

Charity Pros Announces Hurricane Ian Heroes All-Star Concert

Heroes To Be Recognized On Oct. 7

Charity Pros recently announced its “Hurricane Heroes,” a group of local officials, business owners and community leaders in the Fort Myers and Fort Myers Beach areas who stepped up for the community in the wake of *Hurricane Ian*. The heroes will be honored at the organization’s Hurricane Heroes All-Star Concert on Oct. 7, which features a star-studded lineup including headliner Matchbox Twenty as well as Don Felder, Red Hannah, Jay Allen, Matty Jollie, Sheena Brook and more.

Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno and the Lee County Sheriff’s Office were recognized as heroes for their efforts in the aftermath of *Hurricane Ian*, particularly the work in coordinating the Lee County Sheriff’s Office with outside agencies and search and rescue missions that took place after the storm’s devastation.

Mayor Dan Allers of Fort Myers Beach has been named a hero for his work in the development and

recovery of Fort Myers Beach. Allers was appointed mayor of Fort Myers Beach two months after *Hurricane Ian* and has spent the past 10 months leading the island back to a state of recovery. Dan and his business partner at the time, Tim Ryan, turned their golf cart business at 820 Buttonwood Drive into a location for people to drop off donations and supplies for victims. The location is now home to Fort Myers Beach Strong, a registered 501(c)(3) organization.

Charity Pros Announces on page 4



Ed Ryan, Doug Miller, Amy Eldridge, Megan Maloney, Brad Maloney, Mayor Dan Allers, Pastor Mallie Critser

Edison And Ford Winter Estates Hosts Annual Clothesline Quilt Show

On Saturday, Oct. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Edison and Ford Winter Estates will host the annual “Airing of the Quilts” quilt show. Dozens of quilts from the Southwest Florida Quilters Guild will be on display, suspended from clotheslines between the palms in front of the historic homes. Quilters Guild participants will also have quilts available for sale.

Certified quilt appraiser, Lars Cain, will be on site and conducting appraisals from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. His vast experience includes the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution. He has been sharing his expertise for many years and has spoken to more than 1,500 quilt groups throughout the Midwest, New England area and south

to Florida. Since 1977, he has appraised more than 20,000 quilts. Visitors may bring antique quilts for assessment. Verbal appraisals will be offered for \$25 and the fee for a written appraisal will be \$35 per quilt.

“Quilts have a long history with the Edison and Ford families,” said Brent Newman, chief curator at the Estates. “Henry Ford and his wife, Clara, collected quilts and other historical objects that were created and used by people from all across the United States. The quilts were often made from modest scraps of material, demonstrating the resourcefulness of American women.”

The quilt show is included with admission. Tickets may be purchased online or at the ticket counter. Admission is free for Edison Ford members. Refreshments will be available for purchase at the Banyan Café. Visit EdisonFord.org to purchase tickets.

About Edison And Ford Winter Estates

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is the internationally known winter homesite of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford. More than 200,000 visitors walk through the location each year from all around the globe. The organization has received many awards, including the National Stewardship Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Garden Clubs’ Historic Preservation Award. The property is an official project of “Save America’s Treasures,” a Florida Historic Landmark and a National Register Historic Site. The Edison Botanic Laboratory is a National Historic Chemical Landmark. The site is open every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and until 9 p.m. during the month of December for Holiday Nights.



Quilts blow in the breeze at the annual “Airing of the Quilts” quilt show at Edison and Ford Winter Estates.

Town & River Business Owners

It’s time to show off your business! We are creating a “Welcome Packet” for distribution to all T&R homeowners, plus new neighbors! Please contact Renee Notes at secy@townandriverfl.com to be included and for more information.

Scarecrows In The Park

Oct. 13 To 29

Movie character scarecrows will fill the Children’s Garden Oct. 13 to 29 bringing delight once again to children and adults from 2 to 80 years old!

The theme this year is a movie character – Marilyn Monroe with a billowing skirt; Dracula; a favorite Disney character; Space Age heroes?

Scarecrows in the Park is a free attraction at the Lakes Park Fall Festival and with your parking donations (\$3 per car, all day parking pass) helps to support enhancements and programming at Lakes Park, including but not limited to:

- the new Music Garden (Coming soon!)
- raised beds in the Community Garden (We donate more than a thousand pounds of food annually.)
- STEM programming for Lakes Park’s summer campers (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
- and so much more!

Come see the scarecrows and vote for your favorite in the People’s Choice competition.

Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation, 7330 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33908, (239) 533-7575, www.lakespark.org.



Photos from previous Scarecrows In The Park event

All are encouraged to attend our next Board meeting on October 12!

The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

**South Pointe South Clubhouse
9734 Foxglove Circle, Fort Myers.**

Check out our new website
www.townandriverfl.com.

From The Desk Of Sheriff Carmine Marceno

Concert Ticket Scams



The days of purchasing tickets at the box office and/or waiting for concert tickets to arrive in the mail are behind us ... replaced by digital versions of the once-paper tickets.

As is the case with many technological advances, digital concert tickets are easy to use, easy to transfer and never left home on the kitchen countertop.

Regrettably, this technology has opened the doors to frauds and scams and tens of thousands of entertainment fans have been victimized annually in the United States.

The days of criminals printing counterfeit tickets are a practice long gone. Scammers now work to perfect their digital graphic skills so as to make a ticket appear legitimate.

Unfortunately, the QR code that appears on the ticket cannot be tested or verified until the ticket holder reaches the event gate.

The Better Business Bureau reports in excess of 16,000 complaints involving ticket fraud, over the last two years, and have indicated that they believe that these statistics likely represent a "small fraction" of the actual number of fraudulent transactions.

Tickets for major artists are often sold out or in exceptionally high demand. Fans attempting to secure tickets for these events often become frustrated and desperate and make purchases from online sites that seemingly offer legitimate tickets.

Making matters worse, some of the fraudulent sites are made to appear to be reputable ticket outlets such as Stub Hub or Ticketmaster ... but are often overseas, counterfeit websites. Ensure that the URL is legitimate and avoid using peer-to-peer payment methods such as Zelle, Venmo or CashApp.

Sudoku Puzzle

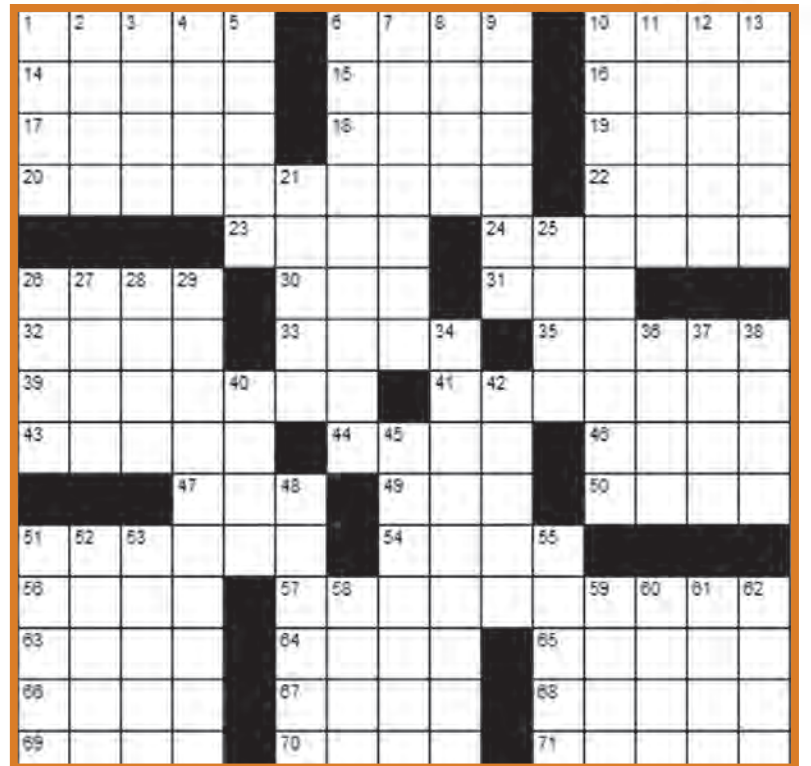
	6	5						
	8					3		6
3			4		6		7	
				3	4			
9		8						4
4	5			2	3	9		
						7	5	
		3	7	8				

Sudoku Puzzle Solution on page 6

It is recommended that ticket purchasers only do business with sellers belonging to the National Association of Ticket Brokers (NATB). These sellers can be found at natb.org or at verifiedticketsource.com.

If you are victimized by a fraudulent seller, please contact the Lee County Sheriff's Office, the Federal Trade Commission at ReportFraud.ftc.gov or by phone at (877) 382-4357 and report it to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at IC3.gov.

Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. Poker holdings
6. Detritus
10. Seating sections
14. Cut short
15. 2.53 centimeters
16. Type of sword
17. Embankment
18. Juicy fruit
19. Blood vessel
20. Whip
22. Makes a mistake
23. Violent disturbance
24. Wear away
26. Ballet attire
30. An uncle
31. Foot digit
32. Component of steel
33. Crowd
35. Foul moods
39. Way of thinking
41. Omnivorous nocturnal mammal
43. Artist's stand
44. Pierce
46. Decorative case
47. Caviar
49. American Dental Association
50. Blowgun missile
51. Lets up
54. Typewriter type
56. Soft drink
57. Well-worn
63. Hornswoggle
64. Long, long time
65. Gastric woe
66. Being
67. Gait faster than a walk
68. Hawaiian veranda
69. Asterisk
70. Consumes food
71. Not here

Down

1. 50 percent
2. Cain's brother
3. Exploded star
4. Remnant
5. Direct
6. Ambassadors
7. Not consumed
8. "Go away!"
9. Impending danger
10. Revered
11. Drama set to classical music
12. Strange
13. Perception
21. Feudal lord
25. Pear type
26. Fourth dimension
27. Murre
28. Units of 2,000 pounds
29. Funeral director
34. Slopes
36. Infinitesimal amount
37. See the sights
38. Agitated state
40. Blackthorn
42. Manila hemp
45. Plant's principal feeder
48. Property
51. Units of land
52. Encourage
53. Shad
55. No longer a child
58. Wife of Zeus
59. Dull
60. Skin disease
61. Backside
62. A Great Lake

Crossword Solution on page 7

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Catch The Action

October On The Water

By Capt. Bill Russell

October is a refreshing month around Southwest Florida. After a long hot summer, we will finally get relief with cooler days and a noticeable drop in humidity. This combination sets off good fishing opportunities as they are hungry, active, and on the move.

Fall is the time that schools of big redfish devour anything in their path across our inshore waters. Often there may be several hundred or more working across the shallows on an eating mission. If you're lucky enough to cross paths with a school, it's a memory not soon forgotten. Fishing for big bull reds will peak in October as they begin their migration offshore once the first real cold fronts of the season begin to drop down from the north. Exactly when that will be only time will tell, if the weather remains mild the big fish can entertain us throughout the entire month.

Snook, large and small are on the move as they transition from their summer homes around the gulf beaches and nearby areas and make their way closer to their winter haunts inshore. Snook of any size are a fun challenge. Live bait puts odds in your favor, but with cooling water and fishing becoming more active, artificial baits can be a good choice.

Good sea trout fishing is another benefit of cooler water. They are active and hungry, and at times feeding in schools under bait pods over the inshore grass flats. They may run in size from little guys to fish well over 20 inches. With a little effort, a fresh trout dinner is a good possibility.



Gag grouper, another fish on the move, make their way to shallower gulf waters and many move inshore. Catching gag grouper over a shallow water inshore wreck or reef is some of the most challenging fishing you will find. They hit like a freight train and run straight to the safety of the structure. Unlike offshore, where you fish them vertical or from straight above, inshore you are away from the structure and make a long cast. They have the advantage, you break off more big ones than you land, but it's exciting, and if you're lucky enough to get a big one into the boat, season is open.

Inshore mangrove snapper fishing was good all summer. Many will make their way offshore by month's end. Look for artificial reefs and ledges or hard bottom in depths from 20 to 50 feet to hold concentrations of fish. Snapper should be holding in and around the gulf passes, where days with slower tides often present the best opportunity. Live shrimp with light tackle is the best way to go, and if you are anchored, a chum block is a

great idea. Always have a heavier rig in the rod holder with a live flatlined bait. You never know when a big cobia, grouper, king mackerel, or some other species might come into play.

Last year was a good one for sheepsheads and we should begin to see them later in the month. As they move in, there could be some big ones mixed in with the snapper around nearshore reefs and along the beaches or structure around the coast islands. Sheepsheads will not eat any type of fish. Live or dead, shrimp is the go-to bait for most anglers. As the water continues to cool, sheepsheads numbers will increase.

Many different options are on the table with the change of season. You can either target specific species or just get in the mix of a feeding frenzy and see what's there. Often a host of different fish are ganged up on the same bait pod; it's common to catch a half dozen or more species from one area. Large schools of bait are moving down the coast all month; look for bait pods both inshore and off, watch for birds. And always be prepared for the unexpected.

October is one of the best months of the year to fish around Southwest Florida. There are plenty of days with great comfortable weather, hungry fish, plus the winter crowds have not yet returned. That makes for a great combination.

