

## Town & River Lake Report

**Inspection Date:** August 28, 2024

**Inspected For:**

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

**Technician's Comments:**

Inspected and treated for grasses as needed. Water levels are good. No issues were detected.



## Contact Information Request

Effective November 1, 2024 Seabreeze will no longer publish the newspaper for print. Town & River HOA has requested all homeowners submit their email address; as this will be the most efficient means of direct communication. Town & River will continue to update our website with all announcements, Board meeting minutes, financials, Cruise Club, etc. We also encourage all homeowners to join our Facebook page.

Please submit the following information to:

**Marge Byrne**  
dir4@townandriverfl.com  
P.O. Box 07073, Fort Myers, FL 33919

**OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION REQUEST**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town & River Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_

**The information submitted is for board use only.**

If you would like to be included in our neighborhood directory – please go to www.townandriverfl.com. Click “SIGN UP FOR MEMBERS ONLY DIRECTORY.”

## Mark Your Calendar For The Craftie Ladies’ Fall Craft Fair

Submitted by The Craftie Ladies of St. John XXIII Catholic Church

The Craftie Ladies of St. John XXIII Catholic Church are once again having their Fall Craft Fair.

If you’ve been to one of our craft fairs before, you know we have a large variety of top quality, homemade items for sale. In addition to our well-known, exquisite quilts, afghans and hand-knit and crocheted items, there will be pillows, table runners, placemats/napkins, handmade rosaries, jewelry, mother/daughter aprons, tooth fairy pillows, novel baby items, lots of lovely holiday décor, including our fabulous wreaths, and so much more!

Some of our always fabulous raffle baskets include BBQ, Evening in Paris, Chocolate, Cat, Dog, and Layette baskets, plus more made by our wonderfully talented women. The drawing for each basket will take place at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 10. You don’t have to be present to win!

Come and join us on:

**Saturday, Nov. 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and  
Sunday, Nov. 10 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

The Craftie Ladies came together 15 years ago. The group has grown to nearly 40 talented and dedicated women. All proceeds go directly back into the community. Just a few causes we donate to:

- A.C.T.
- Blankets And Blessings
- Eva’s Closet
- St. John XXIII Villas
- St. Martin De Porres



We hope to see you at our Fall Craft Fair at St. John XXIII Catholic Church Parish Life Center, located on Palomino Lane, just north of Daniels Parkway. Stop by, have a chat and maybe get some early shopping done.

## Alliance For The Arts Special Events

### This World Is Not My Own – A Film Screening

**Date and Time:** October 16, 6 to 9 p.m.  
**Cost:** Member’s price, \$10, Nonmember’s price, \$12

Join us on Wednesday, October 16, for another exclusive film screening from the Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers!

Chewing-gum sculptures, a wealthy gallerist, a firebrand wrestler, a notorious murder case and the segregated south – it’s all part of Nellie Mae Rowe’s boundless universe. *This World is Not My Own* reimagines this self-taught artist’s world and her life spanning the 20th century. With Uzo Aduba as the animated version of Nellie Mae Rowe.

Catch the trailer for this headline worthy documentary on self-taught artist Nellie Mae Row here: <https://vimeo.com/799921368>.

Popcorn and light refreshments will be available for purchase. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., film begins at 6 p.m.

Following the screening will be an intimately set Q&A session with one of the film’s producers and a special guest moderator. The filmmaker will be present for questions and answers.



### Bluegrass Concert Series Presents Morgan Brake And Duck Wallow Lane

**Date and Time:** October 27, 3 to 5 p.m.  
**Cost:** Member’s price, \$18, Nonmember’s price, \$20

Duck Wallow Lane is a small town bluegrass band, doing what they love to do! We are thrilled to welcome Morgan Brake and Duck Wallow Lane back to the stage at the

*Alliance For The Arts on page 4*

**All are encouraged to attend  
our next Board meeting on October 10!**

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](http://www.townandriverfl.com).

