

The

December 4, 2020

# ENGLEWOOD REVIEW

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L-R: Ruth Brezicki from Oyster Creek Home Owners Association presented 126 \$25 gift certificates to Jennifer Rogazzone, Counselor; Vicki Robinson, Social Worker; and Dawn Bedford, Counselor, for Lemon Bay High School students in need. Read more on page 3.

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# Around the Town

## Gulf Blvd. Sidewalks

Charlotte County is constructing sidewalks along Gulf Boulevard on Manasota Key from the south Englewood Public Beach parking lot entrance to the Stump Pass Beach State Park entrance. Warning signs and flaggers will be in place to aid in travel through this area. Travelers may experience intermittent lane closures, slow-moving traffic and/or temporary delays and should allow extra time when planning to travel through this area. The Public Works Department reminds motorists to remain alert at all times and to exercise caution when traveling in the vicinity of construction zones. More information about this project is available at [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov).

## GCUMC Barn & Crafts Sale

Find your Treasures at the Holiday Sale at Gulf Cove United Methodist Church on **Saturday, December 5** from **9am to 2pm**. There's no telling what can be found at the Men's Club Barn Sale and the Crafty Ladies handmade wares in the Oaks Cove. Masks and social distancing are required. Gulf Cove UMC is located at 1100 S. McCall Road in Port Charlotte, in Gulf Cove.

**TOYS FOR TOTS**  
Collection On  
**Dearborn St.**

**DECEMBER 5TH**

For classic car lovers, the cancellation of the monthly Cruisin' on Dearborn due to COVID-19 was a great disappointment. However, a grassroots effort by a local business property owner on Dearborn Street has organized an alternative Cruise In event on West Dearborn Street in the downtown area. The event is scheduled to be held **monthly** on the **first Saturday** of the month from **2 to 8pm**. DJ Tommy Tunes is providing the music and has the permission of Banyan Court owner Dr. Barbara Gaunt-Jaehne to set up in her parking lot. The next event is **Saturday, December 5** and visitors are invited to bring a toy for the Toys for Tots Drive with a drop off site in front of Tall Pines Realty, 403 W. Dearborn Street, courtesy of Jeremy Jones. Downtown stores and restaurants will stay open to provide an opportunity for some shopping and dining, so come on down to check out the cars and shops of downtown Englewood. For more information, contact Michael Robulock at **850-512-5005**.

The church's website is <http://GulfCoveChurch.com>.

## Arts & Craft Show

The ninth Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Show at the Englewood Sports Complex takes place **Saturday, December 5** from **9am to 2pm**. This year the show will be held outdoors on the tennis courts (located behind the main building.) Free admission.

Face masks are encouraged. Englewood Sports Complex is located at 1300 S. River Road.

## Jingle Jam

The second annual Jingle Jam at CoolToday Park takes place **Saturday & Sunday, December 5 & 6**. There will be a holiday market, kids craft stations, carnival games, live music, Ms. Claus story time, carriage rides and much more. For schedule details, visit the CoolToday Park Facebook page. CoolToday Park is located at 18800 South West Villages Pkwy, Venice.

## Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance

The Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Ceremony scheduled for **December 7th** at AMVETS Post #777 has moved to VFW Post 10178 at 550 N. McCall Road. Time and details for the ceremony to remember and honor veterans and survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor were still being worked out at press time. For more information, call the VFW Post at **474-7516**. The details will also be announced on the Englewood Review Facebook page and at [www.EnglewoodReview.com](http://www.EnglewoodReview.com).

## Free Trust Seminars

Kerry Hunter, Trust Development Officer at Englewood Bank & Trust, is continuing her live seminars at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601

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The Oyster Creek Golf and Country Club Homeowners Association recently donated \$3,150 to Lemon Bay High School for students in need. Funds were raised during a Halloween Trick or Treat Event when 25 costumed residents went with golf carts, driveway to driveway, collecting single dollar bills from participating residents. Funds were used to purchase \$25 Walmart gift cards for students in need as well as a contribution to a special fund for student emergencies. Distribution of funds is determined by the school social worker, counselors and administrators. In addition, \$500 was donated to Kids' Needs of Greater Englewood. The latter is a 'clothes closet' for students K-12 offering gently used clothing and shoes, as well as other services. This is the fifth year that Oyster Creek has made a holiday donation to LBHS students. Pictured (left to right:) Ruth Brezicki - Oyster Creek, Jennifer Rogazzone - School Counselor, Vicki Robinson - Social Worker, and Dawn Bedford - School Counselor.

The  
**Englewood REVIEW** www.engagewoodreview.com  
*"Our mission is to accurately inform, educate and entertain the area we serve with the goal of fostering community."*

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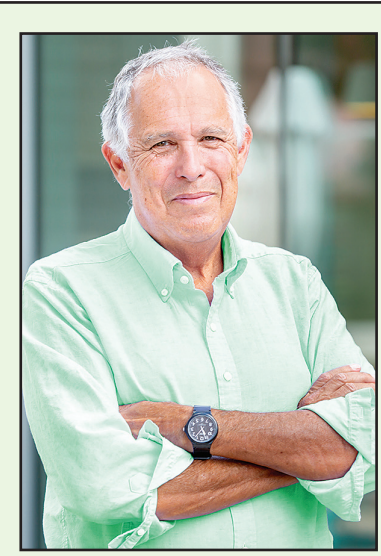
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participants are being asked to please practice social distancing. Due to limited seating, Hunter is asking attendees to let her know if they plan on bringing additional guests.

**Dearborn Holiday Walk**  
 Although the Christmas Walk on West Dearborn Street was cancelled due to COVID-19, the merchants of Dearborn Street did not want to deprive families of this annual holiday tradition. These downtown merchants have created the Dearborn Street Holiday Walk to take place on **Friday, December 11 from 4 to 7pm.** Kids will receive goodie bags, sweet treats, see Santa Claus at Four Winds Gallery, and register for a raffle to win a bike. Parents can expect to find special deals and discounts at the shops' open houses. Be sure to bring the family to downtown West Dearborn Street to enjoy some holiday cheer while supporting local small businesses. For more information, contact Brad Pike at Off the Wave Clothing Store, 409 W. Dearborn or call **473-9283.**

**Toy Drive & Concert**  
 If you like country music, plan to visit Ricaltini's Bar and Grille when Grammy-considered



Registration opens on **Tuesday, December 8** to the general public for the winter and spring semesters at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Ringling College (OLLI at Ringling College). OLLI's winter semester is **January 11-March 5**; its spring semester is **March 8-April 30.** Each semester features dozens of classes and programs covering a wide variety of topics. Classes will be offered using a hybrid model—in-person on the Ringling College Museum Campus and via the Zoom platform. Classes cover a rich diversity of topics, including art and music appreciation, health and well-being, global issues, philosophy, religion, culture & travel, and science. When offered in-person, classes will be at the Ringling College Museum Campus (1001 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota); masks and physical distancing will be required. Fee based on membership level or non-member status. To register for classes, visit [www.OLLlatRinglingCollege.org](http://www.OLLlatRinglingCollege.org) or call **309-5111.** Instructor Tom Miller is pictured here.

songwriter and Nashville recording artist John Salaway performs live on **Saturday, December 12 at 7pm.** The concert is free, but you are asked to bring a toy for local families in need this Christmas. Ricaltini's is located at 1997 Kentucky Avenue, off Placida Road. Toys, cash donations for gifts and Christmas trees for the adopted families are being accepted now with drop off locations at

Ricaltini's, Porter Contracting, 3579 S. Access Road and Barberstry Barber Shop, 2411 S. McCall Road. Kendra Porter is also using donations received from the bracelets she distributed to the community during her "Spread Love" campaign earlier this year. For more information, contact Kendra at [kp@portergc.com](mailto:kp@portergc.com).

South Indiana Avenue, in December. The complimentary seminars take place from **10-11:30am. Thursday, Dec. 10:** Top 10 Things Every Investor Should Know presented with EBT Portfolio Manager Samuel A. Kiburz. Learn important concepts and facts you should be aware of as you manage your financial future. You will learn about duration, beta, sectors, liquidity, benchmarks, and much more. **Thursday, Dec. 17:** Estate-Planning Basics presented with Lori Wellbaum Emery of Wellbaum & Emery,

P.A. This 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. To register, visit [www.engagewoodbank.com](http://www.engagewoodbank.com) or contact Hunter at **473-3629** or [khunter@ebtfl.com](mailto:khunter@ebtfl.com). Face coverings are required, and

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The Englewood United Methodist Church 29th annual free Community Christmas Dinner, due to COVID-19, has to be limited to making required reservations for the free traditional feast to be safely picked up for anyone or delivered for shut-ins. The dining room will not be open. The menu is roast turkey and Grandma's dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potato casserole, cranberry sauce, green beans, rolls and butter, and pumpkin pie. Call **474-5588, extension 253** to reserve now, or as soon as possible on or before **December 18**. Leave only your name and phone number. You will be called back with instructions for Christmas Day pick up at 700 E. Dearborn Street or shut-in home delivery. Donations are welcome but not required. For information only, call **474-5588** during office hours, **8:30am-4:30pm, Mondays - Thursdays**. Photo: Last year, the take-out box volunteer servers did not wear masks, but this year all COVID-19 safety precautions will be followed.

**Holiday Decorating Contest**

This year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Old Englewood Village Association (OEVA) had to cancel the annual Fine and Handmade Art Festival. In its place, OEVA will be holding a "Decorate Your House" contest, where residents can decorate their home for the holidays and submit their address and a photo for a chance to win up to \$200 in gift certificates from member OEVA businesses. The public will be able to view the entries and locations on the OEVA website/app (complete with a photo and map of the locations) then drive by and vote online for their three favorite Holiday Decorated Homes. Eligible zip codes are 34223, 34224, 33946 & 33947. There will also be a category for OEVA member businesses. Decorations must be holiday oriented and non-political. Once a business or home is decorated, they can enter on the OEVA website by submitting a form with a photo of property that they are entering. The deadline for entry is **midnight, December 12**. Voting runs from **December 14 through midnight, December 25** with winners announced on **December 29**. For more information and to enter, go to [www.EnglewoodFL.org](http://www.EnglewoodFL.org).

**Manta Market**

The Manta Market is back at Lemon Bay High High School for your shopping pleasure. Held one Saturday each month

from **9am to 2pm** seasonally, you can browse fine arts, crafts, artisanal foods and much more from a large variety of vendors. The next market is **Saturday, December 12, 9am to 2pm** at 2201 Placida Road. The rest of the season's dates are **January 9, January 23, February 20 and March 6**. Convenient parking in the high school lot and restrooms available. More information available at Facebook MantaMarket.

**Gulf Pines Veteran Wreaths On Saturday, December 19 at noon**, Wreaths Across America will be at Gulf Pines Memorial Park, 2401 Englewood Road, to remember and honor veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of America's fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud. Please help the cemetery place wreaths on as many veteran graves as possible by clicking the red "Sponsor" button, located on Gulf Pines Memorial Park Wreaths Across America Page at [wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/46940/Overview](http://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/46940/Overview). If you would like to volunteer to participate in the wreath laying ceremony, please click the "Volunteer" button next to the cemetery name below.

**Veteran Wreaths at Lemon Bay Cemetery**  
Plans are underway for a holiday wreath laying ceremony on the graves of veterans buried in

Lemon Bay Historic Cemetery, 500 S. Indiana Avenue, on **Saturday, December 19 at noon**. There are over 130 service members buried there and volunteers & sponsors are needed to participate in the wreath placement to honor those military personnel who served the country. All CDC safety guidelines have been implemented for this ceremony. Volunteers are asked to register so they will be informed when the wreath laying details are finalized. To volunteer and/or sponsor a wreath, please go to [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/pages/47689](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/pages/47689).

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### Aprons Exhibit at Dearborn Center

Take a nostalgic trip through time in this unique exhibit featuring over 75 aprons, from the 1940s through contemporary times. The walk-through exhibit is open on select days at the Dearborn Center, the new home for Life Realized, Inc., at 501 W. Dearborn Street. Remaining dates are **Saturday & Sunday, December 19 & 20, 10am to 2pm**. You will learn the trends, histories and stories behind aprons from mass produced to hand-stitched. Attendees who wear a personal apron will be eligible to win a raffle basket. Admission is \$2 to benefit Life Realized, Inc. Admittance is limited to 15 guests at a time. For more information, call **681-8188** or visit [www.liferealized.org](http://www.liferealized.org).

