

VENICE CITY E-NEWS

October 2019

A PUBLICATION FOR THE CITIZENS OF VENICE, FL

MAYOR

John Holic

VICE MAYOR

Rich Cautero

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bob Daniels

Mitzie Fiedler

Jeanette Gates

Helen Moore

Chuck Newsom

www.venicegov.com

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City Manager Ed Lavallee

City Clerk Lori Stelzer

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez

Reef Rovers get Mayor's Pillar Award

Members of the SunCoast Reef Rovers were named a Pillar of the Community by Mayor John Holic at the Sept. 10 City Council meeting.

The Reef Rovers, through the efforts of volunteer divers, snorkelers, kayakers, canoers and topside helpers, along with assistance from Sarasota Bay Watch, Venice Police, the Sheriff's Office and Sea Tow, have collected a staggering 20 tons of debris in local underwater cleanups over the past 20 years. Cleanup locations include the Venice Fishing Pier, North and South Jetties, Ven-



Ken Lackmann accepts the Mayor's Pillar of the Community Award from Mayor John Holic on behalf of the SunCoast Reef Rovers during the Sept. 10 City Council meeting.

ice Mooring Field, and Crow's Nest Marina.

Head organizer Ken Lackmann of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Palmetto, Fla., said the club was formed on Aug. 29, 1997, among local divers in the community with a common interest. Greg Vine and Bill Willson were two of the founding members. The organization's purpose statement is "To enhance SCUBA diver skills and to utilize those unique skills for the betterment of the community and environment."

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

Continued on page 2





Above, SunCoast Reef Rovers underwater cleanup head organizer Ken Lackmann shows off the Mayor's Pillar of the Community Award with members of the group — including 15-year-old diver Brogan, second from right — on Sept. 10. Venice Police Chief Tom Mattmuller and Master Police Officer Paul Joyce of the VPD Marine Unit have also assisted in cleanups. At left, the most recent cleanup at the South Jetty inlet on Aug. 18 yielded 731 pounds of debris, including a drone, 3 fishing poles, 2 crab traps, 9 fishing nets, a canvas chair and 427 feet of rope.

Pillar, from page 1

The Reef Rovers typically conduct 4-6 underwater cleanup events a year, along with 4 beach cleanups annually between Service Club Park and the Venice Fishing Pier. The beach cleanups typically yield about 100 pounds of trash per event, while the underwater cleanups collect about 500 pounds of debris. Typical items collected include cast nets, fishing poles and parts, crab traps, rope, beach chairs and fishing line.

"They do some pretty terrific stuff, not only for the City but for (Sarasota County), as far as keeping our water quality clean," Holic said of the group during the award presentation.

"From the Mooring Field, the first time they went out there — 4 tons of stuff removed," Holic continued. "They brought up sunken dinghies, all kinds of crab traps, a still, a kitchen sink ... this big 20 cubic yard dumpster is brought in, and they'll fill it up from the Mooring Field."



An underwater cleanup of the Venice Mooring Field in September 2018 removed items including 5 sunken boats, a kitchen stove, a kitchen sink, multiple boat anchors, boat engines, batteries and a 10x10 wood dock — over 8,700 pounds of debris total, according to VPD Officer Paul Joyce.





Mayor John Holic reads the Pillar Award presentation to the Reef Rovers on Sept. 10.

Pillar, from page 2

"We really, really appreciate the work that the SunCoast Reef Rovers do, and we hope that you continue to do it for years to come," Holic said in presenting the award to Lackmann.

"We have about 20 to 30 active members, but we have about 200 to 300 volunteers that are part of the group, and we could not do it without the City of Venice," Lackmann said as he accepted the award on behalf of the club. "The coordination, the efforts of the group, camaraderie, the assistance — it's a phenomenal area to work with, and it's just a real pleasure to be a part of this community."

SunCoast Reef Rovers meetings, open to the public, are held the third Wednesday of the month at the Nokomis Community Center at 6:30 p.m. More information can be found on the SCRR website at suncoastreefrovers.org.

OCTOBER 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FAST FACT Venice fire Rescue has 40 firefighters, including 4 battalion chiefs and 9 lieutenants. All firefighters are emergency medical technicians and perform first-response duties in conjunction with county emergency medical service.		1:30 pm 1 Planning Commission	2	10 am Code Enforcement Board	4	5
6	7	9 am 8 City Council	9	9 am 10 Architectural Review Board	11	12
13	14	1:30 pm 15 Planning Commission	16	17	9 am 18 Historic Preservation Board	19
	COLUMBUS DAY		BOSS' DAY			
20	3 pm 21 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	9 am 22 City Council	1 pm 23 Environmental Advisory Board	9 am 24 Architectural Review Board	25	26
						MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
27	28	29	30	31		
DIWALI				HALLOWEEN		

NOVEMBER 2019 Venice, FL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FAST FACT	a well-known orthopedic s comis and built its first luxury on his land. This city would t	1	2			
3	4	1:30 pm 5 Planning Commission	6	7	8	9
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS		ELECTION DAY				
10	CITY HALL 11 CLOSED	9 am 12 City Council	13	9 am 14 Architectural Review Board	9 am 15 Historic Preservation Board	16
17	3 pm 18 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	1:30 pm 19 Planning Commission	3:30 pm 20 Economic Development Advisory Board	21	22	23
24	25	9 am 26 City Council	27	CITY HALL CLOSED 28 Garbage, yard waste, recycleables collected on next pickup day	CITY HALL CLOSED 29	7 pm 30 HOLIDAY PARADE Downtown

Refurbished Fountain Park reopens to the public

Restoration work at Fountain Park at Ponce De Leon, Miami and Nokomis avenues has been completed and the park reopened to the public in mid-September. The City Public Works Department gave the park a complete refurbishment, including replacement of the old, corroded cast-iron fountain with a brandnew replica aluminum fountain. The original art piece on top has been professionally restored and placed back on the fountain top.

