



From the Section 22 HOA BOD’s

By Mike McFeeley, Sec. 22 BOD

The new year has begun, and we are still feeling the effects of *Hurricane Ian*. Contractors are everywhere in our beautiful community as we attempt to re-build. The costs associated with clean up are still coming in. Many plans have changed or have been canceled but progress is being made. In the midst of all this, the Section 22 HOA board has gone through a big change recently. We have welcomed new members to the team and say a big thank you to those who put in their time over the past years. Our new board has a new look, which is exciting because it brings new personalities, ideas and energy.

There are numerous challenges facing us as we begin 2023. Some of our retention ponds are eroding, which impacts the surface water, and poses a flooding threat during the rainy season. These ponds also provide irrigation water, which is essential to the life of the community. Some of our amenity buildings took a hit during the hurricane and are in need of work. The air conditioning system at the golf club is over 20 years old and unfortunately, may not make it another year. A meeting is set with Charlotte County concerning the resurfacing of Vincent Road for which we, in the community, are responsible for half the cost. We are also awaiting the final copy of the updated reserve study that helps to analyze future liabilities which we will need to fund. These are just some of the issues facing the new board and the community at large.

This information is not meant to scare anyone. In fact, this is good news because all these things ultimately represent progress, and none of them come as a real surprise. The board has begun using a two-prong approach looking at ways to create revenue as well as cut expenses where possible. Our challenge will be to build infrastructure, improve amenities and enhance the community while being fiscally responsible. This will not be easy, but the goal will be to accomplish these things within the existing budget framework. The question that everyone should ask is HOW?

The approach the new board will be taking involves sharing responsibilities, socializing ideas, getting community input, and leveraging intellectual capital.



Flocks of pelicans visit

Sharing Responsibilities - The board will divide and conquer the various areas of responsibility. We will create individual accountability for each area, requiring a deep dive into the issues, and report back to the whole board to build consensus for every major undertaking. A board member will be intimately involved with landscaping, maintenance, BSMCC, community access, and Fitness Center, just to name a few. We are also looking to form a finance advisory group to assist in the complicated job of financial oversight. We will work

From the Section 22 HOA BOD’s on page 6

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports

Architectural Review Committee

By Barry Groesch, Chair

Are you thinking about updating your home? Any changes to the exterior of residences in Burnt Store Marina (BSM) are required to have Architectural Review Committee (ARC) approval. This applies to all homes, including homes in a condo association. If this approval is not granted through ARC, you may be asked to modify or remove the changes made. All requests are made by completing an ARC form, and adhering to Section 22 Home Owners Association (HOA) Restrictions. Remember to write legibly, and complete the entire form, including having your HOA representative sign off (if required). Delays will occur if it cannot be deciphered, or the form is not completed in its entirety. Thanks.

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

- Greg & Sandra Tillett, 4115 Cape Cole Boulevard, roof replacement.
- Robert & Dorothy Schindler, 1211 Romano Key Circle, lanai replacement.
- Ronald Jones & Melody Groh, 24025 Redfish Cove Drive, pool cage replacement.
- David & Cheryl Waugh, 3905 Cape Cole Boulevard, roof replacement.
- Brad Baker, 4038 Big Pass Lane, pool cage replacement.
- W. Cecil & Elaine I. Hardin, 1205 Romano Key Circle, pool cage replacement.
- Joan Rivard, 3041 Matecumbe Key Road, window replacement.
- Keith & Donna Goulait, 110 Islamorada Boulevard, exterior paint.
- Paul & Debra Freiman, 24019 Redfish Cove Drive, pool cage replacement.
- Steve & Audrey Ferrozzo, 3331 Diamond Key Court, replace soffit fascia & downspouts.
- Steve & Audrey Ferrozzo, 3331 Diamond Key Court, exterior paint.
- J. Thomas & Leanne C. King, 901 Linkside Way, roof replacement.
- Thomas W. & Pamela E. Zalac, 4020 Cobia Estates Drive, roof replacement.
- Debra Chesbrough, 24001 Redfish Cove Drive, pool cage replacement.
- Milan & Victoria Dragojevic, 505 Islamorada Boulevard, roof replacement.
- Milton Sales, 4891 Linkside Drive, roof replacement.
- Scott & Diana Johnston, 804 Islamorada Boulevard, exterior paint.
- Jay & Susan Lev, 1000 Islamorada Boulevard, roof replacement.

- Jill Cunningham, Marlin Run III, sign replacement.
- Larry Larsen, 3285 Sunset Key Circle, roof replacement.
- Greg Morrison, 3464 C Sunset Key Circle, screen & railing replacement.
- Ronald & Sheryl Marker, 3471 C Sunset Key Circle, window replacement.

Section 22 restrictions and applications are available for download at **BSM22.org**. Submit your ARC applications to your condo association, if applicable, then to Alliant Association Management, 13831 Vector Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33919, Email: **apmsupport@alliantproperty.com**.

Community Access Committee

By Pat O'Neill, Chair

Community Pet Walking Tips At Night
1. Be Visible

It is important for you and your dog to be visible during walks in the dark to make sure that drivers can easily see where you both are at all times. There are a number of things you can do to make yourselves easily visible. For example, reflective jackets or vests for you and your dog are available, and can be very handy especially with the colder weather (they make quilted and weather resistant ones for both dogs and humans). Also, blinking light collars, attachable collar lights and light up leashes can be as strong as a flashlight and make others aware of where your dog is.

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports on page 4

Reminder:
Next Section 22 HOA Board Meeting
– Tuesday, February 28, 9 a.m.,
Linkside Café Patio

Directory: Section 22 Homeowners Association				
c/o Alliant Association Management, LLC • 13831 Vector Ave., Ft. Myers, FL 33907 • 239-454-1101, info@alliantproperty.com				
Board of Directors President Craig Holcomb..... 941-505-0204 craigholc@gmail.com Vice President Joe Averdick..... 513-236-5845 javer0214@gmail.com Secretary/Treasurer Jim Welch..... 941-575-2545 welchemail@yahoo.com Directors Terry Kelly..... 941-276-2617 Turtlemen2003@yahoo.com Jon Ackerson..... 502-777-9833 Jon@ackersonpsc.com Mike McFeeley..... 443-858-8354 mmcfeeley13@gmail.com Jerry Newmin..... 941-637-9883 jnewmin@aol.com Property Management Alliant Property Management John Strohm..... 239-454-1101 PGI22CAM@alliantproperty.com Trey Fields Trey@alliantproperty.com Front Gate 941-639-8226 24 hours a day burntstoregate@msn.com Standing Committees Finance Committee: Jim Welch, Board Liaison Infrastructure Committee: Mike Lemon, Chair MLemonswfla@comcast.net Craig Holcomb, Board Liaison Community Access Committee (CAC): Patricia O’Neill, Chair Jackpaton@comcast.net Dianne Ardolino, Vice Chair Alan Faber Marv Bergman John Hammond John Weber Andrew Scott Dorothy Farnham Jerry Newmin, Board Liaison Landscape Committee: Michael Lemon, Chair MLemonswfla@comcast.net Daryl Ann Lemon Maggie Hart Terry Kelly, Board Liaison	Architectural Review Committee: Barry Groesch, Chair blgroesch@gmail.com John Farnham Jim Schinneller Daryl Ann Lemon Mitch Wegrzyn Joe Averdick, Board Liaison Community Irrigation Committee: Joe Baker Mike Lemon Gayle Shaffer Terry Kelly, Board Liaison Fitness, Racquet & Pool Club Committee: Bob Honcharski, Chair bobhoncho@gmail.com Jon Ralph Judy Ewing Barbara Berman Kathleen Harrigan Joe Averdick, Board Liaison Home for the Holidays Committee: Kay Ackerson, Chair kay@ackersonpsc.com Jon Ackerson, Board Liaison BSM Country Club: General Manager John Abbott JAbbott@bsgac.org Administrative Office Lisa Rouse..... 941-639-4151 Finance: Jim Welch Grounds & Buildings: Terry Kelly Restaurants/Activities: Mike McFeeley Mike McFeeley, Board Liaison Community Partner Relationships Jerry Newmin, Board Liaison Communications Committee: Maggie Hart, Chair downhart@me.com Joe Averdick, Board Liaison Resident Directory Daryl Ann Lemon Peg Love Web Page Joan Ross, Webmaster (bsm22.org) The Beacon Newspaper Editorial Team Linda Weiss, Chair..... 941-639-6409 Lindaweiss91@comcast.net	Maggie Hart..... 941-769-3039 downhart@me.com Jennifer LeClair..... 229-349-0180 muckalee250@gmail.com Daryl Lemon..... 941-575-7864 darlemon@comcast.net Debbie Bretz..... debrabretz@gmail.com Masthead Photographer Daryl Ann Lemon..... 941-575-7864 darlemon@comcast.net The Beacon Newspaper Distribution Janie Thornton..... 317-714-6251 Newspaper Distribution List by Association Admiral’s Point Sharon Monge..... 505-1264 Joyce Schwanger..... 505-5081 Admiral’s Point 2/Sailfish Pass Patty Pluss Admiralty Village Marge Currao..... 204-3399 Big Bend Cir & Big Pine Joe Drips..... 637-7533 Capstan Club Margaret Stidham..... 937-470-5240 Cobia Cay Estates Pam Zalac..... 639-5889 Cobia Cay Villas *****Need distributor***** Commodore Club Ann Shelly..... 661-1573 Courtside Landings Bonnie Lavorgna..... 410-251-7243 Courtyard Landings I Nancy Kesner..... 845-224-7402 Courtyard Landings II Judy Ewing..... 639-2766 Courtyard Landings III Mary Welch..... 575-2545 Diamond Park Mort and Rhea Fleishman..... 505-1391 Dolphin Cove Steve Honickman..... 575-9931 Egret Pointe Judy Gannaway..... 513-515-0285 Emerald Isles Joe Bigus..... 575-4648 Esplanade Peg Love..... 740-0228 Joyce Punt..... 505-0685	Golf Fox Ruth Moorehouse..... 661-7166 Grande Isles I & 2 Kay Ackerson..... 502-777-9834 Grande Isles 3 & 4 Eleanore Hayek..... 655-8494 Halyard Club Carroll Haueter..... 502-645-3144 Harbor Towers I and II Carla Matviak..... 908-817-4147 Hibiscus Cove Linda Rosenblum..... 941-505-7018 Keel Club Nancy Bryan..... 502-541-2033 King Tarpon Beth Kohl..... 662-0321 Linkside/Romano & Marianne Key John Jett..... 804-724-4869 Little Pine Circle Jill Burnside..... 231-0954 Marina Towers Steve Maynard..... 765-674-3339 Mariner’s Pass Fred & Maggie Hart..... 769-3039 Marlin Run Jan Stuart..... 518-534-2720 Marlin Run II Ginny Goudy..... 505-1937 Marlin Run III Donna Wileczka..... 505-2749 Sue Geikie..... 207-781-4331 North Shore Ginny Hammerl..... 847-542-1077 Pelican Way Margaret Fowler..... 637-5762 Redfish Cove Marianne Baker..... 505-8959 The Resorts Jen Tait..... 914-755-9344 Rudder Club Carol Larsen..... 637-6673 Sailfish Pass Patty Pluss..... 916-9349 Soundings John & Eulalia Ralph..... 585-781-0781 South Shore Vince Anderson..... 612-716-6738 Spinnaker Club Delores Bell..... 603-566-3198 Sunset Key I and II Gayle Shaffer..... 639-2138 Nancy Godina..... 575-9516	Tarpon Pass Volunteer needed Dee Butrum..... 575-6477 Topaz Cove Susan Keiffer..... 637-8702 Vista Del Sol Judy Jolicoeur..... 651-503-0556 Yellowfin Bay Missy Coykendall..... 941-505-0917 Yellowfin Cove Pat O’Neill..... 639-6552 Independent Homeowners Cape Cole Teresa Tembreull..... 612-865-8299

