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Have feedback, ideas or submissions? We are always happy to hear from you! Deadlines for submissions are the 20th of each month, 6 weeks in advance of publication. Email your thoughts, ideas and photographs to gmooney@bestversionmedia.com. Submissions must be original and exclusive to Fort Myers Beach LIVING, at a maximum of 500 words. Fort Myers Beach LIVING reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, space limitations and spelling.

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SUDOKU

- By Gary Mooney -

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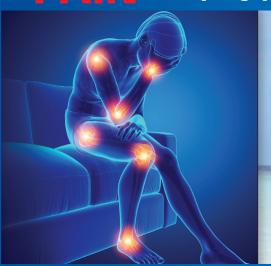


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Hello Friends & Neighbors!

On a recent evening, I was enjoying a beautiful sunset on Fort Myers Beach when I suddenly realized that I was in the middle of desolation – there was not one other single person on the beach! While I like every other FMB business owner loves our seasonal residents and visitors – and their wallets flush with cash – it was wonderful to be once again in the offseason. To visit our favorite stores and shops, restaurants and bars, and of course having the beach back to ourselves again for the next six months!

Right after that, however, came a feeling of dread, as the beginning of offseason coincides with the start of hurricane season, and my chest began to tighten at the memories of Hurricane Ian from September of 2022. Like many of you, those memories remain harsh, filling my mind with the visions of what Ian did to our beautiful island paradise. In this issue, please see our article on hurricane preparations and take them seriously, especially that one about evacuating if Lee County issues that order. We lost too many good people to Ian to make that mistake again.

The awe and wonder of that magic beach evening made me recall why I and many of you first chose to make FMB our permanent homes: the natural beauty of our island! As we continue to rebuild FMB in Ian's aftermath, I hope our leaders and citizens remember to not only preserve but enhance our natural treasures, like our seven-mile sugar white sand beach, along with Bowditch Point Park, Lovers Key State Park, Matanzas Pass Preserve, and Newton Beach Park, as well as support organizations like the Estero Island Historic Society, the Historic Mound House and the Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center that make us the natural wonder that we are. As we rebuild, these precious gems are the heart of our island and give us much more than one more new resort or

condominium or another row of McMansions can ever bring us – let's not lose our soul in the name of progress.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at recent FMB social functions, like the FMB Community Foundation's "Casino Night" and the FMB Chamber of Commerce's Luau, where Chamber Executive Director Jacki Liszak distributed awards to so many of our well-deserved island neighbors and business owners. Speaking of Jacki, by the way, she does SO MUCH for FMB that I asked myself, "when is somebody going to give JACKI An Award?" After first Covid-19 then Ian, it was delightful and fun to once more gather in large-scale functions to laugh, tell stories and revel in each other's company again. I thought to myself, "finally, our community traditions are slowly but surely returning!"

Speaking of island traditions, please support our advertisers as always, because without them, we could not deliver *Fort Myers Beach LIVING* to you free of charge. When you do visit them, please let them know you saw their ad in our magazine so we can continue to provide you with this original entertainment each month!

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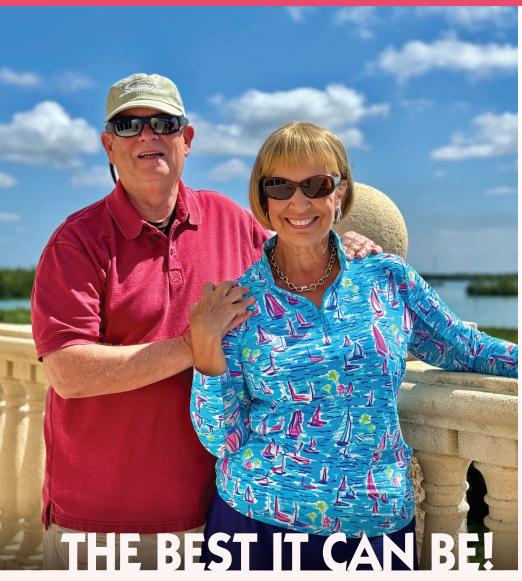
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2020-2023



Kathy & John Wesley Nash

- By Gary Mooney -

"John and I are from the Annapolis, Maryland area," explains Kathy Nash about she and her husband. "We grew up on the Chesapeake Bay so we are children of the Chesapeake and spent most of our young lives on the water." "Our youthful love of the water transferred into our younger adult lives," agrees John. "We loved to boat and fish and travel all around the Bay."

They met through mutual friends at a party. "It was not love at first sight but there was definitely an interest," explains John. "We were both a little older so we were cautious." "He asked me to a movie and we saw 'Schindler's List' that is not exactly a date movie," Kathy

recalls with a laugh! "I knew I was taking a significant risk," adds John, "but I am a history buff and wanted to see it! It went well though and soon thereafter, we became quite committed to each other."

