



"THROUGH THE EYE OF THE EAGLE"

Another Seabreeze Publication

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Who's New In The Neighborhood?

One of our newest neighbors on Aeries Way Drive are Anthony (Tony) Ochrem and his son Nicholas, who attends Fort Myers High School. Tony is a former Marine Corps veteran. Also shown in the photo is Tony's significant other and girlfriend, Jennifer Corrigan. Jennifer and her three sons live in Gateway, but spend a lot of time here in Eagle Ridge.

If you drive east on Aeries Way Drive, you will see Tony's University of Michigan school flag in front of the house, but ... if driving west, you will see Jennifer's Florida State Flag on the pole. Jennifer had them sewn together. She and Tony are planning to watch the two teams compete in the 2016 Orange Bowl.

Tony works from home and sells corporate level financial reporting software throughout the state of Florida. Jennifer is one of three partners at JW Craft Portable Restrooms Inc.

of Naples and other Florida locations.

Tony a n d Jennifer share several interests beyond raising their boys. Some of these interests include but are not limited to working out, golf, boating, fishing, scuba and watching college football. His son Nicholas would like to play football



at Fort Myers High School next year. They also have a senior golden retriever named Brody.

When I asked Tony what he particularly liked about Eagle Ridge, he quickly replied, larger properties, low dues and a newfound freedom from overzealous homeowners associations that he experienced in his previous condo.

Extra Copies Of Eye Of The Eagle Newsletters Are Usually Available At The Golf Course Clubhouse

Eagle Ridge Ladies' On The Links

By Fran Danek

Still riding high from their big victory at the 2016 "Battle of the Sexes" the Wednesday Morning Ladies' League golfers began the 2017 season eager to post more eventful rounds. The "Birdie Tree" is in full bloom as more birdies are recorded each week. The "Ladies in the 80s" list is also expanding with several ladies posting multiple rounds in the 80s led by Dawn Kinghorn (82, 89, 83, 86), Pat Koniecki (89, 89, 82) and Fran Danek (86, 86, 88). Our new "Senioritas in the 70s" list honors Tee Pazitney (78,78,78,78) and Dawn Kinghorn (79,79) ... way to go ladies! As we welcome new and returning members to the group, the friendly competition will continue with good and "bad" rounds but always with an air of fun and camaraderie that will continue in 2017.

Our monthly luncheon was held on Jan. 4 with our usual team event followed by a tasty lunch served by the Eagle Ridge staff. The winners of the Easy as 1, 2, 3 Team event, pictured here, were Angie Corsale, Dorothy Carlson, Shirley Schweers and Pat Koniecki. Runners-up were Marla Cunningham, Amy Shea, Andrea Abrams and Jill Burchill.



The Longest Putt winners, pictured here, were Patsy Hildebrand, Fran Danek, Pat Koniecki and Karen Kudrle.





We were saddened to hear of the passing of a fellow league member, Sharon Partyka. Sharon was a colorful and vibrant individual known for her fashion sense on and off the golf course. Her contagious smile and quick wit will be missed by her fellow golfers. Rest in peace Sharon until we all meet again at that famous "back nine" in the sky.



course at Eagle Ridge. If you are interested in joining our league contact Fran, (989) 684-0156 or Phyllis, (239) 561-4619 for more information. We play every Wednesday from November through March with tee times beginning at 8:30 a.m. New members are always welcome.

Below please find the weekly winners for the month of

Winners For Dec. 14 Include: "Odd Holes":

First:

Phyllis Wayco Second (tie): 37 Carol Dee Hamilton, Karen Kudrle

Third: 38 Kathy Gentry

Fourth (tie): 40 Barb Baker, Judy Mangiaracina

Low Putts: **Shirley Schweers** 33 First:

Birdies: Andrea Abrams - #18 Chip-ins: Bonnie Soltesz

Please do not leave trash containers, ladders, etc., where they are visible from the street.

Also do not place containers or yard waste out to the curb more than 24 hours before the scheduled weekly pickups.

> - The Board of **Directors**

Winners For Dec. 21 Include: "12 Holes of Christmas":

Patsy Hildebrand First: 34 Dorothy Carlson Second: 36 Third: 38 Fran Danek

Fourth (tie): 40 Barb Baker, Kathy Gentry, Dawn

Kinghorn

Low Putts:

Sharon Partyka First:

Birdies: Dawn Kinghorn – #5, Kathy Furlong – #16, Patsy Hildebrand--#16

Chip-ins: Patsy Hildebrand, Shirley Schweers, Sharon Partyka

Winners For Dec. 28 Include:

"Center Cut"

First: Carol Sarocka

Second (tie): 37 Kathy Furlong, Kathy Gentry, Jill

Burchill

Low Putts:

Shirley Schweers First: Patsy Hildebrand Second: 32

Birdies: Amy Shea – #6

Chip-ins: Amy Shea, Jill Burchill, Pam Nordin

Winners For Jan. 4 Include:

"Team Easy as 1-2-3":

Angie Corsale, Pat Koniecki, Dorothy 162

Carlson, Shirley Schweers

Jill Burchill, Amy Shea, Andrea Second: Abrams, Marla Cunningham

Longest Putt Made: Karen Kudrle – #5, Patsy Hildebrand

- #8, Fran Danek - #14, Pat Koniecki - #16

Birdies: Dawn Kinghorn – #10; Pat Koniecki – #16; Fran Danek - #4

Chip-ins: Fran Danek, Angie Corsale, Phyllis Wayco



Deed of Restrictions Section A-15: Pets must be on a leash at all times when being walked outside of the owner's property boundaries. The pet owner is responsible for picking up all animal waste from their pet at all times. This includes the common areas! Violators are subject to fining.

- The Board of Directors

Tips From South Trail Fire And Rescue

By Christie Knudsen, Public Education Specialist

Love Alone Won't Save Them: Practicing Fire Safety Will is the title of a United States Fire Administration guide for parents and caregivers of babies and toddlers. According to the

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), an average of 200 children under the age of 5 died each year in home structure fires in 2007 to 2011. No child should ever die in a fire. If you are a parent, grandparent, or caregiver of a young child, here are some tips to keep young children safe from fire.

Prevention. Preventing fires is always the best way to keep young children and people of all ages safe from fire. In 2007 to 2011, over half of the deaths of children under 5 were

attributed to two causes - home heating fires and home fires Seabreeze

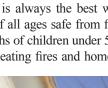




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started by playing with a heat source (NFPA). Although it rarely gets cold enough in Southwest Florida to use portable heaters, if you do use one, keep the heater at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn and turn off the portable heater when you leave the room or go to bed.

Children playing with fire start many of the home fires that kill themselves or other children in the home. Store matches and lighters out of children's reach and out of sight, preferably in a locked cabinet. Use only child-resistant lighters. Teach children that matches and lighters are tools for adults, and teach them to tell an adult if they see matches and lighters.

Smoke Alarms. Because babies and young children cannot escape a fire on their own, you need the warning of working smoke alarms to give you time to reach children and take them outside to safety. Experts agree that you probably have less than three minutes to escape a fire in your home.

Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom, outside all sleeping areas, and on every level of your home. Interconnect smoke alarms so that when one alarm sounds, they all sound. Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years - if your smoke

alarms were installed prior to February 2007, it is time to replace them. If possible, choose to live in a home protected by automatic fire sprinklers.

Escape Planning. Plan and practice how to get your family out if there is a fire in your home. Consider how you will reach the children in different fire scenarios and identify who will help each child get out safely. A baby sling carrier may be necessary to carry the baby and leave your hands free for carrying another child.

Draw a diagram of your home, showing all doors and windows, and marking at least two ways out of every room. Identify a meeting place in front of your house. Practice your escape plan at least twice a year and revise your plan as your family grows and as children get older.

For more information or for an escape plan grid, call 936-5281 or visit southtrailfire.org. The monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the South Trail Fire and Rescue District is Tuesday, Feb. 21, 5:30 p.m., at Station 63, 5531 Halifax Avenue. The public is invited.

Ten And A Toy Fundraiser Raises-\$9,200 For Children's Advocacy Center

in! Last month's Children's inaugural Ten and a Toy Fundraiser Advocacy Center

for the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of SWFL, sponsored by Savage 4x4, raised \$9,200 for the agency and many, many toys for its clients.

Held at Six Bends Harley Davidson, the event featured judged truck and bike shows, a truck tug-of-war (a must see!), live entertainment with the Killa-Watts Band, Torch the Harley fire performer, a stunt bike performer, food and beer trucks, and much more.

"We are so thankful to Jim and Linda Thompson of Savage 4x4 for organizing this is vital to our ability to never turn away a child in need."

Thank you to sponsors Roman Roofing, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Heartland Payment Systems and Homes for Heroes SWFL. And to the many businesses and individuals who so generously donated their time and services, including City Electric Supply, Jet's Pizza, Hogtastic BBQ, Suncoast Beverage and so many more.

Since 1981, Children's Advocacy Center of Southwest Florida, Inc. (CAC), a United Way partner agency, has worked to improve the lives of children and their families



event on our behalf," said CAC's CEO Jill Turner. Jim and Linda Thompson of Savage 4x4 with toys raised from their Ten "The support of community partners such as them and a Toy fundraiser for Children's Advocacy Center of SWFL

through a coordinated response to child abuse and neglect, offering them a safe and friendly environment in which to heal. CAC provides abuse determination services as well as therapeutic counseling, parenting education and prevention programs in Lee, Hendry, Glades and Charlotte counties. All services are provided free of charge. For more information, please call (239) 939-2808 or visit www.cac-

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Fenway South Farm & Flea Market Season Starts

Open Mondays From 11 a.m. To 3 p.m. - Jan. 9 To March 27

The weekly farmers' market at JetBlue Park at Fenway South, located at 11500 Fenway South Drive in Fort Myers, is set to return for a threemonth run this January with a new day and time, and an added flea market.