Additional work within the park included replacement of the old paver bricks with bonded aggregate, decorative tile within the fountain pool, new LED light fixtures in the fountain, replacement of the fountain pumps and controls, painting and LED conversions for the park light poles, and new flowers that were installed with the help of the Venice Area Beautification Inc. (VABI) Bloom Team. The City encourages residents and visitors alike to come enjoy the new look of this downtown district park!





National Bank of Venice in 1986. In 1995, after it was damaged, it was replaced with a cast-iron fountain by former Mayor Merle Graser, then CEO and president of the bank.

At left, the statue on the fountain's top depicts Hebe, the goddess of youth. At right, new color-changing lights in the fountain bowl come on in the evening. The old castiron fountain had been removed in March.



City Council takes next step toward shark fishing ban



Following a presentation by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at the Sept. 24 City Council meeting, a motion was made by Council Member Chuck Newsom, seconded by Council Member Mitzie Fiedler, to direct City Attorney Kelly Fernandez to research comparable ordinances from other cities and draft an ordinance for Council's approval to ban shark fishing from the Venice Fishing Pier.

An amendment was made by Council Member Jeanette Gates, seconded by Council Member Bob Daniels, to include a marker 150 feet from both sides of the pier designating a no swim area and to extend the marker north and south of the pier for the distance of Brohard Park, and a marker at Venice Beach that states swimmers have priority over anglers in this area. The amendment carried by voice vote unanimously.

Specified residents urged to choose new trash cart size

The fourth and final phase of residential automated trash collection is coming to the City of Venice. Residents who have not previously received a cart from the City — which include a number of residents in Bay Indies — can visit www.venicegov.com and click on a link at the top of the homepage to choose the size trash cart (garbage only) they would like — 35 gallon, 65 gallon or 95 gallon. **Cart sizes must be chosen by Oct. 15, 2019.** After that date, residents will automatically receive a 65-gallon cart.

Twice-weekly trash collection will continue. Pictures and dimensions of each cart size are at left. They can also be viewed online or at Venice City Hall near the Information Desk. Residents are asked to consider choosing the 65- or 95-gallon cart, since all trash must be inside the cart for collection. Residents should fill out the online form with their name, address, contact information and cart size choice, then click submit.

For more information, please call Venice Public Works at 941-486-2422.



PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY UPDATE

At right is an aerial photo of the new Venice Public Safety Facility under construction off East Venice Avenue taken Sept. 20, as well as concrete slab placement on Sept. 12.

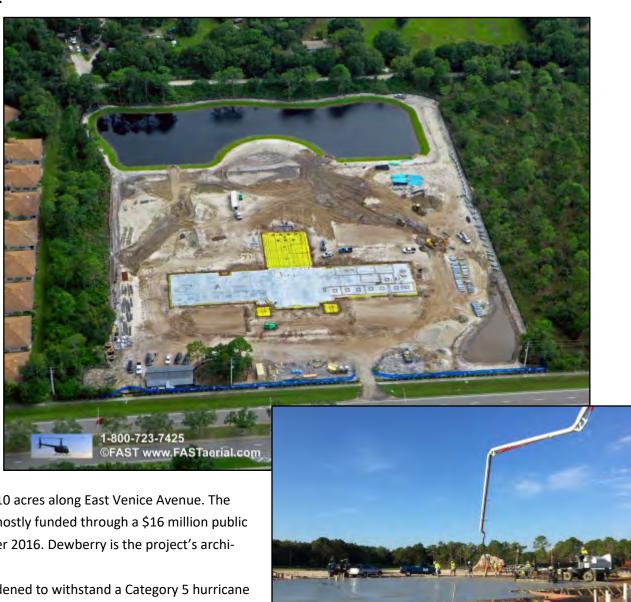
The remaining portion of the slab was poured Sept. 23, along with some of the "tilt" walls. Permits have also been obtained to begin work in the road right of way. All work is continuing to progress according to schedule, states Detective Sgt. Rob Goodson, Venice Police Department representative for the project.

As a municipality the City is utilizing an owner "direct material purchase" on the project to reduce the cost of taxes — the City is exempt from paying sales tax — and overhead normally incurred on material purchases by the contractor. The City is on track to save \$160,000, according to Goodson.

Construction manager Ajax/Tandem Construction began initial clearing for the new Public Safety Facility on April 8, with a ground-

breaking held on May 17. The site is located on 10 acres along East Venice Avenue. The project, currently budgeted at \$17.6 million, is mostly funded through a \$16 million public safety bond approved by City voters in November 2016. Dewberry is the project's architectural firm.

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



It's hurricane season — have you signed up for CodeRED?



Hurricane season runs through November 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 outag-

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

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

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

Things to know about CodeRED

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

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

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

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

Venice Make a Difference Day wins Savvy Award

This year's Citywide cleanup event set for Saturday, Oct. 26

The City of Venice has won a 3CMA (City-County Communications & Marketing Association) Savvy Award of Excellence for Special Events – Recurring Event (Population 0-99,000) for its Make A Difference Day last October.

Organized in Venice by the City's Public Works Department and Jim Foubister with Serve Florida, the event is a day of community service for volunteers of all ages. During the 6th annual event in 2018, a record number of 447 volunteers landscaped, raked, cleaned, mulched, collected litter and put together picnic tables, among other duties, at more than 20 parks and greenspace areas in the City. This community service effort saves the City thousands of dollars annually and benefits the local environment. Judging comments for the award: "I loved getting to see how the City involved its community to improve and beautify its parks. A great way to engage residents to care for their City!"

Get involved with this year's event

Make a Difference Day is being observed for the 7th consecutive year in the City of Venice on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019. Landscaping, raking, cleaning, painting and litter collection events are planned at over 30 City parks and beaches.

