

Blanchard receives Congressional fire award

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Venice Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Scott Blanchard, center, is flanked by Administrative Battalion Chief Frank Giddens, left, and Fire Chief Shawn Carvey after Blanchard received the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award from Congressman Vern Buchanan on Sept. 19.

Venice Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Scott Blanchard received the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award Sept. 19 in Sarasota from Congressman Vern Buchanan, part of Florida's 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards.

In 2015, Blanchard was the recipient of both the Venice Fire Department's Officer of the Year Award and the Valor Award, in part for helping save a man who was preparing to jump from the ledge of a three-story building.

"It's an honor," said Blanchard, 44. "I just feel I was doing my job."

"It's nice to be acknowledged by a group of my peers and selected from the panel. There were a lot of people nominated."

Blanchard has been a firefighter for 20 years — over 15 with the City of Venice. He was originally hired as a firefighter in Punta Gorda and spent a couple years as a volunteer before that.

According to the award categories, the "Above and Beyond" Award is for fire and rescue personnel or EMS personnel who put their lives in harm's way to help others. It is understood that this is always part of any fire and rescue

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To be placed on the newsletter distribution list, email city Public Information Officer Lorraine Anderson at landerson@venicegov.com or call 941-882-7401.

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OCTOBER 2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Moving to Venice? If you have a lot of cardboard boxes, Public Works will deliver a dumpster to your house to put them in for recycling. Call (941) 486-2422.		All meeting and event times and dates are subject to change.				1
2 <small>Venice Region Antique Auto Car Show, Centennial Park, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</small>	3 Rosh Hashana	4 <small>1:30 p.m. Planning Commission</small>	5	6 <small>4 p.m. Traffic Advisory Task Force</small>	7 <small>Venice Area Chamber of Commerce Expo, Venice Community Center, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.</small>	8 <small>Venice Area Chamber of Commerce Expo, Venice Community Center, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.</small>
9	10	11 <small>9 a.m. City Council</small>	12 Yom Kippur	13 <small>9 a.m. Architectural Review Board</small>	14 <small>Venice MainStreet free Friday Night Live Concert, Kat Crosby Band, Centennial Park, 7 p.m.</small>	15 <small>Make a Difference Day, 9 a.m. - noon; volunteer at www.venicecares.com</small>
16	17 National Boss's Day <small>3 p.m. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board</small>	18 <small>1:30 p.m. Planning Commission</small>	19	20	21 <small>9 a.m. Historic Preservation Board Sun Fiesta sponsored by Women's Sertoma Club, 5 p.m. Centennial Park</small>	22 <small>Sun Fiesta sponsored by Women's Sertoma Club, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.</small>
23 <small>Sun Fiesta, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.</small>	24 31 Halloween <small>Kids Costume Parade and Trick-or-Treat, downtown, 4 p.m.</small>	25 <small>9 a.m. City Council</small>	26	27 <small>9 a.m. Architectural Review Board</small>	28 <small>Venice MainStreet free Friday Night Live Concert, Empty Pockets Band, Centennial Park, 7 p.m.</small>	29
30						

NOVEMBER 2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
All meeting and event times and dates are subject to change.		1 <i>1:30 p.m. Planning Commission</i>	2	3 <i>5 p.m. Traffic Advisory Task Force</i> <i>9 a.m. Municipal Code Enforcement Board</i>	4	5 Venice MainStreet Art Fest, downtown, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
	6 Daylight Saving Time ends, turn clocks back one hour and replace batteries in smoke detectors. Venice MainStreet Art Fest, downtown, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	7	8 Election Day <i>9 a.m. City Council</i>	9 <i>1 p.m. Police Pension, Waymire Training Facility</i>	10 <i>9 a.m. Architectural Review Board</i>	11 Veterans Day <i>City Hall closed. Garbage, yard waste and recycling collected as usual. Chalk Festival, Airport Festival Grounds, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.</i> <i>Venice MainStreet Friday Night Live Free Concert, Bluestar, Centennial Park, 7 p.m.</i>
13 Chalk Festival, Airport Festival Grounds, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	14 Chalk Festival, Airport Festival Grounds, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	15 <i>1:30 p.m. Planning Commission</i>	16 <i>3:30 p.m. Economic Development Advisory Board</i>	17	18 <i>9 a.m. Historic Preservation Board</i> <i>Venice MainStreet Friday Night Live Free Concert, Steve Arvey, Centennial Park, 7 p.m.</i>	19 Venice Blues Fest, sponsored by Venice MainStreet, Maxine Barritt Park, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
20	21 <i>3 p.m. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board</i>	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day <i>City Hall closed. Garbage, yard waste and recycling will not be collected.</i>	25 <i>City hall closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Day holiday. Garbage, yard waste and recycling collected as usual.</i> <i>Venice MainStreet Friday Night Live Free Concert, Larry & Taylor, Centennial Park, 7 p.m.</i>	26 Annual Holiday Parade, downtown 6 p.m., with pre-parade activities at 5 p.m.
27	28	29	30 <i>9 a.m. City Council</i> <i>2:30 p.m. Environmental Advisory Board</i>	Chairs may be placed along the Holiday Parade route after 6 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 23. Tarps, tape, mats and other items not allowed.		

Fire award, continued from page 1

personnel and EMS personnel duties, but there are times when heroism and sacrifice in extreme circumstances need to be recognized, according to the nomination materials. Winners were selected by an independent committee of current and retired fire and rescue personnel in the district.



BLANCHARD

The Officer of the Year Award Blanchard received is a recognition for a member whose attitude, character, outstanding service and dedication to the fire service is in keeping with the highest traditions of the Venice Fire Department. This award is only available to Lieutenants and Battalion Chiefs. Blanchard's nomination went on at length sharing how he leads by example. He has taken on extra responsibility of the department's radio equipment for

the last 10 years. He regularly excels in leading training of his personnel beyond the normal department-wide training programs. He even includes Sarasota County's crew members at the station. County members also joined in for Scott's nomination.

The Valor Award is presented in recognition of acts involving extreme personal risk, while attempting to save the life of another. In 2015, then Lt. Blanchard was part of a response team to an incident involving a man preparing to jump from the ledge of a three-story building. While another firefighter provided a distraction, Blanchard was able to approach, grab and rescue the man, pulling him to safety. His actions put himself at extreme risk due to the location and the unpredictable state of the individual.

Blanchard takes pride in striving to be the best whether on a personal level and as a member of Venice Fire Rescue, according to his nomination. His dedication and leadership has been evident throughout his 15 years of service. He joined the department in 2001 and was awarded the Venice Firefighter of the Year 2003 and the City's Employee of the Quarter in 2003. He was promoted to lieutenant in 2007 and battalion chief in January 2016.

Married to his wife Barbara for 26 years, they have four children.

"What's neat is, this is in the Congressional record," Blanchard said of his latest accolade, presented to him by U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan. "It's part of my family tree. If anyone ever does a genealogical search, it will be there."

"We owe so much to our police, firefighters and EMS. Our community is made safer, quieter and more prosperous because we have first responders watching our backs," Buchanan said. "These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get 'the call.' These stellar individuals exemplify what it means to serve a community."



Venice Fire Battalion Chief Scott Blanchard, far right, is given the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award by Congressman Vern Buchanan on Sept. 19 in Sarasota County Commission chambers. Three other fire personnel in Florida's 16th district also received the honor.

Linda Senne named city finance director

Linda Senne was appointed finance director on Sept. 13 by the Venice City Council to applause and cheers from the city's entire Finance staff, who dropped in to Council chambers to support her.

"Ms. Senne has intermittently been in the position of interim (finance) director and has performed exceptionally well in that role," City Manager Ed Lavallee wrote in a memo to City Council recommending her for the post.



SENNE

Senne, who has worked for the city for five and a half years, also served as controller.

In May, she was the recipient of the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the Fiscal Year Ending 2016 Budget from the Government Finance Officers Association.

"I'm excited to assume the role as finance director and feel that my experience with the city will ensure a seamless transition," Senne said. "I hope to utilize my leadership skills ensuring we remain a financially

sound city.

"Thanks to the city manager, mayor and Council, and all city staff, especially the Finance Department employees, for their support."

Previously in her career, Senne was the deputy financial services director and controller for the City of Cape Coral, working with that city since 2001. There, as in Venice, she managed the city's financial management system, along with being responsible for accounting, financial reporting, treasury, cash management and investments, debt issues, payroll, grant coordination, capital assets, capital construction projects and customer billing services.

She also prepares the city's annual financial report.

Senne worked for the Office of the State Auditor in Bismarck, N.D., for 13 years before coming to Cape Coral. While working for the State of North Dakota, she participated in the National Auditor's Association Quality Control Review for the states of Rhode Island and Alabama.

A Southwest Florida Government Finance Officers Association board member since 2006, Senne served as its president in 2008. She also served on the host committee for the Florida Government Finance Officers Association annual conference for two years.

She is a board member with FLSAFE, a local government investment pool.



New Finance Director Linda Senne is surrounded by staff in her department: Jon Mayes, Debbie Briggs, Kathy Millspaugh, Brenda Westlake, Nancy Carello, Joanne Benjamin, Peter Boers, Robin Williams, Carolyn Hart, Jessica Samson and Michelle Newman.

With SeeClickFix, public can report issues on the go

Reporting a concern in Venice is now just a few clicks away.

The city has partnered with SeeClickFix to announce a new platform called Venice Connect that will allow citizens to report quality-of-life issues (such as potholes, roadside junk and tall grass) and request city services.

