Burnt Store Marina

THE BEACON

Another Seabreeze Publication

VOL. 20 NO. 3 | View *The Beacon* online at http://bsm22.org | MARCH 2021

President's Comments

By Craig Holcomb, Sec. 22 HOA

Burnt Store Marina has existed for 40 plus years. Our community is very impressive, not only to those of us who call it home, but for many who visit and stop in to see just what is here and what we have to offer, for our residents and guests. The vista from Charlotte Harbor as you boat north or south is always the impressive landscape of our buildings and land that provides the boater with a great view of our community, and a point for navigating along the waterway.

During the past four years we have taken over the ownership of our community's assets, along with Safe Harbor's purchase of our major marina. We have been, and will continue to, improve these assets for the betterment of the entire community. We have made some major inroads into updating and improving our assets, but we still have a way to go to get everything back to good operational standards.

2020 as we all know was a complete change in our daily routines, and will affect us all as we move forward in our lives. The pandemic has had its effects on our community, no different than what has happened in our country.

* We have had decreases in membership and usage in all of our community amenities.

* We have had decreases in the number of events that attracted large groups.

* We are seeing an increase of new residents who can now work from home and escape the north.

* Our amenities and activities have had to adjust and be creative to keep their operations alive.

One of our goals is to attempt to decipher just what we, as a community, need to do to accommodate the changes taking place in our world that have come about by the pandemic. Some are good changes, some are not-so-good changes, and some are new ways of doing things.

A healthy community will properly fund the current daily operations, maintain and upgrade the current assets to be in good working standard and aesthetically pleasing. It also needs to fund for the future known and unknown needs of the community. Here is how we see our funding:

* *Annual Assessment*. We have had to increase our annual assessment in order to deal with increasing operational costs that cover not only normal maintenance, but also replacements and major repairs that occur each year. Our current annual assessment for operations since 2016 has increased from $535 per year to $756 per year. The debt repayment of the loan that was used to purchase and begin to repair and maintain our assets has been steady at $380 per year.

* *Reserve Funding*. Funding our reserves for the present and future maintenance, repair and replacement of our capital assets is extremely important. Although we have put funds away for future capital reserves, we still have projects to be completed to properly update what we have, to a good standard working condition. That is why we passed a capital reserve assessment of $450 for this year that will fund some projects, and put some funds into the reserves for future use.

Saving for future costs incrementally each year will hopefully avoid a very large one-time assessment down the road. For the next three years we have identified several areas still in the process of bringing the facilities and equipment up to date. The list will be pared down each year to determine which expenditures are most important, and which can be delayed another year or two.

Colorful Iguana on Pine Island

* Making additional improvements to existing buildings and lands for present and future use and enjoyment by our residents. This may mean some restructuring or additions to present facilities and land.

* Finally, to ensure that funds are available for any future catastrophes or incidents that would damage our buildings, lands, equipment and infrastructure.

As we go into 2021 and beyond, our community is getting stronger each year. We are fortunate to have so much more to offer than other developments in our area. We are a complete package, and we strive each year to maintain and improve upon what we have for those of us here now, and for those that come in the future.

Finally, and most importantly, we do have the friendliest and most giving residents that you can find throughout Florida. Many contractors have commented on the strength of our residents and volunteers who bring so much knowledge and ability to any and all causes that need to be dealt with on a daily basis. Burnt Store Marina is just a great place to live!

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports

Architectural Review Committee

By Barry Groesch, Chair

House need painting? All changes to the exterior of homes in BSM must have ARC approval. This applies to independent homes as well as homes in a condo association. If you do not get ARC approval and your changes do not meet Section 22 HOA Restrictions, you may be asked to change or remove them. You can get this approval if your changes meet Section 22 HOA Restrictions by filling out and submitting an application to ARC.

The following applications were approved last month by the Section 22 HOA ARC:

- Robert & Barbara Honcharski, 24135 Redfish Cove Dr., lanai modification.
- Leonard & Joyce Dersa, 2010 King Tarpon Dr., roof replacement.
- Ron & Beverly Gibson, 110 Big Pine Ln., roof replacement.
- Ron & Beverly Gibson, 110 Big Pine Ln., pool installation.
- Barbara Berman, 810 Islamorada Blvd., hurricane shutter installation.
- Gordon & Cheryl Fogg, 102 Big Pine Ln., roof replacement.
- Marie Sullivan, 810 Islamorada Blvd., garage screen.
- Admiralty Village, replace association signs.
- Lorraine Kurgan, 1102 Islamorada Blvd., roof replacement.
- Thomas Wright, 204 Big Pine Ln., window replacement.
- Harbor Towers, 2060-2090 Matecumbe Key Rd., landscaping.
- William & Christina Effinger, 2 Pirates Ln. 21A, window replacement.
- Daniel & Rhonda Gregory, 818 Islamorada Blvd., roof replacement.

Section 22 restrictions and applications are available for download at **BSM22.org**. Submit your ARC applications to Alliant Association Management, 13831 Vector Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33919.

Community Access Committee

By Pat O'Neill, Chair

Another Milestone!

One year ago this month, the community celebrated Major Andrew Scott's 10 years of service to the Burnt Store Community. This year, we again celebrate another milestone in the Major's career.

When Andy was first hired he was our "Site Supervisor." This has evolved into our Access Control Manager, having many more duties, and these duties continue to grow.

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports *on page 5*

Reminder:

Next Section 22 HOA Board Meeting

– Tuesday, March 23, 9 a.m., Linkside Café Patio

Directory: Section 22 Homeowners Association

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Judy Ewing
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Beth Kohl..... 662-0321
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Rudder Club
Carol Larsen..... 637-6673
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Sunset Key I and II
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Nancy Godina..... 575-9516
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Volunteer needed
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Susan Keiffer..... 637-8702
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Yellowfin Cove
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Teresa Tembreull.....612-865-8299

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The Beacon deadline for copy to be submitted **is the 1st** of **each** month. Refer to the Directory on this page for a list of editors. Submission does not guarantee inclusion. Submission of copy undergoes review and editing by the editorial team.

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www.bsm22.org
Section 22 HOA
BSM Fitness, Racquet & Pool Club
www.bsgac.org
Burnt Store Golf & Activity Club
www.burntstoremarina.com
Burnt Store Marina
info@alliantproperty.com
Alliant Association Management
(Section 22 HOA)
www.burntstoreanglers.com
Burnt Store Anglers

Attention Residents:

We have notified you in the past that when you have a medical emergency, you need to call 911 and identify that you live in Lee County.

It is important that the RESIDENT call in the emergency since the front gate cannot answer the questions asked by the 911 dispatcher. In order for the medic not to be delayed in getting to the scene of the emergency the resident must be the one to call 911.

Thank you.

Classified

Do you want to sell a boat, boat slip with or without lift, golf cart or clubs? Give a call to new BSM residents Garry and Anna, (312) 217-6163.

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3240 South Shore Drive, 41A $324,817 – 2/2 End Unit – Sold
3240 South Shore Drive, 41C $369,000 – 2/2 End Unit – Sold
3250 South Shore Drive, 52C $397,995 – 3/2 – Sold
3260 South Shore Drive, 63C $389,000 – 3/2 – Sold
3280 South Shore Drive, 86C $414,900 – 3/2 – Sold

3210 Southshore Drive, 12C
3Br, 2Ba, Furnished Turn Key – $347,700

3250 Southshore Drive, 54A
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GET THESE BEFORE THEY ARE GONE

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I had 13 listings under contract in January 2021 in Burnt Store Marina alone!

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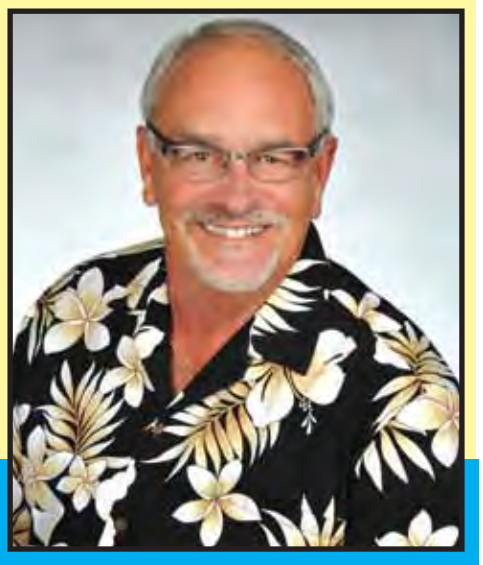

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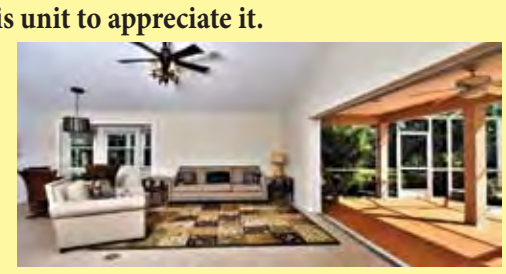
MARCH FEATURE HOME

4057 CAPE COLE $349,000 PENDING IN LESS THAN A DAY

Are you looking for that perfect starter home in Burnt Store Marina or possibly a great rental unit? A SFH that is under $350,000, with 2 beds, 2 baths, 2 car garage, plus a POOL? Look no longer you have found it! This home has an open and split floor plan with high ceilings and is completely tiled. It has a newly remodeled kitchen, with new stainless appliances, and the lower cabinets have the new pull out drawers everyone wants. This home needs nothing.....it has recently been repainted inside and out, has new roof, new high impact windows, a rescreened lanai, re-plumbed with cpvc, and the pool has been resurfaced with peebel tec with a spectacular waterfall view. This home is nestled at the end of a cul-de-sac and is very private. You must see this unit to appreciate it.



The most up-to-date information about Burnt Store Marina

BURNTSTOREMARINAPROPERTY.COM

MARCH LISTINGS

3239 SUGARLOAF	VACANT LAND 1/4+ ACRE	BSM	$82,000
2060 MATECUMBE #2707	CONDO	2/2/ COMMUNITY (REDUCED)	$207,000
17906 COURTSIDE LANDINGS	SINGLE FAMILY HOME	3/2/2002 (PENDING)	$340,000
1610 MATECUMBE 61A	CONDO	2/2/ CARPORT (PENDING)	$179,000
3 PIRATES LN 31C	CONDO	2/2/ CARPORT (PENDING)	$178,000
1590 ISLAMORADA #84B	CONDO	2/2/ CARPORT (SOLD)	$198,000
460 ISLAMORADA	VILLA	2/2/2 1CAR GARAGE (PENDING)	$198,500
4051 MARIANNE KEY	VACANT LAND	BSM LOT (PENDING)	$139,000
2080 BIG PASS LN 3C	CONDO	2/2/1 CAR GARAGE	$198,750
5070 KEY LARGO CIRCLE	SINGLE FAMILY HOME	3/2/2.5 GARAGE (POOL) (PENDING)	$549,000
4057 CAPE COLE	SINGLE FAMILY HOME	2/2/2	$349,000
15901 ISLAMORADA #84C	CONDO	2/2/ CARPORT	$219,000

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Mark Your Calendar – Out And About

Inside the Gates Dates

- **Monday, March 1:** Deadline for the April *Beacon*. Article and picture submissions are welcomed. Become part of the *Beacon* family.
- **Saturday, March 6:** Burnt Store Marina Community Garage Sale, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Tuesday, March 23:** Section 22 HOA Board Meeting, Linkside patio, 9 a.m.
- **Tuesday, March 23:** Outdoor Social Knitting group at 1 p.m. (new time). An outdoor gathering for anyone who would like to knit or crochet while social distancing with fellow yarn lovers and fiber artists. To R.S.V.P. and get location information, email Elle Flaherty at meflaherty518@gmail.com.
- **Every Tuesday:** Bar code installation, front gate, 1 to 3 p.m.
- **Every Thursday:** Bar code installation, front gate, 9 to 11 a.m.
- **Every Friday:** Burnt Store Marina Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Keel Club parking lot.

