



VENICE CITY E-NEWS

September 2020

A PUBLICATION FOR THE CITIZENS OF VENICE, FL

30-day mask ordinance in effect

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www.venicegov.com

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The Venice City Council approved an ordinance on second reading Aug. 25 requiring face coverings in the City to further help slow the spread of COVID-19. The ordinance passed 4-3, with Mayor Ron Feinsod and Council Members Rich Cautero, Helen Moore and Mitzie Fiedler in agreement.

There are 14 exceptions to the ordinance. The ordinance states: Nothing herein shall require the wearing of face coverings by the following persons or in the following locations:

1. Persons observing physical or social distancing; and
2. Persons eating or drinking; and
3. Persons inside of motor vehicles, except that persons inside of vehicles-for-hire shall be required to wear face coverings; and
4. Schools or daycare facilities, which may apply their own public safety policies and procedures; and
5. Governmental facilities, including but not limited to police and fire stations and administrative offices which may apply their own public safety policies and procedures; and



Council members discuss the final reading of the City's mask ordinance during the Aug. 25 hybrid meeting, which had participants both virtually and in Council chambers.

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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Mask, from page 1

6. Persons inside in a hotel room, motel room, vacation rental, or similarly situated accommodation which is not accessible to the public. This exception does not extend to the common areas of the lodging establishment, including but not limited to lobbies, elevators, meeting rooms, restaurants, bars and event spaces.

7. If a person is under the age of 6, use of a face covering is left to the discretion of that person's parent, guardian, or accompanying adult. Persons under the age of 2 are not required to wear a mask under any circumstances as CDC guidelines state that a face covering is not appropriate for this age group; and

8. Persons whose compliance would be detrimental to their health, safety, or welfare. If this exception is being asserted for health reasons, the person asserting this exception is not required to carry or produce documentation verifying the health condition or to specifically identify the health condition to the compliance officer or law enforcement officer; and

9. Persons working in a business or profession who do not have interactions with other persons; and

10. Persons working in a business or profession who maintain social distancing from another person; and

11. Persons working in a business or profession where use of a face covering would prevent them from performing the duties of the business or profession; and

12. Persons exercising, while maintaining social distancing; and

13. Public safety, fire and other life safety and health care personnel, as their personal protective equipment requirements will be governed by their respective agencies; and

14. Persons communicating with a hearing-impaired person who needs to

see the person's mouth to communicate.

It is the intent of the ordinance to seek voluntary compliance and to educate and warn of the dangers of non-compliance. However, in the event voluntary compliance is not achieved, then as a last resort, a violation of the ordinance shall be a noncriminal civil infraction, which carries a penalty of up to \$500.

The ordinance will sunset or expire 30 days after adoption, unless otherwise extended or repealed prior to the expiration date.

The ordinance can be read in its entirety on the City website, www.venicegov.com.



Signage installed downtown in support of the wearing face coverings in public.

Special events in the City have been canceled until further notice. Visit venicegov.com for updates.

 SEPTEMBER 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVENT INFO: Symbol indicates event's location. ○ Miami Avenue ≈ Venice Beach		1 1:30PM Planning Commission	2	3	4	5 CANCELED ○ MIAMI AVE CRAFT FESTIVAL
6 CANCELED ○ MIAMI AVE CRAFT FESTIVAL	7 CITY HALL CLOSED Garbage, yard waste and recyclables collected on next pickup day LABOR DAY	8 9AM CITY COUNCIL	9 3:30PM Public Art Advisory Board 5:15PM BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING	10 9AM Architectural Review Board	11 PATRIOT DAY	12
13 GRANDPARENTS DAY	14	15	16	17	18 9AM Historic Preservation Board ROSH HASHANAH	19
20	21	22 9AM CITY COUNCIL 5:15PM BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AUTUMN BEGINS	23	24 9AM Architectural Review Board	25	26 CANCELED ≈ VENICE BEACH PARTY
27 YOM KIPPUR	28	29	30		SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON MAY 1 - OCT 31  LIGHTS OUT AT THE BEACH!	JUNE 1 - SEPT 30 Fertilizers containing nitrogen & phosphorous are prohibited. HURRICANE SEASON JUNE 1 - NOV 30

Special events in the City have been canceled until further notice. Visit venicegov.com for updates.

 <h1>OCTOBER 2020</h1>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVENT INFO: Symbol indicates event's location. Centennial Park Nokomis Ave.	SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON MAY 1 - OCT 31  LIGHTS OUT AT THE BEACH!	HURRICANE SEASON  JUNE 1 - NOV 30		1 10AM Code Enforcement Board	2	3
4	5	6 1:30PM Planning Commission	7	8 9AM Architectural Review Board	9	10
11	12 COLUMBUS DAY	13 9AM CITY COUNCIL	14	15 CANCELED SERTOMA WINEFEAST	16 9AM Historic Preservation Board SUN FIESTA BOSS'S DAY	17 SUN FIESTA CANCELED SUN FIESTA
18 SUN FIESTA	19 3PM Parks & Recreation Advisory Board	20 1:30PM Planning Commission	21	22 9AM Architectural Review Board	23	24 MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
25	26	27 9AM CITY COUNCIL	28 1PM Environmental Advisory Board	29	30	31 CANCELED CHILDREN'S PARADE HALLOWEEN

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY UPDATE

The City of Venice Public Safety Facility project achieved substantial completion on July 22 and received a temporary certificate of occupancy on July 31, according to Venice Police Lt. Rob Goodson. At right are the most recent aerial photos of the complex on East Venice Avenue.

Final punch list items are being completed throughout the building and grounds as Venice Police Department staff begins to move in. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, in lieu of a public ribbon cutting/grand opening at this time, VPD is working with a videographer to prepare a presentation to showcase the new facility to the public.

The former Police Department building at 1350 Ridgewood Ave. will be turned over to its new residents, Public Works.

The Public Safety Facility is 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. *See related photos, page 6*



PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY UPDATE



The Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center worked with Venice Police volunteer Linda Wilson to create a historic photo display for the new Venice Public Safety Facility lobby. Printing services were donated by Venice Print Center.

Police Department staff plan to fully transition to the new facility this month.

Arboretum awarded Level II accreditation

On May 15, 2019, the Monty Andrews Arboretum in Venice was awarded Level I accreditation by the ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program and the Morton Arboretum for achieving particular standards of professional practices deemed important for arboreta and botanic gardens. We are pleased to announce that the Arboretum has now been awarded the advanced Level II accreditation. The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program is the only global initiative to officially recognize arboreta at various levels of development, capacity and professionalism. The Monty Andrews Arboretum is recognized as an accredited arboretum in the Morton Register of Arboreta, a database of the world's arboreta and gardens dedicated to woody plants.



JIM YELVERTON
CITY ARBORIST

The Venice City Council voted in 2006 to create an arboretum in Blalock Park following the recommendation of citizen volunteers, later named for Monty Andrews. With the support of the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, the Arboretum was created. The Arboretum is part of Blalock Park, which is also home to the Venice Community Center and the Venice Museum & Archives. The Monty Andrews Arboretum is situated on 4.5 acres at West Blalock Park and serves as one of the City's major points of environmental interest and educational opportunities.

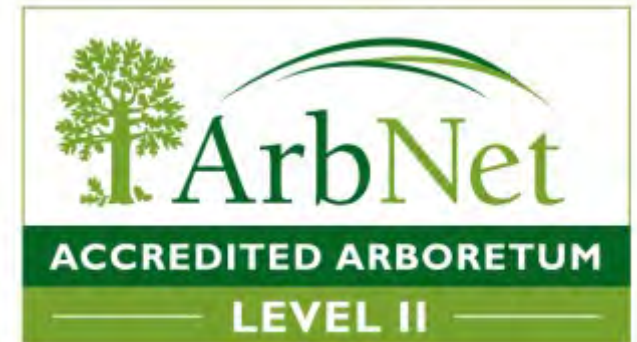
The Arboretum has added to the collection of trees and plants as well as expanded the educational displays and events. The Arboretum now holds over 80 species of trees and palms identified with information signs and a total of 132 trees and palms. There is also a Florida-friendly native shrub area, butterfly garden, composting and rain barrel displays, picnic areas and four life-size Florida animal sculptures of a Florida panther, sea turtle, manatee and tarpon created by artist Thomas Prochnow. There are information signs for each of the sculptures as well as other opportunities to learn about the Florida

environment and conservation in keeping with the Arboretum's goal of education and awareness.

In December, the Arboretum traditionally holds a sponsored tree-lighting event presented by Venice Area Beautification Inc. Many of the trees and palms are decorated with lights for the event that is always popular with citizens and visitors of the City.

The City Public Works Parks division works closely with a devoted team of volunteers led by Monty, who work tirelessly to develop and maintain the Arboretum. The Arboretum is continuously adding trees and plants to the collection as well as improvements and educational displays to the grounds so there is always something new to see. The Park and Arboretum are located at 401 Pensacola Road on the island of Venice, and are free and open to the public year-round.