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Gate Keeper..... 941-639-0334
Main Gate email
securityBSM@gmail.com
Websites -
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
www.ppycbasm.org
Platinum Point Yacht Club
Club Administrator – Dorothy Saviste
Email – office@ppycbsm.org

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Useful Information
Gate Keeper 941-639-0334
Main Gate email
securityBSM@gmail.com
Websites -
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
www.ppycbasm.org
Platinum Point Yacht Club
Club Administrator – Dorothy Saviste
Email – office@ppycbsm.org

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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.

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3011 MATECUMBE KEY	SOLD	TOWN HOUSE	3 BED/2 BATH/1.5 CAR

Here’s What Your Neighbors Are Saying . . .

Very helpful and attentive. Always got back to me to answer any questions I had. We went to an open house on a different property, where he was the listing agent, and ended up working with “Dr. Mike” Schwanger. He met with us after inspections in the home again to go over any issues or questions. He was with us every step of the process to make sure it was a smooth process. Very pleasant experience. We will be very happy in our new home. SP ZILLOW REVIEW.

I contacted Mike for a real-estate analysis on my property after another agent gave what I felt was a low estimate. Mike was upbeat and optimistic that he could 25% more than the first estimate. HE DELIVERED! Sold pre-market on first showing. Mike guided the process every step of the way. Mike kept me informed at each turn. The commission was half of what some others charge You won’t have a complete picture of your potential sales price until you call Mike. JC ZILLOW REVIEW.

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<https://www.zillow.com/profile/exbackdoc/#reviews>

Mark Your Calendar – Out And About

Inside the Gates Dates

- **Wednesday, February 1:** Deadline for the March *Beacon*. Article and picture submissions are welcomed. Become part of the *Beacon* family.
- **Wednesday, February 22:** Safe Harbor Burnt Store Annual Boater’s meeting, in the Tiki Hut, 10 a.m.
- **Tuesday, February 28:** Section 22 HOA Board Meeting, Linkside patio, 9 a.m.
- **Every Tuesday:** Bar code installation, front gate, 1 to 3 p.m.
- **Every Thursday:** Food Truck Night with live music, 5 to 8 p.m. Linkside Cafe
- **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., Boaters Pool Parking Lot.

Outside the Gates Dates

- **Friday, February 3:** Fort Myers River District Art Walk, 1 to 5 p.m. Visit many galleries, exhibitions and performances.
- **Saturday, February 4 and Sunday, February 5:** Artfest Fort Myers. 200+ artists and family activities, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Fort Myers Harborside Event Center.
- **Wednesday, February 8:** Kickback Music in the Park with Kit Jones. Punta Gorda History Park, 501 Shreve St. Punta Gorda. 5 to 7 p.m. Free admission, but a donation to the History Park is appreciated.
- **Monday, February 13:** Sweetheart Luncheon & Fashion Show. Enjoy lunch and a fashion show by Anthony’s Ladies Apparel. 12 to 2:30 p.m. Military Heritage Museum, 900 W. Marion St., Punta Gorda. \$35. Go to <https://militaryheritagemuseum.org/upcomingevents> to register.
- **Friday, February 17:** Fort Myers River District Music Walk, 5 to 9 p.m. Local and regional musicians line the street with music from jazz to blues to rock and roll.
- **Wednesday, February 22:** Kickback Music in the Park with Joe Guerzo. Punta Gorda History Park, 501 Shreve St. Punta Gorda. 5 to 7 p.m. Free admission, but a donation to the History Park is appreciated.
- **Every Tuesday:** Walking Tour of Punta Gorda Murals, 9:30 to 11: 30 a.m. Visit 12 to 15 historic murals. \$25. Call Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce for reservations, 941-639-3720. Limit of 12 participants so register early.
- **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: New Name, New Location:** Cape Coral Sunshine Market. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mercole Market & Café, 125 SW 3rd Pl.
- **Every Wednesday:** Long Lunch Sightseeing and Culinary Tours. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Explore culinary treasures of Punta Gorda and visit historic sites. \$39 per guest. Go to <https://swfloridawalkingtours.com/tours-2/long-lunch-tour>.
- **Every Thursday:** Fort Myers River District Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Every Saturday:** Haunted Mystery Tour. 6 to 7:30 p.m. Stroll through downtown Punta Gorda to learn the history and ghost stories. Learn live ghost-hunting techniques. Adults \$29, Seniors \$25, Youths \$19. Go to <https://swfloridawalkingtours.com/tours-2/haunted-mystery-tour>.
- **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., Clubhouse Square, SE 47th Ter. and SE 10th Pl., Cape Coral.
- **2nd Saturday of every month November-April:** Yoga in the Peace River Botanical Garden. 5827 Riverside Dr, Punta Gorda. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Open to all levels. Bring your mat and relax in the beautiful garden. Donation based.
- **Every Sunday:** Mid-Cape Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mercola Market and Café, 125 SW 3rd St.
- **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.

Section 22 HOA Committee Reports from page 1

You can find collars and leashes with reflective material on them, which can be effective as well. You can even buy a roll of reflective tape to put on your dog’s collar/leash and your own jacket if you are looking for something you can add to already existing items! If you don’t have any of these things, wearing light or bright colors is always very important when in the dark.

Another helpful accessory is a light-up pooper-scooper or combination flashlight/waste bag holder. Even though it is dark out, it is still important to pick up after your pet.

2. Choose a Well-Lit Path

When walking your pet at night you want to make sure you are walking somewhere that you can be seen from all angles. Choose a path that is likely to have activity. This can also help to avoid environmental hazards such as allergens or aggressive animals.

3. Illuminate Your Path

The best way to do this is to bring a flashlight so you can see where you and your dog are stepping. This can also help you when picking up after your pet.

An ARC did you know, moment...

By Barry Groesch,
Architectural Review Committee Chair

Did you know...if you want to install a garage screen door, an ARC application is required. For all projects, go to the BSM22.org website to get your application.



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4. Use Caution

You should always be aware of what is going on around you during a walk, at any time of day. Since visibility is decreased at night, you should be even more aware of any sounds or movements going on around you. Make sure you bring a charged cell phone in case anything happens so you can easily get in contact with help. Your pet should also always have ID tags, even during the daytime, in the event that you lose sight of him/her. Try to free up your hands as much as possible; utilize pockets so you can focus on your dog. If walking in the road, make sure to walk against traffic and use sidewalks whenever possible.

When a car is coming your way, be sure to give them the right of way, unless they clearly give you the signal to go. Wait for the car to pass before crossing the road.

If this is your first walk in the dark with your pet and you’re a little nervous, bring a human friend along! Your dog will feel more comfortable when you’re comfortable, so make sure you are relaxed on your walk. Don’t let the dark stop you and your dog from maintaining an active lifestyle, grab that light-up leash and warm reflective jacket and get out there!



Missing Exits? Might be cataracts.

If you are over age 60 and experiencing changes in your vision, you might have cataracts. Visit Elmquist Eye Group to learn more about how we can help you see like you did 30 years ago.

Call 239-350-4181 or visit elmquist.com to schedule your appointment.



February’s Off Beat Holidays

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass

February is a great time to get outside, celebrate, and attend various special events. The average high temperature in February ranges from 64°F to 75°F (18 - 24°C) in Florida. We are in the middle of the dry season, with little rain and cool weather.

Here are some dates to remember, and celebrate:

February 2, 1848: The war between the U.S. and Mexico ended with the signing of the *Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo*. In exchange for \$15 million, the U.S. acquired the areas encompassing parts or all present-day California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Texas. The treaty was ratified on March 10, 1848.

February 2: *Groundhog Day* is celebrated in the U.S. each year. On this day in mid-winter, the groundhog awakens from a long winter’s nap and goes outside of his den to see if he sees his shadow. According to legend, if the groundhog sees his shadow (a sunny morning), there will be six more weeks of winter. He then returns to his den and goes back to sleep. If, however, he does not see his shadow (cloudy days), spring is just around the corner.

February 3, 1913: *The 16th Amendment* to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting Congress the authority to collect income taxes.

February 3, 1959: *The Day the Music Died* commemorates the untimely death of singers Buddy Holly, Richie Valens, and the Big Bopper. These three Rock singers died in an airplane crash at the height of their popularity.

February 3 - 5: *Artfest*, Fort Myers, Florida This annual, free festival takes place at the Harborside Event Center, and features a juried exhibition of 290 fine artists from all over the country. Along with the art, the festival features interactive art exhibits, children’s activities, live music, and demonstrations. Hours are: Friday - Opening Night – 6 – 9 p.m.; Saturday – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Harborside Event Center, 1375 Monroe Street, Fort Myers FL 33901. For mor information, go to artfestfortmyers.com.

