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July 17, 2020

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Meet local artist, Bill Farnsworth, this issue's Notable Neighbor by Dean Laux, on page 6.

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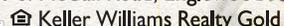
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Around the Town

Online Service Only at GCUMC

Due to current COVID-19 conditions, Gulf Cove United Methodist Church has returned to a single, online service only. There will be one service broadcast live at **10am Sundays** at www.GulfCoveChurch.com (click on the Worship Online button.) The service will be available afterwards to watch if you cannot watch it live. The church can be reached at **697-1747** or GulfCoveUMC@gmail.com.

New Hospital Visitation Rules
 Englewood Community Hospital, 700 Medical Blvd., began a new temporary visitor policy on **July 3rd** as a result of the increase in the community spread of COVID-19. No visitors will be permitted for admitted patients to help ensure the safety of the patients and caregivers, and one visitor may accompany patients who are arriving for outpatient surgery and for emergency needs. Exceptions can be made for end-of-life situations and



On July 1st, volunteers at the Jubilee Center at St. David's filled 150 totes for families with children as part of the Summer Back Packs for Kids program. In June, over 150 totes were distributed by the Jubilee Center to families! It is only through the generous donations received from the Englewood community, that the Jubilee Center is able to continue this program as part of their outreach ministry. The program runs through August. The totes for the program were donated by Englewood Community Coalition. For more information, contact Ruth Hill, Administrator at **681-3550**. The hard-working totes stuffers were (l-r:) Kim, Maggie, Marny, Beth and Cindy.

labor & delivery. For more information, call **475-6571**.

Life Line Screening at VFW

Take a step toward staying healthy & active by taking a cardiovascular preventive screening offered by Life Line Screening on **Wednesday, July 22** at VFW Post 10178, 550 N. McCall Road. The plaque, vascular disease and heart rhythm package screens for carotid artery plaque, heart rhythm (atrial fibrillation,) abdominal aortic aneurysm and peripheral arterial disease. Cost \$139. Osteoporosis screening is an additional \$10. To register for your appointment, call **888-653-6450** or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle.

Democratic Club Zoom Meeting

The Englewood Democratic Club will be holding a Virtual Zoom Meeting on **Wednesday July 22 at 5:30pm**. Here's your chance to reconnect with fellow Democrats (without a mask!)

Hear about the innovative ways the Club and Precincts are enthusiastically working to turn Florida Blue in November. Also, hear firsthand from Pioneer Days Chairperson, Chris Phelps, about preliminary plans for a Virtual Pioneer Days Celebration this fall. To Zoom in: www.mobilize.us/sarasotacountydec/event/287360/. Call **270-3441** or email englewooddemclub@gmail.com for more information. Learn more at www.EnglewoodDemClub.org or join their Facebook Group: Englewood FL Dems.

Caring & Sharing

Senior Outreach Program
 Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) has launched a new initiative known as the Senior Outreach Program. It creates an opportunity for those over 60 years old, disabled or living alone with little to no contact with others, a way to engage with the community. This program will assist in ensuring the safety and well-

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The Jubilee Center at St. David's reopened their FREE Clothes Closet on June 30th. The clothes closet is open on **Tuesdays from 10am until Noon**. Pictured is Inez Lombana, volunteer, assisting clients by taking clothing needs. A volunteer inside filled the order and Inez brought them to the client. The Jubilee Center is located at 401 S. Broadway (behind the Beall's Outlet shopping center.) If you have questions, call **681-3550**.

being of local senior citizens who may be lonely and in need of assistance. Weekly phone calls will be made to those enrolled in the program by volunteers who have been trained by a mental health professional to deliver resources to those in need. CCSO believes that delivering a friendly voice on the other side of the phone may prevent unfortunate and preventable situations for

seniors. For more information on how to apply or to enroll your loved one, contact Community Affairs at **575-5345** or **639-2101**.

Styrofoam Coolers Needed
Englewood Meals on Wheels is in need of Styrofoam coolers again for their clients. They need to be large enough to lay the meal (about the size of a TV dinner) flat. If you have any you can donate, please bring them

to Meals on Wheels, located at 400 Loma Linda Street between **11am and 2pm Monday through Saturday**. If you would like to donate some and need to bring them at another time, please call **474-4445**.

New Shoes for School Kids
Shoes are still needed for Englewood kids returning to school for the new school year. The Kiwanis Shoes for Kids Project is accepting tennis shoe donations **through July 26th**. You can donate any size tennis shoes for pre-K through 12th grade. Any quality shoe will do (it does not have to be a name brand.) Shoes may be dropped off at Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn Street, the Charlotte County Tax Collector's Office, 6868 San Casa Drive or Stevens the Florist South, 3455 S. Access Road. Monetary donations may be sent to Sunrise Kiwanis of Port Charlotte, 1489 Market Circle, Unit 308, Port Charlotte, FL 33953. For questions, contact Christy Smith at **769-0864**.

Golf to Support the Mantas!
Come enjoy some golf while supporting Lemon Bay High School Touchdown Club on **Saturday, August 1** at Rotonda Golf & Country Club Hills Course. The tournament is a four-person scramble with an **8:30am** shotgun start. \$75 per player. To register, contact Jeremy Dowd at **223-4461** or Suzie Moore at **270-6248**. You can also email lbtclub@gmail.com or through Lemon Bay Touchdown Club on Facebook.

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Saturday, July 11 at 2:40pm - Linda Lee Mercer of Sewing by Linda Lee, LLC, and her tireless volunteers celebrated completing their 10,000th face mask. Linda Lee and volunteers have been sewing face masks since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and giving them away to anyone in need of one. Masks are \$5 donation and along with material donations by the community have enabled her to continue this much needed service for the Englewood community. Thank you, Linda Lee and Friends! If you are in need of a face mask, contact Linda Lee at **473-7582**. Linda Lee is wearing the 10,000th mask.

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Participating in the Ride 4 Our Furry Friends II 30-Day Virtual Bike Challenge, the Real Bikes Englewood team pedaled 11,148.88 miles in June and took first place in the national competition. Their chosen charity was Peace River K9 Search & Rescue Association, a non-profit organization that never charges for services and relies completely on donations. Every mile was verified and calculated daily. Miles were accomplished on road bikes, gravel bikes, mountain bikes, tri bikes, recumbent bikes, peloton bikes, indoor trainers and Zwift. Overall male winner in the competition is 72yr old Tom Collins of Englewood who cycled an amazing 2,156.89 miles! Scotty Steingart followed with 1,916.74 miles and Melody Vasbinder was 5th with 1,249.02 miles. John Stenning and Rick Seals also finished in the top ten of the competition. The team consistently put up big miles. Part of the team is pictured here (l-r:) Scott Wark, Jimmy Hixon, Gary Vasbinder, Melody Vasbinder – team Captain, Tom Collins, Mike Wik and Bob Green. The other team members not photographed were Scotty Steingart, John Stenning and Rick Seals. Congratulations to all of the cyclists!

Bealls Outlet, 425 S. Indiana Avenue; **Tuesday, August 18, 10am to 4pm** – Bealls, 1500 Placida Road; **Sunday, August 23, 9am to 1pm** – Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn Street; **Sunday, August 23, 2 to 5pm** – Winn-Dixie, 1951 S. McCall Road. For questions, call Cheryl Ball at 239-362-9641 or email Cheryl.ball@oneblood.org.

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

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Blood Donors Needed
OneBlood "Big Red Bus," mobile blood drives, announces their Englewood blood drives for August. Donors are requested to visit the OneBlood website at www.oneblood.org to schedule an appointment. Please note that blood drives are subject to change at any time. Scheduled OneBlood "Big Red Bus" blood drives are **Tuesday, August 4, 10am to 3pm** – Bealls, 1500 Placida Road; **Saturday, August 8, 9am to 1pm** - Symbiont Service Corp., 4372 N. Access Road; **Saturday, August 8, 2 to 5pm** – Walmart, 2931 S. McCall Road; **Tuesday, August**

11, 10am-4pm – Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road; **Sunday, August 16, 11am to 5pm** – Walmart 2931 S. McCall Road; **Monday, August 17, 10am to 4pm** –

34TH ANNUAL
RUN FOR THE TURTLES

Mote Marine Laboratory is bringing its 34th annual Run for the Turtles from its original home on Siesta Beach to you with the first-ever all-virtual Run for the Turtles. Participate in the virtual 5K run or the one-mile fun run/walk any time through September 10th from anywhere. Registration is \$35 adult; \$25 child (age 13 & under.) Register at mote.org/run.

