



VENICE CITY E-NEWS

January 2020

A PUBLICATION FOR THE CITIZENS OF VENICE, FL

DNA leads to arrest in cold case from 1998

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Venice Police Capt. Eric Hill announces the arrest of Robert Brian Thomas (pictured at right) during a Dec. 16 press conference. Thomas was linked to a local sexual assault from 1998 through DNA, and recently apprehended by VPD detectives in Michigan.



The suspect from a serial armed sexual assault in 1998 was recently identified and subsequently arrested by the Venice Police Department and Pinellas County Sheriff's Office in Niles, Mich. DNA belonging to an unknown individual was extracted from bodily fluids collected at the scene. The DNA was later linked to DNA from another rape that occurred on Indian Rocks Beach, Fla. (Pinellas County), in October of that same year.

The suspect was recently identified with the assistance of the Genetic Genealogy Unit from FDLE. Venice PD investigators flew to Michigan on Dec. 5, where they obtained cigarette butts discarded by the suspect. Subsequent lab analysis confirmed the DNA from the cigarettes matched the suspect DNA from both the Venice and Indian Rocks sexual assaults.

Robert Brian Thomas, 61, has been arrested and charged with

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Continued on page 2

Arrest, from page 1

sexual battery with a deadly weapon.

VPD Capt. Eric Hill announced the arrest at a Dec. 16 press conference at the Venice Police Department. Also in attendance was former VPD Capt. Mike Rose, now retired, who worked the case originally 21 years ago and had developed a rapport with the victim.

"We're very excited today to bring closure to a case that has been a nuisance for us for years," Hill said. "We've arrested an individual responsible for a rather heinous sexual assault that occurred here (in 1998), along with another sexual assault that occurred up in Indian Rocks about 10 months after ours."

Hill said in January 1998, officers were dispatched to a distraught victim who had a "disturbing and violent" rape occur to her at knifepoint in her home, where she lived alone. Investigators were able to extract DNA evidence from semen at the scene belonging to an unknown individual. Venice investigators were notified that same year that the DNA from that scene matched the DNA from another rape case in Indian Rocks Beach.

"We've worked tirelessly for the last 20 years trying to solve this case," Hill said. "We're just happy that we're here, and we're able to bring closure to this case for the victim. We've been working closely not only with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, but also the Florida Department of Law Enforcement."

Several years ago, VPD learned about another law enforcement agency that utilized a public DNA database and genealogical analysis to close a cold-case serial murder. Joseph James DeAngelo was arrested for crimes attributed to the Golden State Killer from 1974 to 1986.

VPD detectives and civilian volunteers Joe Browne, Helen Cantor and Linda Wilson — retired National Security Agency (NSA) analysts — worked with Pinellas County, FDLE and the State Attorney's Office to apply the same techniques to the Venice case. The FDLE Genealogical Investigative Unit offered to assist and formed a genealogical investigations team. They identified a distant relative, followed extensive genealogical research and analysis dating back to the 1800s and ultimately identified Thomas — a male relative of the right age who lived in Nokomis at the time of the rapes and now resided in Niles, Mich.

Venice Detectives Ben Neff and Sgt. Rob Goodson flew to Michigan, conducted surveillance and followed Thomas until he discarded two cigarette



Now retired, former VPD Capt. Mike Rose was the original investigator on the case back in 1998. "It's very satisfying," Rose said of Thomas' arrest.

butts.

"They recovered the cigarettes, brought them back here to Florida and the FDLE laboratory, and they confirmed the DNA they extracted from those cigarettes indeed belonged to (Thomas)," Hill said. Thomas was then taken into custody without incident.

Rose praised everyone involved, saying they did a great job.

"In a case like this, that has languished this long, you're just waiting," he said. "And we knew we had DNA, so I was always hopeful that we would solve the case. I hoped it was going to be when I was working, but it's just as satisfying that it's solved. I'm just really happy that we can have a resolution, and I'm looking forward to him getting prosecuted."

Thomas is awaiting extradition and is currently being held at the Berrien County Sheriff's Office in Michigan.

JANUARY 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVENT INFO: Symbol indicates event's location. ◆ Festival Grounds ▶ Maxine Barritt Park ○ Miami Avenue	For the most updated information on special events, please go to www.venicegov.com , click on Events tab at the bottom of the homepage.		1 CITY HALL CLOSED Garbage, yard waste and recyclables collected on next pickup day NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 10AM Code Enforcement Board		3 YMCA RESOLUTION RUN 5K
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		1:30PM Planning Commission		9AM Architectural Review Board		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		9AM CITY COUNCIL			9AM Historic Preservation Board	◆ ROTARY ART FESTIVAL ○ PUBLIC WORKS ROAD-E-O
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
◆ ROTARY ART FESTIVAL	CITY HALL CLOSED MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	1:30PM Planning Commission 10AM HISTORIC BIKE TOUR		9AM Architectural Review Board		○ DOWNTOWN VENICE CRAFT FESTIVAL CHINESE NEW YEAR
26	27	28	29	30	31	
○ DOWNTOWN VENICE CRAFT FESTIVAL	3PM Parks & Recreation Advisory Board	9AM CITY COUNCIL		1:30PM CITY COUNCIL Special Meeting on Parks		



FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVENT INFO: Symbol indicates event's location. ❖ Festival Grounds						1
2 SUPER BOWL SUNDAY GROUNDHOG DAY	3 1:30PM Planning Commission	4	5	6 10AM Code Enforcement Board	7 AAUW HOME TOUR	8
9	10 9AM CITY COUNCIL	11	12	13 9AM Architectural Review Board	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15
16 CITY HALL CLOSED PRESIDENT'S DAY	17 1:30PM Planning Commission	18	19	20 ❖ ITALIAN FEAST	21 9AM Historic Preservation Board ❖ ITALIAN FEAST	22 ❖ ITALIAN FEAST
23 ❖ ITALIAN FEAST	24	25 9AM CITY COUNCIL MARDI GRAS	26 1PM Environmental Advisory Board	27 9AM Architectural Review Board	28	29

Single-stream recycling rollout is underway



Delivery of the new single-stream recycling carts for City of Venice residents began Jan. 6 and will take approximately 2 weeks. The carts will be delivered directly to your home, and will include an informational packet with important instructions on how to use the carts and what to do with your old red recycle bins.

Residents' new blue 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. These new carts are for recyclables **ONLY** and all recyclables will go together into this single cart. Please do not put any garbage or yard waste into the new cart.

See graphic on page 6 of this newsletter for what you will be able to recycle and what you can leave out. There are currently no changes to garbage, recycling or yard waste collection schedules for City residents. You may begin using your new recycling cart immediately, for collection on your next normally scheduled collection day.

Wondering what to do with your old recycling bins? Residents may keep them for storage or drop them off at the City Public Works office located at 221 S. Seaboard Ave. between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. 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 landfill. 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. For more information, please call the City of Venice Public Works Department at 941-486-2422.

SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING GUIDELINES



THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING THESE:



Cans



Aluminum and steel cans

Empty and rinse



Cartons



Food and beverage cartons

Empty, rinse and replace caps



Glass



Bottles and jars

Empty, rinse and replace caps



Paper



Mixed paper, newspaper, magazines

Flattened cardboard and boxes



Plastic



Plastic bottles and containers

Empty, rinse and replace caps

WHEN IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!



Do not bag recyclables
(no garbage)



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

South Jetty now closed overnight to vehicles

Effective Jan. 1, 2020, Humphris Park at the South Jetty entrance, 2000 Tarpon Center Dr., Venice, will be closed nightly to vehicles from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m., as per Ordinance No. 2019-39 approved and adopted by City Council on Dec. 10. The park gates will be closed and locked nightly during this time period, so please plan to have all vehicles out of the park before 12 a.m.

These new designated hours will make Humphris Park consistent with the operating hours of all other City of Venice beach parks. There will be posted "No Parking" and park hours signage, as well as temporary sign boards in place informing citizens of this change. (A note that the Venice Fishing Pier is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for anglers.)

The text of the ordinance passed by Council reads as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-39

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, MAKING HUMPHRIS PARK CLOSED TO VEHICLES CONSISTENT WITH OTHER PARKS BY AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 46, PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE III, CONDUCT IN PARKS, SECTION 46-66(b), CERTAIN PARKS CLOSED TO VEHICLES DURING NIGHTTIME HOURS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, within the municipal boundaries of the City of Venice are numerous parks and recreational areas, many of which are located near or within defined residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Humphris Park is located directly adjacent to residential properties and vehicular use can be disruptive during nighttime hours; and

WHEREAS, elimination of the fishing exemption for nighttime vehicle operation would facilitate the City's general enforcement of the closing hours of the park to all vehicles thereby eliminating the noise associated with such vehicle presence and operation in the park; and

WHEREAS, a gate system has been installed at the entrance to the park to enable City officials to close the park to public access as needed, to protect the quality-of-life for residents, prevent accident or injury to citizens, and to ensure a high level of public safety during times of risk or hazard to the public.