# Crossword Puzzle

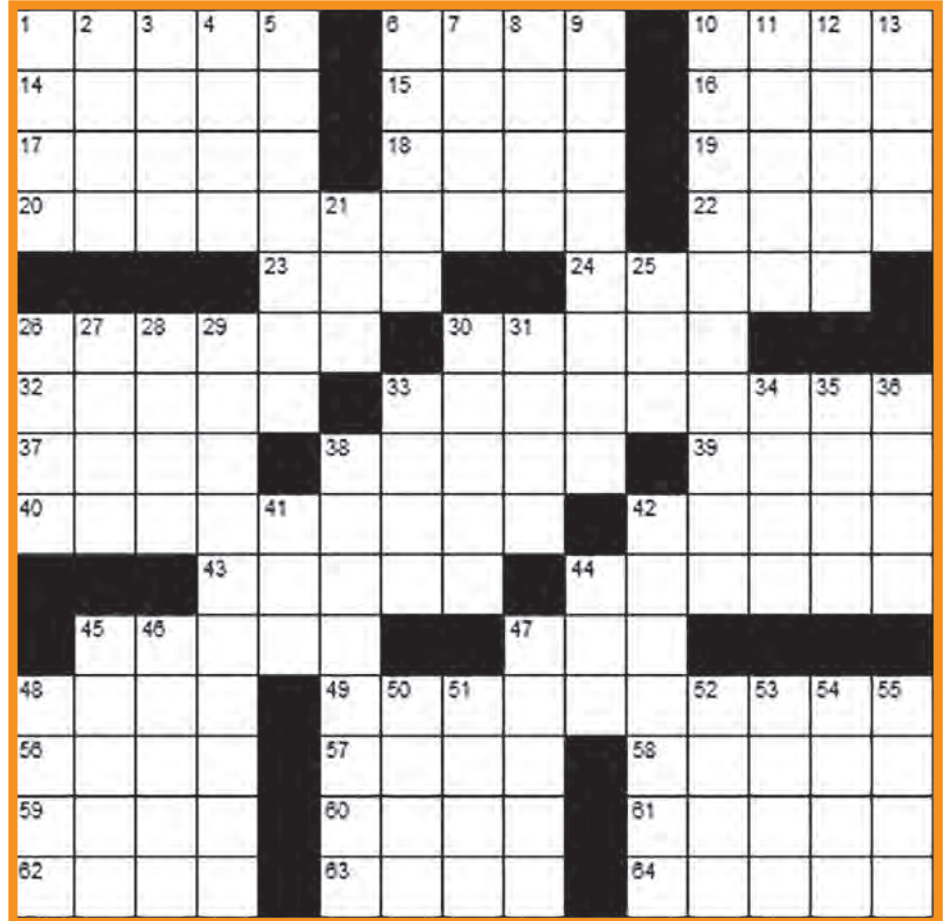
**Across**

- 1. Wanderer
- 6. A cooperative unit
- 10. Capable
- 14. Nimble
- 15. Type of fruit
- 16. Type of black bird
- 17. Color of most grasses
- 18. Legal claim
- 19. A hollow in a mountain
- 20. Allergic (Br. sp.)
- 22. Frosts, as a cake
- 23. Energy
- 24. Allied
- 26. Garden shovels
- 30. Fragment
- 32. Spoken for
- 33. Foreshadowed
- 37. Majestic
- 38. Handouts
- 39. Big brass
- 40. Slender cigars
- 42. Steam
- 43. Postpone
- 44. Unspoken
- 45. View
- 47. Evening (poetic)
- 48. On top of
- 49. Ability
- 56. Not the whole
- 57. African sheep
- 58. Illicit sexual relationship
- 59. Found on rotary phones
- 60. After-bath powder
- 61. Assumed as fact
- 62. Sole
- 63. L L L L
- 64. Delete

**Down**

- 1. Badgers
- 2. Brute
- 3. Bearing
- 4. Brews
- 5. Resident
- 6. Liliaceous plant
- 7. Sponsorship
- 8. Away from the wind
- 9. Inclinations
- 10. Inadvertent
- 11. Support
- 12. Adored