Monty and his team of devoted volunteers have created a real jewel for the city. This Level II accreditation is a great accomplishment for our Arboretum.



Continued on page 8

Arboretum, from page 7**Level I Accreditation requirements:**

- *An arboretum plan
- *An organizational and governance group
- *Public access
- *A labeled collection of woody plants and trees

Level II Accreditation requirements:

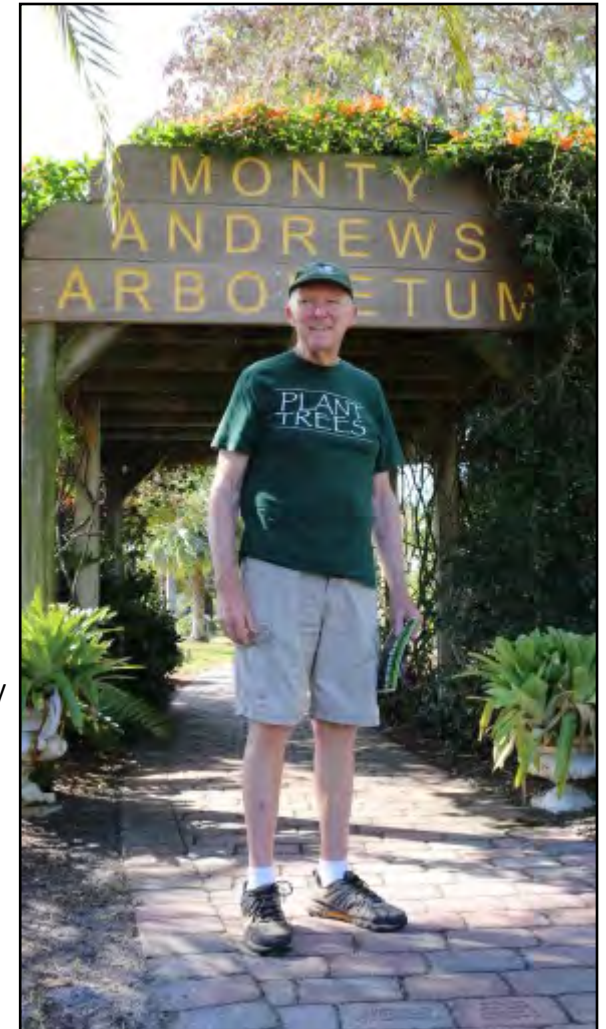
- *A collections policy: Trees and shrubs for USDA Hardiness Zones 10A & 10B
- *Paid staff management and/or volunteer support
- *Enhanced public educational programs: Informational signage, educational displays (composting, water conservation), bulletin board and special events
- *A collection of 100 or more trees and woody plants: To date we have 132 trees and palms and 70 woody shrubs in the Arboretum

“Receiving the Level II accreditation from the ArbNet organization is a great honor, particularly when you consider it is a worldwide arboreta organization based in Lisle, Ill,” Monty said. “However, our arboretum may not have been possible without the Gulf Coast Community Foundation believing in the project and providing the startup grant funding. Others deserving recognition include VABI providing administrative assistance, and the individuals who volunteer their time to help maintain the park along with the City Public Works Department.”

About ArbNet

ArbNet is an interactive, collaborative, international community of arboreta. ArbNet facilitates the sharing of knowledge, experience and other resources to help arboreta meet their institutional goals and works to raise professional standards through the ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program. The accreditation program, sponsored and coordinated by The Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Ill., in cooperation with American Public Gardens Association and Botanic Gardens Conservation International, is the only global initiative to officially recognize arboreta based on a set of professional standards. The program offers four levels of accreditation, recognizing arboreta of various degrees of development, capacity and professionalism. Standards include planning, governance, public access, programming and tree science, planting and conservation. More information is available at www.arbnet.org.

Tree Program Administrator/City Arborist Jim Yelverton can be contacted for more information at 941-882-7433 or jyelverton@venicegov.com.



Volunteer Monty Andrews in January at the Arboretum in West Blalock Park that bears his name.

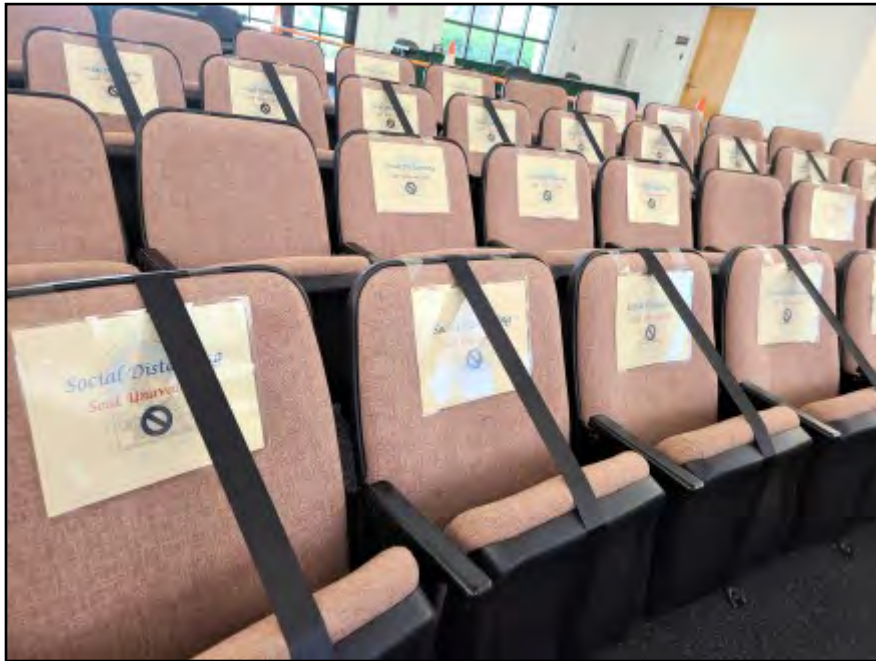
City now holding hybrid meetings

Venice City Council and advisory board meetings have begun using a hybrid approach, which means meetings are both held in Council chambers in City Hall at 401 W. Venice Ave., and are virtual. Agendas are posted approximately one week prior to the meeting on the City website at: <https://venice.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. The meetings are simultaneously broadcast live on the City's website and Zoom, and each agenda will provide instructions on how to participate in these meetings.

City Council and advisory board members who choose to attend in person will be socially distanced at the dais. Council chambers has been upgraded to allow for all participants to view and hear all board members, City staff and members of the public, whether they are participating in person or virtually.

While in-person attendance by members of the public is allowed, due to COVID-19 the City strongly encourages the public and staff to attend virtually, especially if you feel sick. Masks should be worn by those attending in person and public seating has been marked off to accommodate social distancing, allowing for approximately 38 citizens. The area where public comment is given is disinfected between speakers, and chambers is cleaned between meetings.

The next City Council meeting is at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8.



Conceptual plan for ‘Old Betsy’ building approved



On Aug. 25, City Council approved a conceptual plan for a display building to house “Old Betsy,” the City’s 1926 American LaFrance fire engine. James Clinch, the City’s Director of Public Works and Asset Management, and Earl Midlam, a former City Council Member and firefighter who drives the old fire engine during events and oversees the vehicle’s upkeep, gave a presentation to Council on the proposal.

Old Betsy was brought to Venice by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers in November 1926, and acquired by the City in 1928. It was an active fire engine for the City until the vehicle was retired in the late 1960s. The first restoration on the engine was performed in 1975, with the most recent in 2011. Old Betsy has been routinely featured in numerous City events and parades, including Public Safety Day, the Children’s Halloween Parade, and the Holiday Parade.

The antique fire engine is currently housed in the Sarasota County Warehouse at 440 E. Venice Ave., an aging building that the City does not own. Under the concept plan, Old Betsy would be housed in a climate-controlled building located on the Cultural Campus of East Blalock Park, across from the Venice Museum. The structure would be paid for through a fundraising campaign by Venice Heritage Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. It would be constructed of low-maintenance building materials and be energy-efficient with roof solar panels.

Donations can be made to Venice Heritage Inc., P.O. Box 1190, Venice, FL 34284. Please indicate “Old Betsy’s home” in the check memo line.



Above left, a rendering of the Old Betsy display building, provided by Beechwood Builders. At left, Earl Midlam drives the antique fire engine during a Children’s Halloween Parade downtown. At right, Old Betsy was an active fire engine for the City until the late 1960s.



GAZEBO MAKEOVER

Refurbishment work continues on the Gazebo in Centennial Park. With the exception of the roof and painting, work on this project has been done in-house by the City of Venice Public Works Department. The new cupola on top of the structure is constructed of aluminum to resist the elements.

“We did all the wood work ourselves, and the install on the cupola,” said Assistant Public Works Director Ricky Simpson.

The Gazebo has new stairs and ADA-compliant access points and hand-rails. Roof work is now complete and painting is scheduled to start next week. Project completion is estimated to be later this month.