Jim Foubister with Serve Florida is again the chief organizer of the event, with assistance from City Public Works staff. Volunteers are invited to enjoy a complimentary lunch at noon at Maxine Barritt Park, 1800 Harbor Dr. S. This year, there will be a special focus on cleaning up our coast and improving our water quality. This coastal initiative is being supported by The Recycling Partnership, a national nonprofit that puts private dollars to work, helping communities invest in recycling systems and empowering residents to take sustainable action. This effort with The Recycling Partnership is part of continued work that will be taking place to transform recycling for good in the City of Venice.

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, go to Serve Florida's website at www.servefl.com and click on the green "Help Now" button. You can also call Jim at 941-223-1771. Interested volunteers can also come to the Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave. at 8:30 a.m. Oct. 26 to help. Drive to the south side of the building near Turin St. to receive assignments and a T-shirt. Volunteers should wear old, comfortable clothing and work shoes, and bring sunscreen. Other supplies, including drinking water and gloves, will be furnished.



Members of the Venice Newcomers Club beautify Ponce De Leon Park on Make a Difference Day in Venice last year.

About The Recycling Partnership

The Recycling Partnership (www.recyclingpartnership.org) is a national nonprofit organization that leverages corporate partner funding to transform recycling for good in cities and towns all across America. As the only organization in the country that engages the full recycling supply chain from the corporations that manufacture products and packaging to local governments charged with recycling to industry end markets, haulers, material recovery facilities, and converters, The Recycling Partnership positively impacts recycling at every step in the process. By the end of 2019, The Partnership expects to have served more than 1,300 communities with tools, resources and technical support, helped place nearly 600,000 recycling carts, reached 60 million households, and helped companies and communities invest more than \$55 million in recycling infrastructure.

Native wetland trees can thrive near stormwater ponds

Florida's rainy season generally runs from June through September and can bring almost daily rain to Venice. Stormwater ponds are basins designed to collect and manage the runoff from these rains. Rain lands on impervious surfaces like roof tops, driveways and streets, then flows into inlets, swales and ditches where it is directed to stormwater ponds.

Stormwater ponds perform several essential functions. They help prevent flooding and soil erosion by slowing the velocity of runoff as well as removing pollutants before they reach natural surface and ground water.



JIM YELVERTON
CITY ARBORIST

There are two basic types of stormwater ponds — retention and detention. During normal rain events, both systems are designed to prevent flooding and to protect natural streams, lakes and rivers from pollutants, flooding and erosion. Retention ponds collect water, holding it temporarily while it slowly filters through the soil into the shallow groundwater aquifer. Detention ponds are designed to collect runoff and allow pollutants to settle in the pond where they can be absorbed and degraded by microbial activity. Once stormwater ponds reach a predetermined volume of water, clean water can then slowly, safely drain through an outflow structure into natural streams, lakes and rivers.

Stormwater ponds provide property owners and homeowners associations excellent opportunities to create beautiful naturalized shoreline environment in their neighborhood. Florida-Friendly Landscaping Principle No. 8 says to "Reduce stormwater runoff" and Principle No. 9 says that we should "Protect the waterfront" by maintaining a 10-foot maintenance-free zone along all shoreline. This 10-foot zone can be made very attractive by utilizing trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses and aquatic plants that require little mainte-

nance to enhance the beauty of the waterfront. Shoreline and aquatic plantings do a great job filtering out sediment and nutrients that would otherwise find their way into our natural water systems. Stormwater management systems are designed to imitate natural processes, so the addition of native aquatic, wetland and floodplain plants is simply an extension of that function.

Native wetland and floodplain trees like cypress, live oak, red bay, sweetbay magnolia, dahoon holly, buttonwood and red maple are well-adapted to moist, well-drained soil found near stormwater ponds. Cypress, dahoon, red bay and buttonwood trees can easily tolerate periodic standing water, so they can be planted in places that flood for short periods. There are also shrubs and grasses like cocoplum, wild coffee, wax myrtle, cordgrass, muhly grass and many others that will do well along the shoreline. Ponds that hold permanent water bodies can be planted with many beautiful aquatic plants like blue flag iris, golden canna, arrowhead, soft rush and various water lilies to provide habitat for wading birds and fish. These ponds can also be stocked with fish to further enhance the natural ecosystem. (Please note that because of their function as a pollutant filter, it is not recommended to consume fish from stormwater ponds; however, catch-and-release fishing is perfectly acceptable.) Shoreline plantings are a great way to create attractive naturalized environments as well as an excellent way to help protect our valuable Florida water resources.

Venice lands on 3 more 'Best of' lists

Kiplinger Personal Finance named Venice one of **7 Great Places to Retire in Florida** in August, citing the City's dozens of parks, white-sand beaches, expansive water views, cycling amenities, numerous shops and restaurants, Saturday farmers market, Venice Theatre and Performing Arts Center.

Also in August, Venice was named the **12**th **Safest City to Live in Florida** for 2019 by **BackgroundChecks.org**. Methodology used includes the most recent FBI crime statistics to create state rankings.

The moving resources site **moveBudda** named Venice as one of its **10 Most Popular Mid-size Florida Cities to Relocate** to in September. The website analyzed its Florida move data from the past year to determine the 10 most popular mid-size cities with populations between 10,000 and 50,000.



The Venice
Farmers
Market at City
Hall is open 8
a.m.-noon
Saturdays
through
December.

Stormwater, from page 11

Stormwater ponds are governed by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) which can provide guidance to any appropriate regulations. The University of Florida IFAS Sarasota County Extension Service can provide information and guidance and would be a good place to start for those interested in developing a shoreline restoration plan for their community. Sarasota County's NEST (Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team) Program is an excellent resource as well. It can be found at the Sarasota County Water Atlas website link below. The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program provides regional information for water conservation and protection.

