

### **VENICE CITY E-NEWS**

November 2019

A PUBLICATION FOR THE CITIZENS OF VENICE, FL

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### **Over 600 Make a Difference**

Venice's 7th Annual Make a
Difference Day was held Saturday,
Oct. 26 with 602 volunteers ages
4-84, according to head organizer
Jim Foubister of Serve Florida.

Each year the community comes together under the direction of Serve Florida and the City of Venice to refresh public areas during this day of volunteerism.

The City provides extra mulch for children's play areas; tables, benches and playground equipment are sanitized; tree clippings and debris are gathered; signs are refreshed with new paint; and trees, flowers and plants are installed, improving the beauty of the City. This year volunteers worked at 32 locations including beaches and parks.



Volunteers of all ages remove debris, rake and help lay sod in Centennial Park on Make a Difference Day Oct. 26. Over 30 parks were beautified during this 7th annual day of community service in Venice.

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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Members of Venice WareHouse worked to beautify Venezia Park. They are pictured with Assistant Public Works Director Ricky Simpson, in orange at left. *More photos, page 3* 

### Difference, from page 1

In addition, Tri County Air Conditioning sponsored a post-event lunch at Maxine Barritt Park. More than 300 volunteers enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, coleslaw, and homemade chips from Sharky's on the Pier.

"Make a Difference Day has become our premier City volunteering event," said Public Works Director James Clinch. "Make a Difference Day efforts save the City thousands of dollars annually. Volunteers are able to rake, mulch, clean play structures, repair benches, build picnic tables, trim vegetation and clean up our public spaces. More importantly, this event brings together City

residents of all ages from local schools, churches, City staff and City Council members with one common goal — to beautify the City we all love. It was really inspiring to see all these people working together to make our shared community an even better place to live."

Added Foubister, "The thousands of pounds of mulch spread and tree debris collected was wondrous, as was the planting in the Venice Urban Forest and refreshing of our beaches. The 80 bench repairs and 12 new picnic tables will bring comfort to visitors and citizens.

"The heartbeat of Venice is felt in a special way on this special day. Thank you all for making a difference every day for our home city."

### **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**







Participants in beautification efforts at, clockwise from left, John Nolen Park, Ponce de Leon Park, West Blalock Park, Venice Urban Forest (where the Venice Young Marines assisted), and the Venice Avenue median. *More photos, page 4* 





### **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**



At left, volunteers from Venice Area Beautification Inc. Below, volunteers of all ages at John Nolen Park. At right, a group of students from Venice High School collected 5 large bags of trash and 464 cigarette butts at Venice Beach.







At left, Make a
Difference Day
participants
spread mulch in
the Arboretum
at West Blalock
Park.
More photos,
page 5

### **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**

Clockwise from below, Young Marines work in East Gate Park, event organizer Jim Foubister of Serve Florida, volunteers at the South Jetty, the post-event picnic at Maxine Barritt Park, participants at Legacy Park.









### **Laning Archives Center opens**



A ribbon cutting for the Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center was held Thursday, Oct. 17 at 224 Milan Ave. W. The event was a dream realized for 97-year-old Julia Cousins Laning (above with Mayor John Holic, and at right), the facility's benefactor, who lived in the Triangle Inn building across the street as a young girl when her mother worked there. *See story, more photos, page 7* 

### New records center to preserve Venice's history

The Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center opened to the public Oct. 17, with Julia, 97, on hand to help snip the red ribbon in front of the building located across from the Venice Museum & Archives/Triangle Inn.

Through a \$1 million fund Julia set up with the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, the City of Venice was able to acquire and renovate the building at 224 Milan Ave. W. — formerly a photography studio — as the Laning Archives & Research Center. Due to concerns about the collection straining the second floor of the Triangle Inn, it was relocated in December 2015 to three different locations where the environmental conditions were not ideal.

The Laning Archives & Research Center now houses over 23,000 items, including "records from many of our social and community organizations, year-books from Venice High School, photographs from the development of Venice, stories from several of the early townsfolk, books on John Nolen, maps of the City, decades of Venice Gondoliers, objects and ephemera that go into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," Historical Resources Manager Harry Klinkhamer said during the ribbon-cutting event.

The building is climate-controlled and includes a reading room open to the public. The outside landscaping has also been certified as Florida Friendly through the UF/IFAS Extension.

"Now those wanting to learn more about their home can come here, those looking to understand John Nolen's plan can come here, those seeking to put local history into National History Day projects can come here," Klinkhamer said. "And for all of us, the Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center is the home to all our pasts, all our voices, and all our future history. We welcome you to explore it."

Rhonda Rogers, Historical Resources Administrative Coordinator, shared



some of her friend Julia's thoughts on her behalf.

"Thank you for being here today. I don't know what I did to deserve all of this. But I appreciate you sharing this day with me," Rogers read as Julia sat with her aide, Rosa Northrop. "My dream was to preserve the history of my unique little town, our town, for the benefit of our future and generations to come. Finally, this day has arrived, and my dream becomes reality.

"For me, Venice began when I was a child. My family moved from Virginia to Tampa to Venice, my father looking for work in 1927, the year Venice was incorporated. I didn't see Venice as the mainstreet city it is today. I just remember being so very thirsty that day as we drove from Tampa to Venice."

Julia, then 5, begged her father Mitt Cousins to stop the car when she saw a water well. He told her she couldn't drink the water because it tasted like sulfur.

"I drank it anyway, and ever since I have loved sulfur water," Rogers read.



At left, Historical Resources Administrative Coordinator Rhonda Rogers shares some of Julia Cousins Laning's thoughts. Below, the archives houses decades of Gondolier newspapers.







VMA volunteer Toni
Minnick
serves up
some refreshments.
More
photos,
page 9

#### Center, from page 7

Julia's father was a carpenter and a builder, ideal for the growing Venice of the time. He built the family a house out on Jackson Road, and they had a small farm there.

"Eventually, we moved to the Triangle Inn where my mother, Carmen Cousins, opened a tea room to make ends meet during the Depression," Rogers continued. "I went to Venice High School and my brother, James, worked his way through the Kentucky Military Institute, took flying lessons, and later become a flight commander for the Royal Air Force during (World War II). My father became the second mayor of Venice."

Julia attended college, then went to work at Reader's Digest in New York City. She moved back to Venice in the 1970s and married Dale Laning — who had been an office manager for an international law firm in New York — in 1989.

"Dale and I enjoyed many happy years together," Rogers read. "My Venice became our Venice. I believe history is important. I have lived through a lot of it. Knowing where we have been will help us determine where we go next. Thanks to Dale's foresight and generosity, I am able to realize my dream of giving back to Venice for the life and the happiness it has given me.

"This dream comes true today with the opening of this archives and research center. I hope the center will provide a long-lasting archive of study and learning for our beautiful, unique, little town."

### LANING ARCHIVES CENTER



Attendees at the Oct. 17 ribbon cutting applaud Julia Cousins Laning, at right.





Above, the Laning
Archives & Research
Center now houses
over 23,000 items.
Left, the North Jetty
Allstars strike up a
tune at the event.

At left, Mayor John
Holic Presents Julia
with a congratulatory
certificate on behalf of
the Venice Area
Chamber of Commerce. Right, Historical Resources Manager
Harry Klinkhamer welcomes people into the
archives building.



# NOVEMBER 2019 Venice, FL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Earlier he developed Not	, a well-known orthopedic st comis and built its first luxury on his land. This city would t	hotel the Polivanna Inn. Alb	iee retained John Nolen, a v	world-renowned city	1	2
3	4	1:30 pm 5 Planning Commission	6	7	8	9
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS		ELECTION DAY				
10	CITY HALL 11	9 am 12 City Council	13	9 am 1 4 Architectural Review Board	9 am 15 Historic Preservation Board	16
17	VETERANS DAY	8:30 am 19 Certification of Election Results 9 am City Council 1:30 pm Planning Commission	3:30 pm 20 Economic Development Advisory Board	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	CITY HALL CLOSED 28 Garbage, yard waste, recycleables collected on next pickup day	CITY HALL CLOSED 29	7 pm 3C HOLIDAY PARADE Downtown

## DECEMBER 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
1	2	1:30 pm 3 Planning Commission	4	5	6	6 pm Christmas Boat Parade		
8	9	9 am 10 City Council	3:30 pm 1 1 Public Art Advisory Board	9 am 12 Architectural Review Board	13	14		
15	16	1:30 pm 17 Planning Commission	18	19	9 am 20 Historic Preservation Board	21		
						FIRST DAY OF WINTER		
22	23	CITY HALL CLOSED 24	CITY HALL CLOSED 25 Garbage, yard waste, recycleables collected on next pickup day  CHRISTMAS	9 am 26 Architectural Review Board	27	28		
29	30	31	FAST FACT  Blalock Park is named for James T. Blalock, who served as mayor of Venice from 1929-41. The statues in the park of a manatee, sea turtle, Florida panther and tarpon were created by Atlanta artist Tom Prochnow. A holiday tree lighting sponsored by VABI is held every year in the park's Monty Andrews Arboretum.					
	LAST DAY OF HANUKKAH	NEW YEAR'S EVE						

### **PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY UPDATE**

All main exterior walls are up on the new City of Venice Public Safety Facility under construction on East Venice Avenue. The latest aerial photo, from Oct. 22, is at right.