February 9 - 20: *Florida State Fair*, Tampa, Florida The Fair boasts “the largest midway in the USA,” but its core purpose, celebrated for more than 100 years, is to showcase Florida’s agriculture and its history. Hours are each day 11 a.m. – 9 p.m. The Fairground’s address is 301 U.S. Highway 301 North, Tampa. There are 3 entrances into the Fairgrounds parking facilities: Orient Road, Martin Luther King, and US 301. If you go, remember which road/highway you used to enter the parking facilities and which gate (1, 2, 3 or 4) you used to walk into the interior grounds. Parking is free for all Fair guests. Advance Gate Admission 2023 (one day only): Children ages 6– 11 - \$6, 5 and under are free; Seniors \$8; Adults \$10. For more information go to floridastatefair.com/fair.

February 12: *Super Bowl LVII* will be played at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. Have a great party, root for your favorite team, take in the fun commercials, and watch the Apple Music Halftime Show featuring Rihanna.

February 14, 1929: *The St. Valentine’s Day massacre* occurred in Chicago as seven members of the Bugs Moran gang

were gunned down by five of Al Capone’s mobsters posing as police. *You* can avoid a massacre in your family if you give your sweetie lots of attention today.

February 17-19: *Everglades Seafood Festival*, Everglades City, Florida

This free event packs them in for fresh seafood, country music, carnival rides and crafts booths. An estimated 50,000 people attend each year in this small town (population 500) for the three-day event. Admission: Children under 17 are free, adults \$5. Hours: Friday 4:30 – 10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., located in front of the City Hall, 102 Copeland Ave., Everglades City, FL 34139. For more information, go to evergladeseafoodfestival.org.

February 20: *Presidents Day*, originally celebrated February 12 as Abraham Lincoln’s birthday, and February 22 as George Washington’s birthday, Presidents’ Day is celebrated on the third Monday in February because of the Uniform Monday Holiday Bill, which moved a number of federal holidays to Mondays

when it was passed by the United States Congress in 1968. This change was intended to allow American workers three-day weekends throughout the year.

February 21: *Mardi Gras*, known as Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday falls annually on the day before Ash Wednesday (start of Lent). The word “Mardi Gras” means “Fat Tuesday” in French. Celebrations include festivals, parades, dancing and feasting, before the fasting starting on Ash Wednesday.

February 25 – 26: *Swamp Cabbage Festival*, La Belle, Florida

For more than 50 years, LaBelle has been celebrating swamp cabbage with a down-home festival. Sample dishes made with swamp cabbage (also known as hearts of palm), which comes from the state tree, the sabal or cabbage palm. The event includes a parade, motorcycle & car shows, entertainment, a carnival, a 5-K run, a bass tournament, a rodeo, and the “Grasscar” lawnmower race. Details were not available at time of writing. For more information, go to labelleswampcabbagefestival.org.

From the Section 22 HOA BOD’s from page 1

closely with Alliant Property Management as well as Troon Management, to navigate the issues and leverage expertise. Many new groups will be formed, made up of community members with specific expertise to help guide us. Volunteers will be an integral part of our strategy going forward.

Socializing Ideas - A communication strategy will be developed to better vet ideas and solicit input. We will work in conjunction with the existing forms of communication, and expand where needed, to make sure every owner feels informed. A major challenge involves the fact that we are a diverse community, made up of almost 2000 homes. Not everyone wants the same things. We need to constantly take a “Big Picture” view when making decisions. Our only guarantee is that we will never agree on everything, but we need to strive to be a part of the solution.

Getting Community Input - Working groups will be a major new initiative going forward. These are not committees, which must follow certain laws. These are advisory groups coming together to provide ideas, research, and help. The work done by these groups will help form the basis for decisions going forward. We need to identify opportunities and threats, prioritize implementation, and conduct cost analysis. This is the hard work, but in knowing the caliber of the people in

the community, there is no question we are up for the challenge.

Leveraging Intellectual Capital - Issues concerning buildings, landscape, contracts, irrigation and technology require more than just motivated people. They require real world experience that is transferable from past life experiences. We will be identifying objectives for each group and then reaching out for help. Not everyone who volunteers will be asked to help. The size of each group must be manageable, and the type of experience sought must be diverse. This is our community, and to the extent we can handle much of our own business, it will save us money, OUR money, and improve our community.

Over the coming months there will be a lot of work to do. Time is not our friend as we need to address some dominant needs immediately. The plan for the Section 22 HOA board will be to have our regular monthly meetings, as well as an additional working meeting each month. The working meetings will be open to anyone, but will not necessarily be open for discussion and input from the community. They will be advertised consistent with applicable laws. This is our chance to discuss and strategize next moves.

We are excited about the future and look forward to making Burnt Store Marina the premier community in Southwest Florida. Together, our upside is “Unlimited.”

The Lines of Latitude and Longitude

By Graham Segger, Independent Home Owner

While assembling the accompanying article about the 1900 navigational feat of the *Warrimoo*, I was reminded of a couple of books I had previously enjoyed on related topics. Working in chronological order of the subject matter, the first was *The World of Gerard Mercator: The Mapmaker Who Revolutionized Geography* by Andrew Taylor. The second was *Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time* by Dava Sobel.

I loved the Mercator book as much for its explanation of how to solve the thorny problem of mapping a round globe onto a flat two-dimensional map, as its historical insights into the 16th century, a period which has always fascinated me. Mercator’s life (1512-1594) spanned most of that century, which included the exploration of the new world, the religious inquisition and reformation, and the artistic renaissance. The religious

convulsions were particularly relevant to Mercator’s story, as his assertion that the world was round contradicted the teachings of the catholic church. At one point, he was imprisoned by the Inquisition in Flanders as a result of his theories.

Longitude is the story of John Harrison (1693-1776), an English carpenter and clockmaker, who invented the marine chronometer that assisted mariners in measuring longitude at sea. It is hard to over-estimate how his invention revolutionized the safety of navigation at sea. The fundamental problem he solved was how to design and manufacture a mechanical time piece, which would keep accurate time on a ship while being buffeted by ocean waves and storms. The problem was of such significance that a large cash prize was promised to anyone who could create the clock, a prize that Harrison eventually won. Sobel is an excellent writer on science topics.





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Burnt Store Marina CC News

By John Abbott,
General Manager, BSMCC

Hey everyone. It's time to get your golf game in shape, as things are ramping up here on the course. This is the time of the year when the weather is great, and so is the tournament schedule. For those that thrive on competition, The President's Cup and the Club Championship are the two best tournaments of the year. The President's Cup is a three-week competition beginning on February 1, and culminating on February 15. This will be single elimination match-play with flights of eight. The Club Championship is in early March, and is a two-day stroke play competition for the title of Club Champ.

There are plenty of fun tournaments this month as well. We have the Valentines alternate shot tourney on February 11, Night golf on February 17, and the Burnt Store Marina Golf Classic on February 25.

While we are busy on the golf course, Linkside Café is a beehive of activity. We have multiple fun events happening this month, beginning with Ladies Night on February 8, "All in the bag" on February 11, Super Bowl party on February 12 and "Friendly Feud" on February 18.

Then there are also all the awesome special dinner nights throughout the month including the Republican Dinner, Prime Rib Buffet, Valentines Day Dinner, Fat Tuesday and Reverse Raffle Dinner. Of course, every Thursday night, food trucks and live music will be happening on the outdoor patios, and on Wednesday, February 22, there will be "Movie Night" where we bring in a big blow-up movie screen, and enjoy a movie under the stars.

With so many fun activities going on, there should be something for everyone, so mark your calendars, and make sure to sign up early, as most events will sell out. Remember, members get to sign up first, so take advantage of that benefit. As always, we look forward to seeing you all at the club!



BSMCC February 2023 Schedule of Events						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Presidents Cup Members Only 8:30 a.m. Republican Dinner*****	2 Lunch 11 a.m - 3 p.m.* Food Trucks/Music 5 - 8 p.m.	3 Lunch 11 a.m - 3 p.m.* Dinner 5 - 8 p.m.**/*	4 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Happy Hour Live Music 5 - 8 p.m.
5 Brunch 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Lunch 1 - 3 p.m. NFL Ticket 1 - 7 p.m.	6 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Trivia 5:30 - 8 p.m.**/*	7 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Dinner 5 - 8 p.m.**/* 9 Hole Scramble 3 p.m.***	8 Presidents Cup Member's Only 8:30 a.m. Ladies Night Wine/ Chocolate Dinner 5 - 8 p.m. ****	9 Lunch 11 a.m - 3 p.m.* Music and Food Trucks 5 - 8 p.m.	10 Lunch 11 a.m - 3 p.m.* Dinner 5 - 8 p.m.**/*	11 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Prime Rib Dinner 4 - 8 p.m. **/*
12 Brunch 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Lunch 1 - 3 p.m. Super Bowl Party Buffet 5:30 p.m.****	13 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Trivia 5:30 - 8 p.m.**/*	14 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Valentine's Dinner Dance**/* 5 - 8 p.m.** 9 Hole Scramble 3 p.m.***	15 Presidents Cup Members Only 8:30 a.m. Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Bingo 5 - 8 p.m. **/*	16 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Music and Food Trucks 5 - 8 p.m.	17 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Dinner 5 - 8 p.m.**/* Night Golf****	18 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Friendly Feud 5 - 8 p.m. **/*
19 Brunch 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch 1 - 3 p.m.	20 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Trivia 5:30 - 8 p.m.**/*	21 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Dinner 5 - 8 p.m.**/* 9 Hole Scramble 3 p.m.***	22 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Bar Bingo 5 - 8 p.m.**/*	23 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Music and Food Trucks 5 - 8 p.m.	24 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Reverse Raffle Dinner Members Only Ticket holders Only 5 - 8 p.m.	25 Burnt Store Marina Golf Classic 9 a.m. Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Dinner and Music 5 - 8 p.m.
26 Brunch 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch 1 - 3 p.m.	27 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Trivia 5:30 - 8 p.m.**/*	28 Lunch 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.* Dinner 5 - 8 p.m.**/* 9 Hole Scramble 3 p.m.***				
Remember, BSMCC members have 1st priority for reservations. Non-members may make reservations 7 days prior to events, and 3 days prior to dining. * Call Linkside for reservations 941-637-6405 **Members make reservations 1st! Non-member 7 days prior to events - 3 days before dinner's if available! *** 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.						