### Lighted Boat Parade

The White Elephant Pub has announced the date for their annual Lighted Boat Parade. It is scheduled for **Saturday, December 19th** at dusk. The boat parade departs from the White Elephant Pub at 1855 Gulf Blvd and travels for a short distance around Lemon Bay. The best viewing spots for spectators are the White Elephant Pub and Chadwick Park, located next to the White Elephant, across from Englewood Beach. For more details or to enter your boat, call the Pub at **475-6801** and ask for Pat or Kelly.

### Festival of Lights

Fishermen's Village annual Festival of Lights features more than one million holiday lights and decorations throughout the Village! Come enjoy daily viewing **through December 31st!** You are invited to come and enjoy the Festival of Lights, lighted canal cruises, shopping, dining, and live entertainment! Visit [www.fishville.com](http://www.fishville.com) for full details! Fishermen's Village is located at 1200 W. Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda.

### Toy Train & Collectible Show/Sale

Regal Railways presents their New Year's Toy Train & Collectible Show/Sale on **Saturday, January 2** at the Englewood Elks Lodge, 401 N. Indiana Avenue. The show hours are **9am to 2pm**. You can find model trains, collectibles, diecast & antiques and crafts along other items for sale. There will be a running train layout. Admission is \$5 adult with kids age 12 & under free.



*Don't miss this holiday lighting display in Rotonda West that combines a resident's love of Christmas decorating with his wish to collect food donations for Englewood Helping Hand. From **6 to 10:30pm** nightly through the year's end, you can drive by 179 Tournament Road in Rotonda to see this wonder for yourself. Enjoy synchronized holiday music by tuning your radio to 88.3FM. Bins will be available for your food bank donations through **mid-December**. Last year homeowners Alan and Kim Woinski won the 2019 state-wide holiday light decorating contest in New Jersey. While you are seeing the Woinski's display, drive around the rest of the area as a private group of Rotonda West residents are sponsoring a holiday decorating contest to brighten the holidays, both figuratively and literally, in partnership with the Woinski's non-participating entry light display/food drive.*

Concessions available. Go to [www.regalrailways.com](http://www.regalrailways.com) for tickets & more information.

### GCUMC Worship Services

All are invited to join the Gulf Cove United Methodist Church for in-person worship services on **Sundays**. The **8am** and **11am** services are traditional, and the **9:30am** service is contemporary. Masks are mandatory, and CDC guidelines are followed. The church is located at 1100 S. McCall Road, Port Charlotte, in the Gulf Cove area. If you prefer, each worship service is also live-streamed online; go to the church's homepage at [www.GulfCoveChurch.com](http://www.GulfCoveChurch.com) and click the Worship Online button. The church can be reached at **697-1747** or [GulfCoveUMC@gmail.com](mailto:GulfCoveUMC@gmail.com).

### Sarasota County CARES Act

Sarasota County CARES Act has paused accepting new applications for individual and business assistance at the current time. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was created to support individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations directly affected by COVID-19. The decision to temporarily stop new applications is due to the enormous backlog of applications to be processed. To check the status of a current application, go to [www.scgov.net/government/covid-19-coronavirus](http://www.scgov.net/government/covid-19-coronavirus). For questions, call the designated call center at **861-2273**.

### Utility Bill Help

Sarasota County residents who are unable to pay their utility bill due to COVID-19 may be eligible for assistance. Residential utility customer unable to pay their outstanding balance may be eligible for a six-month payment plan. Eligible customers can sign up for the six-month payment plan by emailing [utilitybill@scgov.net](mailto:utilitybill@scgov.net) with Payment Plan in the subject line field or by calling **861-6790**.

### Community Audio Tours App

The Florida Humanities Council created The Florida Stories audio tour app for use on your phone or mobile device. It gives you walking tours of Florida's most fascinating communities. All you have to do is download the info from the community you plan to visit and Voila ... it's truly like having your own private tour guide! Audio narration with synchronized photos leads you step-by-step with a bundled package of history, new and old pictures, maps, key architectural landmarks, and tales of historical characters who have contributed to the town's heritage. Once downloaded, you don't need to worry about expensive roaming charges because you won't need an internet connection for it to work. Currently 35 community tours are available, including Boca Grande, Ft. Myer's Dunbar community, Bradenton (Old Manatee,) St. Pete and Ybor City. To download, visit your phone's app store and search for Florida Stories. The app is free to

download. For questions, contact Lisa Lennox at [lennox@flahum.org](mailto:lennox@flahum.org).

### Caring & Sharing

#### Big Red Bus Blood Drives

OneBlood "Big Red Bus" has these upcoming blood drive dates scheduled in the Englewood area. Please note, however, that blood drives are subject to change at any time. If you would like to donate blood, appointments are required and can be scheduled at [www.oneblood.org](http://www.oneblood.org). Englewood dates are **Saturday, December 5, 10am to 4pm** – Winn Dixie, 4100 S. McCall Road. **Monday, December 7, 10am to 4pm** – Bealls Outlet, 425 S. Indiana Avenue. **Friday, December 11, 1 to 5pm** – Englewood Bank & Trust, 1111 S. McCall Road. **Tuesday, December 15, 10am to 4pm** – Bealls, 1500 Placida Road. **Saturday, December 19, 11am to 5pm** – Pet Supermarket, 1951 S. McCall Road. **Sunday, December 20, 10am to 5pm** – Winn Dixie, 4100 S. McCall Road. **Tuesday, December 22, 11am to 5pm** – Big Lots, 1855 Englewood Road. **Saturday, December 26, 11am to 5pm** – Walmart, 2931 S. McCall Road. **Monday, December 28, 11am to 5pm** – Gulf Coast Hardware, 975 S. McCall Road. **Wednesday, December 30, 11am to 5pm** – Winn Dixie, 1951 S. McCall Road.

### Sports

#### Toys for Tots Tournament

Come enjoy a game of golf while knowing you are supporting Toys For Tots when you participate in Toys For Tots Tournament on **Saturday, December 12** at Long Marsh Golf Course in Rotonda. The four-player scramble has a shotgun start at **8:30am** and the entry fee includes golf, food and prizes. Entry fee is \$50 + unwrapped gift; members of Rotonda Golf & Country Club pay \$40. For more information, call **698-0918**.

#### Men's Senior Softball Champions

The inaugural Fall season of the Englewood Senior Softball league completed play recently, with champions crowned in both the Gold and Silver divisions. In the Gold division, the Red Bulls pulled away after a slow start, finishing with 11 wins and just 4 losses. "It was a fun and competitive season," commented Frank Golad, manager of the Red Bulls, adding that "everything

just clicked for us, no injuries, and a lot of luck, we won most of our games by just a couple of runs!" In the Silver division, which played more games but only 5 innings each game, the Red Hawks finished on top with 19 wins, 4 losses and two ties. "We had a good year," stated Ray Murphy, Red Hawks manager. "We got some timely hitting and sound defense. Had a lot of fun in the process." All games were played at the Englewood Sports Complex. The league now transitions to the Winter 2021 season, which begins **January 4** with the entry draft for new players. Open practices have resumed at the Englewood Sports Complex, adult softball fields 1 & 2. For more information on how to register or if interested in sponsoring a team go to [www.EnglewoodSeniorSoftball.weebly.com](http://www.EnglewoodSeniorSoftball.weebly.com).

### Homeless Coalition Scramble Winners

On November 21, The Homeless Coalition hosted 31 teams at the Annual "Driving Out Hunger" Fall Golf Scramble at Riverwood Golf Club. It was a beautiful fun-filled day. The Mixed flight winners were: First Place: (61) Sean Gerathy, Kristi Gerathy, Dan Fiorelli, and Rick Mullen. Second Place: (65) Jill Powers, Steve Pollard, Joel Thompson, and Chris Thompson. The Women's flight winners were: First Place: (tied at 70) Team: Geri Bodnar, Cindy Murphy, Patty Hamilton & Donna Robichaud and Team: Daria Jansen, Joan Whitehead, Lee Pensinger & Lydia Havey. The Men's flight winners were: First Place: Two teams: (tied at 61) Team: Joe Pomeroy, Tom Ogg, Tom Rossi & George Hutchins and Team: Mike Burgess, Tate Smith, Rusty Smith & Ethan Adams. Third Place: (62) Brett Hawker, Harry Bourne, Matt White, and Ryan Centric. 4th Place (63): Matt Harvey, Corey Girdwood, Bryan Greenberg, and Dr. Dale Greenberg. Closest to Pin #16 Winner was Joe Manna, and the Closest to the Line #10 Winner was Paul Race. Proceeds benefit the Hunger Program at The Homeless Coalition.

*If you have an upcoming event you would like to have considered for "Around the Town" please send info and/or photo to The Englewood REVIEW, 370 W Dearborn St, Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223 or [englewoodreview@comcast.net](mailto:englewoodreview@comcast.net).*

# Arts & Entertainment



Students of all skill levels can explore their artistic interests and build technical and conceptual skills in non-credit studio and digital arts classes, lectures, and workshops offered by the Ringling College Continuing Studies Studio + Digital Arts program. The winter and spring term runs **January 11 to May 15**, and features more than 60 unique courses and lectures, including drawing, painting, photography, design, filmmaking, and more. Classes are taught by practicing artists and designers, many of whom are Ringling College faculty. Start dates are offered throughout the term and run one to eight sessions each during the day, evenings, and/or weekends. Classes are held at the Ringling College Museum Campus, Ringling College's main campus, and online. To register and learn more, call **309-5111** or visit [www.ringling.edu/SDA](http://www.ringling.edu/SDA). Photo: Pamela Olin will explore how to tap into your creative process through exercises and discussion.

## Carroll Swayze Art Sale

Preparations are underway for local artist Carroll Swayze's 33 Annual Studio Open House and "Once a Year Art Sale." Carroll's paintings, postcards and etchings will be available for sale along with some holiday

ornaments and Christmas card sets. The usual one-night art party is replaced by a week-long open house: **Friday, December 4 through Thursday, December 10**. Opening day hours are **11am to 8pm on Friday** and **11am to 5pm the rest of the week**.



Nancy Dellamura, Sumi-e artist, received a Merit Award in the juried "Just My Imagination" Show at the Venice Art Center for her "Three Horse Scroll." (pictured here.) Nancy is also a Tai Chi Instructor and teaching at Christ Lutheran Church at 701 N. Indiana Avenue on **Fridays** at **10am**. Please contact her for more information about Tai Chi classes at **492-2167**.

Studio doors and windows will be open and there will be plenty of room to meander through the studio and outside displays. Mask wearing is encouraged. There will also be an online Facebook sale with ten pieces posted at **10am** and **3pm** on Facebook each day during the sale. The Carroll Swayze Studio is located at 2373 Donovan Road, just off SR 776 on the north side of Englewood. Phone: **266-6434**. Carroll Swayze Art Studio Page: [www.facebook.com/The-Carroll-Swayze-Art-Studio-556883987696151](http://www.facebook.com/The-Carroll-Swayze-Art-Studio-556883987696151). The Studio Open House Page: [www.facebook.com/SwayzeArt](http://www.facebook.com/SwayzeArt).

**Peace River Art Festival**  
The Peace River National Art Festival will be held **Saturday & Sunday December 5 & 6, 9am to 4pm**, along the waterfront in Laishley Park, 100 Nesbit Street, Punta Gorda. Nearly 100 nationally recognized juried artists represent various mediums including art glass, fiber arts, jewelry, leather

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\*Prices subject to change without notice





An unexpected knock. An unplanned guest. One unforgettable night. Enjoy this live Christmas comedy, "The Gut Life! Christmas with the Yoders and Nick!" Simon and Eliza Yoder never expected the special guest that showed up at their front door on Christmas Eve. They didn't even know the man in the red suit knew where they lived. And that man was just as surprised as they were! A collision of traditions, a clash of cultures, and a stranger in search of far more than just an address, this new Yuletide comedy will both entertain and inspire you through songs, and everything in between. The show runs **through January 8** with matinee and evening performances available starting at \$27. The play will be presented at the Carlisle Inn Conference Center, 3727 Bahia Vista Street, Sarasota. Tickets may be ordered at [www.eventbrite.com/e/the-gut-life-christmas-with-the-yoders-and-nick-tickets-125634013717](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-gut-life-christmas-with-the-yoders-and-nick-tickets-125634013717). For questions, call **955-8007**. Website [www.dhgroup.com/events](http://www.dhgroup.com/events).