On Oct. 15, a 200-ton crane with a 140-foot boom mobilized to the job site to tilt the wall panels into place. The reinforced concrete walls were poured as slabs on site and vary from 7-9 inches in thickness. They were lifted vertically to form the wall structure that provides for the storm-hardened building.

Construction manager Ajax/Tandem Construction began initial clearing for the new Public Safety Facility on April 8, with a groundbreaking held on May 17. The site is located on 10 acres along East Venice Avenue. The project, currently budgeted at \$17.6 million, is mostly funded through a \$16 million public safety bond approved by City voters in November 2016. Dewberry is the project's architectural firm.

The facility will be 31,421 square feet and hardened to withstand a Category 5 hurricane with winds in excess of 157 mph. In the event of a hurricane, it will turn into an Emergency Operations Center for City staff. Expected completion is August 2020.







### Willson lauded with Mayor's Pillar Award



Above, Bill Willson receives the Mayor's Pillar of the Community Award from Mayor John Holic at the Oct. 22 City Council meeting, as Bill's wife Debbie looks on. At right, Bill thanks City Council, his wife, and past recipients of the award for their support.



Former City Council Member Bill Willson was named a Pillar of the Community by Mayor John Holic during the Oct. 22 Council meeting.

At the age of 6 months, Bill and his family moved from New York to Sarasota in January 1949. He attended Phillippi Shores Elementary, Brookside Junior High, and graduated from Riverview High School in June 1966.

Bill enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as the country was mired in the Vietnam conflict and became an Airborne Electronics Navigation Specialist. He completed his tech school and ultimately was assigned to the 37th Air Rescue & Recovery Squadron at Da Nang Air Force Base.

Upon discharge from the Air Force, Bill returned to Sarasota and began working for Montgomery Ward, becoming manager of their electronics department. Three years later he was offered employment at Sears Roebuck & Co. where he would spend the next 21 years of his working life. During his tenure at these positions Bill took advantage of the GI Bill benefits to attend college part time while raising his two daughters, Shawn, now of Roswell, Ga., and Tracy, of Orlando.

Bill graduated from Manatee Junior College, then went on to the new University of South Florida branch on the New College campus. He would become one of the first to graduate with a four-year degree without ever leaving Sarasota. In 1992 Bill prepared for a new career path and embarked on obtaining his insurance agents license where he met Mick Gardner of Venice, a friend of Wayne Roberts. Upon completion of their training. Mick introduced Bill to Wayne, owner of Roberts Insurance, and Bill joined the agency in 1993. The firm encouraged community involvement.

Bill met Kathy Lehner, the membership chair at the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce and joined her committee. The next year he was vice chair of the committee, then chairman, and the next year in 1995 on the Board of Directors where he served for the first time until 2001. After a few years absence he returned to serve a second full term on the board, becoming vice president. Bill had joined the Kiwanis Club of Venice in 1993 and rose to President in 1996. It was also the year he met a well-known local hairstylist named Debbie Lawrence, and the two have been married for over 20 years.

#### Pillar, from page 13

Debbie was an accomplished scuba diver and Bill had recently been certified, and was the catalyst in starting the SunCoast Reef Rovers dive club. The Reef Rovers were looking for a community project and began the annual underwater cleanup project below the Venice Fishing Pier. In later years they expanded their cleanup effort to include the Venice Jetties. More recently they were asked to clean up the mooring field behind the Venice Yacht Club. Bill served as President a number of times over the 23year history of the club and was awarded a lifetime membership by his fellow club members.

After a number of years with Kiwanis, Bill decided he wanted to be involved in a larger civic organization and joined the Venice/Nokomis Rotary Club. He was a member for 8 years, ultimately serving as President in 2001. During his tenure Bill earned the honor of being a Doc Matson Award winner and was pleased to become a Paul Harris Fellow.

Always seeking a new challenge, Bill joined the Sertoma Club of Venice, earning their GEM Award in 2008. He served multiple terms on the board and as president in 2016. He remains an active member of the club today, supporting efforts of their speech clinic and raising funds for the July 4th fireworks.

Always having an interest in the Venice community, Bill harbored an interest in serving on the Venice City Council for many years, but knew he wasn't yet properly prepared. To learn more he volunteered to serve on the Citizens Advisory Board to the Metropolitan Planning organization, which he did for several years. Eventually he successfully ran for City Council. He was sworn in on Nov. 2, 2004. During his tenure he was liaison to the Venice Housing Au-

thority and the Architectural Review Board. Bill takes great pride in having served and says he has fond memories of working with wonderful people in City Hall. He then began serving on the board of All Faiths Food Bank. Early in his six-year term, the board selected Sandra Frank as its new CEO. Under and Bill was successful in having the grant returned her leadership the board made highly successful the Back Pack Program, and instituted the Summer out of school. They also expanded their operation into a recently vacated large warehouse immediately adjacent to the existing facility. It was a very fulfilling experience to see the exponential growth that occurred during his term on the board, Bill says. His final year was as vice president.

Next, Bill joined the board of Venice MainStreet and served as president in 2018.

nity involvement, Bill says his involvement of many years with Venice Area Beautification Inc. He first Task Force of the Venice Chamber. The project was to build a linear trail, which we now know as Venetian Waterway Park. The effort had been languish-During a dive trip, Bill and Greg Vine met Terry Redman through the Reef Rovers and discovered he led the effort to build a similar trail in Niles, Mich. A new sense of opportunity emerged, essentially "Let's go build something and ask forgiveness later," Bill says. During that time Bill became president, the task force separated from the Chamber and became a 501c3 as VABI. Bill and others promoted the project, \$5 million was raised, and 10 miles of trail was built. Bill made two trips to Tallahassee to obtain grants. On another trip to Talla-

hassee with the Venice Chamber, Bill discovered a state grant had been reduced by \$50,000 from what had been approved. Asking then State Sen. Nancy Detert for help, she got him an audience with the head of the Appropriations Committee to the full \$150,000.

Bill has served several terms on the VABI Board Hunger Program to feed kids in need when they are over the years, multiple times as president — most recently in 2018 and currently in 2019. He is also excited to be part of the Urban Forest Committee. A Florida native forest is being planted along the old railroad corridor between the waterway and the Seaboard industrial area from just south of the Venice Avenue Bridge to Center Road. In the first 10 months following approval of Sarasota County for use of the land, over 600 trees were planted, Asked what has been his most rewarding commulation hundreds of understory plants, and a butterfly garden created, with more to come.

Bill says he is thankful for the opportunities to joined back in the mid 1990s when it was the 20/20 serve his community. "I couldn't have done it without the support of my wife Deb. Without her unselfish acceptance of my constant absences for meetings, work projects, and fundraisers, I just ing for several years with nothing having been built. couldn't have been part of so many wonderful endeavors. I can't thank her enough for her support."

> At the meeting, Bill also acknowledged past Pillar recipients sitting in the audience — Russ Johnson, Bob Vedder, Dan Boone and Greg Vine.

> "There were organizations we were a part of, not one, but numerous organizations. This community is the community it is because of people like these," he said. "We have awesome volunteers — I can't thank them enough. I'm proud to accept this, but I accept it on your behalf because we earned it together."

### **Proposed Shark Fishing Ordinance**

Editor's note: The City Council passed an ordinance prohibiting shark fishing from the Venice Fishing Pier on first reading Oct. 22. The text of the ordinance, up for a second reading before Council Nov. 12, appears below:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 46, PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE III, CONDUCT IN PARKS, SECTION 46-64, VENICE FISHING PIER; ADDING SECTION 46-115, FISHING NEAR SWIMMERS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DAT

**WHEREAS**, new shark fishing regulations promulgated by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission went into effect on July 1, 2019; and,

**WHEREAS,** the City of Venice finds it unlikely that shark fishing from the Venice Fishing Pier can comply with the new regulations; and,



WHEREAS, the City of Venice finds shark fishing from the Venice Fishing Pier and fishing adjacent to swimmers can pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public; and,

**WHEREAS,** Section 379.2412, Florida Statutes, does not prohibit a local government from prohibiting, for reasons of protecting the public health, safety, or welfare, saltwater fishing from real property owned by that local government.

### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA:

**SECTION 1.** The Whereas clauses above are ratified and confirmed as true and correct.

**SECTION 2.** Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article III, Conduct in Parks, Section 46-64, Venice Fishing Pier, is hereby amended as follows:

In addition to the rules and regulations set forth in section 46-62, the following rules and regulations shall be in effect for use at the Venice Fishing Pier:

- (1) No person entering upon and using the Venice Fishing Pier shall:
  - a. Use more than one fishing line at one time.
    - b. Operate bicycles, roller skates, roller blades, skateboards and/or similar devices on the pier or around the concession area.