Above photo courtesy of Venice MainStreet

Sign up for Alert Sarasota County

Sarasota County has launched a mass-notification system called Alert Sarasota County, hosted by Everbridge, as part of a partnership with the state of Florida and the cities of Venice, Sarasota, North Port and the Town of Longboat Key. Alert Sarasota County, which replaces the CodeRED notification system, will be used to communicate public health and safety topics affecting the County. Available alerts in the City of Venice include severe weather, police and fire incidents, temporary road closures and construction, hazardous spills, water outages and boil water notices, flooding, power outages and red tide.

NOTE: The City of Venice is not launching notifications on Alert Sarasota County yet; they will still come through the CodeRED system until Sept. 14. Please sign up for the new system prior to this date!

Users can choose the types of alerts and how to receive them when registering their new account. These options can be changed at any time. Alert Sarasota County can send alerts to users via landline phone, cell phone, text message, email, TDD/TTY, or a combination of these methods.

Users can sign up for alerts by registering with their home address. County and municipality alerts can differ. To start receiving alerts, sign up in the following ways:

Create an account at www.alertsarasotacounty.com. When signing up, users can enter their home address to the jurisdiction map to determine which jurisdiction's alerts to receive.

Download the free Everbridge mobile app. In the app, select "find organization or subscription," type your jurisdiction into the search bar, and log in or register a new account.

The use of this mass-notification system is at no cost to Sarasota County or the City of Venice. The state of Florida currently holds a contract with Alert Sarasota County host Everbridge. The entire cost of the 5-year, \$3.5 million contract is borne by the state's Alert Florida program. The state's contract with Everbridge expires July 30, 2024.

"We're looking forward to the Everbridge system providing valuable, timely information for our citizens on a variety of critical issues via phone, text message and email," said Venice Deputy Fire Chief Frank Giddens.

Data entered into the Alert Sarasota County system is only used to send alerts and will not be sold.



FIRE STATION 1/CITY HALL EXPANSION PROJECT

Venice Fire Station 1/City Hall contractor Willis Smith Construction is working to complete the streetscape improvements along Harbor Dr. S. Crews will be pouring concrete curbs, placing asphalt and sod in this area to create additional angled street parking. At the main project site, the contractor will be starting the foundations for the new Fire Station and City Hall expansion. They will be excavating and placing forms in preparation for the new concrete foundations.



Where to get a coronavirus test in the area

A state COVID-19 drive-thru testing site is available for Sarasota and Manatee Counties at the Mall at University Town Center in Sarasota for anyone 18 years or older regardless of symptoms, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Evaluations for coronavirus testing are offered at Gulf Coast Medical Group Urgent Care, 1700 E. Venice Ave. Hours are Monday-Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. When appropriate, testing will be done onsite.

Walk-up COVID-19 testing offered at the Robert L. Taylor Community Center, 1845 34th St., Sarasota, is for anyone regardless of symptoms, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

In partnership with DOH Sarasota County, **CenterPlace Health is hosting free drive-up testing** by appointment, at three sites in Sarasota County. This community-based COVID-19 testing is for anyone who is currently experiencing symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell) or people who work in a healthcare setting. No prescription is needed. All patients must have an appointment to be tested. Please call one of the locations below at 941-529-0300, select option 3, to be evaluated and scheduled for an appointment:

Child Health Center
(at the Glasser Schoenbaum Human Services Center)
1750 17th St., Bldg E, Sarasota

Ringling Health Center
2200 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota

North Port Health Center
6950 Outreach Way, North Port

For more information about the testing process or CenterPlace Health, visit www.CenterPlaceHealth.org.

DOH Sarasota has ongoing by-appointment-only COVID-19 drive-thru testing sites throughout Sarasota County. To be evaluated and to make an appointment, call 941-861-2883, Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For an updated schedule, visit <http://sarasota.floridahealth.gov>.

Walk-up COVID-19 testing is offered at Publix at Port Charlotte Crossing, 4265 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or until capacity is reached.

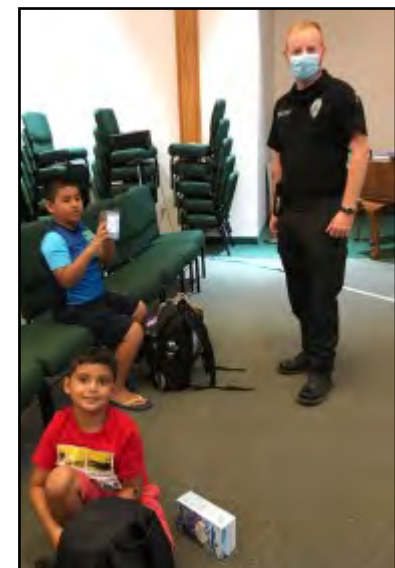


SHOP WITH A COP

The Venice Police Department's annual "Shop with a Cop" event looked a little different this year due to COVID-19. Instead of taking children to the store, officers participated in the program by delivering backpacks and school supplies to the Salvation Army on Aug. 18. K-9 Palmer was on hand too! Pictured at right are VPD Capt. Charlie Thorpe and Officers Seth Kenny, Josh Rowell, Bill Long and Josh Brooks. Not pictured: Officers Adam Daneman and Erin Skaggs. *More photos, page 16*



SHOP WITH A COP



Over 3,700 sea turtle nests on County beaches

Mote Marine Laboratory has recorded 3,712 sea turtle nests on Sarasota County beaches from Longboat Key to Venice so far this season, with 477 of those nests in Venice. 3,632 of the nests are those of loggerhead sea turtles, and 80 are nests of the more rare green sea turtle.

Sea turtles laid just 3 nests in the County the week of Aug. 23-29, according to the most recent data available from Mote.

A record number of sea turtle nests were recorded during their 2019 nesting season, according to Mote scientists who have monitored this stretch of nesting beaches for decades. A total of 5,112 nests — 4,926 from loggerhead sea turtles, 182 from green sea turtles, and 4 from extremely rare leatherback sea turtles — were documented last year by Mote's Sea Turtle Conservation & Research Program, which patrols the 35-mile stretch of beaches each day of nesting season, May 1-Oct. 31 on the Gulf Coast of Florida. Sea turtles laid a total of 647 nests on Venice beaches in 2019.

Sea turtles emerge at night and follow dim, natural light to return to the Gulf waters. Artificial lights that shine onto a nesting beach can draw turtle hatchlings away from the water and off the beach, where they have a slim chance of survival, according to information provided by the Sea Turtle Conservancy. These lights can lead them into roads, swimming pools and other danger zones, while causing them to exhaust their energy stores. Beach lights can also scare away females crawling ashore to nest.

Like many of Florida's coastal communities, the City of Venice has a lighting ordinance requiring residents to turn off beachfront lights during sea turtle nesting season. You should also avoid using flashlights, lanterns or flash photography while on the beach at night. Residents should go out to the beach at night and identify what lights on their property are visible from the beach. If the lights are not needed for safety, simply turn them off. If the lights cannot be turned off, shield, redirect or lower the height of the lights so they are no longer visible from the beach. Replace problematic lights with turtle-friendly fixtures designed to direct light where you need it and away from the beach, with red or amber LED bulbs.

City of Venice Community Resource Officer George Nixon is on the lookout for any potential lighting violators. Nixon also reminds residents and visitors to our beaches to make sure to remove all items such as beach chairs and trash — in which sea turtles can become entangled — from the beach at night. People should also fill in holes and knock down sand castles to make the beach safer for sea turtles.

If you encounter a nesting turtle or hatchlings on the beach, remain quiet and observe from a distance. Never encourage a turtle to move while nesting or pick up hatchlings that have emerged and are heading for the water. If you see lights shining on Venice beaches during nesting season, contact George Nixon in Code Enforcement at 941-650-1492. If you see a sea turtle or hatchling in danger, call the Mote Marine Sea Turtle Program at 941-388-4331 or the Venice Police Department at 941-486-2444.



Sea turtle hatchlings head for the water. *Photo: Blair Witherington/FWC*

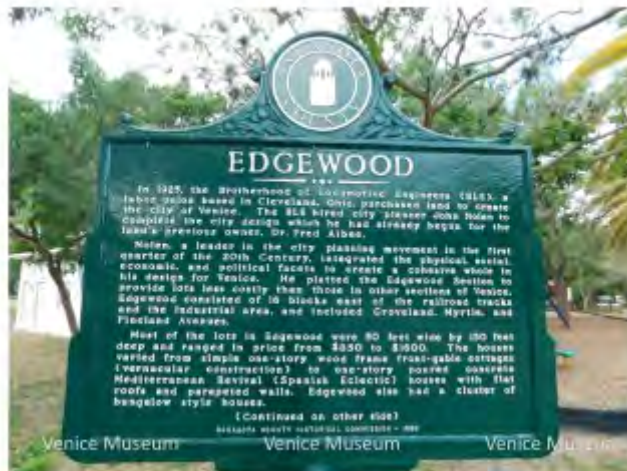
MARKER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Marker in the Spotlight is a new feature in this newsletter. Each month we will shine a spotlight on a local historical marker and learn what makes that particular location so important.