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 46-66(b), Certain Parks Closed to Vehicles During Nighttime Hours, is amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE III. CONDUCT IN PARKS

Sec. 46.66. Certain parks closed to vehicles during nighttime hours.

(b) *Designated areas; closing time.* The following are closed to vehicles between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 a.m. daily unless city council orders any of the facilities to be subject to a different closing time:

(1) through (4) - No change.

(5) Humphris Park (except for those utilizing the Jetty for fishing).

(6) through (9) - No change.

SECTION 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby repealed .

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its approval and adoption, as provided by law.



City of Venice FY21 Federal Legislative Priorities

Editor's note: The following are the City's Federal Legislative Priorities for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, as approved by City Council members at their Dec. 10 meeting.

1. ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE & PROTECTION: Harmful Algal Blooms

The City of Venice is deeply concerned about the effects of algal blooms that occur when colonies of algae grow out of control while producing toxic or harmful effects on people, fish, shellfish, marine mammals, and birds. The unusual high intensity and long duration of the 2018 *Kerenia brevis* algal bloom suggests that much research and experimentation still needs to be done. These harmful algal blooms have a devastating effect on wildlife, ecosystem, economy, and quality of life.

FY 2021 Request: The City of Venice supports the allocation of Federal resources for research, implementation of mitigation strategies, and infrastructure upgrades – such as conversion of septic tanks to domestic sewer systems, outfall monitoring, and other water quality improvements – to help decrease the occurrence and effects of this harmful algae.

2. ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Beach Renourishment & Preservation

The City of Venice has a 50-year contract with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) to renourish the beach every 10 years due to erosion impacts from the Venice Inlet. The City is most appreciative of the current support from the ACOE, and looks forward to the next renourishment which is scheduled to be completed in 2025. Maintaining a healthy beach profile is critical for protecting structures during storm events, reducing flooding impacts and for supporting tourism which is a primary economic revenue source for the region. The City of Venice proposes to discuss with the Army Corps of Engineers the prospects for implementing alternative methods to not only restore, but to also preserve and protect, the area's beaches during the next scheduled restoration project.

FY 2021 Request: The City of Venice respectfully requests continued support of beach renourishment projects as important storm protection, nesting habitat restoration and recreational opportunities. Additionally, the City proposes to discuss alternative means to protect beaches as opposed to the traditional reactive process of sand restoration.

3. HUMAN SERVICES: VA Dept. Initiative to Assist in Homelessness and Treat Mental Illness in Veterans

Because a lack of social services increases problems for society, especially for the homeless, those with mental illness, and those with alcohol and drug addictions – particularly veterans battling these issues – more ways of helping vets in need of these services must be identified and implemented. Many veterans face challenges throughout their lives that may lead them to lose their home and become homeless, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs states.

Continued on page 9

City of Venice FY21 Federal Legislative Priorities (con't)

Having homelessness in a community undermines the welfare of all residents. Developing jobs, reinstating mental health care clinics, increasing opportunities for vets and others to receive help and employment assistance to be able to become independent and self-sufficient are examples of ways to improve society now and in the future. The City asks that the VA Dept. create an initiative to assist with homelessness and mental illness in vets locally.

FY 2021 Request: The Department of Veterans Affairs formulate an initiative of viable alternatives to reduce homelessness and to treat mental illness in veterans needing these services.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES & EDUCATION: Training Building Inspectors

The City of Venice, Sarasota County and other governmental institutions are enduring a building inspector shortage that has been recognized as a statewide issue. A reduction in the shortage of qualified and skilled workforce of building inspectors is needed at the local government levels to ensure compliance with the Florida Building Codes, laws and regulations, and for the safety and welfare of the general public. The Florida Legislature and the Governor signed into law House Bill 1021, which required the Department of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Economic Opportunity, to develop a plan with Construction Industry Workforce Taskforce to address the skilled workforce shortages. With HB 1021 becoming law, the Florida Building Commission added another method for inspector/plans examiner certification (internship program) in FS 468.609 and FAC 61G19-7.0016.

FY 2021 Request: The City of Venice respectfully requests federal funding to support the state's initiative in providing training programs to local educational institutions in support of providing and/or augmenting training programs to attract and develop future building inspectors and other construction trades.

5. HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Affordable Housing

Area businesses including critical service providers like the local hospital have conveyed to the City that they have difficulty in hiring and retaining employees due to a lack of affordable housing. Additionally, local land and construction costs preclude developers from creating residential units at affordable prices for low- and moderate-income workers.

FY 2021 Request: The City of Venice respectfully requests Federal appropriations for programs that support acquisition of property and construction of housing units that are affordable to low- and middle-income residents (lower strata income workers).

City of Venice FY21 Federal Legislative Priorities (con't)

6. TRANSPORTATION & QUALITY OF LIFE:

a. **Ribbons of Venice:** The City of Venice has once again been designated a Silver Bicycle Friendly Community. There is community momentum to continue improvements to make Venice a safe and healthy place to ride bicycles for recreation and transportation purposes. The City has been working with a non-profit agency to identify sidewalks, bicycle lanes and connections, and other opportunities to extend the existing Legacy Trail system by connecting it with parks, centers of commerce, and other destinations throughout the City and County. The connections in Venice have been identified and the City is seeking funds to construct them.

b. **Roadway Infrastructure:** Motor vehicle operation and alternative transportation options, including bicycles, create a broad spectrum of mobility choices for residents and visitors. As the City continues to expand through the annexation of land and increase in population, spirited by its reputation as a desirable tourist and relocation destination, the roadway system experiences increased wear and stress on capacity. To continue to protect the City's quality of life while welcoming increasing numbers of new residents, seasonal occupants and vacationers, external funding support is needed. The mix of Sarasota County-owned, state-controlled and City-owned roads within the community's 16.8-mile geography challenges the City to acquire adequate funding for roadway expansion, improvement and ongoing support.

FY 2021 Requests:

- a. **The City of Venice respectfully requests \$500,000 to construct multi-use trail connection points and bicycle lanes within the City to facilitate the regional trail system.**
- b. **The City respectfully requests a funding provision for direct allocation funding for local road systems. Specifically, Venice requests an appropriation of \$3,000,000 in the form of partnership funding, to be used to expand capacity for prioritized roadways within the City's boundaries.**

7. ECONOMIC & AVIATION: Maintain Congressional Oversight of the Air Traffic Control System

The City of Venice owns and operates Venice Municipal Airport, which serves General Aviation and is an economic engine for Venice and the surrounding area. Congressional oversight ensures that communities of all sizes have access to air transportation and all airports get a fair share of the money in the Aviation Trust Fund disbursed to airports as grants for capital and planning projects to insure that we maintain a viable system of airports. Our network of airports drives business growth and commerce, and facilitates access to emergency services, medical care, disaster relief, firefighting, and many other critical services. Businesses, especially small- and mid-size ones, rely on these airports and general aviation aircraft to access rural markets, transport parts, tools and personnel between branches, and reach multiple locations in one day. Privatization would threaten this important economic activity and lifeline to our communities.

FY 2021 Request: The City respectfully requests continued support of maintaining Congressional oversight of the Air Traffic Control System to maintain General Aviation as a healthy segment of the aviation industry.

Capri Isles Bridge Replacement Project closes road

Construction on the Capri Isles Bridge Replacement Project got underway the week of Jan. 6, with complete closure of Capri Isles Boulevard at Curry Creek. The bridge will be completely removed and replaced. Utilities that are currently located on the bridge will be directionally drilled below ground. Bike lanes and sidewalks will be added to the new bridge. The bridge is scheduled to be opened to motorists by June 30, with final completion toward the end of July (sod, etc.) provided the contractor does not experience weather or other types of legitimate delays.

Southbound motorists will be detoured on Edmondson Road to Auburn Road. Northbound motorists will be detoured on Ridgewood Avenue to Pinebrook Road. Local traffic only will be allowed on Capri Isles Blvd. north and south of the bridge (motorists will be able to drive south from Edmondson to just north of the bridge and north from Venice Ave. to just south of the bridge). Golfers should enter the golf course from the south.

The bridge has been designated as structurally deficient by the Florida Department of Transportation and currently is posted with weight limits that prevent larger-weight vehicles including emergency response vehicles from crossing the bridge, forcing them to take a detour around it.

“It is vital that replacement of the bridge moves forward expeditiously,” said City Engineer Kathleen Weeden.

The construction contract with Zep Construction Inc. of Fort Myers is \$1.3 million, with \$1 million in legislative appropriation through a grant agreement

with FDOT. The remaining funds will come from available City road bond funds for construction costs, testing and engineering services.

