

# Teen Advisory Board looking for new members

If you have a teenager who is looking for something to do, look no further than the library. Our Teen Advisory Board is always looking for new members.

The T.A.B. meets the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. They provide suggestions and ideas for events and programs for teens.

This evening, they will be hosting a Teen Halloween Party for all teens ages 11-18. There will be a costume contest, movies and a scavenger hunt throughout the library and, of course, lots of refreshments.

A signed permission slip is required for attendance. Library staff will be on hand to chaperone.

T.A.B. meetings and programs are sponsored by the Friends of Elsie Quirk Library. For more information about T.A.B. or the Teen Halloween Party stop by

Michele Strickland  
Elsie Quirk Library

the Youth desk or call 941-861-1212.

## Halloween on Dearborn

Don't forget about the 21st Annual Dearborn Street Safewalk on Monday, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. It's a safe and fun way for children to trick-or-treat. Englewood businesses and organizations, including the Friends of the Elsie Quirk Library will be distributing candy to trick-or-treaters along Dearborn Street.

Here's what's happening at the library this week:

**Saturday**  
• The Englewood Pokemon League meets at 2:30 p.m.

• Teen Halloween Party after hours 6-9 p.m. for ages 11-18. Costume contest, movies, games and food. Signed permission slip required.

## Monday

• Forty Carrots Partners in Play at 10:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. For children up to age 5 and their parent or caregiver. This class is a chance for you to be a partner in your child's playtime. Forty Carrots' learning materials give your child a chance to use his motor skills, while you chat with trained parenting educators. Each session is limited to 12 families on a first come, first served basis.

• Monday Night Movie at 5 p.m. In tonight's film two women with guy troubles swap homes in each other's countries, where they each meet a local guy and fall in love. (PG-13, 2hrs. 18 min., 2006)

## Tuesday

• Drop in for the Master Gardener Plant Clinic in partnership with UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 941-861-1307 or visit, <http://sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu/Hort/horthelp.shtml>.

• Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead - SCIENCE. For ages 5-11 at 3:30 p.m. Explore science — learn about scientific principles that are a part of our everyday life. Awesome, exciting, hands-on fun. Registration is limited to 12 participants.

• The Englewood Computer Club meets at 1 p.m.

## Wednesday

• At 10:15 a.m. staff from the Sarasota County Public Utilities Stormwater division will present a Flood Zone Workshop. This workshop is for anyone

who has questions about flood risks, zones, insurance regulations and pending map changes: especially residents, professional lenders, insurance agents and realtors.

• Children ages 5 and up will have lots of fun participating in the LEGO Club 6 to 7:30 p.m. LEGO bricks will be provided. Bring your imagination. Get together with others and share ideas, work as a team together, make new friends. LEGO creations will be on display in the library until the next meeting date. The LEGO Club meets the 1st Wednesday of the month 6-7:30 p.m. and the third Saturday of the month from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

## Thursday

• Family Storytime begins at 10:30 a.m. and is open to ages newborn through 5. Enjoy interacting with your child

by participating in early literacy activities that will include music and movement, books, crafts, and educational activities. This week's theme is "Cool Cats."

• Great Books Discussion Group meets at 10:15 a.m. to discuss "Distributive Justice" by John Rawls.

• The Knitting Club will meet to knit and chat from 1 to 3 p.m.

## Friday

• No library events to report. For more information on library programs, services and resources visit us at 100 W. Dearborn St., call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000, or visit [www.scgov.net/library](http://www.scgov.net/library).

*Michele Strickland is the assistant library manager at Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W. Dearborn St., Englewood. She can be reached at [mstrickland@scgov.net](mailto:mstrickland@scgov.net).*

# Englewood Beach Waterfest starts today with EcoFest

Englewood Beach Waterfest kicks off today with the first of a series of events, EcoFest.

Waterfest is a celebration of our unique water resources and exceptional water-based recreational opportunities. EcoFest takes place today from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Lemon Bay Park in Englewood.

Exhibitors of all kinds line the paths of the park and also inside the nature center building. There are various events and tours taking place throughout the day including a coastal ecology tour with Bill Dunson, music by the Sunshine Blue Grass Pickers, a wading tour,



Englewood Charlotte Library

Lynda Citro

stand up paddleboard demonstrations and more.

You can also get wild with the Shark Brothers, Sean and Brooks Paxton, at 1 p.m. in the center's classroom. Their interactive multimedia presentation highlights our area's shared natural resources and the wealth of nature and wildlife to be enjoyed here. They

are also presenting an exclusive preview of their new show.

Sean and Brooks work in North Port on the Myakka River. Their specialty is putting together shows about wildlife, ecotourism, history, marine life and sharks. They have also done live broadcasts from some extreme locations like shipwrecks and coral reefs. They have been featured on the Discovery Channel during Shark Week and other local and national networks such as NBC, PBS and The Weather Channel.

Come on down to EcoFest to learn more about the nature and

wildlife in our area. I'll be there with some library information and a few fun Halloween-themed crafts for all ages inside the nature center.

The next event in the Waterfest lineup is Paddlefest on Nov. 11-13. The fun starts Friday night at Hooked on SUP at the Cape Haze Marina. A pool party, shrimp boil, outdoor games and a movie is free with your race registration or \$5 per person in advance, \$8 at the door — kids 10 and under are free. Saturday is a full day of racing at Englewood Beach and Sunday is "Sandbar Sunday" at the Stump Pass sandbar. For more information on the Paddlefest

events and how to register, go to [englewoodbeachwaterfest.com](http://englewoodbeachwaterfest.com) and click on events.