- 13. Flock members
- 21. Poetic contraction
- 25. Frozen water
- 26. Stair
- 27. Father
- 28. Similar
- 29. In a self-indulgent manner
- 30. Frigid
- 31. Ticks off
- 33. Barbershop emblem
- 34. Fool
- 35. Anagram of "Bone"
- 36. Blowgun missile
- 38. Have a bowel movement
- 41. 5 plus 5
- 42. Time of origin
- 44. Observe
- 45. Iberian country
- 46. Reef material
- 47. Long stories
- 48. Style of hairdo
- 50. By mouth
- 51. Ponder
- 52. Arab ruler
- 53. Exploded star
- 54. Hints
- 55. Sea eagle



Crossword Solution on page 6

## Word Scramble

### Rivers

- |               |          |            |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| By Ellie Neal | Rssmiuoi | Macasreotn |
| Rodoloca      | Dhonsu   | Omnaza     |
| Blouamci      | Lien     | Glova      |
| Sipssmippiis  | Kouny    |            |

Word Scramble Solution on page 6

## Sudoku Puzzle

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

Sudoku Puzzle Solution on page 6

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WEALTH ADVISORS 2024

Please feel free to contact us for more information or to schedule a *no-cost, no-obligation* consultation.

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# Catch The Action

## October On The Water

By Capt. Bill Russell

As water temperatures begin to drop off our coast, schools of baitfish make their migration south through area waters. Many game or predator fish are on the move south as well. Combined with our resident fish, October presents good fishing for a variety of species.

You can fish for a specific species or just in the mix of a feeding frenzy where you might be surprised what you hook into. At times, a host of fish are ganged up on the same bait pod, it's common to catch a half dozen or more different species from one area. It's likely that larger fish are lurking as well, keep a heavy rod rigged and ready for that cobia, tarpon, shark, or whatever else might make a presence. While targeting a specific species of fish can become challenging and often frustrating, taking advantage of whatever might be feeding will give you

plenty of action and fun. Plus, that elusive fish that you were targeting might just show up when least expected.

Offshore, look for bait balls from just off the beaches, out into the gulf about as far as you dare to travel. Birds are the best indicator to locate the schools; watch for terns, gulls, or other birds grouped up and dipping into the water. Look for what appears as rain (baitfish) on the water, watch for feeding activity and the torpedo shapes of mackerel skyrocketing from the water. Artificial reefs are some of the best areas to concentrate your efforts. It's common to catch king and Spanish mackerel near the surface or drop a bait to the bottom for snapper and grouper. If you're running further offshore for grouper or snapper, check, and double check regulations. They are constantly changing when seasons are open and closed.

Inshore, watch for the same key signs when over open water or grass flats. Also, a pod of dolphin hanging around an area is a great indicator of fish. Along shorelines and



areas of shallower water you will also notice schools of nervous bait and possibly fish busting them at the surface. This is where you can expect to catch snook, redfish, snapper, and some big trout. Don't ignore mullet schools, there is almost always something hungry and often big, either mixed in or hanging around the perimeter of the schools. Large trout and redfish look for food flushed out from the schooling mullet, and there is the possibility of a large shark cruising around the perimeter of the schools, often in only a few feet of water. If you are a wade fisherman, take note and keep your eyes open.

As inshore water temperatures drop, big redfish will devour anything in their path. Often there may be several hundred or more working across the shallows on an eating mission. Fishing for big reds will peak in October as they begin their migration offshore once the first strong cold front of the season drops 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.

This is a good time for catching snook across the inshore waters. Fish for them around structure, shorelines, island points, and oyster bars with good tide movement. Often many are schooled together where it's possible to hook a dozen or more from the same spot.

