOROCK trial, the study will assess whether removing the fallopian tubes (bilateral salpingectomy) reduces the risk of ovarian cancer among premenopausal women with inherited BRCA1 mutations as effectively as removing both the ovaries and fallopian tubes (bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy). Over the next 10 years, researchers will collect data from more than 2,000 premenopausal women (age 35-50) with the BRCA1 mutation, comparing clinical outcomes of those who opt to remove their fallopian tubes and ovaries with those who choose to remove only their fallopian tubes. Women who choose the latter can opt to remove their ovaries later and still be part of the trial. The study excludes women who are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or have a prior history of ovarian cancer.

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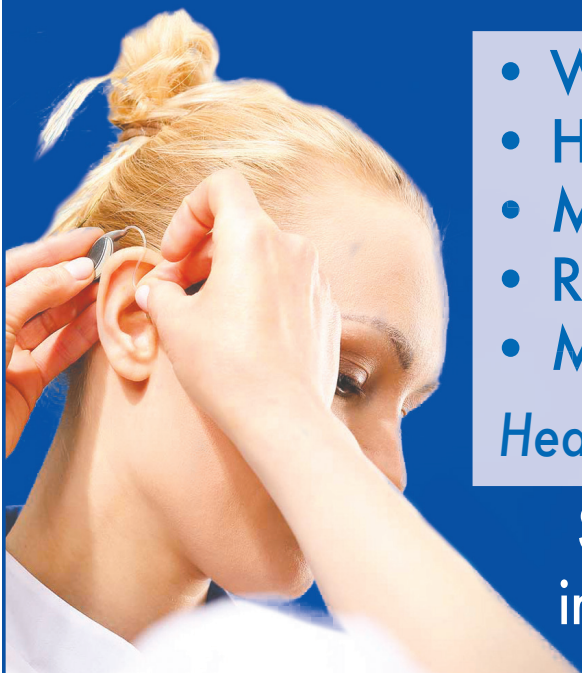
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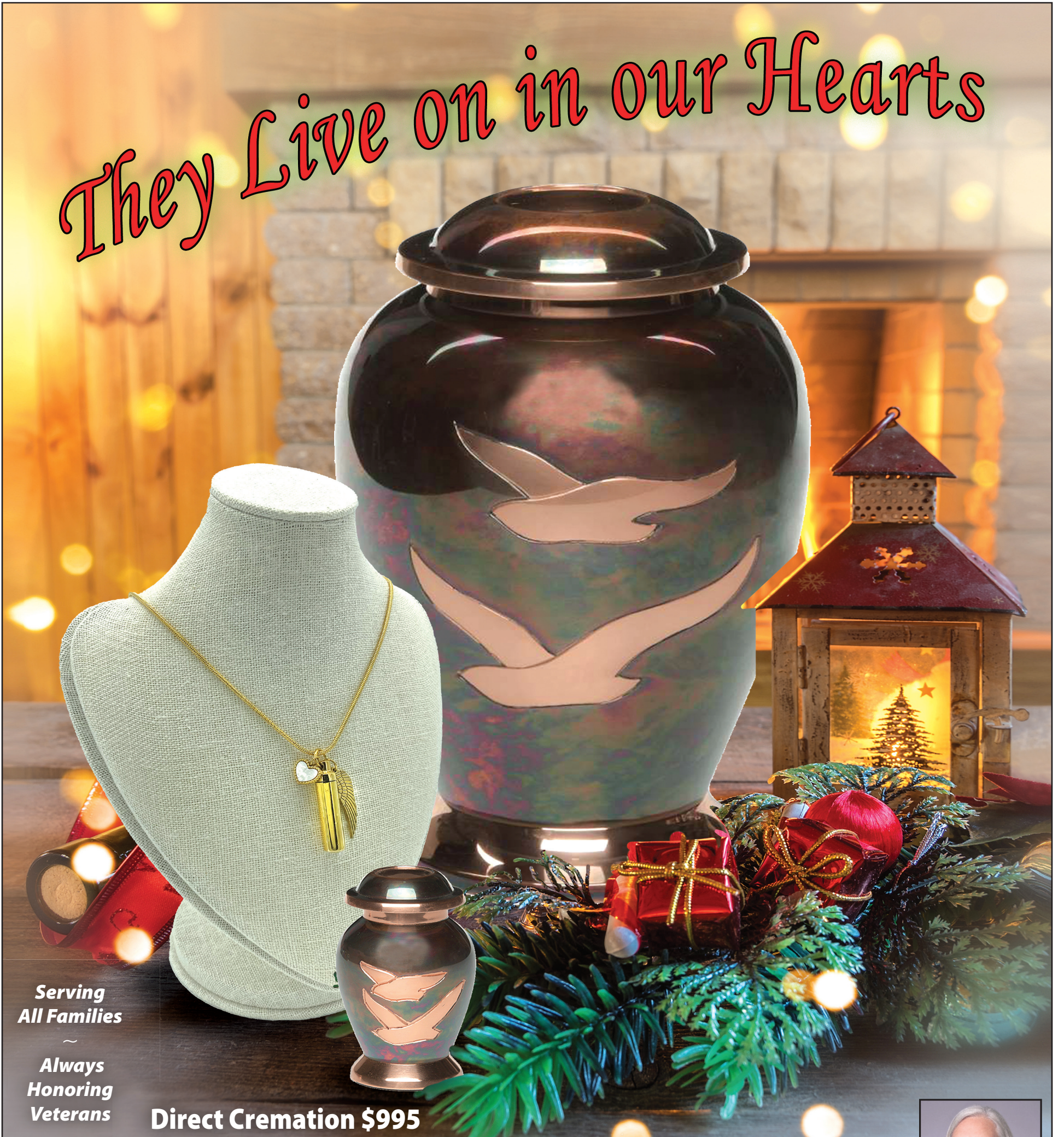
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**2023**  
**CALENDAR**

**ACTIVE OUTSIDE!**

Charlotte County is thrilled to announce the winners of the 2023 Active Outside calendar contest. Contestants submitted more than 450 photos. The winning photographers are Shea Wetzler, Becca Travis, Myriah Melton, Jeanifer Randall, Sue Killion, Stephanie Yanik, Cara Czecholinski, Shelby Stafford, Jan Irons, Linda Kewley, and Sarah Winter. The free calendars feature photos submitted by the contest winners along with information about Charlotte County parks, beaches and recreational facilities for residents and visitors. You may pick up your copy at various sites around the county, including the Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road, Tringali Park rec center, 3460 N. Access Road, and the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 S. Indiana Avenue. Jan Irons' photo, shown here, was selected as the cover for the 2023 Active Outside calendar.

For more information about the SOROCK trial or other clinical trials, contact the Sarasota Memorial Research Institute at 941-917-2225.

**Caring & Sharing**

**OneBlood Blood Drives**

The following OneBlood "Big Red Bus" blood drives have been scheduled in the Englewood area during the month of December. 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. **Friday, December 16, 10am to 4pm:** Bealls Outlet, 425 S. Indiana Avenue. **Tuesday, December 20, 10am to 4pm:** Bealls, 1500 Placida Road. **Thursday, December 22, 10am to 4pm:** Publix-Old Village, 55 N. Indiana Avenue. **Tuesday, December 27, 11am to 5pm:** Big Lots, 1855 Englewood Road. **Thursday, December 29, 11am to 5pm:** Publix-Merchants Crossing, 1500 Placida Road.

**Meals Needed for C.A.R.E.**

The holidays can be stressful for survivors of domestic or sexual violence and their families. Your gift of a meal will help a survivor plan and prepare a home-cooked meal for her/his family to enjoy

during the holiday season. The Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies (C.A.R.E.) will be accepting food donations for the December holidays **through Monday, December 19.** Food items needed are turkeys or hams, canned vegetables, stuffing or cornbread mixes, cranberry sauce, boxed baking mixes, disposable baking pans, and grocery gift cards. Contact 941-639-5499 to make arrangements for delivery.

**Sports**

**No Spring Training at Sports Park**

Charlotte County and the Tampa Bay Rays released a joint statement regarding spring training at Charlotte Sports Park: Following a joint assessment of the damage to Charlotte Sports Park caused by Hurricane Ian, Charlotte County and the Tampa Bay Rays have determined there is not adequate time before the Rays 2023 spring training is scheduled to begin to get the park in suitable condition to host games. Charlotte County supports the Rays efforts to secure alternative accommodations for 2023 spring training. They express their disappointment for the residents of Charlotte County and the fans there. The community is in the

thoughts and hearts of the Rays, and the team will continue to support recovery efforts. The Rays and Charlotte County intend to develop a restoration plan for Charlotte Sports Park in the coming weeks.

**YMCA Sandbar Half/5k**

The Englewood YMCA Sandbar Half Marathon and 5k on Manasota Key will be held on **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 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.



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# How To Be The Perfect Party Guest

By Sharyn Lonsdale



This weekend I was fortunate to be invited to a holiday dinner. Our host sent a lovely email invitation that covered any question we might have, including a “What to Bring” list, and a reminder to wear our “finest holiday attire.” There was also a guest list, so we knew how many to cook for.

Our hosts made it easy for us to be “good guests.” But often when we’re invited somewhere we want to know what should I bring? What should I wear? How long should I stay? Here are some tips on how to be a guest who gets invited back year after year.

- If you are invited to a dinner, let your host know if you have any food allergies, aversions or dietary needs in advance, optimally when you RSVP. You did RSVP, didn’t you?
- Arrive on time. If you are invited to a formal or sit-down dinner at 6 pm, get there at 6 pm. If you are running late, inform your hosts. If it’s a buffet you have more wiggle room, but unless the host asked you to come early to help, don’t ever arrive early. If that means waiting in your car, then wait in your car.
- Try to dress for the event. If the invitation says, “Wear your favorite holiday outfit,” then make an effort to dress for the holidays. If it’s an ugly sweater party, buy or borrow one. Your hosts would not have included it on the invitation if it didn’t matter to them. If there is no dress suggestion, then dress up. It’s a sign of respect to your host and your chance to wear something other than Florida’s uniform of shorts and flip-flops.
- Bring what you say you’re going to bring. It’s

unfair when you tell your host you’ll be bringing a chocolate cake and then you show up with asparagus. And if you tend to run late, don’t volunteer to bring an appetizer.

“No,” I mean it because I do not want anyone seeing the cyclone that hit my kitchen.