Stay up to date with fishing regulations by visiting www.myfwc.com. Also, upload the Fish Rules app on your phone. It has current regulations with pictures to help identify fish.

For charter information, please contact us at Gulf Coast Guide Service and "Catch the Action" with Capt. Bill Russell, call or text (239) 410-8576, website: www.fishpineisland.com, email: gcl2fish@live.com.

Capt. Bill Russell is a native and lifelong resident of Pine Island who has spent his entire life fishing the waters surrounding Pine Island and Southwest Florida. For the past 27 years Bill has been a professional fishing guide who takes pride in customizing each trip to ensure everyone on board has a great time and will return again. Come join us and "Catch the Action."



German American Social Club in Cape Coral

38th OKTOBERFEST 2023

Oct 20, 21, 22 & 27, 28, 29

Great food, German beer, live music, dancing and carnival for kids!

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Route 78 - 7 Miles West of US 41 - 239.283.1400

Festival Hours:
Fri 4pm-Midnight
Sat Noon-Midnight
Sun Noon-8pm

www.capecoraloktoberfest.com

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Montage Women's Club

The Montage Women's Club is a social and philanthropic club open to all women residing in Lee County. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at The Club at Pelican Preserve, 9802 Pelican Preserve Blvd., Fort Myers, 33913 (community entry off Treeline Avenue between Colonial Boulevard and Daniels Parkway).

Activities begin at 10:30 a.m. with a short social period, a business meeting at 11:15 a.m., followed by lunch at noon, and normally an informative speaker program, ending at 2 p.m. Within the organization are various interest groups for members' participation. Membership is open to both year-round and seasonal residents. We welcome you to visit Montage for lunch.

Our next meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 26, and our planned speaker will be Karen Gaston, director of business development, Wings of Shelter. Wings is a nonprofit organization with three safe homes here in Southwest Florida. Wings is a long-term residential human sex trafficking ministry safe home for minor-aged young female rescues, and they are licensed through the Florida State Foster Care Program and vetted through the FBI, Homeland Security, and Witness Protection Program. Gaston will share the reality of sex trafficking being right under our noses without us having knowledge of the dire situation.

Luncheon fee is \$28, and the planned regular menu will be creamy grits with grilled chicken, andouille, tomato with a spicy sauce, green onion, and asparagus and yummy bread pudding. The plant based/vegan entree option will be vegan grits with vegan sausage, beluga lentils, mushrooms, tomato with a spicy sauce, green onion, and asparagus and vegan bread pudding. Fresh rolls and butter are always served.

If you would like to attend a Montage meeting, need further information, or would like to make a reservation, please call Rita Artwohl at (239) 703-7787. Reservations cutoff to attend this meeting is 12 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19.

Word Scramble

Fruits

By Ellie Neal

Nabnaa	Yrsrbwtrare	Eychrr
Hceap	Iikw	Perga
Umpl	Gomna	Pilppeaen
Ryurebbel	Aper	Pleap

Word Scramble Solution on page 6

The Southwest Florida Symphony Invites Community Members To Join Its Support Crew

The Southwest Florida Symphony Society is excited to announce it has reimagined itself and rebranded as the Symphony Support Crew. Current and interested members are invited to a luncheon on Wednesday, Oct. 11 to celebrate the opening of the symphony's 63rd concert season. The event will begin at 11:45 a.m. at The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club at 4425 S. Landings Drive, Fort Myers. Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased at swflso.org/tickets.



Southwest Florida Symphony 2023 Chair Affair event at The Landings

The Support Crew is an auxiliary group that supports the Southwest Florida Symphony through volunteerism, fundraising and audience cultivation. The group is comprised of four teams focused on hospitality, scholarships and education, administration and fundraising. The Symphony Support Crew is open to the public, and community members are encouraged to join.

The Support Crew's first major fundraising campaign of the 2023/24 season, Key Signatures, kicked off in early August. Members can purchase a listing in the program book distributed at concerts, online and in the Support Crew's yearbook to raise much-needed funds for the symphony.

Several levels of support from \$50 to \$1,000 are available. The deadline to participate in Key Signatures was Sept. 15.

For more than 50 years, the Southwest Florida Symphony Support Crew, formerly Symphony Society, has existed as the symphony's all-volunteer auxiliary fundraising arm. Each year, volunteers put in nearly 20,000 hours and donate between \$20,000 and \$100,000 to the symphony. The Support Crew provides concert ambassadors, staff services at the symphony office and housing for musicians, as well as hosting a wide range of special fundraising projects with all

proceeds going directly to benefit the orchestra. Additionally, the group helps support the Southwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra and manages several music scholarship competitions for the benefit of young music students.