They dated for roughly five years before being engaged for nine months, then marrying in October 1998. "It was the first marriage for each of us and we were 38 and 43-years-old," Kathy offers. "Our wedding was at the Gibson Island Yacht Club in Maryland that is quite exclusive." "Gibson Island is so exclusive that you need an invitation to go there," John relates. "It took me 43 years and I had to get married to finally go to Gibson Island!"

In A Heartbeat!

Just as friends first introduced Kathy and John, other friends introduced them to Fort Myers Beach. "Our friends relocated to Dolphin Point at Waterside at the south end of FMB so we came for a weeklong visit. I retired a few years before John, but once he did so as well, we were looking for a second home or possibly a boat we could live on for a few months at a time. We decided to take a month-long trip from Hilton Head all the way through Florida looking for the perfect place. When we arrived on FMB, our friends' place overlooked Big Carlos Pass and as soon as we walked in and I saw that gorgeous blue-green water, I went 'OHHHH! This is what we are looking for!"

"It was truly breathtaking," agrees John. "We knew immediately that this is where we wanted to live, as being near the water was important. We began to seriously look for a unit and as soon as we saw our condo, we immediately knew this was the right one."

They realized how right their decision was when they returned to their large Annapolis home. "We planned to do the 'Snowbird Thing' for five years or so," relates Kathy, "but when we first walked in, a heavy sense of responsibility suddenly hit me. I asked John, 'how does it feel to be home' and he replied, 'if I could wiggle my nose and be back on FMB, I would in a heartbeat!' A week later, I called a realtor to put our house on the market and we became fulltime FMB residents in September 2021."

Before retiring to take up the Salt Life, John was in the television industry for 45 years, mainly on the engineering side, working on everything from musical entertainment specials to early music videos; CBS network news to the Olympics, before transitioning into systems design, engineering and installation services to broadcasters. John enjoyed every day of his career. Kathy retired after 30 years in medical management, building up a new doctor's practice into one that eventually included 15 physicians.



The Nashes learned "about this new volunteer group at 820 Buttonwood that needed help," recalls Kathy, "so we assisted them in setting up, then I volunteered almost every day for the next six months."

Hugging & Crying

Kathy and John evacuated FMB to Fort Lauderdale the Monday before lan, "and luckily we took both cars," she says. "We could not return to our condo for another 10 days, so we rented an extended stay room for five days then had a rental unit the next three months. Fortunately, our condo is on the 9th floor so we received minimal damage, mostly from water seeping in through our window seals. While we did lose our boat, we were able to move back home less than three months after lan. on Christmas Eve 2022. All-in-all, considering what so many others are still enduring, we were blessed."

"I would say we are probably in the top 10% of the most fortunate people on the island from the hurricane-damage point of view," muses John. "Our building's first two floors flooded and required remediation, mold elimination, and we needed a new roof, but compared to those who lost everything, we are so fortunate and grateful."

It is one thing to be grateful but another thing to do something about it and



In addition to FMB Strong, John is on the Town's Anchorage Advisory Committee and on the Board of Directors for the Friends of Lovers Key (FOLK).

Kathy and John did. "We were monitoring 'Beach Talk Radio' throughout lan's aftermath and they talked about this new volunteer group at 820 Buttonwood that needed help," recalls Kathy, "so we assisted them in setting up, then I volunteered almost every day for the next six months. John was heavily involved in our condo building's remediation but every few days he volunteered at 820 Buttonwood as well. Soon thereafter, 820 Buttonwood transitioned into what people now know as FMB Strong. I loved volunteering, as it felt so good knowing I could assist so many who lost so much, and sometimes that meant just doing something simple, like giving them a hug or sharing in a good cry."

The Heart of The Island

In addition to FMB Strong, John is on the Town's Anchorage Advisory Committee and on the Board of Directors for the Friends of Lovers Key (FOLK). Kathy is a member of the FMB Woman's Club, is on the FMB Community Foundation Board of Directors and is the Chairperson of the Adopt-A-Nest Program at Lovers Key State Park for turtle nesting. They volunteer to transport injured wildlife to the Center for the Rehabilitation Of Wildlife (CROW) on Sanibel Island. "There are not many positive things to say about lan," John states, "but it had one large positive outcome for us: Prior to the hurricane. we were just south-enders who loved

our condominium community complex. But since Ian, we are much more involved with the greater FMB community, where we get to meet and know so many wonderful people!" Kathy adds, "we feel like we now truly understand the heart of the island!"

Volunteering is essential to Kathy and John because of the recent passing of her brother. "He died of pancreatic cancer; he was the most generous and kindest person ever, who constantly said in down times that things can always be worse and that is how he lived, to do for others and pay it forward. We learned such a valuable lesson from him and now that is the mantra of our lives."