- Always try and bring a dish you feel confident will be a hit. I have made something for the first time ever for a party and it went over well, but I used a trusted cookbook and left time to go to Plan B if my dish failed.
- Always have a Plan B.
- If your host insists you don’t need to bring anything or if you don’t have time to prepare a dish, that’s OK. But don’t arrive empty-handed. Wine, chocolates and flowers are always welcome. And be sure to attach a card. Your host might not get a chance to open your gift until after you leave.
- Take photos and share them with your hosts. They are likely too busy to see to their guests and take pictures, and will really appreciate your effort. Just don’t share on your social media until you ask permission.
- Offer to help twice, as in, “Can I help?” And later, “Are you sure I can’t help?” If your host refuses, you can still stack plates and throw out trash. I know when I say

- Know when to leave. If you know you have to leave early, tell your host in advance. If you’re hanging out late, watch your hosts for signs that they want the evening to wrap up, and of course offer to help clean before you head out.
- Send a thank you note or email card (I like evite.com and punchbowl.com), or if you must a text. Your host deserves an acknowledgment of their work and hospitality.
- When you host a party, send a detailed invitation like my friends did, being as specific as possible. Don’t be afraid to tell your guest “I don’t really need a dessert” or “Can you please bring a salad?” And of course, be sure to invite everyone who has invited you to their home.
- Finally, take advantage of after-Christmas sales. If you are invited to a friend’s party every year and you know she collects Santas, pick up a Santa for next year’s party. How happy will she be when you show up with your famous cheesecake and Santa.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## A Classical Holiday

The Punta Gorda Symphony's holiday concert features Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Dance of the Tumblers*, Anderson's *Sleigh Ride*, and other holiday favorites on **Sunday, December 18 at 2pm and 7:30pm**. Also, please bring an unwrapped toy or non-perishable food item to the event to support Valerie's Place and The Homeless Coalition. Tickets holders can also attend *Musical Conversations* with Maestro Raffaele Livio Ponti one hour prior to the concert at **1pm and 6:30pm**. Tickets are \$65 adult and \$15 youth. Purchase tickets online at [www.pgsymphony.org](http://www.pgsymphony.org). The concert will take place at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 701 Carmalita Street, Punta Gorda or call **941•205•5996**.



*Embracing Our Difference Best-in-Show Adult artwork winner, "We Are All Pearls," by Whitney de Araújo. More on Page 22.*

## The Artist Colony Debut

Mark your calendars! The Artist Colony is excited to introduce all their undiscovered artists to Englewood on **Wednesday,**

**December 21, 10am to 3pm,** at the newly renovated Pioneer Plaza on W. Dearborn Street. Both beginning and established

artists are invited to participate in the event, displaying, selling, and demonstrating their medium. A "Studio" tent will be available

for artists interested in teaching. For a small fee, a gallery tent is available for beginning and established artists and

craftsmen with 1 to 10 items. Artist interested in participating can email Sydney Martin at [i2garden@yahoo.com](mailto:i2garden@yahoo.com) for more information and an application. The Artist Colony will return in January on **Wednesday, January 4, 10am to 3pm.**

## Sailor Circus Holiday

Your favorite holiday shows come to life in this 90-minute showcase of incredible circus talent from "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" and "Elf", to "Christmas Story" and "Home Alone". Sailor Circus students, America's longest-running youth circus, will amaze you on the trapeze, silks, trampoline, unicycle, and more. Their performances will leave you awe-struck from start to finish. Bring your entire family for a special holiday treat, **Wednesday, December 28 through Saturday, December 31,** at the Sailor Circus Arena, 2075 Bahia Vista Street, Sarasota. Reserved seating is \$20 to \$40 at [www.circusarts.org](http://www.circusarts.org)

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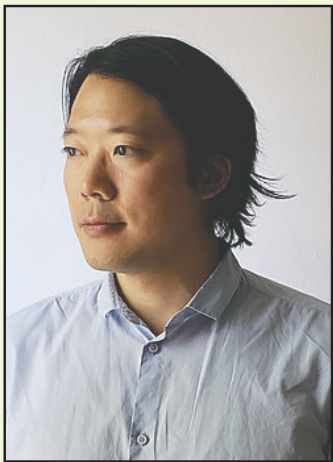
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Kenneth Tam



Molly Joyce

The newly announced programs in the Hermitage's 20th Anniversary Season pick up on **Friday, January 6, at 5pm** on the Hermitage Beach with "Distinction and Unity." Featuring three inventive artists working in three different fields, this cross disciplinary conversation spans literature, music, and visual art. Visual artist Kenneth Tam's work focuses on ritual and reframing masculinity with a self-described "strain of absurdity and awkward humor." Author DaMaris B. Hill's latest work has been called "urgent" and "luminous" by Publisher's Weekly, while composer and performer Molly Joyce has been described as one of the "most versatile, prolific, and intriguing composers working under the vast new-music dome" by The Washington Post. The program is open to the public with a \$5 per person registration fee. Must RSVP at [www.HermitageArtistRetreat.org](http://www.HermitageArtistRetreat.org). The Hermitage beach is located at 6660 Manasota Key Road.

**Perlman Winter Residency**  
Everyone is invited to attend the Perlman Music Program Winter Residency to enjoy classical string music events in a performance tent on the campus of the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee, 8350 N. Tamami Trail, Sarasota. Come to the tent to watch acclaimed violinist Itzhak Perlman conduct the young, gifted PMP musicians through orchestra rehearsals. The winter residency runs **December 29-31 and January 2-7**. For the schedule, visit [www.perlmanmusicprogramsuncoast.org](http://www.perlmanmusicprogramsuncoast.org). Additionally, in the tent you can enjoy chorus rehearsals led by Maestro Patrick Romano and Works in Progress (WIPs) recitals. Question and answer sessions with the Perlman's, PMP students and faculty follow many of these events. All events in the tent are free for the public to attend in unreserved seating. On **Thursday, January 5**, Maestro Perlman conducts the PMP String Orchestra, performing the repertoire they have rehearsed at the Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Avenue, Sarasota. Tickets on sale at [www.sarasotaopera.org](http://www.sarasotaopera.org) or call **941-328-1300**.

**NYE Concert**  
Come ring in the New Year with some of Charlotte County's talented singers as they present a 90-minute concert at Langdon Theatre (1182

Market Circle, Pt. Charlotte) on **Saturday, December 31 at 7:30pm**. Accompanied by music director/pianist Ken Crisp and a drummer, this concert has something for everyone – something old, new, country, pop, Broadway, and more. Tickets are \$29 adult. Purchase tickets online at [www.charlotteplayers.org](http://www.charlotteplayers.org).

**Night at the Museum**  
The Venice Symphony will transport you to your favorite museum during its January performance, *Night at the Museum*, on **January 6 & 7**. Enjoy music from *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *The Mummy*, *Night at the Museum* and *The Da Vinci Code*. Concertmaster Marcus Ratzenboeck dazzles with his violin solo on Camille Saint-Saens' *Danse Macabre*. Then music and art meet in glorious fashion in Modest Mussorgsky's ravishing *Pictures at an Exhibition*, orchestrated by Maurice Ravel and performed by The Venice Symphony at full strength. Performances start at **7:30pm Friday & Saturday, January 6 & 7 and 3:30pm on Saturday, January 7**. Ticket prices vary according to seat location. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.thevenicesymphony.org](http://www.thevenicesymphony.org) or by calling the box office at **941-207-8822**.

**Up on the Roof with King & Taylor**  
If you're a fan of Carole King & James Taylor, you will enjoy *Up on the Roof*, a tapestry of songs that will make the earth move under your feet. Join Venice Theatre for this musical where a group of singers retreat to be alone with their thoughts, only to discover solace, celebration, and friendship with each other. Performances run **Tuesday, January 10 through Sunday, January 29**. Curtain time is **7:30pm Tuesday through Saturday and 2pm Saturday & Sunday matinees**. Tickets are \$37 adult and \$15 youth. Purchase tickets online at [www.venicetheatre.org](http://www.venicetheatre.org). Venice Theatre is located at 140 Tampa Avenue West in Venice.



Congratulations to Eileen Vorbach Collins, who recently won a Royal Palm Literary Award from the Florida Writers Association during their conference in Orlando. Her entry, "Hold on Till the Sun Goes Down", was selected for the Gold Award for an Unpublished Anthology and also earned first runner up for Unpublished Book of the Year. Eileen hopes her book, a collection of narrative essays on the death of a child by suicide, might prove helpful for others. These vignettes, by their nature short, could be easier for a grieving person to absorb. The collection will be published as "Love in the Archives" by Apprentice House, Loyola University, in 2023. Eileen, who is a resident of Rotonda West, is from Baltimore and worked as an RN. She also holds a master's degree in pastoral care from Loyola College, where her master's thesis focused on bereavement by suicide and included developing a bereavement support group. She has been writing for some time and has seen over 20 of her essays published in various journals. Besides being a member of the Florida Writers Association, she is a member of the local group, the Suncoast Writers Guild. These groups are for new, emerging, and established writers. If you would like to read this essay or learn more about Eileen, go to <https://sites.google.com/view/eileenvorbachcollins/home>.

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Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota will present three concerts in January. Grammy Award-nominated Dover Quartet will perform works by Beethoven and Mendelssohn on **Tuesday, January 10, 7:30pm**, at the Historic Asolo Theater, 5555 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Husband/wife duo Kerry Wilkerson, bass-baritone, and Danielle Talamantes, soprano, will perform classics from the Great American Songbook and musical theater on **Wednesday, January 18, 5:30pm**, at Plantation Golf and Country Club, 500 Rockley Blvd., Venice. Violinist Steven Moeckel, with pianist Joanna Goldstein, will feature the works of women composers on **Sunday, January 29, 4pm**, and **Monday, January 30, 7:30pm**, at the Fischer/Weisenborne residence, 7459 Cabbage Palm Ct., Sarasota. For more information and tickets, visit [www.ArtistSeriesConcerts.org](http://www.ArtistSeriesConcerts.org) or call **941-306-1202**. Photo: The Dover Quartet will perform on **January 10th**.

**Belles Take the Big Easy**  
Charlotte Players present "Belles Take the Big Easy," **Thursday,**

**January 12 through Sunday, January 22.** Five women travel from Alabama to New Orleans

to strike Mardi Gras off their bucket list. At a flamboyant designer's French Quarter boutique, the ladies film an episode of Celeste's new web series, "Say Yes to Anything but A Wedding Dress". At the famed Bacchus Mardi Gras Ball, a fortune teller delivers some disturbing news, which sets the ladies on a journey with Marie the Merry Maid, who Celeste believes is Voodoo Queen Marie Laveau reincarnated. After a stop at The Old Absinthe House, the six ladies make their way through the French Quarter and the St. Louis Cemetery to collect the items needed to ward off a perceived curse. Catch all the laughs at the Langdon Theatre, 1182 Market Circle, Pt. Charlotte. Tickets are \$25 adult and \$13 student. Purchase tickets online at [www.charlotteplayers.org](http://www.charlotteplayers.org).