#### AT YOUR SERVICE

The following individuals have been appointed or reappointed to City of Venice advisory boards:

**Stephen Kimson**, appointed to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to serve a term from Oct. 8, 2019, until Sept. 30, 2022.

**Michael Campbell**, appointed to the Environmental Advisory Board to serve a term from Oct. 8, 2019, until Sept. 30, 2022.

**Fran Valencic**, reappointed to the Public Art Advisory Board to serve a term from Nov. 1, 2019, until Oct. 31, 2022.

#### Shark fishing, from page 15

c. Shark fish. The following gear or methods shall constitute shark fishing regardless of the species targeted or harvested:

- i. Fishing with a metal leader greater than 4 feet in length.
- ii. Using a fighting belt, fighting harness, or similar device used in conjunction with a fishing rod to give the angler a mechanical advantage when reeling in a fish.
- iii. Deploying bait by any means, including casting, unless the bait is attached to a hook for which the maximum distance measured between two points inside the curve created by the hook does not exceed 1.5 inches, when measured at the widest dimension.
- (2) No person shall operate or navigate any boat or other watercraft within 300 feet of the Venice Fishing Pier.
- (3) No person shall dive or jump from the fishing pier or swim or surf within 150 feet of the centerline of the pier structure.

**SECTION 3.** Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article IV, Marine Activities, Section 46-115, Fishing near swimmers, is hereby added as follows:

Sec. 46-115. Fishing near swimmers.

It shall be unlawful to fish or attempt to fish after having been warned by any lifeguard or law enforcement officer that the health and safety of swimmers is being endangered. Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a duty of any sort on the part of any county or municipal employee to prevent fishing or to warn of the presence of sharks in the ocean.

**SECTION 4.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. If any part, section, subsection or other portion of this ordinance or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is declared void, unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such part, section, subsection or other portion, or the prescribed application thereof, shall be severable and the remaining provisions of this ordinance, and all applications thereof not having been declared void, unconstitutional or invalid, shall remain in full force and effect. The city council specifically declares that no invalid or prescribed provision or application was an inducement to the enactment of this ordinance and that it would have enacted this ordinance regardless of the invalid or prescribed provision or application.

**SECTION 6.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval and adoption as provided by law.

### City to roll out single-stream recycling in January



New City of Venice recycling carts will arrive in January 2020 for single-stream recycling!

Residents' new curbside recycling cart (pictured at left) will have two wheels for easy maneuvering and a lid to keep recyclables from becoming litter. The cart is going to make recycling easier by providing residents more space to recycle more items.

**All recyclables go in the cart together, no more separating** — a true win-win.

Carts will be dropped off at homes in the City of Venice in January, along with a packet of important program information. See graphic on page 18 for what you will be able to recycle and what you can leave out.

Additional information, including a sheet of Frequently Asked Questions, can be found on the City website at: www.venicegov.com/services/public-works/recycling/.

It is very important we all work together to only recycle the correct items. If trash or non-recyclable items are placed in the carts, the entire load can become contaminated and can end up as garbage at the land-fill. Recycling the proper items protects the environment, conserves resources and reduces landfill sites. This is a great opportunity for Venice residents to make a real difference in our community and our local environment.

A grant from The Recycling Partnership to the City of Venice is giving us the ability to provide these lidded curbside recycling carts. By providing households with a lidded container, recyclables stay in the recycling system and don't end up in our waterways.

Residents should continue to use their red recycling bins until their new cart arrives in January. For more information, please call the City of Venice Public Works Department at 941-486-2422.

### **Donations sought for Toys for Tots Program**

Venice City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave., and Venice Municipal Airport, 150 Airport Ave. E., are once again collection points for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.

Members of the community are asked to drop new, unwrapped toys in these collection boxes. Coordinators pick up the toys and store them in central warehouses where the toys are sorted by age and gender. At Christmas, coordinators, with the assistance of local social welfare agencies, church groups, and other local community agencies, distribute the toys to needy children in the community. Citizens are asked to drop off toys by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December.

For more information on the program, or to make a financial donation online, visit www.toysfortots.org.



### SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING GUIDELINES



### THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING THESE:





















Aluminum and steel cans Empty and rinse

Food and beverage cartons

Empty, rinse and replace caps

Bottles and jars Empty, rinse and replace caps

Mixed paper, newspaper, magazines Flattened cardboard and boxes

Plastic bottles and containers Empty, rinse and replace caps

### WHEN IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!







No plastic bags (return to retail)



No food or liquid

(empty all containers)



No pizza boxes



No styrofoam



No tanglers (no hoses, wires, chains or electronics)



venicegov.com/services/public-works/recycling

941-486-2422

### It's still hurricane season — sign up for CodeRED



Hurricane season runs through November in Florida — have you signed up for CodeRED notifications?

The City of Venice uses CodeRED to send emergency notifications by phone, email, text and social media to keep citizens informed of emergencies such as evacuation notices, utility outag-

es, water main breaks, fire or floods, chemical spills, or other emergency situations. Many residents found the free service extremely useful before, during and after Hurricane Irma in September 2017, when multiple CodeREDs were sent out. Hurricane season runs from June 1-Nov. 30 in Florida.

The City also uses CodeRED Weather Warning, a unique service that automatically notifies citizens in the path of severe weather just moments after a warning has been issued by the National Weather Service. The CodeRED Weather Warning is also available to City residents at no cost.

The City may also activate CodeRED to send general notifications to registered subscribers to communicate non-life safety matters, such as planned road closures, water main repairs, and water and power service interruptions. By selecting the box for general alerts, you will also receive these types of notifications. Registering for CodeRED is quick and easy: Sign up online at www.venicegov.com. At the top of the homepage, click on "CodeRed" (above the Search bar). Click on the link to sign up and select the second option, "NO, I would like to review and submit my information," and fill in the fields. Then add the following numbers to your caller ID or contacts: 866-419-5000, Emergency Calls; 855-969-4636, General Calls; and 800-566-9780, Weather Warnings.

### Things to know about CodeRED

CodeRED delivers notifications by phone calls to landlines and cell phones, emails, texts, social media, and/or mobile alerts. It is compatible with TDD/TTY devices for those with hearing impairments. Individuals and businesses may add as many phone numbers, emails and text numbers as desired.

Residents and visitors alike can receive enhanced public safety alerts no matter where you are located via the CodeRED Mobile Alert app, a free public safety app for both Android and iPhone users. The CodeRED Mobile Alert app delivers community and emergency alerts to individuals targeted within an impacted geographical area so that you may also receive timely notifications when you're on the road, or away from home.

If you are currently a CodeRED subscriber who has already registered your cellphone to receive notifications from the City of Venice, you will continue to receive calls. However, if you download the CodeRED Mobile Alert app, you will also receive alerts via your smartphone anywhere in the country, including Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Alaska. To download the free CodeRED Mobile Alert app, visit the Google Play or iTunes store.

For more information about the CodeRED service, or to sign up by phone, call 941-882-7401.

### **Species Spotlight: Cabbage palm** (Sabal palmetto)

The cabbage palm, or sabal palm as it is also known, is the most common palm in our area. In wooded natural areas, cabbage palms can grow to heights of 90 feet but much more commonly heights of 40 to 50 feet in the urban environment. Native to the coastal regions from South Carolina to Texas, it is the state tree of both



JIM YELVERTON CITY ARBORIST

Florida and South Carolina. The name cabbage palm comes from its edible heart, which is the primary growth region or "bud" as it is known. They taste a bit like cabbage. Cabbage palms produce a large cluster of creamy white and very fragrant flowers in late spring. When fully open, the flowers will be crowded with bees collecting nectar and pollen. The fruit that follows is a small black berry that is eaten by raccoons, birds and other animals, which in turn spread the seeds widely where they easily germinate and grow. After germination, the newly emerged palm leaf is more grass like



at first but becomes wider with each new round of growth. After germination it could be as long as 15 to 20 years for a trunk to be develops, the growth rate varies considerably; however is believed to be about 6 inches per year under normal conditions. That means a

visible. Once a trunk develops, the growth rate varies considerably; however is believed to be about 6 inches per year under normal conditions. That means a 20-foot-tall tree could be 40 to 50 years old.