"In addition to honoring Kathy's brother, we value volunteering because it is a way to educate others," says John. "If you positively influence a young person, you can make them better off for the rest of their lives and can improve all of society. Education is important to Kathy and I and that explains why we are instructors in boating safety. If we save the life of just one person from making or committing a horrible lifetime mistake, it is all well worth it."

Fall In Love All Over Again

As to what FMB will look like in five years, "my opinion may not be popu-

continued on page 13



- By Gary Mooney, Photos by Kelly Smith-

The Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation (FMBCF) hosted a fun and entertaining evening of high stakes, high style and high rolling at its "Viva Las Vegas" fundraiser in the "King's Casino" at The DiamondHead Beach Resort on Saturday, April 13. "Viva Las Vegas" featured heavy hors d'oeuvres and live music along with casino-style gambling.

"It was a terrific night of fundraising," raves FMBCF Vice President Kelly Smith. "We chose the theme, 'King's Casino,' for a couple of reasons: First it was the play on words for one of our major sponsors, The King Family Foundation, as well as paying tribute to the 'King of Las Vegas,' the late Elvis Presley!"

Kelly explains that the \$100-per-person ticket included "a \$2,000 voucher to play casino-type games like Craps, Blackjack, three-and five-card Poker, and Roulette, with multiple tables for many of those games. Patrons won 'gaming chips' that they redeemed for raffle tickets to place in boxes to win over 30 fabulous gift baskets that folks previewed throughout the evening from leading island businesses, restaurants and resorts. At the end of the night, we drew the winning ticket for each prize, with several people receiving more than one."

The FMBCF marveled at how generous local businesses were in putting together their prizes and gift baskets, says Kelly. "We had 'staycations' for the Pink Shell Beach Resort, DiamondHead and Matanzas Inn as well as terrific baskets from Diversified Yacht and Norman Love Chocolates, among others. Several FMBCF members assembled their own for items like an Italian dinner, everything chocolate and a gardening basket. Then of course there were the contributions from various FMB restaurants, like The RUDE Shrimp Company, Nervous Nellie's, Wahoo Willie's, Snug Harbor Waterfront Restaurant, La Ola Surfside Restaurant and Mom's Restaurant, to name a few. All the prizes were so creative."

All this creativity led to the FMBCF raising in excess of \$16,000, Kelly says proudly! "We will use every penny to benefit the FMB com-



The King Family Foundation was a major sponsor of "Viva Las Vegas."

munity that is still in the early stages of recovering from Hurricane lan as well as for our scholarship fund and donations to various FMB non-profits and related organizations. A portion of these moneys will go to the FMBCF Endowment that we established in 2020 at Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) that now has \$80,000; that is incredible when you consider we formed it just four years ago, while enduring a global pandemic and major hurricane!"

120 People + 2

"Viva Las Vegas" drew a sold-out crowd of 120 people – plus two! "While we were setting up, an out-of-town couple were checking into the DiamondHead and wondered what we were doing. When we told them, they asked if they could attend as they love to gamble and we said they were welcome; the woman even won a gift basket!"

Kelly thanks major sponsors, The King Family Foundation, along with Nancy Brouchard, as well as a third who remains anonymous, "but I must give a big shout-out to all the local businesses and our FMBCF members who made everything possible. The talented duo of Deano and Marvilla played piano and sang a variety of songs, from Sinatra and Elvis up to more modern music, with many people dancing. As soon as guests checked in, everyone received a sample of our signature drink for the evening, 'The Dean Martini,' as a tribute to the Rat Pack and Dean Martin, so that was very Las Vegasy!! When you add in the heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, everyone had a ball!"

The FMBCF is already considering another "Viva Las Vegas" fundraiser for 2025. "People began to ask us about that during this year's event," gushes Kelly, "so we must definitely think hard about it. A big part of the evening's charm is that we could actually host a large fundraising gala again on the island, as first Covid-19 then Hurricane lan prevented the FMBCF and most other island organizations from having large-scale events like this. Prior to 2020, the FMBCF held a huge gala every January, then the world went crazy on us for a few years."

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Lessons Learned From Ian

- By Gary Mooney -

With the 2024 Hurricane Season officially beginning on Saturday, June 1 and continuing through Saturday, November 30, now is the time to have your hurricane preparations already well-underway, as lan on September 28, 2022, taught us all what one of these monster storms can do to a barrier island.

EVACUATE!

Should the Lee County Emergency Management Office declare a voluntary or mandatory evacuation order for Fort Myers Beach, EVACUATE!

While you want to have on-hand all the necessities to ride out a hurricane in the comfort of your own home, being that we live on a barrier island that is in the primary Evacu-

ation Zone A that can suffer everything from storm surge to wind damage to flash flooding and more, each of us must be ready to leave if the Lee County Emergency Operations Center declares an evacuation. We all lost too many friends and neighbors to the tragedy of lan, so GO!

Register Now for AlertLee.com!