Informational signs are posted near the site, alerting the public of the construction.



At left is the Capri Isles Boulevard Bridge over Curry Creek. The bridge has been designated as structurally deficient by the Florida Department of Transportation.

2nd Public Works Road-E-O set for Jan. 18

The City of Venice's 2nd Annual Public Works Road-E-O is set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18 at the Airport Festival Grounds.

The City will again be partnering with the Venice-Nokomis Rotary Fine Arts & Crafts Festival to bring this event to the public. It's a family-friendly event in which multiple City departments and heavy equipment drivers and operators showcase their skills in a challenging obstacle course competition, with awards for the winners. The day will include vehicle and equipment static displays, children's activities, face painting, food, arts and crafts vendors, live music and more! Admission is only \$3 for both events — the Road-E-O and the Arts & Crafts Festival. There is no charge for parking.

The City of Venice would like to thank this year's sponsors: Rush Truck Centers, B&I Contractors, The Heights Aluminum Inc., American Import Auto Inc., Callaghan Tire and Lakeshore Athletic Services.

For more information, please contact Public Works Fleet and Facilities Manager Travis Hout at 941-882-7673 or thout@venicegov.com, or Special Events and Marketing Coordinator Shirley Gibson at 941-882-7439 or sgibson@venicegov.com.



BLUE SANTA

For the past 25 years, local dentists Donald Lackey and Andrew Swenson have accepted toys as payment to donate to the Venice Police Department's Blue Santa Program. This year their office donated almost \$17,000 worth of toys. VPD also received donations from Suncoast Air Center and a helping hand from Seatow Venice. Ultimately, with the community's assistance, we helped over 65 local families with gifts and food for Christmas. Thank you to all who donated — this is what the holiday season is all about!

[More photos, page 14](#)



In these photos, Police Chief Tom Mattmuller, Capt. Charlie Thorpe, Officers Paul Joyce and Paul Freeman, and VPD Records Manager Kelli Peyton assist with toy and bicycle pickup from the dental office of Donald Lackey and Andrew Swenson on Dec. 18.



BLUE SANTA



PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY UPDATE

At right are the latest aerial photos of the new City of Venice Public Safety Facility under construction on East Venice Avenue.

The roof system and windows are being installed this month. Interior framing continues with HVAC, plumbing and electrical rough-in progressing as well, according to Venice Police Sgt. Rob Goodson.

Construction manager Ajax/Tandem began initial clearing for the new Public Safety Facility on April 8, 2019, with a groundbreaking held on May 17. The site is located on 10 acres along East Venice Ave. 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.



Be informed — sign up for CodeRED



Hurricane season runs from June 1-Nov. 30 in Florida — have you signed up for CodeRED notifications yet?

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 outages, 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 2017, when multiple CodeREDS were sent out.

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.

IN TRAINING

The Venice Fire Department held shallow water training Dec. 13 at Venice High School for VFD new hires, reviewing firefighter survival skills if they fall into a swimming pool with all their gear on, as well as how to deal with injuries in the water. Staff then moved to open water training in the Gulf.



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.

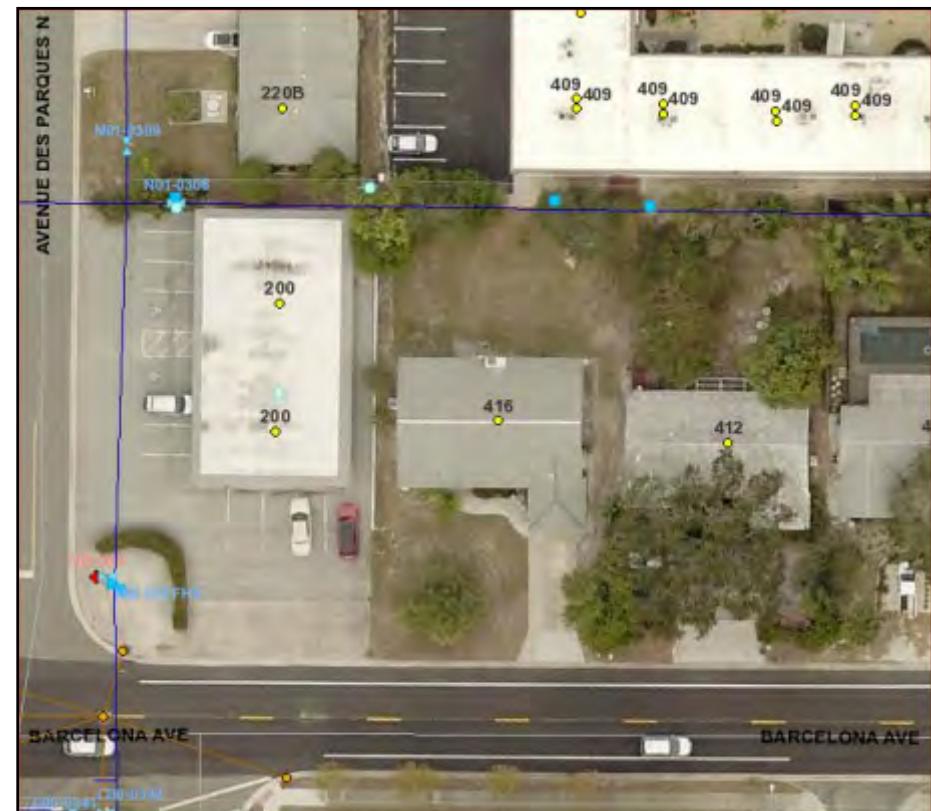
Project: Pre-construction activities will begin later this month. The Phase 6 area of the Water Main Replacement Program is roughly bounded by Narvaezi Street to the north, Park Boulevard (north and south) to the west, Armada Road to the south, and Nassau Street to the east. Additionally, there is a 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 16 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.



Road Bond Resurfacing Project work in North Venice



Above, paving in North Venice; below, Bird Bay Drive S.; below right, Venice Bay Adult Park.



The contractor for the City of Venice Phase II Road Bond Resurfacing Projects has completed the majority of pavement on roads in North Venice, including Triple Diamond Boulevard and Bird Bay South. Thermoplastic striping is being installed on roadways throughout the project.

Other roads to be resurfaced include Warfield Avenue South/Grove Street South (including adjacent areas), portions of Venice Bay Adult Park, San Marco Drive and Pinebrook Way/Sleepy Hollow Road, and surrounding streets. The contractor will be milling and resurfacing roadways in these areas, as well as completing concrete work. Work in each area is anticipated to begin with some sidewalk removal and replacement, and updates for ADA accommodations.

The contractor will be removing and replacing concrete along Pinebrook Way starting Jan. 13. This work is expected to occur through the remainder of January. Residents on Pinebrook Way are asked to temporarily disable irrigation near the sidewalk and curb. Irrigation can resume 24 hours after new concrete is poured. Please use caution in these areas and watch for workers, equipment, and trucks entering and exiting the work zone.

For additional information, please contact Jennifer Dorning, Project Public Information Officer, at 239-338-7723 or by email at Jennifer.Dorning@atkinsglobal.com.



Volunteers needed for Urban Forest Coastal Cleanup

A Venice Urban Forest Coastal Cleanup, a joint community cleanup event, will be held Saturday, Feb. 8. Partners include the City of Venice, SunCoast Reef Rovers (Venice Dive Club), Venice Urban Forest and The Recycling Partnership.

Volunteers are sought to help! On-site check-in will begin at 9:30 a.m. The event will be held from 10 a.m. until noon.

Sign-in the day of the event is at the entrance to the Urban Forest, 308 E. Venice Ave. (sign-in location is just south of the Venice Historic Train Depot).

The cleanup area will be along the Intracoastal Waterway within the Urban Forest and the Venetian Waterway Trail, from the Venice Ave. Bridge south. No divers or kayakers needed, just topside helpers.

Advance registration is requested. If interested in volunteering, please contact Ken Lackmann at ken.lackmann@usda.gov.

Participation is limited to 50 volunteers. All registered volunteers participating will receive a free lunch.

For additional questions, email ken.lackmann@usda.gov.



PIER RULES SIGNAGE

Fishing Pier rules signs were installed Dec. 16 at two locations on the Venice Fishing Pier. The first is at the entrance to the Fishing Pier; a second is at the very end, where the majority of fishing occurs. The new signage includes the recently adopted shark fishing regulations.



HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING



The annual Holiday Tree Lighting in West Blalock Park, presented by Venice Area Beautification Inc., was led by Mayor Ron Feinsod, Kathy Lehner with the Venice Chamber, and Santa on Dec. 14.



VENICE MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE

The Venice Museum & Archives held its annual open house on Dec. 14 in tandem with the Holiday Tree Lighting across the street in West Blalock Park. Visitors enjoyed refreshments and explored the exhibits in the Historic Triangle Inn. Below from left are VMA volunteers Debb Thompson and Toni Minnick with Curator Jon Watson and Historical Resources Manager Harry Klinkhamer.