For more information, check out these sites:

https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota/natural-resources/water-resources/

https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/sites/default/files/store products/stormwater systems.pdf

http://www.sarasota.wateratlas.usf.edu/

http://chnep.wateratlas.usf.edu/

https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/

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

City regulations for 'resort dwellings,' aka short-term rentals

These regulations apply only to resort dwellings, defined herein. Venice City Council finds that resort dwelling rental activities in single-family neighborhoods negatively affects the character and stability of a residential neighborhood. The home and its intrinsic influences are the foundation of good citizenship. The intent of these regulations is to prevent the use of single-family residences for transient purposes in order to preserve the residential character of single-family neighborhoods. In RE or RSF zoning districts, units offered for rental or lease for periods of 30 days or one calendar month or more, are not considered to be resort dwellings and are not subject to regulations applicable to resort dwellings.

- (1) No new resort dwelling units are allowed in RE or RSF zoning districts.
- (2) For existing resort dwellings, the regulation of resort dwelling activities is deemed to be an issue affecting the general health, safety and welfare of the city and its residents. For existing resort trash and refuse shall not be left or stored on the dwellings, the following regulations will apply:
- a. If a lot zoned RE or RSF has more than one legally existing dwelling on the property, the prohibition of resort dwellings shall apply to all structures on the lot. For all existing legal nonconforming resort dwellings, all inspections and applicable approvals must be current for each unit or structure that is used as a resort dwelling.
- b. Except as provided herein, each residential property where resort dwelling use is in effect shall prominently display on the primary structure on the subject property, a permanent notification, on an all-weather placard 11" x 17" in size located

adjacent to the front entrance and with black lettering on a white background with at least 14 point type, alerting the public of the resort dwelling use and containing the following information:

- 1. The name of the managing agency, agent, vacation rental manager, local contact or owner of the resort dwelling, and a telephone number at which that party may be reached on a 24-hour ba-
- to stay in the resort dwelling per Chapter 69A-43, FAC, Uniform Fire Safety Standards for Transient Public Lodging Establishments, Timeshare Plans and Timeshare Unit Facilities;
- 3. The maximum number of vehicles allowed to be parked on the property;
- 4. The number and location of on-site parking spaces and the parking rules prohibiting on-street parking;
- 5. The trash pickup day and notification that exterior of the property except from 6 p.m. of the day prior to trash pickup to 6 p.m. on the day designated for trash pickup;
- 6. Notification that an occupant may be cited, fined and/or immediately removed by the owner or manager, pursuant to state law, in addition to any other remedies available at law, for creating a disturbance or for violating other provisions of the ordinance from which this section derives;
- 7. Notification that failure to conform to the parking and occupancy requirements of the structure is a violation of the ordinance from which this section derives;

- 8. The name and phone number of the contact person available 24-hours per day, seven days per week for the purpose of responding promptly to complaints regarding the conduct of the occupants of the resort dwelling.
- c. Use of a single-family residence in the RE or RSF zoning district as a resort dwelling is deemed to be a change of use as compared to its original permit approval unless it can be demonstrated by 2. The maximum number of occupants permitted the owner that the original approval was for a resort dwelling at the time of permitting or at some subsequent time in which all applicable commercial lodging codes were applied for review of the use and structure. All currently operating resort dwellings must request immediately a change of use and revised occupancy permit for the purpose of notifying the city that said dwelling is being used for resort purposes and requesting all necessary permits and inspections to determine that all applicable zoning, building and life/safety codes have been met.
 - d. The owner or manager shall maintain a tenant and vehicle registration log which shall include the name and address of each resort dwelling's tenant, and the make, year and tag number of the tenant's vehicle(s). Such registration log will be subject to inspection by the city upon request by the city manager or his designee.
 - e. All parking must be off-street for resort dwelling units. Not less than one paved, off-street parking space per resort dwelling bedroom must be provided. Minimum yard areas for the applicable zoning district must be maintained for all resort dwelling units. — City of Venice Code, Sec. 86-151

9/11 CEREMONY

The 7th Annual Sept. 11 Memorial Ceremony in Venice was held at Patriots Park, 800 Venetia Bay Blvd. The event featured patriotic music, guest speakers and a bell ringing for the fallen.



At left, Venice Fire EMS Division Chief Nathan McManus rings a bell for the 9/11 fallen. Right, Mayor John Holic presents a 9/11 proclamation to event host, Retired USAF MSG Barbara Miller Vaughn. Below, guest speaker Matthew Besheer, retired Port Authority of New York and New Jersey detective.









9/11 CEREMONY







3 roadway segments added to Adopt-a-Road Program

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

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

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

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

Marina Park and Boat Ramp closure Oct. 21-24



Beginning Monday, Oct. 21 and lasting until Thursday, Oct. 24, a City of Venice contractor will be performing asphalt sealing and restriping of all parking stalls within the Marina Park and Boat Ramp parking area, located at 301 E. Venice Ave.

The park and boat ramp will be closed to the public throughout this work, but will be reopened as soon as possible.

Your patience is appreciated as this important maintenance work is completed.

Photo: Don Hubbard

Water Main Replacement Program Phase 6

Properties within the Venice Utilities Department's Water Main Replacement Phase 6 project limits have water mains that are located in rear or side lots away from the road right of way. Many of the water mains are beyond their useful life, resulting in decreased water pressure. Maintaining the water mains, appurtenances and meters requires City staff to enter and potentially disturb residents' side and back yards.

Phase 6 includes the installation of approximately 7,500 linear feet (If) of new water main, 2 fire hydrants, 28 valves, various appurtenances, property service connections, and the abandonment of rear lot water mains. The Phase 6 area 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). 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.

Project schedule: The bid opening was held on Aug. 21, 2019, and the recommendation of award was received from the engineer of record. The project is expected to be on the Oct. 22, 2019, City Council meeting agenda. Upon approval, preconstruction activities would likely commence in November 2019.

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's website and entered into the CodeRed emergency notification system; additional information about the CodeRed system can be found on page 9 of this newsletter.

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

Pictured at right is an aerial photo showing the old existing water mains and meters in rear and side easements. The new water main will be installed along Barcelona Avenue within the right of way.



ADOPT-A-PARK CLEANUPS

Jessica and Matt Ritter of The Ritter Group - Gulf Shores Realty (below) were out Sept. 26 doing their quarterly cleanup at Heritage Park.

