

Town & River Cruise Club

Christmas Dinner

By Deb Haptonstall, Commodore

The Town & River Cruise Club had the Christmas Dinner at the Deep Lagoon Restaurant on Dec. 9, Saturday. Everyone had a chance to visit, have a great meal and win some prizes. The 50/50 drawing was won by Mike DeBenedetto. There were other prizes given out. The people that won were Cheryl Showalter, Barbara Reynolds and Honorata Shue. After the party everyone got ready for the boat parade.

The next luncheon will be at Vice Commodore Donna Ray and Kenny's house. This will be a New Years Eve Party, Dec. 31 at 3:30 p.m.

Annual Holiday Boat Parade

By Ken and Adrienne Beebe

On Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023, 20 boats traversed the waters of the Town & River canals in the annual Cruise Club holiday boat parade. This is the largest turnout for the event we have ever seen! Weather conditions were nearly ideal for the parade.

It was a comfortably warm evening with only a very light breeze which made it relatively easy to navigate through the tight turns at the ends of canals and the narrow spaces in some canals where boats squeezed past one another.

Town & River Cruise Club on page 4



Bonnie Lilly celebrates winning the 50/50 raffle.



Tom Lilly and Mike Marra wait to hear the raffle results.



Rick and Pam Simon enjoyed seeing friends.



Lyn Morningstar and Barbara Reynolds caught up on some news.



Fred Ford-Smith and Kenny Ray transact a little business.



Sue and Don Sena pose in the "big chair" at Parrot Key Caribbean Grill.



Honorata Shue and Bonnie Lilly wait for their meals.



Chuck and Paula Williamsen enjoy their lunch.



Marge and Tom Byrne hosted the luncheon at Parrot Key.



Commodore Deb Haptonstall and Host Marge Byrne sold tickets for the 50/50 raffle.



Doug and MaryBeth Plank enjoyed the ride.



Tim and Lyn Mutchler celebrated Lyn's birthday on parade day.



Cheryl Showalter and Bill Haptonstall prepare to launch.



Bill Habershaw and his guests were decked out in their holiday costumes.



Deb Haptonstall and Ellen Marra pose for a photo.



Ken Beebe, Fred Shue, and Bill Haptonstall enjoy "guy talk."

Town & River Bridge Group

The Town & River Bridge group plays at members' houses during the season – October through April from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are always looking for new members or substitutes particularly in our neighborhood. If you enjoy playing bridge, we

would like to have you join our group. We play the second and fourth Monday of the seasonal months. Come and join us, make new friends, have some good laughs and bridge challenges!

Contact Pamela Simon at pamclaraug@aol.com.



Town & River Lake Report

Inspection Date: Jan. 19

Inspected For

Algae	OK
Aquatic Weeds	OK
Undesirable Shoreline Vegetation	OK
Water Quality	OK

Technician's Comments

Cabinet cleaned. Filters changed. Air stations display properly.



All are encouraged to attend our next Board meeting on March 7!

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.