Being widely available on undeveloped lands throughout most of the Florida peninsula and very easy to transplant, these palms are often used in the land-scape. Tolerant of most conditions in urban landscapes, they can be planted as street trees in small planting spaces, used as a specimen or in groups in a larger landscape setting. Most trees are dug from natural stands, usually on farmland where they are easy to access. Once dug, normally all the leaves or "fronds" are removed along with the old leaf bases or "boots" from the trunk. Removing the leaves helps the palm retain water in the trunk until it can regenerate a root system, which can take 8 months or more. Cabbage palm roots die once cut so a completely new root system must be regenerated from the base of the trunk. Generally palms with trunks of more than 8 feet survive transplanting better. The larger the trunk, the more reserve water they hold until a new root system can develop. It may take up to a year for newly planted palms to produce leaves and several years before there is a full crown again. They do require supplemental water until they are established, but once established they are very drought-resistant. Once a cabbage palm is well-rooted, they are

#### **AIRPORT TAXIWAY EXTENSION**

The long-awaited beginning of the Taxiway Delta ("D") extension commenced in mid-October at Venice Municipal Airport. This project extends the current taxiway from midfield north to the intersection at Taxiway Alpha ("A"). On Oct. 21, Ajax began the excavation of the retention pond and removing top soil to prepare for the building of the new taxiway. Ajax has a tight schedule, with completion anticipated at the end of December 2019. No major runway closures are expected other than minimal time required to tie in the new pavement with the departure area of Runway 13. — *Provided by Jim Eppley* 



#### Species, from page 20

about as hurricane-proof as any tree in Florida. They remain standing while oaks and other trees are uprooted.

Like most palms, cabbage palms can display signs of potassium and/or magnesium deficiency in the oldest leaves, but are usually well-suited for our soil. A stressed, newly transplanted tree will sometimes attract palmetto weevils that can kill the tree. Ganoderma butt rot (yes, that's its actual name) is also a problem that causes palm death. There is no treatment for this fungal disease. You may also see numerous scale insects and caterpillars on a cabbage palm. These are fairly common and normally not a serious problem that warrants any treatment. On highly manicured or high-traffic sites, overpruning is sometimes necessary. This is usually done because of budget limitations or safety reasons, which is understandable. However, green leaves

are the energy factories and nutrient storage for the tree. It is best to only remove dead and dying leaves and the seed stalks. Another acceptable option is to prune only fronds below the first horizontal fronds. It is also perfectly appropriate to not prune at all. Over time, excessive pruning will cause leaves to be smaller than normal and the trunk to narrow, which weakens a tree making it susceptible to nutrient and pest problems.

If you are looking for an "Old Florida" look, the cabbage palm is hard to beat. Try to give it the opportunity to grow into a full, round crown and let the flowers and berries develop. They will reward you with the various wild-life visitors and a sweet fragrance floating in the spring air. Cabbage palms need very little care to be perfectly healthy and happy.

City Arborist Jim Yelverton can be contacted at 941-882-7433 or jyelverton@venicegov.com.

### IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS



At right, Cherie
Heasley, Communications Manager for
SPARCC (Safe Place
And Rape Crisis
Center) holds a
proclamation naming October 2019
Domestic Violence
Awareness Month,
presented to her by
Vice Mayor Rich
Cautero at the Oct.
22 Council meeting.



Above, Mayor John Holic reads a proclamation naming Oct. 22, 2019, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Awareness Day, presented to Susan Loman, president of the Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation, during the Oct. 22 City Council meeting. The disorder is caused by the loss of a small piece of chromosome 22, causing developmental and speech delays, autism spectrum disorder, intellectual and behavioral problems, and low muscle tone.

City Council Member Jeanette Gates presented a proclamation naming Oct. 20-26 National Business Women's Week to Syd Gibson, president of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Englewood/Venice, on Oct. 22.



### IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Assistant City
Manager Len
Bramble accepts a
proclamation naming the week of Oct.
21-27 Florida City
Government Week,
presented to him by
Mayor John Holic at
the Oct. 8 City
Council meeting.







Jon Watson, Curator and Collections Manager with the City's Historical Resources Department, accepts a proclamation naming October 2019 Florida Archives Month from Mayor John Holic at the Oct. 8 Council meeting.

Mayor John Holic reads a proclamation naming the week of Oct. 6-12 Fire Prevention Week, presented to City of Venice Deputy Fire Chief Frank Giddens and EMS Division Chief Nathan McManus on Oct. 8.

### 3 roadway segments added to Adopt-a-Road Program

Keep Sarasota County Beautiful (KSCB) has partnered with the City of Venice to add three additional Venice roadway segments to the Adopt-a-Road Program. The new Venice area roadways segments which are available for adoption are as follows:

- Nokomis Avenue North and South
- Barcelona Avenue, The Esplanade and Tarpon Center Drive
- Lucaya Avenue and Ridgewood Avenue

This innovative program provides private citizens, businesses and organizations an opportunity to support the countywide anti-litter campaign. It provides a way to offer an inexpensive project that gives residents the satisfaction of making a contribution to their communities and can help generate publicity for a group's service activities. Adopted areas are maintained as part of a joint effort to keep our environment clean and healthy.

Participation in the program is free. Please feel free to contact the KSCB office at keepsarasotacountybeautiful@scgov.net or by calling 941-861-5000 for any interest in adopting these road segments.

### The Esplanade utility work with road closure

The City of Venice Utilities Department has contracted with DeJonge Excavating Contractors Inc. to replace a sewer manhole and a portion of three connecting gravity mains on The Esplanade N. at the Madrid Ave. intersection. The southbound lane of The Esplanade N. will be closed

during this time. The work began on Monday, Oct. 28. It is expected to be complete by approximately the third week of November.

For more information, please call the Eastside Water Reclamation Facility at 941-486-2788.

Like and Follow us on Facebook: Venice, Florida Municipal Government



Like what you see? Please rate us 5 stars and leave us a review!

### Water Main Replacement Program Phase 6 to begin soon

**History:** The City has many areas where the water mains are aged, very tuberculated, undersized, and located in rear easements of commercial and residential properties. Installing new replacement water mains and relocating associated service lines and meters to the front or side rights of way allows City staff proper operation and maintenance of the distribution system.

Project: Pre-construction activities will begin this month. The Phase 6 area of the Water Main Replacement Program is roughly bounded by Narvaezi Street to the north, Park Boulevard (north and south) to the west, Armada Road to the south, and Nassau Street to the east. Additionally, there is a section south of the main area from Shore Road to Ringling Drive S., between Base and Airport avenues (west and east). Phase 6 includes the installation of approximately 7,500 linear feet of new water main, 6 fire hydrants, 28 valves, various appurtenances, property service connections, and the abandonment of rear lot water mains. Approximately 189 properties have been identified for relocation of the rear or side water service line to a new or existing water main located in the right of way. The project was awarded to Thompkins Contracting Inc.

**Boil water notices:** Some water shutdowns will be necessary to perform the work. As a precautionary measure, boil water advisories are required when an interruption in service causes customers to have low or no water pressure. Advisories are provided via door hangers to affected properties. Notices are posted on the City's website and entered into the CodeRed emergency notification system. More information on CodeRed can be found on page 19 of this newsletter.

**Funding:** A substantial portion of this phase is jointly funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Florida Department of Environmental Protection through the EPA Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program that is administered by the FDEP. The EPA's loan programs operate around the country to provide states and communities the resources to maintain and improve the infrastructure that protects our valuable water resources nationwide.

For information specific to your property, contact Cynthia Fitzpatrick, Utilities Project Coordinator, at 941-882-7290.

At right, an aerial photo shows the old existing water mains and meters in rear and side easements.



#### FLORIDA CITY GOVERNMENT WEEK



Florida City Government Week was held Oct. 21-27 this year. The City of Venice joined Florida's cities in celebrating, showcasing and engaging citizens in the work of municipal government. Local events included poster contests in 2 schools, reading aloud to children at Venice Elementary, numerous social media postings spotlighting staff, a proclamation read by the Mayor, and Make a Difference Day on Oct. 26.



Venice Elementary School students Emma Kerestely, fourth grade, and Caroline Vowell, fifth grade, above, won the City of Venice's annual Florida City Government Week poster contest at their school.

Students drew to the theme, "My City, I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It." Emma and Caroline won a pizza party for their art classes Oct. 24 (delivered to them by City Public Information Officer Lorraine Anderson), and their artworks have been installed at City Hall. Well done! Emma's poster is at near right; Caroline's at far right.





### FLORIDA CITY GOVERNMENT WEEK

Epiphany Cathedral School student Catherine Bloomfield, fourth grade, won the City of Venice's annual Florida City Government Week poster contest at her school. Students drew to the theme, "My City, I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It." Catherine won a pizza party for her class on Oct. 23 and her artwork, pictured at far right, has been installed at City Hall. She is pictured with City PIO Lorraine Anderson below right. Nice job!









### FLORIDA CITY GOVERNMENT WEEK

On Friday, Oct. 25, City staff and officials read aloud to students in grades K-2 at Venice Elementary School. Clockwise from right, Officer Josh Brooks, **Recording Secretary** Caroline Moriarty, Fire Lt. Derek Lowery, VPD Communications Manager Jack Chappa (who read in Spanish to ESOL students), Mayor John Holic, Customer Service Specialist Mel Mosser and Public Works Director James Clinch.













### When bicycling, see, be seen, be safe

The time change is upon us. The morning of Sunday, Nov. 3, we turn our clocks back an hour. With the time change comes early sunsets. Florida law requires bicycles riding at night to have front and rear lights.