Inshore mangrove snapper fishing was good through the summer and tapered off through September. Most make their way offshore as waters cool down. Artificial reefs and ledges or hard bottom in depths from 30 to 50 feet are prime snapper habitat. Also, fishing in and around the gulf passes is always a good bet for snapper. Live shrimp with light tackle is the best way to go, and if you are anchored, a chum block is a great idea. Snapper are school fish, if you catch one expect more. Always have a heavier rig in the rod holder with a live flatlined bait. You never know when a big cobia 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 offshore and around the passes. Sheepsheads will not eat any type of fish, live or dead, shrimp is the go-to bait for most anglers.

Stay up to date with fishing regulations for areas you fish by visiting [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com). Also, upload the Fish Rules app on your phone. It has current regulations and seasons with pictures to help identify fish.

October is one of the best months to fish. With great weather and not a lot of fishing pressure, we can expect days where fish are hungry and aggressive. If you are fishing or just spending time on the water this is a great month.

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](http://www.fishpineisland.com), email: [gcl2fish@live.com](mailto: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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# 39th Oktoberfest 2024

“O’zapft is!” Time once again for the community to come together to enjoy life and experience Southwest Florida’s biggest party – the 39th Annual Cape Coral **Oktoberfest!**

We at the German American Social Club (GASC) are so excited to invite you to the event for fun, great food, German beer, live music, laughter, and dancing – from polka to blues and country, to the *Chicken Dance*. Come and celebrate with your clan or crew, with your significant other, or even on your own – you’re bound to meet great people here! With German music and local bands, German food, and beer, there’s plenty of fun to go around, for any age. So, dust off your dirndls, launder your lederhosen and have an epic time of stein slurping with your “beste Freunde.”



Specialty food

This year’s dates are October 18, 19, 20 and 25, 26, 27 – the last two full weekends of the month. Oktoberfest 2024 hours are: Friday from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m., Saturday from 12 p.m. to 12 a.m. and Sunday from 12 to 8 p.m.

### Tickets

Advance tickets: \$8, At the gate, \$10, Children 12 and under admitted **free**. All event dates are rain or shine. (Ticket prices subject to change.)



Festival tent and outside Biergarten – three stages, two dance floors, nonstop live bands and German music

### Advance Ticket Purchase Locations

- **GASC**, 2101 S.W. Pine Island Road, Cape Coral, FL 33991, (239) 283-1400
- **Farmer Joe’s**, 1401 S.W. Pine Island Road, Cape Coral, FL 33991, (239) 510-4385
- **European Food Market**, 12901 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33919, (239) 332-7200
- **Trebing Tile**, 4537 Del Prado Blvd. S., Cape Coral, FL 33904, (239) 549-6999
- **European Grocery Market**, 1242 S.W. Pine Island Road, Suite 53, Cape Coral, FL 33991, (239) 599-8253
- **Kallis German Butcher**, 2420 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33952, (941) 627-1413

### Oktoberfest VIP Experience

This year, the GASC is again offering an enhanced VIP Experience designed for those who appreciate a little extra comfort and exclusivity. For \$100, and with limited availability, you gain access to a dedicated VIP area in the tent, complete with its own bar and private restrooms.

Additionally, VIP ticket holders will have access to a separate VIP parking lot close to the main entrance and a VIP lane at the main gate for faster access to the festival area.

Your ticket also includes admission for the day to Oktoberfest, a dinner at Von Steuben Hall, a filled glass Bier stein with up to five refills, a special Jägermeister drink, and a curated gift bag.



Plenty of beverages, imported German Bier, domestic beer, German wine and spirits, non-alcoholic beer, soft drinks and bottled water



Carnival area for kids

The VIP tickets are available **online only**. Visit <https://capecoraloktoberfest.com/vip-experience>.

### Parking

Due to the tremendous popularity of the Cape Coral Oktoberfest, we are once again offering satellite parking to our guests.

The shuttle lot is located at 1448 Ceitus Terrace, just north of Aldi at Chiquita Blvd. and Pine Island Road. Shuttle busses

will run continuously from 4 p.m. until midnight. As always, parking is free!