With free SeeClickFix mobile app and web tools, Venice citizens will now be able to provide city staff with pictures, videos, specific descriptions, and more — valuable information needed to get the job done efficiently. In addition, the SeeClickFix platform provides city officials with a centralized issue management system to manage issues from creation to resolution, engaging citizens throughout the process.

“We’re thrilled to be able to provide this service to our citizens,” said city Public Information Officer Lorraine Anderson. “SeeClickFix will streamline the process of reporting issues and get them assigned to the correct city departments more expediently and efficiently.”

Sarasota County is also a SeeClickFix partner. SeeClickFix’s technology was built for overlapping jurisdictions, so citizens can report issues to the city and county on the same app.

“SeeClickFix is just what our community needed. It will help us at the City of Venice to be more responsive to our constituents and to be more efficient in handling their issues,” said city IT Director Jeff Bolen.

SeeClickFix Venice Connect is available as an app for Android and iPhone. Select SeeClickFix from your app store on your device and choose Venice, Florida. There is also a link to the program on the city’s website, www.venicegov.com, or go directly to SeeClickFix at <http://www.seeclickfix.com/venice>.

Use SeeClickFix to request assistance with City of Venice services or report problems, such as potholes, roadside junk, broken sidewalks, stormdrain is-

suess, traffic signal/sign problems, code violations, etc.

Venice Connect will acknowledge newly submitted issues and forward them to the appropriate departments to take care of the requests. Users will receive email updates and can come back here to check the status of submitted issues. When the issue is resolved, the issue can be closed. Separate issues should be submitted as separate SeeClickFix reports. Note: Please make sure that the address you are providing is the location of the issue being **reported**. For more information on using the program, call 941-882-7401.

Law enforcement issues of an emergency nature need to be reported directly to the Venice Police Department by calling 911. VPD’s non-emergency number is 941-486-2444. After-hours Utilities emergencies can be reported at 941-486-2770.

SeeClickFix



Sons of American Legion give back to community



On Aug. 11, the Sons of the American Legion invited Venice Police Chief Tom Mattmuller to the American Legion NO-VEL Post 159, where Sons Commander Robert DiDio presented the chief, second from left, with a donation of \$3,000 for the purchase of personal protective equipment — 2 ballistic shields — for the Venice Police Department. The Sons of the American Legion place an emphasis on preserving American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation’s children, caring for veterans and their families, and teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

Finance director, continued from page 5

Senne received a bachelor’s degree in Accounting from Moorhead State University-Minnesota and has been a certified public accountant since 1988.

Lavallee told the Venice Gondolier Sun he first learned about Senne from former Cape Coral city manager Terry Stewart at a Florida conference of city managers.

“He told me what a great find she was. A professional,” Lavallee said. “I have come to appreciate how really, really knowledgeable she is -- a power-

house of a producer. She knows her department. She’s articulate, and as we have seen with her presentations before Council, is an effective communicator.

The city manager added that Senne is great to work with and is a skilled leader.

“She knows the information and process and can explain with confidence what she is proposing,” he said.

Added Assistant City Manager Len Bramble: “I will always do all I can to support any city employee, and I must admit that I am very excited that Linda

has accepted the position, and optimistic that she will bring about a strong sense of cohesion and ‘team’ within the Finance Department and between Finance and other departments.

“I think this was clearly seen by the support Linda received from city staff during the time of her appointment at (the Sept. 13) City Council meeting.”

Senne, 53, and her husband Scott, a chiropractor/acupuncturist, have been married for 23 years and live in Fort Myers. They have two children, Sommer, 18, and Shiloh, 9.

VMA's new exhibit races into town



BURNIN' Rubber

Auto Racing in Venice from 1953 to 1960

Explore the local racing history of **MICRO MIDGETS, HOT RODS and SPORTS CARS!**

On exhibit now through 1/25/17 at **Venice MUSEUM & ARCHIVES**

Some of the original members of the Venice Vagabonds are pictured below: Dave "Digger" Pattison, David Harriman, Charles "Pete" Peterson, Edward Evett, Elaine and Roger Totten, and (in front) Bob Rigby.

The Venice Museum & Archives held an opening reception for its latest exhibit, "Burnin' Rubber: Auto Racing in Venice from 1953 to 1960," the evening of Sept. 15. In attendance were some of the original members of the Venice Vagabonds, the local hot rod club here in the '50s, including Jim Lash, Dave "Digger" Pattison, David Harriman, Charles "Pete" Peterson, Edward Evett, Elaine and Roger Totten, and Bob Rigby.

"Whoever thought after all these years, this would happen," marveled Pattison, who regaled attendees with stories of the old days.

It was a photo that VMA Curator and Collections Manager Harm hadn't seen before that became the impetus for the exhibit on 1950s-'60s auto racing in Venice, which was done at the airport.

"The Venice Vagabonds was a hot-rodding club that re-established last year," Harm said. "We had a photo donated to the museum (of the group in the mid-'50s) and I had never heard of the club or about racing in Venice. I figured, how could we tell this story?"

Through word of mouth, other donations came in – a jacket, a scrapbook filled with pictures, period hot-rod magazines, '50s auto parts like a shiny racing hubcap and a fancy valve cover.

"Since so much material was coming in, I thought, why not (do an exhibit)?" she said. "I also thought it would draw people who otherwise might not come here."

After World War II ended, the Army Air Base in Venice was empty. The airstrip was a perfect place for drag racing, Harm explained.

The exhibit will be on display at the VMA, 351 Nassau St. S., Venice, through Jan. 25, 2017. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and the first and third Saturdays, October-April, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

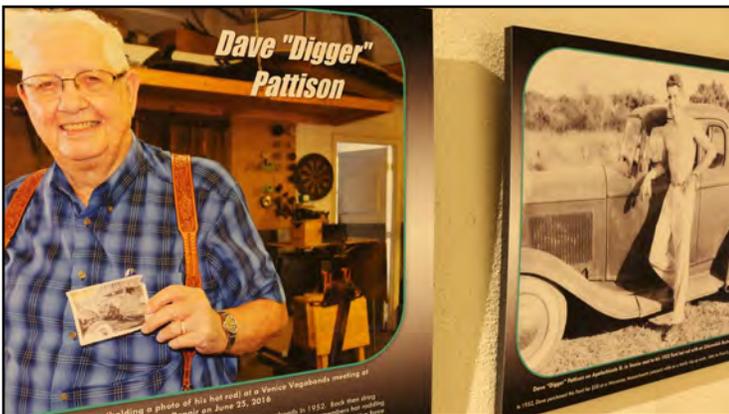
See more photos, page 9



'BURNIN' RUBBER' EXHIBIT



The VMA held an opening reception Sept. 15 for its new "Burnin' Rubber" auto racing exhibit, which included a classic car show. The exhibit, researched and produced over six months and installed in about a week by museum Curator and Collections Manager Michelle Harm, includes "now and then" photos of Venice Vagabonds members, car parts, magazines, posters and other memorabilia.



Mote: Majority of sea turtle nests hatched before Hermine

Tropical Storm Hermine affected most of the remaining sea turtle nests in the area during late August and early September, according to Mote Marine Laboratory scientists. Fortunately, the area has hosted a record number of nests this year, and the majority hatched before the storm.

Of the record 4,447 nests laid so far this year on Mote-monitored beaches — Longboat Key through Venice — 1,700 had yet to hatch before the storm. Of those:

- * 686 nests were deemed “total washouts,” unlikely to produce any hatchlings. Of those total washouts, 68 were in Venice.

- * 66 nests total were observed in standing water, meaning they are unlikely to produce any hatchlings.

- * 400 nests experienced accretion — more sand piled on top. Many accreted nests have a chance to hatch if the water drains from the sand.

Some nests were declared total washouts because all of their marking stakes were washed away and the nests could not be found. This means some areas with no marking stakes might harbor hidden, viable nests, according to Mote.

“The bottom line is, we lost some nests to nature, and yet we may have hatches from areas without stakes, so we encourage everyone visiting, working or living along our beaches to be on the lookout and continue to be turtle-friendly until the end of nesting season, Oct. 31, even if you see few or no marked nests in your area,” said Kristen Mazzarella, senior biologist with Mote’s Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program.

Despite storm impacts, 2016 has been a highly productive year for sea turtle nesting in Mote’s area: The 4,447 nests laid to-date are the most ever recorded in Mote’s 35-year history of sea turtle conservation on Longboat Key through Venice. In addition, sea turtles’ nesting patterns compensate for some storm impacts.

“Sea turtles have nested in areas with strong storms for millennia,” Mazzarella said. “Each turtle normally lays several nests per season, spread out in time. This maximizes their chance to produce a successful hatch.”

As of Mote’s latest weekly update from Sept. 24, nesting has slowed down as it normally does at this time of year. Still, 621 nests have been reported in Venice alone from May 1. Last year’s total number of nests in Venice for the season was 256. Visit www.mote.org/2016nesting for weekly numbers of new nests. Mote scientists expect to share final nest counts after the season ends on Oct. 31.

Five species of sea turtles inhabit the Gulf of Mexico: loggerhead (the most common), green, hawksbill, leather-back and Kemp’s Ridley. During nesting season, the turtles — many of which hatched on area beaches — make their way to Southwest Florida, where they come ashore at night to lay their nests. Only an estimated one out of every 1,000 hatchlings survives to adulthood.