**DARLENE CULPEPPER** 

**Lighting** (see Section 316.2065, F.S.)

A bicycle operated between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible from 500 feet to the front and both a red reflector and a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from 600 feet to the rear.

Additional lighting is permitted and recommended.

One of the most important things to remember is when you are riding your bicycle on the streets, you bike is considered a vehicle and therefore must be equipped with the same rules and regulations as cars, which have front and rear lights. No matter your level of riding skills, bike lights are essential to make sure you ride safe, night or day.

There are lights that help you see, which usually have a high LED output with a focused beam of light in front of you. Then there are lights that help people see you, which use an LED that flashes intermittently. They come in battery or rechargeable options and, depending on how you ride and which output you use, will have hundreds of hours of run time. When you look to buy

a light, they are compared by lumens (brightness) and with the creation of LEDs, they get more light output with less power consumption. One simple rule: More lumens equal brighter lights.

In addition to riding with lights, you can equip yourself with reflectivity. When riding at night, use reflective components. These can be found in clothing, stickers, bags, etc. When riding during the daytime, use fluorescent components. Fluorescent stands out from the environment and is more effective with the sun. You can highlight your moving parts. The up-and-down pedaling can be more visible by highlighting your feet, ankles and legs with the appropriate visible products for the time of day you are riding.

#### **Top Tips**

- Don't rely on drivers seeing you, no matter how brightly you are dressed or flashing.
- Be proactive. Ride assertively, interact with road users, change road positions correctly.
- Try to make eye contact where possible and gauge whether you've been seen.
- Move out of the way early and create as much space as possible so you can see and be seen.



#### Be seen, from page 29

Biking at night can be intimidating, especially if you are not used to it. If you stay alert and equip yourself with the appropriate lights and gear, you'll be able to safely enjoy your rides any time of day.

Darlene Culpepper is the Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator for the City of Venice. She leads a 6-mile bicycle ride around the Island of Venice at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of every month. The next ride, open to the public, will be Nov. 13. Just bring your bike and a helmet to City Hall! You can email Darlene for more information at dculpepper@venicegov.com.

### City Manager receives 40-year service award

Venice City Manager Ed Lavallee recently received a 40-year service award from ICMA, the premier local government leadership and management organization. Ed's achievement was formally honored during a Celebration of Service to the Profession as part of ICMA's 2019 Annual Conference at the Music City Center in Nashville, Tenn., on Wednesday, Oct. 23.

Ed began his service to the City of Venice on March 5, 2012. He received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Connecticut in Storrs, and master's degree in public administration from the University of New Haven, Conn. Ed served as city manager of Newport, R.I., and was police research and development administrator for the Newport Police Department. He was also interim finance director for Newport and served as criminal justice planner for the State of Connecticut.

The ICMA Local Government Service Awards Program recognizes and celebrates members' dedication to public service and professional management at the local level. Awards are based on the number of years of full-time employment in local government.

"During the past 40 years, it has been a blessing to work with so many professionals dedicated to upholding the public trust, and it has been an honor and a privilege to serve in a public leadership capacity on programs designed to enhance the quality of life for our residents," Ed said. "I will continue to work to make a positive difference in the lives of the people we serve."

In addition to recognition at the Celebration of Service to the Profession in conjunction with the ICMA Annual Conference, the 2019 ICMA Annual Award recipients will be highlighted in a special awards issue of PM Magazine this month.

ICMA, the International City/County Management Association, advances professional local government worldwide. Their mission is to create excellence in local governance by developing and fostering professional management to build livable communities that improve people's lives. Learn more at icma.org.



Venice City Manager Ed Lavallee is recognized at the recent International City/County Management Association Annual Conference in Nashville, Tenn., for 40 years of public service.

### Phase 1 of Urban Forest nearing completion

From Earth's beginning, trees have furnished us with two of life's essentials: food and oxygen. Over time, they provided additional necessities such as shelter, medicine and tools. Today, we recognize their ever-increasing value as more benefits of trees are uncovered. The role of trees continues to expand to satisfy the needs of our modern lifestyles.

Trees contribute to our environment over long periods of time by providing oxygen, improving air quality, climate amelioration, water conservation, soil preservation and supporting wildlife. During the process of photosynthesis, trees take in carbon dioxide and produce the oxygen we breathe. According to the Department of Agriculture, 1 acre of forest absorbs 6 tons of carbon dioxide while producing 4 tons of oxygen, an amount sufficient to meet the annual needs of 18 people.

The purpose of the Venice Urban Forest project is to save hundreds of existing trees and ultimately plant thousands of additional ones. This reforested area will provide shelter for birds and animals, cooling, and much needed carbon sequestration, oxygen generation and stormwater absorption. The size of the Urban Forest site is approximately 33.34 acres or 4.4 million square feet, extending approximately 1.75 miles.

A handful of inspired volunteers laid the groundwork for the project, then successfully recruited a talented group of volunteer experts, including tree and irrigation specialists, heavy machinery operators, designers, artists and marketing and communication professionals over the past three years. Sarasota County has donated use of the site near Seaboard Avenue to Venice Area Beautification Inc. in perpetuity. VABI is a 501c3 nonprofit organization with all volunteers except one part-time employee.

Phase 1 of the Urban Forest is nearing completion. The entire three phases will include both forest and open glens. The open areas will serve as pollinators supporting birds, butterflies and bees, which in turn assist the forest's growth. The Urban Forest will include native palms, cedars, oaks and more, ultimately about 30 different species.

For more information about the Venice Urban Forest, check out www.veniceurbanforest.com for updates and pictures. To inquire about donating, or to volunteer, please contact the VABI office at 941-207-8224 or visit

www.vabi.org.
— Provided
by Mary
Schwass, VABI
Office Manager









### Report City issues with just a few clicks

The City of Venice uses SeeClickFix platform, Venice Connect, which allows citizens to quickly report various issues to City officials like potholes, roadside

SeeClickFix

junk, code violations, and traffic signal/ sign problems, to name a few. SeeClickFix will assign your issue to the appropriate department. Registered

SeeClickFix users will receive an email when there is an update and can also come back to check the status of a submitted ticket at any time. *It's as easy as that!* With the free SeeClickFix mobile app and web tools, citizens are able to provide City staff with a picture of the area and enter specific descriptions about the issue which is valuable in getting the job done efficiently. In addition, the SeeClickFix platform provides City officials with a centralized issue management system to monitor progress of submitted issues from creation to resolution and also allows us to engage citizens throughout the process.

The City has been using SeeClickFix since 2016 and has processed over 2,195 issues. During the past few years, issues submitted on SeeClickFix have helped the City handle exposed wires that needed immediate attention, road-side junk needing to be picked up, code violations, awareness of speeders in residential areas, and having street lights fixed and/or replaced. You are our eyes and ears and we value your assistance with maintaining the safety and beauty of Venice.

#### Did you know?

When a ticket is submitted to SeeClickFix, it captures the location you are in at the time of submission. As a result, please make sure that you are providing the specific location of the issue being reported by either submitting the issue at that exact location OR by entering the location address in the description of issue.

You can attach a photo when submitting your issue. Photos are incredibly helpful to us here at the City. It allows us to quickly identify the problem area being reported and ensure that work crews are safely being sent to the right location.

The City works closely with the Sarasota County Contact Center, Florida Power & Light (FPL) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Many times the City receives issues that fall under the jurisdiction of one of these agencies. We can forward the issue submitted to us directly to Sarasota County using the SeeClickFix app OR we personally reach out to FDOT and/or FPL with matters that fall under their jurisdiction. Having effective communication with these agencies is key in making sure we continue to maintain the safety of our citizens and guests in the City of Venice. In addition, we continue to monitor and do follow ups with our counterparts to ensure these issues are handled in a timely manner.

#### Important side note information

We do our best here at the City to ensure we handle all tickets promptly; however, there are times that we may need sufficient time to complete certain requests. In addition, we do receive tickets that are "recommendations" rather than something that needs to be fixed. Although we do value your recommendations, we are unable to keep the ticket open but have noted them and have forwarded them to the appropriate department for their review. City Hall is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and we can be reached at 941-486-2626.

If you have questions or need further assistance with the SeeClickFix website, please contact Shirley Gibson at 941-882-7439 or by email at sgibson@venicegov.com

Law enforcement issues are considered an emergency nature and need to be reported directly to the Venice Police Department by calling 911. The non-emergency number is 941-486-2444. After-hours Utilities emergencies can be reported at 941-486-2770. Animal concerns such as raccoons or coyotes should NOT be entered into SeeClickFix. For more information on these issues, call the Wildlife Center of Venice at 941-484-9657 or Sarasota County Sheriff's Animal Services at 941-861-9500.