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 2,200 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.

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

Arbor Day celebration set for Jan. 17

On Friday, Jan. 17, 2020, Venice will recognize Arbor Day at West Blalock Park by conducting walking tours of the Monty Andrews Arboretum, discussions with City Arborist Jim Yelverton, composting and rain barrel demonstrations, a butterfly garden discussion, and a leaf manipulation workshop (using local plant material for in home décor).

Beginning at 10 a.m. Jan. 17, the public is invited to visit the park and find out about the advantages of trees and their impact on the environment. Feel free to visit the various sites and ask questions. The program closes at 2 p.m. There is no charge.

West Blalock Park is located at 401 Pensacola Rd. at Nassau St., across from the Venice Museum & Archives.



AT YOUR SERVICE

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

Sandra Petway, appointed to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to serve a term from Dec. 10, 2019, until Dec. 31, 2022.

Ronald Musselman, appointed to the Architectural Review Board to serve a term from Dec. 10, 2019, until Dec. 31, 2022.

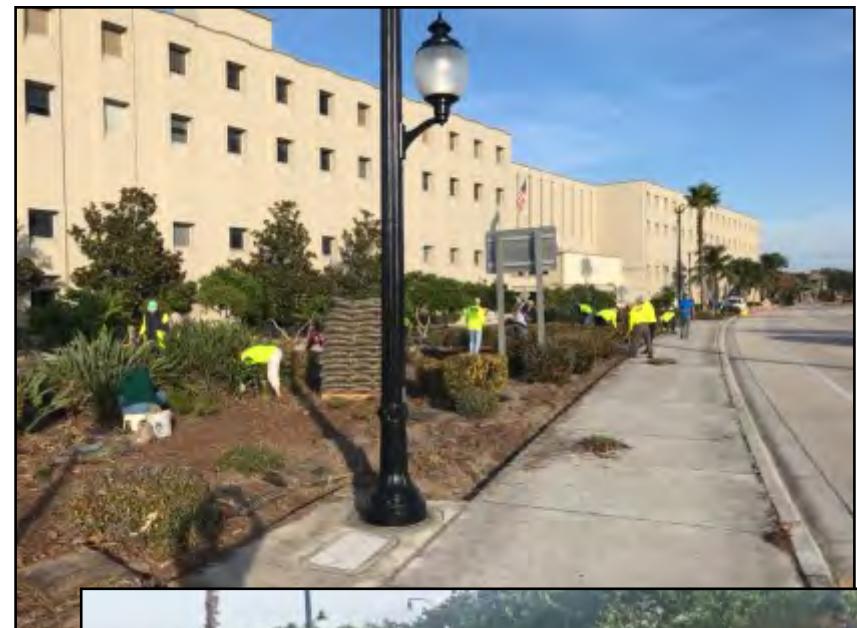
Register for Gulf Coast Games for Life

Registration is now open for the 31st Annual Gulf Coast Games for Life, which take place January and February at locations throughout Sarasota and Manatee counties. The 2020 Gulf Coast Games for Life events are open to amateur athletes 50 years and older as of Dec. 31, 2020. The games are a qualifying event for the Florida Senior Games State Competition, which serve as a qualifier for the 2021 National Senior Games that will be held in Fort Lauderdale.

Gulf Coast Games for Life consists of 19 events beginning with the 5K Road Race on Jan. 18, and continuing with events Feb. 1-9. Events take place in Sarasota and Manatee Counties and North Port. Other events include basketball shooting, bowling, golf, pickleball, shuffleboard and more. The Gulf Coast Games for Life is Presented by Humana/EliteHealth and sponsored by Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, Manatee County Parks and Natural Resources, and the City of North Port Parks and Recreation. A one-time registration fee of \$12 is required, with \$3 for each event. Some events may also have a facility fee. For a full list of events or to register online, visit scgov.net/parks.

KEEPING VENICE BEAUTIFUL

On Dec. 5, the City of Venice partnered with Team KVB (Keep Venice Beautiful) to clean and mulch the large median in front of Venice Regional Bayfront Health at The Rialto. Twenty-nine members of Team KVB removed 6 truckloads of debris from the area. "This transformation of the median outside of the hospital has been amazing," Bridgette Bortz, Venice Regional Bayfront Health Executive Administrative Assistant, emailed the City. "All the (hospital) employees and the local businesses around this area have all commented on how beautiful it looks. We want to thank the City of Venice and the Keep Venice Beautiful volunteer team for all the hard work and for making a difference."



Mayor thanks Epiphany students for food donations



Students at Epiphany Cathedral School regularly receive praise and gratitude for their service throughout the community, but it's not every day the Mayor personally pays a visit to the school to say "thank you."

Venice Mayor Ron Feinsod walked from his office at City Hall to Epiphany Cathedral School on Dec. 6 to thank Joyce Keigher's third-grade class for contributing 365 food items as part of the recent Mayors Feed the Hungry Campaign.

"You did great work in our fight against hunger," Feinsod said to the class. "Your phenomenal effort has helped feed people who call Venice home, as well as those in the Bahamas who are still recovering from Hurricane Dorian."

Feinsod, who began his first term as Mayor Nov. 19, chose Keigher's class because her students raised the highest number of food items. He also recognized the efforts of every ECS student who together collected more than 1,700 canned food, bagged snacks, powdered drinks and other nonperishable items.

"This project instills a sense of community," Feinsod said. "It also raises awareness with important issues such as hunger and homelessness. That awareness creates empathy, and that empathy encourages people to come together to help others."

Feinsod also praised the school's staff and administration for creating a charitable culture that extends beyond academics.

"Education is more than just a series of subjects," he said. "There's a humanitarian side to it as well. Empowering students to take action and make a positive, meaningful impact should be part of every school curriculum."

Feinsod fielded numerous questions from the students ranging from what inspired him to run for Mayor, to his favorite food.

"I love pizza," said Feinsod to the delight of every student in the class. "I also love your enthusiasm for contributing to a good cause, a cause that I believe will help us overcome one of the greatest challenges facing our community, our nation and the world: hunger."

Feinsod then accepted a large handmade thank-you card from the students and joined them for a group photo.

"This was a great example that children can contribute to the community just as well as adults," Feinsod remarked. "To see firsthand what a group of third-graders did to give back demonstrates the power of opening our hearts and minds."

— Photos and story by John Carkeet, Diocese of Venice



Survey Time

The City of Venice is dedicated to providing our residents information about stormwater, water quality, and pollution reduction. Please fill out our Stormwater Survey. It is a great way for us to see how we can serve you better. There are only 9 questions, see below for 2 sample questions.

Check out the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/venice-stormwater>

I have seen the storm drain markers on the drains in the city

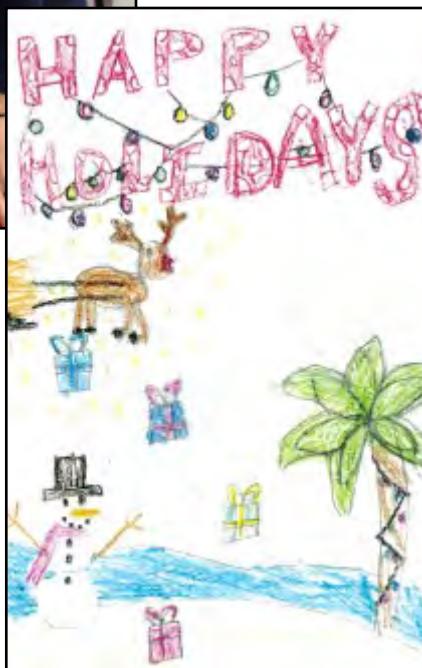
Do you know what is considered an illicit discharge into a stormwater system?



AROUND TOWN

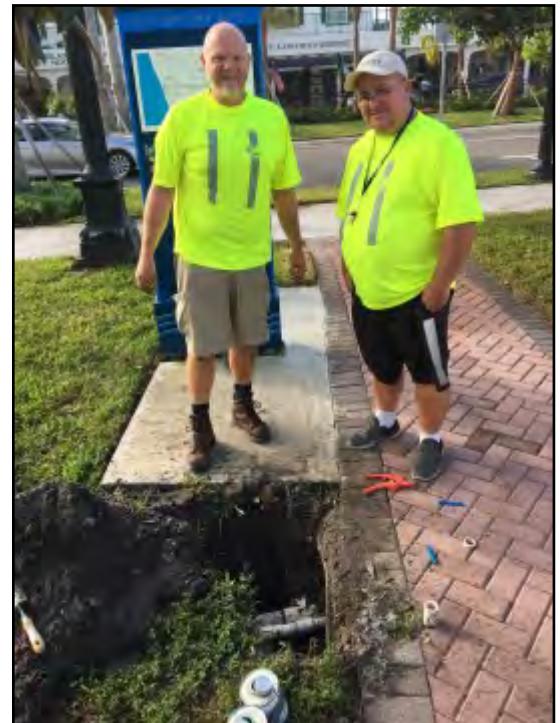


City Manager Ed Lavallee surprised Venice Elementary third-grader Sahana Nayyar (also pictured with Art Teacher Heather Young) with her winning entry in the annual City of Venice Holiday Card Contest on the school's morning news program Dec. 18. Sahana's winning design at right was sent to over 350 City employees, and her name appears on the back of the card as the artist.