Crossword Puzzle

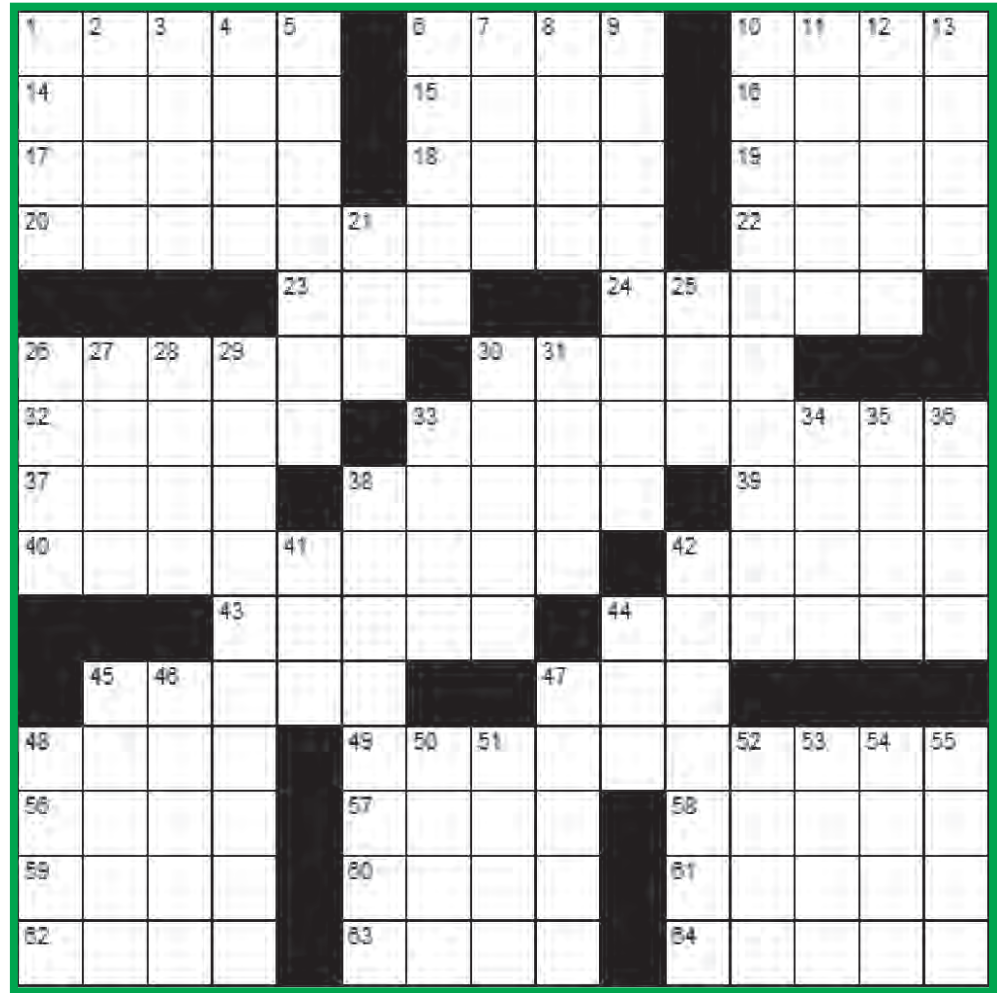
Across

- 1. Anagram of "clasp"
- 6. At the peak of
- 10. Head of hair
- 14. Seaweed
- 15. Baby's first word
- 16. Cain's brother
- 17. A Finnish steam bath
- 18. Ukeleles
- 19. Exploded star
- 20. Too shocked for words
- 22. Gulf port
- 23. Type of cereal grass
- 24. Cell alternative
- 26. Brook
- 30. Rock
- 32. Delicacy
- 33. Place to live
- 37. Assists
- 38. Refine
- 39. Decorative case
- 40. Rhizome
- 42. Serpent
- 43. Periods of seven days
- 44. Decayed

- 45. A type of writing tablet
- 47. Blip
- 48. Norse god
- 49. Multiplicative inverse
- 56. Dispatch
- 57. False god
- 58. Love intensely
- 59. Longitudinal ship beam
- 60. Captain of the *Nautilus*
- 61. Scandinavian
- 62. Agile
- 63. Pesky insect
- 64. Command

Down

- 1. Back talk
- 2. Applaud
- 3. Chills and fever
- 4. Alley
- 5. Navy jacket
- 6. No longer a child
- 7. Plunder
- 8. Lyric poems
- 9. Travel document
- 10. Administration
- 11. House
- 12. Not at any time
- 13. Distinctive flair
- 21. Hog meat
- 25. Picnic insect
- 26. Asterisk
- 27. Threesome
- 28. Overhaul
- 29. Eastbound
- 30. Spectacles
- 31. Speak
- 33. Crazy
- 34. French for "state"
- 35. Microwave (slang)
- 36. Bound
- 38. Special wheel in a car
- 41. Band performance



- 42. Female singing range
- 44. Tear
- 45. Rams and ewes
- 46. Hermit
- 47. Plane driver
- 48. Sounds of disapproval
- 50. Biblical garden
- 51. Deep sleep
- 52. Scent
- 53. 128 cubic feet
- 54. Rear end
- 55. Lascivious look