#### Sign me up!

SeeClickFix is available as an app for Android or iPhone. Select SeeClickFix from your app store on your device. There is also a link to the program at the top of the homepage on the City's website, www.venicegov.com (above the search bar), or go directly to SeeClickFix at http://www.seeclickfix.com/venice

— Provided by Shirley Gibson

### 25-year VMA volunteer honored with downtown bench



Mary Charles was presented with a bench and personalized plaque on West Venice Avenue in October, commemorating 25 years of volunteer service to the Venice Museum & Archives. Museum staff, volunteers, and Mary's family were on hand for the bench unveiling at 205 W. Venice Ave.

She started working for the City of Venice in 1972, working her way up to Secretary to Mayor and Council, Administrative Assistant to City Clerk, Legal Secretary to Code Enforcement Board, and Deputy City Clerk — titles she held simultaneously. Mary retired in 1994 and began volunteering at the Archives. At that time, records were maintained by hand. Today, Mary works with PastPerfect museum software.

When asked why she has volunteered for 25 years, Mary said she enjoys "organizing materials the donors bring in so that anyone researching the subject can easily find them. I love what I do; it keeps my mind active. I enjoy my co-workers and plan to continue as long as my mind and body lets me."

VMA staff noted that with years of institutional knowledge and familiarity with Venice history, Mary is a great asset to the museum. Accuracy is important to her, and it shows in her work.

After the celebration, Mary was asked if she was going to take the rest of the day off. She said, "No - I'm going back to work!"

— Provided by Rhonda Rogers





Top left, Mary Charles with her "25 years of volunteer service" bench; far left, City Historical Resources Manager Harry Klinkhamer presents Mary with a certificate of appreciation; Mary with her daughters Suzanne, Michelle and Jeanmarie in front of the bench.

### **KEEPING VENICE BEAUTIFUL**

On Oct. 10, 20 members of Team KVB (Keep Venice Beautiful) hauled away 15 truckloads of debris from the Historic Venice Train Depot (below left). On Oct. 17, 22 members worked the Airport Festival Grounds connector trail, at right, spreading crushed shell, weeding and removing 25 loads of cuttings.



Photos: Team KVB



At left, 19 Team KVBers removed 27 truckloads of invasives and other cuttings from the Venetian Waterway Park trail Oct. 24. The City is grateful for these hardworking volunteers' efforts!

# Sponsorships sought for 2nd Public Works Road-E-O

# We want you to be part of the 2nd Public Works Road-E-O in Venice!

You can be a part of the City of Venice's 2nd Annual Public Works Road-E-O on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2020, at the Airport Festival Grounds. The City of Venice will again be partnering with the Rotary Art Fest to bring this event to the public. It's a family-friendly event for the entire community that will include children's activities, equipment demonstrations, interactive booths, music, bounce houses and food vendors. The highlight of the day is the "Road-E-O" in which multiple City departments and heavy equipment drivers and operators showcase their skills in a challenging obstacle course competition.



#### Would you like to help sponsor this event?

The City of Venice Public Works Department is also providing an opportunity for local businesses and organizations to become a special part of the Road-E-O this year. The City and the Rotary Art Fest anticipates over 2,000 residents may attend this year's event. Sponsorships are available for those that would like to be involved. The funding collected from sponsors will be used to offset the cost of the event, including advertising, seating and other logistical related costs. There are three sponsorship opportunities available for you to choose from. If you wish to become a sponsor, please submit all required paperwork **no later than Friday, Nov. 29, 2019.** Sponsorship information, including an application, can be found on the City website, www.venicegov.com, on the homepage under Things To Do/Public Works Road-E-O.

For more information on sponsorships, please contact Travis Hout at 941-882-7673 or thout@venicegov.com, or Shirley Gibson at 941-882-7439 or sgibson@venicegov.com.

Learn more about the Public Works Road-E-O and see photos from the inaugural event in Venice on the Road-E-O page on the City website.



# Volunteers needed to serve on City advisory boards

Know someone who wants to get involved in the community, but isn't exactly sure how? Serving on a City of Venice advisory board is an excellent way to get started. Currently, seven seats on different boards are open. Vacancies are as follows:

#### **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** — One vacancy

Advises and gives recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to the parks system of the City. Assists the Council in the definition of goals and objectives for the parks system of the City. Carries out specific programs for areas of research as may be assigned by the Council. Seeks the development of a broad variety of programs, areas, facilities and services, and through effective planning, meets the needs and demands of the City by utilizing the total resources of the City. Assists the City in informing and educating the general public about the importance of and need for parks and recreation programs, facilities and services. Evaluates the City parks and recreation programs, facilities and services periodically to ensure that its objectives and goals are being achieved. Recommends the establishment of such rules and regulations as may be necessary from time to time pertinent to the operation, efficient management, maintenance and scheduling of parks and recreational facilities within the City. Evaluates, revises and recommends bicycle and multi-modal requests regarding use of parks, trails, roadways or other City property. Serves as bicycle advisory committee. Reviews and advises City Council regarding any matters referred to it by Council.

Made up of seven City residents and one member from a Venice area high school student body. Term length: 3 years. Meets the 3rd Monday of the month, quarterly (January, April, July and October) at 3 p.m., and otherwise as needed.

#### **Citizen Tax Oversight Committee** — One vacancy

Conducts 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.

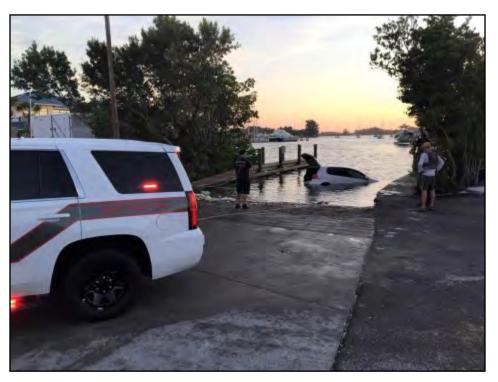
Made up of five City residents. No member may be a full time employee of the city or private individuals or employees of private firms under contract with the city. Term length: 4 years. Meets at least annually and otherwise as needed.

#### **Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals** — Four vacancies

Hears appeals of decisions and interpretations of the building official, considers variances of the technical codes, and conducts hearings regarding certificates of competency, licenses, discipline, and such other powers as authorized in the City Code or state law. The seven-member board shall hear appeals of decisions and interpretations of the building official and applications for variances. The 10-member board (regular members and alternate members) shall hear cases involving certificates of competency, licenses, and discipline.

Members should consist of individuals with knowledge and experience in the technical codes, such as design professionals, contractors or building industry representatives. In addition to the regular members, three alternate members serve as consumer representatives who shall not be, or ever have been, members or practitioners of a trade or profession regulated by the board or a member of any closely related trade or profession. A board member shall not act in a case in which the member has a personal or financial interest. Term length: 3 years. Meets on call of the chairman.

If you are interested in serving on a board, please submit your application online at www.venicegov.com (hover on Government at the top of the home page, then click on Advisory Boards under City Clerk), 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 Recording Secretary Mercedes Barcia at 941-882-7392. All resumes will be considered when vacancies occur.



At left, emergency responders with Venice Fire work to remove a vehicle from the Higel Park boat ramp Oct. 23. A kayaker and a paddleboarder found the car partially submerged with an 81year-old woman trapped inside. They called 911 and were able to rescue the occupant of the vehicle. According to the driver she'd been trapped in the partially submerged car since approximately 10 p.m. the night before.





At left, City Bicycle
Pedestrian Coordinator Darlene Culpepper
and City Engineer
Kathleen Weeden
attend the Transform
Tomorrow Long
Range Plan 2045 Scenario Planning Workshop in Brandenton
Oct. 21.



Above, a beautiful new kaleidoscope sculpture was installed in Centennial Park by Venice Public Works and Venice Area Beautification Inc. Come check out the flowers under the scopes!

At left, Angelo Papini and Chad Armstrong with Utilities conduct a fire hydrant flow test.



Above, Rattana Wongsa, Training Administrative Coordinator with VPD, donates blood on the Big Red Bus outside City Hall Oct. 9.

At right, the 2019 Miss Sun Fiesta, Faith Kern, far left, is announced in Centennial Park Oct. 20. First runner up is Helen Sanford; second runner up is Annie Resendez. *Photo: Women's Sertoma* 



Special Events and Marketing Coordinator Shirley Gibson captured some of the colored lights in the basin in Fountain Park.



Below, Senior Planner Amy Nelson, Planning Coordinator Christina Rimes, Planner Nicole Tremblay, Zoning Permit Technician Lisa Olson, and Planning/GIS Technician Kelsey Mahoney in the Planning & Zoning Department.





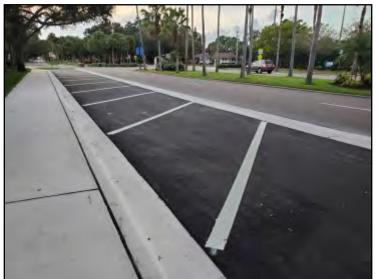
Venice Fire Department staff conducted fire prevention training for about 25 Venice Yacht Club members on Oct. 12. Pictured at left are Lt. Derek Lowery, Battalion Chief Steve Worobel and Firemedic Jeremy Dowd; below is Firefighter/EMT Jessica Jones.