**Theater Virtual Workshops**  
Venice Theatre has opened registration for a series of winter workshops for all ages scheduled for **December 7 through 16**. A variety of topics ranging from auditioning skills to contemporary musical theatre history will be offered. Workshop details are available at [VeniceTheatre.org](http://VeniceTheatre.org). Tuition is only \$10-15 per workshop. Registration and payment can be completed on the website. Any questions may be directed to Assistant Director of Education & Outreach Kelly Duyn at [kellyduyn@venicetheatre.net](mailto:kellyduyn@venicetheatre.net) or **486-8679**.

**Choral Artists Holiday Lights**  
Choral Artists of Sarasota's 42nd season continues with "Holiday Lights," a concert celebrating the season with Hanukkah and Christmas songs that illuminate the essence of light for each holiday. The concert will be streamed online and features, among other works, "Navidad Nuestra," which highlights the Christmas story through the eyes of the indigenous people of Argentina. This concert features the debut of tenor Rafael Dávila with Choral Artists. The concert will be live-streamed **Wednesday, December 23, 4pm**, and is available in replay for 30 days. A "Concert Insight," featuring a live-streamed, informal chat about the music, composers and themes with Artistic Director Joseph Holt and guests is

goods, metalwork, oil paintings, photography, pottery, stone sculptures and watercolor. There will also be live music and art demonstrations. Admission is \$5 per person at the gate to support the Visual Arts Center in Punta Gorda. Learn more at [www.visualartcenter.org](http://www.visualartcenter.org).

**South Gulf Cove Art Show**  
South Gulf Cove has announced their Annual Art Show will be

**Sunday, December 6** from **11am to 3pm**. The art show/sale features local artists and will be held in the South Gulf Cove Homeowners Pavilion, 14859 Ingraham Blvd., Pt. Charlotte. Represented media includes fine artwork in acrylics, pastels, oil, watercolors, sculptors and photography. Admission is \$5. For more information, contact Rosana at **775-997-3424** or email [ArtByRosana@yahoo.com](mailto:ArtByRosana@yahoo.com).



The artists of the Arts Alliance of Lemon Bay have pooled their talent and have created an art box of gifts: 36 beautiful pieces of art created by members of the Arts Alliance of Lemon Bay. This will be raffled off on **Saturday, December 19** to one lucky winner just in time for Christmas. Tickets are \$1 for 1 ticket, \$5 for 6 tickets, for sale **until December 19** at the Arts Alliance, 452 W. Dearborn Street. The monies collected will be used to support the alliance, a non-profit organization that supports the community in many ways. Come buy a ticket and see what the artists have for sale!

**Thursday, December 10, 10am** and available in replay for 30 days. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.ChoralArtistsSarasota.org](http://www.ChoralArtistsSarasota.org) or call **387-4900**. Tenor Rafael Dávila is pictured here.

**Van Wezel Holiday Shows**  
The Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall is offering holiday virtual events. *Dave Koz & Friends: The Greatest Hits of Christmas 2020* streams on **Saturday, December 12 at 8pm**. *Moscow's Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker Christmas* streams on **Saturday, December 19 at 8pm**. *Celtic Thunder - Christmas* can be streamed on **Sunday, December 20 at 7pm**. Celebrate New Year with a *Salute to Vienna and Budapest* on **Sunday, December 27 at 5:30pm, 8pm & 10pm**. To

view a full listing of upcoming events and purchase tickets, visit [www.VanWezel.org](http://www.VanWezel.org).

**Arts Axis Florida**  
Punta Gorda Symphony is excited to announce that they have joined in partnership with Arts Axis Florida – a comprehensive initiative led by WUSF Public Media and The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay to provide an Arts Hub for the West Central Florida market and beyond. The program was born from the circumstances of the pandemic and the mission is to provide access to all forms of art throughout the community. Head over to [www.artsaxisfl.org/punta-gorda-symphony](http://www.artsaxisfl.org/punta-gorda-symphony) to check out PG Symphony recordings and other performances from other local area arts organizations – all from your home!

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Du Yun, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and performer, will present a talk and demonstration against the backdrop of the setting sun.

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# Botany & Spiritualism Manifests as Jewelry

By Chris Cameron

Meet Jocelyn Hoch, who describes her jewelry pieces as translating the spiritualism aspect of botany and nature into physical manifestation. She says her muse is spiritualism and the beauty & perfection of the plant kingdom. Plants are perfect in themselves, expressing themselves in loving harmony with the world around them.

Jocelyn is a native of Pennsylvania and her artistic side started showing at age 10 when she would accompany her father to classes in oil painting and sculpture. Fast forward to when she moved to a permaculture tropical fruit plantation in Hawaii where she met her husband, Forrest Shafer; he was studying permaculture and she studied nutrition. She had already discovered jewelry making at this time, as well, and Forrest also became interested in this art form. Forrest was born in Wanaque, New Jersey and has many fine skills in organic farming, woodworking, metal smithing and as a singer-songwriter-musician.

Although they returned to Pennsylvania to a small farm, they started spending winters in this area. Jocelyn studied under a Gold Master in Sarasota to learn how to work in gold and they would sell their creations at art shows around the state. She and Forrest were some of the original owners who started The Open Studio on Old Englewood Road where she taught classes and Forrest was in charge of the gardens.



Forrest and Jocelyn express their creativity through jewelry.

Jocelyn and Forrest also took up lapidary arts, adding gemstones to their creations, acquiring only ethically sourced gemstones from mines that gave workers fair pay and didn't overmine. Jocelyn uses flawless fine silver in her jewelry with a botanical and sculptured focus while her husband tends to use more sterling silver in his more geometric and linear designs.

She currently working on a new collection: Angelic Creation. Her jewelry pieces are infused with ancient traditions and the perspective of being more loving and spiritual, which are beliefs she endorses in her life. First, she creates a design based on these principles and then transforms it into a physical manifestation, using fine silver and sculpting the metal into a piece of wearable art. Jocelyn will also do custom jewelry.



An example of Jocelyn's creations.

Jocelyn also has another passion, which is achieving optimal health through nutrition. She is in the process of being a certified nutritionist and wants to educate people on using nutrition to improve their health and wellness. Jocelyn and Forrest now live full-time in Englewood, and are well on the way to transforming their property into a permaculture farm: an organic farm utilizing the patterns and resilient features observed in natural ecosystems with subtropical edibles to keep it sustainable. She is also involved in the Englewood Chapter for Sustainability, focusing on opportunities to create kids' permaculture learning gardens.

You can view and purchase Jocelyn's jewelry creations on Thursdays at the Dearborn Street Farmers Market (north side of Dearborn St.) Their work can also be seen on their Facebook pages **Ebb & Flow Farm and Ebb & Flow Creations**. If you would like to contact Jocelyn, call 610•621•0401 or email [jocelynhoch@yahoo.com](mailto:jocelynhoch@yahoo.com).

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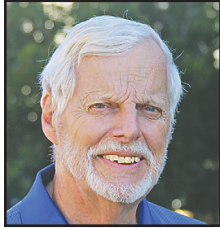
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By Dean M. Laux

# Notable NEIGHBORS

## A Man With A Mission

Growing up in Queens, N.Y., John Catterson figured he'd become a cop or a fireman when he got out of school. His was a middle class family, he recalls. His dad was a bank teller who worked his way up to Vice President at Roosevelt Savings Bank, and his mom stayed at home to care for their handful of kids: three boys and two girls. "We'd play ball in the streets, and we got into mischief once in a while, nothing really serious," he says. "My mom used to joke that when she saw a police car coming down the street, it would be bringing one of her boys home from the station." Actually, they looked up to the police in their precinct, who were authority figures but friendly and, like the firemen, often risked their lives in serving their community.

John didn't exactly set any records as a student in grade school or at Archbishop Molloy High School, whose stated mission is to "foster an exemplary education in mind, body and spirit." He was too busy having a good time. But he got into St. John's University when he graduated from Molloy in 1962, taking courses in business administration ... sort of. He didn't show up for classes very often. "I found it much more rewarding to come in for breakfast at the cafeteria in the morning and then go around the corner and shoot pool for the rest of the day," he says. "I got pretty good at it." As he puts it, "I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life, and I was not retiring any academic trophies."

So he withdrew from St. John's in 1963 and for the next two years went to work as a mortgage teller at Hamburgh Savings Bank in Brooklyn. It was there that he developed a fascination with the work the bank's lawyers were doing: mortgage closings, negotiating contracts, dealing with tax laws and estates. That was to influence his career choices at a later date.

But the Vietnam War intervened. In 1963 North Vietnam, heavily backed by both

the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, sent 40,000 troops into internecine battle with South Vietnam, a state the U.S. had been supporting financially and militarily since the French left Indochina in 1954. In 1964 the U.S. Congress authorized then President Lyndon Johnson to build up the U.S. military presence in the beleaguered country, and he did so rapidly, thereby entangling our country in what became the most unpopular war in our history, one that didn't end officially until 1973.

"In 1965 I received a call from my draft board, took a physical exam and was advised that I was 1A and would be drafted," John recalls. "I was an idealist. I thought I was John Wayne, and Vietnam was the place where we would stop the spread of Communism, so I was ready to serve." He ended up enlisting in the Marines for a two-year commitment, knowing it was possible he'd be sent to Nam. He took basic training at Parris Island and then reconnaissance training at Camp Lejeune before eventually being shipped to Vietnam in March of 1966, joining the Second Battalion, Fourth Marine Regiment as a combat infantryman.

In the six months that John was in Vietnam, he was in 14 combat operations in the steaming jungles. In each instance "it was two weeks of boredom, followed by four weeks of sheer terror," he remembers, fighting an enemy we didn't know and couldn't see, in a strange land far from home. He saw buddies get wounded by shrapnel or gunfire and others get killed, never knowing if he might be next. "I decided that if I ever got outta here, I was gonna make something of my life," he recalls.

He got out—the hard way. In an action on September 12, 1966 he was hit in the right calf



John and Aria Catterson

and leg by two bullets from an AK47 while rescuing three other injured Marines and dragging them to safety, one by one, under withering fire. His injury was bad enough that he was administered the last rites by a Catholic priest at one point. He was evacuated to Clark Field in the Philippines and was given a Purple Heart medal by the Commander of U.S. Forces in Vietnam, General William Westmoreland himself. Westmoreland went on to become Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. After nine months in the hospital and a medical disability retirement from the Marines, John went back to school.

He majored in finance and accounting at Pace University, graduating in 1970 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. The year 1970 was significant for him in other ways as well: In August he married his childhood sweetheart, Aria Applegate; in September he landed a job in New York City with Banker's Trust; and later that month he enrolled in St. John's University's law school as a night student.

But wait, there's more. In 1972 he left Banker's Trust to join the law firm of Bondy & Schloss as a paralegal. He graduated from St. John's University Law School in May of 1974, was admitted to the New York State bar in June of

1975, and became a partner in Bondy & Schloss two years later, a very fast rise in the legal world. He was to remain a partner with that firm until he retired in 2013.

During this rise to a prominent position in big-time legal practice, John was relatively quiet about his time in Vietnam. For one thing, the war was unpopular, and its veterans, though they were as heroic as the veterans of any other war, were not given the respect that they had earned. For

another, he really didn't want to talk about his traumatic experiences in Nam. "I went into a closet and shut my mind to it, and I didn't come out until the 1980s," he says. By that time, he was convinced that the war was wrong.

His catharsis began when he discovered the Vietnam Veterans of America, a nonprofit organization founded in 1978 under a charter from the U.S. Congress and dedicated to Vietnam veterans and their families. Its promise: "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another." He joined the Suffolk County chapter of the VVA in 1982, served on the New York State Council and then the National Board of Directors, becoming Vice President and General Counsel from 1987 to 1998.