Outside the Gates Dates

- **Saturday, March 6:** Punta Gorda City-Wide Garage Sale. 8 a.m. to noon. Bal Harbor Shopping Plaza, Bal Harbor & Aqui Esta. Call 941-639-3720 to reserve a space to exhibit.
- **Every Friday:** Ghost Stories of Punta Gorda Walking Tour. A mixture of history with local folklore. $29 for adults, $19 accompanied minors. Go to **https://swfloridawalkingtours.com/tours-2/ghost-stories-of-punta-gorda-tour.**
- **Every Tuesday and Friday:** Dance Fusion Class. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, 2001 Shreve St. Call Cara Peralta for information, 941-276-1887. $10 per class.
- **Every Tuesday:** Cape Coral Surfside Sunset Market, from 1 to 6 p.m., Veterans Parkway and Surfside Boulevard, opposite end of Belks Dept. Store.
- **Every Saturday:** Punta Gorda Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., downtown. Lots of vendors with fresh fruits and vegetables, live music, crafts and other great buys. Visit nearby murals and enjoy some of the great downtown restaurants.
- **Every Saturday:** Cape Coral Farmers Market, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., SE 14th Ter. and SE 10th Pl., Cape Coral.
- **Every Sunday:** Punta Gorda Historical Society's Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at History Park, 501 Shreve Street. Shop for veggies, meats, plants and gifts. Most Sundays you will be treated to live music by Dave Heveron. When the market closes at 1 p.m., take a guided tour of the gardens at the park. Walk the grounds with Florida native gardener, Starr Zachritz, and learn about Florida's flora. A $5 suggested donation gets you a plant to take home. Call 941-380-6814.

Fitness, Friends & Fun… Meet Two New Members of Our Club

By Jen Tait, Burnt Store Marina Fitness, Racquet & Pool Club Manager

Fitness, Friends, & Fun

Jennifer Steuber and her husband, Jason, recently moved from the Midwest to Burnt Store Marina as full time live-aboard boaters. As they researched different marinas along the Gulf Coast of Florida, they always referred to their "wish list" of amenities to determine the best location.

As flatlanders, there was a lot to consider including safety during hurricane season, easy access to the Gulf, slip lease/live-aboard costs, distance to shopping and local attractions, etc.

While the choices varied wildly, they kept coming back to Burnt Store Marina because of the onsite access to a fitness center, as well as racquet sports and a pool with spa. Therefore, one might say they chose the Burnt Store Marina because of the Fitness Center!

Having been in BSM for only two months, they have used the Fitness Center for weightlifting and jogging on the treadmill, along with relaxing at the pool and spa. Both are very excited to begin playing pickleball. They also participated in the Fun Run/Walk to raise funds for the pickleball patio, and met a welcoming and lively group of people. Jennifer is looking forward to the aerobics classes on Zoom and was super happy to learn that she can reserve the aerobics room at the Fitness Center for her favorite on-line workouts, since she doesn't have room for all her "dance" moves on the boat!

When asked about the ease of use of the Court Reserve App, Jennifer replied, "Yes, we have used Court Reserve and I much prefer navigating it as an App on my phone as opposed to my laptop computer. I was a little confused at first because the name of the system is misleading but once I understood that it is NOT just to reserve a court, I use it all the time. You can choose your best time to work out, reserve the aerobics room, sign up for water Zumba or reserve a tennis court and since it is real time, I can reserve something 10 minutes in the future or a few days ahead. Also, there is an Event Categories feature that shows dates and times of zoom classes, racquet sports and aqua classes that can also be seen in an easy-to-read calendar view. It is a great tool, especially after hours when you can't pick up the phone and call the Fitness Center to ask for assistance."

When Jennifer talks about the BSM Fitness, Racquet & Pool Club to neighbors, she stresses that they can choose what fits their lifestyle best AND if they are only living here part time, they can participate in a pro-rated fee structure.

Lori Meier and her husband Jim also recently moved into Burnt Store Marina, saying farewell to the cold weather in Illinois. Having just retired last March (and we all know what began during that timeframe), Lori was unable to go to her health club, and instead began jogging around in the basement parking garage of her condo building. She and her husband had already identified Punta Gorda as their soon-to-be Florida home, and the amenities of BSM were the clincher.

When asked the reason for joining the fitness center, Lori replied, "after we moved here, I was anxious to get back into my workout routine, however, what came as a surprise, was that I became very interested in taking classes instead of what I typically had done – a solitary workout. I absolutely LOVE Tabata, Zoom Zumba, water aerobics, water Zumba and weight training classes. I have been able to meet some lovely people and the instructors make the classes fun and challenging. A surprising benefit is that we always stretch at the end of each class, which is something I typically ignore even though I know that it is good for your body."

Lori also commented that she recently purchased a Pickleball set and is preparing to give it a try.

In closing, both Jennifer and Lori are very happy to have joined the Fitness Center. As Jennifer stated, "I highly recommend that anyone who is interested, stop by the Fitness Center and take a tour, find out more information and determine what works for YOU. It is NOT a one-size-fits-all situation, instead, there are a lot of choices and flexibility to meet almost any need."

"Just give it a try," said Lori. "Everyone is truly friendly and at all skill levels. You won't feel uncomfortable or awkward. Plus, you will make new friends!"

Plant of the Month…African Iris

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass

The African iris is also called butterfly iris and fortnight lily. There are two varieties of African iris that are most commonly seen in our area: one is the white African iris and the other is the yellow African iris. The name "fortnight lily" comes from the fact that each flower lasts about two weeks.

The African iris is a great all-purpose plant for home landscapes in Zones 8 and above (ours is 9b/10a). Its sturdy, grass-like foliage is a wonderful accent plant in the landscape. You can expect to see bright flowers blooming on clumps of 2-foot to 4-foot-tall plants from spring to fall. African iris adds color and texture to tough landscaping areas, such as parking strips, next to driveways, and dry patches near a home's foundation. It stands up to heat, drought, and neglect. This plant also looks great as a groundcover, in a potted container, or in a rock or water garden. It can be used as a mass group planting, as accents along pool screen beds, or as lone specimens within the landscape, to add a different texture and contrast. It is a cold-hardy, evergreen perennial.

Since it calls for fairly low maintenance, it's a plus for any level of gardener. It does, however, need to be cut back to a mound, the same as ornamental grasses, at least every two years. To keep the plant from spreading, you should remove the spent flowers, which dry to pods. The pods contain many seeds that go on to multiply the plant base. The flowers are beautiful in arrangements, and the pods can also be used in dried flower arrangements.

The white variety is the most popular because, although it spreads, not to the degree that the yellow variety does. The white African iris grows 2'- 4' high and wide. The yellow African iris grows similarly, however, tends to grow slightly taller and wider and is identified by thinner leaves and a yellow flower with brown center. Both varieties are easy to grow and maintain and are very salt and drought tolerant.

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports *from page 1*

Now, our Access Control Manager has been awarded the local District Officer of the Year title by Weiser Security Services. With this award, Major Scott received a unique custom built "Championship Belt," which is to be passed on from year to year (see attached picture), and a generous monetary award from Weiser.

For our new residents, Major Scott has over 25 years of experience in the security industry, as well as being a former military police officer in the United States Air Force.

He, along with many of his team members, has faithfully served this community over the years, and on several occasions, has transferred to a new company in order to continue serving us.

We continue to appreciate the dedication and loyalty to our Burnt Store Community that Major Scott and his team provide, and congratulate him on a job extremely well done.

Feel free to say hi and to congratulate him when you see him in the area.

An ARC did you know, moment…

By Barry Groesch,
Architectural Review Committee Chair

Did you know…if you want to replace or fix your air conditioning unit an ARC application is not needed, but for other projects go to **BSM22.org** to get your application.

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with Gulf Access Dock. 3/3/3
Gorgeous Updates, Newer Pool

PENDING!

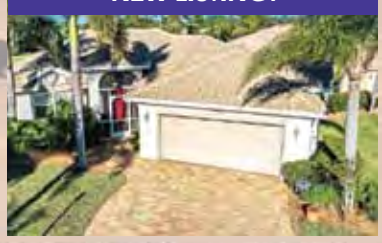
4840 Linkside Dr
$659,000
3/2/3 Plus Den
Light and Bright Open
Floorplan on Desirable Street

NEW AND PENDING!

24112 Pyramid Way
$489,000
Burnt Store Lakes
3 bed/2 bath/2.5 gar
HUGE Lake View!

NEW LISTING!

3091 Big Pass Lane
$479,000
3 bed/2 bath/2 car gar
Gorgeous Waterfall Spa
Attractively Furnished!

NEW LISTING!

104 Big Pine Lane
$406,000
2 bed+den/2 bath
Newer Roof and Pool!
Loads of Upgrades!

NEW AND PENDING!

2060 Matecumbe Key #2606
$395,000
3 bed/2 bath
Completely Updated
Stunning Marina Views!

PENDING!

3329 Sunset Key #103
$369,000
3 bed/2 bath/2 Pkng Spots!
Lots of Updates
Partially Furnished

ENJOY ACCESS OUTSIDE!

3321 Sunset Key #108
$349,000
3 bed/2 bath/Secure Pking
Open Deck Overlooking
Canal. Furnished!

SOLD!

3 Pirates Lane #33A
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2 bed/2 bath
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PENDING!

28390 Challenger Blvd B-1
$125,000
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Enjoying Your Walk

By Jan McLaughlin, Former Beacon Editor

One morning a fellow walker stopped me and asked what the distance was around Prosperity Point, and how far was it from there to the front entry gate. With lots of residents returning and enjoying our pedestrian paths, I offer the following. All distances were measured with a GPS while riding in a golf cart.

• Islamorada Entrance Gate to Cape Cole Blvd. – 0.82 mile

• Cape Cole Blvd., golf clubhouse gate arm to Islamorada Blvd. – 0.60 mile

• Cape Cole Blvd., golf club gate arm to Matecumbe Key entry – 0.72 mile

• Matecumbe Key Blvd., construction entrance to Cape Cole Blvd., 0.72 mile

• Matecumbe Key Blvd., Cape Cole Blvd., to South Shore – 0.55 mile

• Courtside Landings' Loop, start/stop at entrance – 0.48 mile

• Prosperity Point sidewalk loop, start/stop at Matcumbe Key Blvd, 1.26 mile

• Admiral's Point loop (includes Key Largo Lane Circle, Sable Key Circle and Key Largo Circle) start/stop at Marathon & Cape Cole Blvd., 1.06 mile

• Tarpon Pass loop, start/stop at Islamorada Blvd., 0.76 mile

Wonderful resources for walkers abound on the Internet. These sites offer a wide selection of audio music apps for beginners to advanced walkers, exercise videos, gear (including shoes), accessories and resource information.

Sheriff's Report – January

5 - Verbal warnings

2 – Failure to stop at stop sign - golf carts

2 - Bicycles that didn't stop at stop sign

1 - 11 year old driving golf cart (with parents)

20 - Written warnings

10 - Failure to stop at the stop sign - 6 residents, 2 visitors, 2 workers

8 - Speeding - 3 visitors, 3 residents, 1 worker, 1 renter

1 - Obscured tag - resident

1 - Mutilated drivers license - visitor

2 - Tickets

2 - Tickets for speeding – 2 residents

The Community Access Committee been asked repeatedly about the sheriff's issuing warnings vs. tickets.