THE BEACON
February News

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

ACROSS


1 A reason for donating blood
3 Section 22 welcomes new Board ...
9 Matlacha ..., a recipient of some of the proceeds from the PPYC Shrimp Boil
11 In the game of golf, everyone is seeking more of this
12 The new Board will work towards getting community ...
14 Name of golf scramble held in December
17 A book written by Dava Sobel
18 A twisted idiom
19 Wish for our ...

DOWN

2 Organized Bocce is played on this day
4 Third most popular sport in the world
5 Dead, in Italian
6 Blood donations are good for the ...
7 A beehive of activity
8 A nickname for a Canadian
10 February is the start of this season
13 Cold sensitive plants should not be ...
15 A popular flower in February
16 If walking your dog at night, illuminate your ...

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Burnt Store Marina 2023 Wisconsin Party

Wednesday, March 15,
4 to 7 p.m.
Tiki Hut at the Marina
Sheepshead Tournament,
2 to 4 p.m. if enough
interest



Provided: location, settings
(plates, knives, forks, napkins), brats and buns
Bring an ample dish to pass
(appetizer, side dish or dessert)
plus your beverage of choice, plastic glasses
and \$5 per person

R.S.V.P. to Rick Uihlein at rickuihlein@gmail.com
or phone 414-425-2022. Please pass the word to other
“cheeseheads,” and invite them to come. The facility has
limited space, so please reserve your spot by February 28.

Attention Fellow Minnesotans!

It's finally time to get together again!
Saturday, March 11
Meet at The Tiki by Cass Cay – 4 p.m.
Please bring a MN dish to share & your own beverage.
\$5 per person



Also, bring extra cash for a MN Meat Raffle!
Proceeds to benefit the
Matlacha Hookers.

Questions - call
Julie Solem
763-370-3903
or Laura Vick
763-760-0053
Volunteers are needed.



Hang in there, looking at her reflection – Photo by Karen Sanderson

The Trading Post At Burnt Store Marina

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Platinum Point Yacht Club

By Loretta Steeves, Director
It would have been hard to miss the Community Shrimp Boil hosted by the Platinum Point Yacht Club (PPYC) on November 16. Over 450 individuals from the community came together at the *Let the Good Times Roll* celebration. The event testified to the wonderful post-Ian stamina of the entire Burnt Store Marina Community.

But, did you know that much of the proceeds from that event contributed to *Hurricane Ian* recovery efforts? A check for \$4,575 was presented by club Commodore Jeri Butler to DJ Ruscik of the *Matlacha Hookers*. This boots-on-the-ground organization has been helping people from our neighboring Pine Island for over 25 years. The group was part of the initial door-to-door search and rescue missions that aided people from Matlacha to St. James City. In the early stages of recovery, they worked together with other support groups to help provide over 3,000 gallons of gas, so needed to run the recovery-critical generators.

The Matlacha Hookers plan to use the additional funds to strengthen the overall structures that provide support for so many still in distress. One area of focus centers on providing needed labor and materials for much-needed reconstruction. Another focus is seen in their attempts to organize transportation infrastructures. Such reliable transportation is key for those who lost their vehicles in the storm surge, as they attempt to access needed supplies and services. The group also plans to use the funds to aid in the placement of individuals displaced by Ian's forces. PPYC was happy to donate part of the funds generated by our community event to aid this grass roots organization of people helping people.

Another community effort took place as our Burnt

Store neighbors came together with yacht club members in PPYC's Adopt-A-Child program. This combined effort made Christmas a little brighter for over 39 students at the East Elementary School. Thanks to everyone who generously provided the needed clothing and toys.

PPYC's involvement in our community is by no means an anomaly. Each year, The Golden Conch Regatta brings sailors from the area together in hearty nautical competition. Unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled this year due to Ian's devastation. Not to be easily dismissed, the group still enjoyed the camaraderie of a BBQ on January 14, with entertainment by the Punta Gorda Blue Grass Players.

PPYC also frequently works in conjunction with Safe Harbor Marina to provide educational opportunities for the community at large. On January 21, a **Vessel Safety Check** presentation was given by Greg Wise, a qualified Vessel Examiner of the United State Power Squadron and a member of PPYC. Subsequently, skippers were given the opportunity to receive a complimentary vessel safety check and to earn a 2023 VSC decal. Another joint event with Safe Harbor, **All About FEMA**, is planned for February 4. A representative from the Office of External Affairs will deliver a presentation describing FEMA's role in supporting recovery efforts.

Finally, we would be amiss to close without calling attention to next month's traditional community event, the **33rd Annual Valentine's Day Pancake Breakfast**. The event will be held February 14, 8 a.m. to Noon. Everyone is welcome! And once again, as has been true in the past, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to local charities. Platinum Point Yacht Club is proud to play an integral role in our larger Burnt Store Marina community.



Platinum Point Yacht Club
3601 Cape Cole Blvd
Punta Gorda, Florida

You are invited to PPYC's Open House Sunday, February 5, from 3 until 5:30.
Food and drinks will be provided.
Stop by, we would love to tell you about PPYC.

Boaters and Non-Boaters Welcome!

Platinum Point Yacht Club is offering a fantastic promotional:
50% OFF This Year's DUES
Available until March 31, 2023.

As a member of this year-round club, you will enjoy many on-water and on-land activities with new friends. Boat ownership is not required, as PPYC offers a variety of activities. Ongoing events in season are Monday sailboat racing, monthly overnight cruises, monthly parties, jam sessions Sunday evenings, Happy Hours Tuesday and Friday, games, special interest activities, and more. If you are considering joining PPYC, don't miss the opportunity for 50% off dues your first season.

For more information contact:
Club Administrator, Dorothy Saviste 941-639-0733 office@ppycbsm.org
Membership Chair, Vanessa Jordan 817-235-7361 vlwjordan@gmail.com

Burnt Store Marina Annual Canuck Potluck Picnic – Wednesday, March 8

Attention all Canadians.
Mark your calendar for the 2023 Canuck Picnic to be held again this year at the Tiki Hut, adjacent to the Trading Post, in Burnt Store Marina.

We will be gathering at 5 p.m. for a mix and mingle before enjoying a potluck dinner



at 5:30. Plates and cutlery will be provided this year.
Please also pass on the word to other Canadians you know in the community, and come decked out in your best red and white. Organizers this year are Lori & Brad Baker and Linda & John Wuerth.
RSVP to lorilyn.baker@hotmail.com and indicate whether you will be bringing an appetizer, main course or dessert. See you there!

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Plant of the Month...Caladiums

By Maggie Hart

With lush multi-colored leaves as large as the palm of your hand, caladiums are perfect foliage plants for shady or semi-shady gardens. They seem to be hand-painted, with striking combinations of green, white, pink, and red.



These tropical South American natives thrive in hot, humid weather. And, with a little pampering, they create glorious displays rivaling that of any tropical flowering plant. Caladiums do produce flowers, but they are not showy, and are insignificant. And, because caladiums are natives of the tropics, they crave heat, and only flourish in warm air and soil temperatures...all summer long in south Florida.

You will see potted caladiums in nursery centers as early as March, but tubers can be purchased online in February. Tubers generally come in three sizes: medium (No. 2), large (No. 1), and jumbo. The larger tubers typically produce more leaves and grow faster. If you order early, you can start your tubers in pots and keep them in a sheltered area if temperatures are still cool. Lake Placid caladium growers

are now shipping their bulbs. Some popular vendors are www.caladiumworld.com, www.happinessfarms.com, and www.floridaboyscaladiums.com.

Plan to plant your tubers in filtered sun or shade. Because some have large leaves, keep plants in a spot sheltered from strong winds to avoid damage. Plant in moist, rich, well-drained soil amended by compost or other organic matter. Plant your tubers in garden beds about 1½ to 2 inches deep, with the pointed end (stem) pointing up. Space plants about 8 to 12 inches apart, based on their size at maturity.

Provide enough moisture throughout the growing season to keep the soil evenly moist. If you allow the soil to dry out, the leaves may yellow and drop. Apply a layer of mulch around your plants to help retain moisture. Caladiums don't need a lot of fertilizer, and using too much can burn the leaves.

Caladiums die back in winter, but you don't need to do anything with them while they are dormant. In the spring, before they come back, apply liquid fertilizer – like Miracle Gro – to the beds and begin keeping the soil moist again.

Now...sit back and enjoy your caladiums, as they come back year after year!

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.

Wish for Our Heroes 2022

Wish for Our Heroes Foundation would like to thank the Burnt Store community for their continued support through generous donations, 400 CLUB raffle, and the Veteran's breakfast held on November 13 at Cass Cay Restaurant. It was impressive to see the Burnt Store community pull together to support our heroes, even as many residents continue to struggle with the aftermath of Hurricane Ian.



Between donations, purchase of 400 Club tickets and the Veteran's breakfast, *Wish for Our Heroes Foundation* raised \$5,000 this year, and was able to grant a wish for a local veteran affected by *Hurricane Ian*. There were 5 winners of the 400 Club:

- 1st place - \$2000 went to Mr. Keating and Neene Thompson
- 2nd place - \$1000 went to Jerry Goin
- 3rd place - \$675 went to Seth Moore
- 4th place - \$340 went to Maggie Hart
- 5th place - \$125 went to Tom Fitzpatrick

Wish for Our Heroes Foundation is a charity dedicated to assisting active-duty and Veteran military families struggling with basic needs such as food, shelter, transportation, child needs, and medical expenses. One hundred percent of all proceeds go to grant wishes for our heroes.

We hope that you can continue to support our heroes and join us for our local events in November 2023, when we come back even bigger and stronger as a community. If you have interest in joining our local chapter, call Michele Goldman at (518) 469-7357 or send an email to magslp10@yahoo.com.

Attention Residents:

Please notify your guests that may be coming in to provide the following information to the gate:

The name of the resident you are coming to see OR The address of the resident you are coming to see.