Neil Heuring and Scott Marra with Public Works repair a leaking underground irrigation pipe in Centennial Park

Dec. 10.



VPD Officer Victor Montanez stopped to chat to law enforcement fan Nolan during the downtown Holiday Parade Nov. 30. "He made my kiddo so happy!" Nolan's mom said.

AROUND TOWN



At left, participants in the Monthly City Bike Ride Dec. 11, led by Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator Darlene Culpepper. The next ride is set for 10 a.m. Feb. 12. Just bring your bike and a helmet to City Hall! At right, thank you to these apprentices with the Venice Institute for Performing Arts, who cleaned the beach at Venice Fishing Pier Dec. 6. The organization adopted the Pier through the City's Adopt-a-Park program.



At left, the Venice Sail and Power Squadron recently held their annual Christmas Ceremony and hosted a toy drive for Operation Blue Santa. "Team Blue Santa" (Officers Paul Joyce and Paul Freeman) presented the Squadron with a plaque to show VPD's gratitude for their support over the years helping families in our community. At right, City Manager Ed Lavallee after donating blood at City Hall Dec. 11. The next drive will be held 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 5.



AROUND TOWN



Volunteers with Advenir at Monterrey did their quarterly cleanup Dec. 12 at Prentiss French Park as part of the City's Adopt-a-Park program through the Public Works Department. From left, Public Works Administrative Coordinator Tricia Matero, Advenir at Monterrey Manager Susan Bitjeman, Natalie Moran, Jill Strong, Hector Maldonado and Kurt Linscott. Thank you to these volunteers!

Venice Museum &
Archives Administra-
tive Coordinator
Rhonda Rogers with
Venice Gondolier
correspondent Fran
Valencic during the
VMA Open House
Dec. 14.



Russ Johnson was honored Dec. 1 at the Historic Venice Train Depot for his 80th birthday. His over-the-top volunteerism was celebrated by various organizations including VABI and Team KVB. A lifesize cardboard cutout of Russ was created by John Hinshaw of H&H Signs (pictured above with Bob Vedder). Congrats on reaching this milestone, Russ -- thanks for all you do for the City!

Photos provided by Corky and Lin Dalton



AROUND TOWN



Above, Utilities staff Darren Addy, D.J. Dahl, James Floyd, Adrian Rivera, Hans Ferjuste, Oleg Epshtyn and Dustin Little at the Eastside Water Reclamation Facility off Laurel Road in December.



At left, Mayor Ron Feinsod and Venice Chamber of Commerce President Kathy Lehner pose with the new shark's tooth sculpture outside the Chamber building Dec. 9.

Photo: Venice Chamber

Mayor Ron Feinsod, at right with Rabbi Sholom Schmerling, and Police Chief Tom Mattmuller, below with Helga Melmed, attended the Chanukah Klezmer Festival and menorah lighting Dec. 29 in Centennial Park, presented by the Chabad of Venice & North Port.

Photos: Fran Valencic



AROUND TOWN



Girl Scout Troop 542 has passed their garden baton to the Children's Garden Club, pictured here delighting in the release of a butterfly and tending to the Venice Museum & Archives garden recently.



It was a picture-perfect day Jan. 8 for the dedication of the City's most recent sculpture in Centennial Park, led by Larry Humes and Bob Vedder with Venice Area Beautification Inc. The kaleidoscope sculpture is located on an ADA-accessible concrete pad between the Children's Fountain and the Gazebo and contains two bronze kaleidoscopes aimed at a rotating bowl of flowers maintained by VABI volunteers. The sculpture was purchased with private funds and given in memory of the late James Hagler, former Historical Resources director for the City, whose idea it was to purchase the interactive work of art.

**Venice Theatre**

140 Tampa Ave. W.
941-488-1115
www.venicetheatre.org

Gulf View Drive

Jan. 10-26

"Menopause the Musical"

Jan. 10-Feb. 2

"Tusk: Fleetwood Mac Tribute"

Jan. 12-13

"Frankie Valli Tribute Show"

Jan. 19-20

"Herman's Hermits Starring Peter Noone"

Jan. 26-27

"Buddy Returns: Tribute to Buddy Holly"

Feb. 3-4

"Yard Sale: A Musical About Junk"

Feb. 7-March 8

"Guys and Dolls"

Feb. 21-March 22

**Venice Art Center**

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

"Flashes of Brilliance"

Dec. 14-Jan. 10

"Untamed"

Jan. 17-Feb. 7

"Fine Arts Show and Sale"

Feb. 15-16

Annual Art Auction

Feb. 19-March 4

Spring Members Show

March 13-April 3

"Imagine That"

April 10-May 1

**Venice Performing Arts Center**

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

Venice Symphony: "Cosmic Convergence"

Jan. 10-11

"The Reflections"

Jan. 16

"Cash, Killer, and the King"

Jan. 18

Venice Concert Band: "Carousel of Music"

Jan. 20

"Broadway Boys"

Jan. 24

"Toronto All-Star Big Band: Glenn Miller on Film"

Jan. 26

"Dick Hyman's Movie Music"

Jan. 30

"The Beatles vs. The Stones"

Feb. 1

"Venice Symphony: The Music of James Bond"

Feb. 7-8

PASSINGS

E. G. "Dan" Boone



E. G. "Dan" Boone, 92, of Venice, Fla., died Dec. 24, 2019. He was born on March 25, 1927, in LaSalle, Ill., but grew up in Knoxville, Tenn. After discharge from the Army Air Force at the end of WWII, he entered the University of Florida where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1951 and a law degree in 1954. While at UF, he was captain of the Cheerleading Squad, ROTC Cadet Colonel, twice Gator Growl producer, and General Chairman of Homecoming. He was a member of Florida Blue Key and ATO Fraternity. He is a member of the UF Hall of Fame.

After practicing law in North Florida, he and his bride, Freda, moved to Venice in 1956 and opened his law firm. They saw great opportunity in Venice, which had only 411 registered voters at that time. Dan's legal career spanned 65 years, 63 in Venice, where he continued to practice law into his 92nd year. His impact on the community is more than described herein. Worth noting includes that in the 1950s he convinced the City to pass a bond issue to extend water and sewer lines and pave City streets; he negotiated with the FAA to allow the Lake Venice Golf Course to be built at the Airport; he worked to have the first VHS football stadium built in 1957 and then the new/current stadium 20 years later, as well as a new VHS baseball stadium at the

Wellfield in the 1970s. He started the VHS football season ticket program in the '70s, which his law firm continues to handle to this day. He was part of a group that first brought cable TV to Venice, was the founding president of the Venice Symphony, and was the last surviving Charter Member of Grace United Methodist Church, where he held every leadership position in his time. He was a proud member for over 50 years of the Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club, as a past president and for over 30 years the program chairman.

While he was involved in many other matters, he believed his most lasting contribution to Venice was, through the assistance of a U.S. Senator, and the Senator's top aide who was Dan's UF classmate, obtaining for the City the deed to the beachfront along the entire Venice Airport property, which otherwise would have been deeded to a private corporation for development. The large stretch of beachfront will be in public hands forever. A recipient of many honors over the years, he was most proud of the Doc Matson community service recognition from Rotary and receiving the Pillar of the Community award from the City of Venice.

Dan Boone was extremely proud to have practiced law with his sons, Jeff and Steve for 36 years, and with four of his grandchildren, three of whom were working with him at the time of his death. He and Freda impressed upon their sons and grandchildren the importance of giving back to the community, which is a family legacy. Dan was predeceased by Freda, his wife of 59 years, in 2015. He is survived by his sons Jeff (Shirley) and Steve (Jennifer), grandchildren Megan (Chris) Olson, Caroline (Danny) Molloy, Stuart (Kayla) Boone, Jackson Boone, Annie Boone and Evan Boone, and 5 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Dan's life was held Jan. 4 at Grace United Methodist Church, with a reception at Venice Yacht Club. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made to Grace Church or the Venice-Nokomis Rotary Foundation. To share a condolence with the family, visit www.farleyfuneralhome.com.