Per the Lee County Sheriff's rules and regs, they stated that in doing residential traffic control their policy is:

First stop - warning

Second and more stops - tickets.

Residents: Please help keep our roadways safe by obeying all traffic rules!

Fit Happens...Which Diet is Best?

By Cheri Frank,
Certified Fitness Trainer

Paleo, keto, gluten free, low-fat, low-carb, vegan, Mediterranean or DASH, the list goes on and on! But which one is best? There is no one-size-fits-all diet that works best for everyone. The bottom line is that any diet will work in the short term, quite often with an impressive initial weight loss. But, they often impose rigidity by focusing on eliminating specific or entire food groups and the removal of all comfort foods, failing to account for personal tastes. They lack the most critical piece, an effective behavioral change process.

Most dieters eventually tire of the restrictive demands of any specific diet, and eventually slip back into old habits, often gaining back the weight they lost, and then some. Even those that stick with the cumbersome rules of a diet often hit a plateau, or are not fully satisfied with their results, because many diet plans do not adequately address real nutrition and movement needs. The bottom line is weight loss happens when we exercise and make healthy food choices. Shifting your mindset and behaviors is an important part of your weight loss journey, especially if you want long term success.

Tracking what you eat is a good way to really get an accurate picture of your current diet and habits. It helps you go from **Mindless to Mindful** eating. Our bodies need energy to run, but when we feed them too much energy or calories, this will get stored as fat. Calories go toward fueling the activity you do, which includes regular daily movement and exercise. The most important thing, if you want to lose weight and improve your overall health and wellness, is to focus on making sure the calories you consume are filled with the most amount of nutrition.

Nutrition scientists call this nutrient density. Examples of higher nutrient dense foods are bright or deeply colored vegetables and fruit, whole grains, beans, eggs, and low-fat meats and dairy. The higher the nutrient density, the lower the energy density or calories. These foods have lots of nutrients and volume and tend to keep us feeling fuller longer. They are also full of nutrients, fiber, and water, and keep our blood sugar and insulin levels stable, releasing their energy gradually. Examples of lower nutrient dense foods are potato chips, snack crackers, hot dogs, deli meats, refined grains and flours, pastries, and all highly processed foods. They have been stripped of nutrients and often have high amounts of sodium, along with industrial chemicals such as flavorings, trans fats or preservatives. They can cause fluctuations in our blood sugar and insulin levels. These foods are called hyperpalatable because they are "deliciousness bombs" and it is hard to eat just one. They stimulate our appetite and leave us wanting more. When we are more mindful of what we are eating, choosing a variety of higher-quality foods, we eliminate nutrient deficiencies, and end up eating less food overall.

Nutritionists recommend filling half your plate with healthy vegetables and fruit, the other half split between lean protein and whole grains. Portion distortion can also sabotage your weight loss efforts. A portion is how much you put on your plate or a restaurant serves you, but portions have steadily increased over the last 30 years. It is the reason many people are overweight or obese. We've become accustomed to eating large amounts of food at our meals, far more than we really need. Examples of serving sizes are:

• half cup of cooked or one cup raw vegetables, or the size of your fist or a baseball

• one half cup sliced fruit, or the size of a tennis ball

• one half cup whole grains or pasta

• 1 slice of whole grain bread

• 3 oz. serving of meat or the size of a deck of cards

• 3 oz. serving of fish or the size of a checkbook

• the size of your thumb or 4 stacked dice equals 1.5 oz. of cheese

• the tip of your thumb is a serving of fat

Stay away from fast food and value meals. Cheap food is very often not nutritious, and often comes in far larger portions than the average person needs. Our bodies were built to move, and our health and wellness depends on it. It will definitely help you with your weight loss goals.

There is not a one-size-fits-all to an exercise plan, but we will all benefit from moving more and sitting less. Cardiovascular training, strength training and mind-body movement are all important and should be included in any wellness program. It is recommended to incorporate 150 minutes per week, about 30 minutes 5 days a week of cardio into your routine. Find something you enjoy, such as brisk walking, biking, tennis, pickleball, aerobic classes or any of the cardio machines available at the gym. Resistance training is especially important on your weight loss journey, and to preserve your bone and muscle mass. It helps prevent osteoporosis, minimize back and joint pain, improve balance, body mechanics, and prevent injury.

In terms of weight loss, resistance training helps increase your lean muscle mass, and having more muscle mass has a direct impact on your metabolic rate. In other words, the more muscle you have, the more calories you burn throughout the day, even when you are not exercising. To emphasize this, for every pound lost by diet alone, 69% is fat and 31% is lean mass. For every pound lost through diet and cardio, one pound lost is 78% fat & 22% lean mass. Incorporating diet, cardio and resistance training means one pound lost is 97% fat and only 3% lean mass.

It is recommended to incorporate resistance training 3 x a week, with a one-day break in between sessions. We have free weights and resistance machines along with many classes at the fitness club to address your resistance training needs. Last, but not least, try to incorporate some mind-body activity into your routine. Traditional mind-body activities such as yoga or tai chi are excellent choices, but for some it might just be a leisurely walk, a long stretching session or an easy pick-up game of tennis. Aim to take at least one day a week to enjoy a mind-body activity that you enjoy. The goal of this time is to let your body recover, reduce stress, and take some time for yourself.

Weight loss is possible without a crash diet, by just focusing on changing your habits, eating nutrient dense foods, and incorporating movement you enjoy into your lifestyle.

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March Off-Beat Holidays And Adventures

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass

Time marches on. By now, we should be back to normalcy, with "music to play, places to go, people to see – everything for you and me" (credit to *Bye Bye Birdie*). Nope – still awaiting the all's clear. So here are some events from the past, with only a couple of possible celebrations in real time. Be creative – find a way to have fun every day.

March 3, 1931: President Herbert Hoover signed a congressional resolution officially making *The Star Spangled Banner* the national anthem of the United States. It was written by Francis Scott Key September 14, 1814, during the Battle of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812.

March 4, 1681: King Charles II of England granted a huge tract of land in the New World to William Penn to settle an outstanding debt. The area later became Pennsylvania.

March 6, 1836: Fort Alamo fell to Mexican troops led by General Santa Anna. The Mexicans had begun the siege of the Texas fort on February 23, ending it with the killing of the last defender. "Remember the Alamo" became a rallying cry for Texans who went on to defeat Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto in April.

March 11, 1918: The Spanish' influenza first reached America as 107 soldiers became sick at Fort Riley, Kansas. One quarter of the U.S. population eventually became ill from the deadly virus, resulting in 500,000 deaths (U.S. population 103.2 million). The death toll worldwide approached 22 million by the end of 1920 (world population 1.9 billion).

March 11-14: *93rd Annual Arcadia All Florida Championship Rodeo,* Arcadia FL. Gates will open at 11 a.m. Quadrille performs at 1 p.m. Mutton Bustin (ages 4 to 6) begins at 1:30 p.m. Rodeo action begins at 2 p.m.

Order of Events: (subject to change) Bareback Bronc Riding, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Saddle Bronc Riding, Tie Down Roping, Barrel Racing and Bull Riding Rodeo. Ends at approximately 4:30 p.m. Food & beverages available.

Buy tickets online at **arcadiarodeo.com.** Premium Plus $36, Premium $31, Premium Bleacher Seats (No Back) $31, Regular Reserve Bleachers $26, Regular Reserve Bleacher Kids under 10, $20. Groups of 50 or more, call 800-749-7633. Tickets are not refundable or exchangeable – show goes on rain or shine. No stadium seat/chairbacks allowed.

March 12, 1888: The Great Blizzard of '88 struck the northeastern U.S. The storm lasted 36 hours with snowfall totaling over 40 inches in New York City where over 400 people died from the surprise storm.

March 14: *Daylight Saving Time* starts. Sunday at 2 a.m., clocks are turned forward one hour to 3 a.m.

March 17: Celebrate *Saint Patrick's Day* commemorating the patron saint of Ireland. Wear your green, even if you aren't Irish!

March 17, 1776: Early in the American Revolutionary War the British completed their evacuation of Boston, following a successful siege conducted by American patriots. The event is still commemorated in Boston as Evacuation Day.

March 18, 1974: The five-month-old Arab oil embargo against the U.S. was lifted. The embargo was in retaliation for American support of Israel during the Yom Kipper War of 1973 in which Egypt and Syria suffered a crushing defeat. In the U.S., the resulting embargo had caused long lines at gas stations as prices soared 300 percent amid shortages and a government ban on Sunday gas sales.

March 29: National Vietnam War Veterans Day. It was first observed in 2012, and honors the U.S. military members who served during the Vietnam War (1955-1975). The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 established this as a national day of observance.

March 31, 1933: The Civilian Conservation Corps, the CCC, was founded. Unemployed men and youths were organized and worked outdoors in national parks and forests. Cabins at Myakka State Park were built by the CCC.

Grammar Tips… Then or Than?

By the editors of The Beacon

Here's another case of words *sounding* similar, but meaning different things.

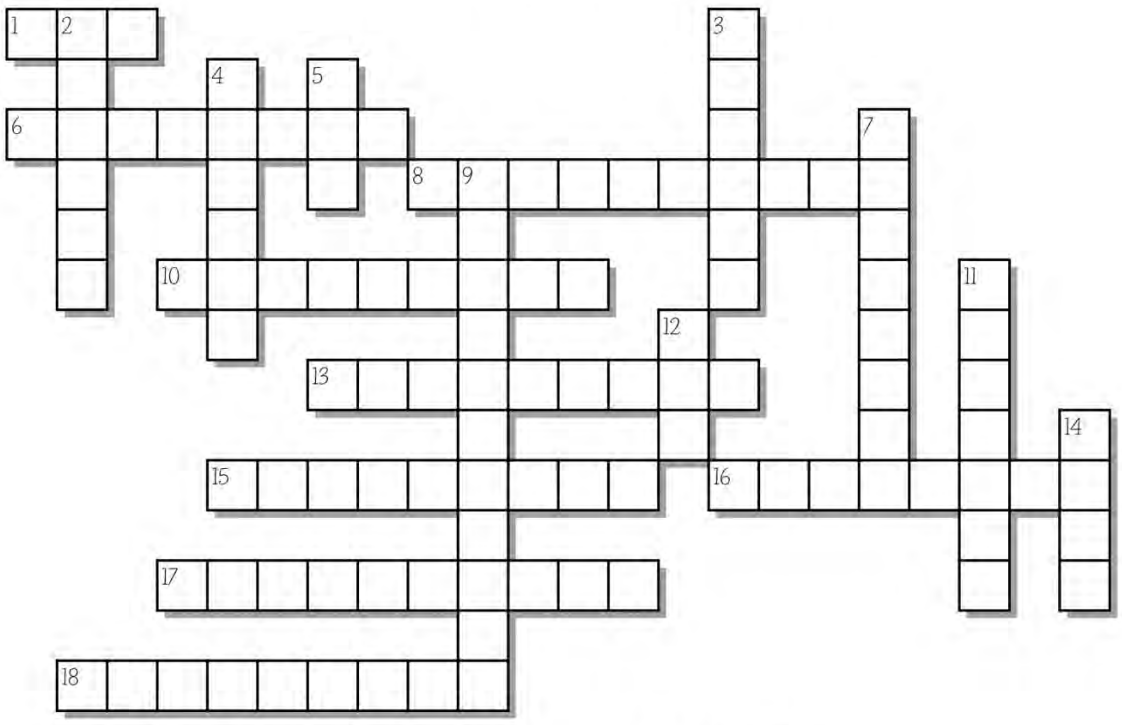
Than and then are different words. Than is used in comparisons as a conjunction, as in "she is younger *than* I am," and as a preposition, "he is taller than me." Than is the word to choose in phrases like smaller than, smoother than, and further than. And it's the word that follows other, rather, less, and more.