ELEVATED RESORT LIVING

You'd be surprised how many Burnt Store Marina boaters have discovered their golf home in Heritage Landing Golf & County Club. Some found their forever home here, or a getaway condo, or investment home, with golf memberships to the renown Gordon Lewis designed championship course, driving range, and putting green. Imagine living with the best of both golf and boating worlds within an 8-minute drive of each other.

NEW AMENITIES CENTER IS OPEN

- ❖ Resort-style pool featuring gradual wade in entry and separate lap lanes
- ❖ New outdoor Tiki bar offering a full menu, bar, and poolside service
- ❖ Tennis, pickle ball, bocce ball courts
- ❖ State of the art fitness center and aerobics room open 24/7
- ❖ Fitness instructor on site Mon-Fri
- ❖ Full-service spa offering nails, massage, facials, sauna

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Fitness Center’s First 5K a Run- A-Way Success

The Burnt Store Marina Fitness Center’s first 5K Fun Run/Walk on December 11 was a huge success. The weather was perfect, and approximately 70 people participated as runners, walkers, and volunteers. The 5K (3.1 mile) race was the last event of Burnt Store Marina’s Home for the Holidays Celebration. The race took place entirely within Burnt Store Marina.

The Fun Run raised almost \$4,000 for the Children’s Needs Program of the *Guardian ad Litem Foundation*, which fulfills needs of abused, neglected, or abandoned children of Charlotte County. These are children who have been taken out of their homes and are in the dependency court. Examples of the needs met by the program include beds and bedding, clothes, tutors, sports equipment, school trips, activity fees, and other things identified by the child’s Guardian ad Litem volunteer.

The Fun Run concluded with the presentation of prizes to the fastest three men and women, brief remarks from the executive director of the Foundation, a delicious lunch, and musical entertainment provided by Linda and Kelly Beatty.

A special thank you goes to Steve and Kathy Hocker for providing the great food, and to the Trading Post for donating desserts.

The Fun Run medalists were:
Bronze - Rochelle Jensen & John Rootes
Silver - Leigh Anne Hall & Eric Nilsestuen
Gold - Colleen Zathay & Cliff Beney
If you missed this Fun Run, look for it again next year. It is a new tradition!



Carl and Nancy Wolaver direct runners for the Fitness Center’s 5K Fun Run/Walk on December 11. The event raised nearly \$4,000 for abused, neglected, or abandoned children.

Blood Donation News

By Ann Siinger, Admiral’s Point

**Don’t Miss the Bus in 2023
Make Blood Donation A Habit!
The Next BSM Blood Drive:
Always on Monday 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
March 13**

Our next blood donation day is Monday, March 13, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Make your appointment online or plan to walk in. During peak season, I recommend making an appointment, especially morning slots. This drive is our 3rd drive of the “season.” Volunteer to help exceed our goal.

Many ask, “If I donated in the January blood drive, can I donate in March?” YES! Drives are scheduled so you have 56 days between. This is the law in the United States. Many people donate for several reasons, such as a form of charity, general awareness regarding the demand for blood, increased confidence in oneself, helping a personal friend or relative and social pressure. Despite the many reasons that people donate, not enough potential donors actively donate. Less than 10% of the 37% eligible blood donors in the United States donate annually. **There is a critical blood shortage due to the disastrous Hurricane Ian.**

IT IS SAFE TO DONATE. Please consider donation on March 13.

The BIG RED BUS is located in the Cass Cay/Trading Post/Tiki Hut parking lot. Make an appointment online, call, or walk in the day of the drive. To schedule appointments or have questions, please call Ann Singer at 319-290-5955 or Jo Bucci at 941-445-8260. To schedule online, log onto **ONEBLOOD.ORG**. Establish a username and password and follow directions to schedule. Walk-ins are always welcome. Remember to bring a photo ID. Be sure to eat before you donate, and drink lots of fluids before and after.

We look forward to seeing our veteran donors, and meeting many new Burnt Store area residents and visitors. Remember to spread the news to your neighbors. The incentive gifts will be: a long sleeve One Blood - St. Patrick Day themed t-shirt, \$20 gift card, and Chick-fil-A card for a free chicken sandwich. Successful donors will receive ALL 3 gifts!



How Blood Donation Helps YOU

By Ann Singer, Admiral’s Point

Where nearly everything can be manufactured, rebuilt and redesigned, scientists are still unable to make artificial blood, meaning people who need blood transfusions must still rely entirely on donations. Unfortunately, donations haven’t been able to keep pace with the tremendous need.

Here are some interesting and alarming facts about donating blood that may make you more keen to get down and donate:

Donating Blood Is Good for Your Heart

Blood flow and blood volume is integral to keeping the heart beating. However, while it may sound counterintuitive, regularly donating blood can actually improve heart health, not compromise it. According to *Blood Flow Online*, donating blood regularly can help to reduce how thick and sticky your blood is, thus allowing blood to flow more easily through the blood vessels, and reach the heart faster.

Although all blood types are needed, O positive is the most commonly used.

Donating Blood Lowers Your Cancer Risk

Donating blood can reduce the donor’s risk of developing cancer. Iron, one of the main minerals found in blood, has been known to increase the amount of free-radical damage in the body. However, one study found that donating blood helps reduce iron stores, thus reducing overall individual cancer risk.

Donating Could Justify Skipping A Workout

If saving the lives of others and improving your own

personal health isn’t enough to get you to donate blood, how about the possible weight loss advantages. According to *Live Strong*, you can burn about 650 calories per donation of one pint of blood—that’s even more than what you burn in a 30-minute run.

One Man Saved 2 Million Babies Due to His Rare Blood

While it’s estimated that the average person can save about 1000 lives in a lifetime due to donating blood, James Harrison was able to save around 2 million due to his rare blood type. Harrison’s blood contained high levels of an antibody known as anti-D immunoglobulin, which was specifically used to help babies with a condition known as Rhesus disease.

Most Blood Goes to Cancer Patients

We may picture road-side trauma when we imagine where blood donations go, but in reality, only about 2 percent of all blood donations go to trauma patients. It is actually cancer patients who receive the most blood.

Blood Shortages Happen Most During the Holidays

Everyone tends to get a bit busy over the holiday, and blood donation trends show this. According to the Community Blood Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania and Western New York, blood shortages happen most during summer and winter holidays, so this is when you should keep the practice in mind most.

[excerpts from OneBlood.org]

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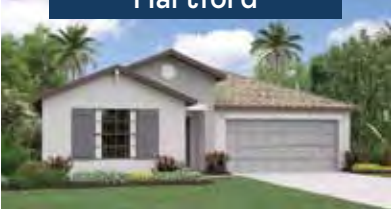
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The World’s Greatest Navigational Feat – Or was it?

By Graham Segger, Independent Home Owner

I recently encountered a story that describes a most impressive and unique navigational accomplishment. The facts were presented in a convincing and unquestioning manner, but as is my habit, I decided to dig a little deeper.

An article in the *Vancouver Province* of May 4, 1942, first reported the story. It has been reworked a number of times since, including in recent social media posts, which is how I learned of it. Below is the 1942 article.

A Navigation Feat by Ronald Kenvyn

Can a ship be in two places at the same time? Under certain conditions the answer is “yes.”

Captain John Duthie Sydney Phillips was the shipmaster who managed this unusual feat of navigation. For some 15 years Skipper Phillips commanded liners on the Vancouver-Australia run. He was born aboard his father’s sailing ship, the *John Duthie*, in Sydney harbor, hence his name. He “served his time” in the famous wind-jammer Port Jackson, which he describes as “the ship that made a sailor out of me.”

Rules for Driving Golf Carts

There has been some confusion about operating golf carts in Burnt Store Marina. Please be aware that there are rules for golf cart use, and violation will get you a citation from the Lee County Sheriff’s Office.



- Drivers of golf carts must observe the same rules as those designated for drivers of motor vehicles. Drivers must keep their carts on the right side of all streets, and obey all traffic signage.
- No one under 14 is allowed to drive a golf cart within the Burnt Store Marina premises.
- No one not playing golf is allowed to drive a golf cart on the golf course.

Now a resident of Sydney, Captain Phillips has been looking through his old log books and he has produced the record of a remarkable incident which he has forwarded to friends in Vancouver. It deals with the international date line which puzzles passengers. They turn in at night and find on waking that they have lost a day.

This line, where a change of date occurs, as adopted by the British Admiralty, is a modification of the 180th meridian. It is drawn so as to include islands of any one group on the same side of the line or for political reasons. In these latitudes [Vancouver], for instance, the date line runs just west of the Aleutians. It bisects the equator between the Ellice [now Tuvalu] and Phoenix [now Kiribati] islands and it was there that Captain Phillips put his ship in two places at once.

He was in command of the *Warrimoo* bound from Vancouver to Brisbane. Early on December 30, 1899, his second-in-command, now Captain F. J. Bayldon, pointed out that if he cared to alter the ship’s course a degree or two and suitably adjust her speed, she could cross the 180th meridian where it intersected the equator exactly at 12 midnight.

This prankish idea appealed to Captain Phillips and the necessary orders were given. Five experienced navigators took careful observations of the sun when it was visible and of the stars at night. The ship’s position was checked every three hours and she reached the appointed spot at the appointed time.

And here is what happened:
The bows of the *Warrimoo* were in the southern hemisphere but her stern was in the northern hemisphere.

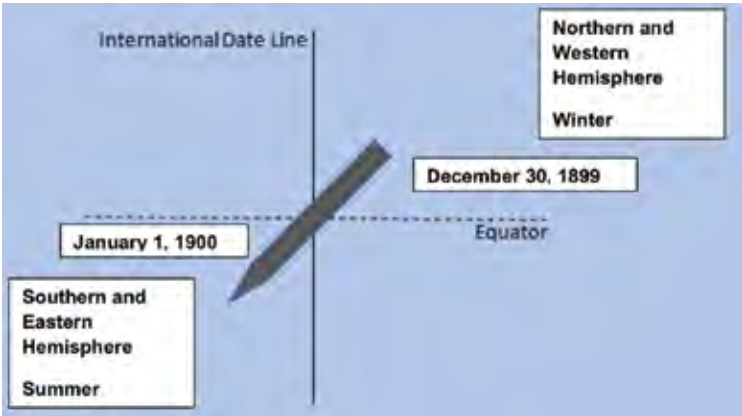
One side of her was in the western hemisphere, the other in the eastern hemisphere.