Crossword Solution on page 7

Word Scramble

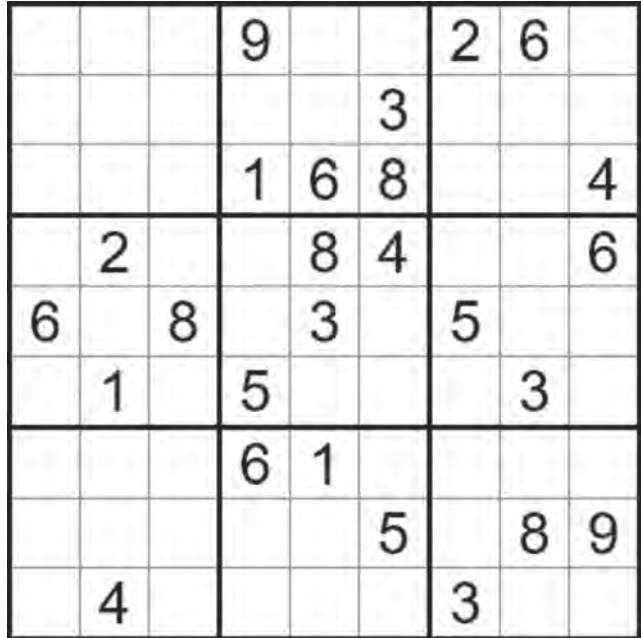
Countries

By *Ellie Neal*

Aekny	Negaymr	
Lihec	Aniid	Ltyai
Mbacloio	Npaaj	Asinp
Zrbliia	Tuailarsa	Raeok
Nhaci		

Word Scramble Solution on page 6

Sudoku Puzzle



Sudoku Puzzle Solution on page 6

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You're Invited

Join Us in a Discussion of Florida Residency, Is it Time?

Caleb A. Lowman, CFP®
Managing Director

Cordially invites you to

Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant

13671 Olympic Ct., Fort Myers, FL 33912

for a discussion of Florida Residency Basics that new residents should know and understand.

Wednesday, March 27th, 2024

12:00 p.m., Noon

If you would like to attend,
Call (239) 344-7575 or email Marketing Coordinator, Tara Lowman at tara.lowman@lwm-llc.com and we will reserve your spot.
Seating is limited.

This event is educational in nature, no specific products will be discussed.
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“I Just Don’t Believe That...”

Dear friend,

When I meet people in town, they usually say, “Oh, yeah, I know you, you’re that doctor with the beard on TV.” Well, perhaps I should tell you a little more about myself, the picture from television and why I use it in my ads.

Let’s start with me, the guy with the beard. Ten years ago I was living here in Florida. At that time my mother was down visiting from New Jersey for the season when she showed up in my clinic with a **frozen shoulder**. She was desperate and in pain having lost practically all use of her dominant arm. She could hardly fix her hair, reach for a coffee cup or even fasten her brassiere. Basic hygiene had become extremely difficult for her. She was afraid, because the two orthopedic surgeons that she had consulted told her, “Your only option is to have your shoulder replaced.” I remember saying to my mother, **“I just don’t believe that.”**

Now at that time I was a chiropractor who worked primarily on the spine. Frankly... I didn’t know how I was going to help her. I just knew there was a non-surgical solution out there and I was going to find it.

And boy did I find it! I found the answer to my mother’s shoulder problem and much, much more. And where did I find it? Of all places, I found it at the birthplace of Elvis Presley, Tupelo, Mississippi. Immediately I hopped on a plane and flew into Memphis, rented a car and drove out to a chiropractic neurologist who was willing to teach me how to fix my mother’s frozen shoulder. I spent three days in his clinic shadowing him, learning a new technique I had never even heard about before. Eager to help my mother, I developed this new skill set quickly. When I returned to Florida I wanted to be able to immediately fix my mother’s shoulder.

And that’s exactly what happened. After I performed the first Non-Surgical Operation on her shoulder, her pain went away significantly and she recovered to nearly full range of motion. She was so happy that she avoided surgery and got her life back.

It’s strange how life is, because that same doctor who showed me how to fix my mother’s shoulder opened up his treasure chest of knowledge and showed me how to help people with **chronic knee, neck, low back pain and those suffering with neuropathy** in their hands and feet, **all without the use of Drugs, Surgery or Injections.**

I spent the next several months flying back and forth to Mississippi learning all that I could.

Many years later we now have over one thousand successful patient testimonials. Many of them were told by their doctors that their only option was to have their knee or shoulder replaced or to take toxic drugs for the rest of their lives to mask their neuropathy symptoms.