During the nesting season, it is important to keep local beaches turtle-friendly, Mote officials say. Female sea turtles and their hatchlings find the water by heading toward the brightest horizon. On a developed beach, light from waterfront properties can disorient sea turtles and draw them toward roads, drains, yards, swimming pools and other dangerous locations. Shield or turn off outdoor lights that are visible on the beach through October. Additionally, don’t use flashlights or fishing lamps on the beach. If you see sea turtle hatchlings traveling toward land instead of the ocean, please call Mote’s sea turtle program at 941-388-4331 for instructions. If you call after hours, then Mote’s automated message system will let you know what to do.



City launches monthly bicycle ride



The city's inaugural monthly bike ride from City Hall took to the streets Sept. 14, led by Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator Darlene Culpepper, below at left. About 20 bicyclists participated in the casual 6-mile ride around the Island of Venice. The next ride, open to the public, is set for 10 a.m. Oct. 12. Helmets are required.



At right, city Human Resources Manager Oliver Lewis and Mayor John Holic, in background, see the bicyclists off, including Venice Police Officer Erin Mungavin and Sgt. Ron Perisho.



City of Venice Public Safety Improvement Bond information for residents

THE NEED

The City's current police station on Ridgewood Avenue was built in 1990, some 26 years ago. In a recent examination of the current facility by an architectural consulting firm and City Engineering, it was determined that the current police department building:

Is not hardened by modern standards for hurricanes or other natural disasters. A building hardened to contemporary standards has a roof, walls and windows that can withstand Category 5 storm-force rain and winds of up to 157 mph.

Does not meet current security standards.

Cannot accommodate the technology that police use continuously, now and for the future.

Has limited space on 5 acres for the formation of a command center.

Cannot easily or cost-effectively accommodate expansion to meet all the strategic needs of the police department, or other local, state or federal agencies brought in to assist in times of crisis.

MODERN POLICING

Policing has changed since the current police station was built, due in part to an increase in terrorist and active shooter activities. Recent events have shown us these type of threats can happen anywhere at any time. The Public Safety Improvement Bond would support the construction of a modern, updated facility that will allow first responders to be in a constant state of preparedness and react efficiently and effectively to threats, whether natural or manmade, of any kind, as well as provide peace of mind for residents.

WHAT'S PROPOSED

The bond would fund design, engineering and construction of a 25,000-square-foot, hurricane-hardened public safety command center on a 10-acre property with secured grounds. Along with housing the Police Department, it will feature:

- * Multipurpose rooms to support training or emergency operations, including a media briefing area.
- * A community room open to the public for meetings of civic groups or other organizations.
- * Support for current forensic technology and room for processing and storage of evidence.

The Public Safety Improvement Bond issue will be for 30 years for a maximum project cost of \$16 million.

The initial annual cost to property owners is estimated at \$28 per \$100,000 of assessed value. The current assessed value of your property can be found at <http://www.sc-pa.com/testsearch/>. This figure will most likely decrease as more new homes are constructed.

The vote on the Public Safety Improvement Bond issue will be on the ballot in the Nov. 8 election. Answers to Frequently Asked Questions are available at www.venicegov.com.

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City of Venice Public Safety Bond Frequently Asked Questions

Q. When will voters be asked to approve the bond?

A. The Public Safety Improvement Bond for a new, storm-hardened public safety command center will be on the ballot for the Nov. 8, 2016, election. Placing the Public Safety Bond for consideration by the voters was approved by the Venice City Council on June 14.

Q. How will it appear on my ballot?

A. The wording will appear as follows:

Approval of General Obligation Bonds to Finance Public Safety Improvements

Shall the City of Venice issue general obligation bonds maturing not later than 30 years from their issuance in a principal amount not exceeding \$16,000,000, bearing interest not in excess of the maximum legal rate, to finance a public safety facility for police, emergency operations and training, payable from ad valorem property taxes levied without limit on all taxable property within the City?

_____ YES - FOR BONDS

_____ NO - AGAINST BONDS

Q. What is the cost to property owners?

A. The initial annual cost to property owners is estimated at \$28 per \$100,000 of assessed value, less any homestead or other exemptions as defined by the Sarasota County Property Appraiser. The current assessed value of your property can be found at <http://www.sc-pa.com/testsearch/>. As more homes are constructed, the unit cost per household should decrease.

Q. Where would the new public safety command center be located?

A. The 25,000-square-foot center is proposed to be built on 10 acres on East Venice Avenue.

Q. What will the command center include?

A. The facility will include multipurpose rooms that can be used for training offices, classrooms, emergency operations work rooms and media briefings, and additional outside parking. It will have a community room to serve a variety of City and public meeting space needs. In the event of a natural or manmade disaster, the center can house those who need to stay there for several days. The center will also better accommodate the use of civilian volunteers and public safety aides, and facilitate the Citizen Police Academy Program.

Continued on page 14

City of Venice Public Safety Bond Frequently Asked Questions (con't)

Q: How will the new command center enhance public safety operations?

A. A public safety command center is an important municipal asset in times of crisis, be that a hurricane or other weather event, or active shooter or terrorist act. The new facility will be weather-hardened to withstand a Category 5 storm (winds 157 mph or higher) and have secure grounds. This will enable the City to use the center under any natural or manmade crisis situation.

The City's current emergency operations center (now a room at Fire Station #3 on East Laurel Road) will be upgraded and centrally located in the new facility to provide sufficient space and resources to prepare for and respond to any emergency. The facility will be 7,000 feet larger than the current police station to accommodate the resources needed to support the project growth in population over the next 30 years. Assets like police vehicles will be protected from storms and the wear and tear of Florida weather. There will be ample room for evidence storage.

When outside agencies such as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, FBI, U.S. Customs and the Department of Children & Families come to Venice as part of an investigation, the City will have adequate workspace for their staff. Everything in the new building will be designed as multipurpose – the training area will be constantly used by police and other agencies, and also used as a community room; in the event of an emergency, it will transform into the primary command center area. The City will have the ability to open the community room up to outside organizations and clubs and be welcoming to the public.

Q. What's wrong with the current police facility?

A. The current police station on Ridgewood Avenue, built in 1990, was not constructed to be hardened to modern standards for hurricanes or other natural disasters. It also does not meet current security standards overall. The current 18,000-square-foot facility on a 5-acre site cannot easily or cost-effectively accommodate expansion to meet all current public safety needs and future growth of the department.

The current police department is not easily expanded. There is no place to house police assets and inadequate room to store evidence; currently, such items are being stored off-site. The current building is not designed for today's forensic work and other technology that is moving forward at a rapid rate.

Further, when a citizen comes to the current police station to discuss an issue with an officer and enters the lobby, there is no privacy for him to do so. Often, the officer and the citizen step outside the building to talk.

Q. How much would it cost to just upgrade the existing Police Department building?

A. According to cost estimates from architects Fawley Bryant, to simply upgrade the current 18,000-square-foot police building on Ridgewood Avenue to Category 5 standards, with no expansion, would cost \$1.25 million. To expand the current facility to 30,000 square feet built to Category 5 standards would cost \$6.2 million. However, there would be no expansion or improvements to exterior parking or evidence holding, and the building would still be located on a constricted 5 acres.

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City of Venice Public Safety Bond Frequently Asked Questions (con't)

Q. If the Public Safety Improvement Bond passes, what happens to the current police station?

A. The Police Department building will be converted to house Public Works administration, parks and road maintenance, freeing up the Seaboard area where Public Works is currently in an aging facility. Passage of the Public Safety Improvement Bond would be the start of fixing facilities in the City that need it.

Q. If the bond passes, when will construction start on the new public safety facility?

A. With design, bidding, permitting, etc., the start date is estimated to be 10-12 months after the bond passes.

Q. How long will construction take?

A. Construction is estimated to take 14-16 months. The overall time from the bond passing to building completion is 2 to 2 ½ years.

Q. Why not just renovate the current police station?

A. Bringing the current building up to modern standards would be costly, according to engineers, and any facility would still be limited to the 5-acre footprint where it is now. To expand, the City would need to make the building a two-story structure, which is much more expensive. Expensive items like an elevator would need to be included. The walls, entryway and windows would need to be remodeled and upgraded to Category 5 hurricane standards. The entire building would have to undergo significant renovation.

Q. Isn't the City duplicating services when there is an Emergency Operations Center in Sarasota?

A. What the City calls its emergency operations center now is really a small conference room in Fire Station #3 that is not centrally located. If during a crisis staff from other City departments or even other agencies are brought in, they need to have adequate workspace as well as be able to get information out to the media.

The Sarasota County EOC provides overarching emergency management support. The City, with its own plan and program, ensures there is seamless support and connectivity between the two governments throughout the duration of a disaster. In times of crisis, the City would send a liaison to the County to achieve a common operational mission. The County and local facilities should complement each other in this way, but in an emergency, each provides distinct services. One does not substitute for the other.

The City also needs a secure location in Venice from which to operate, before and during a natural or manmade disaster, so first responders can quickly emerge when the coast is clear and start recovering.

City of Venice Public Safety Bond Frequently Asked Questions (con't)

Q. What happens if the Public Safety Improvement Bond does not pass?

A. The Police Department will stay in the building it is in now. If the City wants to renovate the facility to any degree, it will come at a considerable cost. Public Works will also stay where it is. A significant amount of funds will have to go into both facilities to bring them up to modern standards. Citizens won't have a centrally located community room that the public can use. Police assets cannot be protected in the current building. Without a public safety command center of this nature, the City will miss the opportunity to sync all operations during a critical emergency.

Q. Who do I contact for additional information?

A. For additional information, please contact Lorraine Anderson, Public Information Officer, at 941-882-7401 or landerson@venicegov.com, or Police Chief Tom Mattmuller at 941-882-7600 or tmattmuller@venicegov.com.