In a handful of cases, though, than is used to say that something happens immediately after something else - that is, it's used when you're talking about something relating to time. So, in "No sooner had I explained the rule *than* an exception came to mind," it's *than* not *then* that's required.

Then indicates time. It is used as an adverb, "I lived in Idaho *then*," noun, "we'll have to wait until *then*," and adjective, "the *then* governor."

Then - the option to choose when time is involved - fits in the phrases just then and back then, and after words like since and until. It's also in the phrases and then some, every now and then, and even then.

SYNONYMS



ACROSS

1 Important
6 Beautiful
8 Available
10 Question
13 Possible
15 Love
16 Consistent
17 Exposed
18 Determine

DOWN

2 Develop
3 Help
4 Good
5 Campaign
7 Pessimistic
9 Focus
11 Know it all
12 Bittersweet
14 Healthy

Bizarre Crimes

By Daryl Lemon, Pelican Way

This is a picture from our lanai where someone came in and *stole* a piece of grate from our floor. This happened between 9 and 11:30 am on a Thursday when Mike & I both left the house and not together. So, someone was watching the house. This has me very unnerved and very PO'd.

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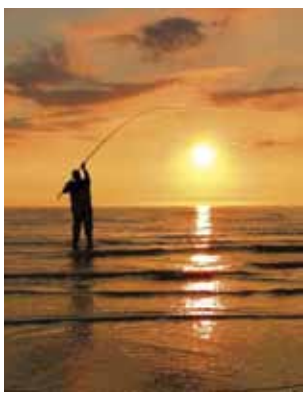
In Memory of Leo J. Kerwin

We honor the life of Leo J. Kerwin, formerly of Burnt Store Marina. Leo passed in his sleep, Saturday, January 16, 2021, in Conway, South Carolina, where he and his wife Jean had moved to be near family.

Leo was born December 3,1934 in New Jersey. He married Jean and had 4 children, Lynda, James (deceased 2002), Patti, and Gary. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was very proud to become a NJ State Trooper # 1891. After retiring from the State Police and traveling the country with Jean, he worked as an investigator with NJ BPU.

In 1991, they both retired for good and built their dream home in Burnt Store Marina, where they spent 28 years loving life, embedded in the community and on the water. Leo lived a very active life for a long time. He loved his motorcycles and boats, playing tennis, fishing, traveling and adventures. Leo worked hard and liked to play harder!



May he Rest in Peace.

Obituary can be seen at **www.Burroughsfh.com**

Condolences can be sent to his wife and family.

Jean Kerwin
872 Singleton Ridge
Suite 704 Brookdale
Conway SC 29526

Platinum Point Yacht Club News

By Sue Smith, Director

By the standards of most of us who enjoy winters in Florida, February is a prime month! Even during this unusual year, Platinum Point Yacht Club members were pleased to welcome many new members and to enjoy a wide range of activities on and off the water.

Cruisers, kayakers, and sailors had a full schedule. After a pleasant cruise to Crow's Nest Marina in Venice in January, February's overnight cruise destination was 'Tween Waters Resort and Spa at Captiva Island. Cruise captains Dennis and Diane Douglas, and Drew and Dora Myers coordinated the three days' events for 14 boats and their crews. Later in the month, "On the Hook at Pelican Bay" brought cruisers together to anchor out and explore that area. For sailors, the Monday Club Racing group sets sail each week at 12:30 p.m. in Charlotte Harbor with the races beginning at 1 p.m. PPYC kayakers enjoyed a February day trip to Don Pedro Island State Park, and are planning to paddle a course in Lettuce Lake for March.

Planning is also underway for one of our signature boating events at PPYC, our Blessing of the Fleet. The Blessing will take place on Thursday, March 11, starting with our not-to-be-missed Parade of Boats. After the parade, we will pause for an Eight Bells Memorial Service to remember fellow members who have passed away. Vice Commodore David Isley is coordinating this event. Following the blessing and the memorial service will be a waterside dinner reception for club members.

Outdoor parties are providing this season's entertainment. The Hunting for Love and Fun scavenger hunt, organized by Vanessa Jordan and Connie Gambil, was followed by dinner and music on the club's front lawn. Pam Lunter and committee organized another successful Golf Cart Poker Run with stations at five houses to pick up cards for the best poker hand, and dinner and prizes back at the club.

Regularly scheduled Happy Hours on the lanai continue every Tuesday and Friday, and our monthly golf scramble (for golfers of all levels), Music on the Lawn, Book Club, bridge, stretch class and quilters draw enthusiastic members. There is always something going on at Platinum Point Yacht Club, and those activities bring us together with friendly, active people.

If you are interested in PPYC, new member information can be obtained at the club house. Dorothy Saviste, Club Administrator, is on-site Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and can be reached at 941-639-0733.

Platinum Point Yacht Club Promotional

FREE DUES ($620 value) are offered until March 31, 2021. Boat ownership is NOT required. Platinum Point Yacht Club office hours are MWF 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and is located at 3601 Cape Cole Boulevard in Burnt Store Marina. Stop by for a tour and more information. Call PPYC office at 941-639-0733, email contact@ppycbsm.org, or call Vanessa Jordan, Membership Chair at 817-235-7361 or vlwjordan@gmail.com.

Bocce Ball – That's The Way We Roll

By Kathy Darrell, Tarpon Pass II

Our goal is to introduce the joy and competition of bocce to more people.

Why should you consider joining the bocce group at BSMCC? Relaxation! The Romans found that playing bocce helped relax troops, and took their mind off the stress that came with fighting a war. As the Roman Empire grew, other countries also started learning about the game. From being a popular game among the military, it grew to become a favorite with poets, sculptors and scientists.

Reminder-anyone can play. The rules are simple, there is not a lot of equipment, and physical strength and agility are almost immaterial.

For many of us at BSMCC the main joy of playing bocce is the social aspect. It is a great way to meet people and make new friends. I read somewhere that the game is so much about friendship and conviviality, that bocce means "kiss" in Italian. This, however, is not true. Bocce actually means "bowls." Baci means "kiss" in Italian which explains why it's the term used when a ball nestles up and touches the pallino.

If you are interested in playing bocce, please call Tom or Kathy Darrell at 330-806-9182. We will gladly add your name to our email list and send you bocce updates.

Please feel free to play bocce at your leisure. Balls for general use are in the cart barn in an unlocked plastic container that is clearly marked. Be sure to return everything.

Remember, you must be a member of BSMCC to play. Just one more great reason to join.

Stai al sicuro e Dio benedica
(Stay Safe and God Bless)

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Thinking Of Selling Your Property?

We are resident real estate brokers. We have nearly 30 years experience selling Burnt Store Marina! We love living and selling the exclusive Marina lifestyle!

2203 Snowflake Lane North Port, FL
Listing Agent: Julie Solem

3020 Matecumbe Key Road #404
Listing Agent: Jennifer Taberski - Selling Agent: Ron Graves

2207 Little Pine Circle
Listing Agent: Jennifer Calenda - Selling Agent: Julie Solem

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We support our community by giving back!

Members of Safe Harbor Marinas - Original Members of Golf & Activity Club - Original Supporter of Community Picnic
Original Supporter of Veterans Weekend Activities: "Wish for Our Heroes Foundation"
Original Partner with Cape Coral Fire Department: "Gifts From Santa" for Needy Children
Sponsor of Burnt Store Marina's Home For The Holidays!

Blood Donation News

By Ann Singer, Admiral's Point

Don't Miss the Bus In 2021
Make Blood Donation A Habit!
The BSM Blood Drive Schedule For 2021
Always on Monday
8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
March 15
Donor "thank you" gifts are a $10 egift card and a St. Patrick themed T-shirt
This Is the last drive of "The Season."
Next drive November 2021

The need for blood is NOW and it is ongoing. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to indefinitely disrupt blood collections, and the impact from the hurricanes of 2020 and winter weather are further compounding the situation. National Blood Donor Month began in January 1970, to help boost blood collections during the winter. It is vital that people donate each time they are eligible.

The bus is located in the Cass Cay/Tiki Hut/Trading Post parking lot. If you would like to schedule an appointment, or have questions, contact Ann Singer 319-290-5955 or Jo Bucci 941-445-8260. Appointments may also be scheduled by logging on to **oneblood.org.** Establish a username and password and follow instructions. Walk-ins are always welcome. Remember to bring a photo ID. I recommend making an appointment. The last drive we had all 39 slots were filled! **If you cannot make your appointment, please be considerate and contact Ann Singer. There are others that would like to donate but get turned away. The bus can only accommodate a certain number of donors due to the pandemic.** Be sure to eat before you donate and drink lots of fluids before and after. We need to stay hydrated in Florida, no matter the activity or time of year.

The FDA has reiterated that there have been no reported or suspected cases of transfusion-transmitted coronavirus, and the virus poses no known risk to patients receiving blood transfusions. **All precautions are being taken to protect you, the donor! Don't be afraid to donate!**

What is the cost of a unit of blood? Ask someone who needs it.

What a successful blood drive for the Big Red Bus on Monday January 11! We collected 26 units of blood from 34 donors. For the first time ever all 39 appointment times were full for whole blood, and we had 1 appointment for double cell donation.

From Sept 28, 2009 to January 11, 2021, Burnt Store Marina has donated 947 units of blood, which have impacted 2841 patients! Congratulations! *

Thank you to our 34 January donors!

Anthony Ferrero	Betty Wells
Cindy Arnold	Diane Frank
Elizabeth Ferrero	Janet Osborn
John Orr	Joseph Connell
Linda Cross	Meylin Lee
Michael Wyatt	Nancy Schneider
Robert Akers	Robert Hornak
Ronald Johnson	Ruth Moorehouse
Venita Wyatt	Barbara Honcharski
Christine Hornak	Claudette Langer
Eileen Case	Elizabeth Lavandero
Janie Thornton	John Osborn
Kevin Dolle	Mary Johnson
Michael Schwanger	Miles Moorehouse
Ovila Case	Robert Bucci
Robert Jamros	Ruth Berrey
Scott Coffers	William Reynolds

What You Need to Know: Donating Blood and Platelets
After Receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine

Can I donate blood or platelets after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine?

If you receive the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine there is no waiting period to donate blood or platelets after receiving these vaccines, and you can donate now. However, if you receive the COVID-19 vaccine from any other manufacturer you will need to wait two weeks before donating.

How do I know which vaccine I received?

When you receive your COVID-19 vaccination you should receive a vaccination card indicating which COVID-19 vaccine you received.

Do I need to provide documentation to OneBlood that I received the COVID-19 vaccine?

During the registration process to donate, your OneBlood phlebotomist will ask you if you received a COVID-19 vaccine, which vaccine you received and when you received it. The FDA requires that these questions be asked to determine donor eligibility. If you do not know the answers, you will not be able to donate. **To simplify the process, you can also bring your COVID-19 vaccination card and show it to your phlebotomist.**

What if I do not know which vaccine I received or do not have a vaccination card?

If you arrive to donate and you do not know which COVID-19 vaccine you received you will not be able to donate and will need to wait two weeks before donating, as a precautionary measure.