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Arts & Entertainment

Virtual Concert to Honor Veterans

National nonprofit Wreaths Across America (WAA) is proud to announce that this year it is producing a free, virtual "Giving in July" concert on Facebook. This family-friendly, virtual concert event will air live, nationwide on the WAA Official Facebook Page on **Sunday, July 19 at 7pm**, featuring patriotic musical guests who are supportive and appreciative of this country's veterans and their families, and the organization's mission to REMEMBER, HONOR and TEACH. Scheduled performers include Craig Morgan, Chris Roberts, Lindsay Lawler, Mark Wills, the Bellamy Brothers, Don Campbell Band, Darryl Worley and Six-String Soldiers. The event will include a special message from Operation Red Wing lone survivor, United States Navy SEAL (RET) Marcus Luttrell and his wife Melanie. Also, during this virtual concert there will be appearances from local volunteers across the country who are giving back in their own communities



The Hermitage Artist Retreat invites you to a free virtual Artist Talk on **Wednesday, July 24 at 5:30pm**. The artist is Jennifer Packer, celebrated visual artist and 2020 recipient of the Hermitage Greenfield Prize, with Ola Wlusek, The Ringling's Keith D. and Linda L. Monda Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art. They will discuss Packer's work and influences in anticipation of her future exhibition at The Ringling in 2022 - the culmination of Ms. Packer's Hermitage Greenfield Prize commission. This Artist Talk will be moderated by Andy Sandberg, Hermitage Artistic Director and CEO. Space is limited; registration required. Register at my.ringling.org/virtual/hermitage?promoApplied=true

through their participation in the WAA program. To learn more about WAA, visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org.

COVID-19 Delays LBP Season
Lemon Bay Playhouse has announced that due to

COVID-19 pandemic, it is in the best interest of patrons, staff and volunteers to delay the upcoming season opening until **January 2021**. The theater is not conducive for safe social distancing and health and safety come first. The 34th season will begin with the play "Art of Murder," a mystery by Joe Dipietro. Ticket sales and box office opening dates will likely be in November and will be communicated in the fall. Season ticket patrons will be contacted regarding the shortened season and pricing.

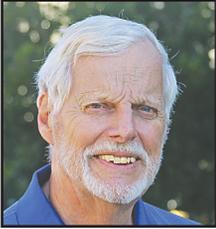


The Venice Symphony invites everyone to enjoy three new free online video series featuring Music Director Troy Quinn, The Venice Symphony musicians and local educators. "Behind the Baton" is a monthly series of video interviews with Music Director Troy Quinn (pictured here) and will include a Maestro Mailbag feature where viewers can ask Quinn questions. "Meet the Musicians" is a twice-monthly series focusing on individual members of the orchestra. These two programs are available on The Venice Symphony's YouTube Channel and at thevenicesymphony.org. "Education Spotlight" offer free online music education for all ages. A new episode is available **every Friday in July**. Available on The Venice Symphony's Music Education YouTube Channel and at thevenicesymphony.org. To receive updates on new episodes of all three series, email music@thevenicesymphony.org to sign up for the Symphony's e-newsletter.

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By Dean M. Laux

Notable NEIGHBORS

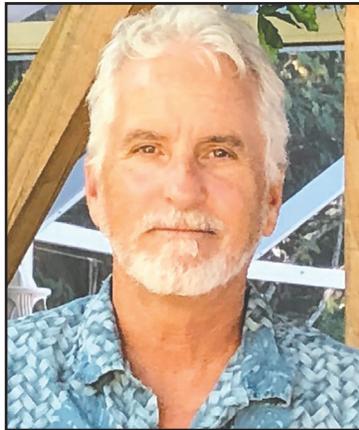
Portrait Of An Artist As A Young Man

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

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

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

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



Artist Bill Farnsworth

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

His first notoriety came at age 10. He was in the hospital to have his appendix out, and in the children’s ward he drew pictures of Charlie Brown and Snoopy on the glass walls for the entertainment of the other kids there. A local newspaper found out and did an article on him. As

he grew older, he would do line drawings of cartoon characters for fun and use oil paint to fill them in, thereby developing some experience with oils while also enhancing his skills as an illustrator.

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

He came down to Southwest Florida at age 18 to study at what was then known as the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota. “I liked the area, and that’s how I eventually ended up here,” he says. At Ringling he took the usual courses in drawing, graphic arts, illustration and painting. “They offered fine arts in my final year, but the course didn’t seem to do anything for me, because I wanted to be an illustrator. I learned a lot on

my own after I graduated.” His classwork did involve painting with oils. “I remember doing a sports car calendar and a poster for the circus. That was a lot of fun. And in our final year we were putting together portfolios of our work to show when we applied for jobs.”

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

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

Finally he started getting freelance assignments with publishers—Harcourt Brace, Simon & Schuster, Houghton Mifflin, Random House, Holiday House, Cobblestone Books, as well as a children’s Bible publisher. “My specialty was children’s books,” he says, and he was at it full-time. “I did about 60 children’s books, and my specialty was historical subjects. They were mostly picture books.” The picture books were generally 32 pages in length, and Bill’s illustrations might include the cover, the book jacket if there was one, and as many as 28 pictures for the interior pages. Each book was almost a portfolio of his work in itself. And for many of these

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“Oasis”



“Colors of Collioure”

books, Bill did oil paintings as part of the process. “I’d also go out and do oil paintings for fun,” he says, “not as a means to an end.”

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

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

“Plein air is the most difficult form of painting,” he notes. “You can’t work from photographs. You have to work outside (hence the name), and you can’t control the lighting. Conditions change—time of day, rain, wind can all wreck your project, and you have to get your work done quickly.” When he got into plein air artistry, he entered regional and national competitions. The events typically have 25 to 50 artists from all parts of the world for a week to 10 days. When the competition is over, the plein air works are sold, and if one is lucky, there is also award money to be won.

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

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

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

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

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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According to the *HomeAdvisor*, the average homeowner spends a little more than \$7,600 installing a new roof. Various factors, including the size of a home and the type of roof homeowners prefer, will affect the cost of a roof replacement. In addition, homeowners who see roof damage can rest assured that not all roof problems will necessarily require a replacement roof to be installed.

Curled shingles are a problem many homeowners have encountered. This particular problem is not always indicative that a roof is on its way out. In fact, the home improvement resource *This Old House* notes that, as asphalt shingles age, their corners often begin to curl downward or upward. Homeowners who notice this early enough can glue down the curled section of each shingle that's beginning to curl.

Some shingles may be curling because they're defective. *Fortified Roofing*, a New Jersey-based roofing company that specializes in the repairing and replacing of various roofing configurations, advises homeowners to contact a local roofing professional to diagnose the cause of the curling. Doing so quickly can prevent curled shingles from contributing to more widespread damage.

Moisture and poor ventilation may be contributing to curled shingles as well.



Homeowners with attics in their home may see curled shingles on their roofs because moisture is building up in their poorly ventilated attics. In addition to causing damage such as curled shingles, a poorly ventilated attic allows moisture to build up, potentially contributing to mold growth. Mold presents a host of additional problems, including some that can adversely affect the health of a home's inhabitants.



Improper roof installation also may be the culprit behind curled shingles. When a roof is not installed correctly, shingles may not be aligned or nailed down in the right way. This might be what's causing shingles to curl on recently installed roofs.

Homeowners can protect themselves and their roofs by working with skilled roofing professionals, who can diagnose issues like curled shingles and offer the right solutions.

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Englewood: History

Englewood: Boom and Bust in the Roaring Twenties

by Ken Kocob

“ENGLEWOOD WILL BE GREAT CITY” was the prominent headline in a frontpage story in the Dec 27, 1925 edition of the Sarasota Herald. By the mid-twenties the sleepy little town of Englewood was beginning to awaken. Ordinary citizens, city leaders, and outside developers all believed that great times were just around the corner. They envisioned Englewood as an exclusive seaside resort catering to the wealthy who wanted to relax by the Gulf of Mexico.

Englewood was incorporated as a city on Nov 25, 1925 and elected its first mayor and city council. Taxes were collected, police and fire services were organized, and even dog licenses were issued. Grandiose plans were put forth by city leaders and developers. To help move along these plans a new state bank was founded in 1925. The initial capitalization was \$15,000 with a surplus of \$3,000. This bank was a welcome sight for local business leaders, who were eager to initiate numerous development ideas.

The entire state of Florida was experiencing an intense land boom in the 1920's, with prices going through the roof. Land developers, led by New Yorker Walter H. Green, now streamed into the Englewood area. Green utilized a 21 passenger Studebaker bus to make twice daily trips with land-seekers from Sarasota. As the passengers got off the bus in downtown Englewood, they were greeted by a band of musicians and a horde of real estate salesmen. Real estate offices sprung up all over the city. Some agents were known as “curbstone” operators since they made their shady unlicensed deals on the street. Lots changed hands so many times that it became confusing as to who really owned the properties. Skyrocketing Englewood land prices reached over \$1,250,000 in sales in the first eight months of 1925, and were expected to double in just four months.