On Sept. 21, 24 volunteers with Venice Youth Boating Association (right) spent 2 hours cleaning up Higel Marine Park. They filled 4 trash bags with mostly plastic, glass and cigarette butts. This cleanup was also part of International Coastal

Cleanup Day.

The City of Venice appreciates all the hard work of these volunteers to beautify our local parks!







Birds of all types flocking to Venice Urban Forest

The Venice Urban Forest's mission statement is: "In the spirit of the John Nolen Plan, Venice Area Beautification Inc. (VABI) resolves to create the Urban Forest, an oasis for all generations to enjoy." The Urban Forest commenced on April 12, 2018, near Seaboard Avenue. Its purpose is to plant thousands of trees and understory plants to provide shelter for birds and animals, cooling and much-needed carbon sequestration, oxygen generation and stormwater absorption.

While enjoying strong City support for the project, the actual funding is provided by private financing from individuals and grants. VABI is equally appreciative of its dedicated volunteers whose labor plants and maintains this emerging forest.

A recent story on CNN stated: "Bird populations in the U.S. and Canada have dropped by 29% since 1970, signifying 2.9 billion birds lost in almost 50 years." Scientists warn that like a canary in a coal mine, birds reveal environmental health. This steep future. loss of bird populations includes some of the most

common birds like sparrows and finches. The study of birds moving into the forest as it continues to provides evidence of negative human impacts on the continent's environment, indicating an inability to adequately support wildlife systems as it once could.

The Venice Area Audubon Society (VAAS) supports this project. Ann O'Leary and other VAAS members conducted a bird audit in the Urban Forest in May. Sixty-one species of birds were identified enjoying the trees and under plantings. A diverse group including mottled ducks, northern mockingbirds, a palm warbler, snowy egret and wood stork were noted. Even a few turkeys have been seen trotting around the forest. In June, a cooper's hawk, a forest species, was spotted. And in August, a VABI volunteer noted an eagle resting atop a tree. (See below photos.) VAAS has now conducted 6 bird audits since the start of the Urban Forest and will continue ongoing audits in the

"We are thrilled to see more and more species

grow. It's exciting!" O'Leary says.

The Urban Forest is a critical component in enhancing the City of Venice's urban design introduced by John Nolen in 1926, and remains its principal planning document. Adding this "green belt" corridor will complement Nolen's "city garden" concept and serve to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.

The Venice Urban Forest is a project of VABI, a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in 1990. VABI's mission statement is to make Venice a more beautiful place to live, work and play.

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

— Provided by Mary Schwass, VABI Office

Manager









Laning Archives Center ribbon cutting set for Oct. 17

On Thursday, Oct. 17, the City of Venice will celebrate the completion of the Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center on Milan Avenue.

A 10 a.m. ribbon cutting, open to the public, will be the culmination of a project started to provide a safe repository for the City's history. Along with the Venice Museum across the street, which will still house administrative offices and exhibits, the Division of Historical Resources now has two places to collect, preserve and share the history of Venice.

Thanks to the generous contribution of Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning, the City of Venice was able to acquire and renovate, 224 Milan Ave. W. as the Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center. Due to concerns about the collection straining the second floor of the Triangle Inn, it was relocated in December 2015 to three different locations where the environmental conditions were not ideal.



The Laning Archives & Research Center houses over 23,000 items, ranging from historic artifacts, to Venice High School yearbooks, to the earliest editions of the Venice Gondolier newspaper. In addition, there is a reading room in the front of the building for people to research the collection. The facility will be open to the public by appointment.

Julia Cousins Laning has a history of supporting history and the arts in Venice through the resources provided by her late husband, Dale. In addition, Julia was an early resident of the City, living in the Venice Museum's Triangle Inn building as a young girl when her mother worked there. Julia helped the museum by supporting the Triangle Inn's facility and staffing needs for years.

Report city issues with just a few clicks

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

SeeClickFix

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

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

The City has been using SeeClickFix since 2016 and has processed over 2,150 issues. During the past few years, issues submitted on SeeClickFix have helped the City handle exposed wires that needed immediate attention, road-side junk needing to be picked up, code violations, awareness of speeders in residential areas, and having street lights fixed and/or replaced. You are our eyes and ears and we value your assistance with maintaining the safety and beauty of Venice.

Did you know?

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

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

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

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

Important side note information

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

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

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

Sign me up!

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

— Provided by Shirley Gibson

KEEPING VENICE BEAUTIFUL

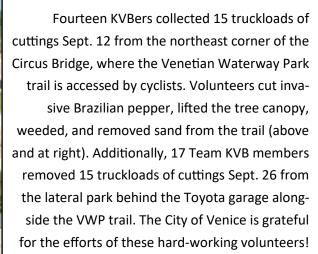
On Sept. 5, 17 members of Team KVB (Keep Venice Beautiful) spent 3 hours weeding around the Venice Library and in front of the Community Center. They hauled away 8 truckloads of debris (below).















FPL streetlight conversions to LED underway



Florida Power & Light (FPL) has partnered with the City of Venice to convert FPL streetlights throughout the City to LED fixtures. This project is currently underway and expected to be completed over the next month.

FPL technicians will be replacing 987 old, high-pressure sodium lights with more energy-efficient LED lights. These new streetlights will save the City on energy costs as well as benefit our local environment. The new LED lights will have the same brightness as the original lights, however they will produce a much higher-quality light that will not fade over time. This will provide for improved visibility at night and increased safety along our roadways.

According to FPL, the savings of this conversion:

- Reduces power consumption from these streetlights by 300,324 kWh/year
- Eliminates 211 metric tons of CO₂ /year
- Is the equivalent of removing 45 cars from the road

Other ongoing streetlight projects include:

- Bahama Street conversion to LED and addition of more LED streetlights; 11 LED streetlights total
- Harbor Drive south of City Hall; addition of 8 LED streetlights
- Upgrade of approximately 398 ornamental LED streetlights owned by the City

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

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

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



Would you like to help sponsor this event?