Passengers and crew in the forward part of the ship were living in Monday, January 1, 1900 while passengers and crew in the after part were still in Saturday, December 30, 1899, having not yet “lost a day.”

And those aboard were the first people on earth to hail the new century and the last to bid the old century farewell.

“Syd Phillips does not think this feat will be duplicated because it’s a long time to the next century!”

While this nifty navigation is theoretically possible, and as remarkable and educational as the story may be, it should perhaps be taken with a small grain of salt.



a) The story was not told by Captain Phillips until 40 years after the event. No hint of the accomplishment was publicly reported at the time of the crossing or subsequently by any of the crew or passengers.

b) No actual log books have been published.

c) The navigational techniques of 1900, as described in the article, were not accurate enough to place the ship precisely on the spot reported.

d) It may be a minor quibble, but the twentieth century did not actually start until one year later on January 1, 1901.

e) A January 10, 1900 news article, announcing the arrival of the *Warrimoo* in Sydney, Australia, stated that she crossed the equator on December 30, 1899, establishing some plausibility for the tale.

f) To add to the list of anomalies listed in the Kenvyn article, the passengers in the front were in summer and the passengers in the aft were still in winter.

g) Mariners whose ship is navigated to this geographic spot (0.0° N, 180.0° E) so as to be in all four hemispheres at the same time are referred to as Golden Shellbacks (a Shellback has crossed the equator in a ship).

h) The International Date Line actually crosses the equator three times due to some jogs introduced to keep political entities in the same time zone.

i) I searched for any reports of ships trying to replicate this feat on December 30, 2000 without success.

Readers interested in identifying sources for learning more about the mysteries of the lines of latitude and longitude and navigation on the high seas may wish to read the accompanying book review of a couple of books I have enjoyed.



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Featured Property

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Exquisite award-winning design by W.A. Lawrence in this 3 Bed, 2bath, 2Car Garage Pool home overlooking Ibis Lake and The Bird Island Rookery. This lovely home is truly a masterpiece in classic Spanish Colonial Architecture. Enchanting outdoor spaces plus a grand interior offer over 3200 Sq.Ft. of combined living & entertaining space. Extras including Front Courtyard and Back Veranda, Summer Kitchen, Heated Pool, South Western Exposure, Gas appliance, High Ceilings, French Doors and more. Home has been lovingly maintained and is like new condition. Lot is one of a kind with 156' of waterfront with tons of privacy.








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Consumer Alerts

Fraud Reports And Losses: Not Just A Grandparent’s Story

By Bridget Small, Consumer Education Specialist

You might have heard that scams mostly affect older adults but reports to the FTC tell a different story. Last year, adults under 60 – our Gen X, Millennial, and Gen Z neighbors – were more likely to report losing money to fraud than people 60 and over. And what did they report the most? Losing money to online shopping fraud, often when things pitched to them on social media never arrived.

Compared to older adults, those under 60 were more than four times as likely to report losing money on an investment scam, often a fake cryptocurrency investment opportunity, and more than five times as likely to report losing money to a job scam. Many college students reported losing money to

phony job offers sent to their school email addresses. Overall, adults under 60 most often reported losing money to scams that started on social media, a website, or an app, and their median reported fraud loss was \$500.

People over 60 were less likely to report losing money to fraud, but their reported losses were higher. The median reported loss was \$800 among people in their 70s and jumped to \$1,500 for people over 80. Older adults were more likely to report losing money to tech support scammers – cons who urge people to pay for unneeded computer repairs – and prize, sweepstakes, and lottery scams that demand payment but never give a prize. About one in four of the older adults’ loss reports said the scam started with a phone call.

Sharing what you know about scams helps protect people of all ages around you. Learn more at ftc.gov/PassItOn. If you see a scam, report it to the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov.

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Tickets Are Available For The 2023 Boston Red Sox Celebrity Classic

Registration is open and sponsorship opportunities are available for the 30th Annual Red Sox Celebrity Classic series planned in February and March. Events include the Boston “Tee” Party and the Golf Tournament, both hosted at The Forest Country Club, and Dinner on the Diamond at JetBlue Park.

This year, support for this event series will help bring enhanced neurosurgical services to Golisano Children’s Hospital, lay the foundation for a pediatric trauma center and ensure families can stay close to home for lifesaving care. Over the past 29 years, the event series has raised more than \$14 million for children’s health care.

Events include:

- Feb. 16: The Boston “Tee” Party, which includes a dinner, cocktails and more, with live and silent auctions. Individual tickets are \$75.



Lucy Costa, promotional incentives and Brad Blalock, Red Sox



2022 celebrity photo

- Feb. 17: The Celebrity Golf Classic, which includes Red Sox players and other celebrities in a tournament on two award-winning Forest Country Club courses. Tickets are \$400 for the Golf Classic and Tee Party.

- March 22: Dinner on the Diamond, which includes autographs from Red Sox players, dinner and more at JetBlue Park. Tickets are \$150 for a VIP ticket or \$75 for general admission.

Sponsorships levels range from presenting sponsor to table and hole sponsorships. For information or to register, visit LeeHealthFoundation.org/redsox.

About Golisano Children’s Hospital

Established by Lee Health in 1994, Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida has been named a “Top Hospital” three times by The Leapfrog Group. It is the only recognized children’s hospital between Tampa and Miami. Lee Health opened the new 134-bed Golisano Children’s Hospital in May 2017, relocating the children’s hospital from the adjacent HealthPark Medical Center. It includes comprehensive pediatric services including a 24-hour pediatric emergency department, hematology-oncology unit, milk lab, Regional Perinatal Intensive

Care Center, and Level II and Level III NICU with 70 private rooms. Golisano Children’s Hospital is proud to have been named Soliant’s 2018 Most Beautiful Hospital in the United States, a recognition determined by popular vote. Since 2019, Golisano Children’s Hospital has been a proud member hospital of the Children’s Miracle Network. For more information, visit GolisanoChildrensSWFL.org.



Hunter Dobbins, Red Sox; Zac Bryant, Red Sox; Bill Almon, Former MLB player



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3329 Sunset Key Cir. #307 | \$750,000
Harbor views from this customized turnkey residence.



14060 Heritage Landing, 322 | \$419,000
Sweeping golf course views from this Veranda with golf membership



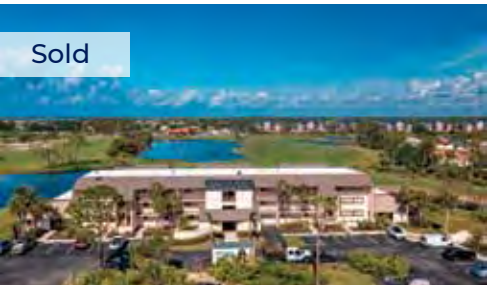
25271 Roland Ln. | \$115,000
Meticulously maintained half-acre lot with plenty of privacy.



4601 Almar Dr | \$1,867,200
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14051 Heritage Landing, 535 | \$350,000
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5050 Marianne Key #8A | \$307,500
Ground-floor condo with golf course views and fabulous upgrades.

Burnt Store Marina sales are picking up, with average sales prices in the Fourth Quarter of 2022 up 16.5% over the same period in 2021. If you've considered taking advantage today's prices, give us a call! We would be happy to consult with you about your real estate goals and find solutions that work for you! With 22 years of selling Real Estate in Burnt Store Marina and nearly \$500,000,000 in sales, Jennifer has successfully navigated buyers and sellers through market shifts in the ever-changing real estate market. Let us put our experience to work for you!



Tight Lines...Travelling Fishing Trips

By Jay Lev, Burnt Store Anglers

With the horrible weather conditions we have experienced across the country recently, many families who enjoy fishing are thinking about a spring fishing trip. One of the major planning issues anglers have is how and what fishing tackle should I pack? Families who are thinking about driving to their destination usually do not have too many concerns about what fishing tackle to take with them. The roof of a car or van offers many options to pack along your fishing rods especially those favorites that are usually 7’ one-piece fishing rods. Companies like LL Bean, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Bass Pro Shop and many smaller local fishing shops offer both rod carriers and plastic tubes to mount on to the roof of your vehicle. Using one of these carriers protects you from listening to your passengers complaining about the rods taking up too much space.

A friend of mine, who was planning a trip out to Montana, decided he was going to take five fishing rods with him. He did not want to carry fishing rod tubes inside his car, so he decided to build his own tube carrier. A trip to Home Depot was all that was needed. He bought an 8’ piece of thin-walled white plumbing tubing with a 6-inch diameter. He also bought a 6-inch cap to mount on one end of the pipe and another threaded cap to mount on one end that would unscrew on and off to provide a secure opening. A small can of plastic pipe mounting material to secure the ends, and he was on his way.

Before leaving the store, he bought several “Mr. Clean” scrubbing pads that he placed on either end of the rod carrier tube to protect the rod tips. Once back in his house, he located a bunch of decals many tackle stores sell and mounted them on the pipe just for looks. He then purchased a very inexpensive roof rack, two wood cross bars, and a bunch of large suction cups to hold it on to the roof. A few adjustable auto straps and his project was done. That is until he decided to make the simple roof rack himself. He made two rod tubes and was able to carry his spinning rods and his fly fishing rods.

If you want to invest in commercial rod tubes, the following stores carry a number of sizes and brands:

- Bass Pro Shops,
 - Dick’s Sporting Goods
 - Capt. Harry’s Fishing Supply in Miami.
- Each of these shops have websites. If your trip is to



one of the islands, a great offshore supplier of rod cases for heavier fishing rods and incredible tackle is Melton International Tackle located in Anaheim California www.meltontackle.com.

If you prefer to carry your fishing rods and tackle, think about using a good quality 2-piece fishing rod. I found the following fishing shops have a very nice selection of 2-piece rods which lend themselves to plane or auto travel. LL Bean fishing kits in 2-piece are excellent, Lehr’s Economy Tackle in North Fort Myers can get you a good 2-piece spinning rod. Captain Rob’s Bait and tackle shop in Cape Coral, Captain Ted’s Tackle in Port Charlotte, and of course, Fishing Franks in Port Charlotte.