To learn more about the Southwest Florida Symphony Support Crew or apply to join, visit swflso.org/symphony-society/.

For more information about the Southwest Florida Symphony, upcoming season performances and subscription and ticketing information, visit swflso.org or call (239) 418-1500.

About Southwest Florida Symphony

The Southwest Florida Symphony made its debut as a community orchestra on April 15, 1961, playing in schools and community centers, with a roster of only 24 volunteer musicians. Today, the symphony boasts a roster of 70 world-class professional musicians and is Lee County's only fully professional orchestra and fourth oldest in the state. The Southwest Florida Symphony's 63rd year continues the orchestra's tradition of artistic excellence and innovation as Music Director Maestro Radu Paponiu leads another season of spectacular performances. Maestro Paponiu, the sixth music director in the organization's history, also serves as the associate conductor and youth orchestra director for the Naples Philharmonic in addition to guest-conducting with orchestras throughout the United States and Europe.

Charity Pros Announces from page 1

Ed and Kim Ryan, founders of Beach Talk Radio, assisted in raising more than \$300,000 for Fort Myers Beach. The pair collected donations and held fundraisers, using the funds collected to purchase supplies to donate to victims of *Ian*. They provided information to Fort Myers Beach residents and homeowners across the country throughout the hurricane's journey. Their radio show was an accurate resource and a voice for impacted Floridians before, during and after the hurricane.

Pastors Shawn and Mallie Critser of Beach Baptist Church were recognized for establishing their church as a central resource and a disaster recovery center for FEMA, then turning it into a long-term recovery resource center for the community. The church continues to provide groceries, supplies, bus passes, gift cards and more daily to those still in need as well as pastoral counseling and Sunday church service.

Doug Miller and Amy Eldridge, owners of FK Your Diet, have been named heroes for providing more than 500,000 meals and countless truckloads of supplies to those affected by *Ian*. Their restaurants continue never to turn away anyone needing a meal, whether they can pay or not. Originally founded to help foster kids and families, FK Your Diet continues to support local neighborhoods heavily impacted by the storm by delivering groceries and supplies every week.

"There are so many stories and unsung heroes out there. We will try to honor all we can at the concert event," said Charity

Pros' co-founder Brad Maloney. "An event like this takes an entire community coming together. Our goal is to make the public aware that *Hurricane Ian* relief efforts are ongoing, and this isn't over, so many folks still need help."

The honorees and their stories of activism will be highlighted during the All-Star Concert event at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7. The event will take place at Hammond Stadium, located at 14100 Six Mile Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers. Proceeds from the event will help support Music Alive SWFL, the Tabarrini Children's Outreach Foundation and the Charity Pros "Megan's Wish" program.

For tickets, sponsorships, and more information, visit www.TheCharityPros.org. Attendees are encouraged to wear yellow to show support for *Hurricane Ian* survivors and those who lost their lives.

About Charity Pros

Founded in 2019 by young entrepreneur Megan Maloney, the Charity Pros is a Fort Myers 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that advocates and supports children's programs focused on health, child protection, poverty, education and equality. In addition, the organization has established Megan's Wish, with a mission to grant wishes to children coping with traumatic circumstances, life-threatening medical conditions or those who have lost a parent or guardian. Charity Pros partners with community events and produces fundraisers including concerts, festivals and expos to support community causes. For more information, visit thecharitypros.org.

Town & River Cruise Club Membership Application

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

BOAT INFORMATION

Boat Name: _____

Boat Type and Size: _____

Boat example -- Name: Only in America
Boat Type and Size: Power 30', Beam 10' 6"

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues \$45 / household

Initiation Fee \$50 / household
(included burgee and name tags)

New Members Prorated Dues
Joining between

April 1 to September 30	\$45
October to December 31	\$30
January 1 to March 30	\$20

Send Application, Dues and Initiation Fee to: Cecilia Bourdon
1026 Clarendon Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919