Al was one of those patients who was told he had **‘bone on bone’** degeneration. His knee stopped unlocking properly, similar to what I’m describing in the photo, and he was facing knee replacement surgery. He was suffering from **chronic degenerative knee pain**, couldn’t walk properly and was easily holding onto 60 pounds of excess body weight. His doctors would have eagerly scheduled him for a knee replacement surgery had he decided to go in that direction.

Immediately after the Non-Surgical Operation I performed on Al’s knee, he was squatting and walking up and down the stairs normally without pain.

Al is now in his early 70s touring Alaska in his RV. He has dropped over 60 pounds and is biking 15 - 20 miles per day and loving life. He regularly sends me great pictures from his adventures.

Joyce was told by her oncologist, “There’s nothing that can be done.” She would have to live with the chemo-induced **neuropathy in her hands and feet**. Hot and cold were indistinguishable and the numbness and tingling made it impossible for her to walk any distance.

Joyce was a cancer survivor only to have come out on the other side with another debilitating condition. She and her husband showed up in my clinic and told me what their medical doctor had said. I told her the same thing I told my mother, **“I just don’t believe that.”**

After a thorough neurological examination and report of findings she trusted me enough to follow my protocols. Within two weeks her numbness and tingling in her feet subsided and the feeling was coming back.. After 12 weeks she was feeling the sand between her toes as she walked along the beach again. At her one year checkup Joyce’s sensory loss had improved over 80% overall to within the normal range... She is all smiles these days!



You should know that ***I don’t heal anyone of anything.*** What I do is perform a specific non-surgical operation that resets the communication between the brain and knee or shoulder, instantly decreasing pain and inflammation, increasing strength and flexibility and **helping with tissue healing.** For our neuropathy patients we have a 4 step, proven approach that heals your nerves and reverses your symptoms. We get tremendous results. It’s as simple as that! We get tremendous results. It’s as simple as that!

Today in the United States medical doctors are prescribing more drugs than ever before. These drugs are designed to cover up symptoms as your condition gets worse underneath the surface. The toxicity from the daily use of these chemicals ultimately leads to nasty side-effects and more drugs to treat the new symptoms. The current “healthcare” system was built to maintain your condition, not fix it. It’s a brilliant business model for the pharmaceutical industry and the hospitals, but a horrible strategy to follow if one is looking to age gracefully.

That’s where my practice comes in. I have found a **way** so that more people are able to afford the treatment they need, even those on a fixed income with or without health insurance coverage. One Non-Surgical Operation in my clinic could cost what you’d pay for just the deductible of a joint replacement surgery.

You Benefit from a Unique Offer...When you bring in this article, you will receive a **FREE CONSULTATION with me to determine whether you are a good candidate for our Non-Surgical Knee or Shoulder Operation. If you’re being seen for Neuropathy we will take a thermal image of your feet **at no charge to you.** This will give me enough information to know whether I can help you. Once we determine you’re a good candidate and you feel comfortable in my clinic **the complete examination is only \$197.** That’s it, for the entire neurological examination & report of findings. This examination & report could cost you over \$500 elsewhere. But, please**

call **right away** because this offer expires on March 31, 2024, and I don’t want you to miss out. By the way, further care is very affordable and you’ll be happy to know that the non-surgical, drug free therapies and procedures performed in my clinic **can cost as little as \$300 per month.** You see, I’m not trying to seduce you to come see me with this low start up fee, then to only make it up with high fees after that. Further care is very important to consider when making your choice of doctor because **higher costs can add up very quickly.**

“You shouldn’t be forced to choose drugs and surgery just because that’s the only treatment Medicare and your insurance company will cover.”

You should know a little about my qualifications. That’s important so that there’s no misunderstanding about the quality of care. I’m the best-selling author of **Breaking The Cycle** - how to take control of your life when traditional medicine has failed. **An amazon #1 new release in three categories.** I’m a graduate of Life University School of Chiropractic practicing since 1998. I am a licensed chiropractic physician certified in functional neurology. I’ve been entrusted to take care of avid morning walkers, pro-athletes and business tycoons you may have heard of.