**Information source from OneBlood.com*

Kids on the Golf Course

Many of you may have grandchildren visiting – and they think it's fun to drive around in Grandpa & Grandma's golf cart. Please be aware that there are rules for golf cart use.

No one under 14 is allowed to drive on streets within Burnt Store Marina.

No one ***not*** playing golf is allowed to drive on the golf course.

It's as easy as that. Please do not allow under-age visitors to use your golf carts, or any other vehicles in Burnt Store Marina, especially on the golf course.

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Marina South Shore 3210 South Shore Dr #11C	$351,000	Pirate Harbor 24141 Treasure Island Blvd	$830,000
The Esplanade 24383 Baltic Ave #103	$300,000	Pirate Harbor 24187 Treasure Island Blvd	$470,000
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Luck Of The Irish Casino Night

Saturday, March 13

The Heights Foundation/The Heights Center will host Luck of the Irish Casino Night on Saturday, March 13, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the outdoor pavilion at The Heights Center, 15570 Hagie Drive in Fort Myers. Guests will enjoy blackjack, craps, roulette and poker, music by DJ Michael B., a silent and live auction, and prize drawings.

Tickets are $100 per person and include Irish-style food catered by Clancey's Restaurant and $1,000 in funny money. A cash bar is available with specialty drinks. Masks are encouraged, and the event will be outdoors with limited tickets sold to provide social distancing.

"The poverty rate for children in Harlem Heights is more than twice the county average," said Kathryn Kelly, president, and CEO of The Heights Foundation/ The Heights Center. "This event will support programs at The Heights Center, including School Success and our enriching summer camp."

The Heights Foundation works to build self-sufficient families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood. The mission is to support education and wellness, promote family and community development, and provide the benefits of enrichment and the arts.

For more information, visit www.heightsfoundation.org/ casino or contact Brenda at (239) 482-7706 or brenda@ heightsfoundation.org.

About The Heights Foundation And The Heights Center

The Heights Foundation works to build self-sufficient families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood. The mission is to support education and wellness, promote family and community development, and provide the benefits of enrichment and the arts. The Heights Center, supported by The Heights Foundation, is a place for education, opportunity, and enrichment. Heights Early Learning serves more than 80 babies through age 4. The Harlem Heights Community Charter School serves 120 children from kindergarten through fifth grade.

Harlem Heights was originally settled as a rural agricultural community. Approximately 780 children live in a mixture of single-family homes and multifamily apartments. Demographically, the population is approximately 70 percent Hispanic, 20 percent African-American, and 8 percent Caucasian. The poverty rate for children in Harlem Heights is more than twice the county average, with family income 40 percent below the county average. Families cannot easily access family support services located in downtown Fort Myers and benefit greatly from programs located within the neighborhood.

The Recipe Box

By Candace VanDenBerghe, Marlin Run

Way back when, this recipe was once used in junior high home economics classes. Although such classes are no longer part of the curriculum, this recipe is a quick, easy one for your lunch.

Potato Garden Soup (4 servings)

1 medium onion, chopped
1 Tbsp. butter
2 chicken bouillon cubes
2 c. water
1 Tbsp. dried parsley
1 carrot, grated
1/2 stalk celery, chopped
3-4 medium potatoes (grate 3, dice 1)
1/4 tsp. salt
pepper
1/2 c. sour cream

Sauté onion in butter; add all but sour cream and simmer until tender. Stir in sour cream and serve.

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Burnt Store Marina CC News

By Ryan Henderson,
General Manager BSMCC

Amazing how fast 2021 is going by! We continue to look forward to seeing each of you on the golf course, and getting to know you at one of our events planned over the next six weeks. The summer renovations on the golf course have paid off tremendously and the course is in excellent shape. If you haven't done so already, we strongly recommend booking a tee time with us and see it for yourself. The club is continuing to move forward with social events while observing all CDC and BOD guidelines.

I would like to remind everyone of our hours of operations in the Linkside Café. Please use the information below as a point of reference. As always, my door is open if I can be of any assistance.

Linkside Café is reserved for members only on Tuesday evenings but everyone is welcome for lunch!

• Please stop by and introduce yourself to Luis Herrera, the club's new Food and Beverage Supervisor. Luis comes to us with a tremendous amount of experience in the country club environment and has really hit the ground running! He and Chef Renzo are guiding our team and doing an amazing job.

• Lunch is served 7 days a week from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• Dinner is served **Tuesday** 4 - 7 p.m.

• A variety of dinner specials will be featured on dining evenings.

• Lunch and dinner are both available to dine-in or take out.

• Food and bar service will be available on the Patio and Lanai, consistent with social distancing guidelines.

Take-out orders and reservations can be made by calling 941-637-6405 after 11 a.m. Reservations are strongly recommended for dinner.

For more information on club membership opportunities, please contact Peggy Miller in our administration office at 941-639-4151 or email: pmiller@bsgac.org.

Check out our newly designed website by visiting us at **www.bsgac.org.**

Renting Your Home?

Be sure to get your paperwork to the front gate so your renters will be processed quickly and efficiently

BSMCC March Schedule of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Trivia** 5 p.m.-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	**2** **9 Hole Scramble** 3 p.m.*** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 4 p.m.-7 p.m.*	3 **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Republican Dinner** *****5 p.m.	**4** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Party on the Patio** 3 p.m. ***	**5** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**6** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*
7 **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**8** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Trivia** 5 p.m.-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	**9** **9 Hole Scramble** 3 p.m.*** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 4 p.m.-7 p.m.*	**10** **President's Cup** 8:00 a.m.** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**11** **President's Cup** 8:00 a.m.** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Party on the Patio** 3 p.m. ***	**12** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**13** **St. Pat's Scramble** 18 Holes 8:30 a.m.*** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*
14 **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**15** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Trivia** 5 p.m.-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	**16** **9 Hole Scramble** 3 p.m.*** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 4 p.m.-7 p.m.*	**17** **Ladies** **St. Pat's Scramble** 12:15 p.m.** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**18** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Party on the Patio** 3 p.m. *** **Bingo** 5 p.m.****	**19** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**20** **Reverse Raffle** 5 p.m. **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*
21 **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**22** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Trivia** 5 p.m.-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	**23** **9 Hole Scramble** 3 p.m.*** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 4 p.m.-7 p.m.*	**24** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**25** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Party on the Patio** 3 p.m. ***	**26** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**27** **Wish For Our Heros** 18 Holes 8:30 a.m.*** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11a.m.-3 p.m.*
28 **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*	**29** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* **Trivia** 5 p.m.-7 p.m.*** Bar Food Menu Available	**30** **9 Hole Scramble** 3 p.m.*** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.* Dinner 4 p.m.-7 p.m.*	**31** **Dine in or Take out** Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*			

* Call for your reservation or takeout order 941-637-6405
** Call Pro Shop at 941-637-1577
*** Sign up in Lobby on Board
**** Sign up at Admin Office.
***** Reservations for Republican Dinner must be made through the Republican Club.
Due to circumstances beyond our control, everything is subject to change.

Old Coots

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass

Old coots have arrived in Burnt Store Marina. They used to be primarily in The Lakes, but in the last year or so the population has exploded. "What old coots?" you say. Well, the ones throughout the neighborhood ponds. Actually, they're cousins of coots – moorhens.

What makes moorhens so interesting to watch? It isn't their graceful demeanor, because they resemble little black chickens with red crested yellow beaks, like candy corn. It isn't the way they walk, because they resemble a chicken as they walk. It isn't the way they swim like a duck, because they don't have web feet. It's not how they fly, because they only clumsily fly for short distances, with their yellow legs dangling. Being very social, these birds will gather into flocks of 15 to 30 individuals. An older adult male is generally the dominant member of these groups. They're just fun.

Moorhens are known by several different names: common gallinule, Florida gallinule, swamp chicken and waterhen. Many call them coots, but they can be

distinguished from the coot by the moorhen's yellow legs, beak and the white patches on its body. Moorhens are more closely related to rails than to ducks or chickens, even though they swim like ducks and peck for seeds like chickens. Moorhens make all sorts of chickenlike clucks, cackles and squawks. Their series of clucks often end with what sounds like a laugh.

Chicks have black downy feathers with a white throat. Usually two or three hatch first, and go off with one adult, while the rest stay with the other parent. They can swim soon after hatching, staying close to vegetation for protection. The chicks grow rapidly. Once all the chicks leave the nest, the moorhens use the nest for sleeping at night. They can raise more than one brood in a season, using the same nest. The chicks can leave the nest after about two months, however those from the first brood often stay around and help feed their siblings from the second (or third) brood. Older chicks often stay to help the parents raise the new chicks.

Moorhens are one of the few birds that permit another moorhen to act as a parent. Females are known to lay eggs in other moorhen nests, in addition to their own. Often, juveniles stay with the parents to help feed and attend to the latest brood. If the parents produce a third brood, they can relax even more, with both of the first two broods helping to feed the latest brood.

And yes, moorhens, because of their awkward walking, swimming and flying skills, are also alligator bait.

Marina Beat

By Jaret Rogers,
General Manager,
Safe Harbor Burnt Store

As we move into busy season the weather is showing us why we love this time of year. The sun is warm and the skies are blue. The time to get out on the water and enjoy the sunshine is now.

The dry storage expansion is on schedule and should be completed by late spring. I am excited to announce that we just launched another seawall project which will begin where we left off at A dock. It will continue all the way to the east side of Cass Cay. At completion, this will be a total of 3500 linear feet we have replaced since 2017. Additionally there are 2 new floating docks on order and should be arriving in the late spring. These floating docks will replace docks C and D. In addition, G dock began getting a face lift that started the first week of February. G dock will remain a fixed wood dock. We have several more projects in the works, so stay tuned for more updates.

We understand how important your vessel is to you, your family, and the fond memories that come along with it. Our team takes great pride in caring for your vessel, and the trust you put in us to look after it. We are asking for your help to do your part in protecting not just your vessel, but your fellow boaters as well.

As part of your signed Storage or Slip Agreement, it is required that Safe Harbor Burnt Store have on record a current certificate of insurance. This certificate must list "**Safe Harbor Marinas, LLC, SHM TRS, LLC, and their respective parents, affiliates and subsidiaries" as Additional Insured on the liability policy.** This can usually be accomplished with a simple phone call to your broker and generally with no additional expense.

If you are a current Storage/Slip customer, please provide an updated insurance certificate as soon as possible. This certificate can be mailed, faxed, emailed or hand delivered to:

Safe Harbor Burnt Store
3192 Matecumbe Key Road
Punta Gorda, FL. 33955
Fax: 941-637-2780
email: bsm@shmarinas.com

It looks like this year is going to be a great one. I look forward to seeing every one of you in 2021. There are two new roles and several new faces on the Burnt Store team for you to meet. The new roles are **Office Manager:** Cyndi, **Dockmaster:** Terry, The new faces are: **Housekeeping:** Becky, **Maintenance:** Josh and 7 new **Dockhands:** Brianna, Chase, John J, Trey, Tyler, Eric and Connor. We are happy to introduce them to you.

Conservation Land and Water Preservation Around Charlotte Harbor

By Graham Segger, Independent Homeowner

One of the great features of living near Charlotte Harbor is the abundance of green space surrounding us. Unfortunately, the wide array of terms and acronyms used to describe the various managed areas can be confusing. This article endeavors to decode some of these terms.