Photos: Vincent Pelliccia

Venice Police Lt. Andy
Leisenring recently
graduated from a leadership class held by the
Venice Area Chamber of
Commerce. Leadership
Venice is designed to
expose current and future
leaders to all aspects of the
Venice community. For
more on the class' project,
Venice Quest, go to
venicechamber.com/quest.







New angled parking is open on West Venice Ave. and Avenue des Parques by City Hall.

From left, Capt. Eric Hill of the Venice Police Department, Capt. James Rieser of the Sarasota Police Department, Capt. Kathleen Vacca of New College PD, Dr. Chris Capsambelis of Alpha Measurement Group, Alan Bullock, Director of Human Resources for the City of Venice, and Capt. Charlie Thorpe of VPD spent Oct. 21 at the Venice Community Center, conducting practical exercise and oral board assessments of VPD sergeant and lieutenant candidates. This portion of the process is the second part of a three-part testing and evaluation process candidates go through to qualify for promotion eligibility.





Participants in the monthly 6-mile City Bicycle Ride around the island of Venice Oct. 16, led by Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator Darlene Culpepper, at center in yellow. VPD Capt. Charlie Thorpe and Mayor John Holic also participated. The next ride is at 10 a.m. Nov. 13. Just bring your bike and a helmet to City Hall!



City Public Works staff have completed repairs at the Venice Community Center fountain, including pressure washing, painting, new nozzles installed, a new light for the VCC sign & street number address, plumbing and electrical maintenance, and new fountain lights.



VPD Officers Victor Montanez and Nicholas Hertel take time out to greet a cutie-pie at Centennial Park, in this photo taken by the little girl's mother. We love our community and the relationships we build every day.



The Venice Museum & Archives' new seasonal exhibit, "Playing in Paradise: The History of Venice Sports," opened Oct. 7 and runs through July 29, 2020. The exhibit features information and artifacts on various sporting activities in Venice, starting with the 1927 Tarpon Tournament to the recent Venice High School state championship teams. The VMA is located in the historic Triangle Inn building at 351 Nassau St. S., near the Venice Community Center and Venice Library. It is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month, October- April, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, please call 941-486-2487.

Jay Pollard and Christian Demersman with Public Works assist with palm tree pruning on Miami Avenue Oct. 9.





A Land Development Regulations (LDR) workshop for the City Planning Commission was held Oct. 29 in Community Hall.



At left, Utilities staff work on a water service line repair at Curry Creek Oct. 23 — Josh Mazzarella operating the trackhoe, Vadim Bugayev and Chad Armstrong.

At right, Code Enforcement Supervisor Jim Davis captured this gorgeous sunrise outside City Hall Oct. 18.





Come be a part of the City of Venice's First Citizens University!

#### What is it?

Learn how the City of Venice operates. Meet City staff. Get an overview of how the City works. Tour our many different departments.

#### What to expect?

Citizens University is an eight-week program running every Wednesday from 1-3:30 p.m., January 15, 2020 through March 4, 2020. Open to citizens who live or work in the City of Venice. Participants will meet City staff from various departments and learn about what their department does, providing them with an ability to ask questions. Some weeks will be offsite, while other classes will be at Venice City Hall, located at 401 W. Venice Ave.

A more detailed course schedule will be provided to those citizens accepted to the program, which is limited to 25 participants. **Deadline to register for this program is December 13, 2019.** 

An application form (fillable PDF) can be found on the City's website, www.venicegov.com, under "I Want To" on the homepage, "Be a Part of the Citizens University." You can email your completed application to Shirley Gibson at sgibson@venicegov.com or by mail to City of Venice, 401 W. Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285; Attn.: Shirley Gibson

For more information, Shirley Gibson can be contacted at 941-882-7439 or email at sgibson@venicegov.com.









#### **Venice Theatre**

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

> "Mamma Mia!" Oct. 25-Dec. 1

"Good People" Nov. 1-17

"The Peanut Gallery: Teen Improv" Nov. 10

> "Florida Bee Gees" Nov. 10-11

"Stand-up Class Performance" Nov. 11

"All About Soul: Billy Joel Tribute" Nov. 25

"Assisted Living The Musical" Nov. 29-Dec. 22

"Ultimate Tribute to the King" Dec. 1-2

#### **Venice Art Center**

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

"Fall Members Show" Oct. 11-Nov. 8

> "Cornucopia" Nov. 15-Dec. 6

"Bling Thing Jewelry Show and Sale"

Nov. 30

"Annual Holiday Tea"

Dec. 13

"Untamed"

Jan. 17-Feb. 7, 2020

#### **Venice Performing Arts Center**

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

"America the Beautiful"

Venice Concert Band Nov. 4

"The Everly Brothers Experience"

Nov. 8

"The Mystics" Nov. 10

"Bohemian Beethoven"

Venice Symphony Nov. 15-16

"Molly Hatchet"

Nov. 17

"Holiday Treasures"

Venice Concert Band

Dec. 2

"Holiday Pops with Brass"

Venice Chorale

Dec. 8

# Maintenance dredging of the Gulf ICW under way

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maintenance dredging project to maintain the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Venice is under way. The project involves removal of shoaled sediment and use of the dredged material on the beach and nearshore area to take advantage of ecosystem restoration opportunities. The project is scheduled to run for several months and be completed before the end of the calendar year.

Work near Venice involves maintenance dredging within an approximately 5-mile stretch of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. Over time, coastal processes have resulted in significant shoaling and deposition of sediment within the waterway, and maintaining long-term navigation requires the removal of these sediments.

UPCOMING CLOSURES: The morning of Monday, Nov. 4, the South Jetty walkway will be temporarily closed so the Army Corps of Engineers contractor can place the dredging pipe across the Jetty. A bridge span will be put in place to allow pedestrian traffic over the pipe while construction takes place. This will take most of the morning on Nov. 4 to construct. Once this is completed, the walkway to the Jetty will remain open during the project. Humphris Park at the South Jetty will remain open during this process; only the walkway will be temporary closed.

Also the morning of Nov. 4, at approximately 6 a.m. the contractor will be using the Venice Beach north lot to offload equipment. The north lot will temporarily close to allow 2 tractor trailers hauling a loader, bulldozer and mats to offload. Once the equipment is offloaded, it will immediately be moved from the lot using the north lot beach access. The equipment will then be walked down the beach to the renourishment site.

The Army Corps of Engineers has a Fact Sheet on the project that includes a map. It can be found at https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Media/Fact-Sheets/.



## City of Venice Phase II Road Bond Resurfacing Projects

#### Crews to Begin Roadway Resurfacing in North Venice

The City's contractor for the Phase II Road Bond Resurfacing Projects has started concrete work in North Venice and is scheduled to begin paving in mid-November, weather permitting. Streets marked in blue on the map below are a part of the project. Crews are currently in the area during daytime hours removing and replacing damaged sidewalk, installing updated ADA features, and replacing curb. Some temporary driveway closures may be required. Once concrete work nears completion, the paving crew will begin milling and resurfacing, mostly during nighttime hours. The contractor expects to maintain one lane for traffic while this work occurs. Please use caution in the area and expect construction equipment, vehicles, and crews working in or near the roadway. Work on these streets is expected to be completed in December 2019.



For more information, please contact the Project Public Information Officer: Jennifer Dorning Atkins North America Email: Jennifer.Dorning@atkinsglobal.com

Cell phone: (239) 338-7723









### **Elder Resources in Sarasota County**



Memory Disorder Clinic at Sarasota Memorial Hospital 1515 S Osprey Ave Suite A-1 Sarasota, FL 34239 941-917-7197

www.smh.com

Venice Senior Friendship Center 2350 Scenic Drive Venice, FL 34293 941-584-0052

www.friendshipcenters.org

Sarasota County Elder Helpline:

239-652-6901

Dial 211

Free Education & Support Groups

1st Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. Jacaranda Trace 3600 William Penn Way Venice, FL 34293

2nd Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. Roskamp Institute 2040 Whitfield Ave. Bradenton, FL 34243

3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Senior Friendship Center Dwyer Education Room 1900 Brother Geenen Way Sarasota, FL 34236

www.elderaffairs.state.fl.us/doea/resources.php

# Walk Around Florida 29

Nov 1-3 Carnival in Venice



# Four Walks & A Bike Ride Cost is \$3 an Event

Join the Happy Wanderers, Mid-Florida Milers & Suncoast Sandpipers walking clubs for the 29th Walk Around Florida, a weekend of fun. fitness and friendship-this year with a Venetian flair!