Prescription drug 'take-back' program at VPD

The city of Venice reminds citizens of the ongoing program that allows the public to return unused medications/prescriptions into a controlled collection system.

In doing so, the medications are destroyed without being deposited into our landfills or water system, substantially reducing any potential environmental damage and the chance of the meds becoming a health hazard. Safe disposal of these medications also decreases access to addictive drugs for accidental or intentional misuse.

A drop box for controlled substances, expired prescriptions and over-the-

counter medications (pills only; no needles or liquids) is available in the lobby of the Venice Police station at the intersection of Capri Isles Blvd. and Ridgewood Ave. (1350 E. Ridgewood Ave.), adjacent to Pinebrook Park, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

A more detailed description of the program is available on VPD's webpage at www.venicegov.com. Click on Departments at the top of the homepage, select Police, then Community Programs on the left, and then Rx Take-Back Program.

For more information, call 941-486-2444.

HERMINE ROLLS IN



Hermine's winds and rain hit Venice as a tropical storm Sept. 2, later becoming a Category 1 hurricane as it moved northeast. The storm closed the South Jetty park and Venice Fishing Pier, with flooding at Flamingo, Gardenia, Villas, Golden Beach and other local streets in the vicinity. City firefighters and Public Works staff, at left, led sandbagging efforts for residents.



Above, John Monville and Ryan Burns with the Engineering Department shovel open the Flamingo Ditch after storm surge receded, relieving nearby street flooding. Overall, the beaches gained sand, with no significant erosion, according to City Engineer Kathleen Weeden.



Local collector donates historic photos, postcards to VMA

Resident Reggie Foote, a longtime local collector of Venice ephemera, objects and photos, recently donated a great collection of postcards and photos to the Venice Museum & Archives.

Some of the images date back to the early settlers, including one of the Dunn Haven home site, located in present-day Nokomis. The postcard caption of the image says “Venice, Fla.,” because that was the original name of Nokomis.

“Passionate collectors like Mr. Foote are essential to small museums like the Venice Museum & Archives,” said VMA Curator and Collections Manager Michelle Harm. “Our limited budget does not include earmarked funds for acquisitions for the collection; instead, we have to rely upon donated items that come through the door. Besides the expense of purchasing items through online auction sites, estate sales and other methods, it is also time-consuming.”

Foote, a 14-year resident of Venice who moved here from Berlin, Conn., scours the Internet for auction sites like eBay with these items.

A former regional manager for Pratt & Whitney’s commercial engine division, he’s lived for years at a time in the course of his job in Singapore; Bombay, India; Seoul, South Korea; and Stockholm, Sweden.

“I joined the local historic society (in Connecticut) and started getting interested in locating and finding,” Foote said. “Ever since I retired (in 1998) I would look for local memorabilia, anything related to Venice.

“When I first started, I found there was a lot of stuff available, especially from eBay. I’d get original photos that haven’t been published by local papers, some from the Venice Army Air Base.”

Foote, who says he’s donated a couple hundred items to the VMA over the length of his time here, says he does so because he doesn’t want them to get lost.

“I want to save these items from oblivion, even though there’s a cost to me,” he said. Monetarily, he says, he has no idea of the total of his donations, but “I’m sure it would be thousands.”

Online, he searches for “Venice” twice a day on eBay and Craigslist. He also checks the local newspapers for items, and gets tips through word of mouth.

“What piqued my interest now is the display that (the VMA has) going on now,” Foote said, referring to “Burnin’ Rubber: Auto Racing in Venice from 1953-1960.” “I had a few items on the sports car races held out at (Venice) Airport. Car racing is one of my favorite sports. I used to drag race myself in the early



Above, Reggie Foote is pictured with his wife, Judi, outside the Venice Museum & Archives. At right is one of the many historic photos Foote recently donated to the VMA, showing early settlers of the area.



Collector, continued from page 18

1960s in New England.”

A director for the Venice Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, Foote donated a photo of a couple cars, a brochure for a sports car race, and an application for one, to the current exhibit.

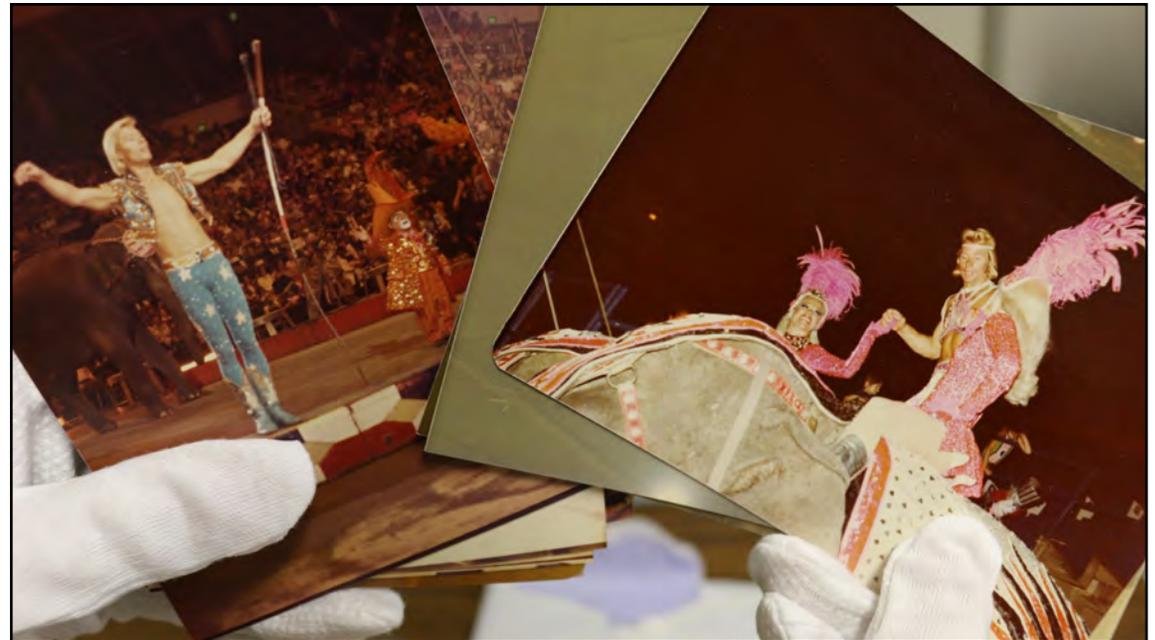


According to Harm, items donated by Foote over the years include booklets, maps, theater

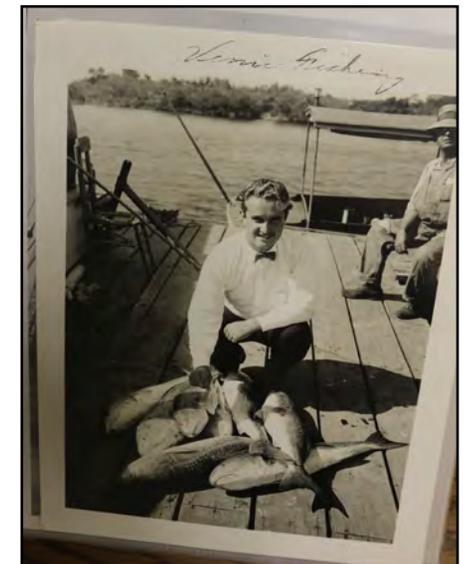
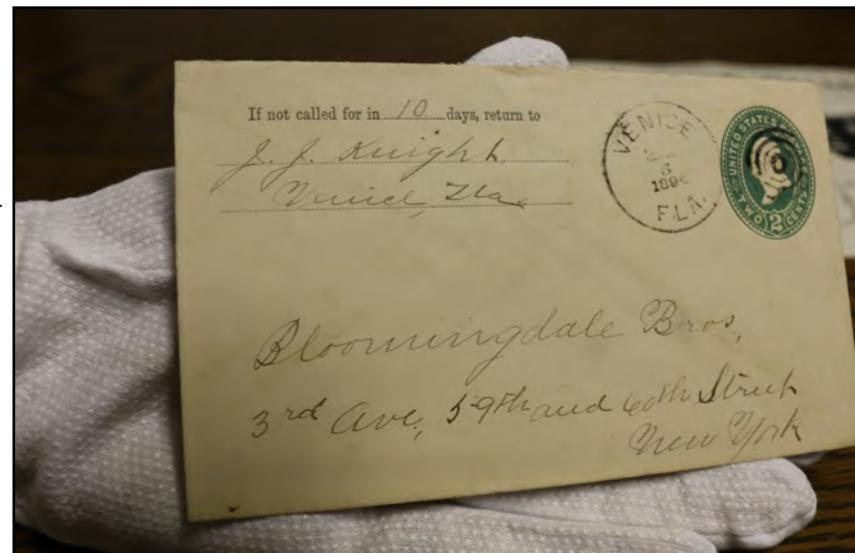
programs, photos, slides, postcards and objects. Items range from a Smack McDonald's menu (a beloved local restaurant back in the day), to a letter from a Chinese American airman stationed at the Venice Army Air Base during WWII, to a commemorative coin from the Ringling Circus Parade in Venice celebrating the U.S. 1976 Bicentennial.

“Mr. Foote's keen eye for all things Venice and his expertise as a collector make him an invaluable resource,” Harm said. “He is extremely generous to donate portions of his collection to the museum for the benefit of the people of Venice. Now that the items are part of the VMA's collection, they are publicly accessible for research, exhibition and the enjoyment of everyone.”