Beginning Jan. 9 and running until March 27, Fenway South Drive,

in front of JetBlue Park, will host the Fenway South Farm & Flea Market every Monday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The

FARM & FLEA MARKET

market will include fresh local produce, cheeses, fresh pastas, seafood, baked breads, meats, herbs, ready-to-eat meals, plants, flowers, crafts, soaps, candles and more. According to operator Betsy Ventura, who, along with

Jean Baer, owns Local Roots, LLC and will run the market at JetBlue Park every Monday, anyone in the community is welcome to drop in for the day with his or her new or gently used items, antiques, etc. Spaces will be assigned upon

The market will be closed on Feb. 27 and March 20 due to Spring Training games.

Parking is free during the weekly events.

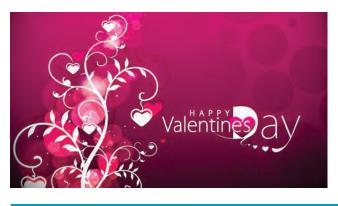
"Our vendors are very excited to be returning to JetBlue Park to promote their locally produced products and wares to neighboring communities as well as to Boston Red Sox fans," said Ventura. "There will be even more products to shop for this year with the added flea market."

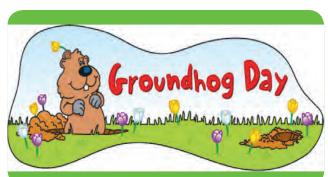
In addition to Fenway South, Ventura and Baer also operate the downtown Fort Myers, Sanibel, Bonita Springs, Coconut Point, Lakes Park, Florida SouthWestern and Boca Grande farmers' markets.

"We are very excited that this open-air market is returning to JetBlue Park," said Katie Haas, vice president of Florida business operations for the Red Sox. "This market is a great kickoff to our busy fall schedule leading into Spring Training and just another one of the unique ways Fenway South is being utilized for the Southwest Florida community."

Anyone interested in becoming a vendor or providing live entertainment may visit the website for more information and prices at www.BuyLocalLee.com.

For more information, call (239) 226-4783 or email ibpevents@redsox.com.





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Social Event For Eagle Ridge Property Owner's Association

By Connie Hope

ERPOA had a Holiday Social on Dec. 17 at the Eagle Ridge Golf Club. We want to thank the golf course for allowing us to use the clubhouse at no charge. Sherri Holly

did a great job as the social chairman and arranged for the food and decorations.

We had a fun community get-together with lots of

appetizers, ham and roast beef. Thank you to all that joined us and hope to see you again next time we have a social event. Here are some photos.









Saturday Men's -Golf Group

By Gary Mellilo

The first half of the Saturday Men's Golf Group season has come to an end. We had 44 golfers posting scores since October. We will have a few more when the last of the snowbirds trade in their snow shovels for pitching wedges. The following is a list of the top 10 money winners for the first half

11100 110111			
Name	Games	Winnings	Per Game
1 Buckley	1	\$10	\$10
2 Holst	6	\$50	\$8.33
3 Demeter	8	\$63	\$7.87
4 Cushing	4	\$30	\$7.50
5 Krickhahn	1	\$7	\$7
6 Koniecki	8	\$55	\$6.87
7 Neseman	13	\$81	\$6.23
8 Malone	9	\$56	\$6.22
9 Wirick	9	\$54	\$6
10 O'Connor	12	\$70	\$5.83

Among the best individual scores were Jim O'Connor with a net 58 on Nov. 12, Arnie Harris with a net 61 on Dec. 3, and both Jon Murdoch and Dave Neseman shooting a net 62 on Dec. 10.

We will start our annual tournament in mid-February with a white and a gold flight. It will run for four or five weeks depending on the number of players. We will combine the early tournament rounds with our normal Saturday play. The later rounds or final round will be with individual play. Last year's winners were Ron Bertram in the white flight and Rich Edwards in the gold.

As our players get older and lose some of their driving distance, Ron and I are encouraging those who cannot reach the greens in regulation to move up to the forward tees. Playing in our Saturday group should be all about fun!

Architectural Control Information

Please remember that any exterior changes you plan to make to your home need to be approved by the Architectural Control Committee.

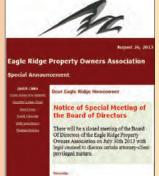
For example, this includes reroofing, exterior painting, landscape changes, swing set installations, etc. We live in a deed-restricted community and these controls have been put into place for the good of each homeowner so as to maintain our beautiful community. Please contact Bill Simons (239) 565-4343 or erArchiture@aol.com so that your changes can be reviewed and approved.

A form is available for download from the Eagle Ridge website: www.EagleRidge33912.com on the **Resources** tab.