**The Andy Williams Story**  
Lemon Bay Playhouse, 96 W. Dearborn Street, presents their next showcase with "Moon River Tonight." The showcase is **Saturday, January 14, at 7:30 pm.** "Moon River Tonight, the Andy Williams Story" is a musical journey with stories of the life, career, and music

of legend Andy Williams. Through words, music and images, Chuck Gillespie weaves a tapestry, with timeless songs like Moon River, Theme from Love Story, The Days of Wine and Roses, Born Free, Exodus, and many more. Audiences love this Multi-Media Presentation, saying "Moon River Tonight will entertain you completely", "It's one of the best shows I have ever seen, more than worthy of a Las Vegas stage!" and "It's a gem of a show...worth seeing again and again!" Reserved seat tickets are \$25. Visit [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com) or you can also call the box office **Monday-Friday, 10am to 2pm, at 941-475-6756.**

**Amateur Photo Contest**  
If you love taking photos this event is for you! All ages can participate. Entries will be displayed during the month of March at one of the four library locations. Color or black & white photos are welcome. One entry per person. Pictures are submitted via email and must be JPG format. Photo theme should reflect the community. No alteration or manipulation of photographs is permitted except for cropping, red eye

removal, and/or adjustment of contrast and brightness. The three age categories are: Adults ages 19 and up, Teens ages 13-18 Children ages 6-12. Entries must be received by emailing to, [PortCharlotteLibrary@CharlotteCountyFL.gov](mailto:PortCharlotteLibrary@CharlotteCountyFL.gov), by the **end of January.** Include first and last name of the photographer, age category, and a phone number. First, second and third prizes of \$75, \$50, and \$25 will be awarded in each age category. For more information, please call **941-764-5562** or visit the event calendar online at [www.charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net](http://www.charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net)

**Venice Musicale 71st Season**  
Venice Musicale, the oldest continuing music organization in Venice, is an all-volunteer, non-sectarian, nonprofit serving audiences through its dual mission to provide free quality music to the community and, primarily to award monetary support to exceptionally talented students through its scholarship program. The 2023 Concerts dates include *A Musical Mixture*, **Thursday, January 19**, *Heartfelt* on **Thursday, February 16**, and the Suncoast Duo Pianists will offer *Love is in the Air* on **Saturday, February**

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Brace yourselves, Southwest Florida! Mr. Swindle's Traveling Peculiarium and Drink-Ory Garden will be back in Englewood **Thursday, January 12 through Sunday, January 22**. Led by the infamous Mr. B.S. Swindler, that scoundrel of eclectic entertainment, and his mysterious accomplice, Dr. Elixir, this irreverent traveling tented entertainment experience returns with a new jaw-dropping, curious and deliriously hilarious show. The mind-bending variety and vaudevillian-style theatrical experience is hosted under a Boutique Big Top on the grounds of Pioneer Plaza, 348 W. Green Street. Hosted by splendid shyster B.S. Swindler (that's Mr. Swindle for short), the shady Dr. Elixir, and an equally eccentric cast including *The Doll of Disbelief*, *The Bedsheet Bandit* and more! Tickets for Mr. Swindle's Traveling Peculiarium and Drink-Ory Garden are on sale now and available at [www.MrSwindles.com](http://www.MrSwindles.com) or by calling **941-445-7309**. Ticket prices range from \$45 to \$70 per person. Proceeds from the Drink-Ory Garden will benefit the Kiwanis Club of Englewood.

**11**, all at the Venice Library. The Encore Chorus will perform *Spring Memories Old and New* on **Thursday, March 16** at St. Marks Church at **3pm**. The Duo Pianists will play *Music for Spring* on **Saturday, April 22**. Capping off this exciting 71st Season is the Annual Scholarship



**Lady Jess**  
On **Thursday, January 12 at 5pm**, the previously announced "Violin and Voice", canceled in October due to Hurricane Ian, will be reborn on the Hermitage Beach. Combining the music of Lady Jess, violinist, arts leader, and frequent Beyoncé collaborator with the poignant and humorous words of award-winning playwright Terry Guest, this program paints a picture of the experience these two leading artists have living and making work in the United States and around the world. Presented as the sun sets on the Hermitage Beach (6660 Manasota Key Road), don't miss the chance to meet these two remarkable artists as they create the works of tomorrow. The program is open to the public with a \$5 per person registration fee. Must RSVP at [www.HermitageArtistRetreat.org](http://www.HermitageArtistRetreat.org).

Concert at St. Mark's Church on **Tuesday, April 25 at 7pm**, where you will be captivated by the students who have earned Scholarships. Scholarships are available to local elementary, middle, and high school students ages 8 to 18. Concerts are all free and open to the public with no reservations needed. A freewill offering will go toward scholarships. Visit [www.VeniceMusicales.org](http://www.VeniceMusicales.org) to see the full schedule of performances and to inquire about individual, family, or organizational

memberships or to organize a special private booking at your venue (think community clubhouse) for a negotiated fee.

**The Cemetery Club**  
"The Cemetery Club" is a funny, sweet-tempered, moving romantic comedy about three Jewish widows who meet once a month for tea before going to visit their husbands' graves. The Broadway production was so popular that it was made into a film starring Ellen Burstyn, Dianne Ladd, and Olympia

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Lemon Bay Playhouse, 96 W. Dearborn Street, brings a political comedy to the new year in "The Outsider". This show will run from **Wednesday, January 18 – Sunday, February 12**. Ned Newley doesn't even want to be governor. He's terrified of public speaking and his poll numbers are impressively bad. To his ever-supportive Chief of Staff, Ned seems destined to fail. But political consultant Arthur Vance sees things differently. Ned might be the worst candidate to ever run for office. Unless the public is looking for...the worst candidate to ever run for office. A timely and hilarious satire that skewers politics and celebrates democracy. 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](http://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): Stewart Wilson, Leo Dominique, Ric Goodwin (Director), Will Horton, Dan Cole. Seated (L-R): Megan Hendrick, Hailey Hines, Kathi Faulkner and Dottie Warner (Stage Manager).

Dukakis. You can catch it at Venice Theatre (140 Tampa Avenue West, Venice) from **Friday, January 20 through Sunday, February 12**. Curtain time is **7:30pm Tuesday through Saturday with Sunday matinees at 2pm**. Tickets are \$35 adult and \$15 youth. Purchase tickets online at

[www.venicetheatre.org](http://www.venicetheatre.org). For more information, call **941-488-1115**.

**Diane Cook at Bookstore1**  
The Hermitage returns to Bookstore1 on **Friday, January 20 at 6pm** where Hermitage Fellow Diane Cook presents a program focused on her collection of stories, "Man V.

Nature". The author's debut work garnered substantial critical attention, making the short list for the Guardian First Book Award, the Believer Book Award, the PEN/Hemingway award, and the Los Angeles Times Award for First Fiction. The program is open to the public with a \$5 per person registration fee. Must RSVP at [www.HermitageArtistRetreat.org](http://www.HermitageArtistRetreat.org). Bookstore1 is located at 117 S. Pineapple Avenue in Sarasota.

**Art & Craft Classes**  
The Arts Alliance of Lemon Bay is offering art and craft classes this winter. Choose from fun classes like jewelry making, felting adventures, gourd class, batik, resin art, acrylic painting, watercolors, mixed media, and more. See their schedule on Facebook or stop by their studio/shop at 452 W. Dearborn Street. Phone: **941-475-7141**.

**SILL Announces 2023 Season**  
2023 marks the 52nd anniversary of Sarasota Institute of Lifetime Learning's (SILL) "Global Issues" series. This hard-hitting series, which runs **January**



Sarasota Studio Artists Association (SSAA) is a dynamic community of more than 70 regionally based artists. The creators in this broad-based coalition work in a diverse range of genres, mediums, and styles. More than 30 SSAA artists will open their studios to visitors on **Saturday, January 14, 11am to 3pm**. Open Studios tours take place on the second Saturday of every month at 1344 Central Avenue, Suite 1344, Sarasota. To plan a visit, visit [www.SRQartists.com](http://www.SRQartists.com) for an interactive map and information on participating artists. Shown here is "France Family" by Marie Lacroix.

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**10-March 31**, features 25 internationally renowned experts discussing a vast range of domestic and global issues. The lectures are presented on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 10:30am** at the First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Avenue in Sarasota; **Tuesdays at 2:30pm** and **Fridays at 10am** at the Venice Community Center, 326 Nokomis Avenue South in Venice; and **Thursdays at 5pm** at the Cornerstone Church, 14306 Covenant Way in Lakewood Ranch. The 2023 season features the popular "Music Mondays" series, which presents performances and lively conversations with renowned and emerging performers, **January 9-March 27**, on **Mondays at 10:30am** at Church of the Palms, 3224 Bee Ridge Road in Sarasota, and **Mondays at 3pm** at Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto in Venice. Season subscriptions for the Global Issues and Music Mondays series are available for purchase now for \$85 for 12 sessions. A Flex Pass for 12 tickets to be used at any SILL event throughout the season is \$115. Single-day tickets for all programs are



"Two For You and One for Me," by Becky Titus. Since 2004, Embracing Our Differences has used the power of art and prose to promote diversity. One way it achieves this is through its annual, juried international outdoor art exhibition comprising 50 billboard-sized works of art, each accompanied by an inspirational quotation. This year's response to the call for artwork and inspirational quotations received 13,733 entries pouring in from 119 countries and 45 states. The Best-in-Show Adult artwork award went to Whitney de Araújo, from Recife, Brazil, for "We Are All Pearls." Alexis Lee, a 10th grade student from the Icon Art Academy in Irvine, California, won the Best-in-Show Student award for "Stretching Beauty." Alexis Morrell of Wolcott, Connecticut, won Best-in-Show Adult for her inspirational quotation, "It takes more courage to speak in a silent room than to become another voice in a crowd". The award for the Best-in-Show Student inspirational quotation was given to Hartley Livesey, a fifth-grade student at The Out-of-Door Academy for "Always remember you are braver than you think and stronger than you believe." The winning quotations and art will be showcased at the 20th annual exhibits, **January 18-March 12**, in Sarasota's Bayfront Park; **March 22-April 19** at Butler Park in North Port; and **April 26-May 29** at State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota. For more information about these exhibits or Embracing Our Differences, call 941-404-5710 or visit [www.embracingourdifferences.org](http://www.embracingourdifferences.org).

available at the door and are \$10. A new "Invite a Friend" initiative offers a free ticket to all series subscribers. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [SillSarasota.org](http://SillSarasota.org) or call 941-365-6404.