“These historic photos, documents and artifacts could have been purchased by collectors anywhere in the world and end up far from Venice. The fact that they are coming home to be preserved for future generations is invaluable. Mr. Foote is helping save Venice's unique history.”



Foote's recent donation includes vintage circus photos, including pictures of animal trainer Gunther Gebel-Williams, above; “Venice Fishing,” below right; and a number of postcards including one post-marked from Venice to New York in 1894, below left.



IN TRAINING



On Sept. 16, city firefighters trained inside and outside a home on Park Boulevard North set to be demolished. Firefighters practiced survivor skills and conducted a downed firefighter scenario (pictured at left).



Volunteers needed to serve on city boards

The City of Venice is seeking volunteers to serve on the following boards. Qualification, duties and meeting schedules are as follows:

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD – One vacancy (city resident)

Conduct studies and make recommendations to City Council for the adoption, administration and enforcement of reasonable architectural and aesthetic standards to apply in appropriate areas or districts of the city. Upon the adoption by ordinance of City Council of such architectural and aesthetic standards, it shall be the duty of the board to administer and enforce such standards pursuant to the procedures to be adopted by City Council.

Must be a city resident with the exception of one registered architect. One board member shall be a member of Venice MainStreet Inc. Others shall have background in building design or similar fields.

Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 9 a.m.

CITIZEN TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – One vacancy

Conduct an annual review of the expenditures made by the city from the sales tax proceeds to ensure that expenditures have been made in accordance with infrastructure project lists and any changes thereto. The board shall meet as needed to review any changes made by the city to the infrastructure projects or to the allocation of sales tax proceeds for the sole purpose of ensuring that all procedural requirements have been followed.

Must be a city resident. May not be full time employee of the city or private individuals or employees of private firms under contract with the city.

Meets at least annually or as needed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD – One vacancy

Advise the City Council about issues pertaining to business and economic development in the city. The board may review economic development issues, gather information and ideas, coordinate business development activities with other similar organizations around Sarasota County, and assist in marketing the city as a desirable location for clean, light industry and commercial uses.

The final goal is to make recommendations to City Council relative to economic development and consistent with the city's established goals.

Meets every other month on the third Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD — One vacancy (student)

Recommend the designation of historic districts, identify and recommend designation of historic landmarks and archaeologically significant sites, identify and nominate eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places and assist Planning Commission in administration of the historic preservation element in the city's comprehensive plan. Members must be residents of the city (except student), and have interest and knowledge in history, architecture and related fields, as well as a concern for the heritage of the city of Venice.

Meets the 3rd Friday of the month at 9 a.m.

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY BOARD — One vacancy

Implement guidelines, selection procedures and organizational policies to facilitate selection, approval and placement of public art. Program planning; designating sites; determining project scope and budget; overseeing the artist selection process; commissioning artworks; reviewing design, education and placement of artworks from the city's public art collection. Investigate, review and recommend means by which artworks may be obtained, including donations, gifts, and grant applications for public art projects.

Encourage public art through the city, including the participation of all citizens in a joint public and private effort to promote art in public places. Celebrate the community's heritage, ethnicity, commonality and civic pride by stimulating collaboration and understanding between artists and the community. Enhance Venice's image locally; regionally and nationally by insuring the creation of the highest quality public art. Promote artists to live and to work in Venice and to participate in public presentations of their art. Encourage federal, state and private support for Venice's Public Art Program.

Consists of people who live, work or own property in the city, and have a background in public art, architecture, cultural policy or related fields.

Meets quarterly on the second Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

Venice Building Dept. now has sign-in kiosk

The city's Building Department has recently initiated a program to alleviate the need to stand in line while waiting to see a staff member in either Building or Developmental Services.

With the recent addition of a sign-in kiosk, citizens are able to sign in and specify their needs, submit for a permit, ask a question, ask to see staff, or address any of the services provided by the department, according to Building Official Frank O'Neill.

At times, people stand in line at the permitting counter only to ask a question, drop off paperwork, or to see a plans examiner or inspector. Often, people stand in line only to mark their spot. They are now able to sit down and not feel obligated to stand in line while they wait.

This program was initiated by staff as an added convenience for those dealing with the Building Department or interrelated departments, to increase efficiency and improve customer service. The Building Department is located to the right inside the main entrance of Venice City Hall at 401 W. Venice Ave.



AT YOUR SERVICE

The following individuals have been appointed or reappointed to serve on city boards, commissions, committees and task forces:

James Middleton, reappointed to the Historic Preservation Board, to serve a term from Oct. 1, 2016, until Sept. 30, 2019.

Eydie Kargas, appointed to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to serve a term from Oct. 1, 2016, until Sept. 30, 2019.

Roger Effron, appointed to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to serve a term from Sept. 27, 2016, until June 30, 2017.

Franklin Wright, appointed to the Historic Preservation Board to complete the term of Judith Bauer from Sept. 27, 2016, until Aug. 31, 2018.

City boards, continued from page 21

TRAFFIC ADVISORY TASK FORCE – Two vacancies

Participates with city staff to coordinate a series of public forums for the active engagement of various segments of the Venice population. Open workshops and charrettes will provide an opportunity for citizens, resident groups, business groups, social and civic organizations to brainstorm issues, analyze data and formulate recommendations for the adoption of public policy and related decision-making on the proper and effective use of public and private resources. The Task Force will address the following issues: safe bicycle operation, use of golf carts, alternative energy vehicles, traffic influx and egress, street design and amenities, street signage, public transportation, parking, walking, public-private partnerships, and public safety conditions and strategies.

Comprised of citizens who collectively represent a broad range of transportation and traffic perspectives.

Meets the 1st Thursday of each month.

If you are interested in serving on a board, please submit your application online at www.venicegov.com, or at the City Clerk's office, 401 W. Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285. If you would like more information on a particular board, please contact the Mayor's Office at 941-486-2626. All resumes will be considered when vacancies occur.

MOORING FIELD CLEANUP

Volunteers pulled nearly 1,000 pounds of debris from the Venice Mooring Field on Saturday, Sept. 17. Spearheaded by the Suncoast Reef Rovers Venice dive club, the cleanup yielded over 300 pounds of anchors and 170 pounds of rope, along with a battery charger, chains, tires, concrete blocks, a culvert and two inflatable dinghies (pictured being removed from the water at bottom middle and bottom right). Dozens of other items were too heavy to lift — in-

cluding engine blocks, a light pole and even a cast-iron sink — so latitude/longitude readings were taken so they could be picked up later.

Forty people were involved from nine different organizations, including the nearby Venice Yacht Club (which hosted a pulled pork lunch for the volunteers), Venice Police and Fire departments, and the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office.



Utilities Water Meter Change-Out Program

Initiation of this capital improvement project is the first phase of upgrading existing radio read meters (Automatic Meter Reading) to Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). Over 10 years ago, the City initiated a program for the replacement of all manual read meters with radio read meters. Those meters are reaching or have exceeded their recommended useful life. Full implementation of all AMI capabilities is planned within two years, once enough AMI meters are in the system to justify expense of the towers needed to transmit and receive signals. Utilities will begin the project by replacing the oldest meters with the upgraded model that will ultimately transmit meter data to centrally located towers. Advance Metering Analytics (AMA) is the secure software that enables this two-way fixed network to collect, organize and analyze meter data, eliminating the need for staff to drive by each meter while improving operations and asset management, and water and energy conservation. Our customers will have access via a web portal to review and analyze their consumption for the last year and receive notifications of possible leaks in their plumbing, water conservation tips and incentive programs. Staff is preparing to submit an application for consideration to the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) Cooperative Funding Grant program for purchasing the software.

The water meter change-out program project is scheduled to bid prior to the end of 2016. Approximately 1,020 water meters that are greater than ten years old are being replaced as part of this first phase. All meters and the required number of replacement boxes were purchased by the City to minimize cost of materials; only damaged boxes or lids will be replaced. Each change-out does require an interruption to water service. The contract documents require the contractor to coordinate timing of the work with each occupant; door hangers will be placed if the occupant is not present. Should you have questions, please contact our Technical Unit Supervisor, Michael Catalano at 941-480-3333 ext. 7311

Incentive Program:

Staff is also preparing to submit an application to the Southwest Florida Water Management District Cooperative Funding Grant program for Phase 6 of the Toilet Replacement Project which provides rebates for certain water saving improvements, do-it-yourself kits and educational material. If selected, SWFWMD's Cooperative Funding Initiative Program will match City funds up to 50 percent for each project.



Above, 5/8" x 3/4" water meter and endpoint (data collector).

Backflow Program Required Testing Reminder

The Utilities Department began the backflow prevention program sending notification letters to owners of properties that required a backflow device, had an option to downgrade their current device, or no longer required a device. Priority was focused on non-residential properties that did not have a backflow device or a current certification for testing their existing assembly. The same was done for residential properties with exception of the test certifications. Moving into the next phase of the program includes staff addressing the following requirements:

Non-residential - All properties require a reduced pressure backflow assembly (RP-BFP)

RP-BFP assemblies are required to be tested annually; reminder post cards are now being sent on a monthly basis.

Double-check assemblies were allowed to remain in place until the initial 12-month period ended. These property owners will be receiving letters requiring the installation of a reduced pressure backflow assembly.

Residential - The level of property hazard determines if a backflow device is required and what type.

Testing reminders for residential properties will begin to be sent in the near future, on a monthly basis.

Letters are being sent to property owners that have not complied with the backflow prevention program requirements within the initial 12-month period.

Residential testing requirements - There are different requirements specific to residential.