We plan to work hard for you to keep our community – the one you all moved into – please help us do that!

The Board of Directors

Are You Receiving E-mail From Eagle Ridge?



Each month the Eagle Ridge Property Owners Association sends out an email with reminders of activities at the Ridge. If this image looks unfamiliar to you, you are not on our email list.

To correct this, send an email to info@EagleRidge33912. com along with your name and street address.

We will add your name to

the list, which you may opt out of at any time. We are stressing the use of email as it is faster, easier and cheaper than USPS. You may send email addresses for all members of your household.

The Board of Directors

Saturday Men's — | Caught On Camera

Local Flora by Doug Albers

Do you have any pictures you would like to share? Post them in the Caught on Camera spot. Submit your photos, with a brief description, to: rontlougan@gmail.com.







Lavendar Flower

Night Blooming Hibiscus

Swamp Lily

Eagle Ridge Residents

Jogging, bicycling, walking and other nongolfing activities **or** unregistered golf play are not permitted on the golf course.

Eagle Ridge Bulletin Board

If you have an announcement, we will include it in this column. E-mail rontlougan@gmail.com with your request.

Fort Myers Republican Women's Club

The Fort Myers Republican Women's Club will hold its monthly luncheon on Tuesday, Feb. 21. The keynote speaker will be named at a later date.

The public is invited to attend the luncheon and the program being held at The Helm Club, The Landings, South Fort Myers. A social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. The noon lunch will be followed by the business meeting and program. The luncheon cost is \$20. Reservations are required by Thursday, Feb. 16, and may be made by contacting Tina Laurie, 489-4701.

The Greeters Club

Greeters Club Luncheon – Thursday, Feb. 16

Aside from the old saying "A dog is man's (or woman's) best friend," a specially trained PAWS Assistance Dog can be a lifeline for a child with a life changing disability or a combat wounded veteran. The Greeters Club of Greater Fort Myers has invited a guest speaker for our Feb. 16 luncheon from PAWS Assistance Dogs. Our speaker will also bring along an additional special guest, a PAWS service dog in training. The PAWS organization enhances the independence and quality of life of its clients by providing custom-trained assistance dogs. Join us to learn more about PAWS Assistance Dogs.

Make a luncheon reservation (cost: \$20) today and find out more about joining this dynamic group of Lee County women. Email: greetersclub@gmail.com. Provide your contact information (your name, email address and phone number). You will receive a call confirming your reservation as well as an email confirmation. Our luncheons are held on the third Thursday of the month. Please arrive between 10:30 and 11 a.m. to check in at the Colonial Country Club, 9181 Independence Way, Fort Myers. Our website is: greetersclubofgreaterfortmyers.com.

Continental Women's Club Of Fort Myers

Join us on Thursday, Feb. 2, when our guest speaker will be Dr. Robert Brueck, board certified plastic surgeon. Find out everything you always wanted to know about cosmetic surgery, facial peels, skin care and more.

The club's monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at Colonial Country Club, 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers. The cost for the luncheon is \$19. Please call (239) 672-8683 before 8 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 29 to make a reservation for February's luncheon.

Also, mark your calendars for our annual scholarship fundraiser to be held on Monday, March 20 at Colonial Country Club from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a luncheon and a fashion show by Shops at Bell Tower. We will also have a raffle/auction of some wonderful items, and gift baskets. Cost to attend

is \$30. For reservations and questions, call 223-6282. Everyone welcome.

Dining In Club

If you live in Eagle Ridge, maybe you have heard of the Dining In Club where people in our community get together to meet, talk and have fun. Everyone who attends these parties really loves them.

We meet monthly from November to April. If you would like more information about Dining In, please call **Connie Hope** at (239) 225-6609.

Eagle Ridge #Winelovers

#Winelovers gravitate to Eagle Ridge eight to nine months of the year for #Winelover Hangouts on Eagles Lookout Court. Hosted by **Ellen and Tom Giffen**, these events are set up to explore the world of wine, experience the tapas goodness of our kitchens and to collect food donations for the Harry Chapin Food Bank and other charitable organizations that draw from the Food Bank.

If you are interested in participating, please email the Giffens at giff48@centurylink.net for more information, and you will be put on the monthly email list. Cheers.

The Florida Yards & Neighborhood (FYN)

Join us at a Florida Yards & Neighborhoods class and learn the nine principles that guide Florida-friendly landscaping in Lee County. The class is given under the auspices of University of Florida IFAS Extension Lee County.

Each principle is explored in class so you can apply what you learn to your own yard. Plant selection and placement, efficient irrigation, proper mulching, and techniques to obtain a beautiful and healthy yard will be discussed. To learn more, visit http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu.

Evening Walking Group

Looking for someone or to join a group to walk with in the evenings, perhaps three times per week? Please contact **Jenni Caves**, (239) 336-4282 or jcaves01@hotmail.com.