Register at AlertLee.com for all emergency warnings, along with its app, LeePrepares. Pay attention not only to the area media outlets but various social media sites like the FMB Fire Department, the Town of Fort Myers Beach and Lee County Emergency Management Office for instructions. Remember that before, during, and after a hurricane, reputable social media sites can be your best friends, not only in providing you with valuable hurricane information but, equally as important, squashing untrue rumors.

If you do not have your 2024 Hurricane Re-entry Passes for your home and business, get them as soon as you can from Town Hall. If you still have a Green Re-Entry Pass from 2023, they remain valid. People who live, owns property or manages a business in the Town can receive two Hurricane Re-Entry Passes. If you do not have a 2024 Re-Entry Pass or a previous Green one, it is essential to renew your passes, as the Town will not honor any others from prior seasons.

To obtain your Hurricane Re-Entry Passes, visit Town Hall at the Bay Oaks Recreational Center at 2731 Oak Street from Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. You need one form of identification, such as a driver's license with an FMB address, or a utility bill, deed, rental agreement, mortgage statement, or tax record that confirms your resident, property owner or continued on page 12



Easy Mango Mousse Dessert

Mango Mousse made without gelatin or eggs.

by Nancy Bouchard

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup (8 ounces) chopped mango (fresh or frozen and defrosted is fine)
- 1 TB fresh orange juice
- 1 TB lime juice
- ¼ cup sweetened condensed milk
- ¾ cup heavy cream (very cold) Full-fat heavy cream (or double cream) is best for making this mango mousse.

INSTRUCTIONS

In a high speed blender, combine the mango with the orange juice, lime juice and condensed milk. Puree until very smooth, about 1 minute.

Meanwhile, in a mediumsized bowl, beat the cream with an electric mixer on high until soft peaks form.

Pour one quarter of the mango puree mixture into the beaten cream, and using a spatula, fold the mango into the cream very gently. Do not deflate the cream, so take your time and scrape

around the bowl and down the middle to fold the mixture together.

Repeat with the remaining mango puree, one quarter of it at a time, until you incorporate everything.

Divide the mixture between 4 small glasses and refrigerate at least 4 hours (or overnight) before serving.

To garnish, add an extra dollop of whipped cream and a few diced mango pieces along with a mint leaf.



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"Viva Las Vegas" featured Craps, Blackjack, three- and five-card Poker, and Roulette, with multiple tables for many of those games.

continued from page 8

For Kelly, the best part of "Viva Las Vegas" was "that the FMB community got together as one, to mingle and chat and enjoy each other's company, as it has been a long time since we could do so. You cannot put a price on that type of comradery and friendship, where we all enjoyed a fun night while raising funds to support our hometown."



Joy Sullivan was awarded the Nancy Mulholland Memorial "Star Award" for 2023-2024.



For Kelly, the best part of "Viva Las Vegas" was "that the FMB community got together as one, to mingle and chat and enjoy each other's company, as it has been a long time since we could do so."

Check Presentations

Roughly a month after "Viva Las Vegas," the FMBCF held its annual "Check Presentations" at the Suncoast Credit Union Arena sky box on the FSW campus on Tuesday, May 7. "One of our members, Heather Chester, works for FSW," Kelly offers. "Heather helped us establish the FMBCF Endowment, gave us a tour, and invited us to have the Check Presentations in the sky box."

The FMBCF distributed checks to eleven FMB non-profits as well as to eleven scholarship recipients. In addition to the students, the following groups received FMBCF allocations: Bay Oaks Recreational Center, Beach Elementary School, Beach Kids Foundation, Estero Island Historic Society, FMB Art Association, FMB Strong, Friends of Matanzas Pass Preserve, Keep Lee County Beautiful, Marine & Environmental Resources Task Force, Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center Summer Camp, and Support for Sailing through the Edison Sailing Center. "As for the scholarships," Kelly adds, "we increased them this year from \$500 to \$1,000 so nine students will get that, while two others who previously received \$500 will get an additional \$500. A FMBCF committee reviewed all the requests and came up with this great list! Lastly, we contributed an additional \$10,000 to our FSW Endowment."

Kelly notes with pride that even before the 2024 check distributions, "the FMBCF allocated \$77,500 to worthwhile island organizations already this year! Even as I say that amount out loud, I do so with awe, considering all we overcame, including the pandemic and Ian. The generosity of our community is incredible and the FMBCF is so grateful. I think I speak for all FMBCF members when I say that we do what we do because we all love Fort Myers Beach so much."

Come Join Us!