**What the Constitution Means to Me**

Fifteen-year-old Heidi Schreck put herself through college by winning Constitutional debates across the country. Now, the Obie Award-winning playwright resurrects her teenage self in order to trace the document's profound impact on the lives of four generations of women. Called "The best and most important new play of the season" by The New York Times, "What the Constitution Means to Me" breathes new life into this country's founding document. The play is performed in Florida Studio Theatre's Keating Theatre now through Sunday, February 26. Ticket prices are \$25 through \$39. Keating Theatre is located at 1241 N. Palm Avenue, Sarasota. Browse curtain times and purchase tickets online at [www.floridastudiotheatre.org](http://www.floridastudiotheatre.org).

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# Amanda's PICKS

by Amanda Glam

While not a holiday movie per se, *The Fabelmans* (PG-13) is a gift to moviegoers from Steven Spielberg. It's the semi-autobiographical story of Sammy Fabelman, a young boy who becomes so fascinated with movies that he starts making his own.

I did a little research and almost everything that happens to Sammy, happened to Spielberg. Almost. But that doesn't really matter because nobody tells a story like Spielberg. I doubt an alien visited Spielberg when he was a kid, but that doesn't make me like *E.T.* any less.

Like Spielberg, Sammy has an engineer father (Paul Dano), a former concert pianist mother (Michelle Williams) and three younger sisters. Sammy's story begins in New Jersey when his parents, Burt and Mitzi, bring him to his very first movie, *The Greatest Show on Earth* (Spielberg's first movie). The movie inspires young Sammy to recreate the train wreck scene and his mother encourages him to film it. Watching Sammy, you understand so much about why the character is compelled

to make movies. You also understand that if that passion was not supported and encouraged by Sammy's parents, we might never have had *Jaws* and *Saving Private Ryan*.

Teenage Sammy (Gabriel LaBelle) keeps making movies, wrapping his sisters like mummies, staging battles with his fellow Boy Scouts, all the while dealing with increasingly complicated family issues. His father's new job moves the family from New Jersey and his grandparents, to Arizona and finally to California, which might eventually be good for Sammy's potential career, but not so good for the family.

In *The Fablemans*, if mom is happy, everyone's happy. The move to California means leaving behind Paul's co-worker and family friend Bennie (Seth Rogen). Where Burt is practical, responsible and even-tempered, Bennie is funny, passionate and



outgoing. Bennie's presence kept Mitzi from feeling like a bored, lonely housewife who gave up her career to raise her kids. With him not there, she does what any bored mom would do and buys a monkey (yes, Spielberg's mom bought a monkey).

California isn't great for Sammy either. His high school is populated by teenagers straight out of yes, the movies, and he's picked on for being Jewish. Spielberg strays from his real-life by giving Sammy a girlfriend, a devout Catholic determined to date and convert him. She convinces Sammy, who has taken a break from moviemaking, to

pick up his camera again. And once again, we can see the passion and thought process that would in just a few years, give the world a director who knew how to masterfully manipulate a movie audience.

Because *The Fabelmans* is more or less based on fact and co-written by Spielberg, with Tony

Kushner, what we see on screen feels absolutely authentic, from the noisy dinners in New Jersey with his Jewish grandparents, to intimate conversations and a senior class "Ditch Day" straight out of *Beach Blanket Bingo*. When Sammy meets his idol Director John Ford (a genius cameo by Director David Lynch), you might think "Like that would happen." But guess what kids, it did, basically word-for-word.

Every actor delivers an authentic, believable performance, from Rogen who does the most with his limited screen time, to Judd Hirsch who

as Mitzi's Uncle Boris, literally bursts into the house, corners Sammy for a wild talk about the circus and following your passion and then leaves in a scene that might win Hirsch an Oscar nod.

And speaking of Oscars, Michelle Williams is obviously gunning for one and Spielberg gives her plenty to work with. Mitzi, like Spielberg's mother, is an emotional, artistic, temperamental force. Williams gets to play guilty, angry, exuberant, heartbroken, nurturing, and she delivers but occasionally pushes it just a bit on over-the-top. Dano, who I normally find annoying, is excellent. But for me, LaBelle is the stand-out as Spielberg's stand-in. In a daunting assignment of playing a legendary filmmaker for that legendary filmmaker, LaBelle is perfect. That's it, perfect. With just weeks to go, *The Fablemans*, Spielberg's 33<sup>rd</sup> and his most intimate film, is my favorite movie of 2022.

**The Fablemans**  
★★★★★

## ENRICHING PROGRAMS

Offered by Charlotte County

### Teen Gingerbread Houses

**Englewood Charlotte Public Library**  
Dec. 16, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Receive your own gingerbread kit and design a unique structure that's a treat for the eyes and the stomach! Registration required.  
941.681.3736

### Let it snow!

Dec. 17, 11 a.m.  
**Family Services Center, 21500 Gibraltar Drive, Port Charlotte, FL, 33952**

Dress for a mess and celebrate the season with crafts and activities the whole family will enjoy! Registration required.  
Ages 3-12.  
941.613.3200

### Tinsel Trains

**Punta Gorda Charlotte Library**  
Dec. 21, 3 to 5:30 p.m.

Admire and interact with a 10-foot model train display and sip hot chocolate while watching a favorite holiday train movie.  
941.833.5460

### Noon Year's Countdown

**Punta Gorda Charlotte Library**  
Dec. 31, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

5...4...3...2...1...! Plan your resolutions and say goodbye to the last noon of the year with snacks, photos, and crafts. All ages. 941.833.5460

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# Hurricane Ian Resources

## Disaster Recovery Centers

In-person disaster recovery assistance is still available at three area locations. The Shannon Staub Library, 4675 Career Lane in North Port, is open **Monday through Saturday, 9am to 6pm**. Tringali Recreation Center, 3450 N. Access Road, is open **8am to 7pm Monday through Saturday**. The former Cultural Center of Charlotte County, 2280 Aaron Street, Pt. Charlotte, is also open **8am to 7pm**.

## New Disaster Recovery Center Opens

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has opened a disaster recovery center at the former Cultural Center of Charlotte County site, 2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte. The center is open **8am-7pm, Monday-Saturday**. The FEMA Disaster Recovery Center at Tringali Park recreation center, 3460 N. Access Road, remains open **8am-7pm, Monday-Saturday**. Disaster recovery centers provide disaster survivors with information from Florida agencies, FEMA, and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Survivors can get help applying for federal assistance and disaster loans, update applications and learn about other resources available. Individuals affected by Hurricane Ian in Florida can also apply for assistance online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or call **800•621•3362**. For

other Hurricane Ian information, call the Charlotte County Emergency Operations Center at **941•833•4000** or **941•743•1320**. Please note: The FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers in Charlotte County will be closed **December 23 through December 26** and **December 30 through January 2** for the holidays.

## 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 Saturday**. You can also apply for SBA disaster loans at the FEMA Recovery Center located at Tringali Recreation Center, 3460 N. Access Road. It is open **8am to 7pm, Monday through Saturday**.

## FEMA Deadline Extended

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has extended the deadline to apply for individual assistance until **January 12, 2023**. Apply for FEMA disaster assistance: online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov); using the FEMA App for mobile devices; or call FEMA toll-free **800•621•3362, 7am to 11pm**. Locally, you can apply for FEMA in person at the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center at Tringali Park Rec Center, 3460 N. Access

Road. Regular operating hours are **8am to 7pm, Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday**. Agencies available at this location include FEMA, Florida Dept. of Veterans Affairs, UNITE Florida, Florida Dept. of Children & Families, Dept. of Financial Services, Florida Dept. of Business & Professional Regulation, and Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

## SBA Disaster Loans Deadline Extended

The U.S. Small Business Administration has extended the deadline to **Thursday, January 12** to give Florida businesses and residents more time to apply for federal disaster loans for physical damages that occurred from **September 23 through November 4** due to Hurricane Ian. For information on SBA loans and to apply online, visit [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) and click SBA Disaster Assistance at the top of the page. You can also call the SBA's Customer Service Center at **800•659•2955** (if you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial **7•1•1** to access telecommunications relay services) or send an email to [DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov). To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, applicants should register online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or download the FEMA mobile app. If online or mobile access is unavailable, applicants should call the FEMA toll-free

helpline at **800•621•3362**. Those who use 711-Relay or Video Relay Services should call **800•621•3362**.

## Salvaging Family Treasures Tips

Survivors of Hurricane Ian can learn how to salvage storm-damaged household treasures from preservation specialists by accessing a website offered by FEMA. Among the heirlooms that might be saved are photos, artwork, quilts, important documents, and other irreplaceable mementos. Guidance and resources are available at [www.fema.gov/disaster/recover/save-family-treasures](http://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](http://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.

## 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](http://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



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Wednesdays at 6pm  
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**Christmas Eve Services Inside the Sanctuary**

Saturday 12/24 at 5pm and 7pm

**Christmas Day Services Inside the Sanctuary**

Sunday 12/25 at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

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.

**Need Temporary Shelter?**

If you are unable to remain in your home due to damages caused by Hurricane Ian, the State of Florida may be able to assist you with temporary sheltering and temporary or permanent repairs to your home. Unmet needs, such as transportation, senior services, or household supplies, can also be fulfilled through Unite Florida. Unite Florida assists you in connecting to recovery resources in your local community. The information entered on this website is completely confidential. Go to www.ianrecovery.fl.gov/unite. For those who need more assistance filling out an application, please call 800-892-0948.

**FEMA Crew Leader Can Help**

Need help or have questions regarding FEMA? Englewood has a FEMA crew leader for this area that can be contacted directly. Chad Hershey can be reached at 717-635-0564, 800-621-3362, or email the CRA office at Englewood@scgov.net for assistance. Hershey and his crew are here to help both business and individual homeowners.

**Unreturned Library Items?**

Charlotte County libraries thank you for holding on to your borrowed materials after Hurricane Ian. Most branches are now open again and ready for you to bring them back. Returns can now be accepted at Englewood, Pt. Charlotte, and Punta Gorda libraries and at the Centennial curbside location. Fines will be waived when your items are returned before

**December 31.** If your items have been lost or damaged due to the hurricane, please let staff know and the items will be removed from your account and the bill canceled.