This month's marker zeroes in on the Edgewood Section of Venice. Another one of renowned planner John Nolen's designs, Edgewood was created to provide more affordable home sites. The homes pictured were built c. 1925. Today at age 95, they have maintained their individual character and charm. The marker references 8 homes built with the lamolithic system, including the one below middle, with the mailbox.

The cover of the 1920s promotional piece below right states: "The beautiful Edgewood Section of Venice contains only low-priced lots. Here the man of modest means can buy a homesite within five minutes' walk of the coming business section of the city. The photograph shows the moderate priced homes in this choice low-price section, where complete city improvements are rapidly being installed."

The historic marker is located at the intersection of Country Club Way and Groveland Avenue in Mundy Park. For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/veniceflarchives/> — *Provided by Rhonda Rogers*



YOUR HURRICANE READINESS CHECKLIST

Hurricane season in Florida runs from June 1-Nov. 30. Make sure you're prepared!

Stock up on bottled water, canned goods, medications or any other items that may be difficult to obtain right before or a week or two after the storm.

Plan to have 1 gallon of bottled water per person, per day, to last about two weeks.

Other items to stock up on include large, heavy-duty garbage bags, paper towels, toilet paper, wipes, first aid supplies, bleach and liquid dish soap, mosquito repellent, nonperishable food, plastic eating utensils, and paper plates and cups.

If you have a barbecue grill, stock up on charcoal and matches.

Go over your hurricane preparation and

evacuation plan with your family. Let out-of-town relatives know where you'll be during the storm.

Know that going to a hurricane evacuation center (shelter) should be your LAST-RESORT option.

These centers have one goal: To keep you alive through a storm event. You will have limited space, cots will not be provided, and meals may be delayed. Make a plan to stay with a neighbor, friend or relative NOW.

If staying in a shelter may be an option, drive to the various shelters well beforehand to be familiar with their locations. This is so that hours before an impending storm, when Sarasota County Emergency Management announces which shelters will be open, you can confidently and easily get there. **Get more information on area shelters and Sarasota County's transportation plan at www.scgov.net.**

Purchase a battery-operated radio, TV, flashlights and other items, and have spare batteries on hand.

Consider investing in a small generator, which can be purchased at home improvement stores, in case you are without electricity for a while.

Have your insurance and other important papers in a safe, waterproof container that you can take with you if you leave home.

Have a tarp and other emergency equipment on hand.

If you are concerned that your home is in a flood-prone area, store sandbags or bags filled with garden mulch to place around your house before the storm. The mulch can later be used in the garden.

When a hurricane watch is announced for the area:

Watch local TV news, check online weather sites like NOAA, monitor the Facebook pages of the City of Venice and Sarasota County Emergency Services, download weather apps to your device, and listen to the radio for information.

Begin collecting all loose items from your yard and porch, including lanais and pool cages. Even small items picked up by strong winds can break a window or lodge in a roof or other parts of a structure.

Install shutters or plywood over your windows.

Make sure your vehicle's gas tank is full.

Have cash on hand.

Do laundry.

Fill the bathtub with water.

Fill an ice chest or cooler with ice.

Charge phones and other devices.



Continued on page 20

Sarasota County Disaster Guide

Sarasota County has released electronic versions of its 2020 Sarasota County Disaster Planning Guide and Evacuation Map. They can be found via the below links. They are also available on the City's website, www.venicegov.com, under the "I Want To" and "Residents" tabs on the home page.

English version of the 2020 Sarasota County Disaster Planning Guide: <http://www.tbrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Sarasota-DPG-2020.pdf>

Spanish version: <http://www.tbrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Sarasota-DPG-2020-Spanish.pdf>

English version of the County Evacuation Map: <http://www.tbrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Sarasota-2020-Evacuation-Map.pdf>

Spanish version: <http://www.tbrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Sarasota-2020-Evacuation-Map-Spanish.pdf>

Free hard copies of the guide are also available at the City Hall Information Center at 401 W. Venice Ave.



Checklist, from page 19

Know that at sustained 45 mph winds, emergency services, including ambulances, will NOT respond to calls until conditions subside.

Remember that a hurricane has two parts. Often when the eye passes over, it is very calm and sometimes people think the storm is over.

Immediately after the storm, stay inside because:

There may be contaminated flood waters, as well as potholes or live electrical wires under flood waters that cannot be seen.

Most traffic signals will not be functioning.

Emergency services need the roads as clear as possible to respond to the number of calls they will get.

Snakes, rats, ants and other vermin will be displaced from their usual habitat and try to share yours.

Additionally ...

Do not swim or surf in the Gulf waters because there will likely be dangerous rip tide currents.

Plan for being in heat without air-conditioning for an extended amount of time.

Get additional information and watch the Hurricane Season 2020 Video at www.venicegov.com under the "I Want To" and "Residents" tabs.



'BOSAR' TRAINING

Master Police Officers Paul Joyce and Paul Freeman with the VPD Marine Unit completed Boater Operator Search and Rescue "BOSAR" training in Charlotte Harbor the week of Aug. 10. This course was instructed by the trained professionals from National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. The course gives maritime law enforcement officers the learning framework they need to become more proficient with skills necessary to operate in the maritime environment and conduct search-and-rescue operations. They trained all week alongside the Fort Myers Shores, City of Fort Myers, Charlotte County and Boca Grande fire departments; Charlotte County Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Coast Guard.



Utilities Water Main Replacement Phase 6 Project update

Project update: Work scheduled in September includes property water service relocations to the right of way on Manatee Court. New water main connections at Tampa Avenue E. and Harbor Drive N., Avenida del Circo and Base Avenue E., and a new water main installation on Ocala Street between The Esplanade and Valencia Road via horizontal directional drill. A scheduled water shutdown is necessary to connect the new water mains to the existing distribution system on Pensacola Road between Valencia and Nassau Street S., and the Palmetto Court area.

Project: The Utilities Water Main Replacement Phase 6 Project area is roughly bordered 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, a section south of the main area runs 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 (lf) 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.

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 a door hanger to affected properties. Notices are posted on the City of Venice website, www.venicegov.com and entered into the City's emergency notification system.

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.

Funding: A substantial portion of this phase is jointly funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) 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.



A new 6-inch water main after being connected to an existing 12-inch main on Park Lane Drive.

NEW FIRE RESCUES

With the City takeover of EMS services from Sarasota County, Venice Fire Rescue saw the delivery of its first rescue vehicle on Aug. 21. Three more rescues were delivered the following week. The vehicles will be in service Oct. 1. Pictured at right with the new rescue are Deputy Fire Chief Frank Giddens, EMS Division Chief Nathan McManus, and Fire Chief Shawn Carvey.



VENEZIA PARK IMPROVEMENTS



The playground at Venezia Park, 450 Nassau St. S., reopened to the public Aug. 20 featuring new equipment including a play structure for 2-5-year-olds, a play structure for 5-12-year-olds, swing sets and a Merry-Go-All spinner.

In addition to the new equipment, the City's Public Works Parks division has added fresh mulch to the play area, new picnic tables, benches and a trash receptacle.



Eagerly awaiting our Bicycle Friendly Community status

The City of Venice is proud to be known as a Bicycle Friendly Community, recognized by the League of American Bicyclists.

What are the advantages of being a BFC?

First, our City is making a statement that we care about cyclists and are willing to include them as an important and growing part of our community. Second, there are economic advantages. It has been shown that families look for vacation areas that are bicycle friendly. Third, it is environmentally sound, as the more bikes we can put on the streets, the fewer fossil-fuel-burning cars are on the roads.



DARLENE CULPEPPER

There are four levels of achievement — bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Obtaining a BFC designation is difficult to achieve, as there are fewer than 200 cities in the United States having reached one of these levels. Most cities accepted enter at the bronze level and build from there. The City first applied to be a Bicycle Friendly Community back in 2008, awarded with an honorable mention. From there, a committee was formed for the purpose of reapplying in 4 years. When 2012 came around and the application was completed, the City was awarded a Silver designation.

Each time the application process comes around it seems to be revised with more extensive questions. These are not just simple yes and no questions; many require explanations, stats and crash data. Along with various details regarding the City of Venice, there are five primary sections in the application. These are engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation, and planning.

2016 rolled around and the City of Venice hired me as the part-time Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator. As part of my encouragement of and safety for the cycling community, I implemented a monthly bicycle ride. This casual short ride was being held monthly, riding approximately 6 miles around the island of Venice, highlighting our bike lanes, shared paths and lovely scenery. Before each ride, a safety discussion takes place, instructing riders how to ride in a group, proper hand signals, and how to maneuver when encountering motor vehicles on the roads. Although these rides are currently on hold due to COVID-19, I am eagerly waiting to start them up again when it is safe to do so.

We have now approached the 2020 application timeframe, with over 100+ questions to be completed. Venice has made a lot of improvements, especially since its first application in 2008. The City has installed numerous new bike racks around the city, including the downtown shopping district, restriped bike lanes and crosswalks, added sharrows (shared lane markings) and resurfaced roads. One of the latest projects completed was the Edmondson Road Multi-Use Path.

With the application submitted, now we wait. It takes six to eight weeks for the LAB to compile and process the data before they notify the City of Venice of their decision.