To join the FMBCF, "go to www.fmbcommunityfoundation.com, click on the 'Join Now' link and fill out the profile," explains Kelly. "The initial fee is \$100, then \$50 annually. The most fun way to learn about us is to attend a monthly FMBCF membership meeting as we definitely welcome visitors but we do not meet again until Fall, as many members head north for the Summer. The FMBCF is a wonderful group of strong women who work together in friend-ship and philanthropy to raise funds for our community. On top of that, I met some of my best friends through the Community Foundation. I feel wonderful and occasionally even emotional over all we do for our FMB home!"

continued from page 9

businessowner status to receive your passes. If you are out-of-town, email hurricane@ fmbgov.com with attached photographs and/or document files to prove your eligibility and include the address for where you want the Town to mail your passes. For related questions or additional information, contact the Town at 239-765-0202 or email hurricane@fmbgov.com.

Should a hurricane strike FMB in 2024, based on the storm's severity, FMB may close for up to 48 hours and possibly longer, until the Town, Lee County Sheriffs Office and FMB Fire District can certify the island's safety.

Lee County offers Special Needs Shelters for those with medical necessities, but you must register in advance every year at 239-533-0622 or through the "Emergency Management" page at www.lee.gov.com. If your best option is a Lee County shelter, go but know upfront it will have no creature comforts, so a Lee County shelter should be your last option. The best advice is to travel well out of our area, or at least east of I-75, into the home of a family member or friend, hotel or motel. Do not wait until the last minute to leave, as Lee County and FMB Town officials close both island bridges when wind conditions dictate and do not return until after the hurricane.

Hurricane Kit Essentials

Everyone should have a supply of essentials to be self-sufficient for 72 to 96 hours. Have an adequate amount of non-perishable foods, including one gallon of water per day for every person as well as your

pets, and remember that if you do any poststorm cleanup, you will need more water than that because this is the hottest time of year. When you assemble your hurricane kits, check with your neighbors, especially if they are elderly, so when you shop, you can get supplies for them as well.

Get medication refills in advance of the storm, as most pharmacies let you refill these due to the impending emergency, and do so for your pets. Store your important insurance policies and personal documents like identification cards, driver's license, Social Security cards, and passports in waterproof carriers or tightly-sealed plastic bags in your personal hurricane kit. Have ample cash on-hand, should power be out and you cannot use credit cards, and solar-power cellphone chargers are a great option.

Know the location of all of your utility breakers, so you can safely and quickly turn off your electricity, water, and natural gas, as those are the last things to do before evacuating or when the storm hits. Stock up on batteries, as you want to use electric illumination rather than candles or non-electric lanterns that can cause fires. As soon as the hurricane threat is over, immediately take down your house shutters, otherwise your home becomes a vault that makes it difficult for first responders to get to you.

Prepare As If Your Life Depends On It!

Another essential is a full tank of gas in your car. Not only do you want to avoid the long gas station lines should you need to evacuate, but once a storm is over, if you do not



FMB is a barrier island that is in the primary Evacuation Zone A that can suffer everything from storm surge to wind damage to flash flooding and more.

have power, you can cool off in your car's air conditioning or have an extra gas supply for your generator. If you store gas, do so only in specifically designed containers.

If you use a generator, keep it at least 10 feet not only from your home, but from your garage and your neighbors' houses, and never run a generator inside your home or even breezeway. Never wire them to your home yourself but hire a licensed electrician. Read your owner's manual and know its safety limits. Never fuel them while they are hot or running, and make sure you have a fire extinguisher and at least one carbon monoxide detector in your home.

FINALLY, DO NOT BE COMPLACENT; PREPARE AS IF YOU LIFE DEPENDS ON IT, AS IT JUST MIGHT! ■



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continued from page 7

lar," cautions John, "but it will never again be the quaint small town we knew and loved prior to lan. The economics of the situation will require that we build back with much more of a commercial appeal to survive, though that does not mean we cannot become something special again, as we have a wonderful set of resources that will always draw people."

"FMB will be different," Kathy agrees, "but there are good aspects to that. For example, I doubt a future hurricane, even as strong as Ian, will ever completely decimate the island again simply because we will build back so much stronger, with higher elevations and new regulations. We will never have those small beach cottages like before Ian, but what we will rebuild will be charming. The heart of our little island will never go away."

It is those small-town charms and natural elements that keep Kathy and John loving FMB. "To me, it is the water," he offers. "Water has been important to Kathy and me our entire lives, and here we enjoy a new type of boating we did not have during our Chesapeake years." Kathy still loves that Big Carlos Pass and Back Bay view! "When I still see that blue-green water and all those dolphins and manatees every day, I fall in love all over again! Of course, the wonderful people who call this island home are important to us." "It is those folks," concludes John, "who will guarantee that this place will always be the best it can be!"



Kathy recalls: "As soon as I saw that gorgeous blue-green water, I went 'OHHHH! This is what we are looking for!'" "It was truly breathtaking," agrees John.





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Every Thursday WASTE MANAGEMENT PICKUP

@FMB Neighborhoods

Lee County will now collect FMB garbage, recycling and yard waste all on the same day, on each Thursday; for questions call Waste Management at 239-334-1224 or see www.southwestwastefl.com.