My office is called **Active Health Brain & Body** and it is located at 6710 Winkler Road, Suite #1. It’s the gray Key West-style building at the corner of Cypress Lake Drive and Winkler Road behind the Bank of America. The phone number is **239-482-8686.** Please call my wonderful assistants Megan or Silvia today to make an appointment.

I wish you the Very Best in Health and Life!

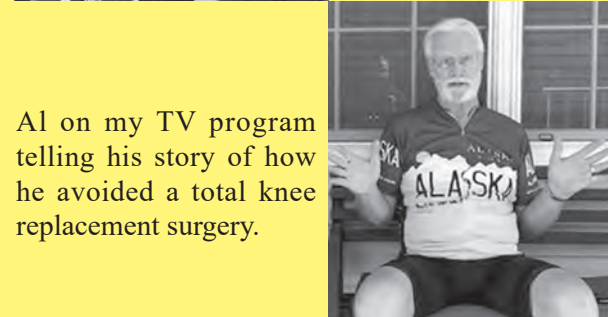
Dr. Rob Davis, DC

P.S. When accompanied by the first, I am also offering the second family member this same examination for only **\$97.**

P.P.S. Your time is as valuable to you as mine is to me. That’s why I have a “no wait” policy. It is highly unusual to wait more than a few minutes in my office.



My mother and I featured in a local publication for non-surgical shoulder solutions.



Al on my TV program telling his story of how he avoided a total knee replacement surgery.



Joyce is all smiles at her one year checkup. No more neuropathy!

Call Today 239-482-8686

Sponsored Content

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Exp. 3.31.24. The patient and any other person responsible for payment has a right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination, or treatment that is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free, discounted fee, or reduced fee service, examination or treatment. The specialty recognition identified herein has been received from a private organization not affiliated with or recognized by the Florida Board of Chiropractic Medicine.

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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.

Town & River Civic Association Inc. Balance Sheet As of January 31, 2024

	<u>Jan. 31, 24</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
First Citizens Bank 2580	9,036.14
First Citizens Bank - MMS	76,565.99
PayPal Account	3,109.82
Total Checking/Savings	<u>88,711.95</u>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	16,968.42
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>16,968.42</u>
Other Current Assets	
Prepaid, Lake Expense	1,128.77
Prepaid Insurance	1,052.60
Prepaid, Other Expense	50.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>2,231.37</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>107,911.74</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>107,911.74</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Annual Dues, Advanced	488.16
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>488.16</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>488.16</u>
Equity	
Prior Year Fund Balance	97,337.99
Retained Earnings	1,616.75
Net Income	8,468.84
Total Equity	<u>107,423.58</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>107,911.74</u>

Town & River Cruise Club from page 1

The only thing missing was moonlight due to cloud cover. This year club members and their guests met for lunch at Deep Lagoon Seafood and Oyster House prior to the parade and a good time was had by all who participated. Many came by boat to enjoy a beautiful afternoon on the water as well as some delicious food and the company of good friends. We were unable to host the traditional post parade party this year because the condominium clubhouse remains under repair from damage caused by Hurricane Ian.

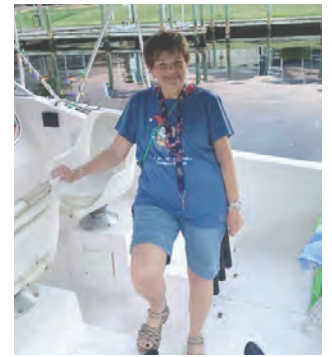
The Cruise Club was well represented by several members with brightly decorated boats in the parade, but the real surprise was the large number of boats piloted by community residents who are not club members. Some of these were spectacular with their decorations which were enjoyed by all of us in the parade plus many residents of Town & River who came out to their docks to cheer us on.

On behalf of the Town & River Cruise Club, we would like to thank all the boaters who participated and all the

residents who helped to make the season bright with wonderful home decorating and lighting displays plus friendly greetings all along the canals and docks. We would also like to suggest to all who enjoyed the parade and are not in the club that you become new members and join us for the fun outings we have throughout our season which lasts from October through April.



Don and Sue Sena prepare to push off.



Gayle Sawyer enjoyed the lights on Senas' boat.



Mike and Liz DiBenedetto posed before the start of the parade.



Becky and Scott Gilbertson viewed the parade from Senas' boat.



Honorata and Fred Shue rode in the lead boat.