### About The German American Social Club

The German American Social Club of Cape Coral, Florida is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and celebrating German culture and traditions. The club offers a variety of events and activities throughout the year, including the Cape Coral Oktoberfest, regular social gatherings, and cultural events.

The GASC of Cape Coral was founded as a nonpolitical organization in July 1964 with a charter membership of 34. The purpose of the club, then and now, is to promote good fellowship with a variety of social activities, to perpetuate traditional German festivals such as Oktoberfest, Karneval, costume balls, folk dances, etc., and to stimulate interest in the German language and customs.

Every year in October, the club organizes Munich in Cape Coral. The Cape Coral Oktoberfest is the largest party of the year in the community! It is **the** event for fun, good food, freshly poured domestic and German beer, live music on several stages, laughter, dancing – with or without the chicken hat.

Visit [gasc-capecoral.com](http://gasc-capecoral.com) to see upcoming events. Nonmembers are also encouraged to come for dinner and dancing every Friday night. You might even considering joining as a new member!

**German American Social Club, 2101 S.W. Pine Island Road, Cape Coral, FL 33991. Phone: (239) 283-1400, Fax: (239) 283-5511, Email: [info@gasc-capecoral.com](mailto:info@gasc-capecoral.com), and website: [gasc-capecoral.com](http://gasc-capecoral.com).**

Photos courtesy of the German American Social Club

## Congratulations To Alexandra Reifschneider, Ms. Oktoberfest 2024

Marking the 39th Annual Oktoberfest, the Ms. Oktoberfest Pageant, held on Saturday, July 13, kicked off this year’s Oktoberfest Season in Cape Coral. Alexandra Reifschneider was chosen from among five contestants to reign as Ms. Oktoberfest in 2024 at the German American Social Club of Cape Coral. Jasmin Pearson is the first runner-up, followed by Sara Skorak as the second runner-up.



Alexandra was born in New Jersey to a German mother and an American father, cultivating a deep appreciation for both cultures from an early age. Her journey with German heritage began in high school, where she was an active member of the German Folk Club, teaching traditional dances and sharing cultural knowledge with her peers. Alexandra’s commitment to service led her to join the U.S. Army as a military police officer while pursuing her bachelor’s degree in psychology and military science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. During her six-year military career, she demonstrated leadership as a squad fire team leader and was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for outstanding performance. After claiming her German citizenship, Alexandra moved to Florida where she discovered the German American Social Club and met her husband Florian. Currently, Alexandra works as a digital designer for a German company. She visits Germany multiple times a year, strengthening her connection to the culture while spending time with her German family.

The German American Social Club of Cape Coral is proud to be celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, and Alexandra wants to use her skills to help the club grow stronger.

Photo courtesy of the German American Social Club

Town & River Civic Association Inc.		Aug 31, 24
<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
<b>As of August 31, 2024</b>		
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		
First Citizens Bank 2580	4,899.02	
First Citizens Bank - MMS	99,660.13	
PayPal Account	3,483.89	
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>108,043.04</u>	
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>		
Accounts Receivable	590.32	
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<u>590.32</u>	
<b>Other Current Assets</b>		
Prepaid, Lake Expense	7,835.72	
Prepaid Insurance	4,046.14	
Prepaid, Other Expense	492.68	
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>12,374.54</u>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>121,007.90</u>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>121,007.90</b></u>	
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>		
Annual Dues, Advanced	853.18	
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>853.18</u>	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>853.18</u>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>853.18</u>	
<b>Equity</b>		
Prior Year Fund Balance	98,954.74	
Net Income	21,199.98	
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>120,154.72</u>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><b>121,007.90</b></u>	