He was counsel to the VVA when that organization supported the plaintiffs in the Agent Orange class action suit against seven chemical companies, including giants Monsanto, Dow Chemical and Diamond Shamrock. Against the VVA's wishes, the plaintiffs settled out of court for \$180 million, a pittance considering that this sum eventuated in paying out a maximum of \$12,000 to a totally disabled Vietnam veteran over a period of ten years, and a flat \$3,700 to the widow of a veteran who died of Agent Orange exposure.

"We were horrified by that settlement," John says. "Back then, the chemical companies could not be sued a second time under double jeopardy rules, and veterans couldn't sue the Veterans Administration or the military, either." But the VVA fought for release of all papers produced by the chemical company defendants in the class action suit. After bitter resistance, those documents were finally obtained, and they proved helpful in convincing Congress and the Veterans Administration that Agent Orange was responsible for many of the illnesses Vietnam veterans experienced.

From 1982 to 1985 John was also a board member and Co-General Counsel of the New York City Veterans Memorial Commission, which created a memorial akin to the national memorial in Washington, D.C. and raised some \$10 million for a jobs program for Vietnam veterans. During his tenure, the Commission negotiated the contracts for publication of "Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam," both in book form and as a video seen on HBO.

In 1986, New York Governor Mario Cuomo appointed John Chairman of the New York State Commission on Readjustment of Vietnam Veterans, which conducted a two-year study of state services to Vietnam veterans as well as unemployment, homelessness, alcoholism and other problems affecting them. The Commission made major changes in New York state programs and services for veterans, according to subsequent newspaper reports.

The VVA also became involved in bringing Vietnam veterans back to Vietnam to help in the search for the resting places of American MIAs and to seek peaceful ties with the Vietnamese, seeing them as people and not as enemies. Between 1990 and 1998 John made ten such trips accompanied by survivor groups. The project was the subject of a special



Pvt. Catterson (left) and a hometown buddy arrived at an airstrip in Dong Ha, South Vietnam in 1966.

program on television's "60 Minutes."

In an interview with the Associated Press, John said, "Vietnam was the defining event of our generation. And it certainly was the defining event of my life." These days he adds wisely, "next to my wife and kids, of course." The Catterson family includes Aria, son Christopher, daughter Amanda, a Boston terrier named Martini and "two cats that hate me," John claims.

His mission with the VVA was to change the way the American people see the Vietnam experience. "Vietnam, for me, is not a war anymore," he says. "It's a place. We need to separate

the war from the warriors." And it is finally happening.

Perhaps it's not too early to say to John Catterson, "Mission accomplished."

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

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# HOME & GARDEN

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## Dos And Don'ts Of Kitchen Remodels

According to *Remodeling* magazine, a major kitchen remodeling project should enable homeowners to recoup 74.2 percent of their initial investments. Kitchen renovations have long been a safe way to improve the functionality and value of a home. But not every kitchen project is a guaranteed winner. Homeowners may inadvertently make changes that end up sticking out like a sore thumb rather than improving the space. Take a look at these kitchen remodeling dos and don'ts to guide your next undertaking.

DO consider the way your kitchen will look with the rest of the home. Keep architectural integrity in mind when designing the space. A farmhouse sink and country cabinets can look out of place in an ultra-modern home.

DON'T overlook the importance of a seasoned designer or architect. These pros will know the tricks to maximizing space and achieving the ideal layout of appliances and may be able to recommend local contractors and vendors.

DO look beyond surface details to the structural integrity of the design. The kitchen should be functional, long-lasting and beautiful.

DON'T design just for today, but look to the future as well. Unless you are willing to spend \$50,000 every five years, look for styles and materials that will last for the long haul. Older homeowners may want to make adjustments now that address potential mobility issues down the road.

DO work with what you have. A complete demolition and renovation is not always necessary to achieve the desired results. Only invest in major changes if something is not working (such as having to walk across the entire kitchen to access the stove) or is unsafe. Otherwise, minor upgrades may do the trick.

DON'T over-improve the space. A fully equipped commercial kitchen may be handy for a professional chef, but the average person may not need an industrial hood and indoor pizza oven. When you make excessive improvements, you may not be



able to recoup as much of the money spent because your home will not be on par with the values of homes in the neighborhood.

DO make sure you can afford the project. Plan for some unex-

pected purchases and plan out the renovation according to your budget. Skimping on materials or design because of lack of money may leave you feeling dissatisfied afterward.

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# Keeping Up with KIDS

## Toys for Tots Requests

Englewood families located in **Sarasota County** can sign up for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program through **Monday, December 7th**. Go to <https://sarasota-fl.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/local-toy-request-single-form.aspx>. For more information or to sign up by phone, call **769-7331**. The Toys for Tots warehouse is located in North Port; however, the Englewood VFW Post 10178 will be distributing the toys to Englewood families.

## High School Holiday Play

Relive a beloved Christmas classic by attending Lemon Bay High School Theatre’s holiday production of “It’s a Wonderful Life” with a twist. The play will be presented as a live 1940s radio broadcast based on the 1996 play adaption by Joe Landry. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve. The play will be presented **Friday through Sunday December 11-13** at the Lemon Bay High School Performing Arts Center, 2201 Placida Road. **Friday & Saturday** performances will be at **7pm** and a **2pm** matinee on **Sunday**. You can feel safe as the large performing arts hall will be only filled to 25% capacity with space separating patron seats, masks required for entry, and abundant COVID-19 precautions in place. Tickets are only \$10 if ordered online at [lbhs theatre.net/tickets](http://lbhs theatre.net/tickets) or by calling the box office at **474-7702, ext. 3414** on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 1 to 5pm**. Tickets at the door are \$15. Come out to support and see for yourself what high-talented high school students are right here in Englewood!

## Holiday Drive Thru Event

The Florida Department of Health in Charlotte County has partnered with Sonshine Baptist Church and Safe Kids Southwest Florida to bring the community some holiday cheer. The holiday event will take place **Saturday, December 12, 10am – noon** at Sonshine Baptist Church, 23105 Veterans Blvd, Port Charlotte. The event will include a food



Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library announced that the documentary “The Library that Dolly Built: Celebrating the People Who Made Dolly’s Dream Come True” will premiere online at **7pm on Wednesday, December 9**. The film offers a behind-the-scenes look at Parton’s nonprofit that provides free books to children in all 50 states and five countries. It shows how Parton developed the program and is woven throughout with a biographical sketch of Parton. The Charlotte County affiliate is operated by founder Shawn Gilstad and the Charlotte Players. It can be viewed for free on the Charlotte County Imagination Library Facebook page. The event is scheduled to include a Q and A session and a song by Parton. The Charlotte County affiliate is holding a fundraiser in conjunction with the release of the documentary and donations can be made on the Facebook page **through December 13**. The Charlotte County affiliate, launched in 2011, has mailed more than 100,000 books to over 2,000 children. For additional information, visit the Charlotte County Imagination Library website at [www.charlottecountyimaginationlibrary.org](http://www.charlottecountyimaginationlibrary.org). Photo: Dolly enjoys encouraging children to share her love of reading.

pantry, nativity scene and holiday goodie bags. They will be giving out bicycle helmets & fitting them for each child. Even Santa will be on the scene for all the boys & girls to see and wave to on their way by. There is no charge for the event, but space is limited. Please reserve your spot today by emailing Farrah. Fishman@flhealth.gov or calling **624-7200 ext. 7273**. For the safety of the community, this will be a drive thru event only. CDC guidelines will be followed.

**General Winter Wonderland** Charlotte County Parks and Recreation is hosting a “General Winter Wonderland – A Holiday Dream” on **Saturday, December 12** from **5 to 8pm** with an Adaptive Winter Wonderland the prior evening on **Friday, December 11, 5 to 8pm**. Come enjoy this safe, free and family-friendly holiday event. There will be games, giveaways, crafts and plenty of photo opportunities (including Santa) will be available. Children can

wear fun, festive pajamas for this holiday dream pajama party! The event will be held at Centennial Park Recreation Center at 1120 Centennial Blvd. (formerly

1120 O’Donnell Blvd.) in Port Charlotte. For questions, call **613-3230**.

## Christmas Celebration Drive-Thru

Please join Grande Aire Services while they and several local businesses hand out Christmas candy and stocking stuffers in their Drive-Thru Christmas Celebration on **Friday, December 18, 5-8pm!** Decorate your vehicle and wear your favorite holiday festive wear while you participate in the Christmas season in a socially distant fashion. Featuring Christmas lights, your favorite Christmas characters, Santa’s Workshop, holiday music, a Christmas tree farm of prelit trees and even snow, this event will be like driving through a Winter Wonderland! This event is family friendly and welcome children and families of all ages. This event is drive-thru only. You will not be allowed outside of your vehicle during the event. No walk ups permitted. For more information on the event, please visit the Grande Aire Facebook page. If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Linda Fugitt at **662-0450** for more information.

## Free Camp for Kids

Englewood Elks is now registering kids for the Florida Elks’ **free** summer camp **next July**. The camp is located in Umatilla (FL) and has many modern amenities, including a lake for canoeing, an aquatic center with a very large pool with shading canopies, an obstacle course

with rock climbing & rope walking, and a large gym for indoor sports during inclement weather. Air-conditioned cabins sleep seven campers and two counselors. The registration will end **May 1**. The camp session is one week. Transportation is provided to and from the camp. Camp is free for the campers so there is no cost to the family. For information, call the local Elks sponsor for the camp, Carolyn Sutherland, at **248-568-7943**. You can check out the camp at [www.floridaelks.org/camp](http://www.floridaelks.org/camp).

## Hérons of the Month

Vineland Elementary School (VES) has announced their October Herons of the Month award winners from each class. The students are recognized for displaying the VES theme: SOAR (Show Respect, Own Actions, Accept Differences, Realize Potential.) Kindergarten students chosen are Rylee Rogers, Ethan Gonzalez, Alice Hedvick and Coby Leighton. First grade: Jayce Brito, Deanna Wright, Darren Jacob and Hailey Jordan. Second Grade: Alondra Rodriguez, Haylee Vielhauer, Mia Stelzer and Emiliano Zapata. Third grade: Owen Ruiz, Juliet Henry, Olivia Paulsen and Natalie Shields. Fourth grade: Aiden Carfagno, Matthew Mertzluft, Gage Wolvington, Jacob Chapman and Ulia Krivtsova. Fourth grader Jaedrina Valdez was honored for September. Fifth grade: Charlie Cooke, Gavin Dupre, Alba Herrera-Mercado, Kaden Long and Luke Lemieux.

Girl Scouts from Englewood were among the more than 600 participants in the “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans” Parade on November 21st. The Girl Scout movement, dedicated to building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place, began in 1912. Today, Girl Scouts remain dedicated to helping girls discover new interests, strengths and abilities. Girl Scouts is open to all girls in grades K – 12, and to volunteers, both men and women, over the age of 18. Whether families prefer online meetings and activities, a traditional troop or custom individual experience, Girl Scouts has many ways for members to have fun and connect with other girls. For more information about Girl Scouts in this area, visit [www.gscgf.org](http://www.gscgf.org), or contact Connie Martin, Community Manager with Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, at **239-776-0751** or [conniem@gscgf.org](mailto:conniem@gscgf.org). Photo: Sister and brother Natalie and James pose for a photo before the “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans” Parade. Natalie, a Girl Scout Brownie from Troop 330 of Englewood, holds a poster in honor of their grandfather, Philip King of Palermo, Maine, who served in the Navy during the Vietnam War. James participated in the parade with Lemon Bay High School NJROTC.



# Happy Holidays

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The Real Englewood Area Dish  
**READ**  
 BY SHARYN LONSDALE

**Holiday Shopping FOR THE CHEF**

By Sharyn Lonsdale

If you are holiday shopping for someone who loves to cook or bake, you probably have an idea of what they want. We foodies usually make our needs known, as in "I hate my toaster." "My pans are a hundred years old." and "Wouldn't it be great if we could make our own ice cream?"

My smallish kitchen is home to dozens of smallish appliances from a Wolfgang Puck Panini Press to a cupcake baker that I have used exactly once. I have a Suzanne Somers Belgian Waffle Maker I got at a yard sale for \$5, a fondue pot straight out of "Mad Men," three food processors and dozens of pots and pans. My slow cookers of various sizes, three-burner buffet and an emergency Nesco Roaster have been relegated to the lanai for lack of cabinet space.