Cecilia and Ed Bourdon relax before the start of the parade.



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 Clarellen Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919

Make checks payable to: Cecilia Bourdon

Town & River Civic Association Inc. Profit And Loss January 2024

	<u>Jan 24</u>	<u>Jan 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Income - Mandatory	10,680.00	10,680.00
Income - Voluntary	120.00	120.00
Total Income	<u>10,800.00</u>	<u>10,800.00</u>
Interest Income	9.73	9.73
Total Income	<u>10,809.73</u>	<u>10,809.73</u>
Expense		
Accounting Fees	315.00	315.00
Bank Fees	35.00	35.00
Corp Insurance	526.40	526.40
Legal Expense	703.50	703.50
Meeting Rooms	425.00	425.00
Newspaper Postage	157.92	157.92
PayPal Fees	9.28	9.28
Storage Expense	119.79	119.79
Website Maintenance	49.00	49.00
Total Expense	<u>2,340.89</u>	<u>2,340.89</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>8,468.84</u>	<u>8,468.84</u>
Net Income	<u>8,468.84</u>	<u>8,468.84</u>

Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes [Unapproved]

Faith United Methodist Church January 11, 2024

Call To Order – President Craig O'Donnell
Officers, Directors, & Residents Present



A quorum was established.
Present: President Captain Craig O'Donnell, Treasurer Ann Marie Aeschliman, Secretary Renee Notes Directors Tom Aeschliman, George Winn, Gary Hudson, Martha Smith, Marge Byrne, Mark Generales Residents: Jennifer Deates, Jeremy Deates, Robert Van Olst Absent: John Kristobak, VP

Approval Of Minutes – December 14, 2023 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Financials were emailed to the Board.
• Outstanding Mandatory Dues unpaid for 2023 will be turned over to the attorney for collection
○ Repeated attempts over the past year by in-person, registered mail, regular mail, leaving notice on the doors of the residents that have not paid mandatory dues has not remedied the non-payment.

• Motion to approve financials-all in favor
Deeds Of Restriction/Architectural Review Committee
• Violation Spreadsheet is a running spreadsheet of DOR violations and respective dates of contact with owners.

• After three notices of DOR Violation, if violation or the owner does not respond, the board will elect to either contact Lee County Code Enforcement, or engage legal assistance.

• Lee County Code Enforcement will correct the violation at the owner's expense and a lien will be levied on the property until owner's reimburses code violation expenses to Lee County.

Old Business

• 9830 Cypress Lake Dr-Lee County was called to investigate the building for safety and security of the structure.

○ New contractors have been working on the premises since last week

○ President to talk with on-site contractors to establish completion and compliance with DORs

• Construction equipment such as Port-a-potties, dumpsters and PODs not removed after contractor completed work, and still on-premise for a duration of time will be issued DOR violation or in the case of a Lee County Code Violation; they will be notified

New Business

• Election of Officers to the Board-

○ Current Board and Directors will remain the same.

○ Open Director Positions available for Dir 5 (Cypress Lake Cr/Joanna Cr/Sand Spur) and Dir 9 for (N. Town & River)

○ Residents interested in serving the community in the Director's Positions, please inquire at execsec@townandriverfl.com or call any officers of the Board.

▪ The position does not meet in the summer months of June/July/August

• The On-Line Dues Payment system has been restored as of Jan 11, 2024 and is now available to pay dues.

• Century Link - there have been a number of residents in need of contacting the company and the Board now has a point of contact for the company. Please email execsec@townandriverfl.com for CenturyLink contact information.

ADJOURN

Respectfully,
Donna McClung/on behalf of Marge Byrne

Do The Right Thing

Do you know a child who deserves to be honored as an outstanding citizen or student for his or her exemplary behavior, good citizenship, positive attitude or willingness to help others?

If so, the Lee County Sheriff's Office encourages you to nominate a child for recognition in our monthly Do the Right Thing program.

Nomination forms are available online at www.sheriffleefl.org. For more information, call Program Director Tony Schall at (239) 258-3215 or email aschall@sheriffleefl.org.