Reduced pressure backflow assemblies currently require an inspection every other year.

Dual check backflow assemblies (DuC-BFP) do not require testing, but are required to be refurbished or replaced no less than once every 10 years.

General requirements that determine the type of BFP required for Residential Customers are below:

- Potable water used for irrigation requires a Reduced Pressure Backflow Preventer Assembly (RP-BFP)
- Surface water used for irrigation requires a RP-BFP
- Well water used for irrigation requires a Dual Check Backflow Preventer Assembly (DuC-BFP)
- Reclaimed water used for irrigation requires a DuC-BFP
- None of the above means no BFP is required.

There are minor exceptions to these requirements. The above covers the vast majority of city customers.

Visit our website page at http://venicegov.com/Municipal_links/Utilities/backflow.asp for residential backflow frequently asked questions and to view the Cross-Connection Control Program Manual.

Should you have questions about your specific circumstances, please contact our Technical Unit Supervisor, Michael Catalano, at 941-480-3333, ext. 7311.



Above, a reduced pressure assembly (RP-BFP) is installed above ground, downstream of meter box. Below, a dual check (DuC-BFP) is installed underground, typically in a meter box.



9/11 CEREMONY



A Sept. 11 memorial ceremony at Patriots Park — which holds a 2-ton steel beam from the World Trade Center wreckage — marked the 15th anniversary of the 2001 terrorist attacks. Fire Chief Shawn Carvey, top left, rang a bell for the victims and was presented a poster of NYFD members lost that day from event organizer Gene Sweeney. Council Member Fred Fraize, top right; Council Member Rich Cautero and Police Chief Tom Mattmuller also attended.



IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS



At left, Mayor John Holic honors Verna Silk on Sept. 27 for her service on the city's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, as Erin Silk and Linda Andrews look on. At right, Holic congratulates Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Scott Blanchard for his Congressional Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award.



At left, Mayor Holic proclaims Oct. 9-15 Fire Prevention Week with Fire Chief Shawn Carvey. At right, Holic swears in Venice Fire-medical Hunter Snyder as his parents look on Sept. 27.



IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS



At left, Mayor John Holic, with Cherie Heasley, communications manager with Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC), proclaims October 2016 Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Sept. 27. *Photo provided by Earle Kimel/Herald Tribune*



Above, Holic presented a proclamation naming September 2016 Life Insurance Awareness Month to representatives of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors Gulf Coast Florida on Sept. 13.

Mosquito spraying information

In the wake of recent storms, the area is dealing with standing water and mosquitoes.

Residents should visit <https://www.scgov.net/mms/Pages/default.aspx> and type in "mosquito management." There, you will find information regarding ways to help manage the problem.

This site also provides information and a map of all of Sarasota County, including Venice, as to when and where the county will be spraying to help control the potential mosquito problem. You can also call 941-861-5000 for more information.

Connect to government bid opportunities

Onvia DemandStar streamlines the local government procurement process by allowing agencies to manage the bid/proposal process electronically.

Local business vendors can review the City of Venice's current solicitations by signing up on DemandStar's website, www.demandstar.com. The site will automatically notify vendors of bids and Requests For Proposals (RFPs) via email. Bid and RFP documents and specs are distributed online.

With DemandStar, you can:

- . Be automatically notified of new government contracting opportunities that match your business.
- . Select the agencies from which you wish to receive leads.
- . Find out which competitors are also responding to bids and RFPs.

DemandStar can also be called for more information toll-free at 800-331-5337.

AROUND TOWN



Following a request from Assistant City Engineer James Clinch, volunteers with Keep Venice Beautiful removed about 75 Australian Pines, a like number of Brazilian peppers, two carrotwoods and two large bags of litter from the dunes on Venice beaches Sept. 8. Members are pictured at left with the first invasive to be removed.



Residents of Aston Gardens decorated gift bags and filled them with items for grateful Venice police officers in late August. From left, Chief Tom Mattmuller, Capt. Mike Rose, Traffic Officer Paul Freeman, Master Police Officer Mat Sauchinitz, Sgt. Ron Perisho, Lt. Jessica Chappa, Lt. Jason Adams and Training Officer Dan Schuler.



Public Works Director John Veneziano answers questions from those in attendance at a Venice homeowners/condo owners associations common issues meeting Sept. 21 in Council chambers.

Aston Gardens residents decorating the goodie bags for police officers, from left, Cecile White, Ginnie Schultz, Alice White and Elaine Greene. Julie Son, the facility's director of recreation and events, said the bags were created as a small gesture of gratitude for all the Department does for our community.



AROUND TOWN



The city's Health and Wellness Fair, free and open to the public, was held at the Venice Community Center Aug. 31-Sept. 1. There were food, coffee and smoothie samples; giveaways and raffles, as well as complimentary chair massages and fitness demos including hula hooping, at left. Participants could also learn about bike safety, Venice area wellness, and city parks and trails.



The health fair featured 44 vendors and was organized by city Benefits Administrator Susie Daniels, above, and her Wellness Team, including Airport Administrative Coordinator Marta Ugas-Carpenter at right.



VPD Training Officer Dan Schuler plays a "Family Feud" trivia game about bicycle safety with Public Works employees Stephen Sorrentino, Jay Pollard and Steven Sout.



AROUND TOWN



Residents and visitors of all ages enjoyed food, good music and dancing at the Sept. 24 Venice Beach Party, presented by Venice MainStreet Inc. Some 3,000 attended the 3-8 p.m. event, which featured four area bands including Wild Root, above, and Jah Movement, bottom left.



AROUND TOWN



City Clerk Lori Stelzer, with coordination from the Florida League of Cities (which provided speakers), organized mandatory training for area public officials on ethics, Sunshine and public records laws Sept. 23 at Village on the Isle. Elected officials in Florida have to take this four-hour course annually, according to Stelzer. Above, attorney Nikki Nate with the Bryant Miller Olive law firm of Tampa discusses the Sunshine Law as, below, Council Members Jeanette Gates, Fred Fraize and Rich Cautero listen. Mayor John Holic also attended. Seventeen officials from Venice, North Port, Naples, Punta Gorda, Fort Myers, Holmes Beach, Arcadia and Lakewood Ranch were present.



Janice and Glenn Stephens stand in front of the uniform of Janice's father, former Venice Police Chief John Shockey, on display at the "Burnin' Rubber" exhibit at the Venice Museum & Archives. Glenn's father was also police chief, fire chief and Public Works director for a number of years, sometimes at the same time. Glenn drove the city's historic 1926 firetruck, "Old Betsy," when he was 15.



City of Venice and Sarasota County firefighters cross train on gear recently at Station 52 in the city.



Venice Theatre

140 Tampa Ave. W.
941-488-1115
www.venicestage.com

"The Sunshine Boys"

Sept. 27-Oct. 16

"The Toxic Avenger"

Sept. 30-Oct. 23

"R.P.M. 30th Anniversary Concert"

Oct. 9

"Get Out of Dodge"

Nov. 3-20

"Billy Elliot the Musical"

Nov. 8-Dec. 4

"The Alter Eagles"

Nov. 13-14

Brian Gurl: "Gershwin with a Twist"

Nov. 20-21

"6 Women with Brain Death"

Dec. 2-18

"Late Nite Catechism"

Dec. 9-10



Venice Art Center

390 Nokomis Ave. S.
941-485-7136
www.veniceartcenter.com

"Members' Show — Anything and Everything"

Oct. 7-Nov. 4

**"Let Freedom Ring — A Tribute to America
and Our Military"**

Nov. 11-Dec. 9

"Julia Hyman & Linda Larisch Together Again"

Dec. 16-Jan. 13



Venice Performing Arts Center

1 Indian Ave.
941-480-3191
www.veniceperformingartscenter.com

"Salute to Veterans"

Venice Concert Band
Nov. 7

Nelson Illusions: "Dreams of the Impossible"

Nov. 12

"Atlantic City Boys"

Nov. 13

"Bernstein-Tchaikovsky-Brahms"

Venice Symphony
Nov. 18-19

"Christmas Concert"

Venice Concert Band
Dec. 5

School of Russian Ballet: "The Nutcracker"

Dec. 11

"Holiday Favorites"

Venice Chorale with the Venice Symphony
Dec. 16-18

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Your Sarasota County Public Library in Venice is moving to a larger space!

On Wednesday, Sept. 28, the temporary library at the Venice Community Center will close to prepare for moving to a larger site.

Sept. 27 will be the last day the library service at the VCC will be open to the public. A Book Return will remain in place at the VCC for your convenience.



GET READY FOR A NEW SPACE OCT. 4!

At 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, the new library will open at 260 N. Nokomis Ave. with a host of amenities:

- Expanded hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
- Larger collections of books, DVDs, magazines and newspapers.
- Enhanced children's area.
- More public access computers.
- Expanded reading areas.
- Venetian bike and walking trail adjacent to building.
- Michael Biehl Park with fountain and rest areas one block away.
- Historic Main Street shopping one block away.
- SCAT bus stop one block away.
- As always, our dedicated, helpful staff will be available to assist.

Here is how to get to your new Sarasota County public library.



Instructions from the closed library at the Venice Community Center

From the Venice Community Center, take Nokomis Avenue north for .4 miles. Continue on Nokomis past Tampa Avenue and the Venice Theatre.

Turn right into the far north entrance of the theatre parking lot. Follow the length of the parking lot to the end. Turn left to access parking around the library. The library entrance faces the bridge.

Additional city parking is available in the lot south of the library.