For more information, email Darlene Culpepper at dculpepper@venicegov.com.



Site plan approved for Lord-Higel House property

The Lord-Higel House recently reached two important milestones for its renovation. The house is the oldest building still standing in Venice and predates the City. It has been moved twice in order to save it, most recently in 2005 to Granada Avenue and Avenue des Parques behind City Hall. At its new location, Venice Heritage Inc. (VHI) has been diligently raising money and doing much of its technical preservation, such as stripping layers of paint from the original trim. Research also uncovered the original door colors, and that paint has been matched and applied.

On June 16, the Venice Planning Commission approved the Site and Development Plan for the property. The plan lays out a redesign of the parking lot, stormwater management, and placement of sidewalks, landscaping and out-buildings. With this approval, work can begin on the grounds in coordination with the Venice Fire Station 1/City Hall project across the street. Work will most likely begin after the conclusion of that project.

Venice Heritage has also been busy working with the architectural firm of Hall Darling Design Studio on the interior design work and exterior of the building. They are drafting plans for renovating the first floor interior in order to turn it into interpretive space. They are also making plans for restoring the original layout on the second floor by converting it back into bedrooms from an apartment. Currently, there are no plans for the second floor other than for interpretive storage. An ADA ramp will go along the south face of the wraparound porch and new construction will offer restrooms and a janitor closet in a separate building.

The Construction Committee of Venice Heritage is meeting regularly with the project team and recently reviewed 50% drawings for the project. In addition to all this, VHI is working with Hall Darling Design Studios and Pat Ball Construction to repair gaps in the aging walls on the structure's second floor. Once 100% drawings are signed off on, the team can begin applying for permits and start on the second floor repairs.

Stay tuned for construction to begin on the historic Lord-Higel House.

— Provided by City Historical Resources Manager Harry Klinkhamer



Photos: Dorothy Korwek

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 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 2,500 issues. During the past few years, issues submitted on SeeClickFix have helped the City handle exposed wires that needed immediate attention, roadside 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.

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.

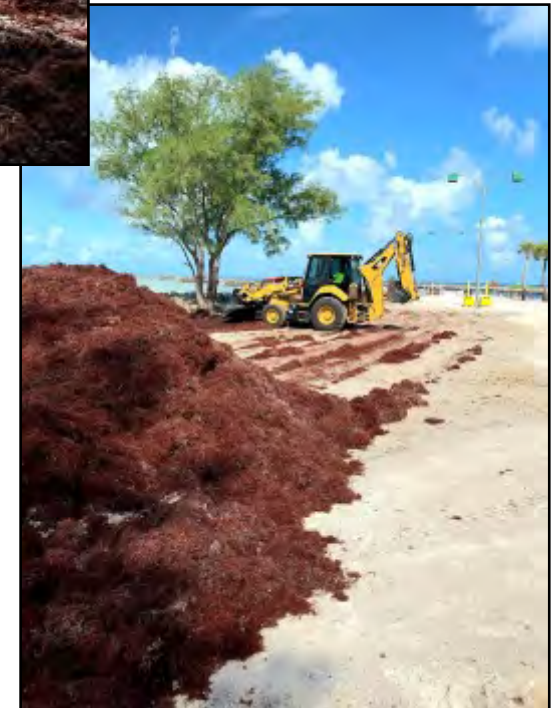
Sign me up!

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

Seaweed from Hurricane Laura closes South Jetty



Due to high surf conditions from Hurricane Laura, the parking area at Humphris Park (South Jetty) filled with seaweed overnight Aug. 26. The park and South Jetty walkway were closed while City Public Works staff Rob Bondurant, Chris Amato, Jeff Steele and Billy Ahrens removed the debris, reopening just a couple hours later seaweed-free (bottom left photo).



Mayors' Feed the Hungry program seeks donations

Local food pantries are reporting an alarming increase in the need for food assistance. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, over \$50,000 in food gift cards has been donated to hungry families by local food pantries. Each food gift card is \$10 – one per individual, with a maximum of 4 per family. Food gift cards allow people to shop with dignity, providing them the chance to purchase food items they might not otherwise have been able to afford.

The Mayors' Feed the Hungry Program is asking for the public's help to raise another \$50,000, which is desperately needed, according to Scott Biehler, the program's Executive Director.

Donations can be made online, by text, by check or in person.

* To donate online, go to www.mayorsfeedthehungry.org

* To donate by text, text the word GIVE to 941-275-2032

* To donate by mail, send a check to Mayors' Feed the Hungry, P.O. Box 1992, Sarasota, FL 34230

* To donate in person, drop off food at a Mayors' Feed the Hungry food pantry. Please contact the food pantry to arrange a food drop-off. **Please DO NOT bring donations to Venice City Hall.** Venice area pantries are: **Community Assistance Ministry at Trinity Presbyterian Church**, 4365 State Road 776, Todd Miller, 941-492-6384; **Center of Hope**, 2395 Shamrock Dr., Jim McClelland, 941-412-9044; and the **Salvation Army**, 1051 Albee Farm Rd.; 941-240-5108

All nine mayors – including Venice Mayor Ron Feinsod – and both County Commission Chairs in Sarasota and Manatee counties support the Mayors' Feed the Hungry Program, a volunteer nonprofit 501(c)3. It receives no government funding and relies upon generous public donations. Since 1987, this organization has given away over \$3.7 million in food gift cards to those in need in local communities. With so many people out of work due to the COVID-19 virus, the program is asking the public to help raise enough funds to give away another \$50,000 in food gift cards now, when it is so desperately needed.

For more information, contact Scott Biehler at scott@mayorsfeedthehungry.org or 941-350-6075.



Moody's affirms 'Aa1' rating on City's General Obligation Bonds

Moody's has affirmed the "Aa1" credit rating on the City's General Obligation (GO) Bonds indicating a robust financial position. Moody's report covers the city's \$15 million in outstanding Public Safety Improvements, Series 2017, and \$15.6 million outstanding Transportation Improvements, Series 2017, that are backed by the City's full faith and credit, and taxing power.

Moody's report notes that the Aa1 rating signifies that the credit position for Venice is very high quality, and its Aa1 rating exceeds the median rating of Aa3 for U.S. cities. The key contributing factors include a robust financial position, a considerable tax base with a healthy wealth and income profile, and a

manageable debt burden. The financial position is in line with the assigned rating of Aa1. The cash balance as a percentage of operating revenues (62.3%) is notably higher than the U.S. median, and remained the same between 2015 and 2019. Moreover, the City's fund balance as a percent of operating revenues (38.4%) approximates the U.S. median.

"The City is committed to a strong fiscal financial plan," said Finance Director Linda Senne. "The affirmed rating reflects the strength and performance of the City's financial plan."

KEEPING VENICE BEAUTIFUL

The City of Venice is grateful for the efforts of the hard-working volunteers that make up Team KVB (Keep Venice Beautiful). On Aug. 13, 9 members cleared sand from the access trail by the Circus Bridge and removed a 3-foot swath of Brazilian pepper from the Venetian Waterway Park trail — 6 truckloads of cuttings. On Aug. 20, 9 KVBers hit the pavilion area at Venice Beach, trimming bunch grasses and removing dead fronds, weeds and litter, hauling away 4 truckloads of debris. Aug. 27 saw 10 members of the group sprucing up Heritage Park, again removing 4 truckloads of vegetation. Venice wouldn't be Venice without these wonderful volunteers!



*Photos provided by
Team KVB*



Fishing Pier underwater cleanup set for Sept. 13

The SunCoast Reef Rovers (Venice Dive Club) is seeking volunteers for its Venice Fishing Pier Underwater Debris Cleanup event on Sunday, Sept. 13.

Divers will enter the water at 10 a.m., with a mandatory safety briefing for all volunteers at 9:45 a.m. The briefing will be held under the Pier at the water's edge.

COVID-19 safety precautions will be implemented during this event. Hand sanitizer, rubber gloves and masks will be provided by the dive club. Topside helpers will be required to wear masks during the entire event. Divers, kayakers and snorkelers will be required to wear masks during the mandatory safety briefing.

Sharky's restaurant will offer to all participating volunteers a choice of one of the three lunch items for a flat \$7 rate (please bring cash – offer includes a non-alcoholic beverage). If any family or friends not directly participating in the cleanup attends the lunch, they will be expected to pay full menu price, as the above offer only applies to volunteers directly involved in the cleanup. Three lunch meal choices are burger with a side, chicken Caesar salad or chicken salad wrap with a side. The area reserved for lunch will be under the white tent on the south side of the restaurant. Lunch will start at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Those interested in volunteering should contact head organizer Ken Lackmann at ken.lackmann@usda.gov.

Besides rubber gloves, masks, hand sanitizer and underwater trash/lobster bags, no other supplies/gear/tanks/weights etc. of any kind will be provided for the divers, snorkelers, kayakers or topside helpers. Please bring your own dive gear, tanks, cutting supplies, kayaks, snorkel gear, etc.