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

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

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



Children's Halloween Parade set for Oct. 31 downtown

The Annual Venice Lions Club/Venice MainStreet Children's Halloween Parade will be held on Thursday, Oct. 31, with parade participants asked to gather at 4:30 p.m. in Centennial Park. The parade down Venice Avenue will begin promptly at 5 p.m.

More than 500 children are expected to receive candy treats from the members of the Venice Lions, sponsors of the parade for 61 years. Following the brief parade, children will be free to trick-or-treat for more goodies at stores along the avenues.

Children and parents will meet at the Centennial Park gazebo at 4:30 p.m. At 5 p.m. they will follow the Lions Club float out of Centennial Park onto West Venice Ave. — which will be temporarily closed for this event — near Nokomis Ave. The parade will travel westbound in the westbound lanes of W. Venice Ave. to Nassau St. As the parade approaches Nassau, the Lions Club float will pull forward and park on the roadway of W. Venice Ave. to block the intersection of Nassau. At Nassau St., the children will use the designated crosswalk to the sidewalk on eastbound W. Venice Ave. where the shops are and trick-ortreat. Westbound W. Venice Ave. will be closed for the event until 7 p.m.

There will be event volunteers at the intersection of Nassau and W. Venice Ave. to direct the crowd as it disperses and help the children cross to eastbound W. Venice Ave to trick-or-treat. Venice Police will also be on hand to assist. For more information, please visit www.visitvenicefl.org.









Venice first responders Officer Ruth Terry, Fire Chief Shawn Carvey, Master Police Officer Paul Joyce, Police Service Aide Wilberto Acosta, Detective Oscar Guinart, Officer Seth Kenny (with bagpipes), Police Chief Tom Mattmuller and Officer Brett Woodworth, along with Mayor John Holic, Venice Senior Friendship Center Assistant Esther Bird and veteran Alan Adams, participated in a Patriot Day ceremony at the Center on Sept. 11. *Photo: Fran Valencic/Venice Gondolier-Sun*



City staff performed in Venice Theatre's September production of Rudyard Kipling's "The Jungle Book." At left are Public Works Director James Clinch (Akela the wolf) with his son Eli (Taak the monkey); below is **Utilities GIS Analyst** Will Smith (Baloo the bear) with the production's sixth-grade star Jackson Mitchell (Mowgli). Below photo courtesy of Venice Theatre





Following Hurricane Dorian's devastating blow to the Bahamas, donations from the community poured in to Agape Flights at Venice Airport. As of Sept. 25, Agape received an estimated 170,000 pounds of donated supplies and has flown over 20 relief flights to get items in the hands of those in need. At right, Venice Police recently responded to a call where someone just needed understanding and a hand to hold — which Officer Keith Silva provided.





The Salvation Army Venice Corps stopped by the Police Department Sept. 24 with homemade goodies, including cookies. Thanks so much!



VPD Master Police
Officer Paul Joyce of
the VPD Marine Unit,
far right, attended a
boat decorating
seminar at West
Marine Sept. 14 that
provided instruction
for the upcoming
Christmas Boat
Parade.



Mayor John Holic presented a proclamation naming Sept. 17-24 Constitution Week to local members of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently. Here, Carole Cornell Regent of the Myakka Chapter of Venice and Louise Tario, Chair of Constitution Week, stand with Mayor Holic.



Council Member Bob Daniels and Mayor John Holic participated in the Sept. 25 groundbreaking for Venetian Walk II on Grove Street, the final phase of Venetian Walk senior apartments.



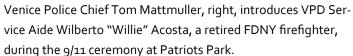


Above, work on the installation of angled parking at Avenue Des Parques and along W. Venice Ave. by Venice City Hall will limit parking at City Hall for patrons of the Saturday Farmers Market through October. Parking is available at Hecksher Park by the tennis courts, across the street at the Lord-Higel House, and street parking further down on W. Venice and Miami avenues. The Venice Farmers Market runs 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays. Top right, a gator goes for a swim mid-September in the retention pond at the Water Reclamation Facility off Laurel Road. At right, City Information Technology Director Christophe St. Luce celebrates IT Professionals Day on Sept. 17 with staff Don Hubbard and Steve Buczak.











Above, Chip Reid with SNN interviews City
Special Events and Marketing Coordinator Shirley
Gibson for a piece on sponsorships the City is seeking for the 2nd Venice
Public Works Road-E-O in January. Get more information at www.venicegov.com.

City Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator Darlene
Culpepper at the South Jetty Sept. 11 with
participants in the monthly 6-mile bike ride
around Venice island. A reminder that October's ride has a date change — it will be on the
third Wednesday of the month, Oct. 16. Just
bring your bike and a helmet to City Hall!





Above, Austin Salaciak and Joshua Sweiderk of the Public Works Parks Division prepare to cut grass in the Venice Avenue median from the bridge to City Hall on Sept. 25.

At right, VPD Detective Todd Reale participates in Project Lifesaver, a program designed to protect, and when necessary, quickly locate individuals with cognitive disorders who are prone to wandering. Participants are fitted with watch-size transmitters that can help police quickly locate them if the need arises. For more information, go to https://projectlifesaver.org/ or call 941-486-2444.



Above, a Coast Guard C-130 on final descent for Runway 5 at Venice Municipal Airport Sept. 24. At right, an egret at Ruscelletto Park on Sept. 23. *Photos: Jim Eppley, William Smith*









Venice Theatre

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

"Born Yesterday"

Sept. 20-Oct. 6

"The Bikinis"

Sept. 27-Oct. 20

"Mamma Mia!"