Monday Through Friday Bay Oaks Recreational Center

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center
The Bay Oaks Recreational Center is open and back
to full operation! Attend fitness classes, indoor
pickleball, open gym, after-school care, weight
room & more. Monday through Thursday 7am to
7pm; Friday 7am to 8pm.; see www.fortmyersbeachfl.gov.

Monday Through Friday Bay Oaks Summer Camps, Beginning June 3

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center Kids age 5 through 12 enjoy the beach, pool, fishing, field trips, crafts, games, movies & more Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm! Registration is per week and not daily. To register go to www.FMBGOV.com/Youth-Programs.

Sat., June 1 Mound House Museum, Grounds & Store

@The Historic Mound House

Built in 1921, the Mound House is the oldest standing structure on FMB. It is a multi-level museum that displays Calusa artifacts, interactive exhibits and the one-of-a-kind 1,600-year-old underground shell mound attraction. Wednesdays through Saturdays 9am to 4pm with Grounds daily from 7:30am to 6pm. Adults \$15, Students \$8, Kids 6 to 12 \$5, & 5 & under free; Grounds free. See www.moundhouse.org.

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Sunday, June 2 AND EVERY SUNDAY

Bayside Park Concert Series

@Bayside Park

Relax while listening to fantastic tunes from local musicians at these FREE weekly outdoor concerts from 4 to 7pm! For details see www.fortmversbeach.org.

Mondays, June 3 & 17

FMB Town Council Meeting

@Town Hall, Bay Oaks Recreational Center
The FMB Town Council continues its work to rebuild FMB
at 9am; see www.fortmyersbeachfl.gov.

Mon., June 3 Zumba Class with Jian Heinel

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center Get tone and stay fit with Zumba classes every Monday & Wednesday at 10:15am. No reservations necessary; classes cost \$15 or ten for \$100. For information see www. FMBGOV.com.

Tuesday, June 4

Body Pump with Sue Anderson

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center

Get tone and stay fit with Sue every Tuesday & Thursday at 8am. No reservations necessary; classes cost \$15 with discounts available if you pre-pay for ten. For information see www.FMBGOV.com.

Wed., June 5

General Resistance Yoga with Anne Neaf

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center

Get tone and stay fit with Anne every Wednesday at 9am. No reservations necessary; classes cost \$15 with discounts available if you pre-pay for ten. For information see www. FMBGOV.com.

Wed., June 5

CROW Campus Tours

@Center for the Rehabilitation Of Wildlife
An in-depth look at what the animal patients experience,
from intake to release, including the hospital and treatment
process. The 45-minute tour is Monday through Friday at
Noon; \$25-per-person with advance registration and payment
necessary at 239-472-3644 or reservations@crowclinic.org.

Wed., June 5

FMB Woman's Club Monthly Meeting

@4192 Bay Beach Lane / Deb Nelson 8P4 2nd Floor Join the best club on the entire island; bring a dish to share and all are welcome! The meeting is from 6:30 to 8pm; see www.fmb-wc.org.

Thurs., June 6

FMB Chamber "Coffee Connection"

@Doc Ford's FMB

Start your day with your FMB Chamber friends for networking with tasty complimentary coffee and breakfast items. The FREE "Coffee Connection" is 8 to 9:30am; see www. fortmyersbeach.org.

Thurs., June 6 Senior Pump & Tone with Sue Anderson

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center Sculpt & define all muscles with barbells and hand weights in this 60-minute class set to music to increase your metabolism, boost your energy and make you feel great! "Senior Pump & Tone" is every Tuesday & Thursday from 8 to 9am. No reservations necessary; \$15-per-class with discounts available if you pre-pay for ten. For information see www.FMBGOV.com.

Thurs., June 6 FMB Town Council Management & Planning Session

@Town Hall, Bay Oaks Recreational Center The FMB Town Council continues its work to rebuild FMB at 9am; see www.fortmyersbeachfl.gov.

Friday, June 7 Iyengar Yoga with Susan Carter

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center Get tone and stay fit with Susan every Friday at 9:15am. No reservations necessary; classes cost \$15 with discounts available if you prepay for ten. For information see www.FMBGOV.com.

Friday, June 7 Welcome & Discovery Center

@Lovers Key State Park

The Welcome & Discovery Center educates and informs visitors about Lovers Key habitats through interactive displays Wednesdays through Fridays from 10am to 1pm. The W&DC is FREE with the park entry fee; see www.friendsofloverskey.org.

Friday, June 7 Shell Mound Tour

@The Historic Mound House

Discover the archaeology and history of the Mound House and learn clues uncovered about this 1,600-year-old shell mound on this 30-minute tour every Wednesday through Saturday at 10am & 2pm. \$5-per-person plus MH admission; see www.moundhouse.org.