Divers should bring:

- 1) Extra weight to help keep you down in the shallower water
- 2) Something to cut fishing line and possible crab trap lines
- 3) Gloves to protect your hands and protective clothing (wetsuit) to protect the rest of your body from sharp objects in and around the Pier
- 4) If you have any lift bags, it would be a good idea to bring them
- 5) If your dive certification information is not on file with the dive club, please bring a copy of your "C card" with you.

Topside individuals and kayakers should bring:

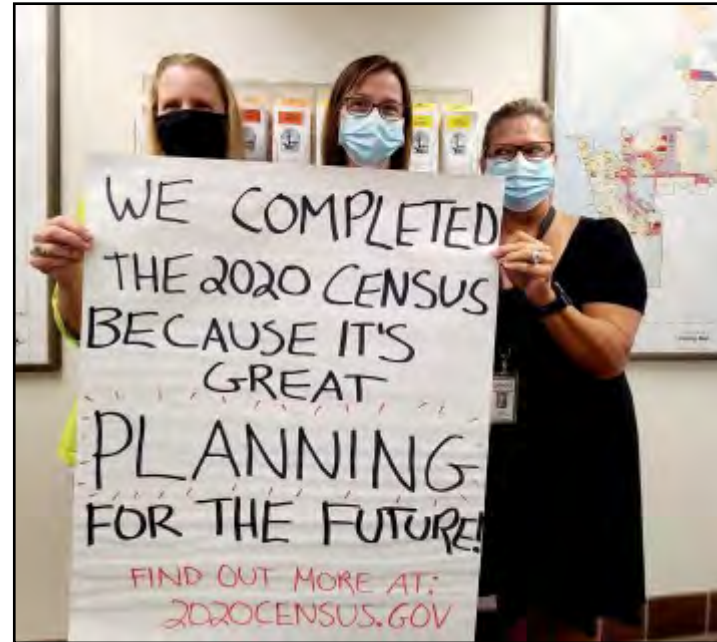
- 1) Protective gloves (lots of hooks, etc.) and clothes you do not mind getting wet and dirty
- 2) Heavy-duty rope that is 40' or longer, if you have it — used to get objects from the divers to the top of the Fishing Pier

Everyone volunteering, please arrive in advance to be able to attend the mandatory safety briefing at 9:45 a.m.

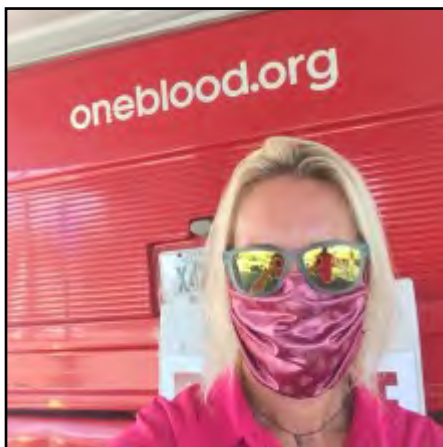
The Venice Police Marine Unit will be on the water to ensure diver safety during this cleanup.



AROUND TOWN



At left, Amy Nelson, Kelsey Shope and Lisa Olson in the City's Planning Department support the 2020 Census. Fill out yours by Sept. 30. Below, Anne Anderson, Administrative Coordinator with Public Works, helped create social distancing signage and laminated hundreds of signs for seats in Council chambers and other City facilities.



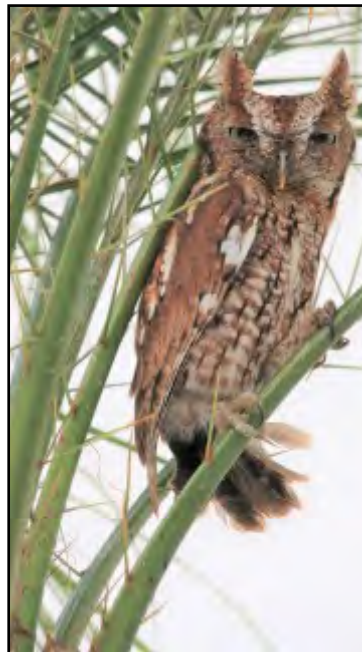
The OneBlood bus saw plenty of donors during the Aug. 5 blood drive outside City Hall, including City employees Brian Bettenhausen and Will Smith with Utilities, above, and Audrey Symowicz with the Building Department, left. Thirty-seven units of blood were collected — that's with about half the room on the bus for donors due to required social distancing, and ALL appointments filled. Thanks everyone for the "gift of life!"



AROUND TOWN



Venice Firemedics Marty Dietz and Colton Schuchert in training in early August.

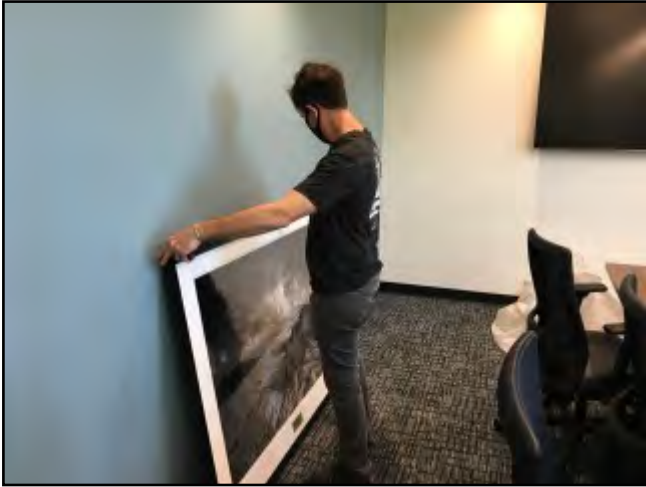


City Public Information Officer Lorraine Anderson captured this image of a screech owl perched in a palm outside City Hall on Aug. 26.



Chuck Cyr, the longtime owner of Burgundy Square Café, passed away in March. His family and friends honored him with a memorial bench and plaque from Public Works, which was installed in mid-August outside the restaurant on Miami Avenue.

AROUND TOWN



Paul from Clyde Butcher Studios installs a piece of artwork they donated to the new City Public Safety Facility, located in the VPD administration conference room.



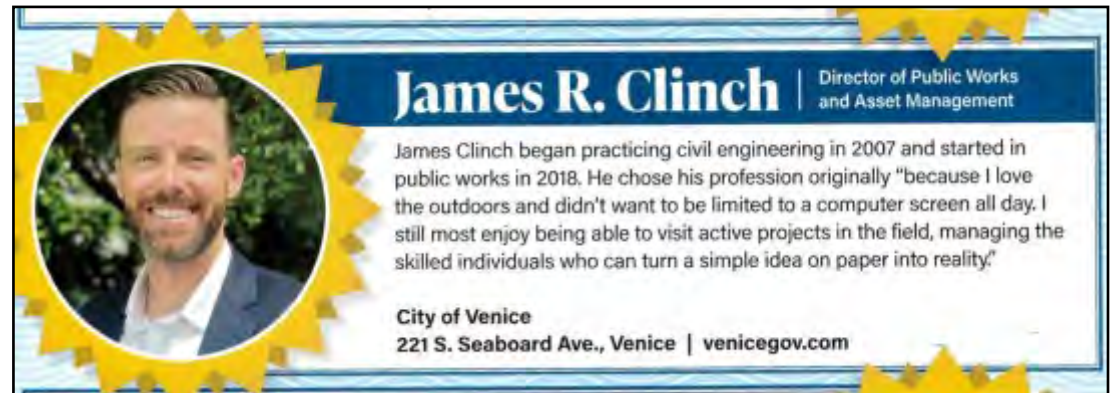
City Hall Selfie Day is celebrated Aug. 14 by, above, Steven Ellis with Engineering; at left, Dan Tucci, Dwayne Evans, Chris Somers and Chris Amato with Public Works; and below, Mayor Ron Feinsod and City Manager Ed Lavallee with staff from HR, Finance, Engineering, City Clerk's Office, Building, Planning and the City Manager's Office at City Hall.



AROUND TOWN



Why did the alligator cross East Laurel Road from Venice Fire Station 3 last month?



Congratulations to City Director of Public Works and Asset Management James Clinch, who was named a Top 40 Local Business Professional in Business Matters, a special section of the Venice Gondolier newspaper, on Aug. 26. Way to go James!



Staff had fun getting creative during City Hall Selfie Day on Aug. 14. At left, Finance staff Michelle Newman, Robin Williams, Nancy Carello, Brenda Westlake, Carolyn Hart, Mel Mosser and Director Linda Senne remind us that "Money Talks;" at right, even the water drops donned masks at the water plant on Warfield Ave., as Utilities staff Tracy Self, Sheila Young and Kelly Treat disinfect.



BULLETIN BOARD

Rent assistance available for residents affected by COVID-19

The Sarasota Consortium, a joint administration of Sarasota County and the City of Sarasota through the Office of Housing and Community Development, will be making rental assistance available for those affected by COVID-19.

The Consortium has received a distribution of \$695,069 in Coronavirus Relief Funds from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation. Residents of Sarasota County who have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and have experienced unemployment or underemployment may apply for rental assistance to prevent eviction. The funds can cover rental arrears dating back to March 1, as well as current rent due. Assistance may not exceed five months' worth of rent and \$9,000 in total.