Volunteer In Your Eagle Ridge Community

If you are interested in serving on the Eagle Ridge Board of Directors, or would like to serve on one of the committees, please contact one of the following: Hewitt B. McCloskey Jr., John Spiegel, Peter Van Leeuwen, Ed Schuler or Rick Herman through the Eagle Ridge website: www.eagleridge33912.com.

Your Eye of the Eagle

If you are not receiving your Eye of The Eagle newspaper, please contact **Peggy Watts** or **Connie Hope**.

Extra copies of *Eye of the Eagle* newsletters are usually available at the Golf Course Clubhouse. They also may be downloaded from the Resources tab on the Eagle Ridge website: www. EagleRidge33912.com.

Member Appreciation Day

By Ron Tlougan

On Sunday, Jan. 8, the Eagle Ridge Golf Club hosted their annual Member Appreciation Day. Members began the day with an 8:15 a.m. shotgun start for a round of golf with weather conditions at a windy 40 degrees. These hearty folks braved the conditions and a good time was had by all. After the round, the club served a burger and brat lunch at the clubhouse. The winners of the tournament were:

First: Kathy Furlong and Mike Monserez Second: Renie Green and Alan Scull Third: Shirley Schweers and Dave Winteregg Congratulations winners.

Alan Scull seems to be "on a roll." After placing in the above tournament, on Jan. 11 the Eagle Ridge condos resident shot a hole in one on No. 5. Alan plays in various leagues at Eagle Ridge. Congratulations Alan.

Safety And Security Tip

Rental Scam Can Ruin Your Plans

From The Office of Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott

Are you planning a vacation or looking for a new place to live by searching available properties online using websites such as Craigslist or Trulia? If so, the Lee County Sheriff's Office warns you to be vigilant in researching the legitimacy of an advertised listing before sending money, as the ad may actually be posted by a scammer posing as the property owner.

How is it possible for scammers to post fraudulent listings on these websites? One method includes copying existing "for sale" properties, then re-posting them at bargain basement rental pricing in order to get the attention of consumers looking to find a good deal.

The best way to avoid rental scams is to know the tactics scammers use to trick you:

- 1. Scammers usually ask for a deposit or first month's rent to be sent via Western Union, Moneygram, or prepaid money card before you even see the property.
- 2. Scammers often use an excuse of why they cannot meet you to show you the property, such as they are out of the country on a mission trip, job opportunity, or military
 - 3. Renting vacation property can be tricky. Do your

research to make sure the listed property is actually available. It won't be much of a vacation if you arrive and have no place to stay.

- 4. Check the address with the county property appraiser to make sure the property truly exists and that all information
- 5. Do an online search of the property address, name of owner or real estate agency. Oftentimes others will post a complaint or warning about the scam address.
- 6. If the listing is significantly less than nearby similar properties, then beware. If it seems too good to be true, the chances are it's a scam.
- 7. Emails from scammers are often littered with grammatical mistakes and typos. If the email provides too much personal information, tends to go on and on, includes a sad story or offers excuses as to why they can't speak to you on the phone, chances are it's a scam.
- 8. Do not randomly fill out an application with personal information until you have done all of the above and confirmed the property is truly for rent by the property owner.
- 9. Never make a deposit with cash or debit card, instead use only a credit card for these transactions.

If you have questions regarding online rental scams, or if you would like to report a scam or fraud, contact the Sheriff's Office fraud line at 258-3292 or by email at fraudline@ sheriffleefl.org.

Mailbox Maintenance And Repair

Mailbox doors have a closure spring that eventually breaks after thousands of openings. It is important to replace them as soon as they are discovered as they usually result in a broken door, which



is a much more expensive repair. Call Dennis Shelley, (239) 887-1042. The cost of installing a new spring is \$34. If the door casting breaks, it costs an additional \$112 to repair the door. Dennis also has specially manufactured flagpole holders to match the lampposts. They are available for \$89 installed. Your mailbox and lamppost can also be repainted for \$49, which will bring them back to their "like-new" appearance. Dennis also offers handyman services.

Security Central

By Connie Hope

There have been several problems in the community this last month. Besides the stealing of the Christmas tree in December, there was a garage door left opened and tools and a compressor were stolen. Did anyone see anything? If you did, please let me know or call the sheriff's office. The sheriff's office has been notified and has taken a report.

This is the busiest time of the year with so many snowbirds here. Please keep your eyes open and report if you see anything out of the ordinary to the sheriff's office.

There was also damage done to a palm tree and several shrubs on the center island off Daniels Parkway and Eagle Ridge Drive across from Mayhugh Realty. Did anyone see

If you have any questions, please let me know and I will try to answer them. If I can't, I will contact my representative in the sheriff's office and find out for you.

Have a safe and secure month. Keep your cars locked, your home doors locked and your garage door closed.



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14471 Bald Eagle - Updated Beauty

Newly updated, 3BR on oversized corner lot!