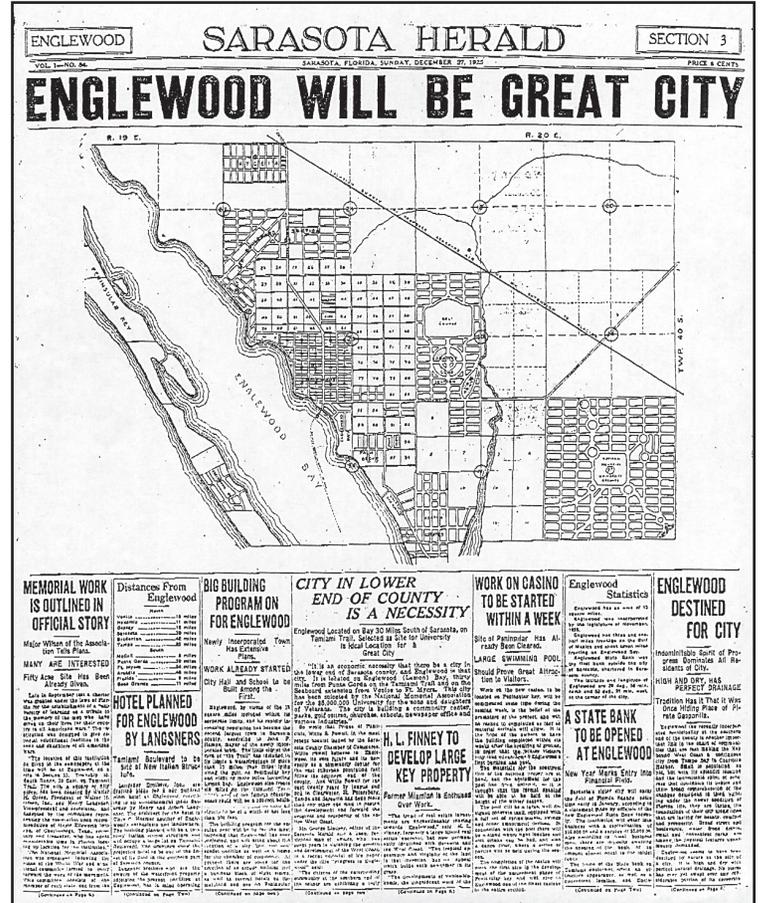
With the expected influx of new homes and property development, grandiose plans were now put forth to put Englewood “on the map.” New buildings were to include a 100 room Italian stucco hotel for tourists, to be built by developer Henry Langner near Deer Creek. A new railroad line was to be constructed for the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, which was to extend to Placida Road. These plans also included a new depot to handle the influx

of passengers visiting Englewood. Rumors were also flying that the Tamiami Trail (Route 41), would take a southern dip right through the heart of Englewood.

A luxurious country club with upscale homes and an 18 hole golf course was to be built east of downtown. Directly north of the city, by Buchan's Air field, was to be the site of Hygeia, a luxury home development for movie stars and other celebrities. Silent film greats Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford planned to erect a modest 35 room “cottage.” Other notables of this time who intended to settle in Englewood included actor Wallace Ford, brother of director John Ford, syndicated columnist John Lait, and Sime Silverman, publisher of Variety Magazine.

A huge casino, which included a large dance floor, pool, and restaurant, was to be erected on the beach at Peninsula Key (now Manasota Key). City fathers planned to build a new community center, a school, a chamber of commerce office, a retail complex, and a city hall all by the end of 1926. Main city thoroughfares were to be transformed into 100 foot wide boulevards with 80 foot wide streets.

Perhaps the most ambitious idea included the construction of a National Memorial University on 50 acres of land on the Tamiami Trail southwest of downtown



The front page of the Sarasota Herald in Dec 1925 boasted Englewood becoming a great city.

Englewood. This institution would honor the memories of veterans who served in or lost their lives in World War I. Developer Walter H. Green donated the land and a 50 member committee started to raise \$5 million to defray the construction expenses. One dollar was to be solicited from each of the five million veterans that served in the war. This idea was very popular since it was a living memorial to the veterans of WW I.

All of these plans for Englewood, however, would eventually tumble like a house of

cards by 1929. The land boom of the mid-twenties came crashing down due to a combination of factors. Unscrupulous land developers and real estate salesmen often sold the same piece of land to three or four people. Lots were also sold that were underwater or not accessible. Two devastating hurricanes in 1926 and 1928 wiped out many people's fortunes, along with their dreams of getting rich through land investments. Land developers and their agents saw the writing on the wall and quickly pulled all

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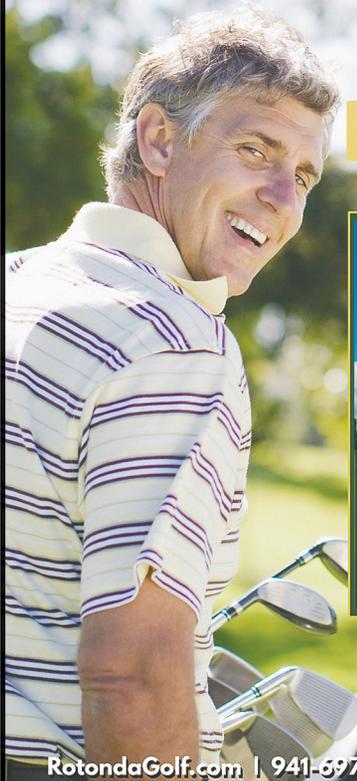
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of their capital out of Englewood. Land which at one time fetched astronomical prices was worthless by 1929.

To further complicate matters, Abner Silkey, the cashier of the Englewood State Bank, embezzled over \$15,000 of the bank's funds in 1928. Even though he was captured in Georgia, those funds were never recovered. Local businesses and everyday citizens saw their deposits disappear. At this same time 31 banks in Florida closed their doors due to internal problems.

Tax collection in Englewood by 1929 was down to a trickle. Many people saw any savings that they had disappear in sour land deals or from the bank fiasco. The city was broke and the population wasn't growing. City services such as police, fire, water, and roads could not be maintained. Finally on May 11, 1929, city leaders decided to abolish the incorporation of Englewood, since services could not be provided. To this day, Englewood has not incorporated as a city again.

The Great Depression, which started with the stock market crash of 1929, was another factor that further weakened Englewood's economy. Since most residents had little cash, Stuart Anderson and other local leaders, would take their catch of fish up to Sarasota and barter for any supplies they could find. Everyone



Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford planned to build a 35 room cottage in Englewood during the boom of the 1920s.
Note: photo courtesy of IMDB.com.

in Englewood looked out for each other during these tough times, sharing any food or other necessities that they had.

Because of all of the aforementioned problems, by 1929 all of the great plans for the city of Englewood now were in disarray. The Tamiami Trail was never

put through Englewood, movie stars didn't move to the area, plans for the National Memorial University were scrapped, the railroad line and new depot were forgotten, and the country club and beach casino became only a pipe dream. The new city hall and community center weren't needed since the city was not incorporated anymore.

The dream of wide boulevards traveled by movie stars and wealthy tourists was now put to rest. The sleepy town of Englewood, which had briefly awoken during the Roaring Twenties, was now going back to sleep, not to be awoken for decades. A Sarasota Herald columnist in an article written in 1930 urged the citizens of Englewood to not have a "woe is me" attitude. He told them to instead count their blessings. He mentioned their beautiful location on the Gulf of Mexico, the 300 days of sunshine a year, the large catch of seafood every year, the tourists who were now returning, the strong churches, and an excellent school system.

Even though Englewood experienced its share of problems during the late twenties and the depression, it always had a core group of citizens that bound together the community. Families that included the Andersons, Aingers, Buchans, Biorseths, Goths, Gottfrieds, Johansens, Tates and others managed to

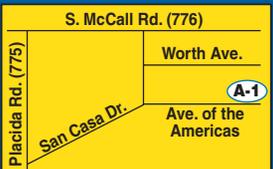
overcome the many hardships of the day. They ran the stores, built the churches, and above all cared for their fellow man. Even though the city was falling apart around them, they showed the value of the term "community", and this is what to this day makes Englewood a truly great place to live.