COMMUNITY 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



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



You Are Not Alone

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
or
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



Soaps can pollute Stormwater



**Please wash your car in the grass
or at a commercial car wash**

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Protecting Natural Resources Reduces Flood Risks

- Floodplains benefit the natural water flow and provide flood protection
- Dumping is a violation of City code Section 74-266
- Keep drainage areas free of debris

Keep our Bay
BLUE not GREEN
skip the fertilizer
June 1 - Sept. 30



POO-LUTION
threatens our health and waters

there is no poop fairy

*pick
it up*



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

VENICE ART WALK

Thursday, 5-8pm
January 9, February 13,
March 12, April 9

Enjoy 11 Venice Galleries & Local Artists

Visit us on Facebook: Venice Florida Art Walk For information call: 941-488-3029

Art Galleries & Studios Participating in Art Walk:

1. Art Escape GALLERY
2. Gondolier Sun
3. Art Escape GALLERY
4. Will not participate in January
5. Art Escape GALLERY
6. Gondolier Sun
7. Art Escape GALLERY
8. Art Escape GALLERY
9. Art Escape GALLERY
10. Art Escape GALLERY
11. Art Escape GALLERY

**Final Touch Frame & Gallery**

1. 520 41 Bypass So. Brick Yard Plaza
941-484-7697 finaltouchframe.com

2. Nellie's Notecards and Wilson's Whimsies

530 41 Bypass South, Suite 10A
Brick Yard Plaza - Behind the Fountain
941-961-7563 NelliesNotecards.com

3. SOOS JEWELRY DESIGN

530 41 Bypass S, Suite 23A,
Brick Yard Plaza Courtyard
941-786-9924 soosjewelrydesign.com

4. Clyde Butcher Venice Gallery

237 Warfield Ave.
(941) 486-0811
ClydeButcher.com

**5. Voila! Gallery**

238 Tampa Ave. West
(941) 266-6014
Cameronstudios.com

**6. Venice Island Gallery & Gifts**

100-A W. Venice Ave.
(941) 441-8797
veniceislandgallery.net

**11. Venice Art Center**

390 Nokomis Ave. S.
(941) 485-7136
VeniceArtCenter.com



CENTURY 21
Element Real Estate



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Tuesdays January 7th through April 14th

Venezia Park Walking Tour

With Architectural Historian, Sebastian Liseo







The planning legacy of John Nolen included not only the beautiful downtown of Venice, but the neighboring residential areas as well. Join architectural historian Sebastian Liseo on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM on a tour to explore the fascinating architecture of Venezia Park.

This residential enclave represents some of the finest in architecture designed for the middle and upper middle class of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. During this 90-minute walking tour, learn about the different styles of architecture that help make the Mediterranean style so prominent in Venice. New this year: a special focus on influential women in Venice's history. Tours start and end at the Venice Museum & Archives, 351 Nassau Street South. Space is limited so make your plans early to discover Venezia Park! A portion of the proceeds benefits the Venice Museum & Archives.





24 hour advance registration is required. Sorry, no walk-ups.

Registration is required via email to vmuseum@venicegov.com. Provide tour date and names of participants. Confirmation to be sent via return email. \$20 exact cash payable day of tour.

Tuesdays 10:30AM • 90 Minute Tour • \$20 Per Person
 includes the tour, bottled water and a discount at the museum's gift shop
 Save your spot, vmuseum@venicegov.com or 941.486.2487

Thursdays January 9th through April 16th

Grand Homes Walking Tour

With Architectural Historian, Sebastian Liseo







Thomas Edison, Fitzhugh Haensel, and Franklin Lepelley were all associated with Venice's grand homes. Join architectural historian Sebastian Liseo on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. to discover their connection. During this 90-minute walking tour, you will learn how the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' upper class lived and how they played a major role in developing Venice. New this year: a special focus on influential women in Venice's history.

Tours begin and end at the gazebo in Centennial Park, 200 W. Venice Ave. Space is limited so make your plans early to discover the Grand Homes! Reservations required. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Venice Museum & Archives.





24 hour advance registration is required. Sorry, no walk-ups.

Registration is required via email to vmuseum@venicegov.com. Provide tour date and names of participants. Confirmation will be sent via return email. \$20 exact cash payable day of tour.

Thursdays 10:30AM • 90 Minute Tour • \$20 Per Person
 includes the tour, bottled water and a discount at the museum's gift shop
 Save your spot, vmuseum@venicegov.com or 941.486.2487

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Sarasota County Hazardous Waste and the City of Venice Solid Waste



Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Sarasota County Hazardous Waste and the City of Venice are hosting a community household hazardous waste collection event.

Saturday, Jan. 11
8 a.m. to noon

South Brohard Park • 1600 Harbor Drive S.

Collection to take place in the parking lot located between Brohard Paw Park and the entrance to Caspersen Beach.

Types of items accepted

• Adhesives and glues	• Electronics	• Mercury	• Pool chemicals
• Aerosols	• Fertilizers	• Motor oil	• Propane cylinders
• Antifreeze	• Fluorescent lamps	• Oil filters	• Rechargeable batteries
• Automotive products	• Gasoline	• Paint	• Solvents and thinners
• Cleaners	• Household fire extinguishers	• Pesticides	• Vehicle batteries

Source: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

This event is for Sarasota County and City of Venice residents only. Proof of residency may be requested before any waste is accepted. No commercial or other organizational waste will be accepted.

Sarasota County
scgov.net | 941.861.5000

Sarasota County prohibits discrimination in all services, programs or activities. View the complete policy at scgov.net/ada.

Venice, FL
City on the Gulf

JANUARY 10 7:30pm JANUARY 11 3:30 & 7:30pm

Cosmic Convergence

TROY QUINN, MUSIC DIRECTOR/CONDUCTOR


THE VENICE SYMPHONY

2019-20

SEASON FOR ALL



A Celestial Adventure
 with Music
 from Star Trek
 and Star Wars,
 Holst's Jupiter
 from The Planets
 and Dvořák's
 New World Symphony
 with Video from NASA

CONCERT SPONSOR:

John Myers

MUSIC SPONSORS:

Steve and
Redenta Picazio

SEASON SPONSORS:



MEDIA SPONSOR:



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



Phase II Road Bond Resurfacing Projects

MILLING AND RESURFACING TO BEGIN IN WARFIELD AVE/GROVE ST AREA Week of January 13, 2020

The contractor for the City of Venice Phase II Road Bond Resurfacing Projects is anticipated to begin milling and resurfacing streets in the Warfield Avenue/Grove Street area on Monday, January 13 (see streets in highlighted in orange on map). This work is scheduled to occur during daytime hours.

This work is expected to be completed by the end of the month. Motorists are asked to be mindful of parking locations and move vehicles from the roadway to allow crews to complete this work.

Please use caution in these areas and watch for workers, equipment, and trucks entering and exiting the work zone.



For additional information, please contact:
Jennifer Dornin, Project Public Information Officer at 239-338-7723
or by email at Jennifer.Dornin@atkinsglobal.com

1927 Historic Venice Train Depot

HOURLS

Saturday 10AM - 1PM
All Year
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10AM - 3PM
November - April

*Free Tours & Exhibits
provided by*



941-412-0151
303 East Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285
veniceareahistoricalsociety.org

For Group Tours, email:
depot@veniceareahistoricalsociety.org

1927 Historic Venice Train Depot
Venice Area Historical Society

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



MIKE IMBASCIANI & his BluezRockerz
Sponsored by Dick and Julia Hyman
and James Griffith Salons

VENICE
ART
CENTER
January 16,
7pm

(Doors open at 6:30pm)

Cash bar

Tickets:

\$25 VAC Members
\$30 Non-members
VIP tickets available
Purchase tickets at
Venice Art Center
390 Nokomis Ave. S.
Venice, FL 34285
or call
941-485-7136

Venice Gondolier

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

\$20.00 per person (cash only). Reservations Required.