Town & River Civic Association Inc.		
<b>Profit And Loss</b>		
<b>August 2024</b>		
	<b>Aug 24</b>	<b>Jan-Aug 24</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Income - Mandatory	0.00	10,680.00
Income - Voluntary	120.00	22,980.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>120.00</u>	<u>33,660.00</u>
Estoppel Preparation Income	500.00	3,000.00
Interest Income	18.38	114.91
Misc Income	0.00	5.52
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>638.38</u>	<u>36,780.43</u>
<b>Expense</b>		
Accounting Fees	315.00	3,345.00
Bank Fees	35.00	280.00
Corp Insurance	578.00	4,469.00
Email Service	287.52	809.85
Legal Expense	0.00	1,170.55
Mailing	0.00	1,273.95
Meeting Rooms	0.00	425.00
Newspaper Postage	0.00	796.20
PayPal Fees	4.08	292.96
Postage & Delivery	0.00	310.02
Secretary Expense	0.00	863.40
State Fee	0.00	61.25
Storage Expense	119.79	958.32
Utilities	154.63	154.63
Website Maintenance	67.83	370.32
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>1,561.85</u>	<u>15,580.45</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-923.47</u>	<u>21,199.98</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><b>-923.47</b></u>	<u><b>21,199.98</b></u>

### Alliance For The Arts from page 1

Alliance! Morgan Brake is part of the next generation of up and coming Bluegrass musicians taking flight. She is a fantastic singer songwriter and is already making waves in Bluegrass and Americana across the country.

Fresh off of their performance at the Florida Bluegrass Summit, you won’t want to miss this show in our loft where every seat is like a front row seat.

**Please note the updated gallery and administrative office hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

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



Duck Wallow Lane bluegrass band

**TOWN & RIVER CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS – as of June 6, 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

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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
Clarellen Dr Cypress Lake Dr	Marge Byrne	dir4@townandriverfl.com 239-482-8923
Cypress Lake Cr Joanna Cr Sand Spur Ln	Jeremy Deates	dir5@townandriverfl.com 239-872-0364
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	Jennifer Deates	dir9@townandriverfl.com 239-872-0363
Lake Committee	Renee Notes	secy@townandriverfl.com 239-209-2072
PR & Social Media Committee	Jennifer Deates	dir9@townandriverfl.com 239-872-0363
Deeds of Restriction Committee	Vacant	archreview@townandriverfl.com
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  
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### 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

## Improving Home Security

Home burglary results in losses exceeding \$3 billion, in the United States, each year.



Based upon reports, a home burglary occurs every 15 seconds in the United States and that someone is at home 27.6 percent of the time. Despite images of burglars creeping through backyards in the middle of the night, statistics show that the majority of burglaries occur between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., when homes are often unoccupied.

Disconcerting?

While these crimes have decreased in Lee County, it is prudent to discuss proactive measures that can be taken to reduce or eliminate the likelihood of victimization.

Preventative measures worth considering:

The addition of security cameras goes a long way toward preventing criminal activity and assisting in the investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses. Video doorbell cameras and strategically placed external cameras often dissuade would-be criminals.

Exterior lighting is perhaps the easiest and most inexpensive way to discourage criminals. Well-lit areas increase visibility through windows, improve video surveillance quality and make your home a less desirable target.

Landscaping is a wonderful way to add “curb-appeal” to your home. Unfortunately, overgrown shrubs and trees that block windows and doorways or cast large shadows allow criminals to move about your property without being seen. Additionally, unmowed lawns often give the impression that the homeowner is away.

Upgrading door and window locks, as well as securing sliding glass doors, will prevent easy access to your home. Most sliding glass doors have poor quality locks. They are susceptible to pry bars, hammers and screwdrivers and can

usually be opened rather easily. Secure these doors using security bars, pins or upgraded locks.

Whenever you leave your home ... even if just to quickly visit a neighbor ... **lock your doors and take a key.**

Don't leave valuables near windows where they can easily be seen and taken.

Floridians like to leave their garage doors open. Please reconsider this practice.

Hiding a spare key under a door mat or in a nearby planter makes for easy access to your home.

Leaving ladders around your home assists burglars intent

on entering second-story windows ... yours or nearby homes. Secure ladders in a closed garage when not in use.