I would like to thank the following sources for assistance in the writing of this article: The Elsie Quirk Library in Englewood, Josephine O. Cortes, The History of Early Englewood, H.C. Green, "Englewood not down and out, says booster", the Sarasota Herald, Oct 5, 1930, "Englewood now 100, has had its' ups and downs", the Sarasota Herald Tribune, Aug 14, 1996, "Englewood was Booming City in the Roaring Twenties" the Englewood Herald April 19, 1972, "National Memorial University lived only on paper" by Michael Bergstrom, Sarasota Herald-Tribune, Oct 30, 1996, "The boom days-every inch of land was gold on paper", by Diana Harris, the Englewood Sun Herald, May 26, 1999, "The little city at the turn of the trail" by Diana Harris, the Englewood Sun Herald, Nov 12, 1994, and the front page of the Sarasota Herald, Dec 27, 1925.

Editor's note: This article was first published in the May 18, 2007 edition of the Englewood Review.



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OLDE ENGLEWOOD IDEAS

By Todd Tracy, VP OEVA

Over the Independence Day weekend, part of the news cycle included speeches from various public officials that touched on America's founding ideas and their authors. Those ideas live on to this day. Why? Because it was the value of those ideas, and the willingness of the people to embrace and implement them, that secured their place in our nation's history.

THE IDEAS

Thankfully, we are not building a nation anymore. But building a small community like Englewood, can be just as frustrating because it too depends on good ideas. The Dearborn Street area is slated for significant "improvements," improvements to the tune of nine million dollars. The underlying justification for the project remains sound and during the public meetings participants were engaged, willing, even excited to move forward.

Some of the publicly debated elements of the project were financing, parking, pedestrian safety, beautification, and the timing of a sister project, the improvement of Dearborn Street Plaza. The public chose the theme, the colors, the materials, the landscaping and they even influenced the construction's seasonal timing to protect the local business.

Despite the lengthy public approval process for the downtown improvement project, several citizens and merchants have recently contacted the Old Englewood Village Association (OEVA), with their concerns and some interesting new ideas. One of the concerns was parking. It has been suggested that Englewood does not have a parking problem; it has an event parking problem. Since the improvement does not add enough new parking to solve that, then why spend money on more street parking? Some have suggested the real solution would be to limit the size of Dearborn

Street events and partner with the existing private parking lot owners in town to accommodate the temporary influx.

Another concern was the timing of the project. Merchants on the street are worried about a one-year construction project that even if delayed or creatively staged, would still impact at least one winter tourist season. Others were concerned about the pending Plaza improvements. The two projects might not overlap, or the access could be limited, which would extend streets disruption for several more months.

The new ideas being kicked around included skipping the proposed irrigation system, leaving the intersections alone instead of replacing them with colorful swirling pavers, updating the street lighting instead of replacing it, and supplementing our street benches instead of replacing them all. Finally, some hoped that relocating a block of two of overhead power lines might be possible.

One of the more interesting ideas was creating a "pedestrian only" area by re-routing the traffic around portions of our downtown. If that were not possible then perhaps changing a block or two into a one-way street would allow more merchant outdoor display, dining, or public seating. If there were some savings from these ideas, then they could be used on other approved projects like parking or connecting some of the nearby creative zoning overlays to the downtown.

All these ideas have the making of a very spirited public debate, however, there are some harsh realities that need to be considered as well. First and foremost, the Englewood Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), made every effort to inform and engage the public of the proposed project. Too few took advantage of the engagement and others have become interested too late. Second, there are some serious financial timing concerns. The CRA faces borrowing restrictions in the last ten years of their thirty-year life span. This means that if the town does not take advantage of this improvement project

while it can, it might be decades before the County initiates a similar project. Third; we have ten more years of projects ahead. In those years it would be very possible to adopt and implement some of the community's new ideas.

THE LESSON

There is a public process that gives us all the opportunity to help design and manage public projects within our community. But even great ideas, that come late to that process tend not to be embraced until another opportunity opens. So, when the opportunity to engage happens, please join in, because some of the best ideas, the ones that survive the test of time and improve communities, come from people like you.

To learn more or share your community opinions, please join us this fall as OEVA kicks off their town hall meetings, on the Plaza property if possible. Until then, you can reach us thru the website www.OldeEnglewood.com.

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Staff and Community Help New Restaurant Navigate COVID



Alex King was visiting his parents in Englewood when he began scouting locations to open a restaurant. “I kept driving by this place,” he said. That place was the Blue Lagoon, sitting just off Placida Road and overlooking calm water; it had been closed for years.



Chef and owner Alex King

King, who lives in Rotonda, had a vision of a “welcoming and cozy” restaurant where people could relax and enjoy the refined pub-style food he planned to create in the kitchen. But the Blue Lagoon was not that restaurant. The interior was, to put it kindly, dated and King was not a fan of the decor or the awkward flow of the dining rooms.

But King couldn't resist the setting or the square footage. He gutted the place, brought in 500 pallets of wood for the walls and floors, built tables, strung

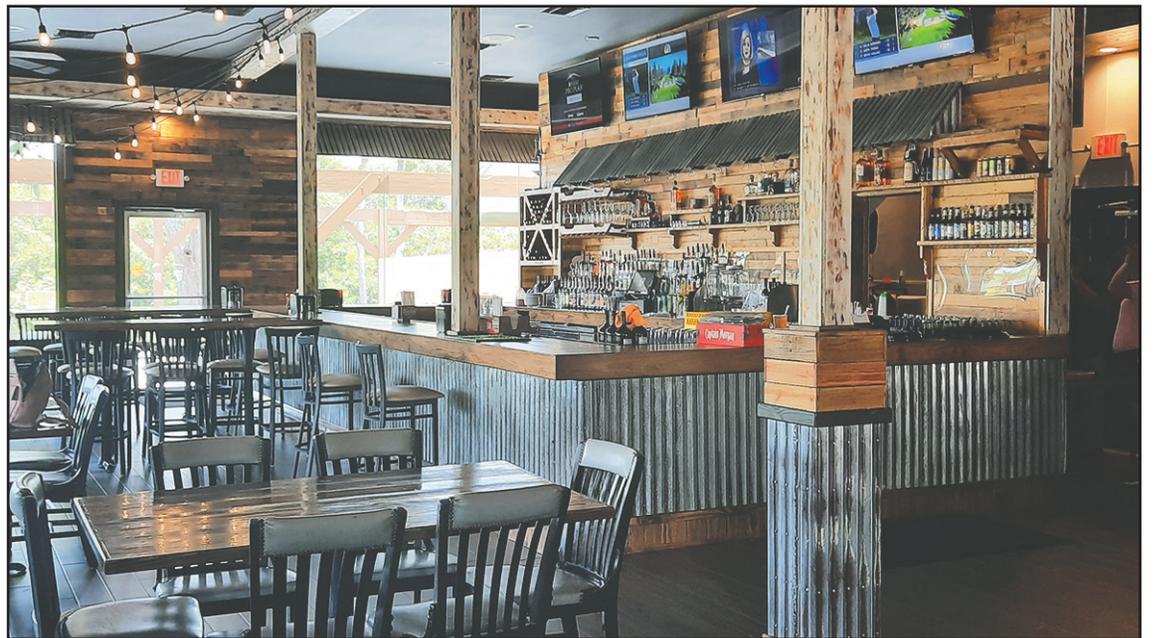
lights, and added corrugated metal accents, creating a large open dining room and modern, eye-catching bar. He transformed the exterior, moving the Roman concrete balustrades to the back to create an herb garden. King did much of the work himself with the help of “a lot of YouTube videos.”

King shared his progress on Facebook, announcing on February 25, “We are almost there” and that Ken & Barb's Grove City Kitchen (named for his parents) was hiring. “We were very close to opening and working out the last details,” he said. Then COVID hit and everything came to a halt.

To adhere to state regulations, King had to clear half of those custom-built tables out of the dining room. Patio seating was out for anything but drinks, since the narrow space did not lend itself to social distance dining. Ken & Barb's finally opened on May 28 to an enthusiastic crowd and, because of the limited seating, long waits for tables. Ironically, the restaurant's namesake Barb had to return North before the opening, and Ken only got to visit once.

King, 39, has been working in the restaurant business since he was 14, and owned two very popular sandwich shops in Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. At Ken & Barb's he makes everything, from the honey-herb dressing for the Cobb Salad to the batter for the Parmesan Veggie Bites and jam for the Baked Brie, from scratch. The menu includes burgers, salads, wraps, sandwiches, wings, six kinds of fries, vegetarian offerings and dishes that show off King's years in MA, like Atlantic Cod Fishcakes and P-Town Clam Fritters.

Knowing he'd be in the kitchen “90 percent of the time,” King assembled a team of experienced hospitality pros.