Saturday, June 8

Mound House Eco-Kayak Tour

@The Historic Mound House

Explore the winding mangrove creeks and hidden backwaters of the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve on this 2-hour tour. The MH provides all equipment; ages 12 & up, weather permitting and participants must wear shoes and bring water. The Eco-Kayak Tour is every Wednesday through Saturday from 9 to 11am. \$50-per-person including MH admission with reservations necessary at www.moundhouse.org.

Saturdays, June 8 & 15 "American Boating Course"

@San Carlos Bay Squadron Classroom This 2-day, 8-hour basic boating class includes Florida navigation rules and how to deal with water emergencies. \$65-per-person & \$20 each additional person from 8:15am to Noon: see www.scbps.com.

Tuesday, June 11 FMB Local Planning Agency Meeting

@Town Hall, Bay Oaks Recreational Center The FMB LPA, appointed by Town Council, continues its work to rebuild FMB at 9am; see www.fortmyersbeachfl.gov.

Tuesday, June 11 Senior Spin & Tone with Sue Anderson

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center Get tone and stay fit with Sue every Tuesday & Thursday at 9:30am. No reservations necessary; classes cost \$15 with discounts available if you pre-pay for ten. For information see www.FMBGOV.com.

Thurs., June 13

FMB Chamber Membership Luncheon

@Pink Shell Beach Resort

Join your FMB Chamber friends to savor a scrumptious luncheon from Jack's Restaurant and enjoy a presentation from Captain Chris Wittman of "Captains For Clean Water" from 11:30am to 1pm. \$30 members & \$40 prospective members; see www.fortmyersbeach.org.

Friday, June 14 Fort Myers Mighty Mussels v. Lakeland Flying Tigers

@Hammond Stadium, Lee Health Sports Complex The Mighty Mussels, the Low A affiliate of the Minnesota Twins, take on the Lakeland Flying Tigers of the Detroit organization at 7:05pm. Enjoy fantastic fireworks following the game, so Play Ball! The Mussels & Flying Tigers play on Saturday, June 15 at 6:05pm & Sunday, June 17 at Noon; tickets \$10 to \$17. For details see www.mightymussels.com.

Wednesday, June 19 30/30 with Sue Anderson

@Bay Oaks Recreational Center
Do 30 minutes of Spin then 30 minutes of Body Pump
with Sue every Wednesday at 7:30am. No reservations
necessary; classes cost \$15 with discounts available if you
pre-pay for ten. For information see www.FMBGOV.com.

Thurs., June 20 FMB Chamber

"Business After Hours"

@Braodway Palm Dinner Theater
Join your FMB Chamber friends for a fun time
while enjoying delicious appetizers and a cash bar
from 5:30 to 7pm. Members FREE & \$15 perspective members; see www.fortmyersbeach.org.

Wed., June 26 FMB Community Foundation Happy Hour

@Snug Harbor

The FMB Community Foundation is the island's leading philanthropic organization, so join in on the fun from 5:30 to 7pm; see www.fmbcommunity-foundation.com.



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Fill in any holes dug into the sand, as hatchlings and adult turtles can fall in and die.

IT'S TURTLE TIME!

- By Gary Mooney, Photos by Sandy Sandness -

The all-volunteer non-profit Turtle Time, Inc., begun by Eve Haverfield in 1989, benefits marine turtles on Fort Myers Beach as well as Big Hickory Island and Bonita and Bunche Beaches. Florida's nesting sea turtle season is May 1 through October 31, though Turtle Time in recent years starts their monitoring on April 15 due to environmental changes. Fort Myers Beach is the almost-exclusive domain of Loggerheads, though Turtle Time found its first few documented Green Turtle nests on FMB in the last few years.

The primary bane to nesting turtles and their hatchlings is artificial light from beach properties. Turtles for millennia had quiet dark beaches to themselves, but now compete with businesses and coastal residents. These lights can prevent female turtles from coming ashore or choosing an inferior nesting location from which few hatchlings survive. Lights disorient hatchlings, causing them to move toward that source and away from the Gulf, resulting in death from dehydration, exhaustion, or automobiles. Only 1 to 4 out of every 1,000 survive to adulthood and do not reach maturity for 30 to 50 years, so living nesting sea turtles survive long odds.



Sest Version Media



Only 1 to 4 out of every 1,000 survive to adulthood.

Turtle Time encourages FMB residents to proactively protect sea turtles and hatchlings. Please switch to Amber LED lights that are turtle-friendly, close drapes and blinds after dark, never shine a flashlight or use flash photography on sea turtles, move boats or beach furniture behind beach vegetation nightly, keep dogs on a leash, and fill in any holes dug into the sand as hatchlings and adult turtles can fall in and die. If you accidently hook or catch a sea turtle, or find one in distress or dead, immediately contact Turtle Time at 239-481-5566 or www.turtletime.org, the FWC Hotline at 888-404-3922, or the Town of Fort Myers Beach at 239-765-0202.