The following manufactures all carry one or more 2-piece fishing rods in their line of equipment: Daiwa, G. Loomis, St. Croix, Penn, Lamiglas, Star, Fenwick and Shimano Fishing Rod Companies.

On a recent trip to the Carolinas, to fish for some nice redfish, I purchased a Fenwick 2- piece spinning rod from a nice tackle shop known as Red Drum Tackle Shop in Cape Hatteras, NC. The rod was a Fenwick Eagle EA66M medium fast action rated for 6–14-pound test. It carried a product number of 01E20BK. I paired the rod with a Penn Spin fisher VI, an older model of the Penn reels, and now find it is my go-to rod when traveling.

One last caution when traveling by airline. Security check usually gives me a warning when I bring my fishing pliers, very large hooks, and spools of leader material. Be sure to pack these items in your checked luggage so you will not have to engage in a friendly discussion about why you should not carry these items on.

Have fun and be sure to patronize our local tackle shops as your first shopping spot.

Tight Lines!

Grammar Tips – Malaphors

By the editors of *The Beacon*

What is a malaphor??

To understand the meaning of this word, you first need to know what we call idioms in our crazy English language. An idiom is a common expression that means something different than the literal meaning of the words. You hear these idioms every day:

- Let sleeping dogs lie
- Bite the bullet
- Hit the nail on the head
- Easy as pie
- Burn the midnight oil
- Needle in a haystack
- Cross that bridge when we come to it

But what do you call it when someone takes a well-known idiom, and twists it around? Well, that’s a malaphor! A malaphor is an idiom blend, an error where two similar idioms are combined, producing a nonsensical, comical result:

- You hit the nail right on the nose.
- It’s like looking for a needle in a hayride.
- It’s time to swallow the bullet.
- He’s burning the midnight oil from both ends.
- Let dead dogs sleep.
- It’s as easy as falling off a piece of cake.
- We’ll burn that bridge when we come to it.

Huh??

So there really is a name for that nonsense...malaphor.

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 Matecumbe 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.



From The Desk Of Sheriff Carmine Marceno

Lock It Or Lose It

Using the Lee County Sheriff’s Office social media platforms, speaking at numerous community gatherings and asking the media to share the message regarding locking your vehicles and securing valuables has somewhat reduced the number of vehicular burglaries in our county.

Still, each morning the calls for service regarding car and truck burglaries and thefts are received by our agency.

Despite the aforementioned pleas, which the Lee County Sheriff’s Office has been issuing for years, the vast majority of reports that we receive involve unlocked vehicles. In some cases, vehicle fobs are left inside of these unlocked vehicles and result in the theft of the car or truck.

On occasion, reports are filed regarding stolen firearms that were left inside of the unlocked vehicle. This is of enormous concern to me and it should be to you, as well. Stolen firearms pose an immense threat to everyone in the community ... everyone.



At the very least, your unlocked vehicle will result in a sense of violation as you wake the following morning to find your glove box and center console torn open and your belongings strewn about your vehicle’s interior and/or your driveway.

The very worst, should a firearm be removed from your vehicle, is that the stolen weapon is used to commit a violent crime, injure an innocent victim or result in the loss of life.

As we begin this new year, I am once again imploring Lee County residents and guests to remove all valuables from their vehicles, each and every evening, and to lock all vehicle doors.



Beacon Distributor Needed

The Beacon is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the distribution of copies of our newspaper to delivery volunteers. This involves receiving the monthly shipment of newspapers, and communicating their arrival to the HOA delivery volunteers, who will then pick them up from the coordinators house. If interested, please contact Janie Thornton at jthornton.habit@gmail.com or 317-714-6251 for details.



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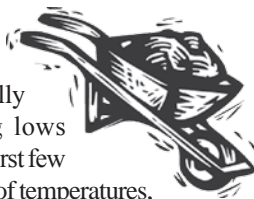
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Gardener’s Wheelbarrow

By Maggie Hart, Mariners Pass
February continues our dry season. Daytime temperatures are historically in the 70s and 80s, with evening lows unpredictable, and possible frost. The first few months of the year tend to be a seesaw of temperatures, with last year’s high at 88, and a low of 40. This causes plants to be stressed and vulnerable to frost, sunburn, pests, diseases, and also drought. Our landscaping needs all the help we can give it... and so here is February’s checklist:

• **Pruning** - Cold sensitive plants should not be pruned. Pruning encourages new growth that is tender and susceptible to cold damage. Dead and diseased wood can be removed at any time.



- **Remove spent blossoms** (dead-heading) to promote continued bloom.
- **Ornamental grasses** (fakahatchee, cord, muhly, purple and white fountain) need a severe haircut to within 6 - 12 inches of the ground. This is also a good time to spray for any red spider mites.
- **African iris** also should be cut to several inches above ground level.
- **Fertilize tropical and flowering ornamentals** (bush allamandas, gardenia, ixora and hibiscus) with a slow-release fertilizer. Remember that fertilizer contains salts. Excess salt burns root hairs. Time your fertilizing, if possible, with the rains. Watering before and after fertilizing makes for very happy plant roots.

- **Look for damaged leaves** brought to you by your local cutworms. They are nocturnal eaters. Spray with *Organocide* or a similar product. Pick-and-smash is the most expedient method.
- **Fungus on Ornamentals** – If you see round dark “bulls-eye” areas on leaves, black stems, and brown patches in turf – treat it! Fungus is common to our area. Prevent it by providing good air circulation around shrubs.
- **Brown Spot Fungus** – Avoid watering excessively and use nitrogen judiciously at this time of the year. Fungicides are mostly preventive measures. Irregular dead-looking areas in the lawn signal brown spot fungus. Do not walk through it! Doing so transfers the spores to other areas.
- **Irrigation Maintenance** – It is important for you or your irrigation technician to verify each sprinkler head’s coverage on a regular (monthly) basis. Over time there will be adjustments needed in the system to accommodate plant growth.

Golf Tips

By Bill Connelly, Manager of Golf Operations
Everyone is seeking more distance off the tee. Below are three things you can do to help you get more distance for your ball.



- When teeing the ball up with the driver, make sure that you can see at least half of the ball above the top of the club.
- When you set up to the ball, you want it forward in your stance in, line with your front heel. Your feet should be at least shoulder width apart, to create a stable base and room to make a full shoulder turn.
- As you swing back, you want to make sure to complete your backswing and keep your head steady through impact. Our practice area is there for you to work on your game. At right are the results of the Backwards Scramble on December 17:

- 1st Flight Winners**
1. Gary and Kathy Knudsen, Debbie Burns and Tom Fitzpatrick
 2. Steve Maynard, Craig Holcomb, Jack Bruckman, Kelly Weber
 3. Tom and Beth Siebert, John and Kelly Millar
- 2nd Flight Winners**
1. Steve Risius and Lorie Davis, Greg and Vanessa Jordan
 2. Gene Lastfogel, Ruth and Bernie Dufour, Mike Delisio
 3. Jay Winston, Steve Flagstad and Susan Flagstad, Deb Hodges
- Closest to the Pin:**
Bobby Vail - Pelican #3
Denny Douglas - Osprey #3
- Follow us on Instagram @burntstoregolf for course updates. Please stop in for lunch and some shopping, we would love to say hello.
Have fun learning to enjoy your game.

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THE BEACON

February News

1 C H A R I T Y

2 M E M B E R S

3 U

4 O

5 L

6 H O O K E R S

7 S

8 C

9 I N P U T

10 R

11 A

12 D I S T A N C E

13 P

14 K

15 U

16 E

17 T

18 Y

19 B A C K W A R D S

20 W

21 U

22 I

23 D

24 E

25 R

26 L O N G I T U D E

27 S

28 M A L A P R O P

29 Y

30 H E R O E S

President’s Day

Monday, February 20

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Sheriff’s Report – December

12/7 6 - 10 p.m.

- 2 warnings stop sign - contractors visiting Cass Cay for dinner meeting
- 1 warning faulty equipment - contractor
- Sheriff noted that the security vehicle was operating with a headlight out
- Sheriff kept visibility around the bar at Cass Cay to deter any potential issues.

3 total warnings

12/15 12 – 4 p.m.

- 5 warnings stop sign - seasonal residents
- Sheriff met with 7 citizens to answer questions or concerns
- Sheriff kept visibility high around Marina Towers while contractors present.

5 total warnings

12/27 6 – 10 p.m.

- 7 warnings stop sign - seasonal residents
- Sheriff met with 4 citizens to answer questions or concerns.
- There was not much traffic at the restaurant, but noticed a fair number of juveniles moving around in the evening hours. Adjustments will be made to spend more time during their peak hours of movement.

7 total warnings

12/28 8 p.m. – midnight

- 4 warnings stop sign - seasonal residents
- 2 tickets issued for stop sign and faulty equipment - seasonal residents
- Sheriff conducted speed enforcement on Matecumbe Key. Average speeds were noted from 25-35mph.

4 total warnings


2 total tickets

19 total warnings for December

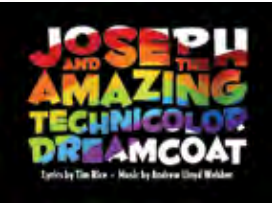
2 total tickets for December



South Shore perfect sunset


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One of the most spectacular and entertaining musicals tells age-old Biblical story of Joseph and his coat of many colors through a kaleidoscope of song and dance! When Jacob gives Joseph a magnificent coat of many colors, his eleven brothers become jealous and sell him into slavery. Because of Joseph's gift for interpreting dreams, he rises to become the Pharaoh's advisor. Songs include *Any Dream Will Do*, *Close Every Door* and *Go, Go, Go Joseph*.


February 17 – April 9




Winner of Best Musical at both the Tony Awards® and Olivier Awards®, go behind the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons with Jersey Boys! Discover the secret of a 40-year friendship as the foursome work their way from the streets of New Jersey to the heights of stardom. The chart-topping hits include *Sherry*, *Big Girls Don't Cry*, *Can't Take My Eyes Off You*, *Dawn, My Eyes Adored You* and many more!

Dates may be subject to change.