Ken & Barb's Interior

Service Manager Chris “Mo” Moore said he reached out to King after reading about his “vision” for the restaurant. Moore, who moved to the area from Las Vegas, said, “The community support has been overwhelming.” Moore said that the size of the restaurant allowed for a successful and socially-distanced event for the Englewood Chamber. Moore said that he loves hearing customers share stories about the old Blue Lagoon and seeing their reactions when they walk into Ken & Barb's for the first time.

“It was mind-blowing,” said Robert Bounds, who brought his three children in for a repeat visit to Ken & Barb's. “The old Blue

Lagoon was out of the 70's. They did a great job.”

Debi McNeil had never stepped foot in the Blue Lagoon but says she likes Ken & Barb's because it's different from all the “tropical” restaurants in the area. “It reminds me of Yellowstone,” she said while enjoying a Cobb Salad.

While the community has embraced Ken & Barb's Grove City Kitchen, General Manager Gina Marcum, says operating a restaurant these days is very challenging. “There's a new speed bump every day.” King has had to postpone offering a dinner menu until the fall and with the limited seating, they are only taking reservations for eight

or more. Marcum experienced a speed bump of her own.

When COVID-19 slammed the hospitality business, she lost her job at Marriott. “I had no idea that it was going to affect the world the way it did,” said Marcum, adding that losing her job led her to contact King about a job in May. “When I walked in this restaurant I knew I was supposed to be here,” she said. Marcum said she is impressed by King's menu and enjoys working in a place where even the juice and simple syrup at the bar is made from scratch.

While he says, “working with a mask on is tough,” King is happy to be able to build his own menu in a place he literally built himself and is looking forward to adding dinner entrees this fall. And he's looking forward to the day he can pull all those custom tables out of storage.

Ken & Barb's Grove City Kitchen, 2000 Oyster Creek Drive, Englewood. Hours: 11 am to 9 pm daily, reservations for 8 or more, take-out available. www.kenandbarbs.com. 941-460-8999.



A sample from Ken & Barb's Grove City Kitchen.

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Your CBD Store celebrated its one-year anniversary on July 6 with a ribbon cutting, refreshments and store specials. The winner of the gift basket raffle was Theda Porter. The store located at 2650 S. McCall Road, Suite C offers a wide variety of CBD and hemp oil products – tinctures, water solubles, edibles, skin care & topicals, and even products for your pet! Their products are manufactured in the U.S. and undergo rigorous testing. Visit them online at Englewood-FL.CBDrx4u.com. Phone: **208-5813**. Pictured are (left to right:) Amber Kraft, Adrienne Parr, Candace Stevens (in back,) owner Lisa Feigel with scissors, Tim Smith, Jonathan Varner, Lauren Varner, Kathy O'Connell and Mark Knauf.

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Mini City Celebrates 2 Years

Mini City will be celebrating its second anniversary on **Sunday, July 26, noon to 4pm** and you are invited to their free cookout. The food trailer will be located on the corner of West Dearborn Street and South McCall Road. Enjoy hamburgers, hotdogs and chips. Entertainment by Vincent Brown. There will be a raffle every thirty minutes – you can purchase the \$5 raffle tickets in advance at the food trailer. All children needing a free meal can get one any day thanks to the generosity of owner Glen Wilson.

The items appearing in this column are as accurate as possible. Please phone the listed numbers for confirmation and further information. If you have an upcoming event you would like to have considered for "BIZ" please send info and/or photo to The Englewood REVIEW, 370 W Dearborn St, Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223 or englewoodreview@comcast.net.

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Summer Fun in Englewood



By Chris Cameron

Are you in the summer doldrums? Have you run out of ideas for kids' activities? Here are a few suggestions that will maybe spark an idea or two.

Englewood is a beach town, so take advantage of our wonderful beaches. See who can find the most shark's teeth (better beaches for finding them are Manasota Beach and Blind Pass Beach,) build a sandcastle (but remember to flatten it down afterwards so turtle hatchlings don't get stuck in the moat,) watch the sunset, picnic, and play in the waves. Just remember the sunscreen! If

you can get to the beach at first light, tag along with the sea turtle patrol volunteers as they monitor turtle nests and you might be lucky enough to see a turtle hatchling emerge from a nest or watch a nest being excavated after the hatchlings have left the nest. These knowledgeable volunteers are willing to answer your questions about turtles, too. Just bring a mask if you want to get close up.

If you want to give the kids a special treat, sign up for a guided kayak or SUP tour through the mangroves and learn about the creatures and plants that live in the mangroves and local waters.

Some local shops for rentals are Island Jet Ski Tours & Rentals, 1450 Beach Road; Beach Road Watersports, 1350 Beach Road; Hooked on SUP, 8450 Placida Road & 900 Gulf Blvd.; Allure Boat Rentals, 1937 Beach Road and Glass Bottom Rentals, 5810 Gasparilla Road.

We have access to great local nature parks. Try a walk around Lemon Bay Park, 570 W. Bay Park Blvd., Oyster Creek Regional Park Environmental Park, (accessible from Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park, 6791 San Casa Drive) and Cedar Point Environmental Park, 2300 Placida Road. Check out the eagle nest at Cedar Point and walk back to Lemon Bay to wade in the water at low tide there. Just remember to bring the insect repellent and wear appropriate footwear in case of wet spots.

To turn an outing into an educational experience, order an "Activity Pak" from EYE on Nature Youth Explorers Club. This is a program offered by Englewood Community Services to introduce children to local wild-

life by taking them on a series of rewarding adventures. In the six stories, children become heroes who learn from the magic turtle guide, named Scout, how to help wildlife and become good stewards of the environment. Kits are \$25 each. Order online and then pick up your order at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, 601 S. Indiana Avenue. Website: www.letshelpenglewood.com/eye-on-nature/order.

If your kids like playgrounds, you can find them at Tringali Park, 3460 S. Access Road; Rotonda Park, 100 Rotonda Blvd. East; Englewood Park, 101 N. Orange Street; Middle Beach Park on the bay side, 6725 Manasota Key Road; Buchan Airport Community Park, 1390 Old Englewood Road; Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 S. River Road; South Gulf Cover Park, 10150 Amicola Street.

An activity the whole family can enjoy is fishing. There are fishing piers at the base of the Tom Adams Bridge on Beach Road; El Jobean Bridge and Centennial Fishing Pier, 14021 Gar-

parilla Road. You can also fish at Chadwick Park (2100 N. Beach Road across from Englewood beach;) Indian Mound Park, 210 Winson Avenue; Blind Pass Beach, 6725 Manasota Key Road (both beach and bay;) and many other locations around town. Florida residents between the age of 16 and 64 years old need a fishing license. Depending on where you fish, you will need either a freshwater or saltwater license. Non-residents will need to purchase either a temporary or annual license. If you go on a saltwater fishing charter, the cost covers your license for the trip. Bring kids' proof of age to show Coast Guard if under age 16. Seniors need to bring proof of age and residency. Licenses can be purchased at your local tax collector's office, some registered retailers or online at www.Myfwc.com/license.

If the family likes to bicycle, try the Legacy Trail and Venetian Waterway in Venice (this can be busy!) In Englewood there is the Cape Haze Pioneer Trail, an 8-mile rail trail with trailheads on Gasparilla Road behind Gulf Cove Publix, Rotonda Blvd. East and the southern end on Gasparilla Road near Coral Creek Country Club. There are a few streets that you will need to cross. The trail can also be used for skating.

It's an oldie but still a wonderful fun resource for both kids and adults. Elsie Quirk Library is open so kids can pick out books (Hey, Mom, it will keep those reading skills sharp) and movies for family entertainment. While there are no in-library summer programming activities, there is a wide variety of fun and educational opportunities listed on their event schedule. Check it out! Visit the library at 100 W. Dearborn Street or online at www.scgov.net/government/departments/libraries. The Englewood Charlotte Library, 3450 N. Access Road, remains closed for visits; however, materials can be requested online and picked up curbside. However, you can find scheduled online virtual activities. The website for the county library is www.charlottecountyfl.gov/libraries.

It's summer and it's hot. What's a cool treat that everyone loves? Ice Cream! Englewood has some great ice cream shops.

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For an old Florida style outing, visit Snook Haven Restaurant, nestled away in a bend on the Myakka River off South River Road near I-75 (5000 E. Venice Avenue.) Try some gator bites, catfish, farm-raised Snook and BBQ. You can enjoy some good music by area bands there as well. Kayak and canoe rentals are available.

Are the kids into fossils? Fossil Expeditions out of Arcadia, offers shark, mammal and reptile fossil collecting day trips along the Peace River and other locations. For more information, call 239-368-3252.

The Bishop Museum in Bradenton is open with limited hours, but you can also enjoy the museum from home, explore videos about the exhibitions, animals, meet the manatees and more. There is Facebook story time on Saturdays; IQuest, Think+drink/science and KidSpace. Go to www.bishopscience.org to find out more about the museum.