Adopt A Nest Program

The Friends of Lovers Key annual fundraiser, "Adopt-A-Nest," gives sponsors the opportunity to symbolically "adopt a nest" during each sea turtle nesting season. Funds raised through "Adopt-A-Nest" assist in providing Lovers Key State Park with the necessary supplies to protect the nests and help pay for other resource management needs within the park. To sponsor a turtle nest at Lovers Key State Park or for more information, see https://friends-of-lovers-key.myshopify.com/products/adopt-a-nest. ■



The Friends of Lovers Key annual fundraiser, "Adopt-A-Nest," gives sponsors the opportunity to symbolically "adopt a nest" during each sea turtle nesting season.





TOP RECENT SALES FOR FORT MYERS BEACH

	CONDOS 3-27-2024 to 4-26-2024						
	Address	Beds/Baths	Sq. Ft.	Sold Price			
	4142 BAY BEACH LN #805	3 Bed/3	2,414	\$2,175,000			
	6620 ESTERO BLVD #301	3 Bed/2	1,626	\$1,046,000			
	4198 BAY BEACH LN #1H5	3 Bed/3	1,837	\$940,000			
100	2800 ESTERO BLVD #303	2 Bed/2	1,116	\$819,000			
	8403 ESTERO BLVD #202	3 Bed/2	1,484	\$790,000			
	4753 ESTERO BLVD #705	2 Bed/2	1,669	\$749,000			
	450 OLD SAN CARLOS BLVD #205	2 Bed/2	782	\$715,000			
i	7148 ESTERO BLVD #320	2 Bed/2	1,318	\$650,000			
	6660 ESTERO BLVD #503	2 Bed/2	1,145	\$645,000			
	6662 ESTERO BLVD #208	2 Bed/2	1,336	\$575,000			
	4331 BAY BEACH LN #651	2 Bed/2	1,244	\$575,000			
	4253 BAY BEACH LN #6E	2 Bed/2	1,024	\$550,000			
	2580 ESTERO BLVD #35	2 Bed/2	1,055	\$530,000			
	7700 ESTERO BLVD #PH3	2 Bed/2	1,063	\$530,000			
i	4321 BAY BEACH LN #621	2 Bed/2	1,244	\$529,900			
	4223 BAY BEACH LN #C4	2 Bed/2	1,142	\$510,000			
	7360 ESTERO BLVD #406	1 Bed/1	517	\$500,001			
	450 OLD SAN CARLOS BLVD #309	1 Bed/1	434	\$500,000			
	22736 ISLAND PINES WAY #103	2 Bed/2	1,073	\$480,000			
	8401 ESTERO BLVD #307	2 Bed/2	1,359	\$450,000			
	400 LENELL RD #708	1 Bed/2	732	\$419,000			
	4265 BAY BEACH LN #722	2 Bed/2	1,055	\$410,000			
	4491 BAY BEACH LN #143	2 Bed/2	997	\$385,000			

CONDOS CONTINUED 3-27-2024 to 4-26-2024

Address	Beds/Baths	Sq. Ft.	Sold Price
400 LENELL RD #106	1 Bed/2	762	\$340,000
200 ESTERO BLVD #P12	1 Bed/1	697	\$330,000
88 BLACKBEARD WAY	2 Bed/2	1,276	\$325,000
200 ESTERO BLVD #P09	1 Bed/1	693	\$325,000
140 ESTERO BLVD #2104	1 Bed/1	383	\$260,000

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES 3-27-2024 TO 4-26-2024							
Address	Beds/Baths	Sq. Ft.	Sold Price				
198 CURLEW ST	5 Bed/4	2,400	\$1,500,000				
155 JEFFERSON ST	3 Bed/2	1,503	\$1,215,000				
17741/17745 SAN CARLOS BLVD	3 Bed/2	1,453	\$850,000				
241 EGRET ST	3 Bed/2	1,640	\$800,000				
191 HIBISCUS DR	3 Bed/2	1,066	\$725,000				

VACANT LOT 3-27-2024 TO 4-26-2024					
Address	Acres	Sold Price			
160 EGRET ST	0.258	\$845,000			
5871 ESTERO BLVD	0.181	\$700,000			
112 HIBISCUS	0.127	\$505,000			
861 OAK ST	0.109	\$250,000			
101 BLACKBEARD WAY	0.074	\$200,000			

Based on information from the Florida Gulf Coast MLS, Inc. for the period 3-27-24 to 4-26-24 for FB01-FB07 • Best Version Media does not guarantee the accuracy of the statistical data on this page. The data does not represent the listings of any one agent or agency but the entire real estate community in the area. Any real estate agent's ad appearing in the magazine is separate from the statistical data provided which is in no way a part of their advertisement.



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FORT MYERS BEACH MARKETS



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