For upcoming tour options and for reservations:

[Facebook.com/VeniceFloridaTours](https://www.facebook.com/VeniceFloridaTours)

VeniceFloridaTours@yahoo.com

Call 817-793-8433 (Tiffany)

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

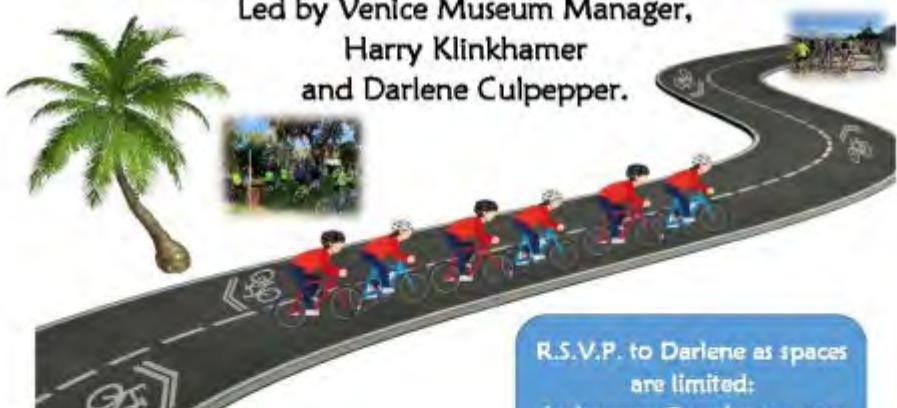
Singer,

THE VENICE OLDIES DANCE 7-10 PM
SATURDAY • Jan. 18th
with **50's 60's 70's DJ AL**
BYOB & FOOD Reserved Seating by Phone or Online:
COOLERS WELCOME **800-838-3006** 
DOWNTOWN VENICE! VeniceOldiesDance.com
Venice Community Center 326 Nokomis Ave. S. Venice, FL 34285


Historic Bicycle Tour

Tuesday January 21st @ 10:00am ~ City Hall

The Historic Bicycle Ride is a short casual pace bicycle ride around Venice (approx. 2 hours).
Led by Venice Museum Manager, Harry Klinkhamer and Darlene Culpepper.



R.S.V.P. to Darlene as spaces are limited:
dculpepper@venicegov.com
Helmets required to ride.



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

**28TH ANNUAL
FINE ARTS
& CRAFTS
FESTIVAL**

Venice-Nokomis Rotary

JANUARY 18TH & 19TH

AIRPORT FESTIVAL GROUNDS

Over 100 High Quality Artists!

Live Music • Beer & Wine • Food & Drinks • Kids' Art
Kids' FUN Area • Classic Cars • City of Venice ROAD-E-O
Humane Society's Mobile Adoption Center "Big MAC"

Admission ONLY \$3.00 | Kids FREE
Saturday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

16th Annual  Win a 5-6 Day Cruise for 2
Purchase tickets online at VeniceNokomisRotary.org

**Venice, FL
City on the Gulf**

**2nd Annual Public Works
ROAD-E-O
SHIFT-CHANGE**

**PUBLIC WORKS
ROAD-E-O**

Venice Airport Festival Grounds
January 18, 2020 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Come on out to the Airport Festival Grounds for a day of fun with Heavy Equipment Competitions, Face Painting, Children's Activities, Food, Equipment Static Displays, Arts & Crafts Vendors, Live Music and so much more!

**28TH ANNUAL
FINE ARTS
& CRAFTS
FESTIVAL**

**Venice, FL
City on the Gulf**

Admission is only \$3 for both events and goes to the Venice-Nokomis Rotary who provide grants to a number of local charities.

Thank you to this year's sponsors

RUSH TRUCK CENTERS

American Import Auto, Inc.

the Heights ALUMINUM, INC.

B&I CONTRACTORS

LAKESHORE AUTOYCLE SERVICES

TEAM KVB

CALLAGHAN TIRE

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

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Betty Intagliata
2020 Lecture Series
Sponsored by:

VENICE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WOMEN GET THE VOTE!
AUG. 26, 1920
1920-2020
(100 years since women got the vote!)

PROGRAMS:
JANUARY – MAY 2020 7:00 PM

JANUARY 21, 2020
Presenter: DORIS WEATHERFORD
“FLORIDA & WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE”

FEBRUARY 18, 2020
Presenter: TREE FORT PRODUCTIONS
“NINETEEN”
A play depicting the struggle to obtain the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution by suffragists.

MARCH 17, 2020
Presenter: KATHRYN CHESLEY,
Re-enactor, as:
“CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT”
Catt represents a new generation of suffragists.



APRIL 21, 2020
Presenters: JOHN McCARTHY,
Executive Director of Gulf Coast Heritage Association
& Historic Spanish Point
& JIM MIDDLETON,
Longtime VAHS Member
& Active Venice Depot Docent

“ANTI-SUFFRAGE MALE ARGUMENTS VERSUS PRO-SUFFRAGE MALE ARGUMENTS”

MAY 19, 2020
Presenter: PHYLLIS VOGEL,
Program Chair:
League of Women Voters of Sarasota County
“FIGHT FOR THE VOTE: AN OVERALL VIEW”

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
No reservations necessary.
Limited seating available; come early!

Programs are held in the Sanctuary at:
The Unitarian Universalist Congregation
1971 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34292
Sanctuary Hall is the larger of three buildings.

VENICE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Programs proudly sponsored by:
Venice Area Historical Society
(941) 412-0151
veniceareahistoricalsociety.org OR
information@veniceareahistoricalsociety.org

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

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

ART BATTLE SARASOTA

LIVE ART TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

VENICE ART CENTER 390 NOKOMIS AVE S | DOORS 7PM / PAINT 8PM

VENICE ART CENTER

FREDRIX

Sarasota County

arts for cultural alliance

VENICE ART CENTER

Venice Art Center 390 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice, FL 34285 941-485-7136 VeniceArtCenter.com

Grab your best pals and join us for a wonderful evening of creativity and community! Come watch as artists transform blank canvases into beautiful pieces of artwork in just 20 minutes, and help vote to determine the winner of the event!

All artwork will be available for silent auction. Be a spectator of the fun, or participate as one of the featured artists by applying online at artbattle.com/artists! (To compete in Venice choose the Art Battle Sarasota with the January 24th date).

Tickets by Eventbrite and Artbattle.com <https://artbattle.com/events/ab1722-sarasota-january-26-2019/>

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD



DOWNTOWN VENICE
Craft festival

Miami Avenue W., Venice, FL

January 25th - 26th
Sat./Sun. 10am - 5pm

**FRIENDS OF
THE VENICE
SYMPHONY**

10th Annual Symphony of Games



Join The Friends of The Venice Symphony for a day of table games, lunch, gift basket raffles and a 50/50 drawing as we raise funds for Youth Music Education Programs in our Community

Wednesday, January 29, 2020
9 am to 2 pm
Mission Valley Golf & Country Club
1851 Mission Valley Blvd., Nokomis

\$40 per person includes Luncheon (coffee service at 9 am)
Bring a team or sign up as an individual player or supporter

Reservations for teams and individuals are due by January 22, 2020
Forms available at thevenicesymphony.org or at the office, 1515 S. Tamiami Trail, Suite 7, Venice
For more information or questions, email brbierig@aol.com or call 941-207-8822.

The Venice Symphony is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. A copy of our official registration, SC-05442, and financial information, may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Registration, 1-800-435-7357.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

TROLLEY TOURS of *Historic Venice*

**Saturday
February 1, 2020**

10 a.m. and Noon



Trolley leaves from historic Triangle Inn building
(home of Venice Museum & Archives)
351 South Nassau Street, Venice, FL 34285

Sponsored by *Venice Heritage, Inc.*

Tickets available online at
www.VeniceHeritage.org
or at Venice Museum & Archives

Tickets \$25

Orchid Show & Sale

Venice Area Orchid Society Presents

"Orchid Island"

February 1-2, 2020

Saturday 10am - 5pm
(displays open at 11am)

Sunday 10am - 4pm

Venice Community Center
326 S. Nokomis Ave.
Venice, Florida

Admission \$5
(under 10 free)


www.vaos.org
Thousands of Blooming Orchids, Orchid Classes, Orchid Art & Supplies

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

YOGA
Free with Elin



*At Venice Beach Pavilion Certified Yoga Instructor
With over 40 Years' Experience*