You would think someone with so many gadgets, pots and utensils and so little countertop and cabinet space would be content, but like most dedicated cooks and bakers, I want more, as do some dedicated foodies on Facebook.

If I had the real estate available in my kitchen, my dream holiday gift would be one of the hottest presents this season, the Ninja Foodi 5-in-1 Indoor Grill. I live in a condo so I'm not allowed to have a barbecue. The Foodi claims that its "cyclonic grilling technology" brings outdoor grilling flavor indoors. It also roasts, bakes and air fries. Nancy Schull of Englewood already has hers as do three of her adult children. "It's awesome," she said. "I use it daily, sometimes multiple times in a day." At press time, you could find the Foodi for as low as \$170. Elizabeth Blanchette is also a Ninja fan, but she's hoping

for their highly-rated food processor.

Linda Emmett said she didn't need anything for her well-stocked kitchen, but wanted a "top-of-the-line" coffeemaker for her husband. She might want to check out the new Keurig K-Supreme Single Serve coffeemaker (\$99). What makes this version supreme? It has "multi-stream" technology that punctures the pod multiple times instead of one, so the coffee has a deeper flavor, and you can brew a 6 to 12 oz cup.



Nancy Lord of Englewood didn't want anything new. She was on the hunt for a vintage electric hand mixer that had flat blades instead of contemporary round blades. "My sister found one on Etsy," said Lord. "I'm getting it for Christmas and I can't wait."

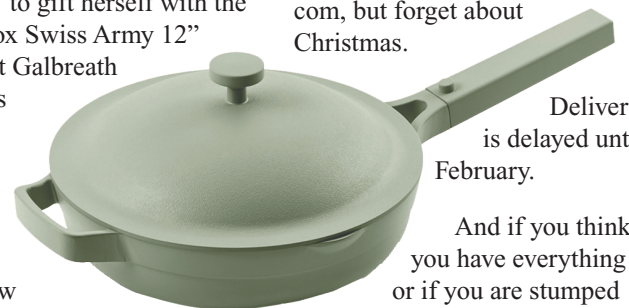
You don't need to wait for someone else to buy your dream gadget. Carol Galbreath was inspired by the popular PBS cooking show "America's Test Kitchen," to gift herself with the Victorinox Swiss Army 12" knife that Galbreath confesses is still in the box. Deborah Harris also wants new knives as does Klaudia Helman. If you do plan on gifting knives, do a little research. Serious cooks are often very particular about their knives.

Many cooks simply want upgrades for their current gadgets. Sue Walker is ready to move from a manual to an electronic scale. Sue Skoglund

just wants a garlic press that works and is easy to clean. Judy Murdoch is hoping for a simple set of ramekins. Cindy Hicks said, "My kitchen has just about anything that I want or need, but I would truly love to have really nice absorbent towels." I call that a humble request.

Laurie Rizzo has the same holiday wish that I do. We both want ice cream makers. We also have the same concern. Rizzo joked she was worried if she had one she would gain weight, because "I have no willpower." Rizzo might want to look into one of the compact versions like the Dash My Pint Ice Cream Maker so there's no danger of ice cream overload.

Thanks to Sue Skoglund, I have something new on my list. She calls social media sensation and cult favorite *the Always Pan*, "hands down the best pan ever." I checked it out and this stylish multi-purpose pan is practically worshipped by cooks who have no problem paying \$145 for a piece of cookware. Despite the high price tag, the Always Pan is almost always sold out. At press time you could take it home for \$95 at [www.fromourplace.com](http://www.fromourplace.com), but forget about Christmas.



Delivery is delayed until February.

And if you think you have everything or if you are stumped for what to get the chef in your life, check out the products sold by Kuhn Rikon, [www.kuhnrikonshop.com](http://www.kuhnrikonshop.com). That's where you'll find gadgets even I've never heard of like the corn zipper, filled meatball maker, veggie drill and croissant roller. Now if I only had room in my kitchen.

**If you have restaurant news and updates you would like to share, please email Sharyn Lonsdale at [sharyn111@gmail.com](mailto:sharyn111@gmail.com) with subject line DISH.**

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# Club Chatter



The Englewood Elks held a dinner dance to raise funds to help homeless veterans. They raised \$1,600 and the proceeds were given to the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition which helps homeless veterans all over Southwest Florida. Pictured on left is Darcy Woods of the Homeless Coalition with Carolyn Sutherland of the Englewood Elks.



GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club held their November General Meeting at the American Legion Post 113 on Thursday, November 19. It was the annual meeting to recognize Veterans and Active Service Members. Retired Army Special Ops Officer (and GFWC Member) Elena Coates was the guest speaker. She described many scenarios she encountered during her two deployments in Afghanistan. And she introduced a program called "Cup of Joe for a Joe," to which club members are pleased to contribute in order to provide a free cup of GOOD

coffee, tea or even latte to a Service Member deployed on active duty. Elena also discussed the club participation in Wreaths Across America scheduled for the Sarasota National Cemetery in December. For information about the club or to join, please contact the club at [rwwcmembership@hotmail.com](mailto:rwwcmembership@hotmail.com). You do not have to be a resident of Rotonda West to become a member. Pictured left to right: Charlotte Arcadia (seated), Lois LeVasseu, Janice Dalgies, Kathryn Gallagher and Army Special Operations Officer (retired) and Elena Coates.

## AMVETS Post 777

AMVETS Post 777, 3386 S. Access Road, is closed temporarily. The Post is currently scheduled to reopen on **Friday, December 11th**. For updates, visit [222.amvets777.org](http://222.amvets777.org) or email Post Commander Bill Capozzi at [acz907@yahoo.com](mailto:acz907@yahoo.com)



The Rotary Club of Englewood was able to assist local schools with providing COVID-19 safety items that were unforeseen. The club knew the needs would be great once school resumed with unforeseen and non-budgeted items. It was decided to utilize their annual district grant funds to help offset and provide for the schools' needs. Classroom air purifiers were a priority need. Rotarian Blaise Castellano of Castle Air was able to order the school's air purifiers requests and Castle Air added funding to provide 30 air purifiers and additional filters for Englewood schools. On November 20th club members delivered them. Five went to Vineland Elementary, 15 to Sky Academy, two to the YMCA After School care rooms and six to Myakka River Elementary. Myakka River also requested help in providing bottle fillers to retrofit their existing water fountains, and the club and the Englewood Youth Foundation provided those as well. The Rotary Club of Englewood is committed doing good in the Englewood community and beyond. Photo: Blaise Castellano of Castle Air and Rotary president Deborah Hegedus deliver air purifiers.

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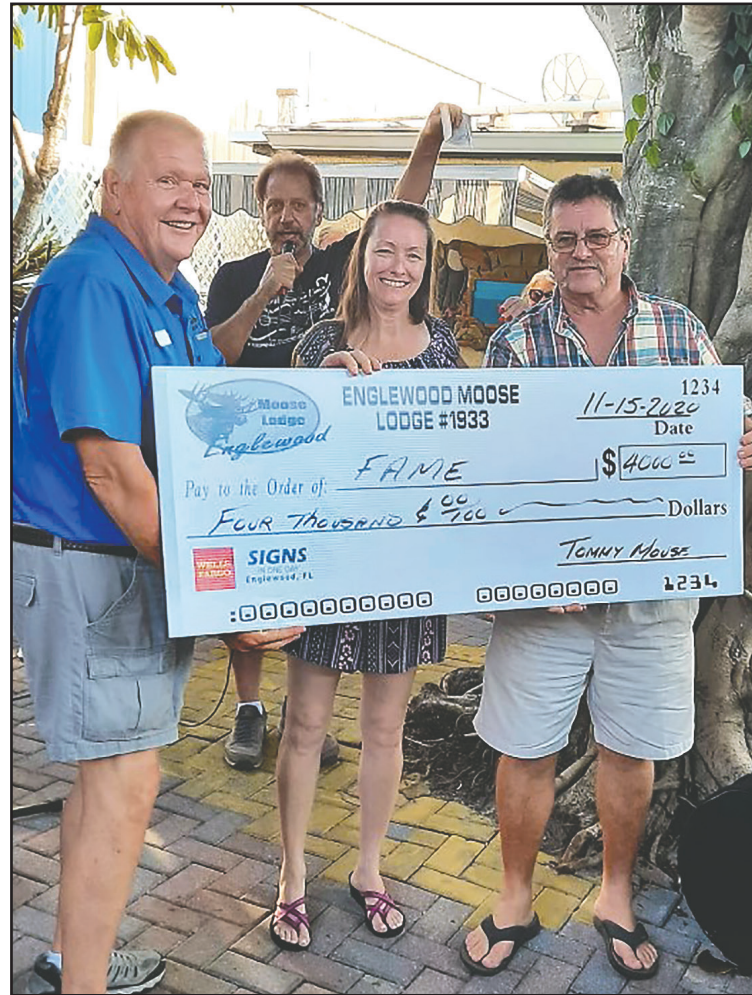
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**Elks New Year's Eve**

Tickets are on sale now for the Englewood Elks New Year's Eve Celebration on **Thursday, December 31**. Ring in the New Year with the Dance Fuzion Band after a delicious dinner of grilled prime ribeye steak or twin lobster tails. Doors open at **7pm** with dinner served at **8pm**.

Tickets are \$54 for members and \$59 for non-members (tax included.) Due to COVID-19 guidelines, seating is limited so get your tickets early. Tickets may be purchased **Monday–Friday, 9am to noon**, at the lodge located at 410 N. Indiana Avenue.



Englewood Moose Lodge 1933 presented the Friends for the Advancement of Musical Education (F.A.M.E.) Director Jim Pivovar with a check for \$4,000 at the F.A.M.E. annual benefit held at Englewood's On Dearborn November 15th. Englewood Moose Lodge 1933 Moose Riders also donated \$2,000. Pictured with the check are John Bienkowski, Jean Clark, and Mark Sipe. Standing behind them is Jim Pivovar from F.A.M.E. Recently, Englewood Moose Lodge 1933 also presented the Charlotte County Sheriff Office and Englewood Area Fire Control District with cases of Tommy Moose Dolls.

Carol Kouba, a BPW member for 40 years, has been an outstanding example of loyalty and dedication to BPW (Business and Professional Women.) Carol moved to Florida in 1958 from Newark, Ohio. Her career has been in medical transcribing and medical information management. After her move to Englewood in 1972, she joined the Gulf and Bay BPW in Venice in 1979 and later joined BPW Englewood Venice. This amazing lady held most offices in BPWEV, with the exception of treasurer. BPWEV enjoyed her guidance and leadership as president from 1996-1999. When BPW clubs still had districts, Carol stepped up to

the position of District Director. Each year Carol tries to attend the annual conference of BPW/FL. She attended the BPW/USA National Conference twice. Carol has been the publisher of the electronic newsletter for 12 years. She has served on the Scholarship Committee for at least 10-12 years. Carol was honored as BPWEV's Woman of the Year, a much-deserved recognition. When BPWEV first organized the Dollar for Mammograms (DFM) organization, Carol volunteered to be on the Board. Even though DFM is no longer a BPWEV function, Carol still helps that organization and still serves on the Board. You will find Carol volunteering for every



major event BPWEV has planned. The members of BPWEV are very grateful to this wonderful member for all her service and dedication!

**Blood Drive in Rotonda**

GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club and Rotonda Golf and Country Club are joining together for a OneBlood Drive on **Thursday, January 21 from 9am to 2pm** at The Hills Marina, 100 Rotonda Circle. For more information on donating blood and appointments, contact Ellen Lang at **917-579-7770** or [grammylang@gmail.com](mailto:grammylang@gmail.com).

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Cynthia Baker of Rotonda West, center, displays a big check symbolizing the \$500 she won in the Englewood Bank & Trust "Use It-Love It-Win It" VISA Debit Card sweepstakes at the bank's Rotonda/Cape Haze office. She is flanked by Retail Banking Officer Alison Henderson, left, and Retail Operations Officer Gwen Gadd. Cynthia was automatically entered in the October sweepstakes drawing by using her Englewood Bank & Trust VISA Debit Card to complete 20 qualified purchases during October. The sweepstakes is continuing through September 2021. A complete list of rules and requirements is available at any bank office and at the Englewood Bank & Trust website ([www.Englewoodbank.com](http://www.Englewoodbank.com)). No purchase necessary.