Aquatic Preserves — The January *Beacon* contained an excellent article about the local aquatic preserves that protect virtually all of the waters of Charlotte Harbor where we fish, cruise, sail or kayak. The 1975 Florida Aquatic Preserves Act enabled the designation of sensitive waterways as protected areas. The Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves are Gasparilla Sound/Charlotte Harbor, Cape Haze, Matlacha Pass, Pine Island Sound and Lemon Bay. There is also an aquatic preserve in Estero Bay. The Florida Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (FORCP) of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has responsibility for the aquatic preserves.

State Parks — Just as most of the water in Charlotte Harbor is protected by the state, so too is much of the shore around it. Protected land such as the 42,500-acre Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park (shaded in yellow on the map) serves as a buffer to the harbor. Other local state parks are Cayo Costa, Don Pedro, Gasparilla Island and Stump Pass. These and the other parks within the Charlotte harbor watershed are managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks of the Florida DEP. The Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) on Burnt Store Road leases land from Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park.

Wildlife Management Areas — East of Charlotte Harbor is the Fred C. Babcock/Cecil M. Webb Wildlife Management Area (Babcock-Webb WMA), which includes the Yucca Pen Unit across Burnt Store Road from Burnt Store Marina. Together they cover more than 80,000 acres. One of the objectives of WMAs is to sustain the widest possible range of native wildlife in their natural habitats while allowing controlled hunting. These lands are more rugged than parks and have fewer developed amenities. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) manages the WMAs and also the Wildlife Environmental Areas (WEA), which are more focused on protecting endangered species. FWC also manages a number of Critical Wildlife Areas (CWA), such as Little Estero Island and a small island in the Myakka River critical to wood stork breeding.

National Wildlife Refuges — The U.S. Department of the Interior through the National Wildlife Refuge System has a number of holdings in southwest Florida. The J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge Complex includes "Ding" Darling NWR on Sanibel, Pine Island NWR, Caloosahatchee NWR, Matlacha Pass NWR and Island Bay NWR.

Source: Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park – Unit Management Plan, June 15, 2007
Division of Recreation and Parks, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

State Forests — The Florida Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services guides the operation of the Florida State Forests network. The primary mission of the Forest Service is to protect and maintain the biological diversity of the many ecosystems found in and around the state forests while integrating public use of the resources, including hunting. The two primary state forests in the Charlotte Harbor area are the Myakka State Forest and the Peace River State Forest. In 2006, the State of Florida and Lee County purchased 73,239 acres of the former Babcock Crescent B. Ranch located east of the Babcock-Webb WMA. The Lee County section is now named the Bob Janes Preserve and the Charlotte County section is named the Babcock Ranch Preserve. Beginning in 2016, responsibility for management of BRP was assumed by the Florida Forest Service in cooperation with FWC.

Reserves — East of the Peace River State Forest is the Southwest Florida Water Management District's R.V. Griffin Reserve and the Peace River Reservoir, the main water supply for Charlotte and Sarasota counties and operated by the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority.

County Preserves, Reserves and Environmental Parks — Each of the counties in the Charlotte Harbor estuary and watersheds have conservation land plans and holdings. County preserves are generally larger environmental parcels with less urban interface than parks.

City Parks — Many of the local cities also support recreational, ecological, conservation and environmental parks, some located along the waterfront.

Land Trusts, Conservancies and Foundations — In addition to the various public initiatives, there are many other private groups providing leadership and initiating conservation land acquisitions. The Calusa Land Trust and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc., the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, the Lemon Bay Conservancy, the Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast and others all help by acquiring, managing and preserving in perpetuity environmentally sensitive or historically important land.

Summary — Conservation of land is a big and essential undertaking in Southwest Florida, no matter how the protected land is described. Virtually all levels of government and many not-for-profit organizations are involved. Facilitating positive communication among all of these well-meaning groups and the public is one of the functions of the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP).

NOTE — To learn more about these conservation lands and how they were assembled, see Chapter 9 of Graham's book about Burnt Store Road titled *Where Do We Live?* It is available at the Trading Post.

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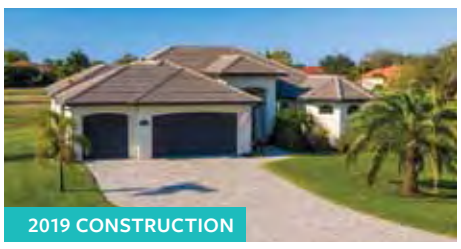

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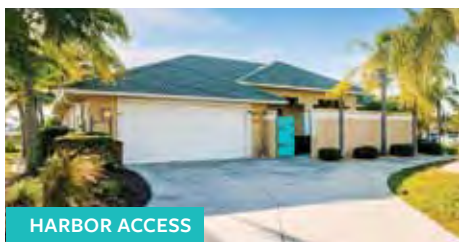

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"Sue was organized, very patient, with strong attention to detail. The bottom line can be summed up in a quote from my husband, 'Sue was by far, the best realtor I have ever worked with in my life'." – Paula A., (Buyer)

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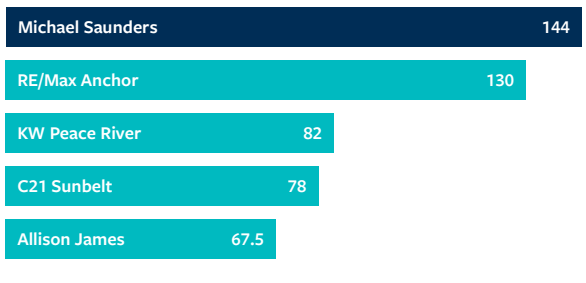
Burnt Store Market Share Report



Sales in Units, All Prices, All Property Types Burnt Store Lakes, Burnt Store Marina, Burnt Store Meadows, Burnt Store Village, 2/1/2020 - 1/31/2021 ©Trendgraphix

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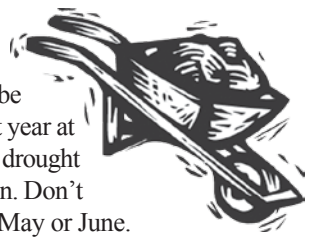
Gardener's Wheelbarrow



By Maggie Hart,
Mariners Pass

March in SW Florida should be clear, dry, sunny and warm. Last year at this time, we were experiencing a drought situation, with only a trace of rain. Don't expect much precipitation until May or June.

This year began warm, with a high of 82 and by the second week of January we began to have a mix of morning temperatures from a low of 43 to a high of 62; then afternoon temperatures all the way to 81. About two weeks ago (middle to the end of February) was the official end of a possible frost for our area.

You can now begin to add to your landscape, whether it's through participation in your association, in your yard or with decorative pots at your front door and in the lanai. And, if you received or purchased poinsettias during the holidays, now is the time to put them outdoors. Put them in sunny locations and prune to 12 inches above the soil. Poinsettias have a better chance of blooming again if kept outside, away from artificial night light.

• **Watch for Fungus:** Moist leaves in the morning that don't dry off very quickly are susceptible to fungus. Fungus will affect most plants, as well as turf.

• **Tools:** Clean and sharpen your garden tools. Pruning will be much easier, and clean cuts lessen the possibility of fungus and bacteria settling into frayed branch edges.

• **Pruning:** Almost everything overgrown or dead can be pruned now. The exceptions include trees and plants in flower or those about to flower. Go after plants that need shaping or that have damaged branches. Cut back by 1/3, using pocket pruning or vertical cutting. Horizontal cutting only encourages top growth, not interior or base growth. Don't touch bougainvillea until after Mother's Day.

• **Hurricane Pruning:** Years ago, this pruning practice was demoted to *unacceptable*, as we became more aware of what is truly beneficial and what is not. A well-pruned, properly pruned tree is one that has had limbs removed which are crossing each other, or are broken/damaged, forming a weak link to the trunk. Excessive pruning (topping) only produces thick, weak growth that will cause problems in high winds.

• **Pruning Palms:** Palms should only have dead or dying (browning) fronds and inflorescences/fruit removed. The standard of leaving fronds between 9 and 3 o'clock (the horizon line) is best. **Removing green fronds stresses the palm by limiting its source of nutrients for new growth.**

• **Pinching Back:** This small action produces big results for annuals and perennials. With your fingernails, pinch back ¾ – 1" of the actively growing ends of the branches. The plants will bush out and flower production will increase. Spent flowers should be removed to encourage a new flush of blooms.

• **Fertilizing:** Purchase the pricier slow-release, complete fertilizer. Micronutrients are mandatory for plants in our area. Buy a good quality palm food and use it on everything…palms, trees, shrubs, ground covers and perennials. Fertilizer contains salts, so always water first if the ground is dry. Afterwards, broadcast the fertilizer in the area of the plant's drip lines (not at the trunk) and water it into the ground. Fertilize the soil, not the plant.

• **Weeding & Mulching:** Three inches of organic mulch will keep out most weeds, but some will come through the barrier. An application of pre-emergent herbicide will kill germinating seeds - it should be applied prior to mulching. Keep mulch away from tree trunks and stems of shrubs and perennials.

• **Turf Management:** If not done already, apply a pre-emergent herbicide early in the month for control of summer weeds.

• **Irrigation Systems:** Systems should be checked for proper coverage. This is very important and is an ongoing task. Whoever is maintaining your irrigation system must be vigilant. March and April are two of the driest months and the temperature is heating up. The landscape requires consistent watering and coverage.

• **New Plantings:** Almost everything, including warm season annuals, cold-sensitive tropicals, flowering ornamentals and palms can be planted now. Planting too deeply, above the soil level when purchased, will kill almost any plant except cabbage palms and tomato plants! And, planting trees too closely to each other only means trouble in the future with disease, weak growth, mis-shaped limbs and a huge waste of money.

• **Planting Annuals:** Our soil cannot support annuals or most perennials. For success, purchase annual soil mix and mound it high, adding Osmocote. Plant, water with fresh water initially to supplement or replace the irrigation water. A blossom booster and fungicide, applied as directed, is also recommended. Hint: Spend a little extra by buying a quart-sized plant vs. one in a 41/2-inch pot. You won't need as many and it will establish much more quickly, with less effort on your part.

Dining Venues

LINKSIDE CAFÉ - 941-637-6405
www.linksidecafe.org
Lunch - Daily: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Dinner – Members Only - Tuesday & Friday Night Dinners 5 - 7 p.m.
CASS CAY RESTAURANT & BAR - 941-347-7148
www.casscayrestaurant.com
Open Daily – 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.
THE TRADING POST - 239-789-3463
www.facebook.com/tradingpostbsm
Open Sunday - Wednesday - 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Thursday – Saturday - 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
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Golf Tips

By Bill Connelly,
Manager of Golf Operations

Learning to play the game of golf can be quite intimidating. As a beginner, there are many things that you must learn. On top of learning how to make a swing, you must learn about golf equipment, the golf course, and all of the rules that this wonderful game has.

You should try to make learning the game as fun as possible. Set goals for yourself, like not hitting in the sand or trying to reduce the number of balls that you lose. The main goal is to relax and enjoy this great game.

As golfing great Arnold Palmer once said, "golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated. It satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect. It is at the same time, rewarding and maddening, and it is without a doubt the greatest game mankind has ever invented."

Please follow us **@burntstoregolf** on Instagram for course updates.

Please stop in for lunch and some shopping, we would love to say hello.

Have fun learning to enjoy your game.

Can You Help Feed Our Families?

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Southwest Florida
Keeping families close

The Family Meal Program at Southwest Florida Ronald McDonald House provides support to families who are taking care of their sick children, and often don't have the time, funds, or energy to prepare a home-cooked meal. After a long day at the hospital, a hot meal is a blessing!

Due to the pandemic, our Family Meal Program is going to look different for a while. Even though our volunteers are not permitted in the House to cook yet, we still need to feed our families that we are slowly welcoming back. Here are the ways you can help us!