**Sarasota County Disaster Recovery Program**

The Sarasota Office of Housing and Community Development, a department jointly operated by Sarasota County and the City of Sarasota, has implemented a disaster recovery program following Hurricane Ian as declared by an executive order by the Florida Governor, which may provide funds related to payment of insurance deductibles and depreciation allowance calculations determined by the homeowner's insurance company. To learn more about eligibility requirements and apply, go to www.scgov.net/government, search for Planning and Development Services and choose Office of Housing and Community Development.

**Use Caution When Hiring Home Repair**

The Charlotte County Community Development Department urges residents to exercise caution when hiring home repair organizations. Most contractors and non-profit organizations are legitimate and know the necessary steps to rehabilitating your home or business after a natural disaster, but there are some organizations that do not have the knowledge and experience in the building permit process. If you are obtaining help from a contractor, please verify their license, insurance, and registration with the county. If you are using a non-profit organization, make sure they are using contractors that are registered with the county as well as obtaining building permits. While getting

discounted labor and materials may be welcome, the pain of having to tear out or redo work may be compounded if that new work lacked proper permitting, inspections and contained substandard materials not approved by the state of Florida. For questions about the permitting process for contractors and non-profit organizations, please call the Charlotte County Community Development Department at 941-743-1201.

**Land-Clearing Debris**

Charlotte County reminds residents debris cleared from vacant land for the purpose of land clearing is not eligible for storm debris collection. All land-clearing debris is the responsibility of the property owner and is required to be disposed of privately by being brought to the county landfill or other proper disposal locations and should not be brought to the roadway for collection. For storm-related information, call the Charlotte County Call Center from 8am to 5pm, Monday-Friday at 941-833-4000 or 941-743-1320.

**Temporary-Use Housing Permits**

For residential property not

part of a Manufactured Home Zone District, Sarasota County developed a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) application to be used for those requiring temporary housing on a residential property. However, the property owner will need to check their homeowner's association restrictions. These TUPs are valid for a one-year period, with the ability to extend three months based on an active building permit for the repair/reconstruction of the residence. If already in a Residential Manufactured Home Zone District, the Sarasota Unified Development Code allows either an RV or a manufactured home in the Residential Manufactured Home Zone District, so a TUP is not required from the county for temporary housing within these districts.

**FEMA Scams**

A hurricane survivor recently reported getting a text that their "federal government check in the amount of \$2,800 has been disbursed". The text instructed the person to visit a link and provide personal information for FEMA to verify. This is a scam. FEMA is not providing any financial assistance in the amount of \$2,800. If you have applied for disaster assistance, FEMA

will notify you of its decision and it may also contact you if it needs additional information to process your application. This may come in the form of a letter. In some instances, you may receive a phone call. Be extremely careful when clicking any links. Other common scams are if you did not apply for assistance but receive a letter from FEMA, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. Con artists may try to apply for FEMA assistance using your name, address, and SSN they have stolen. Be cautious if somebody asks for your nine-digit application number. A FEMA inspector will not ask for this as they already have it in their records. FEMA inspectors never ask for or confirm banking information. Ask the inspector to show their ID badge. Don't believe anyone who promises a disaster grant and asks for large cash deposits or advance payments in full. If you believe you are the victim of a scam, contact local law enforcement and report it to the Office of the Attorney General by calling 866-966-7226 or visit www.myfloridalegal.com.

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# Club Chatter



On Saturday, December 3, the Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary held its Make A Difference Day at Lemon Bay Cemetery. They spent the morning clearing Hurricane Ian debris and general cleanup in preparation for Wreaths Across America to lay Christmas wreaths on all veterans' gravesites. The club collected and hauled off four dump trailers full of debris.

### Fashion Show Fundraiser

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 113, 3436 Indiana Rd, Rotonda West, will host an Off the Wave Fashion Show Fundraiser benefitting Veterans in need on **Saturday, January 14th**. The cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch, fashion show, and silent auction. Doors open at **11am**. Cash bar only. Tickets may be purchased at Off the Wave, 409 W. Dearborn

Street. Phone **941•473•9283**.

If you are unable to attend, donations are appreciated. Make checks out to: ALA – Unit 113, Attn: Fashion Show, 3436 Indiana Road, Rotonda West, FL 33947. This event is open to the public.

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

*Items appearing in this column are as accurate as possible. Please call the listed numbers for confirmation and further information. If you have an event*



Despite their building being badly damaged by Hurricane Ian, and still not open, the Englewood Elks held their annual Kids Christmas Party recently, but in a slightly different way. Parents drove their kids to the door where they were met by Santa Claus. Several Englewood Elks members "adopted" a family and bought gifts that were on a family's wish list. Here, two of the guests pose with Santa in the winter wonderland.

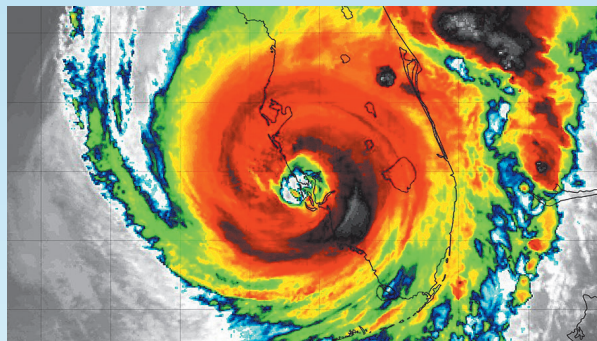


Be sure to save the date for the Englewood Beer Fest set for **Saturday, January 28**. The event runs from **11am to 6pm**, at Pioneer Plaza on West Dearborn Street. The craft beer tasting garden will be open from **noon to 4pm** and you can enjoy unlimited samples from the ten craft brewers with your beer tasting ticket purchase. There will be live entertainment by "Flat Water" and "Noah's Arcade", great food and craft vendors and of course, beer! General admission is free and beer tasting tickets are \$30 online or \$35 at the event (must be 21 to purchase any alcoholic beverage). No coolers or pets, please. Your host is the Rotary Club of Englewood Sunset. Have a great time and know you are supporting the Rotary Club's many charitable causes in the community. Purchase beer tasting tickets and learn more at [www.englewoodbeerfest.org](http://www.englewoodbeerfest.org).



Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary, Englewood Sunset Rotary, Englewood Moose, The End Zone Sports Bar & Grille, and Sarasota County Sheriff joined forces and finances to put on "Shop with a Cop" for needy families in the area. Forty children each received \$150 to shop for Christmas gifts for their families and themselves. The forty families also received a \$50 gift card to Publix for Christmas dinner. Organizer Tim Sharrow said, "This is a great event, it went super smooth. The sheriffs are great, and everyone had a good time." Photos by Jeannie Joyce

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# Nature Calls



## 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@checlorida.org. Go to www.CHECflorida.org for a complete program calendar.*

## Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine flatwoods and mangrove fringe of 125-acre Ann and Chuck Dever Regional Park on **Saturday, December 17 at 9am**. Meet at the San Casa entrance, 6791 San Casa Drive. For registration, email Tome@checlorida.org or call 941•475•0769. Also offered **Saturday, January 21 at 9am**.

## Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve

Join CHEC on a guided walk at **9am on Monday, December 19** through Tippecanoe II Mitigation Preserve, 16259 Joppa Avenue, Port Charlotte. This 150-acre preserve is home to several

families of the threatened Florida scrub jay. Meet in the parking lot. Please call 941•475•0769 to register or for more information. Also offered **Saturday, January 14 at 9am**.

## Amberjack Environmental Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre Amberjack Environmental Park on **Wednesday, December 21 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 **Monday, December 26, Wednesday, January 11, and Monday, January 16 at 9am**.

## Bayshore Live Oak Park

Join CHEC on a walk, **Wednesday, December 28, at 9am**, at Bayshore Live Oak Park, 23157 Bayshore Road, Pt. Charlotte, along the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor, to explore the various mangrove species found there. Mangrove identification will be covered, and you will learn about special adaptations that allow mangroves to thrive in salty environments and why mangroves are important and protected in Florida. Please call 941•475•0769 to register or for more information. Also offered **Wednesday, January 4 and Wednesday, January 18 at 9am**.

## Tippecanoe Env. Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk

through 308-acre Tippecanoe Environmental Park on **Saturday, December 31 at 9am**. This Charlotte County park includes habitats such as scrub, pine flatwoods, marsh, and wetlands. Meet behind the Charlotte County Sports Park at 2400 El Jobean Road. For registration, email Tome@checlorida.org or call 941•475•0769. Also offered **Monday, January 2 at 9am**.

## Oyster Creek Env. Park

Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine flatwoods, scrub habitat, and mangrove fringe of 250-acre Oyster Creek Environmental Park on **Saturday, January 7 at 9am**. Meet in the parking lot right next to Lemon Bay High School. For registration, please email Tome@checlorida.org or call 941•475•0769.

## Bill Coy Preserve

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

## Cedar Point Env. Park

Join CHEC for a guided tour of beautiful Cedar Point Environmental Park on **Friday, January 13 at 9am**. Meet outside the visitor's center, 2300 Placida Road. For more

information or to register, call 941•475•0769.

## Seagrass Wading Trip

Join CHEC for a free wading adventure through the seagrass beds of Lemon Bay on **Friday, January 27!** All participants will be guided approximately a half-mile to the wading site, where they will collect and view creatures of the bay. Participants will need to wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that may get wet during the trip. Participants are also encouraged to wear sunscreen and insect repellent and to bring plenty of drinking water. Meet outside the Cedar Point Visitor Center (2300 Placida Road) at **9am**. Advance registration is required by calling 941•475•0769. Trips fill up fast!

## Mangrove Chapter Activities

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

## Nature Walk

**Saturday, December 17th, 9-11am:** Join Florida Master Naturalist Kate Borduas, from the Mangrove Chapter of the Native Plant Society, for a nature walk at Shamrock Park & Nature Center, 3900 Shamrock

Drive, Venice. The park is the remnant of a once vast stretch of coastal scrub and is home to a small family of endangered Florida Scrub Jays. You will see a variety of scrub oaks, many of them hybridized, together with wax myrtle, lyonias, and other scrub species. Shamrock Park is an excellent example of how managed fire is essential to maintaining a native scrub plant habitat in a developed area. Meet at the Nature Center. For information, email mangrovechapter@fnps.org.