Waterfest continues on Nov. 18 with a big Block Party on Dearborn Street. Dearborn Street will be lined with race boats to hype up the excitement for the boat races the next day. The super boats will line up at 5 p.m., and the crews welcome your questions, along with signing autographs.

In the park there will be music, food and drinks along with vendors. Everyone is welcome to this free event to kick off Racefest. The main event takes place on Nov. 19-20, the World Championship

for the Offshore Powerboat Association (OPA) at Englewood Beach.

With an expected attendance of over 40 boats running at speeds up to and over 130 mph, it's guaranteed to be exciting. Visit their website for more information about tickets, parking and vendors.

Be sure to plan ahead to get out in your community to enjoy this terrific event!

*The Englewood-Charlotte Library is located at 3450 N. Access Road, in the Tringali Recreation Complex off South McCall Road.*

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### Garden Club Plant and Craft Boutique Pre-sale

Lemon Bay Garden Club will conduct a Plant and Craft Boutique pre-sale prior to the Annual Garden Tour. The non-admission-fee pre-sale will be 9 a.m. to noon Nov. 17 at the Clubhouse, 480 Yale St., Englewood. Shop in the garden center for native Florida plants propagated by our members. The Clubhouse offers unique

handcrafted items and beautiful handmade cards. Purchase tickets for a chance to win one of nine raffle baskets, which will be awarded at our Garden Fair on Nov. 19. Profits from the sales support community projects, the environment and school programs.

Tickets for the Annual Garden Tour held on Nov. 18 and Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. are available for a \$15 donation per person. The Fall Harvest Luncheon or box

luncheon tickets are \$10. For information, call Rose Sheedy at 941-276-1798 or Cheryl Tomasi at 941-882-2041.

### 20 Restaurants Under One Roof

Englewood's Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast will unveil its major charity event Nov. 12 called Chefs Cooking For Kids. Twenty area restaurants and chefs will be on hand to offer their specialty

dishes, including appetizers, entrees and desserts before what is hoped to be a full house at the Englewood Event Center, 3069 S. McCall Road, Englewood. Doors open at 6 p.m. Musical entertainment will be provided by "Seasons of Sound" and Joyce Jenkins & Doug White. A silent auction will be offered with many valuable items donated by area merchants. Tickets are \$35. For more information and to order tickets,

please email Bridget Jaramillo at [bjaramillo@bbbssun.org](mailto:bjaramillo@bbbssun.org), or call her at 941-408-4009. More than 100 school-age kids in the Englewood area, many at risk, will be the beneficiaries.

### Men's Senior Softball

Open practice sessions for Men's Senior Softball are 8:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the adult fields at the Englewood Sports

Complex, 1300 S. River Road, Englewood. The league starts in January and runs through March. There are two divisions, Gold (over 60) and Silver (over 67). You are encouraged to come out to practice, meet the players, sharpen your softball skills and have some fun. Registration forms are available at the Englewood Sports Complex office building. Visit [englewoodseniorsoftball.weebly.com](http://englewoodseniorsoftball.weebly.com) or call 941-460-9645.

## ENERGY

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is important to run it as energy efficient as possible," Bacon said. "We are expecting a five-year payback for the investment. The return on the investment is the savings from the electric bill and the federal tax credits."

Besides supervising the installation of the solar panels, Commercial Energy Systems analyzed Bacon Furniture's energy usage, reviewed tax advantages and gave Bacon recommendations on how to see the return on his investment.

Bacon is pleased and

said, "We would recommend them for any solar installation."

Generally, solar panels average 36 inches by 70 inches, depending upon the wattage and roof space, Wolff said. Depending on the model and other factors, they are designed as 250-to-300-watt panels. The cost averages \$2.50 a watt to install, Wolff said.

But what will significantly reduce the energy costs for a business depends upon the specific circumstances and results of an energy audit, Huff suggested. The goal is to reduce monthly energy costs as close to zero as possible.

"The bottom line, the

morning, it's likely you can still find Irene and her friends there. Irene calls it "Cottage." The ladies will sit around the tables, maybe doing some quilting, others doing some sewing, knitting, crocheting or needlepoint. Some just come to chat and enjoy the company of others.

Is there anything they won't be talking about?

"No politics," Irene says. "That's the rule!"

important thing, about what we do is that when we come in and recommend all these improvements, your first question is 'how do I pay for that?'" Huff said. "We're basically taking your monthly electric expense and leveraging that to pay for the improvements."

Commercial Energy also works with clients to garner federal tax credits and any other tax breaks or rebates available.

Bacon recommended, "Each company has to look at their situation and determine if this investment gives their business the energy savings and tax advantages for them to run a profitable business."

For more information, visit [commercialenergysystemsllc.com](http://commercialenergysystemsllc.com) or call 941-548-4474.

Email: [reilly@sun-herald.com](mailto:reilly@sun-herald.com)

SUN PHOTO BY MONICA AMAYA

**Greg Main, IT chief for Bacon's Furniture poses with Caryn Huff, of Commercial Energy Systems, at Commercial Energy Systems in Englewood. The furniture store in Murdock is being fitted with solar panels to help with energy costs.**



## CHRIS

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is Nov. 15 by my calendar — at about 9:30 a.m. The Sunshine Quilt Guild is up and running for the season, and there are about 80-90 active members once things really get rolling.

If you drop by St. David's on an off-week and it's a Tuesday