TOWN & RIVER CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS – as of February 16, 2024
 www.townandriverfl.com

President	Capt. Craig O'Donnell	239-872-3313	pres@townandriverfl.com
Vice President	John Kristobak	724-272-6818	vp@townandriverfl.com
Secretary	Renee Notes	239-209-2072	secy@townandriverfl.com
Treasurer	Ann Marie Aeschliman	239-270-0000	treas@townandriverfl.com

STREET ASSIGNMENTS	DIRECTOR	EMAIL PHONE NUMBER
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
Clarellen Dr Cypress Lake Dr	Marge Byrne	dir4@townandriverfl.com 239-482-8923
Cypress Lake Cr Joanna Cr Sand Spur Ln	vacant	dir5@townandriverfl.com
Deep Lagoon Ln Julie Ann Ct	Mark Generales	dir6@townandriverfl.com 239-398-5332
Erin Marie Ct S. Town & River Dr	Martha Smith	dir7@townandriverfl.com 239-671-6347
McGregor Blvd Wittman Dr	George Winn	dir8@townandriverfl.com 239-707-8257
N. Town & River Dr	vacant	dir9@townandriverfl.com
Lake Committee	Renee Notes	secy@townandriverfl.com 239-209-2072
Deeds of Restriction Committee	Marge Byrne	archreview@townandriverfl.com 239-482-8923
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.

GULF HARBOUR YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB



Where Playing In Paradise Is A Lifestyle

GOLF EQUITY MEMBERSHIP

- Unlimited Golf
- Reciprocal With 20 + Area Clubs
- Year-Round Practice Range
- Active Tennis Program
- Wellness Center & Day Spa
- 30 + Complimentary Classes Weekly
- Pool & Hot Tub
- Waterfront Dining
- Social Activities & Events

Membership contribution \$100,000
 Pricing subject to current conditions

**CALL FOR A
PRIVATE TOUR
239-444-3631**

SPORTS EQUITY MEMBERSHIP

- Active Tennis Program
- Golf Two Times a Month in Season
- Unlimited Off-Season Golf
- Wellness Center & Day Spa
- 30 + Complimentary Classes Weekly
- Pool & Hot Tub
- Waterfront Dining
- Social Activities & Events

Membership contribution \$52,000
 Pricing subject to current conditions

**Our 24,000 Sq. Ft. Wellness Center Offers:
 TechnoGym Equipment, Group Cycle, Pilates, TRX, Barre,
 Circuit Training, Golf Diagnostics, Full Service Spa & More.**

GULF HARBOUR YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB IS A FINANCIALLY SOLID EQUITY MEMBER OWNED & OPERATED CLUB

From The Desk Of Sheriff Carmine Marceno

Securing Property On Your Boat

Being the boating capital of the United States, Florida boasts the largest number of registered vessels in the nation. With well over one million boats registered in our state, those opting to steal from marine vessels have many to choose from.



Whether your boat is docked or on a trailer, it is imperative that cabins are locked and keys are removed from the ignition.

Items such as portable generators, diving equipment, fishing rods, laptops, tools and marine parts are most frequently reported as stolen.

I frequently remind car and truck owners to ensure that their vehicles are locked and that all valuables be removed before retiring for the evening.

The same advice is applicable for boat owners. It is recommended that valuables be removed from the vessel rather than simply being placed "out of sight." Similarly, boats left in poorly-lit areas are more vulnerable to theft and burglary. Items that must remain should be secured in lockable compartments with secure locks. Often, factory-installed locks may not be adequate and should be upgraded.

It is also a good practice to engrave your name and/or contact number on items of value. Engraved items are far more difficult to resell and, as a result, are less likely to be stolen. Equipment with engraved identification are more likely to be recovered by law enforcement. Engraving devices are extremely inexpensive and easy to use.

Security cameras, including Ring and similar surveillance devices, have been installed and are effective anti-theft tools.

Lastly, please report all marine thefts to local law enforcement.

Word Scramble Solution from page 2

Chile	Kenya	Germany
Colombia	India	Italy
Brazil	Japan	Spain
China	Australia	Korea

Sudoku Puzzle Solution from page 2

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

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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 is off Treeline Avenue between Colonial Boulevard and Daniels Parkway.)



Activities begin at 11:30 a.m. with a short social period, followed by lunch at 12 p.m., then an informative speaker program, followed by a short business meeting 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 a luncheon.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 28, and our planned speaker will be Marcia Davis. Davis

has more than 18 years of public housing experience and currently serves as the executive director for the Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers. During the years of 2006 to 2013, she also served as the director of real estate development for the Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers. Davis will be discussing the Dunbar Initiative.