Make checks payable to: Cecilia Bourdon



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Town & River Civic Association Inc.		
Profit And Loss		
August 2023		
	Aug 23	Jan-Aug 23
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Income		
Income - Mandatory	0.00	10,680.00
Income - Voluntary	0.00	22,320.00
Total Income	0.00	33,000.00
Estoppel Preparation Income	0.00	3,750.00
Interest Income	9.75	76.38
Misc. Income	0.00	8.16
Total Income	9.75	36,834.54
Expense		
Accounting Fees	965.00	3,280.00
Bank Fees	35.00	280.00
Corp Insurance	526.40	3,878.08
Email Service	252.75	738.75
General Repairs & Maintenance		
Canal Dredging	0.00	15,000.00
Total General Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	15,000.00
Legal Expense	0.00	488.00
Mailing	0.00	749.23
Meeting Rooms	0.00	275.00
Newspaper Postage	157.92	1,249.09
Office Expense	0.00	17.94
PayPal Fees	4.68	287.28
Postage & Delivery	210.00	541.20
Printing & Reproduction	0.00	841.07
Secretary Expense	290.00	1,322.50
Storage Expense	119.79	958.32
Website Maintenance	50.00	400.00
Total Expense	2,611.54	30,306.46
Net Ordinary Income	-2,601.79	6,528.08
Net Income	-2,601.79	6,528.08

Town & River Civic Association Inc.		
Balance Sheet		
As of August 31, 2023		
		Aug 31, 23
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
First Citizens Bank 2580		14,739.90
First Citizens Bank - MMS		76,517.89
PayPal Account		2,900.21
Total Checking/Savings		94,158.00
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Receivable		840.00
Total Accounts Receivable		840.00
Other Current Assets		
Prepaid, Lake Expense		5,023.47
Prepaid Insurance		3,684.60
Prepaid, Other Expense		400.00
Total Other Current Assets		9,108.07
Total Current Assets		104,106.07
TOTAL ASSETS		104,106.07
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Annual Dues, Advanced		240.00
Total Other Current Liabilities		240.00
Total Current Liabilities		240.00
Total Liabilities		240.00
Equity		
Prior Year Fund Balance		97,337.99
Net Income		6,528.08
Total Equity		103,866.07
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		104,106.07

TOWN & RIVER CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS – as of May 8, 2023
 www.townandriverfl.com

President	Capt. Craig O'Donnell	239-872-3313	pres@townandriverfl.com
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Secretary	Renee Notes	239-209-2072	secy@townandriverfl.com
Treasurer	Ann Marie Aeschliman	239-270-0000	treas@townandriverfl.com

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Bal Isle Dr E Town & River Rd	Tom Aeschliman	dir1@townandriverfl.com 239-822-3275
Brevity Ln N Waterway Dr	Marge Byrne	dir3@townandriverfl.com 239-482-8923
Cal Cove Dr Cape View Dr Hatchee Vista Ln Jennifer Ln	Gary Hudson	dir2@townandriverfl.com 239-671-9961
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Lake Committee	Renee Notes	secy@townandriverfl.com 239-209-2072
Deeds of Restriction Committee	John Kristobak	archreview@townandriverfl.com 724-272-6818
Architectural Review Committee	John Kristobak	archreview@townandriverfl.com 724-272-6818

Please contact the Director responsible for your street regarding any issues related to Town & River.

NEW OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION REQUEST

Town & River Civic Association Inc.
 P.O. Box 07073
 Fort Myers, FL 33919

For improved communications,

Please update your contact information and go on-line to add to T&R Directory

Name(s): _____

Town & River Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing or other address, including zip: _____

Attention members in good standing, who have submitted their contact information, and have agreed to have their contact information published in the online directory, please go to our Town & River website @ www.townandriverfl.com and "sign up for members only directory".

Otherwise, the information submitted is for board use only.

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Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center

Art Exhibition

Each month SBDAC features new art exhibitions from local to world-renowned artists.

Exhibits open 6 to 10 p.m. during Art Walk, the first Friday of every month. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call ahead for gallery hours. There is a \$1 donation entry fee.

Dark Art

Opens: Oct. 6, 6 p.m. Closes: Oct. 25, 10 p.m. – Grand Atrium, donations encouraged.



Dark art, contrary to popular belief, is not simply about showcasing macabre and gruesome imagery just for shock value or to appease a gothic aesthetic. Rather, it is a complex art form that delves into the darker aspects of human nature, exploring themes such as death, decay, horror, and the unknown. It calls on the artist to confront their deepest fears and translate them into visual masterpieces that challenge societal norms and expose uncomfortable truths. Dark artists aim to ignite a sense of discomfort in their viewers, causing them to question their own mortality and the fragility of life itself, like in the artworks of Goya, Bacon, Bourgeois, Hirst, and countless others producing work that would not look out of place in an exhibition like this. While often misunderstood as being nihilistic or even evil, dark art serves an important purpose by allowing us to embrace our deepest fears and come face-to-face with the darkness that dwells within. In essence, it is a rebellion against conformity and a celebration of individuality through creative expression.