The Hotel Venezia is sports & social activities headquarters 425 US 41 Bypass N, Venice, FL 34285

#### All events are go-at-your own pace and good for all ages!

Nov 1: 11/6K Walk of Downtown Venice & Venice Beach

Start walk noon-3 p.m. from hotel

Nov 2: 10/6K Walk of Historic Venice

Start walk 8 a.m. -1 p.m. from hotel

Nov 2: 11/5K Walk of Legacy Trail

Start walk 8 a.m.-1 p.m. from hotel

Nov 2: 16/27K Bike ride of Venetian Waterway

Start ride 8 a.m.-1 p.m. from hotel

Nov 3: 6/7/11 K Walk of S Lido County Park

For detailed WAF 29 flier, go to Suncoast Sandpipers.org



Point of Contact Alice Lawrence 727-542-9742/pipers@tampabay.rr.com

Start walk 9-10 a.m. from park. 2201 Benjamin Franklin Dr. Sarasota, FL

Events are sanctioned by the American Volkssport Association for volkssport credit.

AVA: America's Walking Club



# PEOPLE WHO MOVE CHANGE THE WORLD. Register & Start Fundraising Today! MovingDayVenice.org For more information: Contact Lena Brennan at 813-616-6517 or Ibrennan@parkinson.org Get out and move with your community. Every dollar raised supports the Parkinson's Foundation mission to make life better for people affected by Parkinson's disease. At Moving Day walks across the country, we're fighting Parkinson's and celebrating movement - proven to help manage Parkinson's symptoms. Register today and come move with us. #Move4PD Parkinson's Foundation





## Venice Historic Walking Tour

Presented by Venice Florida Tours



This 1 1/2 hour tour covers historic information about the City of Venice on a leisurely 1 mile walk

Saturdays and Sundays

Tour covers all of the following and much more!

Dr. Albee's Florida Medical Center The Name: Venice

The boom of the 1920s Historic Buildings

Intracoastal Waterway Kentucky Military Institute

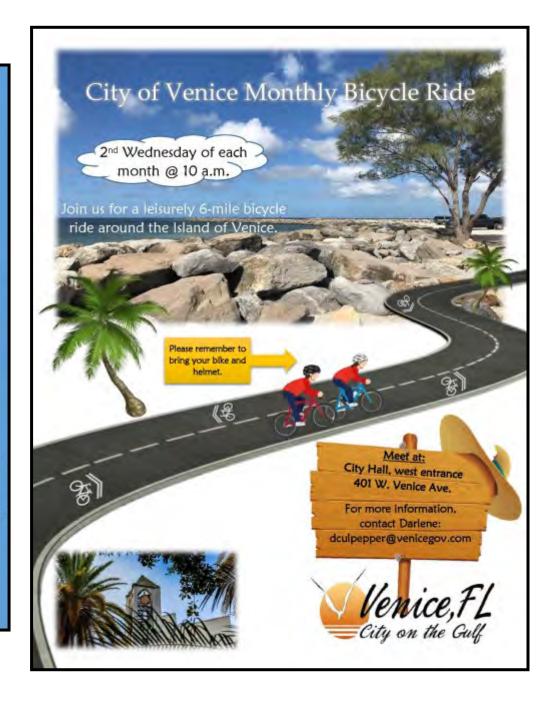
\$15.00 per person (cash only). Reservations Required.

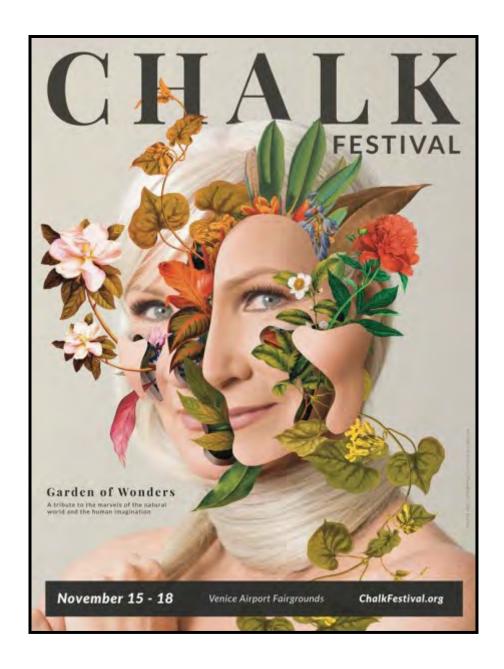
Contact Us for upcoming tour day/times and for reservations:

Facebook.com/VeniceFloridaTours

VeniceFloridaTours@yahoo.com

Call 817-793-8433 (Tiffany)







## Fertilize Less

## Enjoy Florida More!

Summer June 1 - September 30



No to N: Fertilizers containing Nitrogen and Phosphorous are prohibited in the Summer

Pump Iron: Use products containing iron and micronutrients to stay green in the summer.

Keep Clippings: Only rain down the drain, keep those grass clippings on the lawn.

Create Compost: Use your clippings and veggie waste to give your garden a boost.

Floridify your yard: Florida plants require little care, fertilizer and water. They were made for paradisel

Mow high for less stress: Mowing short stresses grass and makes it vulnerable to disease, pests and drought.

For more information visit: www.venicegov.com



## Fertilize Less

# Enjoy Florida More!

Winter October 1 - May 31



Watch the Weather: Don't fertilize before a storm it won't help your plants... it'll go down the drain.

Grow with Slow: Use at least 50% slow release Nitrogen. It releases nutrients when the plants need it so you don't waste it.

Keep the Water Blue: Keep fertilizer 10 feet away from lakes, ponds and rivers.

Skip the P: Phophorous is already naturally found in our soil, no need to add more.

Keep on the Grass: Spread the fertilizer on the grass with a deflector shield or edge guard. You don't want to help the weeds grow on the sidewalk. Do you?

Test your Turf: Fertilizer won't help your lawn if it has a disease, pest invasion or pH imbalance

For more information visit: www.venicegov.com







- · A Call will be placed to your residence between the hours of 8A.M. and 11 A.M.
- If you do not answer our call by 11 A.M., we will send an officer to check on your welfare.



register an opportunity to be called by the Police Department daily to briefly check in.

Citizens who want to voluntarily register for the SAFE Program, must complete a registration form and return it to the Venice Police Department. A copy of this form can be picked up from the Venice Police Department or by going to our website:

#### www.venicepolice.com

The participant displays the original in a prominent area of their

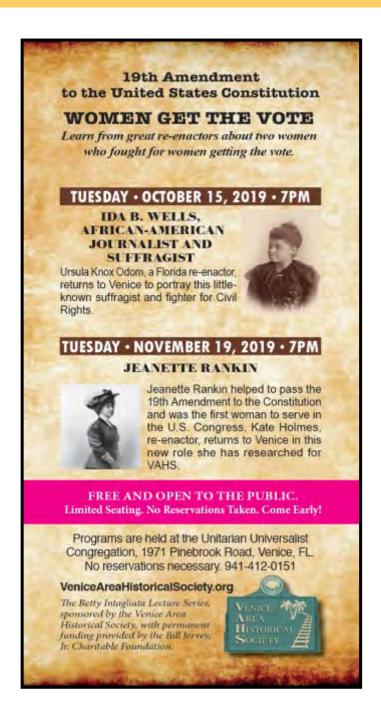
Eligibility to participate:

- 1. Resident of the City of Venice
- 2. Complete a SAFE Registration form
- 3. Citizens identified with special needs are those who are above the age of 60 years old, suffering with physical and mental infirmities and those over the age of 18 years old who are physically and mentally

1350 Ridgewood Ave, Venice, FL 34292

HTTPS://WWW.VENICEPOLICE.COM











- SET YOUR OWN
  HOURS
  - √ \$0.58/ MILE
- ✓ WORK IN YOUR OWN COMMUNITY



## **JOIN THE 2020 CENSUS TEAM**

## APPLY ONLINE! 2020census.gov/jobs

2020 Census jobs provide:

- √ Great pay
- √ Flexible hours
- √ Weekly pay
- √ Paid training

For more information or help applying, please call 1-855-JOB-2020

Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339 TTV/ASCII www.gsa.gov/fedrelay

The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer.











#### WATERING 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.

## Watch city meetings

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

In the middle of the homepage at left, click on the Meetings button, 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" to stream live. Meetings are also available for viewing anytime online generally the day after they are held.

#### MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY KICKOFF



Serve Florida and the City worked together with 22 students from Venice High School Transition to kick off Make a Difference Day a day early on Friday, Oct. 25, helping to beautify West Blalock Park. Make a Difference Day organizer Jim Foubister and Public Works Director James Clinch were on hand to assist. This is a special tradition for Venice High, Serve Florida and the City of Venice.

**VETERANS DAY CEREMONY SET:** The annual Veterans Day ceremony will be held at Patriots Park, 800 Venetia Bay Blvd., Venice, at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 11. This year the ceremony is hosted by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8118. All veterans service organizations in the Venice area — VFW, American Legion, DAV and Marine Corps League — will participate. Venice Mayor John Holic and Sarasota County Commission Chair Charles Hines will present proclamations honoring the service of local veterans. The public is invited; please bring chairs.