Family Meal Program
Option 1
From Your Kitchen To Ours (Please schedule with volunteer manager Illeny)
• You provide a recipe (email or print).
• You shop for the ingredients and deliver (or use a grocery delivery service).
• RMHC staff brings your recipe to life!
• Families enjoy a delicious dinner!

Option 2
From Their Kitchen To Ours (Please schedule with volunteer manager Illeny)
• You pick a local restaurant.
• You order dinner, pick it up, and drop it off (or use a delivery service).
• RMHC staff creates a yummy spread.
• Families enjoy a delicious dinner!

Option 3
Gift Cards
• You pick a local restaurant or grocery store.
• You purchase a gift card (values – $50 to $100).
• You drop it off, mail it, or email it.
• RMHC uses gift card to buy dinner.
• RMHC picks it up or has it delivered.
• Families enjoy a delicious dinner!

Option 4
Grocery List
• You buy groceries off our Grocery Wish List.
• You deliver them (or use a delivery service).
• Families enjoy breakfast, lunch, and dinner!

Important: Please contact volunteer manager Illeny Farese at (239) 437-0202 or Illeny@rmhcswfl.org for more information prior to purchasing items. The following questions will be addressed:
• Do we have your contact information?
• Have you provided a meal before?
• How many guests will you be providing a meal/ groceries for?
• Would you like to receive a "Thank You" letter for tax purposes?
• Is there a current food allergy or diet restriction?
• What items are needed (this helps limit waste or duplicates)?

Drop-off and delivery address is Ronald McDonald House Charities Southwest Florida, 16100 Roserush Court, Fort Myers, FL 33908. Items can be dropped off Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you'd simply like to make a cash donation towards feeding our families or for more information please visit our website at www.rmhcswfl.org. Thank you so much for helping our families during a time when they need it the most.

Burnt Store Marina Farmers Market

By Rosie Gable, Courtyard Landings lll

Friday mornings are a special time in BSM because the Farmers Market is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., come rain or shine. If you're a morning walker, jogger, biker or a golf cart rider, you may want to pass by the grassy area in front of the Keel Club on Matecumbe Key Rd. to stop and see the market in action. From the fruit and vegetable stand at one end of the market, to the fresh-catch fish market at the other end, with the watch repair service in-between, there are plenty of food vendors to tempt your appetite.

For the ladies, trying on jewelry is fun. When you find the right ring, you just can't take it off until you buy it. Same goes for a new straw hat to wear to the pool. Not only do the women enjoy the booths, but the men get lost at the golf cart sales booth, with the rep who shows them the latest in hi-tech Icon golf cart performance. Both men and women are anxious to sign up for a catamaran charter ride on Charlotte Harbor. There are a large assortment of new vendors selling English toffee, guacamole, pottery, cigar-box guitars, chili dogs and lots more. It's good to see that all the vendors and shoppers are following Covid-19 rules by wearing masks, even outside, and honoring six-feet social distancing. If you are interested in becoming a vendor at the market, call Cynthia at 239-872-5271.

Thank you, residents, for supporting the Burnt Store Marina Farmers Market for the past three years with an average of twenty vendors present. We welcome back the in-season home owners, renters and guests who also make the market a success.

There have been a number of improvements made to the community since your last visit. At the golf course, Heron remains open, while great improvements have been made to the Pelican and Osprey courses. Linkside Café is open to the public for lunch with a variety of specials. Speaking of restaurants, Cass Cay and the Trading Post deli have remained open during the pandemic and business has increased lately, even with social distancing in effect.

You can't miss the plastic fence around Safe Harbor Marina. If you peek inside, you'll see backhoe shovels, bulldozers, cement trucks, dump trucks and graders, all creating a new dry storage area, boat lift and small boat launch ramp. The boat slips in the north and south basins have been rebuilt and modernized.

Sometimes just the smallest improvements can have the biggest effect, such as the new paver brick walk path and seating areas next to Matecumbe Key Rd. Also, two intersections on Cape Cole Rd. have brick paver islands to keep cars and walkers separate.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy experience in Paradise (BSM).

Something Sweeter Is Coming In May

Sam Galloway Jr. And Friends Soup Kitchen Benefit May 6 – 5:30 To 7:30 p.m.

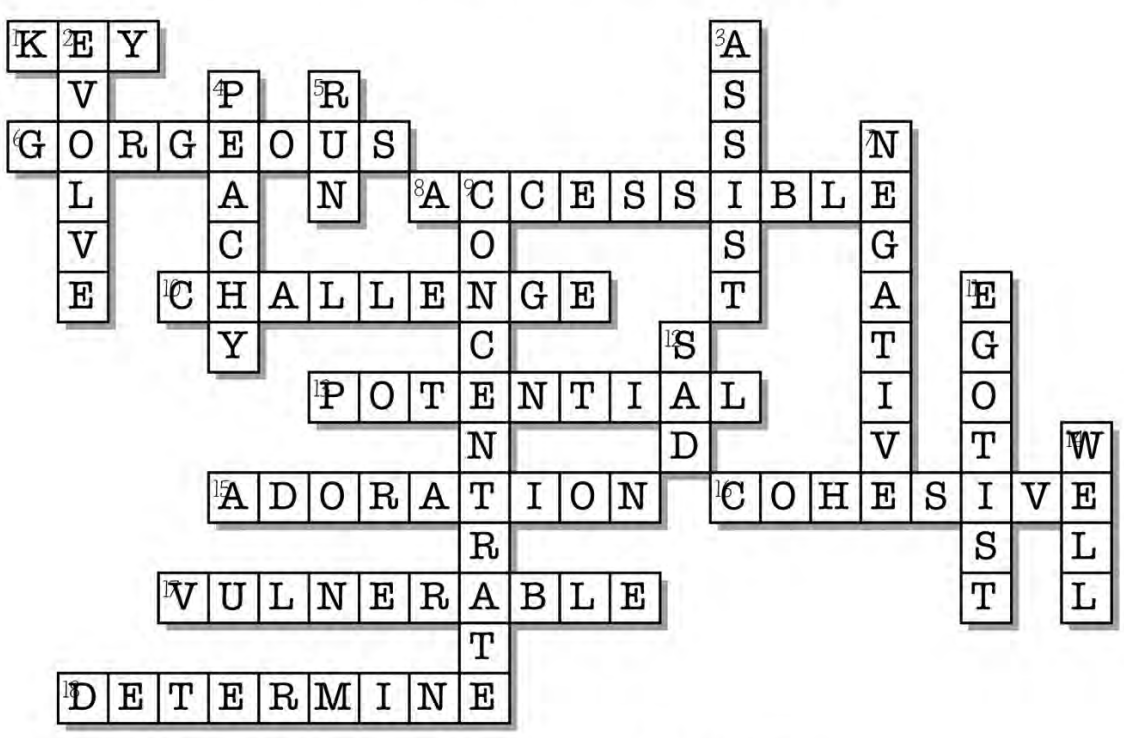
The 18th annual Sam Galloway Jr. and Friends Soup Kitchen Benefit for Community Cooperative **has been postponed until May 6** at the service garages of Sam Galloway Ford in Fort Myers. The evening features a southern-style dinner prepared by local restaurants and businesses as guests raise much-needed funds to support those struggling with hunger and homelessness. The popular annual event, which last year raised a record $1 million, helped thousands of men, women and children in Lee County.

Community Cooperative is doing their part to end the cycle of poverty by providing access to nutritious meals and groceries along with social and education services to ensure that a positive, sustainable life change is attainable for everyone who enters their doors.

Join us in the fight to end hunger and homelessness in our community by gathering your friends together for a table.

To reserve your table today please contact Jazzy@CommunityCooperative.com or call (239) 332-7687, Ext. 101. Interested in volunteering for the event? Let us know!

SYNONYMS



ACROSS

1 Important
6 Beautiful
8 Available
10 Question
13 Possible
15 Love
16 Consistent
17 Exposed
18 Determine

DOWN

2 Develop
3 Help
4 Good
5 Campaign
7 Pessimistic
9 Focus
11 Know it all
12 Bittersweet
14 Healthy

Wildlife Caution Notice

Owners are asked to use caution and be aware of local wildlife such as coyotes, bobcats, and alligators.

Coyotes sightings have increased as it is their mating season, and they are more aggressive and vocal right now. Recently a Burnt Store Lakes resident witnessed a coyote chase a rabbit into their rain gutter downspout and then pull the downspout into the yard trying to get the rabbit out.

Please watch your pets carefully and keep them on a leash when outside, particularly at dusk, nighttime, and dawn. Smaller pets are especially at risk. Letting them out in a fenced area may not deter a coyote. Make sure pet food, fruit, or other items are stored inside or in tightly shut garbage cans. Ensure your home is not luring small rodents or animals that coyotes like to prey on.

One of the best attributes of living in Burnt Store Marina & The Lakes is the abundant wildlife. However, residents need to be aware of our wildlife and be cautious to ensure their own safety and the safety of their pets.

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Tight Lines… Fly Fishing Charlotte Harbor

By Jay Lev, Burnt Store Anglers

As warm weather approaches and the wind starts to die down, many anglers are dusting off their fly rods to fish the Charlotte Harbor flats. For many years, the Harbor has been an excellent fly-fishing destination, until boaters decided it was OK to run high speed across the sand and grass flats, scaring off many redfish, snook and trout. Despite this boating activity, the fish have moved to water 16 inches deep and less to feed. This is where you will find many of the fly fishermen enjoying their sport.

Another major problem for the fly fishermen of Charlotte Harbor is the availability of tackle shops that specialize in fly fishing equipment, fly collections and wading gear. Lehr's Tackle Shop on old business Route 41 in North Fort Myers, is a very well-equipped shop for the fly fisherman. The Orvis Shop on Boca Grande specializes in fly fishing. Online, the Orvis Company, LL Bean and The Fly Shop of Redding California are dedicated to the fly fisherman. Their online consultants are some of the best in the country and will give you excellent advice on equipment and flies.

Sage 7

As for equipment, fly rods useful in this environment can cost between $175 and $500. Many custom-built fly rods can cost upwards of $1000, especially if you like bamboo rods. Fly rods are rated by the weight of line they are designed to cast. A number 2 weight rod can be used for small freshwater fish. A number 12 rated rod is designed for heavy saltwater fish like tarpon, sailfish, and tuna. The most versatile rod for Charlotte Harbor game fish, excluding the tarpon, is either a 5,6,7 and sometimes a number 8 rod. The larger the number, the stouter the rod will be. Since I have caught only 2 smaller tarpons on my fly gear, I have retired my heavier rated fly tackle. A nice size redfish caught on a 7-weight rod is a very exciting experience. The fly reel is manufactured to meet the specifications of the fly line needed and the weight of the rod. Fly reels can be purchased for about $100 to well over $1000. Some of the world's best fly rods are manufactured by Orvis, LL Bean, Scott, Sage and Winston, to name just a few. Many smaller companies have gotten into the fly rod business and can be found on the shelves of Bass Pro, The Saltwater Sportsman and many local tackle shops. As for the reels, the sky is the limit as to what you may want to spend. $100 to about $3000 for custom milled and special order reels are not unheard of today. Top brands include Orvis, LL Bean, Hardy, Able, Billy Pate, Scientific Anglers, to name just a few. There are literally hundreds of reel makers that build reels of top-grade aluminum, graphite, titanium and stainless. Reels are made with and without drag systems, large capacity spools and ultra-lite materials. It is a matter of personal choice and what your wallet can afford. Just remember, your $100 reel can hook and catch the same redfish as the $500 handmade reel. The angler makes the difference!