New 16 SEER A/C, Updated Kitchen, Storm Shutters & More! Private Wooded View



14580 Bald Eagle - Amazing Sunset Views

Absolutely Gorgeous, updated Eagle Ridge 3BR/2.5BA estate pool home w/ beautiful golf, lake & sunset views! Recently updated w/ New Roof

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Eagle Ridge Additional Contact Information

Replacement of Lamppost Bulbs and Light Sensors: Contact Joe Foster....(239) 218-7714 and leave your name, address and phone number.

Flagpole Holders and Damaged Mailbox Repairs, Painting of Mailboxes and Light Poles Contact Dennis Shelley, (239) 887-1042.

Reading Festival's Schedule Set With Best-Selling Authors

More than two dozen nationally acclaimed authors plan to meet their fans and talk about their books at the 18th annual Southwest Florida Reading Festival on Saturday, March 18, at Centennial Park in the Fort Myers River District.

The festival is a **free**, daylong event filled with sensational author talks, the latest library technology, contests, booksellers, book signings, activities for teens and children, a free book for every child and teen and the Reading Rocks! Teen Battle of the Bands. The festival draws an average of 18,000 people annually. The Reading Festival is the largest one-day reading festival in Florida and runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine.

"Authors come from all over the country and many genres are represented," said Margie Byers, festival coordinator. "Most are award

winners, a couple are co-authors with Tom Clancy and James Patterson and all are very popular with their readers. It is a pleasure to meet these creative and interesting people who write these amazing novels and keep track of all the details."

The festival starts Friday evening, March 17, at the Marina at Edison & Ford with the Evening with the Authors. The event provides the opportunity for fans to meet, mingle and dine with authors. Tickets to the dinner and reception can be purchased at www.Readfest.org.

A few of the award-winning authors scheduled to attend both events include adult authors: Shelley Shepard Gray, James Grippando, Gregg Hurwitz, Mark Greaney, Susan Wiggs, Lori Wilde; teen authors include: Sara Shepard, Kami Garcia Southwest Florida Reading Festival and S.J. Kincaid; and children's authors: Chris Grabenstein, Salina Yoon and Candace Fleming.

The complete list of authors can be found at www.readfest.org.

The Reading Festival, presented by the Lee County Library System is free and 100 percent community supported through generous donations, sponsorships and grants. To help ensure the continuation of this free community event visit www.readfest. org to make a secure online donation. Author information, dates of partner events, directions to the event and more, is available for your convenience 24 hours a day at www.readfest.org or call (239) 479-4636.

Season Theatre Performances

Cultural Park Theater

All Shook Up, Feb. 3 to 12 The Importance of Being Earnest, Feb. 24 to March 5 Hairspray, March 24 to April 2 (239) 772-5862 culturalparktheater.com

> **Laboratory Theater Of Florida** Burn This, Feb. 3 to 25 (239) 218-0481

www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com

Florida Repertory Theatre In the Arcade Theatre

To Kill a Mockingbird, Feb. 14 to March 8 The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, March 21 to April 12

> In the ArtStage Studio Theatre Shear Madness, Jan. 17 to March 12 (239) 332-4488 www.floridarep.org

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

Anything Goes, Feb. 16 to April 1 Jesus Christ Superstar, April 6 to May 14 (239) 278-4422 www.broadwaypalm.com

Off Broadway Palm

Savannah Sipping Society, Jan. 19 to March 4 Things My Mother Taught Me, March 9 to April 29 (239) 278-4422

www.broadwaypalm.com

Theatre Conspiracy

Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, Feb. 24 to March 11 Nice T!TS, March 17 to 19 The Cave, March 24 to April 8 (239) 936-3239 theatreconspiracy.org

FGCU Theatre

The Foreigner, Feb. 17 to 26 (239) 590-7268 www.fgcu.edu/CAS/theatre

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10 Things You Didn't Know About Valentine's Day

Reprint from Pollen Nation

Millions of people celebrate Valentine's Day on Feb. 14 every year, but just how much do you actually know about the celebration and how it got started?

These 10 interesting facts should shed some light on a few things you probably didn't know about the day of love.

1. Valentine's Day started as a form of rebellion.

The most popular theory about Valentine's Day origin is that Emperor Claudius II didn't want Roman men to marry during wartime. Saint Valentine went against his wishes and performed secret weddings, which means this day was originally founded on an act of rebellion!

2. Signing your messages with a kiss is nothing new.

Typing a long line of kisses at the end of a message is something many of us do; but while you may associate it most with the modern "text" era, this little symbol actually has a much longer history.

Some think the cute "x" symbol became synonymous with the kiss in medieval times when very few individuals could write and would end each of their letters with an "x" embossed in wax or ink to show their sincerity. This evolved to represent the kiss, and the rest is history. We're not sure who decided to add "o" symbols to represent hugs, but we're pretty sure it happened a fair bit later!