Too many Lee County residents leave their vehicles unlocked overnight. Many contain garage door openers. Lock your vehicles whenever you exit and take any and all valuables inside with you.

Break down cardboard boxes from expensive purchases such as large-screen televisions, computers, etc. When left curbside, they serve to advertise your new purchase.

Report suspicious activity to the Lee County Sheriff's Office or to your local law enforcement agency.

## Saltwater Cowboy

### Event Benefits The Programs Of The Heights Foundation And The Heights Center

Friday, Oct. 18 6 To 10 p.m.  
MarineMax  
14030 McGregor Boulevard

Bring your salty attitude and join your boat-running, fish-wrangling, briny friends for a fun night featuring the popular Raw Bar by Matt Asen from Timbers Restaurant, a Surf-n-Turf buffet dinner by Chef Jay Johnson of Bubba's Roadhouse & Saloon, drinks, live music, and dancing.



For sponsorship details, visit [www.heightsfoundation.org/saltwatercowboy](http://www.heightsfoundation.org/saltwatercowboy), email [annie@heightsfoundation.org](mailto:annie@heightsfoundation.org), or call Annie Campbell at (239) 482-7706.

### About The Heights Foundation

The foundation was formed in response to a stunning realization during a church outreach on Thanksgiving in 1999. While delivering a simple Thanksgiving dinner, volunteers found a family of eight living in abject poverty and substandard conditions. The parents and their six children, ages 3 to 10, lived in a rented, concrete block duplex with no hope of change. They were paying their rent in cash to a neighbor, who was later discovered to be in jail. Through seed money from private individuals, the foundation began developing projects to meet the specific needs of families living in the Heights community, starting with the purchase and renovation of a home dubbed the “House of Hope.” The years since the formation of the foundation have seen great improvements in living conditions, infrastructure, and access to needed services. The foundation also acts as a resource and referral service and is a safety net of last resort.



**Word Scramble Solution from page 2**

Colorado	Hudson	Sacramento
Columbia	Nile	Amazon
Mississippi	Yukon	Volga
Missouri		

### Sudoku Puzzle Solution from page 2

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

### Crossword Solution from page 2

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

## 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 Landings Yacht, Golf, and Tennis Club (community entry off McGregor Boulevard between Cypress Lake Drive and College Parkway). Meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. with a short social period followed by lunch at noon followed by an informative speaker program and a short business meeting. 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, Oct. 24. Our speaker will be Robert Cacioppi, artistic director of the Players Circle Theater in Fort Myers. In the spirit of the

season, we are also planning a Halloween costume contest and will be awarding prizes for the best, worse and most unique costumes. If you prefer not to participate in the contest, we are still asking you to wear a Halloween themed shirt or orange and black clothing!



Luncheon fee is being increased to \$34, and you always have a choice between either a regular menu entree and/or a vegan/plant-based entree.

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 noon, Thursday, Oct. 17.

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# Fort Myers Teen Publishes First Book In ‘BelieveNMe’ Series

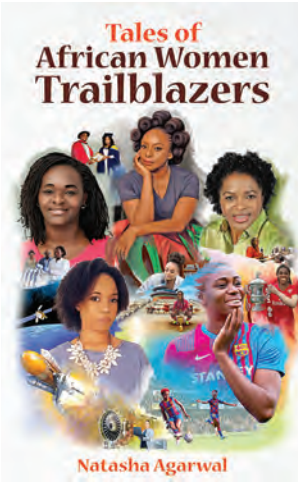
## Tales Of African Women Trailblazers Offers Stories Of Inspiration, Education

Natasha Agarwal, who founded the nonprofit BelieveNBooks at age 14, has published her debut book. Titled *Tales of African Women Trailblazers*, the book is the first in her new “BelieveNMe” children’s series, which explores successful historical figures through a collection of stories and illustrations.