Able, Billy Pate & Scientific Angler

Finally, fly fishing requires specialized line for casting. The weight of the line needs to be matched to the reel and designated weight rating of the fly rod. For example, a number 6 rated fly rod requires a six-weight line to get the maximum benefit of the rod's action and the line's ability to flow off the rod and reel. Fly lines have many configurations depending on the water conditions you are fishing. There are floating lines, sinking lines, lead weighted lines, tip forward lines, and on and on it goes. When you buy your reel and rod, ask the person selling you the equipment to help you match the line to the rod weight and the water conditions you are fishing. Some of the best lines available are manufactured by Rio, AirFlo, Cartland, Scientific Anglers, Orvis, LL Bean, just to mention a few. Excellent leader material is manufactured for Orvis, LL Bean and Rio. These leaders connect to the end of your fly line and tie onto the fly that you have selected. As for flies, there are literally thousands you can choose from. Most fly fishermen eventually tie their own flies. However, if you are not into fly tying, be sure to visit a custom fly shop online and buy the hand tied local flies designed by a fly-tying expert who works for the shop. Flies tied in China are made by the thousands. They are OK, but often break down and are not as exact as the work of local fly shops.

If you want a great experience on the harbor flats, and your forearm and shoulder are in reasonably good shape, try fly fishing. You will really enjoy the experience.

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2021 Hero Golf Tournament

Burnt Store Marina CC – Open to the Public
Benefiting the *Wish for Our Heroes Foundation*

Come join your friends and neighbors for a fun Hero golf tournament on Saturday, March 27, benefiting the *Wish for Our Heroes Foundation* that helps Veteran & active-duty military families in need. As you may know, our annual events in 2020 had to be canceled. Come out and join us for a fun day of golf and raise a little money too. This tournament is open to the public - you do not have to be a member of the club.

Here are the details:

Date: Saturday, March 27 - 8:30 a.m. shotgun – everyone must check-in by 8:15 a.m.

Cost: $15/per person entry fee ($10/to foundation - $5/prize money) plus the applicable golf fee – depending on if you are a member or a non-member of the club, due at check-in.

Registration: Register now on the sign-up sheet in the golf club foyer, or call the Pro Shop at 941-637-1577, if you have any questions. Don't hesitate - we expect this tournament to be a sellout.

Extras: There will be a putting contest, closest to the pin, hole-in-one insurance, 50/50 raffle and a live auction for one amazing trip. Food and beverages will be available for an additional cost. Bring extra cash to take part in it all. You are welcome to join us for the live auction for the

trip after the golf tournament, even if you are not playing in it. You can also purchase 50/50 raffle tickets as well.

Live Auction: A 4-night stay in a villa at the Beautiful Marriott Crystal Shores Beach Resort – Marco Island, FL. This package includes a 4-night stay for up to four people May 8 – May 12, 2021. **This date cannot be changed.** The villa is a 2-bedroom (1 king room and 1 room with 2 queens), 2 full baths, living, dining, kitchen and balcony. Taxes and parking are included. Bid by yourself, with another couple or make it a girls'/ guy's trip - and help us raise great money for the foundation. This trip was donated by a Burnt Store couple "Friends of Veterans." We thank them for their generosity. This property is amazing - right on the beach and in the heart of south beach on Marco Island, close to everything. We may have additional live auction items as well. The value of the trip is over $3000.

We will not be doing hole sponsorships for this tournament (we will be doing those in November), but we are accepting donations of cash or items for our raffles and auctions for all of our events this year. If you have something to donate for raffles or auctions, please contact any committee member below or call or email Joyce Brown, as noted below.

Update on other 2021 events: We are set to have a great fundraising weekend November 6 and 7. The Cass Cay dinner event will be held Saturday, November 6, and the golf tournament will be held Sunday, November 7. We hope to have the best event ever this year. Mark your calendars now to save those dates, and watch for future articles.

We are still looking for a couple of dedicated hardworking individuals who would be interested in joining our committee this year. Specifically, we need someone to take responsibility for auctions/raffle items (procuring, storing and running the auction in November). You would be able to pick your own team to assist you. In addition, we are always looking for volunteers who would just like to volunteer at the events. If you are interested, please contact any of the Committee members listed below, or email or call Joyce Brown at 614-329-9996 or djbrown697@gmail.com.

The 2021 committee for events at Burnt Store Marina are: Debbie Burns, Gordon & Cheryl Fogg, Jerry Jerome, Dick & Joyce Brown & Cassandra Kelly and YOU, if you choose to take on the very rewarding responsibility and honor, to help all this happen.

Beautiful fox

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THINKING ABOUT SELLING?

Over the past 24 months...

ADDRESS	PRICE	DOM	SP/LP RATIO
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2202	$234,000	39	96%
2090 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #1108	$135,000	2	96%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2503	$250,000	192	96%
2090 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #1306	$339,000	2	100%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2305	$250,000	12	96%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2501	$357,500	0	100%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2802	$450,000	0	100%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2203	$243,400	10	100%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2506	$345,000	0	100%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2103	$233,000	22	97%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2202	$243,500	64	98%
2060 MATECUMBE KEY RD, #2305	$247,500	89	96%

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Beautiful dragon fly with wet wings

IslandFest – Mullet Toss And Seafood Festival

March 13 – 10 a.m. To 5 p.m.

The Greater Pine Island Chamber of Commerce (GPICC) will host IslandFest – Mullet Toss and Seafood Festival on March 13 at Phillips Park, 5675 Sesame Drive, Pine Island. Gates will open to the public at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m.

In addition to the mullet toss and seafood, the event will include music, arts and craft vendors, exhibitors, seminars, kids' games, contests, and much more.

This event will hold onto several island traditions while offering several new fun activities. The Kiwanis will conduct their charity fish drop and the longstanding tradition of tossing mullet will continue. Expanded offerings will include arts and crafts vendors, fishing seminars, cast net demonstrations, kids activity corner, and local music. Pine Island seafood restaurants will be on-site as well, serving up the best seafood in Southwest Florida.

Dead gator pulled from a culvert on Cape Cole. What a smell. Greenscapes did a "great" job getting him out. He was in there for a while. - Photos by Daryl Ann Lemon

Safely Dispose Of Unwanted Medications

The Lee County Sheriff's Office encourages you to take the time to go through your medicine cabinet and remove any unused, unwanted, and expired medications. After gathering your prescription and over the counter medications, you can safely dispose of them utilizing an anonymous and secure lock box located at our district substations and main headquarters.

"Prescription medications play an important role in the health of millions of Americans, but can pose significant health hazards to toddlers, teens and even family pets if wrongfully consumed," said Sheriff Carmine Marceno. "Our lock boxes are in place to provide citizens a safe way to rid their homes of useless medications that can ultimately fall into the wrong hands."

Lock boxes are available to the public Monday through Friday during regular business hours at the following locations:

• Central District, Headquarters – 14750 Six Mile Cypress Parkway, Fort Myers

• North District – 121 Pondella Road, North Fort Myers

• East District – 1301 Homestead Road North, Lehigh Acres

• West District – 15650 Pine Ridge Road, Fort Myers

• South District – 10520 Reynolds Street, Bonita Springs

Please make sure you:

• Bring all medications, including prescription and over the counter in a sealed plastic bag.

• Do not bring needles or other "sharps" as they cannot be accepted.

For more information, call the Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Relations Section at (239) 258-3280, or visit our website at www.sheriffleefl.org.

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From The Desk Of Sheriff Carmine Marceno

I'm hoping that today's message finds everyone safe and healthy.

Lee County has been attempting to address an unusual and distressing matter … domestic animals-at-large. Our deputies and the Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Task Force have received a significant number of calls for service regarding dogs roaming freely around the county … for dog-bite incidents … and to recover deceased canines.

Some of these dogs, sadly, have become aggressive toward passersby, toward children and toward other domestic pets. Some have been struck and injured … or killed … by passing vehicles. Some have been attacked by local wildlife. Some have made children fearful of the outdoors … all of which are dreadful and unnecessary.

Through Lee County Sheriff's Office web pages and social media platforms, I have asked, requested, even pleaded with pet owners to ensure that their canines remain on their property. I asked that dogs are always walked on a leash, using a collar or harness, as required by county ordinance.

Despite these requests, the problem of dogs-at-large continues to beleaguer our communities.

As a result, our shelters are overburdened, residents have been injured/attacked and many dogs never find their way back home. Social media pages are flooded with "lost dog" posts and requests for information regarding missing pets that have wandered off.

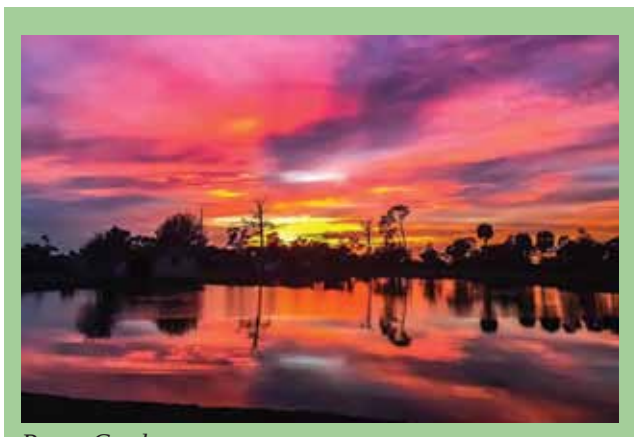
I am requesting, at this time, that all fences be inspected regularly to ensure integrity. Gates and doors must be kept closed when used to contain an animal. Tables, chairs or woodpiles near the fence line should be moved as canines utilize these structures to climb over fencing.

Regardless of how obedient and intelligent you believe your dog to be, it is **unlawful** for any pet owner to allow their pet(s) to roam freely upon any public street, sidewalk, school grounds, parks or beaches (except where specifically authorized).

This is not a matter that can be resolved through law enforcement. This is a matter that must be resolved by pet owners. **Please** let's put an end to this once and for all.

Until next time, I thank you for your support and your cooperation.

Mirrored Tree



Punta Gorda sunset

Harriet's new babies

Sunrise over BSM – Photo by Kim Messer

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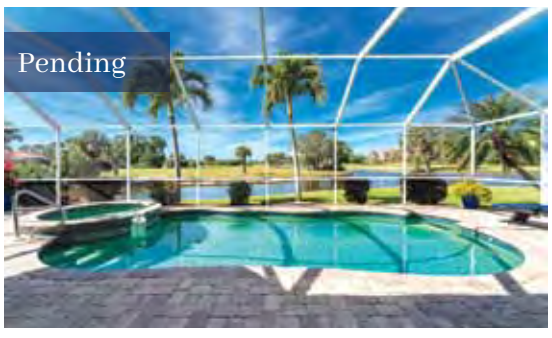
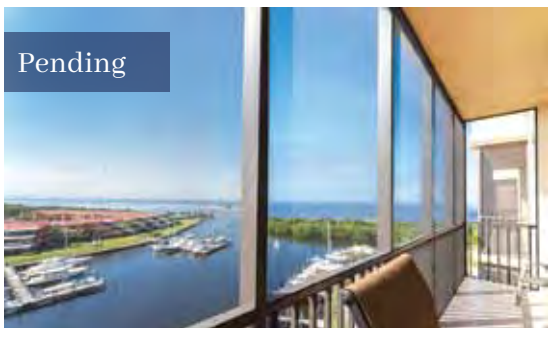


50 Big Pine Ln. | $419,000

3420A Sunset Key Cir. | $325,000



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