## Sunset Stroll

**Wednesday, December 28th, 4:30-5:30pm:** Join Dave and Linda Manley, from the Mangrove Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, for a Sunset Stroll at Shamrock Park & Nature Center, 3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice. The park has a 1.2-mile paved trail that winds through the central portion of the park and a demonstration garden featuring Florida-friendly plants. Part of the trail is beside the Venice Waterway where dolphins and manatees are occasionally seen. Meet at the Nature Center. For information, email mangrovechapter@fnps.org.

## LBC Guided Nature Walks

*The free guided nature walks shown below are sponsored by Lemon Bay Conservancy and will be held at Lemon Creek Wildflower Preserve, 3120 Gasparilla Pines Blvd., Englewood 24224. Please come*

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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.

Please note that Lemon Creek Wildflowers Preserve remains closed except for guided walks due to Hurricane Ian damage.

**Post-Hurricane Nature Walk**  
Join Tonya and Steve Bramlage on **Saturday, December 17**, at **9am** as they lead a walk focused on the extraordinary resilience and revitalization of native vs. non-native plants, bird populations, and other unique adaptations of post-hurricane survival. 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. This is an unprecedented opportunity to come explore Lemon Bay Conservancy's

Wildflower Preserve and witness the ecological effect of a category four hurricane on the subtropical environment. Hurricane winds and waves move sediment from bays into marsh areas, revitalizing nutrient supplies to the wetlands, uplands, and ponds. Participants are encouraged to wear long pants/shirts and closed-toe shoes.

**Winter Solstice Walk**  
Join Charlie Woodruff for a winter solstice walk on **Wednesday, December 21** at

**9am.** Bring your binoculars along to explore birds, bugs, butterflies, and the surrounding sights, sounds, and wonders of

nature at Wildflower Preserve. Participants are encouraged to wear long pants/shirts and closed-toe shoes.

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# Ancient Florida Swamp Is Alive

The Everglades are a part of Florida and if you would like to experience a swamp ecosystem, take a ride down I-75 to Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, just east of Naples. Part of the western section of the Everglades, this pristine environment lets you appreciate the natural beauty of a bald cypress tree swamp. There are five different eco-habitats on display here: pine flatwoods, wet prairie, central marsh, sawgrass pond, and an old growth bald cypress forest. The sanctuary now occupies about 13,000 acres.

The Corkscrew Swamp is the largest, old-growth bald cypress forest in North America. There are ten landmark old cypress trees

that were never harvested, and the girth of their trunks is amazing. All the trees, including may apple and southern maple, rise from the swamp floor, forming a “river of trees” during the rainy season. You see many examples of cypress “knees,” small stalagmite-like projections raising from the root system of the cypress trees.

To this day, scientists are uncertain as to the purpose

these “knees” serve.

Corkscrew Swamp is traversed on a wooden boardwalk that travels 2 1/4 miles through five different eco-habitats. No wading through muck and mire on this path, although it can be a little slippery after a rain without sole-gripping shoes. Most of it is under canopy although there are some open spaces when you walk along the edge

of the marsh prairie. Being that it was rainy season, the canopy floor was alive with blooming aquatic and marsh prairie plants.

Signage reminds you to speak softly and, in the peace and quietness, your ears attune to the ‘noise of silence’. It is relaxing to listen to the birds, hear the breeze through the trees, and just enjoy the sounds of silence.

Bird watchers will love this sanctuary and it is a gateway site for the Great Florida Birding Trail by the Audubon Society. Not being bird watchers, we did not seek out the birds, but their numbers were many and songs varied as they noted our passage through their territory.



*Walking over water on the boardwalk.*

*Continued on page 34*

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Continued from page 32

Depending on the season, you have opportunities to see many bird species, from the wood stork, snowy egret, and bald eagle to painted bunting, blue-gray gnatcatcher, green and tricolored heron, and black-bellied whistling duck. Standing dead trees, called snags, are killed by lightning or disease, and become an important wildlife habitat for birds. Taking binoculars is wise.

Early in the 1900s ladies' fashions included hats with long and decorative feathers. Millions of birds were killed just for their plumage, such as snowy egrets, herons, storks, and other wading birds. One such camp was located here at Corkscrew Swamp. The National Audubon Society moved to protect

these birds nesting here in 1912 and in 1954 worked to save the forest, accepting responsibility for the area, and creating the Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary.

One of the special sights of the Corkscrew Swamp during the late summer is the elusive ghost orchid. Attached high above the floor in a tall bald cypress tree, it is a pale yellowish-green color that almost looks ghostly (hence its name.) There are about 2,000 of them left in the wild and they are found only in SW Florida and Cuba. There is only one noted in the sanctuary and you must use binoculars to sight it.

Our mammal sightings were limited to SE lubber grasshoppers, raccoons, fox squirrels, butterflies, and water skippers. Being the area was one big flowing sheet of water, varying in depth from a few inches to a few feet, that eliminated

mammals such as black bear and white-tailed deer.

The origin of the Corkscrew Watershed is several miles northeast of the sanctuary. The water moves slowly towards the Gulf of Mexico in broad sheets, providing

freshwater for coastal rivers and estuaries. The water all comes from rain and despite the black color (caused by tannic acid from the trees) the water is very clean. Although full of water in the summer and fall, the water level falls to nearly dry in the spring.

Wet prairies or marshes are ecosystems that have water for more than five

months each year and are covered by plants such as grasses, sedges, and forbs (herbaceous flowering plant that is not a graminoid). We saw lots of large, broad-leaved plants known as Alligator Flag (or Fire Flag) with their spiked stalk blossoms. We did not see any of the plants' namesake - alligators. Other plants present were pickerelweed, lance-leaf arrowhead, lichen, water fern, water lettuce, and buttonbush.

Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary is open daily, 8am to 3pm, with the last admission at 1pm. Take exit 111 off I-75 and follow Immokalee Road east to Rte. 846 and The Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary is located at 375 Sanctuary Road, Naples. Website: [www.corkscrew.audubon.org](http://www.corkscrew.audubon.org).



Alligator tail is prolific in the swamp.

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# Keeping Up with KIDS

## Teen Gingerbread Houses

Teens, ring in the holiday season and make delicious gingerbread houses on **Friday, December 16, 4:30-5:30pm**, at the Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road. Receive your own gingerbread kit and design a unique structure that's a treat for the eyes and the stomach! Call **941-681-3736** to register.

## Santa Firehouse Breakfast

Bring the kids to the Second Annual Santa Firehouse Pancake Breakfast on **Saturday, December 17, 8 to 11am**. The Venice Fire Rescue will host the breakfast at Fire Station 51, 112 S. Harbor Drive, next to City Hall in Venice. Santa will arrive on a firetruck at **8:30am**. Come join him for breakfast and fun. Reservations are highly recommended. Contact Marion Vandermark at **941-480-3030** or [mvandermark@venicefl.gov](mailto:mvandermark@venicefl.gov).

## Family Crafts & Fun

Dress for a mess and come celebrate the season with crafts and activities the whole

family will enjoy on **Saturday, December 17, 11am**, at the Family Services Center, 21500 Gibraltar Drive, Pt. Charlotte! Registration required. Please register each child separately. You can register by calling **941-613-3200** or online under calendar events at [www.charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net](http://www.charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net).

## Evergreen Adventure Camp

Come learn about Florida's winter environment with games, outdoor activities, and a field trip. Starting **Tuesday, December 27**, CHEC Cedar Point Environmental Park presents a four-day camp for ages 8 through 12. Camp includes a special lunch party on Friday and a custom camp T-shirt. The camp runs from **9am to 3pm** with pre-care and post-care available. Cost \$150 for camp. To register, visit [www.checflorida.org](http://www.checflorida.org) and send completed form to [Tome@checflorida.org](mailto:Tome@checflorida.org) or call **941-475-0769**. Cedar Point Park is located at 2300 Placida Road.

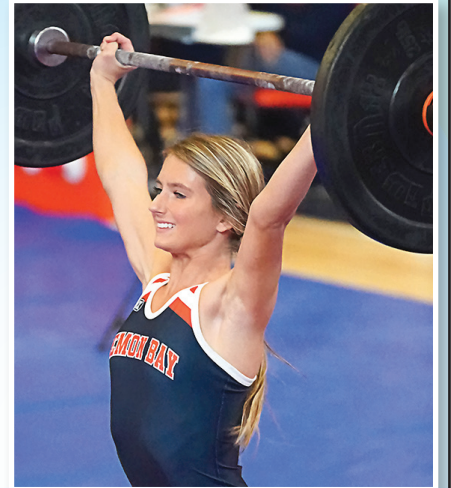
## Kids Craft Buffet

Come to the Jacaranda Library for an all-you-can-make craft buffet on **Thursday, December 29 at noon**. Join library staff for the fun and make as many crafts as you'd like. The Jacaranda Library is located at 4143 Woodmere Blvd in Venice. For more information, call **941-861-1260**.

## The Wizard Experience

Become a Wizard for an hour-long interactive show for any age, where you are part of the story! Created by Magical Moments Plus, this immersive event will bring all wizarding fans to live an adventure of a magical story through beautifully crafted environments of a magical world. Put on your favorite wizard attire and proceed to the classroom to learn spells and brew a forbidden potion. The Wizard Experience will be held from **Thursday, December 15 to Sunday, January 8**. The event is located at the Sarasota Pavilion, 6573 South Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. The Wizard Experience

Congratulations to Senior **Addison Adcock** of LBHS Girls Weightlifting, who was awarded the Sportsmanship Award for November. Addie is the embodiment of a good teammate and competitor. Every new girl into the weight room is immediately taken under Addie's wing for a practice or two to learn the ropes. She is exceedingly positive to everyone about everything. She is polite and respectful to coaches, judges, and competitors.



Her new teammates feel welcome and that they have someone in the team leadership position that they can talk to. In all three home meets this month, Addie went out of her way to assist the opposition. She even went as far as helping the other team learn the Olympic Snatch, a new lift. At the Port Charlotte meet, Addison took time to encourage new lifters both from Lemon Bay and Port Charlotte. She has built strong relationships with, not only her teammates, but the girls from Imagine, the chief district rival and another team faced in November. At the Imagine meet she even introduced the new lifters to the opposition so they could root for each other as they competed.

Receiving Honorable Mention for the November Sportsmanship Award are **Rachel Gillis** (Fr.) Girls Golf and **Omy Ordaz-Ortiz** (Jr.) Girls Soccer. Photo by Tim Kern

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is an hour-long interactive show, more information and tickets are available to purchase at [www.thewizardexperience.net](http://www.thewizardexperience.net) and start at \$39 for children (ages 3 to 15) and \$45 for adults (16 and up), excluding taxes and fees.