This October join us for the infamous Dark Art exhibition, a juried selection of the raw, visceral, beautifully dark works created by artists from Southwest Florida and

beyond. This exhibition will feature painting, sculpture, photography, and mixed-media projects all dedicated to the celebration of darker themes in art. This array of the ghoulish and macabre will be on display in the Grand Atrium gallery during the month of October. The opening reception will take place on the first Friday of the month during Art Walk and will feature local live entertainment (costumes are highly encouraged). Join us for Dark Art, and see what sights we have to show you.

Oddities Arising

Artist: Phoenix Sol

Opens: Oct. 6, 6 p.m. Closes: Oct. 17, 5 p.m. – Capital Gallery, donations encouraged.

First and foremost, I need you to know that all specimens shared here tonight were collected from nature or the roadside. I, in no way, condone the killing of living creatures for art of any kind!

The exhibition that you will experience here tonight has many facets. The items used for each piece were taken from my collection of whatnots, some dating back 10 years.

I allow the creation to flow naturally in an organic way. I truly like using leverage in my art, then using a binder to hold it permanently in place. I do not like to force processes. If it looks as if it is floating, then that is where the natural order of things fell together.

It is my first solo show of artistic creations that I, in the past, have only made as a passionate hobby.

I create from a love of resurrecting the body after life has ended. What I have found through this type of work is death positivity. It is a highly taboo topic.

This is an ending that we all have in common, no matter the life we have lived, the blessings or sins we have bestowed onto others.

We will all exit stage left through dying a death of our flesh sacks.

What I wish for you, is to come through open-mindedness and challenge your boundaries; to leave phased, with a perspective understanding of the beauty in death.

I welcome you to view my heart and soul laid before you, in a labyrinth of collection. I intend this to be my only public showing of my works, as I am a private artist, who is considering commissions in the future.

I would also like to share that my daughter, Kitty Kat, has created available pieces. She is self-inspired from concept to creation.

I thank you and appreciate your time ... as you



hopefully will have learned through this exhibit. Those who've died today, had plans for tomorrow.

I have included a guest book in this space, in hopes that you would take a moment, if drawn to do so, to share with me, as I have shared with you tonight.

About The Artist: Phoenix Sol (Roadside Salvage Artist)

Phoenix is a born and raised Lee County native of 44 years. She resides in a lush country setting in North Fort Myers, where she raises her two children, both are artists of their own accord: an adult son and younger daughter, Kitty Kat.

Phoenix has been very artistic most of her life. She recalls art class as her favorite subject all through school.

Having a passion for the unknown and beyond, she quickly by the age of 10, became fascinated with the death and decomposition of organic matter. She was even thinking about working in the death industry when she would grow up. Phoenix's peculiar interest in all things, oddity was glittered as she grew, due to her parents' love for nature themselves. Her father, a land surveyor, would stumble upon remnants of God's creatures while at work and bring them home, where the various remains would be cleaned and preserved for ornamentation around their home.

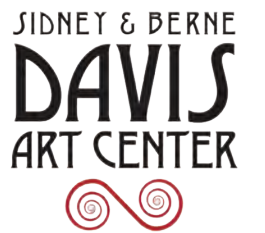
Fast forward to 2017 where she began the resourceful gathering of creatures who had an untimely death along the roads. She finds this particular medium most astonishing because she is able to take a moment to bless the life lost and to be able to remove them from the lanes of traffic. As she breathes a life repurposed into the remains, she has a strict moral compass to never engage in the harm of living things for her art, a self-proclaimed eclectic artist and eccentric witch who experiments with all sorts of techniques using nature and natural materials.

Lastly, Phoenix strives to understand death in its totality which most importantly includes the transcendence of our soul energy after death engulfs our human body. She feels honored to have been present for this delicate moment, with her paternal grandmother in 1998 and her father in 2008. Each of these deaths is ingrained in the fabric of the artist she has become. She felt a wholeness, a warmth to the moment when she believes their souls left their bodies, leaving behind an empty earthbound vessel. This would catapult her into unequivocal acceptance of life after death and would become forever altered.

She is an advocate of green burial spaces and is interested in establishing a dedicated area here in Lee County.

Please visit our website www.sbdac.com for more information.

Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC), 2301 First St., Fort Myers, FL 33901, (239) 333-1933, www.sbdac.com.



Word Scramble Solution from page 3

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| Banana | Mango |
| Peach | Pear |
| Plum | Cherry |
| Blueberry | Grape |
| Strawberry | Pineapple |
| Kiwi | Apple |

Sudoku Puzzle Solution from page 2

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

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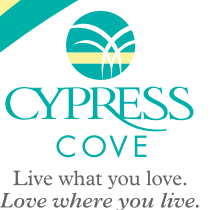
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Becoming Cosmopolitan: Gone Country

Come Howl At The Neon Moon Y'all
Thursday, Oct. 12, 6 p.m.
The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon In Fort Myers, 2158 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers

This marks the 17th year of our highly anticipated fundraising event, Becoming Cosmopolitan: Gone Country. Guests will put on their boots and mosey on over to The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon for an evening featuring cowboy cuisine, country cocktails at the watering hole, line dancing, boutique shopping, an incredible silent auction, and a darn tootin' good time – all while raising money to support our mission of ending hunger and homelessness in Southwest Florida. With the rising costs of food and rent, in addition to the financial hardships caused by Hurricane Ian,



our community is relying on us now more than ever. The giant cocktail party will include lots of food, a silent auction, photo booth opportunities, a deejay and dance floor. The event will also feature a Key to the Vault, and a giant raffle with fun prizes and gift certificates.

General admission tickets are \$150 per person; \$250 per person for VIP tickets, which includes exclusive access to the VIP Rancher Lounge; and \$500 for the Girlfriends Package, which includes four general admission tickets. Tickets can be purchased at www.communitycooperative.com.

Sponsorships as well as donations for silent and live auctions are needed. Contact Janelle@CommunityCooperative.com or call (239) 332-7687, Ext. 112 for more information.

About Community Cooperative

Since 1984, Community Cooperative has worked to effectively eliminate hunger and homelessness in Southwest Florida while simultaneously inspiring and supporting sustained positive change in its clients by delivering innovative

food, education, and social service programs. With a dedicated team of volunteers, board of directors and staff, Community Cooperative stays committed to its core responsibility to collect and distribute resources through a strong and viable network of community partners. Community Cooperative is an exemplary steward of the resources entrusted to it and serves clients with compassion and integrity. Through collaboration and ongoing education, Community Cooperative supports and strengthens those whose lives have been affected by hunger and homelessness, ensuring that they have access to the resources necessary to transform their lives with dignity. For more information, visit CommunityCooperative.com.

Alliance For The Arts

Radio Golf By August Wilson
Directed By Sonya McCarter
Oct. 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 29, 2 p.m.

Set in Pittsburgh in the late 1990s, *Radio Golf* is the story of a successful entrepreneur who aspires to become the city's first Black mayor. But when the past begins to catch up with him, secrets get revealed that could be his undoing.

This is the struggle between history and progress. Real estate developer and entrepreneur Harmond Wilks is determined to become the first Black mayor of Pittsburgh and is on a mission to revive his blighted childhood neighborhood. As Wilks confronts the past, he is forced to question how pursuing change could put his neighborhood's history at risk. Both moving and funny, *Radio Golf* is the culmination of August Wilson's 10-play American Century Cycle chronicling each decade of African American life in the 20th century.

Clown Bar By Adam Szymkowitz
Directed By Bill Taylor
Nov. 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 24, 25, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 19 and 26, 2 p.m.

Join us for this immersive experience as we transform the Alliance theatre into the Clown Bar (an actual functioning bar!), plunging you into the dark and secret world of these hilarious, yet frightening, gangster clowns.

Happy's brother Timmy is found dead. Now Happy must return to his former life as a clown to ask a few questions. But will Happy be able to go home again without getting sucked into the seedy clown underbelly of vice and violence?

Alliance For The Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33919, (239) 939-2787, artinlee.org.



Giving Back Collection



Our Giving Back Collection is designed with a unique need or organization in mind. A percentage of the proceeds to benefit a special Charitable Foundation.

Strong Pendants: FISH of San Cap & Sanibel-Captiva Recovery Fund, Initiated by Charitable Foundation of the Islands (CFI).

Fort Myers Beach Pendants: FMBStrong.org, 501-C3. 501-C3.

Mangrove pendant: SCCF for the Mangrove initiative.

Spoonbill Pendant: J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

In addition to the organizations mentioned above Congress Jewelers is working on a specially designed pendant to benefit the **Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum**.

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Crossword Solution from page 2

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



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