If the kids love the outdoors, Peace River Charters offers airboat tours, swamp buggy rides and horseback riding along the Peace River. They are located at 4192 SW Adventure Way, Arcadia. Contact them at 863-444-0693 or visit peacrivercharters.com.

Try star gazing on a clear summer night if you can find a dark location. Download one of the many stargazing apps for iPhone or androids such as SkyView Lite, Star Chart, Sky Map, SkEye, Star Walk 2 Free, Star and Planet Finder, Pocket Universe. Try ISS Detector Satellite Tracker to find out when the International Space Station or the Chinese space station Tiangong2 are view (these are visible to the naked eye when passing over!) Some apps are free although others have to be purchased.

If you have your own special brand of summer fun, share it with us here at the Englewood Review on our Facebook page. There can never be too many ways to have fun!

Back 2 School Bash Backpacks

Charlotte County Community Services will be hosting a drive-through Back 2 School Bash, **9-11 am, Saturday July 18** at Harold Avenue Regional Park recreation center. Five hundred backpacks will be given away to the first 350 students entering kindergarten through fifth grade, and to the first 150 students entering sixth through 12th grade. Children must be present to receive a backpack and all families must remain in their vehicles. Harold Avenue Regional Park recreation center is located at 23400 Harold Ave. in Port Charlotte.

Back to School Bash

All Englewood students, pre-K through 12th grade, are welcome to attend the Back to School Bash Drive-Thru on **Saturday, August 1, 9am to noon**, at Sky Academy, 871 S. River Road. Free backpacks, school supplies and more. Must bring ID. For questions, call the YMCA at 475-1234 or Living Hope Church at 460-8506.

Clothes Closet to Open August 1

The Kids' Needs of Greater Englewood, Inc. clothes closet will be closed until **Saturday, August 1st**. Back to School Bash Hours will be announced at a later date. Normal operating hours will begin on every **Thursday starting August 6 from 5 to 7pm**. The closet is located at 272 S. Indiana Avenue in the Englewood Shopping Center.

Scholarships Awarded

The COVID-19 pandemic did not prevent Lemon Bay Playhouse from awarding outstanding high school seniors with scholarship money. The Playhouse once again honored its commitment to support area high school students by awarding \$3,000 each to three Lemon Bay High School students: Karoline Bellamy, Carly Brzostek and Fraser Hodges. Lemon Bay Playhouse congratulates these students and wishes them all the best in their future endeavors.

Items appearing in this column are as accurate as possible. Please phone the listed numbers for confirmation and further information. If you have an event or happening you would like to have considered for "Keeping Up with Kids," please send information and/or photo to englewoodreview@comcast.net.

Keeping Up with Kids

The Rotary Club of Englewood placed Class of 2020 Congratulations signs in the yards of all the Englewood Youth Foundation scholarship recipients. Forty-three yard signs were distributed and were well received by the students. Reese Deboer and Spencer Stephens share a smile posing with one of the yard signs. "I am truly blessed to receive a scholarship from the Englewood Youth Foundation. With this scholarship I will be able to have an easier time getting my education and I am so thankful for that," said Spencer Stephens. Reese Deboer told the Foundation, "I would like to thank the Englewood Youth Foundation for this amazing opportunity and help me further my education. This scholarship will help myself and many other kids follow their dreams and start their next chapter in life." Congratulations to all of the scholarship winners! For more information about the Englewood Youth Foundation, go to www.therotaryclubofenglewood.org.



Charlotte County Community Services presents...

BACK 2 SCHOOL BASH

**Saturday, July 18
9 to 11 a.m.**

Please join us for our Grab & Go Backpack Give Away provided by Charlotte County Community Services.

Free backpacks will be available to the first 350 children in grades K-5 and first 150 children in grades 6-8.

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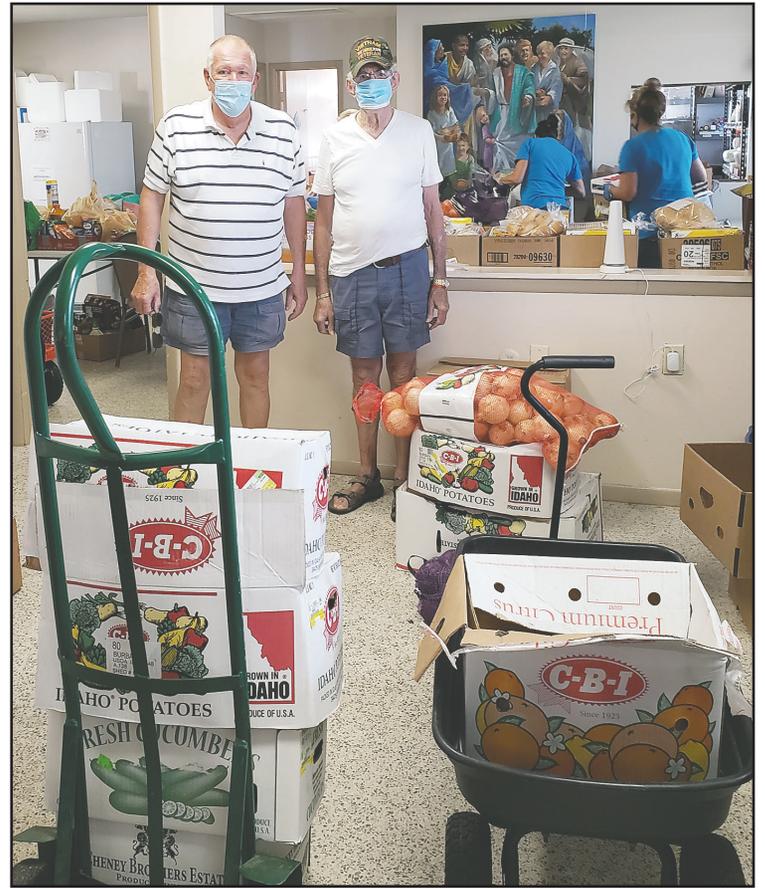


Aloha! The Rotary Club of Englewood held their 2020/2021 installation banquet on June 27th at Ken & Barb's Grove City Kitchen. The board officers for the upcoming Rotary year are Deborah Hegedus, President; Traci Hamill, President-Elect; Chris Cameron, Secretary; Brenda Peckham, Treasurer and Julia Mercier, Past President. Directors are Ed Flohre, Marie Naisby, Ken Brennen, Kirk Nadler, Karen Current, Rotary Foundation Chair and Kristina Watts, Membership Chair. During the awards presentation, Traci Hamill received the Service Above Self award, Deborah Hegedus – President's Award, Chris Cameron – Rookie of the Year Award, Kristina Watts – Fundraiser of the Year Award and Barbara Lebedun – Youth Services Award. Ed Flohre and Jennifer Stanton were recognized for their assistance with the weekly meetings. If you are looking for a way to serve your community and by extension, the world, visit therotaryclubofenglewood.org or feel welcome to attend a weekly meeting on **Tuesdays at noon** at the Englewood Elks, 401 N. Indiana Avenue (first meeting of the month is an evening meeting at **6pm Tuesday**.) Pictured here (L-R:) are Julia Mercier, Past President; Chris Cameron, Secretary; Ed Flohre, Director; Deborah Hegedus, President; Karen Current, Rotary Foundation Chair; Kristina Watts, Membership Chair. Missing are President-Elect Traci Hamill, Treasurer Brenda Peckham, Marie Naisby and Ken Brennen, Directors.

In June, the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club was challenged to provide 1,200 masks for the two Pre-K through 5th Grade Elementary Schools within the Rotonda/Englewood portion of the Charlotte Co. School District. Asst. Treasurer Lois LaVasseur sent an e-mail to the entire membership and to the Rotonda Mask Makers. Lois' e-mail also reached the Englewood Sunshine Quilt Guild. They offered to sew 1,000 masks! Donations of money, fabric, elastic and time were received by the club and they have washed, ironed, cut and pre-packaged 1,200 masks that will be sewn by the Rotonda Mask Makers and the Englewood Sunshine Quilt Guild. As a result of this plan and a Community Partnership, 600 masks each will be delivered to Myakka River Elementary School and Vineland Elementary School for the start of the school year on August 10th. Pictured are (l-r:) Karen Harvey of the Rotonda Mask Makers, Lorraine Fitzpatrick of Englewood Sunshine Quilt Guild and Rotonda West Woman's Club Chairman Lois LaVasseur.