Stop in Swim Mart of Englewood to enter their Holiday Drawing and to browse their large selection of swimwear and accessories to enjoy your Florida lifestyle. The drawing for the holiday chest will be **Saturday, December 19** and features a pair of his & her FLOPEDS sandals (retail value \$59 each) with several other nice items tucked away in the chest valued at \$200. FLOPEDS are a new flip flop designed with the shape of your feet in mind, so they provide great support and control in all the right places. Swim Mart is located at Merchants Crossing, 1500 Placida Road. Phone: **474•4088**.

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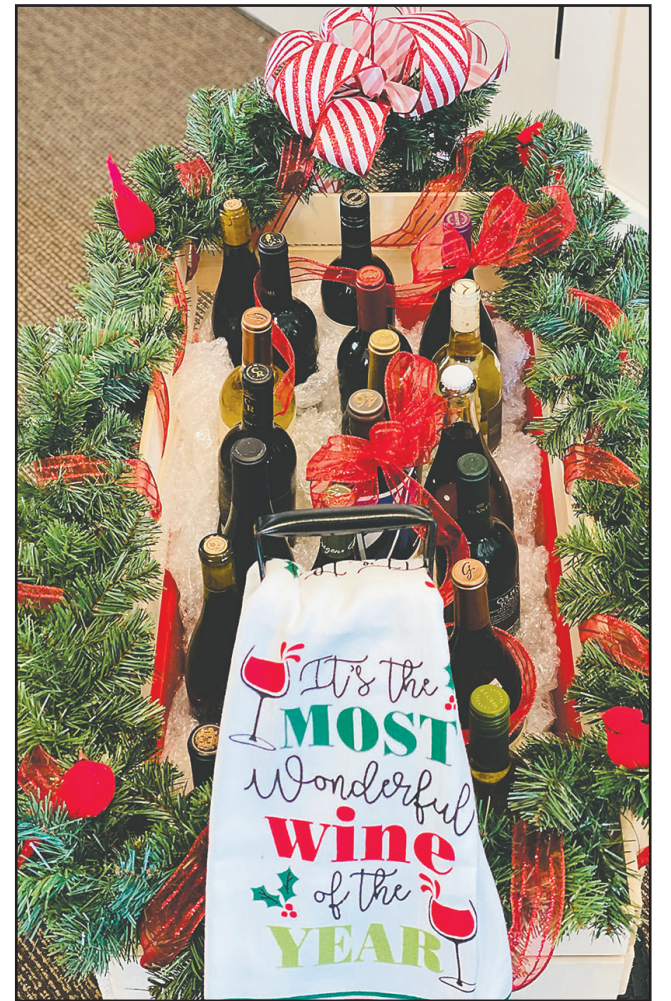
Nicola's Italian Kitchen has opened a new patio to allow for more dining space. The restaurant has chosen to remain running at only 50% occupancy to allow their customers to feel more comfortable due to COVID-19. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the restaurant at **474•6195** or reserving a table online at [www.nicolasitaliankitchen.net](http://www.nicolasitaliankitchen.net). Hours continue to be limited to **Tuesday through Saturday, 3 to 9pm**. You can also order online for pick-up. Nicola's offers authentic made-from-scratch Italian appetizers, soups, delicious pasta, chicken, seafood and veal dishes, pizza, calzone, stromboli, subs, desserts, and wine & beer by the bottle. Owner Tina DeFazio also sells her homemade sauces by the jar and fresh frozen meals. Nicola's is located at 4343 S. Access Road. Pictured are co-owners Tina DeFazio and Rina Remmers.



All About You Salon & Spa owners, Kara and Zoe, wanted to help the community by holding a Food Drive for this upcoming holiday season. Many Englewood residents struggle and turn to food banks to supplement their food needs during this time of the year. Kara and Zoe wanted to do what they could as a business to help. After speaking with Matt Egan with Saint Francis of Assisi Outreach Food Pantry, they collected donations to help meet the need in the Englewood community. All About You Salon would like to thank their clients and everyone that dropped off items to help those in need. All About You Salon & Spa is located at 2240 S. McCall Road. Phone: **475•5252**. Pictured (left to right:) Salon Owners Kara Babb, Zoe Babb and Matt Egan with Saint Francis of Assisi Food Pantry.



The Englewood Chamber of Commerce held their monthly Business Card Exchange on November 18th at Keller Williams Realty Gold which hosted a Fall Festival for chamber members. There was a dunking booth, corn hole, food truck, drinks, photo op, a beautiful sunset on Lemon Bay and other opportunities for members to socialize and enjoy themselves. The dunking booth manned by chamber volunteers raised money for the Chamber's Lemon Bay High School scholarship fund. Four guests took time for a photo op (left to right:) Cody Holl, Danielle Durocher, Elba Torres and Herb Stevens.



How would you like to win a wine wagon as a holiday gift for yourself or someone else? The Englewood Chamber of Commerce is holding a Wine Wagon Raffle to be awarded to one lucky person on **Friday, December 18**. The drawing will be broadcast live at **2pm** on the Chamber's Facebook page. The wine wagon contains 21 bottles of all different wines, courtesy of Rumours Wine Bar and the wagon is from Ron Smith State Farm Agency. You can see the wagon displayed in the Chamber lobby at 601 S. Indiana Avenue. The raffle is a \$20 donation (must be 21 or older.) Tickets may be purchased at the Chamber or on their website [www.Englewood-Chamber.com](http://www.Englewood-Chamber.com).

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**OLD ENGLEWOOD VILLAGE**  
 by Todd Tracy

*Happy Holidays, Englewood*

The Holidays have begun, or should I say began? Began would be more appropriate if you consider that retailers across the nation weeks ago began promoting the holiday shopping season and most of your Thanksgiving meal leftovers are transitioning into what I consider the best part of this holiday, turkey soup.

Began would also be an appropriate word to describe the decades of support from our local personalities, clubs, and organizations that support not only our holiday activities, but plan for Englewood's future. The Old Englewood Village Association (OEVA) is one of them.

One such activity this year was OEVA's Halloween decoration contest that awarded sixteen fifty-dollar gift certificates to residential winners. Dozens participated, hundreds voted, even the local business joined in the fun. But the real story was the imagination behind both the spirited displays, and the awards.

Each gift certificate represented a community business that the winners would visit, enjoy, redeem their certificates in, and share their downtown experiences with others. Because the Halloween decorating contest was so well received, OEVA will be repeating that success with a Christmas decoration



contest beginning in December. Please visit our web site [www.EnglewoodFL.org](http://www.EnglewoodFL.org) for the details.

Now, the real story. Holiday contests can be fun, and both participants and observers seem to enjoy them. But unlike community contests, community opinion surveys tend to be avoided. Because of that I am teasing a pending survey now, as a ploy to make you curious about the questions and hopefully inspire your participation.

Early next year, after the holidays are behind us, OEVA, with the support of our Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), will be introducing an inaugural community opinion poll that with a minimal effort on your part, may change Englewood's future ... or not ... but at least the questions should be thought provoking, informative, even fun.

Think of the pending survey as a social media forum where you can freely express yourself and share your ideas or previous community experiences, without any cancel culture risks! Still a little worried about taking the survey? Maybe a quick review of some of the possible questions and answers would help.

Possible questions: Name the two special governing Districts in Englewood. (The Englewood Water and Fire districts.) Name the Mayor of Englewood. (Englewood is not a City, it is governed by two counties, Sarasota, and Charlotte.) What does the CRA stand for? (Community Redevelopment Area.) When was the CRA established and when will it expire? (1999, and 2029.) Who is the current Manager of the CRA? (Debbie Marks.) Why is the RCTOD (Residential/Commercial Transition

Overlay District) important to Englewood's future? (It supports a residentially based arts district around Dearborn St.)

Now some easy questions that nobody can get wrong: How did you first learn about Englewood? What do you love about Englewood? Are you a member of any organizations in Englewood? What are your community interests, talents, and strengths? What social media do you enjoy? Are you a year-round resident, seasonal, a business owner, other? Which would you prefer, large or small community events? Does Englewood have enough parking? Would you attend monthly Town Hall style meetings? Should Englewood be a city someday?

Now some thoughtful questions: What are the important issues facing Dearborn Street? Does Dearborn Street need a downtown manager? How could we pay for a manager? Does Dearborn Street need a self-governed community plaza? How can we support and improve our RCTOD arts district? Would you limit the number or the size of the events on Dearborn Street? Would you like to see more private or public investment in the community? Would you consider additional one-way streets or traffic re-routing to expand parking and pedestrian uses?

Questions like these are why OEVA will be reaching out asking for your help soon. As you can see, we are not pondering who is going to be Santa this year, or where to put the Christmas lighting on the street. This survey will be about listening and learning so all of us can stay united and focused on finishing the foundations that our community's future will be built on.

Remember, if you would like to participate in the community opinion survey please visit our web site to learn more and please consider registering as a member, free or supportive, of OEVA at [www.EnglewoodFL.org](http://www.EnglewoodFL.org).

Thank you all for your time and enjoy the holidays still ahead.

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by Amanda Glam

# Amanda's PICKS

When COVID-19 hit the B&B Theatres Galleria in Venice, the cinema was in the early stages of a much-needed renovation. My daughter Emma and I enjoyed our last pre-shutdown movie in one of those renovated theaters.

Now the B&B Theatres Galleria Stadium 11, the cinema reopened on November 12 and we were ready to mask up and check it out. We opened the door and we did not recognize the place. There is all new flooring and the front lobby is more open and welcoming. The tired game room now sports a big screen TV and new seating for socially-distanced waiting. The concessions area is also renovated with a new menu including popcorn chicken, flatbreads and more, and a full bar and coffee service that were not yet open that first weekend. There is new artwork on the walls and improved lighting. The theater was lightly but appropriately staffed and every employee greeted us enthusiastically.

We purchased our tickets at the theater to avoid the additional online fee and chose our socially-distanced seats. Then we settled into our almost too-comfy electric leather recliners. How comfy? The only other person in our row was fast asleep when we sat down.

The “welcome back, we missed you” messaging continued on-screen when the B&B family thanked the audience (in our case, only about 9 people), for returning to the movies and reminded us of the company’s commitment to “safety, health, comfort and security”.

The understandable reluctance of people to return to the movies, is not the only problem facing theaters. The biggest problem is the lack of actual movies. As I write this, the Galleria is showing only five films, one of them “Croods A New Age,” the biggest film out there, is in three theaters. With



B & B Theatre has recently upgraded to electric leather recliners.

COVID crippling Hollywood and nearly every holiday movie pushed to next year, theater owners have to think outside the box, renting out theaters for private events, showing vintage films and holding “retro nights.”

Emma and I were there to see “Let Him Go,” (R) the only new film that piqued our interest (sorry “The War with Grandpa” and the latest Liam Neeson revenge thriller). Kevin Costner and Diane Lane star as George and Margaret Blackwood who live on a ranch with their son and his family in 1960ish Montana. There’s a major tragedy early on that propels Margaret to convince George, a former sheriff, to head to North Dakota for a rescue mission worthy of the aforementioned Mr. Neeson.

The road trip leads them to the compound of the straight-out-of-“Deliverance” Weboy clan. Yes that’s their last name. People are afraid of them, but we never really know why since the Weboys have almost no backstory. It could be because the matriarch Blanche is an over-the-top, chain-smoking, bleached blonde who offers her guests pot roast one minute and oversees violent break-ins with her brood of ill-mannered sons the next.

Margaret may not be as nasty as Blanche, but she is every bit as determined and fierce. Lane is terrific as the stoic wife and mother who knows she is in a dangerous situation but refuses to give up on her family. Costner, with his gravelly voice and laid-back style, supports his strong-willed spouse as the tension builds to a violent conclusion.