During the move, please visit our other library locations:

- Jacaranda Public Library
4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice
- Osprey Public Library
at Historic Spanish Point
337 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



**OLD BETSY'S
OPEN HOUSE**

First and third Saturdays beginning October 1, 2016 thru April
2017 from 11:00am to 3:00pm

at the foot of the Venice Avenue bridge, east side

Old Betsy, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper and Venice's first
fire truck, and Venice historical memorabilia on display

Stop by and sign Old Betsy's birthday card – she's 90 years old
this year!

**COME SEE WHAT AREA
BUSINESSES HAVE TO OFFER!**

**VENICE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CONSUMER
EXPO**

**Friday & Saturday • October 7 & 8
9am - 3pm Both Days**

\$100 GIVEN AWAY 5 TIMES A DAY BOTH DAYS!
FREE ADMISSION • DOOR PRIZES • FOOD & BEVERAGES

- ★ DOOR PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS
- ★ HEALTH SCREENINGS
- ★ FOOD COURT
- ★ BOAT DISPLAY
- ★ PRODUCTS & SERVICES FOR YOUR HOME!

MEDIA SPONSORS:

 WWSB
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**VENICE AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**COME SEE 90 CHAMBER
MEMBERS AT THE EXPO!**

**HEALTH
SCREENINGS**

- VISION SCREENINGS
- BLOOD PRESSURE
- EAR SCREENINGS

**EXPO WILL BE HELD AT THE VENICE COMMUNITY CENTER
OCT. 7 & 8 • FRIDAY 9AM-3PM • SATURDAY 9AM - 3PM
326 S. NOKOMIS AVE., VENICE**

BUSINESS OWNERS - RESERVE YOUR BOOTH NOW!
 Showcase your business to over 3,000 area residents!
 Contact Donna Pirozzi at 488-2236 for booth availability & pricing.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

BENEVOLENT, PATRIOTIC ORDER OF DOES
FALL FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON



Resort Fashions by Tiffany

Saturday, October 8th

11:30 AM

ELKS' Lodge

1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis

\$18.00

Call Shirley Yawn at (941)726-9933, Barbara Jones at (941)497-4212 or Audrey Riggs at (941)480-0164 for tickets

Ticket must be present

2nd Wednesday
each month @ 10:00am.
Join us for a leisurely 6 mile
bicycle ride around the
Island of Venice.

Next ride is Oct. 12!

City Hall Parking Lot
401 W. Venice Ave.
Contact Darlene at:
dulpepper@venicegov.com

 Venice, FL
City on the Gulf

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



FLORIDA Neighborhoods CONFERENCE

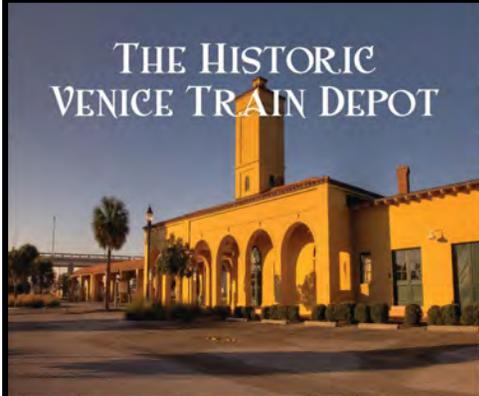
Save the Dates
Oct. 13-15, 2016
FloridaNeighborhoodsConference.org

20th Annual Florida Neighborhoods Conference



Sarasota County
scgov.net | 941.861.5000

VENICE




THE HISTORIC VENICE TRAIN DEPOT

The only surviving passenger station in Sarasota County

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Located in the Rollins W. Coakley Railroad Park

The Depot is open
Saturdays, 10 am - 1 pm, year-round.
Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays,
10 am - 3 pm, November - April.
Call for holiday schedule.

For more information, contact the
Venice Area Historical Society
at information@veniceareahistoricalsociety.org
or **941-412-0151**, or visit our website at
www.veniceareahistoricalsociety.org.

THE HISTORIC VENICE TRAIN DEPOT
is located at
303 E. Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285.
From U.S. 41 Bypass, turn west onto E. Venice Avenue. Just before the bridge, bear right. Continue through the Seaboard Avenue intersection to the Depot on the right.

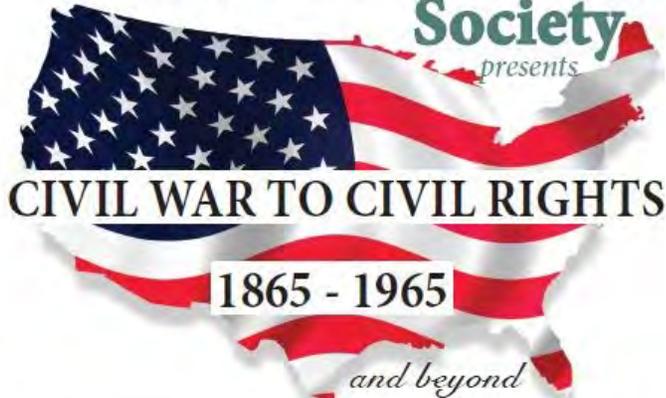


941-412-0151
www.veniceareahistoricalsociety.org

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

2016-2017
The Betty Intagliata Lecture Series

Venice Area Historical Society
presents



All Programs are FREE and Open to the Public.

TUESDAY • OCTOBER 18, 2016 • 7PM

President Andrew Johnson's Impeachment & Relationship to Reconstruction

Presenter: David Tschanz, PhD.

Dr. Tschanz is the Vice-Chair of the Venice Chapter of the Civil War Roundtable. He has written over 1000 published articles and 9 books. He retired to Venice in 2012.



The Betty Intagliata Lecture Series, sponsored by the Venice Area Historical Society, with funding provided by the Bill Jervey, Jr. Charitable Foundation.



Programs are held in the Renaissance Room, Mark Manor Building, Village On The Isle, 920 Tamiami Trail South, Venice. Limited Seating Available.

VeniceAreaHistoricalSociety.org

Just B-Cause
Fashion Show
& Luncheon

October 19, 11am
Venice Yacht Club

1330 Tarpon Center Dr, Venice

Clothing by Krystyna's,
Patchington, St. Marco Boutique
Sandy's Designer Clothing

Tickets \$35 at Sandy's

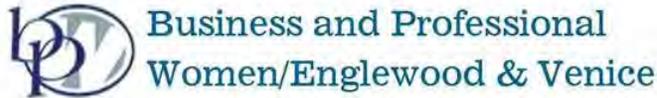
128 W Venice Ave, Venice

(941) 484-9911

Proceeds to Benefit
Dollars for Mammograms



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



Please join us for our
8th ANNUAL PASSPORT TO YOUR FUTURE
WINE TASTING & AUCTION



FRIDAY OCTOBER 21, 2016
5:00-8:00PM
at
THE VENICE ART CENTER
390 NOKOMIS AVE SO.
VENICE, FL

Tickets are \$35 in advance \$40 at the door.
and can be purchased

Online at www.bpwev.org or by contacting :

Joyce McCaffrey at 941-244-9054

or

Ann Wacholder at 941-544-6914

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WOMEN & PROMOTING BPWEV

BPWEV is a 501(c) (3) Tax Deductible Non-profit Corporation Florida Solicitation License #CH30762

Join the Team!

DP Fitness & Wellness

210 Miami Ave • Venice Island
(813) 731-8767 • www.dpfitnessandwellness.com

TEAM TRIMONSTERS



Introduce your kids
to the fastest
growing sport today.
Venice Youth
Triathlon Team
Ages 5 - 15



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

VENICE
Wine Feast
SPONSORED BY THE SERTOMA CLUB OF VENICE



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2016 **6:00 - 9:00 PM**
\$70 ALL INCLUSIVE

LOCATED ON NOKOMIS AVENUE IN FRONT OF
VENICE WINE & COFFEE

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: • VENICE WINE & COFFEE COMPANY
201 WEST VENICE AVENUE
ASK FOR RICHARD • 941-484-3667
• ONLINE AT: SERTOMA WINEFEAST.COM

Sponsors





BENEFITING SERTOMA SPEECH CLINIC & OTHER CHARITIES

Women's Sertoma Club of Venice
Sun Fiesta 2016

Centennial Park – Downtown Venice
October 21, 22 & 23 – 2016
Friday 5pm-10pm Saturday 9am-10pm Sunday 9am-7pm



2016 Venice, Florida

Main Activities

- Arts & Crafts Vendors
- Raffle & Auction
- Miss Sun Fiesta Pageant
- Children's Activities
- Parade
- Bed Races
- Food Vendors
- Live Entertainment
- Beer & Wine Tent
- Sun Fiesta T-Shirts
- Bounce House, Crafts, Games & Contests
- Young Marines Pancake Breakfast Sunday AM

Contact: Barbara Quinn (941) 488-0329
WomensSertoma@Outlook.com

All Proceeds to Benefit Local Charities & Scholarships
(rain dates Oct. 28, 29 and 30)

Free Admission and Parking

Visit our website for more information
www.SunFiesta.net





COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Venice Ghost Walk with Kim Cool