The Placida Rotary Club recently installed their new officers for the 2020/21 Rotary year. This year's President is Robert Ring, Vice-President Blair Milliken, President-Elect Alex Wilson, Treasurer Baerbel Knodel, Secretary is shared by Alex Wilson & Sharon George, Sargeant of Arms Brian Faro, Membership Chair Dan Wear, Service projects Chair Bob Norus, Bulletin Editor shared by Robert Ring & Blair Milliken and Club Service Chair Sharon George. The club meets at **7am Wednesdays** at The Hills Country Club, 100 Rotonda Circle. They continue to perform their quarterly road clean up and are looking forward to planning their popular Seafood Festival for 2021. If you would like to learn more or attend a Rotary meeting, contact Robert Ring at **815-4201**. Guests are always welcome! Photo: Blair Milliken (2019/20 president) hands gavel to incoming president Robert Ring.



It is unfortunate that the Englewood Moose Lodge #1933 closed again for a short time due to a resurgence in COVID-19 cases throughout the country. Rather than let their food supplies rot, the Lodge donated the fresh vegetables and other produce to The Jubilee Center at St. David's Church to be given to their clients. The Jubilee Center is extremely grateful to them for paying it forward. The Moose Lodge has since reopened. "Englewood is such a wonderful, generous community," states Ruth Hill, Jubilee Center Administrator. Moose members John Birnkowski and Newt Webb delivered the donations.



On July 9, at their first meeting since COVID-19 restriction, the Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary Club held a brief installation ceremony for their 2020-21 officers and directors. Pictured here, Past President Bill Stiver (l) installs Jim Bruns (r) as the new President of the Club. The officers include Kale Dailey, President Elect/Secretary; Dan Weinfeld, Treasurer; Dennis Guzik, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Immediate Past President Todd Chace. Directors include Keith Rowley, Jim Soravilla, Dave Wampler, Bob Bedford, Bob Marquette, Eric Wickson, Randy Fogo, Maurice Price, Brian Phillips and Jim Hinck.



OneBlood Drive

Blood Donors are still needed during the country's fight to get through the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic. Sponsored by the GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, The Big Red Bus will be in the parking lot of Faith Lutheran Church, 551 Rotonda Blvd. West on **Thursday, July 23 from 9am to 2pm**. Please commit to donating a pint of blood to help save up to three lives during this difficult time. All donors will receive a free wellness check, a canvas tote and successful blood donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies. Appointments are required and can be made by calling **610-952-1333**.

Kara Morgan will be the speaker at the Business and Professional Women of Englewood & Venice (BPWEV) **July 21th** dinner meeting held at Plantation Golf and Country Club in Venice. Kara Morgan is the CEO of Venice Main-Street. She uses dynamic community connections and high-level strategic oversight, plus over 15 years of experience in nonprofit management and development to tackled large projects, such as capital growth campaigns and federal grants to navigating everyday challenges, like building awareness and visitor engagement. Morgan resides in Venice with her husband and son. The public is invited to this meeting. For dinner reservations go to www.bpwev.org. BPWEV meets **every 3rd Tuesday** of month at **5:30pm** at the Plantation G&CC. The mission of BPWEV is: 'To achieve equity for all women through Advocacy, Education and Information. The organization believes strongly in "Women Helping Women."



Two area non-profits were the recipients of generous donations by the Englewood Eagles #3885 recently. Englewood Helping Hand and Dollars for Mammograms each received a check for \$1,000. Pictured (L-R:) are Beverly Boyt, Eagles Past President; Mark Rennie, President Helping Hand; Carol Weeks, Eagles Past President; Rita Bertler, President Dollars for Mammograms and Mary Nilson, Eagles Past President. For more information about the Eagles, visit www.foe33885.com.

All items appearing in this column are as accurate as possible. Please phone the listed numbers for confirmation and further information. If you have an upcoming event you would like to have considered for "Club Chat," please send info

and/or photo to The Englewood REVIEW, 370 W Dearborn St, Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223 or email englewoodreview@comcast.net. Visit our Web site for more information about club meeting times and locations: www.englewoodreview.com.



Nature Calls



Next time you are at Stump Pass Beach State Park, check out the turtle sign made for Friends of Stump Pass (FOSP) by FOSP friend and volunteer Gary Logsdon. Gary is an insanely talented local wood craftsman. He generously donated his time and talents to create this one of a kind beautiful piece of art. The sign will be a place for information about park happenings. During turtle season, visitors will be able to see current turtle nest counts (updated weekly) at the park and also the total on Manasota Key. Visitors might find that this might be a perfect selfie spot to commemorate a memorable day at Stump Pass Beach. If you'd like to volunteer with the group, visit Friends of Stump Pass Facebook page for the friendship form. They would be delighted to have you among their Friends and amazing volunteers. FOSP is a sub-group of Barrier Island Parks Society (BIPS), 501(c)3 Non-profit citizen support organization.



Show your support for manatee and sea turtle conservation with new decals from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC.) The FWC unveiled its new 2020 manatee & sea turtle decals. They are available with a \$5 donation online or at your local tax collector's office. All proceeds from the decals help fund manatee and sea turtle conservation efforts. The high quality, waterproof stickers feature beautiful original artwork and are designed to look good on a vehicle, side of a boat, laptop, water bottles or coolers. Learn more about how to conserve manatees and sea turtles at www.MyFWC.com/manatee or www.MyFWC.com/sea_turtle. To order past editions of decals, simply type "decals" in the search box at www.MyFWC.com. You can also support these species by purchasing a "Save the Manatee" or "Helping Sea Turtles Survive" license plate at your local tax collector's office. To report injured or dead manatee or sea turtle, call FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at **888•404•3922**.

Landscaping for Songbirds

Learn how you can attract throngs of songbirds to your yard in a simple manner. UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County invites you to a free webinar on **Wednesday, July 22 from 9 to 11am** to introduce native plants that provide food, offer shelter from predators and allow them to safely nest and raise their young. Learn the tips and techniques you need for landscaping for songbirds on your computer. Register online through Eventbrite.com. For questions, call **861•5000**.

Be prepared with drinking water, insect repellent and appropriate footwear (trails may be flooded.)

See Marine Life in Trouble?

Private citizens can play an important role in aiding local wildlife in trouble. If you see a distressed or deceased sea turtle, manatee, dolphin or whale in Sarasota or Manatee counties, report it immediately to trained responders at Mote Marine. Contact Mote's Stranding Investigations Program via their 24-hour hotline at **988•0212**. For Charlotte and other Florida counties, call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC's) Wildlife Alert Hotline at **888•404•3922**. When calling, be ready to provide a thorough description of the animal, its behaviors, and the location. Take photos and video if possible. Never attempt to rescue or push back any animal in distress.

Guided Nature Walks

Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) and the Charlotte County Natural Resource Department will be conducting free walks this summer. Upcoming walks are **Thursday, July 23 at 8am** through the old growth pine flatwoods and mangrove fringe of Oyster Creek/Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park. On **Tuesday, August 4, 8am**, join CHEC on a guided walk through Tippecanoe II Mitigation Park in Port Charlotte. You must register to participate by calling **475•0769**.

The items appearing in this column are as accurate as possible. Please phone the listed numbers for confirmation and further information.


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Be on the Lookout For ALLIGATORS



An American alligator nest (mound of dried grass.) The mother alligator can be seen guarding the nest in the upper right side of the nest. (photo credit UF/IFAS)

The end of alligator mating season is near but that doesn't mean that you can let down your guard when it comes to being aware that you may be sharing your water space with these reptiles who have been around for 35 million years. Alligators are ectothermic, which means they rely on external sources of heat to regulate their body temperature. This means they become more active in warmer temperatures and move from one water source to another. They are most active when temperatures are between 82 to 92 degrees Fahrenheit.

Alligators may occur anywhere there is water—lakes, ponds, rivers, marshes, swamps, and even man-made canals. Their courtship rituals begin in early April and mating season occurs in May and June. To attract females, males display by head-slapping the water and producing a deep rumbling bellow. Once a male-female pair is formed, they will swim together, touch each other's snouts, and blow bubbles. Mating takes place in the water and when completed, the male swims away and the female

is left to search for a place to build her nest. Female alligators construct nests by mounding up vegetation, sticks, leaves, and mud in a sheltered spot in or near water. The average clutch is 32 to 46 eggs laid in late June or early July. Incubation requires approximately 63-68 days, and hatching occurs from mid-August through early September. Alligator eggs are threatened by predators (mainly raccoons) and drowning due to floods. An estimated 24 live hatchlings will emerge and only ten hatchlings will live to one year and approximately five will reach maturity, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC.)