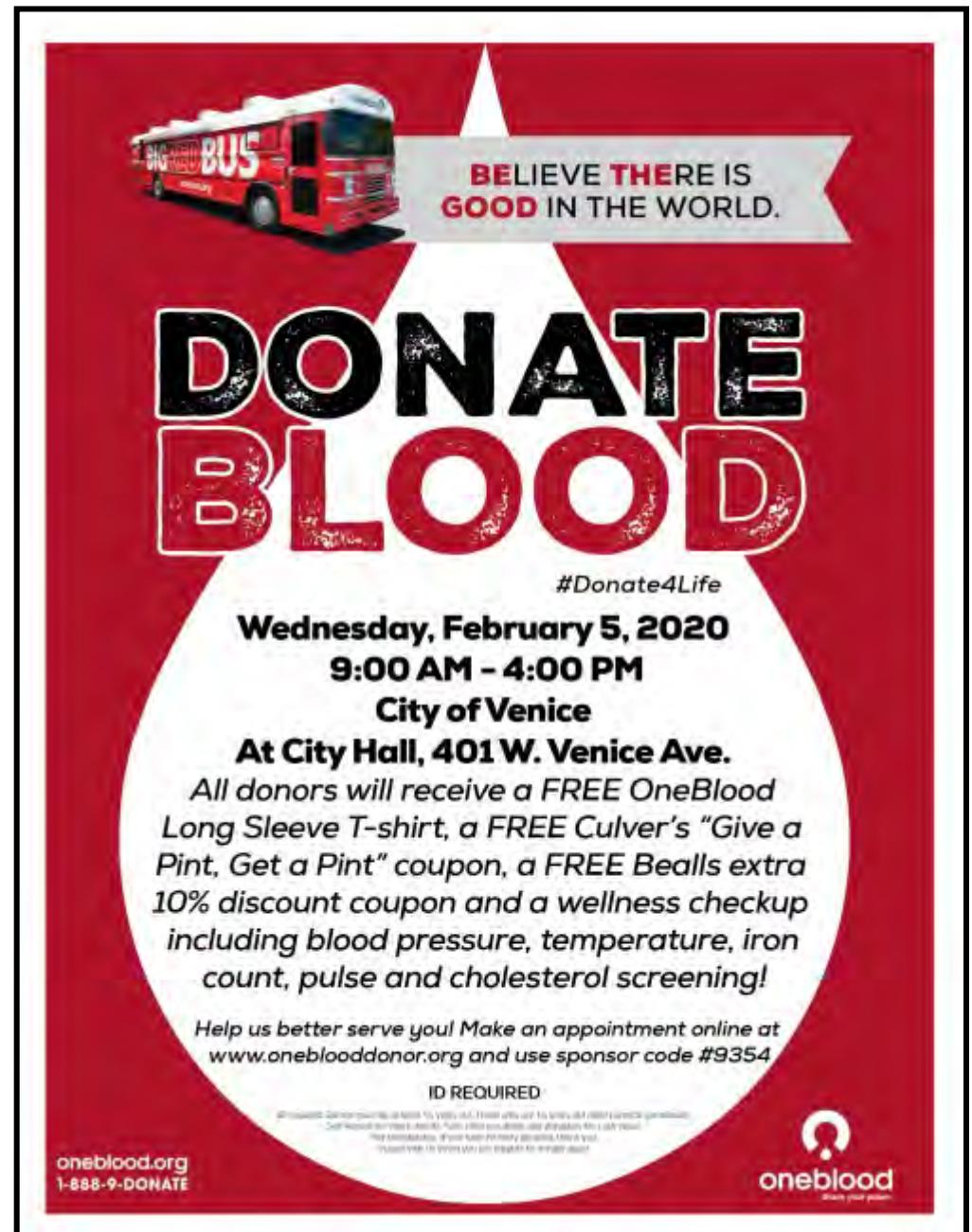
Yoga for all Abilities

Mornings With Elin
Daily 8AM & 9AM

Sunset Yoga
Mon thru Thu 5:00 PM

yogawithelin.us

 Find us on Facebook  tripadvisor



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

WE SHALL OVERCOME

Songs of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

FEBRUARY 9, 2020 7:00 P.M.

VENICE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

\$20-25, \$5 students • VeniceChorale.org
VPAC box office • 941-218-3779

THE VENICE CHORALE

VENICE-NOKOMIS WOMAN'S CLUB

Presents

DANCE PARTY FOR THE ARTS!

A fundraiser benefitting Venice Theatre's Education & Outreach Programs

Venice theatre

Feb. 11, 2020 | 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

American Legion Post 159 • 1770 East Venice Ave.

Free Pre-party Dance Lessons!

Finger Food Buffet!

Raffles!

Mystery Libation Grab Bag Sale!

50/50!

Cash Bar!

Dance Lessons and Exhibitions by Gotta Dance Studio

Tickets - \$30 per person

Reservations: Laura Hester | 919-259-0792

Ask about table reservations for 8 or more! Tickets will NOT be sold at the door.

Tickets can be purchased at Sabal Palm Bank, corner of 41 and Venice Ave., next to CVS

Learn more about the Venice-Nokomis Woman's Club at Venice-NokomisWomansClub.org

"A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE." REGISTRATION NUMBER: CH16301"

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Exploring the Beauty of Venice

A Scavenger Hunt For All Ages!

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

**EXPLORE
LEARN
PLAY**

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

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NJ Johnson Concierge Coverage • Jayne Family Insurance

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GRUETERS &
ROBERTS, P.A.
INTELLIGENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Sharks Tooth Monument Provided By:

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

Download our app at: 

City of Venice Monthly Bicycle Ride

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10 a.m.

Join us for a leisurely 6-mile bicycle ride around the Island of Venice.

Please remember to bring your bike and helmet.

Next ride is Feb. 12!

Meet at:
City Hall, west entrance
401 W. Venice Ave.
For more information, contact Darlene:
dculpepper@venicegov.com



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Jewish Congregation of Venice Jewish Food Festival
Sunday, February 16, 2020
10:00 am to 4:00 pm




Piled-high Corned Beef and Pastrami Sandwiches, Stuffed Cabbage, Knishes, Kugel, Chicken and Matzo Ball Soup, Brisket Platter, Home-baked Jewish Pastries.



Jewish Congregation of Venice

600 N. Auburn Road
(off E. Venice Avenue)
Venice, FL 34292
Phone/Fax: 941-484-2022
www.jewishcongregationofvenice.org

Deli and Food Festival
Flea Market - Book and Jewelry Sale
Continuous Entertainment
Vendor Booths and Raffle Sales



FREE ADMISSION **FREE PARKING**
Park on-site at the JCV or off-site
FREE Shuttle Bus
from Achieva Credit Union
1485 E. Venice Avenue, Venice, FL 34292
(Venice Avenue and Capri Isle Boulevard)

Celebrating the delicious diversity of Jewish Foods and Culture

Venice: Then & Now

PRESENTED BY: VENICE FLORIDA TOURS

Learn about your town!

TWO-PART LECTURE SERIES
SUNDAY 2/23 & 3/1 • 3 PM TO 4 PM
THE FLORIDIAN CLUB
19600 FLORIDIAN CLUB DRIVE
HELD IN CLUB HOUSE IN THE CRAZY FLAMINGO EVENT CENTER

2/23 Part 1-Venice Then: Presentation on the historical development of Venice. Learn about the early visionaries in city planning, architecture & events that led to the city we enjoy today.

3/1 Part 2-Venice Now: Discover what makes Venice a top destination & bustling community. From festivals & restaurants, to unique ways to get involved. Come learn from experts, Ronnie & Tiffany, on how to get the most out of living here!

Hosted by The Floridian Club, a brand new active lifestyle community off Jacaranda and E. Venice Ave. Come check it out!







Ronnie & Tiffany moved to Venice in 2014 from Texas. They started Venice Florida Tours in 2016 to share Venice history with both locals and visitors. They are active in the local community with numerous volunteer efforts. Ronnie is currently board President of both Venice Heritage Inc and Venice MainStreet Inc. Their genuine love for Venice, both past and present, is apparent when you meet them.





THESE LECTURES ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
PLEASE REGISTER BY CALLING 941-360-3838

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Generously Sponsored by Dick and Julia Hyman

Venice Art Center Presents:
The 2020 Concert Series

Concert begins 7:00 pm
 Doors open at 6:30 pm
General Admission

VENICE ART CENTER
 Venice Gondolier

January 16: Mike Imbasciani & the Bluez Rockerz

Blues and rock : Sponsored by James Griffith Salons

February 5: Art of Blues

Featuring blues sensations Steve Arvey & Bill Buchman

February 27: Bus Stop Band

Motown and funk fusion

March 18: Kara & Kaleidogroove Band

Eclectic mix of soulful funk rock, pop and blues

April 1: The Kitt Moran Trio

Jazz art entertainers

Individual concert tickets: \$25 VAC Members \$30 Non-members

Full five concert series tickets: \$105 VAC Members/ \$130 Non-members

VIP tickets: reserved seating in the first two rows and early admission at 6:15

VIP per concert: \$35 VAC Members/ \$40 Non-members

VIP full five concert series tickets: \$155 VAC Members \$180 Non-members

Tickets: 390 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice, FL or call 941-485-7136390 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice, FL 34285 941-485-7136 VeniceArtCenter.com**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 941.486.2444

[HTTPS://WWW.VENICEPOLICE.COM](http://WWW.VENICEPOLICE.COM)

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.

2020 City Calendars are here!

The City of Venice 2020 Calendar is out now! The new calendar features historical pictures of Venice selected and organized by Rhonda Rogers with the City's Historical Resources Department, an overview of the City budget, photos of City Council and charter officers, a directory of frequently used phone numbers, month-by-month listings of Council and advisory board meetings and select special events, and other useful information for both residents and visitors.

Get your FREE copy at the Venice City Hall information center, 401 W. Venice Ave. City Hall is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. (A note that City Hall will be closed to the public on Jan. 20 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.)

These annual calendars are printed in a limited run, so **one copy per person please**, while supplies last. The City does not mail out the calendar.

To get copies of the calendar for your community or organization, please make arrangements with City Public Information Officer Lorraine Anderson by calling 941-882-7401. Thank you!