Director Thomas Bezucha makes the most of the open landscape, making it seem

inspiring and threatening at the same time, and it’s enhanced by the compelling score by Michael Giacchino. I feel that Bezucha had a greater command of the scenes with George and Margaret than the almost cartoonish Weboy clan. English actress Lesley Manville delivers an over-the-top but riveting

performance as Blanche but her sons are interchangeable thugs. At times it felt like Costner and Lane, with their measured lived-in performances, were in a different and better movie.

By the time you read this, “Let Him Go,” will be gone from the theater, but I hope at least one film will be there to encourage you to visit. I felt safer at the Galleria than I do at the supermarket and until the furniture fairy drops one of those recliners in my living room, I am hooked.

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# Nature Calls

## BIPS' Tent Sale

There is still one more date to enjoy outdoor shopping at the Barrier Island Parks Society's (BIPS) tent sale on **Monday, December 7**. Hours are **10am to 2pm** at the Gasparilla Island Lighthouse located at 220 Gulf Blvd, Boca Grande. Shop unique treasures from Port Boca Grande Lighthouse & Museum Gift Shop, and Cayo Costa Camp Store all in one convenient outdoor location! Your purchase helps BIPS protect and continue to support four Florida State Parks, including Gasparilla Island, Cayo Costa Island, Don Pedro Island & Land Base and Stump Pass Beach. BIPS has taken the Boca Grande Pledge and asks that all visitors wear masks, use hand sanitizer and follow the safety path signs for social distancing. You can also shop online at [www.barrierislandparksociety.org/shop](http://www.barrierislandparksociety.org/shop).

*Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) and the Charlotte County Natural*

*Resource Department will be conducting the following upcoming free programs. Unless noted, all walks begin at 9am. All programs can be found at [www.ChecFlorida.org](http://www.ChecFlorida.org). For more information, call 575-5435.*

**Alligator Creek Nature Walks**  
Join a CHEC hike leader for a guided nature walk on one of the Alligator Creek Preserve trails from **9 to 11am, Tuesdays and Thursdays through the end of April**. On the hike, you will discover and learn about the plants and animals that call this place 'home'. Participants will meet their hike leader in the parking lot at the CHEC Administrative Building, 10941 Burnt Store Rd, Punta Gorda. Dependent upon the availability of volunteer guides. Registration is required. Call **575-5435** to register and to confirm hike leader availability. All participants are required to wear face masks.

**Bill Coy Preserve Walk**  
**Wednesday, December 9,**

**9-11am.** Join CHEC for a guided walk through the 81-acre Bill Coy/Buck Creek Preserve, 5350 Placida Road. The scrubby flatwoods and mangrove swamp border Buck Creek, which flows into Lemon Bay. Meet in the parking lot. Call **575-5435** for more information.

**Tippecanoe Park Guided Walk Friday, December 11, 9-11am.** Join a CHEC Naturalist on a guided walk in Tippecanoe Environmental Park, 2400 El Jobean Road, Port Charlotte. This 308-acre park includes habitats such as scrub, pine flatwoods, marsh and wetlands. Meet behind the Charlotte County Sports Park. Phone **575-5435** for further information and to register.

**Seagrass Wading Adventure Thursday, December 17, 10am-noon.** Join CHEC for a wading adventure through the seagrass beds of Lemon Bay. All participants will meet at Cedar Point Environmental Park, 2300 Placida Road, and will be guided



*Before the boat beached for several months at the end of Stump Pass Beach State Park was finally towed away, the Friends of Stump Pass (FOSP) removed the trash that accumulated in the boat. There were several bags of cans, bottles and other debris in it. FOSP asks that you please remember to pack out what you pack in and #LeaveNoTrace #ProtectWhatYouLove #bestsideout #lovefl #FOSP.*

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. All participants are required to wear a mask. Advance registration is required, and trips fill up

fast. Call **575-5435** for more information or to register. Meet in the Cedar Point parking lot near the restrooms at **10am**.

**Bayshore Park Guided Walk Friday, December 18, 9-10:30am.** Join CHEC on a walk at Bayshore Live Oak Park along the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor to explore the various mangrove species found there. Bayshore Live Oak Park is located at 23157 Bayshore Rd,

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recommended for this program. Call **575•5435** for more information and to RSVP.

**Oyster Creek Guided Walk  
Wednesday, December 23,  
9–11am.** Join CHEC on a guided walk through the old-growth pine

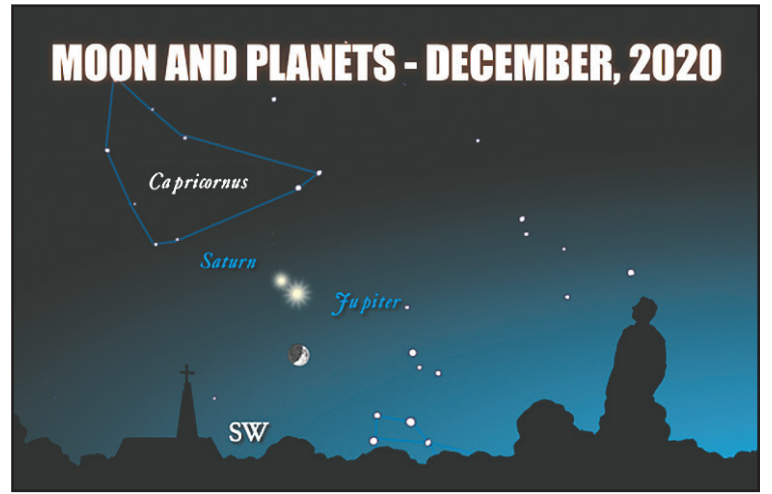
flatwoods and mangrove fringe of 125-acre Oyster Creek/Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park. Meet at the park pool at the San Casa entrance, 7001 San Casa Drive. Please call **575•5435** for more information or to register.

**Tippecanoe II Guided Walk  
Tuesday, December 29, 9-11am.** Join CHEC on a guided walk through Tippecanoe II Mitigation Area, Joppa Ave, Port Charlotte. This 150-acre preserve is home to several families of the threatened Florida scrub jay. Meet in the parking lot. Please call **575•5435** for more information or to register.

**Amberjack Park Walk  
Thursday, December 31,  
9–11am.** Join a CHEC Naturalist on a guided walk through the scrub and pine flatwoods of 217-acre Amberjack Environmental Park, 6250 Gasparilla Pines Blvd. (Williamsburg Way.) Meet at the end of Gasparilla Pines Blvd. Call **575•5435** for further information.



UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County is offering free virtual webinars on various gardening, nature related, and general interest subjects. For you all tomato lovers, learn all about growing tomatoes in Florida on **Tuesday, December 8, 10 to 11:30am.** To register for this webinar and/or see the complete class schedule, go to [ufsarasotaext.eventbrite.com](https://ufsarasotaext.eventbrite.com). For questions, call **861•5000** or email [sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu).



Bishop Museum of Science & Nature wants to alert you to two astrological events coming in December. The Geminid meteor shower will peak on **December 13 & 14.** However most importantly you will want to view Jupiter and Saturn on **Monday, December 21** when the Great Conjunction between the two planets takes place. This conjunction only occurs every 20 years but another one of this magnitude won't take place until 2080. At their closest, they'll be only 0.1 degrees apart. That's just 1/5 of a full moon diameter. Start watching them now, and you'll see them draw close together. Jupiter and Saturn will be easily visible to the naked eye in the western twilight **shortly after sunset.** If you are thinking about buying a telescope or have a question about using yours, The Bishop's monthly think+drink science program on **Wednesday, December 9 at 7pm** will be "Ask a Telescope Expert." The Zoom program is \$5 (\$3 for Discovery Society members.) To register, go to <https://26965.blackbaudhosting.com/26965/tickets?tab=2&txobjid=2c-2cc91c-818b-4499-a112-2539d13d045e>. To learn more about The Bishop Museum, visit [www.BishopScience.org](http://www.BishopScience.org). The museum is located at 201 10th Street West, Bradenton. Graphic courtesy of earthsky.org.

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# Calendar *at a Glance*

These are the shortened calendar events that were added to our Website www.EnglewoodReview.com as of Noon on Friday, November 27. They represent events from December 4 - December 25. 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.

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

## SAT DECEMBER 5

**Barn & Craft Sales** at GCUMC, 1100 S. McCall Rd. 9AM-2PM

## MON DECEMBER 7

**Courage Over Cancer** Gulf Cove United Methodist Church, 1100 McCall Rd. 8AM-3PM 697-1747

## WED DECEMBER 9

**Art Journaling - Artistic Self Expression** The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 6-8PM 500-3443

## SAT DECEMBER 12

**Manta Market** Fine Arts, Crafts, Artisanal Foods and more! Lemon Bay High School, 2201 Placida Rd. 9AM-2PM Mantamarket@comcast.net

## "I Think Therefore I Slam" Open

**Poetry Slam** The Dearborn Center 501 W. Dearborn St. 5-6:15PM 500-3443

## SUN DECEMBER 13

**Fellowship Church Kids Christmas Party** Worship Center, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 3-6PM 475-7447

**FC YFF/BLAST/FUEL** Fellowship Church, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 5:30-7PM 475-7447

## Art Intro For Adults - Paint Your Pet

The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 9:30AM-12:30PM 500-3443

## MON DECEMBER 14

**Englewood Amateur Radio Club** Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 S. Indiana Ave. 7PM-8:30PM 474-0662

## Adult Intro To Art - Wood Slice

**Ornaments** The Dearborn Center 501 W. Dearborn St. 9:30AM-12:30 PM 500-3443

## TUE DECEMBER 15

**Homebrewing Kombucha with Jillian Ross** The Dearborn Center 501 W. Dearborn St. 10AM-12PM 500-3443

## Basic Fermentation with Jillian

**Ross** The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 2-4PM 500-3443

## WED DECEMBER 16

**Art Journaling - Artistic Self Expression** The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 6-8PM 500-3443

## THUR DECEMBER 17

**Fellowship Church Senior Fellowship** Worship Center, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 11AM-12PM 475-7447

## SAT & SUN, DEC. 19 & 20

**Aprons: The Ties That Bind An Historical Exhibit** The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 10AM-2PM 500-3443

## SAT DECEMBER 24

**Fellowship Church Christmas Eve Concerts**, Worship Center, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 4-6PM 475-7447

## ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS

### EVERY DAY

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

### MON, WED, FRI

**Manasota Beach Yoga** Manasota Beach, 8570 Manasota Key Rd. 8-8:35AM 313-0358

**Zumba with Laurentz** Tringali Park 3460 N. Access Rd. 8:30-9:30AM 237-8983

**Hatha Yoga** Englewood Sports Cplx, 1300 S. River Rd. 9-10AM 861-1980

## Dynamic Walking Fitness

Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 S. River Rd. 10:30-11:30AM 626-2399

## MON, FRI

**Aqua Zumba with Laurentz** North Port Aquatic Center, 6205 W. Price Blvd. 10:30-11:30AM 237-8983

## MON - FRI

**Free Community Christmas Dinner** Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St. Must RSVP by December 18. Call 474-5588, ext.253.