Alligators are very protective of their nests and young, so it is wise to remain vigilant and take precautions. Females stay near the nest during incubation and actively defend it from predators like raccoons. Females may also be aggressive toward humans, often hissing and charging at intruders, so alligator nests should never be approached

Alligators are opportunistic feeders. Adult alligators seek out

rough fish, snakes, turtles, small mammals and birds. Juvenile alligators eat primarily insects, amphibians, small fish and other invertebrates. It is not wise to allow your dogs or children to swim in water inhabited by alligators, or to drink or play at the water's edge. To an alligator, a splash potentially means a food source is in the water. Avoid swimming in areas that are known habitats for large alligators. If you are kayaking, it is recommended to stay at least 30 feet away from a gator. If you come upon one, paddle away calmly or back away slowly. Do not allow dogs to swim or explore waters that are known to have alligators because dogs look like prey to alligators. There are far more alligator attacks on dogs than on humans.

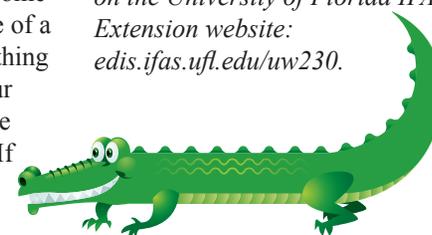
Alligators and Floridians usually have a peaceful coexistence, but there are recorded attacks and occasional fatalities. The key to staying safe is being alert to the possibility of alligators being present. Never feed gators or

swim or wade in waters where large alligators are known or likely to occur, especially at dusk or night (when they naturally feed). It is illegal to feed alligators. When humans feed alligators, it causes the alligators to lose their natural fear of humans and to associate humans with food. It doesn't matter if people feed them human food like marshmallows or throw them fish guts when cleaning fish, it's all bad. It changes the alligator's behavior. Normally, alligators avoid humans, but alligators that have been fed by humans will move toward humans and can become aggressive. If you are aware of a nuisance alligator, the best thing you can do is to contact your local or regional FWC office or call 866-FWC-GATOR. If the alligator is deemed to be a threat to the public, a

licensed trapper will be sent to remove it.

Because of Florida's booming population growth, people and alligators are constantly forced to cross paths, increasing the chances of conflict. Knowing where alligators live, how they behave and what you can do to avoid conflict with alligators is key to sharing space safely.

This article is an edited version of "Living with Alligators: A Florida Reality" written by Elizabeth Swiman, Mark Hostetler, Sarah Webb Miller and Martin Main that may be found on the University of Florida IFAS Extension website: edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw230.



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John Ruskin, Author-Economist



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Readers' Photos

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Looks like an egret is swimming in the water below this Great Egret flying over a pond in Boca Royale. Photos shared by Ken Hubley of Englewood



Sue Killion of Rotonda West, an avid gardener and member of the Lemon Bay Garden Club, shared this photo of the Epiphyllum oxypetalum or Night Blooming Cereus Cactus.



Lowell Gehman shares his photo of an endangered Florida Scrub Jay taken at Tippecanoe Environmental Park.

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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, July 10. They represent events from July 17 - August 7. 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 AUGUST 1

Closet of Hope Gulf Cove United Methodist Church, 1100 S. McCall Rd. 9:30AM-12PM 697-1747

SUN AUGUST 2

Fellowship Church Communion Service 140 Rotonda Blvd. W. 8:30-10:30AM 475-7447

MON AUGUST 3

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

SAT AUGUST 4

Men's Fellowship Gulf Cove United Methodist Church, 1100 S. McCall Rd. 8-10AM 697-1747

ONGOING WEEKLY EVENTS EVERY DAY

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

MON, WED, FRI

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 - 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

WED, FRI

Line Dancing (Intermediate)

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

WED, SAT

Horse Back Riding Summer Camp

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

MONDAYS

Zumba Gold & Toning

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

TUESDAYS

Zumba with Laurentz

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

WEDNESDAYS

Food for the Soul

Gulf Cove United Methodist Church, 1100 S. McCall Rd. 4:30-7:30PM 697-1747

THURSDAYS

Crafty Ladies

Gulf Cove United Methodist Church, 1100 S. McCall Rd. 9-11:30AM 697-1747

Beginners/Improvers Line Dancing

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

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

SATURDAYS

Fellowship Church Men's Prayer Breakfast

140 Rotonda Blvd W. 1st Sat. of each month 8-9AM 475-7447

SUNDAYS

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 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

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

SUDOKU

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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!

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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.

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 Photos by Suncoast Humane Society



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Hey there, I'm **Chloe!** I'm 5 years old and I've been here at Suncoast since March 12. I weigh in at 61 lbs. I've been through so much, and I'm looking for my family that will never leave me behind. Someone who is willing to take their time with me and build a loving and trusting bond. I enjoy taking long walks and being in your company. I hope you ask to meet me so we can start our bonding now.



Hello, I'm **Ember** and I'm 2.5 months old! How are you doing? I'm sure you would be a lot better if you had me to come home to everyday. I was rescued and brought here to Suncoast on June 20. My favorite thing is to play with my siblings. I'd love a companion cat when I find my forever family. Maybe that would be you?



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, or 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. Cash or check donations to help the animals at this time is very much appreciated. We are a 501c3, so any donation is tax deductible.



Mimi is a Chocolate brown Chihuahua. She is 7 years old and a very happy little gal. Mimi is housebroken and has lived with other dogs.



Handsome **Charming** is a 4-year old apricot and white neutered male. His fur is medium length. Charming fits him - he is very charming.

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

EARS Animal Rescue's Thrift Store Is Now Open
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All donations of clothes and housewares are needed to help the EARS animals.



Zeke Speaks

Allergies in Dogs

Do you observe your pet scratching or constantly licking itself? Could allergies be the reason? Like in humans, allergy reactions are a misguided reaction to foreign substances by the body's immune system. There are three types of allergies: skin allergies, environmental allergies and food allergies.

Skin allergies are the most common type of allergic reactions. One cause may be due to fleabites as some dogs are allergic to flea saliva. Signs are extreme itchiness, especially at the base of the tail and the skin may become red, inflamed and scabbed. You may notice signs of fleas, such as flea dirt or even see the fleas themselves. As your dog scratches, bites and licks at his skin, he risks opening up his skin to yeast and bacterial infections that may require treatment.

Environmental allergens such as dust, pollen and mold can cause an atopic allergic reaction or atopic dermatitis. In most cases, these allergies are seasonal so you may only notice your dog itching during certain times of the year. The most commonly affected areas are the paws and ears but also include the wrists, ankles, muzzle, groin, around the eyes and between the toes. In some cases, additional symptoms of runny eyes, runny nose and sneezing may be present.

True food allergies are not as common as you may think. True food allergies result in an immune response which can range in symptoms from skin conditions (hives, facial swelling, itchiness,) gastrointestinal signs (vomiting and/or diarrhea,) or a combination of both. What most people mean when they say that their dog has a food allergy is that their dog has a food sensitivity or intolerance. Food sensitivities do not involve an immune response and are instead a gradual reaction to an

offending ingredient in your dog's food, for example, beef, chicken, eggs, corn, wheat, soy or milk. The most common places dogs itch are their ears and paws. The best way to diagnose and treat a food allergy is to work with your vet to discover the ingredient's identity and manage the reaction.

To discover the cause of the allergic symptoms, your vet will first want to rule out any other condition that could explain the symptoms. Allergy testing may

be suggested to try to determine the allergen but it may not be always possible to determine the cause of the allergy.

To treat an allergy, the solution depends on the cause. Flea allergies can be treated with the proper flea management products. Food allergies or intolerances are resolved with a diet change. An allergy relief medication may be prescribed by your vet.

Source: American Kennel Club

SUNCOAST Humane Society **ENTER & VOTE NOW!**



2021 Pet Calendar Photo Contest

Pet Calendar Fundraiser

Suncoast Humane Society is looking for the stars of the 2021 Pet Calendar. Pet parents throughout Charlotte, Sarasota and Lee counties can vie for the coveted front and back covers, plus Pet Of The Month honors. The pet calendar helps raise funds to continue the programs and services offered by Suncoast Humane Society. Entry fee is \$25. Votes are \$1 each. Winner is decided by total number of votes cast for a photo entry. Photo entry deadline is **September 12th**. Voting ends **September 13th**. Go to www.humane.org to find out more and entry rules.

Pet Wellness Clinic

Did you know that the Suncoast Humane Society offers a Drive-Up Wellness Clinic? Services offered are vaccines, microchips, fecals, FELV/FIV tests, nail trims, deworming, heartworm tests and heartworm/flea prevention. The clinic is open every **Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8am to noon** and appointments are necessary. Visit the SHS website to request an appointment and a specialist will call you back to finalize your date & services: www.humane.org/services/drive-up-wellness-clinic.



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SUDOKU PUZZLE SOLUTION from page 25

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