Luncheon fee is \$28 and the planned regular menu will be fried chicken breast, macaroni and cheese, garlic and lemon green beans, and Key lime pie for dessert. The plant-based/vegan meal will consist of fried tofu, vegan macaroni and cheese, garlic and lemon green beans, and fresh fruit and berries for dessert. 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 Thursday, March 21 at 12 p.m.

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Catch The Action

March On The Water

By Capt. Bill Russell

It's been a wet, windy, and cold winter for Southwest Florida standards. With luck, March will kick the pattern as we exit winter and move into spring. Spring fishing is looked upon as some of the best of the year with a wide variety of species willing to bend a rod. As days get longer and warmer, the water temperature will rise. Schooling baitfish return to local waters after vacating over the winter. This is a combination that rings the dinner bell for fish along our coastal waters.

The winter sheepsheads run should come to a close over the the month. As they complete their spawning duties, they disperse to who knows where. There's still a good chance to hook big ones around inshore structure and nearshore reefs. Inshore, pompano are a possibility if fishing with shrimp or small pompano jigs.



Spanish mackerel are a great target as they are ferocious feeders, lightning fast, and offer a good fight. Plus, prepared fresh, they offer excellent table fare that

is often overlooked. To me they are the perfect fish when looking for fun and action. When mackerel are present odds are good that sharks are nearby, sharks love snacking on mackerel.

This month kicks off good snook fishing along our coastal waters. Water temperature is critical for snook, too cold and they are often dormant. As the water rises to 70 degrees or above and holds, we can look for snook to become active, on the move, and hungry. Like many of our game fish their primary diet will become oily baitfish.

With the invasion of baitfish and warming water, big trout become common catches. Many of our largest sea trout of the year are caught this month. Trout are in their first and largest spawn cycle of the year, look for the bigger fish to get aggressive and hungry.

Following months of daytime low tides and often not much water to navigate, our first spring high tides begin. Higher tides allow for good opportunities to target redfish along mangrove shorelines and over oyster bars. Early morning low tides also allow anglers great shots at tailing redfish over the shallow flats.

Offshore, on days the weather allows there are good opportunities for a variety of fish including reef dwellers like snapper, grouper, grunts, porgies, sheepsheads, and others. As the water warms, schools of fast-moving Spanish and king mackerel, plus false albacore, or bonito and even some blackfin tuna are making their way up the coast and busting up any schooling baitfish they encounter within sight of land. Keep an eye out for tripletail around buoys or floating debris and don't be surprised if a big cobia makes his presence around your boat while bottom fishing. Fishing around one of the public artificial reefs is always a good choice for a variety of fish.

Early season tarpon begin to show a few miles off the beaches, to the southern part of our region slowly making their way up the coast. Tarpon hookups are possible inshore as the waters warm over the month.

March is a month where anything is possible, and you should always expect the unexpected. We generally have some cool and windy days, but they will be offset with great weather as we break into the spring season. If you have company down from the north, it's a great time to get them on the water. Nothing better than a day with nature, away from the congested roads and crowds to show them what a good time in Florida is all about.

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 and seasons 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 28 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."

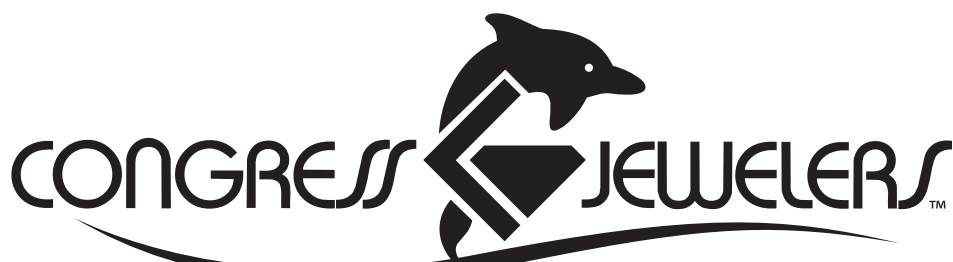


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When It Needs To Be Perfect

Crossword Solution from page 2

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



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