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24th Annual Southwest Florida Reading Festival – Saturday, March 4

Once again the Lee County Library System presents the Annual Southwest Florida Reading Festival, which will be held Saturday, March 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the campus of the Fort Myers Regional Library, 2450 First Street, Fort Myers, Fla. The event is **free of charge** and open to the public. There are activities for all ages. Events include:

Adult Author Presentations

- Kendra Elliot (*A Merciful Death*)
- Joseph Finder (*House on Fire*)
- Kristan Higgins (*Out of the Clear Blue Sky*)
- Gregg Hurwitz (*The Last Orphan*)
- Alka Joshi (*The Henna Artist*)
- Melinda Leigh (*Lie to Her*)
- Sarah MacLean (*Bomb Shell*)
- Annette Chavez Macias (*Big Chicas Don't Cry*)
- Vanessa Riley (*Murder in Westminster*)
- Katee Robert (*Wicked Beauty*)
- Deb Rogers (*Florida Woman*)
- Jennifer L. Schiff (*A Shell of a Problem*)

Teen Author Presentations

- Kalynn Bayron (*This Poison Heart*)
- Meg Medina (*Burn Baby Burn*)
- Nina Moreno (*Our Way Back to Always*)
- Rebecca Ross (*The Queen's Rising*)
- Ruta Sepetys (*I Must Betray You*)

Kids' Author Presentations

- Alexandra Alessandri (*The Enchanted Life of Valentina Mejía*)
- Aida P. Dobbs (*Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna*)
- John Patrick Green (*InvestiGators Heist and Seek*)
- Terri Libenson (*Remarkably Ruby*)
- Meg Medina (*Merci Suárez Changes Gears*)
- Heidi E.Y. Stemple (*A Kite for Moon*)
- Lauren Wolk (*Wolf Hollow*)



A Free Book For All Children And Teens

Free books are made available through generous support of festival sponsors. The child/teen must be present to obtain a book.

Instruction On How To Use Online Library Content

Library staff will be available to demonstrate how E-books, audiobooks, streaming video, E-magazines and downloadable music can be accessed through content providers Overdrive, Libby, Hoopla and Kanopy. Bring your mobile phone.

Name A Character Raffle

Raffle winners will have a character named after them in an upcoming book by Alda Dobbs, Alexandra Alessandri, John Patrick Green, Melinda Leigh, Terri Libenson, Nina Moreno, Katee Robert or Lauren Wolk!

Aspiring Authors Writing Contest

All Lee county-based schools K through 12 can participate.

Crafts, Readings And Drawings

* * * * *

Be A Volunteer

In addition to library staff, the reading festival relies heavily on book-loving volunteers. Consider volunteering for a 4- or 8-hour shift. Refreshments will be provided. Help your community, meet great people, be part of a team, have fun! For more information, contact Catherine Vaughn at cvaughn@leegov.com.

Download The App

Make your day more enjoyable by downloading the **SWFL Readfest** mobile app. The app will provide author profiles, an event schedule, personal schedule, festival map, list of exhibitors and merchants, menus from food vendors, frequently asked questions and live updates.

About The Southwest Florida Reading Festival

The Southwest Florida Reading Festival takes place annually on the first Saturday in March. It is a family-friendly event that celebrates books and the written word. The festival began in 1999 with the goals of emphasizing the importance of reading and bringing the finest literary talent to Southwest Florida. Now in its 24th year, this free festival has grown in popularity and attracts thousands of book-loving attendees annually. Some of the past authors include Sue Monk Kidd, Susan Mallery, R.L. Stine, Janet Evanovich, Nelson DeMille, Jeff Kinney and hundreds more. The Reading Festival's objectives are to promote reading and literacy, increase awareness of the library's programs and resources and foster partnerships between the Lee County Library System and the community. It is also an opportunity to share with the community the available resources and services at their local Lee County libraries with a library card. The Reading Festival aims to build a literate community by encouraging children to develop an interest in reading independently, which fosters an increase in vocabulary and improved writing skills. For more information, visit www.ReadFest.org.



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The Benefits Of Passing On Your Wealth Now

By Jeffrey A. Muddell, CFP®

The number is staggering to comprehend: \$60 trillion. For the record, that’s \$60,000,000,000,000 – a 6 with 13 zeroes. That’s how much money is expected to be passed down to various generations over the next 25 years in what is simply being called the great wealth transfer.



Members of the Silent Generation (born between 1925 and 1945) and Baby Boomers (born between 1946 and 1964) will leave this collective amassed fortune to children, grandchildren, other heirs, and charities. But how and when they do so is a multi-trillion-dollar topic of great importance – one your family should be discussing.

Americans are living longer – life expectancy is now nearly 80, and the fastest growing demographic in our

country is those aged over 100. In many cases, this also means that wealth transfer to the next generation could be significantly delayed. Only a few decades ago, adult children typically received an inheritance from their parents in their 40s or 50s when those extra funds helped pay off a mortgage, sent grandchildren to college or allowed for family vacations and other lifestyle benefits. But with longer life spans, the next generation often receives an inheritance in their 60s and 70s, well past when it could have been of the most benefit.



For high-net-worth families, this is the time to discuss whether it makes sense to begin passing assets onto children, grandchildren, or charities before death while both you and they can witness its rewards. Also, getting assets out of your estate now and letting the future appreciation of those assets accrue to beneficiaries rather than to you, can result in sizable estate tax savings someday.

It is likely you have a long life ahead, so now is the time to consider these objectives:

- Clearly state and communicate to your family members and wealth advisors, your goals and values, as they relate to money and family. Make sure everyone is on the same page.
- Your values can be conveyed through a family meeting. The conversations can be delicate at times, but it is usually best to have a family meeting while you are still living, so your intentions are clear.

• Consider skipping a generation. Many parents are now skipping their aging adult children, and instead are creating plans to help their grandchildren and great-grandchildren get started in life.

• Create and regularly update your estate documents to reflect your choice of heirs or beneficiaries, as well as the time frame for asset transfer.

• Help your family understand the challenges that lie ahead for you as you age. What do you expect if you fall ill or become incapacitated? Do you prefer to receive care at home, a senior living community or full-skilled nursing? Answers to questions such as these will prepare them for the responsibilities and circumstances in your later years.

• Make it a point to introduce your heirs to your wealth advisors, so they know where to turn for help when needed, resulting in a more seamless and less stressful transition after passing.

• Encourage your heirs to begin their own estate and financial plans to make them better prepared to accept their future inheritance.

You are not alone! All successful families have complex dynamics across multiple generations with diverse values, views, and social circumstances. It is always the goal to create a wealth transfer strategy that does what is best for all involved.

Start today by contacting your experienced team of wealth advocates and trust officers.

Legal, investment and tax notice: This information is not intended to be and should not be treated as legal advice, investment advice or tax advice. Readers, including professionals, should under no circumstances rely upon this information as a substitute for their own research or for obtaining specific legal or tax advice from their own counsel.

The Recipe Box

Summer Strawberry Salad

By Jennifer LeClair,
Pelican Way



Even though it’s not yet summer, February is the start of strawberry season in south Florida. If you like strawberries in your salad, you can go from ordinary to extraordinary by adding Goat Cheese Croutons to your fresh Strawberry Salad! Looks fancy, but it’s super easy to make. This gluten-free salad is perfect for entertaining, or anytime you want something a little special. I have made this several times, and have never tried adding a protein to it, like grilled chicken, but I do think chicken would be delicious in it.

Ingredients:

Salad:

- 1 - 5 oz. box fresh baby Spinach or hearty greens (I used mostly spinach plus a handful or two of baby lettuce)
- Approximately 8-10 Fresh Strawberries halved (Add more or less to your liking depending on the size)
- 1/4 - 1/2 cup dried roasted pistachios (can substitute pecans if you don’t have pistachios)
- Fresh mint to garnish or more to taste

Goat Cheese Croutons

- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons gluten-free flour (or regular flour depending on your preference)
- 1/2 cup gluten-free panko bread crumbs
- 2 - 4 oz. goat cheese logs will give you about 12 croutons and allow for some breakage when cutting the cheese
- Olive oil to coat pan, about 1-2 tablespoons

Balsamic-Shallot Vinaigrette

- 1/4 cup of extra virgin olive oil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons of balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp finely chopped shallots
- dash of garlic powder

Instructions:

Goat Cheese Croutons

Cut goat cheese into 1/4 -1/2 inch slices using a very sharp knife (a cheese cutting knife preferably) Tip: if the cheese falls apart, use your hands to roll it into a ball and flatten out into a circle shape.

Set up an assembly line with 1 bowl with the whisked egg, 1 bowl flour, 1 bowl with the panko crumbs.

One at a time, dip a goat cheese slice into flour, shake off excess, then egg, shake off excess, then panko. Set aside on a plate until they are all done.

Heat olive oil in a large sauté pan over medium heat. You want the oil to be hot enough to sizzle when you put the crouton in.

Cook the croutons for about 2-3 minutes each side depending on how crispy you want them. Alternatively, you could bake the croutons. Bake in a preheated 400 degree oven for 10 minutes.

Dressing

Whisk together all ingredients.

Assemble

Place spinach and greens, strawberries and pistachios in a large bowl. Add dressing to taste and toss. Top with goat cheese croutons and fresh mint.

Good Thinking

One morning, a husband returns to the cabin after several hours of fishing and decides to take a nap. Although not familiar with the lake, the wife decides to take the boat out, since it is such a beautiful day. She motors out a short distance, anchors and reads her book.

Along comes a Game Warden in his boat. He pulls up alongside the woman and says, “Good morning. Ma’am, what are you doing?”

“Reading a book,” she replies, thinking, isn’t that obvious. You’re in a Restricted Fishing Area,” he informs her. I’m sorry, officer, but I’m not fishing, I’m reading.”

“Yes, but you have all the equipment. I’ll have to write you up with a ticket. For all I know, you could start at any moment. I’ll have to write you up a ticket and you’ll have to pay a fine.”

“If you do that, I’ll have to charge you with sexual assault,” says the woman. “But I haven’t even touched you,” says the Game Warden.



“That’s true, but you have all the equipment. For all I know you could start at any moment.”

“Have a nice day ma’am,” and he immediately departs.

Moral of the story:

Never argue with a woman who reads. It’s likely she can also think.

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