*Tales of African Women Trailblazers* offers an in-depth look at powerful African-born women whose bravery, courage, dedication and leadership helped rewrite history and challenge gender stigmas. The 86-page paperback is

designed for readers ages 10 to 18 and explores the lives of 21 women who have overcome adversity to become successful in various industries. Featured are some of the most notable figures in African history, including singer and activist Miriam Makeba, freedom fighter Yaa Asantewaa, former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and environmental activist Wangari Maathai.

“This book is all about exposing young girls to the breadth of possibilities awaiting them,” said Agarwal, a 17-year-old senior at Canterbury School in Fort Myers. “The trailblazers I wrote about envisioned bright futures for themselves, allowing them to achieve their goals in the face of adversity. By reading these stories, I hope girls in Africa will be inspired to dream big, show resilience and challenge existing stereotypes. My goal is to represent and appeal to as many girls as possible, so women from a variety of African countries and professional backgrounds are highlighted.”



Agarwal’s work as an advocate for children’s education and literacy began years ago with the launch of BelieveNBooks, an organization that donates books to underserved children. Through her nonprofit, Agarwal partners with schools, offices and neighborhoods to host book drives, where she collects new and gently used children’s books. The books are then sorted, packed and delivered to one of BelieveNBooks’ 25 partner organizations to be distributed. Agarwal recently celebrated the distribution of her 100,000th book in March. She drew inspiration to create a book series in 2023 when thinking about how to maximize her impact on a global scale.

Paperback and e-book options of Agarwal’s *Tales of African Women Trailblazers* are available through Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Agarwal hopes to publish additional books under the “BelieveNMe” collection in the future to share the stories of female role models native to other continents.

“All proceeds collected from *Trailblazers* will help purchase additional copies for girls in Africa,” Agarwal said. “They will be delivered at no cost to schools and organizations in Africa that will share them with girls across the continent. I hope to see this book in as many households, academic centers, libraries and bookstores as possible.”

To purchase *Tales of African Women Trailblazers*, please visit AfricanTrailblazers.org. The price is \$14 for a paperback and 99 cents for the e-book. Visitors to that page can also make a donation and ship copies directly to girls in Africa for a discounted price.

### About BelieveNBooks

*BelieveNBooks* was founded in 2021 by **BeLieveNBooks** Natasha Agarwal, who at the time was a 14-year-old eighth grader inspired to create a mechanism that could provide underserved children with reading materials during the pandemic. Today, *BelieveNBooks* is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a mission to provide children with books to expand their horizons and enhance their understanding of the world. The organization relies on corporate and individual donors, as well as more than two dozen community partners who facilitate book distributions. For more information, please call (239) 295-8302 or visit [BelieveNBooks.org](http://BelieveNBooks.org).



BelieveNBooks founder and author Natasha Agarwal

**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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**4142 BAY BEACH LN 206**  
EXCLUSIVE FORT MYERS BEACH

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**13881 BLENHEIM TRAIL RD**  
ST. CHARLES HARBOUR HOME

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**11340 COMPASS POINT DR**  
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- 11640 COURT OF PALMS 304
- 2104 W 1ST ST 1603
- 16701 COCONUT KEY DR
- 16711 COCONUT KEY DR
- B7 BOAT SLIP 60 FT GULF HARBOUR
- 11271 JACANA CT 1706
- 5012 GUNN PL LABELLE
- 15048 TAMARIND CAY CT 604
- 14501 GRANDE CAY CT 2701
- 13440 CAUSEWAY PALMS COVE
- 13450 CAUSEWAY PALMS COVE
- 5010 GUNN PL LABELLE
- 13430 CAUSEWAY PALMS COVE
- 3846 NW 42ND PL CAPE CORAL
- 14983 RIVERS EDGE CT 129
- 14722 OLDE MILLPOND CT
- 2009 NE 13TH AVE
- D9 BOAT SLIP 50 FT GULF HARBOUR
- B21 BOAT SLIP 48 FT GULF HARBOUR
- 13351 GREENGATE BLVD 423

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- \$1,449,900
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