Applications will be accepted starting Sept. 8, and the application period will end Sept. 30, or when all funds are expended, whichever occurs first. Links for applications will be available on the Office of Housing and Community Development web pages at scgov.net (County) and the sarasotafl.gov (City of Sarasota) beginning Sept. 8.

A limited number of paper applications will be available Sept. 8 at each public library in Sarasota County and at the City Hall Annex, 1565 First St., Sarasota. Applicants submitting hard copies must send the application by mail to the Office of Housing and Community Development, 111 S. Orange Ave., Suite 103, Sarasota, FL 34236.

For questions, contact the Office of Housing and Community Development at CRFRentAssistance@sarasotafl.gov or 941-263-6423.

Lyons Bay & Snake Island 2020

Engineers: Hurstman and Moore Engineers
Contractor: LPS Contracting





Lyons Bay....

The West Coast Inland Navigation District in partnership with Sarasota County will be dredging the Lyons bay Channel.

- Approximately 7000 cubic yards of material will be removed from main channel and rim channel
- Preconstruction survey and stakeout will occur during the first week of September
- Construction is scheduled to begin on or around Sept 15th
- Material will be moved by barge for placement on Snake Island
- Dredge operations may affect vessel traffic please be aware and boat safety
- Construction is anticipated at 75 days



Snake Island

The West Coast Inland Navigation District will be utilizing Snake island as a dredge material placement site for the Lyons Bay project.

- Approximately 7000 cubic yards of material will be deposited on the western face of the island.
- Placement of 600 tons of rock will be added to the ends of the existing rock structures
- Construction is scheduled to begin on or around Sept 15th
- Construction is anticipated at 75 days running contiguous to the Lyons Bay dredge operation
- Project staging will be at the Nokomis Beach parking lot. Be cautious of barge traffic on the waterway

For questions or additional information please contact the West Coast Inland Navigation District:

Jeff Devine
941-485-9402
jeff@wcind.net

****SNAKE ISLAND WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL PERSONS AND ACTIVITIES 24/7 FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE PROJECT****

F.S.S 810.09 Trespass on a construction site is a Third-Degree Felony

BULLETIN BOARD

Venice MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

Collecting COVID-19 Project

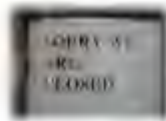
The Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center is interested in collecting stories and certain objects related to how the COVID-19 pandemic affected your business.

Did your business create customized masks with your logo on it? Consider donating one to the historical collection.



We are also collecting your stories about COVID-19's impact on you and your business. Please consider going to the Venice, Florida StoryCorps Archive at <https://bit.ly/3fitBcC>.

Other items of interest include: digital photographs, any makeshift signs announcing closures or alterations to business practices, temporary take out menus, etc.



If you would like to donate or have questions about what we are accepting, please contact Jon Watson, Curator and Collections Manager, at 941-716-7255 or archives@venicegov.com.

Yard waste can cause nutrient and bacteria problems in our Stormwater



Try turning yard waste and food scraps into compost!

It keeps waste out of storm drains and is the perfect natural fertilizer for your garden and lawn

Watch

VS

Warning



Hazards are possible.

Stay on alert with TV or radio.

Get ready to move to safety with your emergency kit!



Hazards are imminent!

Seek shelter now!

BULLETIN BOARD

STEPS TO PREVENT BECOMING THE VICTIM OF AN UNLICENSED ACTIVITY SCAM:



KNOW WHAT SERVICES REQUIRE A STATE LICENSE.

A list of the businesses and professions licensed and regulated by the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation can be found at www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/services.html

VERIFY LICENSES BEFORE YOU HIRE OR SIGN A CONTRACT.

Always verify a professional's license online at www.myfloridalicense.com, by calling 850.487.1395 or by downloading the free **DBPR Mobile** app through iTunes or the Google Play app store.

"Be wary of individuals who only produce an "occupational license," or corporate filing. An "occupational license" only means that the person has paid a tax receipt to the local municipality.



USE YOUR BEST JUDGMENT WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT & MAKING PAYMENTS.

NEVER pay cash in full before the work is completed and be cautious of writing checks made payable to individuals, especially when dealing with a company.

Get everything in writing, including a detailed description of the work to be completed, a completion date and the total cost.

REPORT UNLICENSED ACTIVITY.

Report unlicensed activity by calling the Department's Unlicensed Activity Program at 1.866.532.1440, emailing ULA@myfloridalicense.com or by downloading the free **DBPR Mobile** app through iTunes or the Google Play app store.



Help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect the most vulnerable in Florida.

Avoid the "Three Cs"!



Closed spaces

with poor ventilation



Crowded places

with many people nearby



Close-contact settings

such as close-range conversation

The risk of COVID-19 clusters is particularly high when the "Three Cs" overlap.



In addition to the "Three Cs":



Wear your mask to protect yourself and those around you.



Clean items used by multiple people with disinfectant.



Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



Stay home if you are sick or have symptoms!

Visit FloridaHealth.gov for additional information.



BULLETIN BOARD



Saturdays

VENICE FARMERS MARKET

*Summer hours: Saturdays, 8am to noon
from April through September*

*Winter hours: Saturdays, 8am to 1pm
from October through March*

Located at Venice City Hall, 401 W. Venice Avenue,
Venice FL 35285

THEVENICEFARMERSMARKET.ORG
941-445-9209, INFO@THEVENICEFARMERSMARKET.ORG



Baila Miller: Lecture Series
Virtual Lecture Series
Summer 2020 June– September
\$13 Members \$15 Nonmembers

* Price per person. Must have internet access to log in to the Zoom virtual class. The link for the virtual class will be sent two days prior to the lecture, or login to your Venice Art Center account to get your link

All lectures are available for purchase via the web at WWW.Veniceartcenter.com or at the art center or via the phone at 941-485-7136. Lecture will be conducted via ZOOM online from the comfort of your

The Ringling College of Art & Design Lectures at the Venice Art Center

Tuesdays 1:00 PM–2:30 PM

LV-115: Tuesday, June 23: Austin Rodin & Camille Claudel: Hands of Genius

LV-116: Tuesday July 14: French Impressionist Women: Mary Cassatt, Berthe Morisot, et al

LV-117: Tuesday July 28: Art Nouveau: The Post-Impressionist Revolution

LV-118 Tuesday August 11: The Elegant Style of Art Deco

LV-119 Tuesday August 25: Picasso's Women and their World of Pain

LV-120 Tuesday September 8: Gustav Klimt: A Golden Age

LV-121 Tuesday September 22: Alphonse Mucha: The Spirit of Art Nouveau



*Space is limited, register and
reserve your seat today!*

BULLETIN BOARD



VAC VIRTUAL UNCORKED

VIRTUAL COCKTAIL AND PAINT PARTY!

Virtual 2020-21 Dates:

Thursdays, 6:30-9:00pm

VACU-01 Thursday, August 20:
Julie Buckler (Private Party)

VACU-02 Thursday, September 24:
Jenni Bateman

VACU-03 Thursday, October 22:
Susan Wilcox

VACU-04 Thursday, November 19:
Julie Buckler

VACU-05 Thursday, December 17:
Heather McCullough

VACU-06 Thursday, January 7:
Linda Larisch

Invite and gather your friends from anywhere in the world, sip your favorite beverage and delight in step-by-step art online instruction with our talented Venice Art Center instructors.

You will create a unique masterpiece!
No experience necessary.

Have your own cocktails and snacks alongside your online friends from anywhere in the world.

Reserve private parties - from birthday and bachelorette celebrations to date nights. Parties are booked in advance, on request.

\$35 Members + \$5 kit
\$40 Nonmembers + \$5 kit

Supply lists available for out of Venice area participants.

Register at 390 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice
Or call 941-485-7136




AHOY!

LADY SAILORS

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR
"SUNFISH" OPEN HOUSE
(see rigged boats, meet our sailors, light lunch)

- want to come back to sailing?
- racing makes you a better sailor and we'll teach you how to race!
- join and enjoy a great group of sailor gals.
- find out the possibilities....

OCTOBER 14, 2020
WEDNESDAY 11-2PM

"THE BITTER ENDS"
Venice Women's
Sailing Squadron

Higel Marine Park,
1330 Tarpon Drive, Venice



Please RSVP or just want more info, Contact us at email: vwss.captain@gmail.com

BULLETIN BOARD



DON'T MISS A SPECTACULAR MOMENT

WITH MUSIC DIRECTOR/CONDUCTOR
TROY QUINN

THE VENICE SYMPHONY

Season tickets and group sales
available now!

Venue:
The Venice Performing Arts Center, One Indian Ave.