3. Not all valentines are chosen on purpose.

Receive a valentine today and it's a sign that someone has a secret crush on you. Go back to the Middle Ages though and the situation is a little different. Back then, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who would be their valentine. The single women's names would be added to an urn and single men of the town would take a name out and pin it to their sleeves for one whole week. This would allow everyone in the town to see who their valentine was and could be where the term "wearing your heart on your sleeve" originates.



4. Nearly three-quarters of men will buy flowers on Valentine's Day.

While it is hardly surprising that more men buy flowers on Valentine's Day than women, it may shock you to learn just how many men pick up a bouquet. Around 73 percent of men will buy flowers on the big day, while just over one-quarter (27 percent) of women will do the same.

5. Red roses have been associated with love since ancient Rome.

We are all aware that the red rose is a common purchase around the time of Valentine's Day – but why? Roses, and red ones in particular, have become a symbol of love and are therefore heavily connected with the day. The origin of this tradition stretches as far back as ancient Rome when the red rose was the favorite flower of Venus, the Goddess of love.

6. Juliet still gets love letters sent to her on Valentine's Day.

William Shakespeare's most famous romance *Romeo and Juliet* has captured hearts for decades – so much so that Juliet still receives love letters on Valentine's Day! Every year, the city of Verona in Italy (where the play was set) receives around 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet. Not bad for someone who's been dead for hundreds of years.

7. You don't have to be lovers to celebrate Valentine's Day.

While Valentine's Day is most commonly associated with lovers and couples, that doesn't mean singletons can't celebrate the occasion too! In fact, one country has gone as far as to transform the occasion into "Friend's Day" instead! On Feb. 14, Finland celebrates Ystavanpaiva, which is translated as "Friend's Day." Forget the romantic undertones – gifts and cards are given and received by friends rather than lovers. We think it's a great way to involve everyone.

8. Henry VIII decided when Valentine's Day should be celebrated.

Marrying a total of six women throughout his lifetime, there's no denying Henry VIII was a **big** fan of women and probably romance – but did you know he is responsible for when we actually celebrate Valentine's Day? Back in 1537, King Henry VIII declared by Royal Charter that Valentine's Day would be a public holiday, and he chose Feb. 14 as the official day of celebration.

9. Women buy most of the Valentine's gifts – even the ones for themselves!

Want to make sure you get what you want this Valentine's? Then buy it yourself apparently! Women buy a massive 85 percent of **all** gifts for Valentine's Day, which means a lot of us are picking up our own treats.

10. Teachers receive the most Valentine's Day cards.

Valentine's cards are big news for those of school age but surprisingly it is teachers, not pupils, who stand to benefit the most. Teachers generally receive the largest number of Valentine's Day cards with children, mothers, wives and pets (yes, pets) filling the rest of the top five recipient's list.

February

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Vegetables

Cucumber

Cooking — By Connie

By Connie Hope

February

What is the month of February known for? In the north it is a very cold month. Here in Florida the temperature is a bit cooler – maybe in the 70s. February is American Heart Month so make sure you walk and take care of your heart. It is also Library Lovers Month and National Condom Month. It is National Mend a Broken Heart Month and Valentine's Day is on Feb. 14. My favorite for February is Sweet Potatoes Month. There is nothing better than a hot sweet potato soup. This recipe and many more are in my new cookbook, *Soups and Stews* ... *Comfort by the Spoonful* which is on sale for \$20. Just call me at (215) 527-1217 or email me at conniehope@comcast.net. I have many copies at my house. All you really need is a spoon!

Sweet Potato Soup

- 1 tablespoon bacon fat
- 1 cup onions, chopped
- 2 ribs celery, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1 pound sweet potatoes, peeled and diced
- 5 cups chicken broth
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg (can add more)

Sour cream for top

Sauté onion, garlic, celery, and sweet potatoes in bacon fat for five minutes. Add broth, cover and bring to a boil; simmer until tender. Puree in blender and reheat. Add salt and pepper, and nutmeg. Serve with a dollop of sour cream on top. Serves five to six.

Variation:

Add: ½ teaspoon dried basil when you add the broth.

Or add: ½ teaspoon cumin and 2 tablespoons grated ginger root when you add the broth.

To make it a little spicier: add ¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes when you add the broth.



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full of tap dancing sailors and chorus girls, and some good old-fashioned blackmail. The magical score by Cole Porter includes *It's De-Lovely, You're the Top, I Get a Kick Out of You, Easy to Love* and the title song, *Anything Goes*.

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The "Ridge" Rack

Notice: Advertisements for the newsletter must be placed through Seabreeze Communications. Call (239) 278-4222 for information. I have no role or pricing information on the placement of ads and/or inserts.

Deadline: Submission of articles for the *Eye of the Eagle* must be received no later than the **6th** of each month. Email articles, pictures or information for the Bulletin Board, to rontlougan@gmail.com.