Oct. 25-Dec. 1

"The Alter Eagles"

Oct. 27-28

"Good People"

Nov. 1-17

"Florida Bee Gees" Nov. 10-11

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

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

Venice Art Center

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

"Welcome Back to Paradise" Sept. 13-Oct. 4

"Fall Members Show"

Oct. 11-Nov. 8

"Cornucopia"

Nov. 15-Dec. 6

"Bling Thing Jewelry Show and Sale"

Nov. 30

"Art Center Annual Tea"

Dec. 13



Venice Performing Arts Center

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

"The Music and Friendship of Aretha Franklin and Smokey Robinson"

Oct. 4

"Journey Through the Music of the Eagles"
Oct. 12

"America the Beautiful"

Venice Concert Band Nov. 4

"The Everly Brothers Experience"

Nov. 8

"The Mystics" Nov. 10

"Bohemian Beethoven"

Venice Symphony Nov. 15-16

"Molly Hatchet" Nov. 17

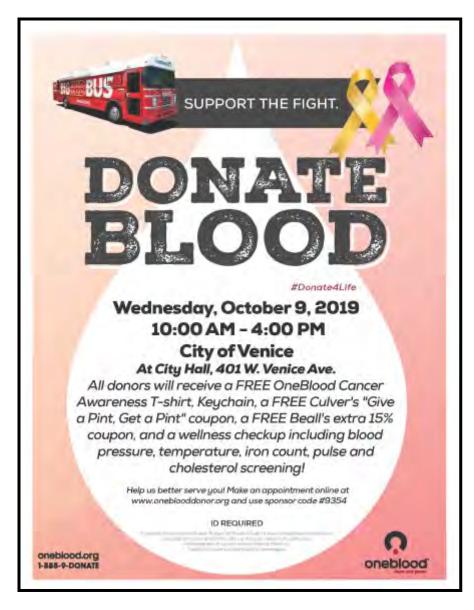
















October 13th – October 31st Monday – Saturday 9:30am – 7:30pm Sunday – 11:30am – 7:30pm

> 400 Field Ave. E. Venice, FL 34285

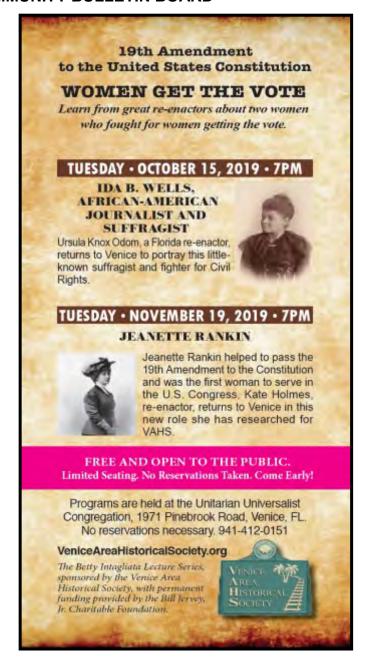
Pumpkins in all shapes and sizes...for all your needs!!! Prices start as low as \$1.00 and are priced according to the size of the pumpkin that you pick out.

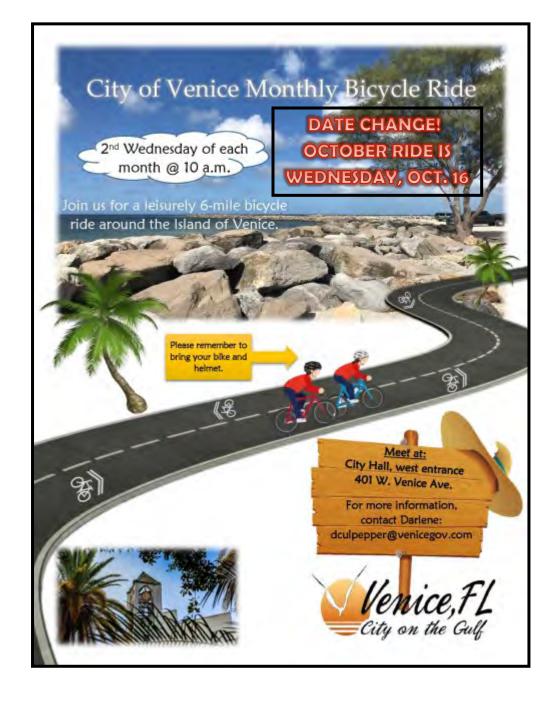
Now Accepting Applications!



The Academy is a dynamic 8-week program, which begins Tuesday, February 4, 2020 and ends on Saturday, March 28, 2020. Most sessions are from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. with the exception of the EVOC, Firearms and Marine Patrol sessions, which begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 noon.

** All applicants must pass a background investigation.





Venice City Council Candidates Forum Venice City Hall

Meet the Candidates

WEDNESDAY Oct. 16th 7PM Open To All

Sponsored by the Venice Aviation Society, Inc.



CELEBRATE VENICE'S LATEST HOME FOR HISTORY!

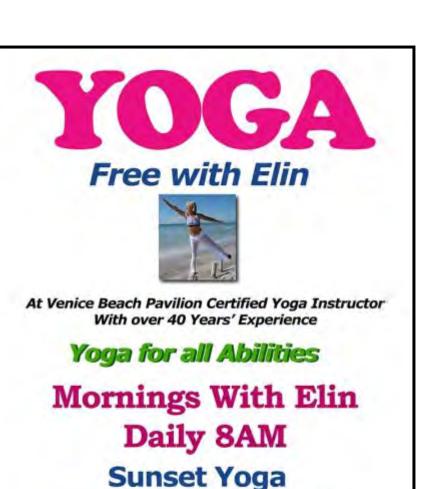
Join us **October 17th at 10:00 am** for the ribbon cutting of the

JULIA COUSINS LANING AND DALE LANING ARCHIVES & RESEARCH CENTER.

This will be the public's first look at the center, including behind the scenes into the collections storage areas.

Julia Cousins Laning and Dale Laning Archives & Research Center 224 Milan Avenue West, Venice, FL 34285





Mon thru Thu 6:00 PM

yogawithelin.us

Find us on Facebook

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.