BRAHMS AND THE BOYS
Nov. 20-21, 2020

A HOLLY JOLLY HOLIDAY
December 18-19, 2020

UNDER THE BIG TOP
Jan. 8-9, 2021

A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS
Feb. 5-6, 2021

SUPERHEROES AND SCHUMANN
Feb. 26-27, 2021

GAME OF ROMES
March 26-27, 2021

FANTASY, FIREBIRD AND FABIOLA
April 23-24, 2021

Season Sponsors:
25 GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
TDT

BUY NOW FOR THE BEST SEATS AT THE BEST PRICES!
Visit thevenicesymphony.org or call 941-207-8822

My community counts!

The 2020 Census is here, and the results will shape the future of Florida for years to come.

We challenge you to complete the census.

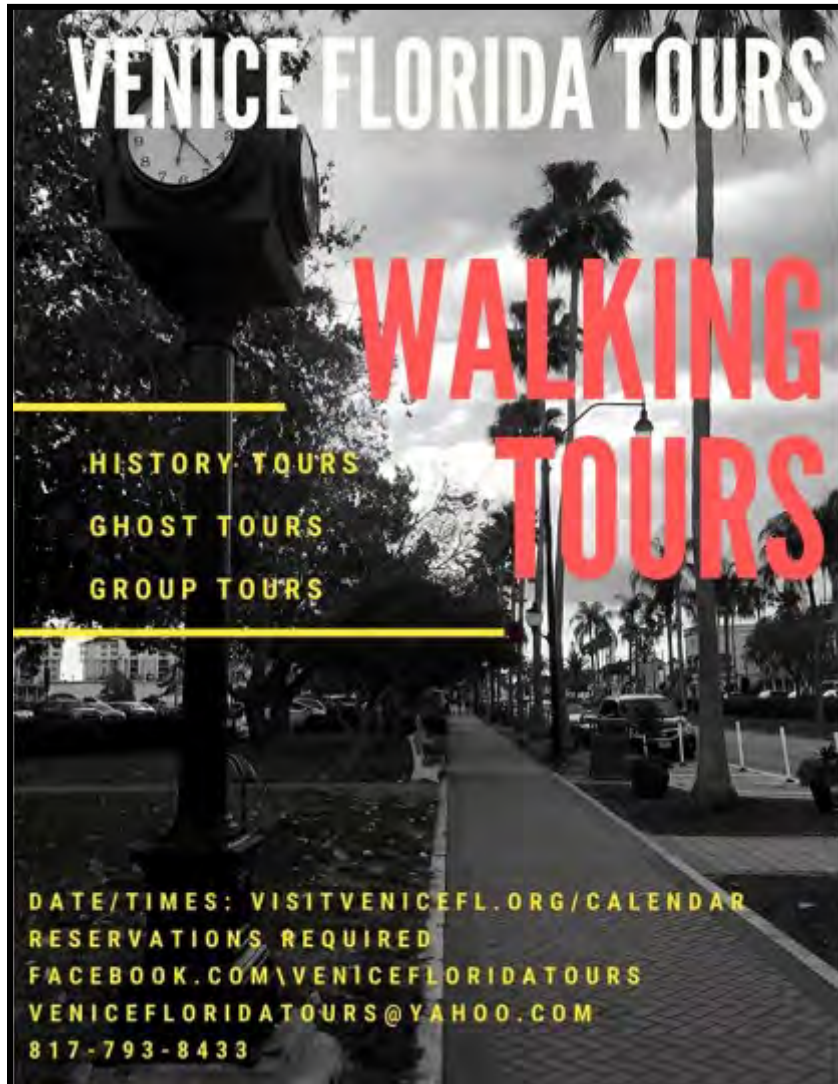
DEADLINE IS SEPT. 30!

Sarasota County

Learn more about the 2020 Census and how you can participate at ask.census.gov.



BULLETIN BOARD



VENICE FLORIDA TOURS

WALKING TOURS

HISTORY TOURS
GHOST TOURS
GROUP TOURS

DATE/TIMES: VISITVENICEFL.ORG/CALENDAR
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
FACEBOOK.COM/VENICEFLORIDATOURS
VENICEFLORIDATOURS@YAHOO.COM
817-793-8433



S.A.F.E.
 Senior Assistance
 Freedom Enrichment
 Program



SERVICES AVAILABLE

- 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.



The Venice Police Department recognizes that members of the community may need to connect with someone on a daily basis to confirm they are well and SAFE. The program gives those who 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 home.

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 handicapped

1350 Ridgewood Ave, Venice, FL 34292 Tel 941.496.2444 [HTTPS://WWW.VENICEPOLICE.COM](https://www.venicepolice.com)

BULLETIN BOARD

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 paradise!

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: Phosphorous 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


BULLETIN BOARD

Cloth Face Covering Do's & Don'ts:

DO:

- ✓ Make sure you can breathe through it
- ✓ Wear it whenever going out in public
- ✓ Make sure it covers your nose and mouth
- ✓ Wash after using

DON'T:

- ✗ Use on children under age 2
- ✗ Use surgical masks or other personal protective equipment (PPE) intended for healthcare workers





cdc.gov/coronavirus

LIVING WITH ALLIGATORS



These amazing animals are important to Florida's natural areas and found throughout the state.

A few simple rules to co-exist with alligators:

<p>NEVER feed an alligator</p> 	<p>Keep pets away from water's edge</p> 
<p>Swim during the day and only in designated areas</p> 	<p>Keep Your Distance!</p> <p>If you see an alligator</p>

Call FWC's toll-free Nuisance Alligator Hotline at **866-FWC-GATOR (866-392-4286)** if you're concerned about an alligator.

BULLETIN BOARD



**Welcome to the
Fairy Kingdom of
Venezia**

*Find hidden fairy doors
around downtown
Venice!*

Explore Miami Ave., Venice Ave.,
Tampa Ave. (and beyond) for
these magical little doors.
Here's a clue: search high and low!




Find the Fairies on Facebook at Fairies of Venice, FL
For more information and to see a map of
15+ fairy door locations, visit:

VeniceFairies.com





Exploring the Beauty of Venice

*A Scavenger Hunt
For All Ages!*

...made SIMPLE, EASY & FUN...

**EXPLORE
LEARN
PLAY**

**Your Quest
Starts Here**

**Venice
Quest**

EXPLORE • LEARN • PLAY

SCAN HERE TO GET STARTED
DOWNLOAD THE APP • REGISTER
SEARCH VENICE QUEST • PLAY!

MEGALODON SPONSORS

BREW BURGERS **BRITISH OPEN PUB**

GREAT WHITE SPONSORS

Café Venice **Venice Regional** **the Y**

Premier | Sotheby's
THE VICTORIA STULTZ TEAM

Compass
Property Management

TIGER SHARK SPONSORS

Tampa Bay Rays • Premier Sotheby's International Realty
Venice Print Center • Bates-Bachman & Savitsky Law
Edward Jones • Smith & Wigganier CPAs, PA • Freedom Boat Club
Berlin Patten Baling, PLLC - Attorneys at Law
Horse & Chaise Rental & Property Management, Inc
MJ Johnsons Coverage Coverage • Jenner Family Insurance

Shark's Tooth Monument Provided By:

GREGG G. HASSLER, JR., DMD
Cosmetic, Restorative, and
Implant Dentistry

Download our app at: **scavify**

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.

A note that all City meetings are currently virtual, and some are on Zoom. Find instructions to watch or participate at www.venicegov.com.

2020 Holiday Parade canceled

From Bob and Sue Hebert, co-chairs of the annual City of Venice Holiday Parade:

The status of the 2020 Venice Holiday Parade, traditionally held the Saturday after Thanksgiving downtown, has been on our minds as we reach the time when the planning begins in earnest. The City has made a difficult decision with regards to all on the many events normally held in Venice.

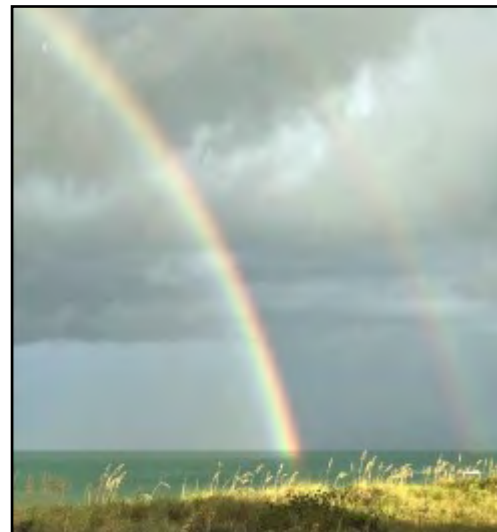
On July 24, the City issued the following press release that was widely distributed among news and social media: *Consistent with current CDC guidelines on large gatherings and social distancing, as a protective measure against the spread of COVID-19, the City of Venice is reinstating its moratorium on the issuance of special event permits on public property within the City. This restriction will remain in effect until further notice.*

The 2020 Venice Holiday Parade is part of this decision and will therefore not occur this year.

We are hopeful the event will happen next year. We do thank you for your interest and participation in the past.

For more information, please email vhparade@verizon.net or call 941-488-8780.

RAINBOW MORNING



Who else saw that beautiful double rainbow in the sky the morning of Aug. 17? Here it is at Brohard Paw Park, captured by Jess Korte.