Articles can be submitted attached to or contained in an email. Photos should also be emailed as attachments. If you

have any questions, please call Ron Tlougan at (651) 764-4438.

Eye of the Eagle: If for any reason you do not receive your Eye of the Eagle or if you need extra copies, the paper is also available at the golf clubhouse.

Flagpole Holders and Damaged Mailbox Repairs and Painting: For mailbox repairs, including doors, springs or broken parts and painting, call Dennis Shelley, (239) 887-1042.

Replacement of lamppost bulbs and light sensors: Please call Joe Foster at (239) 218-7714 and leave your name, address, and phone number.

Eagle Ridge Job Spot

Nonbusinesses please! All business owners should contact Seabreeze Communications to place an ad.

Are you looking for an odd job? Want to be included in the Eagle Ridge Job Spot? Email your information to Rontlougan@gmail.com. Baby-sitters, pet sitters, yard work and more.

J.J. Claypool, (239) 810-4724. Dependable, trustworthy, hard worker. I can do yard work, pressure washing: lanais, driveways, windows, outdoor furniture, etc. You will be pleased with my work ethic. I am headed off to college soon and would love the opportunity to work for money. Thank you.

Connie Hope, (239) 225-6609. Absentee Homeowner Services: "While you're away" I can check your home or condo. (Weekly/biweekly/monthly). I can validate yard maintenance and irrigation, pick up parcels and mail, check water, check appliances, arrange for repairs and services and much more. I am in the community. Call or email conniehope@comcast.net.

Connie Hope, (239) 225-6609. Secretarial work, outreach office work, write your letters, answer your email, also light accounting, prepare things for taxes. I have been a Florida notary for the last 10 years

Adele Howard, (239) 233-9338. Babysitter, I am in the 10th grade and worked as a camp counselor. Please call me when you need a babysitter

Crystal Jozsa, (419) 460-3866. Photography. I am a professional photographer who specializes in family, children, weddings and high school senior portraiture. I can come to your home or go on location. My work can be seen at www.crystaljozsaphotography.com.

Patty Fajardo, (239) 208-9956. Are you looking for some help? I am a permanent resident at Eagle Ridge and am available for a variety of jobs – house cleaning, running errands, yard work, planting, pulling weeds, grocery shopping, etc. Please call – home (239) 208-9956 or cell (757) 449-9823.

Andrew Kirksey, (239) 768-0335. Pressure Washing: Roofs, driveways, rain gutter cleaning, lanai's and cages. No job too small. Kathie McDonough, (239) 478-0060. A resident on Triple Eagle Court, Kathie does pet sitting and home watch.

Diane Nichols, (239) 825-5861. Notary public state of Florida since 1986. I will pet sit, house sit, and baby-sit.

Marlin D. Rott, (239) 986-1589. Computer Training – Retired career computer professional can help you learn computer technology and software programs like Excel, Word or other programs of your choice. If your interest is in how to subscribe, learn and manipulate social networks like Facebook, call now. Improve your understanding about computer literacy. One-hour lessons are available at reasonable rates. Marlin is a resident of the Eagle Ridge community.

Ginny Schuler, (215) 542-9474. College Applications. I provide assistance in all aspects of the process. I have 30-plus years experience in helping students gain entrance into the most competitive colleges and universities in the nation. By the time your child completes his or her sophomore year, the process of college selection should be underway. This requires timely scheduling of PSATs, SATs and ACT tests, organizing activity sheets and selecting reasonable college choices (reach, average and safety). My additional specialty is assisting students in writing excellent personal essays and short supplements.

Dennis Shelley, (239) 887-1042. Handyman and home services. Lanai screens, painting, junk hauling, home watch, lighting, garage cleanups, local moves, and he is a specialist in home security consultations and upgrades, offers free home security evaluations and tips.

Deanne Zarriello, (239) 867-6657. Jane of all trades will do home watch, house cleaning, maintain yard work, licensed notary, occasional baby-sitting, errands, prescription pickup and grocery shopping. Will also do short-term pet sitting. Prearranged appointment transportation upon request. Licensed to perform marriage ceremonies and will assist with nuptials. Reasonably priced, bonded and insured. I live within the Eagle Ridge community and have an established gated community base and references. I am very dependable, honest and reliable and have extensive state and federal licenses. I am great with children and animals. Feel free to reach out with any questions or set up at time to talk or meet.

Lee County Yard Waste Regulations

- Do not place out for pickup more than 24 hours early
- Yard waste must be containerized (50 pounds or less), or securely tied into bundles not heavier than 50 pounds and no longer than 6 feet in length.
- Up to 50 pounds of unbundled palm fronds may be placed at the curb. Any excess palm fronds must be tied into bundles, each weighing 50 pounds or less.



- When using plastic bags, make sure that the contents can be easily identified by the refuse truck driver (leave a twig or small branch sticking out).
- Call 239-337-0800 for a cost estimate for large-scale yard waste disposal projects when containerizing or bundling is difficult.



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