**New Years Countdown**

Count down the end of the year in this Noon Year celebration at the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library on **Saturday, December 31 at 11am!** Plan your resolutions and say “goodbye” to the last noon of the year with snacks, photos, and crafts. This program is intended for all ages. Register by calling **941-833-5460** or online at [www.charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net](http://www.charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net) and choose the event under

the calendar. The Punta Gorda library is at 401 Shreve Street in Punta Gorda.

**Safe Boater Education Camp**

The NBP/Spirit of America Foundation Safe Boater Education Camp is a unique opportunity for potential boaters ages 10-15 to get both classroom education and practical experience at a low price. It will teach youths the lifelong skills of safe sailing, paddling, and powerboating and campers can earn their Florida Boating license. The camp is conducted in partnership with Spirit of America Foundation. The camp is **Monday-Friday, January 2-6, 8am to 5pm.** Fee: \$200 (scholarships available).

Meet at Benderson Family Finish Tower, 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota. You can register at [www.nathanbendersonpark.org/camps](http://www.nathanbendersonpark.org/camps). For questions, call **941-358-7275, ext. 5816.**

**Little Explorers-Wilderness Survival**

Join CHEC for free nature classes for children between the age of 3-7 years old and their families on **Tuesday, January 3.** Bring your little explorers to learn about nature, animals, and science and participate in dynamic learning activities with environmental educators. The theme is Family Wilderness Survival. Advance registration is required, call **941-475-0769.** Meet outside the Cedar Point Visitor Center from **9 to 10am** (2300 Placida Road). Also offered **Friday, January 6** and **9am.**

**Youth Baseball Season**

Play ball! Englewood Area Youth Baseball is now accepting registrations for their spring season. Skill assessments are scheduled for **February 8, 9, 11, and 12.** Check your child’s league age at [www.littleleague.org/play.../determine-league-age](http://www.littleleague.org/play.../determine-league-age). Divisions will fill up so do not wait to register! Registration closes **Wednesday, February 1st.** For more information and registration, go to [www.EnglewoodBaseball.com](http://www.EnglewoodBaseball.com).

**Little Explorers-Forestry Fun**

Join CHEC for free nature classes for children between the age of 3-7 years old and their families on **Tuesday, January 17.** The theme is Forestry Fun. Bring your little explorers to learn about nature, animals, and science and participate in

dynamic learning activities with our environmental educators. Advance registration is required. Meet outside the Cedar Point Visitor Center from **9-10am** (2300 Placida Road). Also offered **Friday, January 20 at 9am.**

**Scholarships Available**

The Charlotte Community Foundation Higher Education Scholarships are now open for applications through **Monday, January 30th.** Thanks to the generosity of many donors, CCF is able to provide over \$200,000 to local individuals who are pursuing a post-secondary education. To learn more about each scholarship and to apply, please visit [www.charlottecf.org/scholarships](http://www.charlottecf.org/scholarships).

**LBHS Athletes of the Month**

On behalf of the Lemon Bay High School Athletic Department, congratulations to the November 2022 LBHS Athletes of the Month: **Sophia Stiwich, Girls Golf, and Becket Koss, Boys Swimming.**



SOPHIA STIWICH

Freshman **Sophia Stiwich** led the Manta Ray Girls Golf Team to an impressive 10-1 record during the storm-shortened season. Due to Hurricane Ian damage, the team went three weeks without practice or play. On October 19th, they successfully defended their 18 Hole Charlotte County Girls Golf Title at Deep Creek Golf Course. Sophia Stiwich (77) took Medalist honors and became the Charlotte County Girls Individual Golf Champion for 2022. Sophia missed the 2A District 12 Tournament due to illness, but her teammates pulled through for a third-place team finish, (without her present), to qualify the team for the 2A Region 3 Tournament the following week. Sophia returned in time for Regionals and shot a (75) at the 2A Region 3 Championships at Bardmoor Golf & Tennis Club. This was the 2nd place Individual score in the tournament. Her score helped the LBHS TEAM win the

2A Region 3 Runner-up Trophy and qualify for the FL State Golf Finals at Mission Inn Resort. The Lemon Bay High School Girls Golf team finished in 13th place as a team at the Class 2A FL State Girls Golf Championships. Lemon Bay Freshman Sophia Stiwich led the Manta Ray Girls in the 2A State Finals by finishing in 6th place overall. Shooting a (71) on Day One and a (77) on Day Two, Sophia Stiwich finished the 2022-23 Golf season ranked 9th in the State for all 2A Girl Golfers on the iWanamaker Golf app., and a nine-hole average of 38.



BECKET KOSS

Senior **Becket Koss, Boys Swimming,** was the State runner up in one of his two events (50 Freestyle) at the State Championship meet. He also broke the school record once again in this event, as well as in his second event (100 fly), where he also medaled by placing 6th. This was done in a season that was unlike any other season. Becket rose to the occasion and upheld the Lemon Bay standard of excellence.

Receiving Honorable Mention for the November Athlete of the Month are **Monica Heeg (Fr.) Girls Swimming; Izzy Ragazzone (Jr.) Girls Soccer; Natalee Brown (Sr.), Bryn Atherholt (Sr.), Alexandretta Harris (Jr.), and Addison Adcock (Sr.) Girls Weightlifting; and Koen Hoffman (Sr.) Wrestling.** Photos by Tim Kern

Thank you for your support of the Manta Rays. School website: [www.lemonbayhigh.com](http://www.lemonbayhigh.com); Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mantathletics](http://www.facebook.com/mantathletics); Twitter: @mantathletics.

**November/December Herons of the Month**

Please join Vineland Elementary School in congratulating the November/December Herons of the Month. This program, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, recognizes students who display the attributes of the Vineland motto: Where Herons Soar (Show Respect, Own Actions, Accept Differences, Realize Potential.)



Kindergarten through second grade Herons. Front row, L-R: Devin Gonzalez, Emma Hendricks, Denver Cornish, Charli Molczynski, Nova Reed, Reagan VanBuran, Garrett Tressmer, Olivia Dove, Oliver Thomas, Carrera Dulmage. Second row, L-R: Alexandria Stephen, Isabella Wilson, Theia Anderson, Fred Wilson, Makenzi Kirkpatrick, Raelyn Lamour, Michael Guelmes, Derek Buchillion, Olivia Cimmino. Third row, L-R: Jordan Richmond, Joyelle Hock, Joseph Noeth, Ashlind Jurkowski, Liam Davis, Brady Pickle, Michael Bonakoske, Brooke Dittmer, Bryson, Azalea Fink.



Third through fifth grade Herons. Front row, L-R: Devyn Morris, Gregory Frost, Anthony Abreu, Lyla Davis, Savannah Dove, Colby Buswell, Stefan Buswell, Sophie Molczynski, Jessie Schlueter. Second row, L-R: Margaret Irkhin, Patience Henthorn, Olivia Schwab, Kayli Sefani, Jackson Hawkins, Donald Ulrich, Brody Frega, Lily-Anah Mitri-Legualt, Noah Cooke, Connor McBride, Adam Royzen, Aycen Von Eyser, Brodie Adams. Third row, L-R: Greyson Silliven, Khloe Hall, Alexandra Kassimova, Cameron Townsend, Gabriella Stephen, Kimber McMahon, Isabella O'Rouke, Frank Wood, Alexandria Wells, Lincoln Tran, Noemi Galvan.





On Thursday, December 8, Sheila and Dario Leo celebrated the Grand Opening of their Apulia Osteria Italiana restaurant, with a Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting. Sheila did the honors of cutting the ribbon, as Dario (on her right) watched. Chamber Executive Director, Doug Izzo, is on the far left; Chamber President, Kathleen Callahan, is in the center behind the Chamber sign; and Chamber President-Elect, Shane Whitmore, is on the right. Apulia Osteria Italiana offers traditional Italian fare including pasta and classic entrees with wines in a relaxed setting. They are located at 8501 Placida Road.



On November 30th, HCA Florida Englewood Hospital leadership and its caregivers gathered for the ribbon-cutting for the Emergency Room renovation. The \$10 million, 8,400 square-foot expansion extends capacity, helping the hospital stay ahead of the health care needs of this growing area. The number of patient care areas has been expanded from eight to 18. There are also new bronchoscopy-endoscopy suites, new behavioral health safe rooms, expanded trauma suites, a dedicated lounge for first responders, a new waiting and registration area, a private consultation room, and increased emergency support space. This should help decrease wait times and allow more patient space. The hospital is also a primary stroke center. To learn more about HCA Florida Englewood Hospital, visit [www.HCAFloridaHealthcare.com](http://www.HCAFloridaHealthcare.com) and follow the hospital on Facebook. Above, Brittany Jett, ER Director, cuts the ribbon at the completion of the ER update and expansion project.

## Seven Interesting Facts About The Winter Solstice

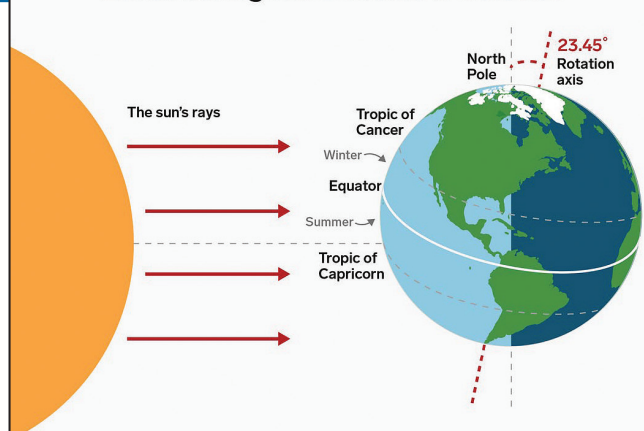
Nocturnal animals and human night owls may rejoice during the winter solstice. On the winter solstice, people can witness the Earth's longest night and shortest day of the year for their respective hemispheres. For individuals living in the northern hemisphere, the winter solstice generally occurs between December 20 and 23 each year. Those in the

southern hemisphere experience the winter solstice between June 20 to June 23.

In 2022, the northern hemisphere's winter solstice occurs on December 21 at 4:47pm. The solstice may come and go unnoticed, but it's an interesting day on the calendar.