October 26 & 27, 2016
4:30 pm and 5:30 pm

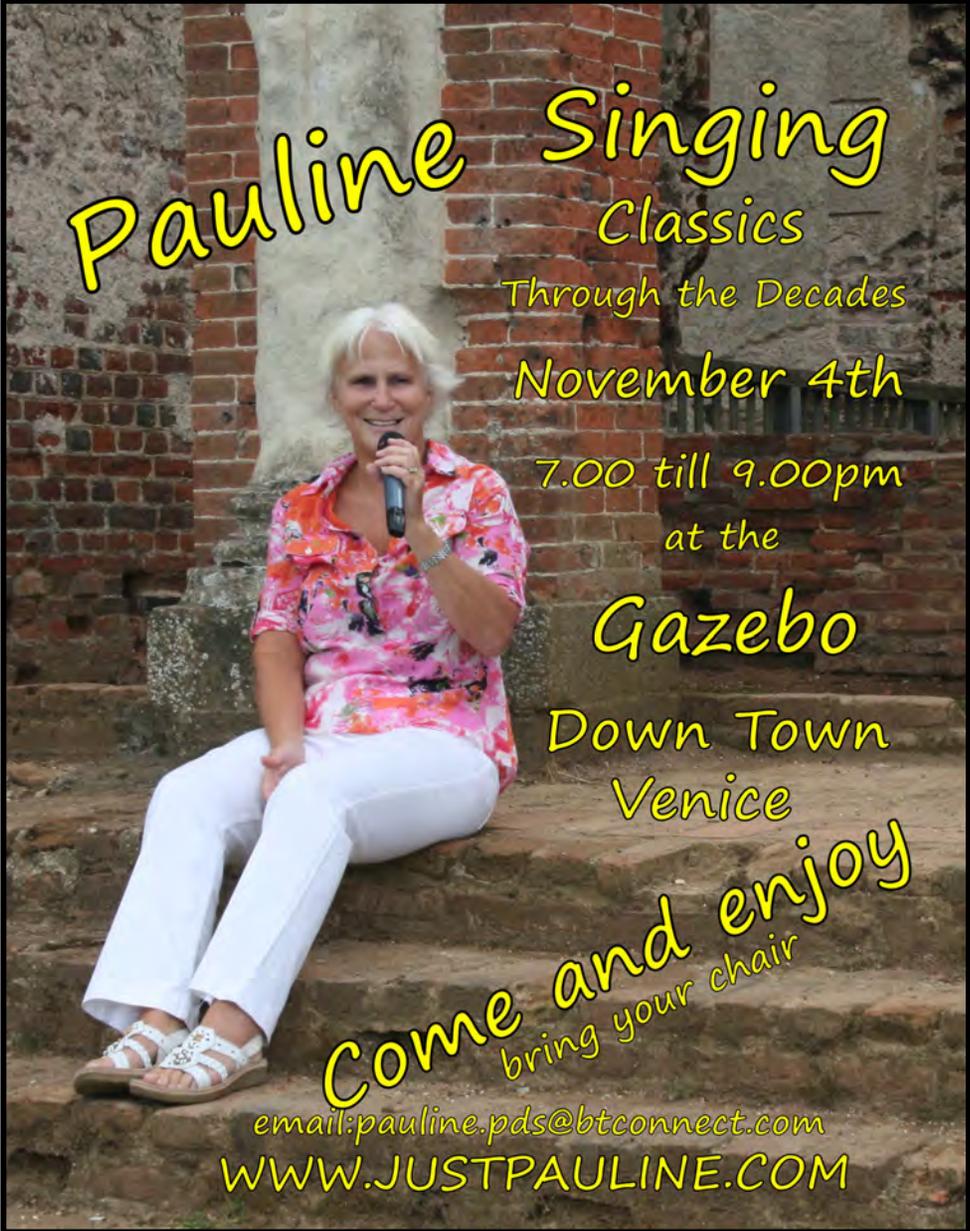
Meet at Downtown Gazebo in Centennial Park

\$15.00 per person

Each tour limited to 15 people

For reservations call or email Venice Heritage at
941-237-0478 or VeniceHeritageInc@gmail.com

Sponsored by 



Pauline Singing Classics
Through the Decades
November 4th
7.00 till 9.00pm
at the
Gazebo
Down Town
Venice

Come and enjoy
bring your chair

email: pauline.pds@btconnect.com
WWW.JUSTPAULINE.COM

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



PET APPRECIATION DAY
WALK TO BENEFIT HOMELESS ANIMALS
SUNCOAST HUMANE SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 12, 2016
9:00 am – 1:00 PM
Ann Dever Memorial Regional Park
6791 San Casa Blvd. • Englewood, FL

Join us in a celebration of our pets as we gather supporters from throughout Sarasota, Charlotte and Lee Counties to benefit the homeless animals served by your local humane society.

Walk with your pets and friends, then join us for the celebration afterwards!

REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.HUMANE.ORG

- Food & Drink • Vendor Village
- Live Entertainment
- Dog Demonstrations
- Holiday Photos with Santa
- Prize Drawings • and More!



*Friendly pets welcome, but not required to participate!

Special thanks to our sponsors!

FLORIDA WEEKLY HARBOR **SERBIN** **WENG**
IN THE KNOW. IN THE NOW. STYLE print marketing & publishing News - Talk
1530 AM • 107.5 FM The Information Station

The Italian American Club of Venice
1375 Ringling Drive
Invites you to a.....

Fall Fashion Show and Luncheon



Wednesday, Nov. 16th, 2016
11:30am till 2:30 pm

Raffles Cash Bar Lunch Sewed Noon Fashions 1 pm
50/50 Draw

Fashions By
Sandy's Designer Clothing
128 W Venice Ave, On The Island

Donation:
Members \$22 Guests \$25

Tickets: Linda 941-321-6203
Johanna 941-468-5013



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

"Show Jumping Under the Stars"
\$25,000 Grand Prix
 Presented by...
Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club




Coca-Cola **Budweiser**
 The Great American Lager

FOOD – BEVERAGE – FUN FOR EVERYONE
Silent Auction – 50/50 Calcutta

Grand Prix Horse Show Jumping is an Olympic Sport requiring extraordinary athleticism from both horse and rider, with jumps approaching 5 feet in height

FREE PARKING – ADMISSION \$5.00
 Admission Proceeds, Silent Auction, and Calcutta benefit Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club

**Saturday,
 November 19th, 2016**
 Gates/auction open at 2:30 pm
 Competition at 6:30 pm



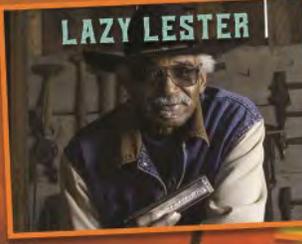
Fox Lea Farm
 800 North Auburn Road
 Venice, FL 34292
 www.FoxLeaFarm.com



Maxine Barritt Park
NOVEMBER 19TH 2016
11AM-6PM




present **VENICE BLUES FESTIVAL**







Tickets are \$25 online & \$30 at the gate
 go online to veniceblues.com for more info.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS














A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS TO HELP BENEFIT THE VENICE HIGH SCHOOL BAND

WATER RULES

City of Venice residents are permitted to irrigate lawns one day per week:

Even addresses on Tuesdays

Odd addresses on Thursdays

Before 8 a.m. and after 6 p.m. for properties under 2 acres. For properties 2 acres or greater, watering is allowed before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

Hand watering hot spots and micro-irrigation of other plants is allowed on any day, at any time.

New and replaced lawns get a 60-day exemption. Irrigation can occur any time of day on the day of installation, and during the restricted hours on any day thereafter for up to 60 days.

There are no restrictions on car washing, pressure washing, use of fountains or use of reuse or reclaimed water. A shut-off nozzle on hoses should be used for car washing and hand watering of garden plants. Conservation is encouraged.

Follow city meetings

To access meeting agendas, visit www.venicegov.com.

On the left of this page, click on Meetings, find the meeting you want to view, look to the right of it and click on Agenda, click open and view.

To watch City meetings, instead of clicking on Agenda, click on Video or "In progress."

Like us on Facebook:
Venice, Florida Municipal Government

New Venice Library location to open Oct. 4

Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources announces the opening of the new home of the temporary Venice Public Library at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4.

The new, larger library, located behind the Venice Theatre at 260 N. Nokomis Ave. in the Hamilton building, features a substantial collection of books, DVDs, magazine and newspapers. In addition, the new library includes a children's area, expanded reading areas with increased seating, more computers for public use, and is within walking distance of the scenic Intracoastal Waterway and historic downtown. There is also a Sarasota County Area Transit bus stop just one block away.

"We're simply delighted to unveil this enhanced library service for the citizens of Venice," said Director of Libraries and Historical Resources Sarabeth Kalajian. "Our dedicated, helpful staff is ready and eager to welcome them."

To aid in the transition, the temporary location at the Venice Community Center (VCC) closed Sept. 27 to prepare for moving to the larger site. However, a book return will remain in place at the VCC for patrons' convenience.

Once opened, the new Venice Library will be open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000 or visit www.scgov.net.

RED TIDE INFO: Red tide is a naturally occurring microscopic algae that has been documented along Florida's Gulf Coast since the 1840s. Blooms, or higher-than-normal concentrations, of the Florida red tide alga, *Karenia brevis*, frequently occur in the Gulf of Mexico at this time of year (late summer or early fall) and can cause fish kills and respiratory irritation in humans. Red tide begins in the Gulf of Mexico 10 to 40 miles offshore and can be transported inshore by winds and currents. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission posts red tide status reports on Wednesdays and Fridays. To view this report and to track red tide blooms, visit MyFWC.com/RedTide.

ZIKA VIRUS INFO: The Zika Virus Information Hotline for current Florida residents and visitors, as well as anyone planning on traveling to Florida in the near future, is managed by the state Department of Health and can be reached at **1-855-622-6735**. For more information on the Zika virus, visit www.floridahealth.gov.