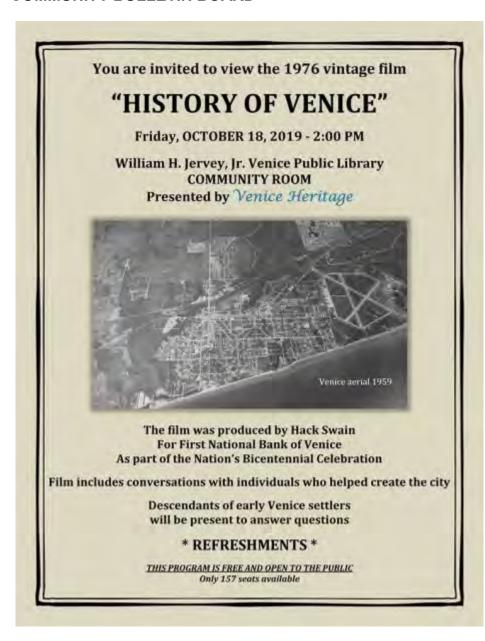
Skip the P: Phophorous is already naturally found in our soil, no need to add more.

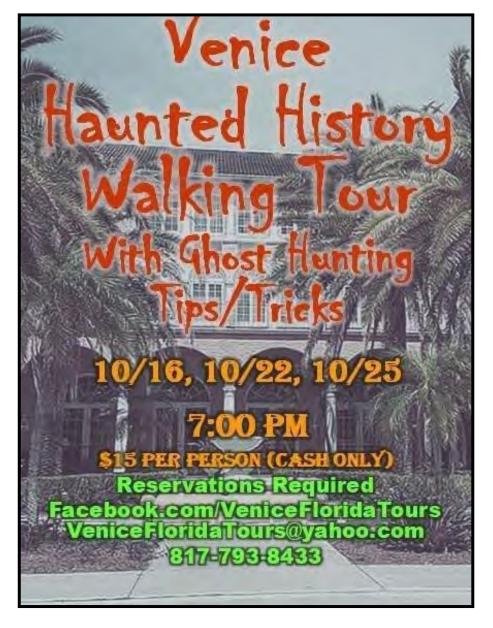
Keep on the Grass: Spread the fertilizer on the grass with a deflector shield or edge guard. You don't want to help the weeds grow on the sidewalk. Do you?

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

For more information visit: www.venicegov.com













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

Venice Historic Walking Tour

Presented by Venice Florida Tours



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

Saturdays and Sundays

Tour covers all of the following and much more!

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

The boom of the 1920s Historic Buildings

Intracoastal Waterway Kentucky Military Institute

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

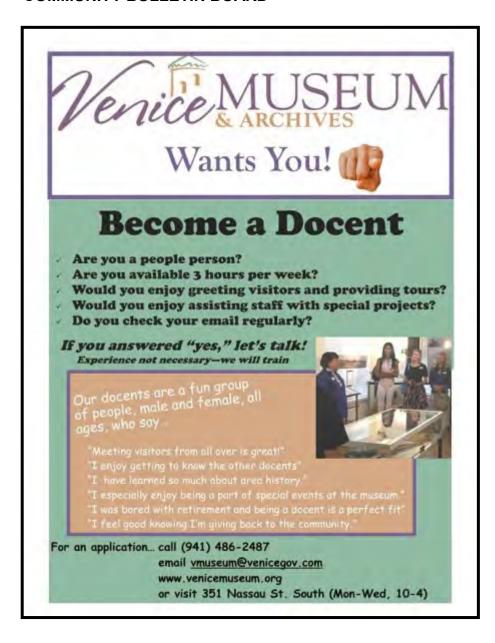
Contact Us for upcoming tour day/times and for reservations:

Facebook.com/VeniceFloridaTours

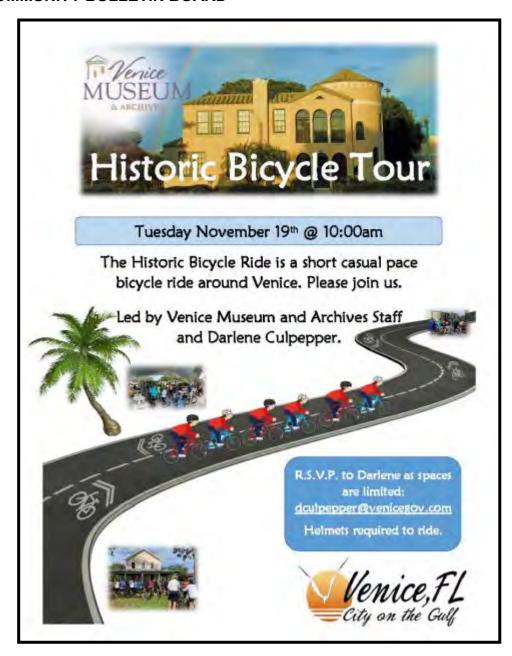
VeniceFloridaTours@yahoo.com

Call 817-793-8433 (Tiffany)











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.

Applications sought for 2020 Citizens Police Academy

The Venice Police Department is currently accepting applications for its 2020 Citizens Police Academy. The Academy is a dynamic 8-week program that begins Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2020, and ends on Saturday, March 28, 2020. This opportunity allows individuals to understand and appreciate local law enforcement practices.



The Academy is free of charge and encompasses hands-on, interactive scenarios to allow an insightful experience of a

"day in the life" of an officer. Participants may fire police-issued weapons, ride in a police vessel, learn about crime scene techniques and collect evidence. Most sessions are from 2-5 p.m. with the exception of the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC), Firearms and Marine Patrol sessions, which begin at 9 a.m. and end at noon.

Applications can be found online at www.venicegov.com/ government/police/community-programs/citizens-police-academy. Download the application, fill it out and return it to VPD Administrative Assistant Babette Chovan at bchovan@venicegov.com.

A limited amount of openings are available and City of Venice residents or business owners/operators will receive first consideration to attend the academy. All applicants must pass a background investigation.