1. Not only will the winter solstice occur on a specific date, it also occurs at a specific time when the Earth's semi-axis tilts furthest from the sun. This corresponds to when the North Pole is aimed away from the sun on

Earth during the December solstice



the 23.5 degree tilt of the Earth's axis. At this point, the sun also shines directly over the Tropic of Capricorn. The information and trivia site Mental Floss says the solstice happens at the same moment for everyone on the planet. However, the hour it occurs depends on your time zone.

2. Areas of the Northern Hemisphere can have varying lengths of day and night on the solstice. For example, New York City may have nine hours and 15 minutes of sunlight on the winter solstice. If that upsets New Yorkers, they may be happy to be outside parts of Finland, some of which get less than six hours of sunlight on the solstice.

3. The word "solstice" is derived from Latin and means "sun stands still." It was chosen to describe this cosmic phenomenon because the solstice sun seemingly appears in the same position at noontime for several days before

and after the winter solstice — at its lowest point in the sky.

4. It is easy to mistake the solstices for the equinoxes, which also occur twice a year. However, the equinoxes occur in fall and spring and mark when the sun is directly above the equator and night and day are of equal length.

5. Despite the winter solstice indicating the beginning of the astrological winter, it may not be the coldest time of the season. Usually those temperatures are reserved for January and February.

6. The Farmer's Almanac reports that many cultures marked the arrival of the solstice as a time of death and rebirth. Early man also kept track of the days by observing the sun's position in the sky. In fact, historians believe Stonehenge was created to monitor the sun's yearly "movement."

7. Many traditions associated with Christmas originated during Pagan celebrations for the winter solstice. For example, Scandinavians would burn a juul (yule) log in the hearth in honor of the god Thor. Thor's job was to bring the sun's warmth back to the people.

While the winter solstice and the lack of sunlight synonymous with it may not be something everyone looks forward to, there is a silver lining. Following the winter solstice, the hours of sunlight gradually increase by the day, eventually paving the way for the spring equinox.

### Changes In Medicare?



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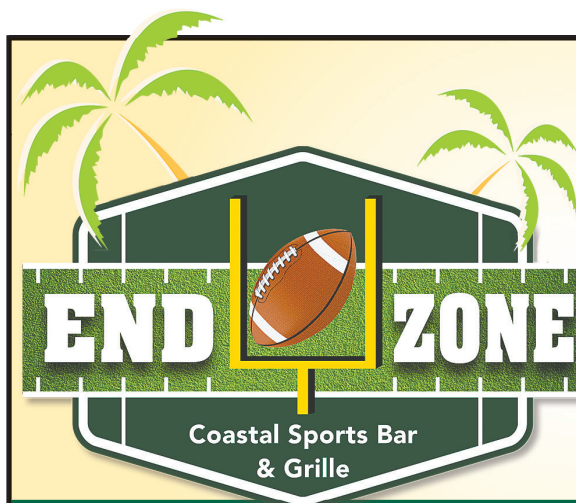
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# Calendar *at a Glance*

These are the shortened calendar events that were added to our website [www.Englewoodreview.com](http://www.Englewoodreview.com) as of Friday, December 9. They represent events from December 16 - January 13. 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 DECEMBER 17**  
**Christmas Crafts Sale & Country Breakfast** Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St. 8AM-11AM 941-474-5588

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

**MON DECEMBER 19**  
**Blue Christmas Service at GCUMC** 1100 S. McCall Rd. 6:30-7:30PM 941-697-1747

**SAT DECEMBER 24**  
**Christmas Eve Worship Services** Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St. 4, 6, 8 & 10PM 941-474-5588

**Fellowship Church Christmas Eve Concerts** 140 Rotonda Blvd. West, 4-5PM 941-475-7447

**Faith Lutheran Church Worship** 551 Rotonda Blvd. W. 5PM & 7PM 941-697-3313

**Fellowship Church Christmas Eve Concert** 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 6-7PM 941-475-7447

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at GCUMC** 1100 S. McCall Rd. 6 and 11:30PM 941-697-1747

**SUN DECEMBER 25**  
**Christmas Day Service at GCUMC** 1100 S. McCall Rd. 10-11AM 941-697-1747

**WEDS JANUARY 4**  
**St. Francis Parish Card Party** 5265 Placida Rd., 11AM-2:30PM 941-697-4899

**FRI JANUARY 6**  
**Distinction and Unity** Hermitage Artist Retreat, 6660 Manasota Key Rd. 5-6PM HermitageArtistRetreat.org

**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 Centennial 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. Aired 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



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**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.  
6-7PM 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 Centennial 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 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 8:30AM  
and 10:30AM. 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. 8AM, 9:30AM,  
11AM. 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.  
Ends Dec. 18th. 12:30-5PM.  
941-697-3616

**Gospel Singing** Indian Mound Park,

210 Winson Ave. 3-5PM  
941-889-8899

**Drum Circle**

One hour before sunset,  
Englewood Beach North End

**For more detailed descriptions of these events, please visit EnglewoodReview.com**

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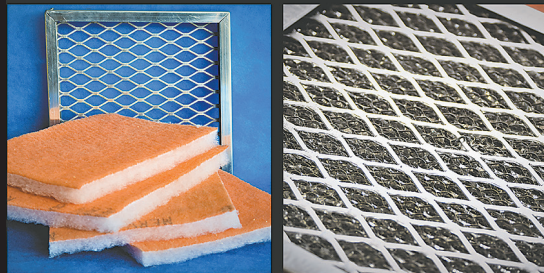
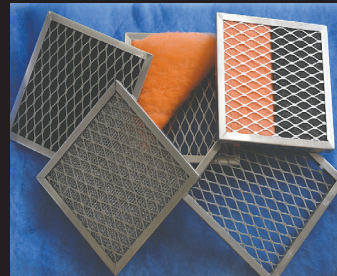
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Roxy is an awesome dog with such a sassy personality. It is definitely a joy to have her as my dog.



### Pet Photos with Santa

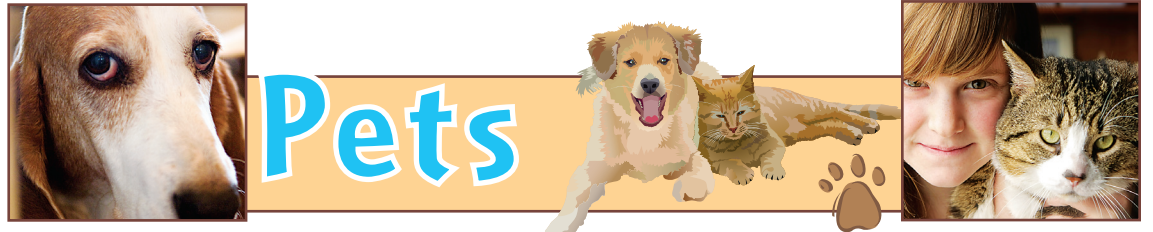
Bring your pet to visit Santa and have its photo taken on **Saturday, December 17** from **11am to 3pm**. The event will be held in the courtyard of Suncoast Humane Society, 6781 San Casa Drive. Donations are appreciated for this free photo event. For more information, call **941-474-7884**.



### Furry Scurry 2023

The Conservancy and Community Trust of South Gulf Cove would like to invite you to the Third Annual South Gulf Cove CCT Furry Scurry 5K Walk/Run on **Saturday, February 4**.

All ages are welcome to join this dog-friendly walk/run in South Gulf Cove. There is a special 1.5-mile course for those who feel 3.1 miles is too much. Race time for runners is **8am** and walkers follow. Proceeds benefit EARS, SHS Englewood, German Shepard Rescue, Labrador Retriever Rescue, Ruck 9, and Rescue Garage. Free hotdogs & some brews afterwards. Also raffles & silent auction. Price before **December 26th** is \$30 for the 5K and \$25 Mutt Strut. Register at [www.runsignup.com](http://www.runsignup.com).



## 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](http://www.humane.org).



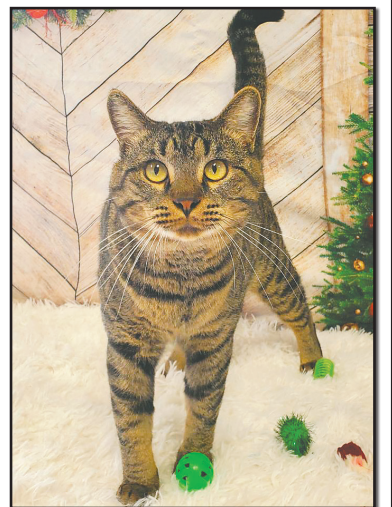
**Meet & Greet and Adoption Hours** (By appointment only)  
Tues – Fri: 10:00 AM–4:30 PM; Sat: 10:00 AM–3:30 PM  
**Contact our Adoption Specialists at 941-474-7884 x 419**  
**6781 San Casa Drive**

My name is **Ozzie** and I'm one cool pup. I am a very sweet boy that is looking for the perfect



place to call home. I love pets and would love a movie night cuddled up on the couch. Let's take some walks together!

Hi! I'm **Hans**, a FIV positive kitty who would be a perfect addition to a home with no other cats. I do like dogs and would do great living with one. My sweet face matches my sweet personality, and I would make a great companion for a loving family.



**EARS**  
Englewood Animal  
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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](http://Petfinder.com), or [EarsAnimalRescue.com](http://EarsAnimalRescue.com). For information, call 941-681-3877.

Adoptions events are at EARS Tuesday thru Saturday, 10a.m.-3:00p.m.

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500 N. Indiana Ave. • 681-3877 (FURR)

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 3pm

Photos by  
Bobbi Austin

**Sasha** is a three-year-old Chihuahua mix. She is a great little dog; a little shy at first, but just the right size to go anywhere.



Meet **Angel**. She is a Persian mix, spayed female kitty. Angel is front paw declawed. She is gentle and friendly.

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*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.

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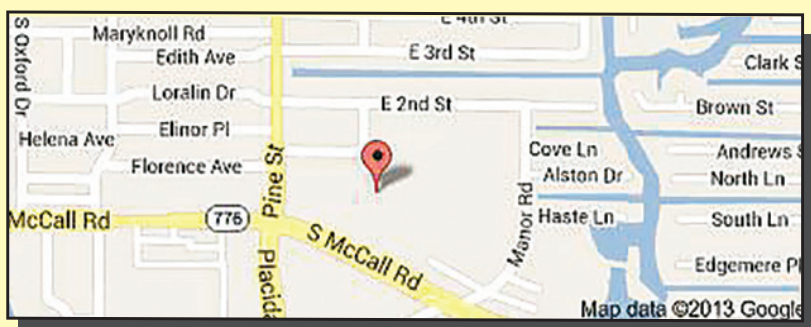


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