**Manasota Beach Yoga** Manasota Beach, 8570 Manasota Key Rd. 9-9:35AM 313-0358

## MON - SAT

**Yoga Classes** Loving Light Yoga Studio, 3455 S. Access Rd. 8AM-6PM 473-0135

## Horse Back Riding & Lessons

Branded Heart Stables, 1030 Morningside Dr. 10AM-4PM 809-6389

## TUES & THURS

**Boogie Chair** Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 S. River Rd. 9-10AM, 237-8983

## WED, FRI

**Line Dancing (Intermediate)** American Legion Post 113, 3436 Indiana Rd., Rotonda 9:30-11:30AM 697-8733

## MONDAYS

**Music Jam Session** Indian Mound Park, 210 Winson Ave. 6-8PM 889-8899

## Zumba Gold & Toning

Lemon Bay Woman's Club, 51 N. Maple St. 6-7PM 445-1310

## Monday Open Mic

The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 6:30-9:30PM 500-3443

## TUESDAY

**Zumba with Laurentz** North Charlotte Regional Park, 1120 O'Donnell Blvd. 6-7PM 237-8983

## WEDNESDAY

**Djembe Drum Class** Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park, 6961 San Casa Dr. 2:30-3:30PM

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

## THURSDAYS

**Crafty Ladies of GCUMC** 1100 S. McCall Rd. 9-11:30AM 697-1747

**Thursday Farmers Market** The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 9AM-2PM 500-3443

## Beginners/Improvers Line Dancing

American Legion Post #113, 3436 Indiana Rd. 9:30-11:30AM 697-8733

## African Drum Class

The Open Studio 380 Old Englewood Rd., 3-4:30PM 406-6888

**Englewood Opry** The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 5:30-8:30PM Bring own seating.

**Bingo** Rotonda Elks Lodge, 303 Rotonda East 6:30-9PM 697-8733

## FRIDAYS

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

**Line Dance Classes** Englewood Elks 401 N. Indiana Ave. 10AM-1PM 661-3799

## SATURDAYS

**Fellowship Church Men's Prayer Breakfast** 140 Rotonda Blvd W. 1st Sat. of each month 8-9AM 475-7447

**Closet of Hope** Gulf Cove United Methodist Church, 1100 McCall Rd. 9:30AM-1:30PM 697-1747

## SUNDAYS

**Gulf Cove United Methodist Church** 1100 S. McCall Rd. 8-11AM 697-1747

**Fellowship Church Communion Service** Fellowship Church Worship Center, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 1st Sun. of each month 8:30 & 10:30AM 475-7447

**Gulf Cove UMC Online Worship Services** 1100 S. McCall Rd. 10-11AM 697-1747

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

**New Vision Church** 6401 Sunnybrook Blvd. 9-11AM 475-2906

**Faith Lutheran Church Worship** 551 Rotonda Blvd. West 9:30 AM, masks required. Drive in Communion 11AM 697-3313

**Sunday Farmers Market** The Dearborn Center, 501 W. Dearborn St. 10AM-3PM 500-3443

**Living Hope Church** 881 South River Rd. 10AM 460-8506

**Gospel Singing in the Park** Indian Mound Park, 210 Winson Ave. 2-4PM 889-8899

**FC F.U.E.L.** Fellowship Church, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W 4:30-7PM 475-7447

**FC BLAST KIDS** Fellowship Church Worship Center, 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 4:30-7PM 475-7447

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# Crossword Puzzle

## CLUES ACROSS

1. Battered corners: dog\_
6. \_ Mater: one's school
10. National capital
14. Frogs and toads order
15. Bathrooms (French)
17. Praise
19. Witch
20. Consume
21. Pork and lamb are two types
22. Rocky peak
23. Women's undergarments
24. From end to end
26. Bed sheets
29. South Sudanese king
31. Dislike immensely
32. Diving seabird
34. Breathe noisily
35. Full of roots
37. Inside
38. Small island in a river
39. Tear into pieces
40. "CSI" actor George
41. Make less dense
43. Derogatory term for a country native
45. Pike and pickerel genus
46. Important in respiration and other biochemical reactions (abbr.)
47. Belgian city
49. "The Joy Luck Club" author
50. Essence of "Aloha"
53. Suggestions
57. One who overindulges
58. Expression
59. Maize dough
60. Make into leather
61. British noblemen

## CLUES DOWN

1. One of two or more people or things

2. Small, deerlike water buffalo
3. Part of a ladder
4. Unit of work
5. Patriotic women
6. Fragrant essential oil (abbr.)
7. Aggressive, uncouth man
8. One thousandth of an inch
9. Brisk and cheerful readiness
10. Serving no practical purpose
11. Prevent from going forward
12. Camera part
13. Former CIA
16. Colorless, odorless gas
18. Long division of time
22. Atomic #73
23. Make a bleating sound
24. The kids love him
25. Female condition prior to menstrual period
27. Founder of Sikhism
28. Sudanese swamp
29. He/she can help with your finances
30. Part of the human body
31. Mortar trough
33. Greek island
35. Change pagination
36. Queens hip hop group
37. Precursor to the EU
39. A way to go on
42. Slender marine fish
43. Georgetown's mascot
44. Farm state
46. Military leader (abbr.)
47. Russian river
48. Teams' best pitchers
49. In a more positive way
50. Long French river
51. Reactive structures in organic chemistry
52. Distinctive practices
53. Male gypsy
54. When you hope to get there
55. Men's fashion accessory
56. Journalist Tarbell

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

# SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

## Fun By The Numbers

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

### Here's How It Works:

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

The Englewood REVIEW

# CLASSIFIEDS

The Englewood REVIEW is published every other Friday with the deadline being noon, the Friday before publication. See Our Classifieds at [www.Englewoodreview.com](http://www.Englewoodreview.com)

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**Holiday Crashers Seeking Couches**

While being in close proximity with others during the upcoming holidays (and in general) is discouraged, snuggling up on the couch with a lonely, homeless pet is certainly not! Suncoast Humane Society's "Holiday Crashers" initially started as an idea to recruit volunteers to spend time with cats and dogs staying at the shelter during the holidays, especially those accompanied by fireworks. CEO Maureen O'Neil shares, "The holidays this year are different for many of us who won't be traveling or attending traditional events. Hosting a Holiday Crasher is a meaningful way to offer all of the extra love you have to give to a shelter dog or cat. A true gift of compassion." Suncoast Humane Society provides any supplies needed to foster a pet including food, crate, leash, medication (if any is needed), etc. As a holiday foster, you decide the length of time that you would like to host a couch crasher. To host a Holiday Crasher, please submit a foster application online at [www.humane.org](http://www.humane.org) or contact Foster Coordinator, Fatime Duka, at [fduka@humane.org](mailto:fduka@humane.org). Phone: **474•7884**.

**SHS Guardians Program**

If something were to unexpectedly happen to you, what would happen to your beloved pets? Do you have someone to provide the care and love that your fur baby needs? When you are no longer able to care for your furry companions, SHS Guardians will be there. Suncoast Humane Society (SHS) now offers a guardianship program as a service for those who wish to entrust their companion animals to SHS in the event of their incapacity or death. Your one-time membership fee of \$500 per pet (dog, cat, or small critter) covers their care, health checkups, any necessary vaccines, and placement into a loving home. Your lifetime membership fee may be considered a tax-deductible contribution. "Not everyone has a safety haven for their pets," said SHS CEO, Maureen O'Neil. "We are honored to offer you peace of mind that your pet will be taken care of by people who care for animals every day." To learn more about Suncoast Humane Society's guardianship program, SHS Guardians, visit [www.humane.org](http://www.humane.org) or contact Terry Marks at [tmarks@humane.org](mailto:tmarks@humane.org). For more information on SHS, visit [www.humane.org](http://www.humane.org) or call **474•7884**.



**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 Web site, [www.humane.org](http://www.humane.org).

**474•7884 • 6781 San Casa Drive.**

Photos by Suncoast Humane Society

Meet beautiful **Jolene!** This sweet girl arrived at SHS on November 13th and is ready for the forever home and family of her dreams. Ready to add all the play time and affection you can handle to life? Ms. Jolene is sure to pull at your heart strings. With her adorable face expressions and happy go lucky personality, it won't be hard to do. Won't you call to arrange to meet?



This handsome guy is **Jackson!** He arrived on November 20th and has been a delight. He won't ask much of you, and will be happy to just hang out in the house and lounge. Jackson will be sure to keep you company and provide you just what you are looking for. Don't let this one get away!



Ask how you can become a foster home for EARS. To see all the EARS animals, visit us at 145 W. Dearborn, or visit [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com), or [EarsAnimalRescue.com](http://EarsAnimalRescue.com).

For more information, call EARS: 941-681-3877. Adoptions events are either at EARS or Pet Supermarket Saturday, 10am-1pm. Call to confirm location.

**Animal Rescue & Pet Food Store**  
145 W. Dearborn • 681-3877 (FURR)

Photos by Bobbi Austin

EARS Animal Rescue's Thrift Store is the shelter's main source of income. The store on Dearborn is open Monday thru Saturday 10am-3pm. We are a 501c3 non-profit organization, so any donation is tax deductible.



**Calypso** is a beautiful black and white, spayed female, long hair cat. She is just 3½ years old. Calypso has lived with other cats. Come see her in the EARS open cat room.

**Nikki** is a 1½ year old spayed female Calico kitty. She loves laying in the sun in the EARS open cat room. Come meet Nikki and spend some time with her.



All of EARS pets are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped in your name.

**EARS Animal Rescue's Thrift Store Is Now Open**  
Monday through Saturday, 10am to 3pm

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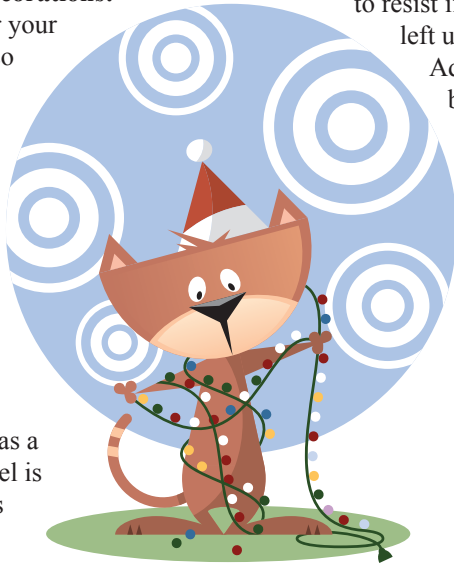
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# Holiday Pet Safety Tips

Keep your pet safe during the holiday season. If your family companion is included in this year's festivities, remember these helpful tips to ensure your pet stays healthy and safe.

### Seasonal decorations:

Securely anchor your Christmas tree so it doesn't tip and fall over on your pet. Stagnant tree water is a breeding ground for bacteria that could cause nausea or diarrhea if your pet uses it as a water dish. Tinsel is attractive to cats and they may bat at it or nibble the tinsel – if swallowed, it may result in an obstructed digestive tract. Wired lights should be placed above a pet's reach to avoid a potentially lethal electrical shock if chewed. Ornaments should be out of reach as well. Ribbon from wrapped presents can be swallowed and become lodged in the digestive tract.



### Holiday Food Dangers:

Do not feed your pet chocolate or anything sweetened with xylitol. Plus, do not leave food out on tables and other areas pets can access – human food is too enticing for most pets to resist if food is left unattended. Adult beverages left sitting around may be sampled by pets or

knocked over. If ingested, your pet may become ill, nauseous, or fall into a coma. Extra food slipped to them by guests may result in excessive food intake and illness.



damaged by chewing or ripping. Kong toys are another option and can be filled with healthy treats. There are also chew treats designed to be eaten and digested safely. For cats, ribbon, yarn and other long stringy materials can be ingested and become stuck in the intestines. Choose a ball too large to swallow, a stuffed catnip toy or interactive cat dancer.

### Family/Friend Gatherings:

Some pets are scared or anxious when you have company or are hosting a gathering. Give pets a quiet, safe space in another room to which they can retreat if they become stressed.

### New Year's Celebration:

Loud noise like fireworks, holiday poppers and gunshots can be terrifying to pets.

Secure them in a safe, escape-proof area as midnight approaches and the noise level escalates. Pets should be

microchipped in case they go missing at any time. Your vet or local animal shelter can provide this service.

### Toys & Batteries:

If a pet gets a hold of a toy, they may break their teeth on hard plastic. Batteries contain zinc, which can cause pancreatitis and renal damage if eaten.

**Pet Stocking Stuffers:** For dogs, choose chew toys that are indestructible, as squeakers and stuffing may be eaten if the toy is

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS pg 29

E	A	R	E	D	A	L	M	A	O	S	L	O		
A	N	U	R	A	T	O	I	L	E	T	T	E	S	
C	O	N	G	R	A	T	U	L	A	T	I	O	N	S
H	A	G	E	A	T	C	H	O	P	S				
		T	O	R	B	R	A	S						
S	P	A	N	L	I	N	E	N	S					
C	H	A	M	H	A	T	E	A	U	K				
P	A	N	T	R	O	O	T	Y	E	N	D	O		
A	I	T	R	E	N	D	E	A	D	S				
R	A	R	E	F	Y	H	I	C	K					
		E	S	O	X	C	O	A						
N	A	M	U	R	A	M	Y	L	E	I				
R	E	C	O	M	M	E	N	D	A	T	I	O	N	S
O	V	E	R	E	A	T	E	R	I	D	I	O	M	
M	A	S	A	T	A	W	E	A	R	L	S			

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

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John Ruskin, Author-Economist



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