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ARTS & ANTIQUES
Dr. Lori

Are you silver savvy?

Silver is a commonly used precious metal. It may be found in everything from 18th century tea services to contemporary Native American jewelry. Even Olympic medals are made of silver with a gold overlay. A few common terms regarding the popular metal will provide assistance when evaluating pieces on the art and antiques market.

The term sterling describes metal that contains 925 parts per 1,000 parts silver and 75 parts of another metal, usually for strength or durability. According to the Federal Trade Commission's jewelry guidelines, any item marked "silver" must have the properties of sterling silver.

In addition to jewelry, other pieces of sterling silver must be clearly marked. There are a few commonly used marks for sterling including word sterling spelled out, a lion passant symbol which is a figure of a lion facing left, or the number 925. All of these marks indicate quality.

Tips for polishing

During an appraisal event, I met an audience member who told me that her mother used to punish her and her siblings by making them polish the family silver when they stepped out of line. The good news is you don't have to polish your silver as often as you think. Silver should not be excessively polished as abrasive polishing can scratch off a layer of the precious metal damaging the integrity and quality of the object. So, if you have silver, don't be overzealous when polishing it. Consider only polishing your silver about once or twice a year.

Coin silver is metal that contains 900 parts per 1,000 parts silver and 100 parts of another metal. Sometimes, this silver is called coin because, in Native American wares, makers melted down pre-1900 era coins to make silver jewelry. This practice was done prior to having the ability to obtain commercially-made sheet silver.

German silver, also known as nickel silver, refers to metal that is 600 parts per 1,000 copper, 200 parts zinc, and 200 parts nickel. By definition, no metal item should be called silver unless it has at least 900 parts per 1,000 parts silver.

Lastly, liquid (or drawn) silver references the manner in which sterling sheet silver is rolled and pulled through a drawplate. Most liquid silver is manufactured.

Tea pots and trays

When it comes to col-

▪ see **Savvy**, on **2B**

Some (people who opposed the project) worry that a public boat ramp would bring undesirables that might not be appreciate of the originality of the fishing village that is Goodland.

CLINT PERRYMAN, Collier County Coastal Zone



KEVIN MERRITT SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE (2)

The Goodland Boat Ramp is strategically located near the Ten Thousand Islands and the Everglades National Park, offering a closer access point to boaters.



GLENN WALTON SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE

Fishing village gets new Gulf access

Goodland Boat Park officially opened, garners community support

By Kevin Merritt
Special to the Eagle

Officials and local residents breathed a collective sigh of relief on Thursday when they gathered at the new Goodland Boat Park. The casual gathering happened the night before the ramp officially opened for business.

The Goodland Boat Park was slated to open nearly a year ago however geotechnical issues prevented plans for the 5.22-acre boat ramp project from moving forward.

"Unforeseen site conditions that prevented an earlier opening date included unsuitable soil conditions than previously anticipated," said Clint Perryman of Collier County Coastal Zone. "We had to bring in organics and crushed rock to get optimal conditions and overcome other challenges."

Several Goodland residents attended in support of the ramp's opening, but the project wasn't always met with positive response from the small waterfront community.

"We initially had some opposition on both sides — a true democratic process," said Perryman. "On a percentage basis we had about 70 percent for and 30 percent against the project because people were worried about increased traffic, a change in status of the fishing community and some worry that



Director of Parks and Recreation Barry William, left, discusses the Goodland Boat Park with Goodland resident Emilee Lake and Clint Perryman of Collier County Coastal Zone at an informal meeting in Goodland on Thursday. The meeting precluded the opening of the park.

a public boat ramp would bring undesirables that might not be appreciate of the originality of the fishing village that is Goodland."

Perryman said because there are no sidewalks throughout the building areas local residents were

concerned about foot traffic.

"We showed an original concept that showed concrete for which we got a lot of opposition," said Perryman. However, those plans were altered to provide for grass pavers. Grass pavers are a percolating tool

that helps achieve better storm water management.

Residents have responded to the idea of the boat ramp and several came to the social to show their

▪ see **Gulf**, on **3B**

Cheat sheet for yard maintenance in August



GARDENING
Eileen Ward

August is here and temperatures this month will have highs of about 90 to 95 degrees and lows in the mid-70s. With more than eight inches of rain so far, this is typically one of the wettest and most humid months of the year.

Keep in mind that though it may be a wet month, transpiration is very high during the hot weather. Transpiration is a plant process in which water is absorbed by the roots, passed through the vascular system and exited from the plant into the atmosphere. It is a process which cools the plant much like perspiration cools us. This means lawns and plants need large quantities of water more frequently in the hot summer. So be alert for signs of insufficient water between rain showers and use your sprinklers as needed to avoid damage. (Follow all water conservation recommendations.)

Mosquitoes have been in the news lately as carriers of several serious diseases. Encephalitis, West Nile Virus and Dengue Fever. While this has not been a bad year as far as mosquito populations are concerned, any mosquito bite could mean trouble. With a lot of rain the mosquitoes normally increase in numbers. It is very important for everyone to check around your home or business where water collects as you may be raising mosquitoes.

Get rid of old tires, buckets and other containers, or you keep them empty of water. Repair leaky outside faucets and move air-conditioner drain hoses frequently to avoid damp soil. Also change and scrub bird baths or watering pans for pets at least twice a week.

All of the mosquito species require water for breeding. Mosquito larvae are not adapted to life in moving waters so circulating ponds should not be a problem. They occur instead in quiet water.

Since half of Florida's land area is subject to flooding, mosquitoes breed in large numbers here. Mosquitoes do not breed in the heavy undergrowth of weeds or shrubs. Although these places offer excellent refuge for adults as anyone



gardening can attest, they do not provide a suitable habitat for mosquito larvae. In addition to freshwater mosquitoes, we are surrounded by mangrove islands which is a great breeding ground for the saltwater mosquito.

The wet weather of August also provides ideal conditions for the growth of fungi. Root rot, leaf spot, stem rots and rust are a few disease problems on lawns and shrubs which are fueled by the heavy rains. Remove diseased leaves and stems from the garden and apply a fungicide to prevent fungus from infecting healthy tissue. And, remember to clean your pruning tools with a mild bleach solution to prevent spreading disease while cutting healthy tissue with those same tools. Take-all patch is a serious lawn disease which can cause your lawn to melt away with the heavy rains.

Caterpillars are around in great numbers this year. Doug Caldwell of the University of Florida Extension Office reported large numbers of sod webworm attacking St. Augustine lawns in Naples and now a caterpillar is defoliating royal poinciana trees in Goodland. Stinging caterpillars are also probably around right now. Several varieties of stinging caterpillars can be found on shrubs and trees including the I.O., saddleback, puss and hag. The sting comes from the spines on their backs which are connected to poison glands.

Their sting is extremely painful and can cause severe allergic reaction in susceptible people. These caterpillars can be controlled with Thuricide or Seven.

Scales and whiteflies are also active on ornamentals causing sooty mold. Treat with horticultural oil, Merritt or Tempo for control. Chinch bugs, sod webworms and grubs can

all damage your St. Augustine lawn this month. Treat as needed with Tempo or other products labeled as effective on chinch bugs, Dylox for grubs and Dipel for the sod webworms.

If you see a white web on the branches and trunks of your trees, don't be alarmed. It is a psocid, a tiny insect that feeds on the algae on the trunks of many trees. They spin the web for protection from those August rain showers. There is no need to treat for this problem.

It is best not to fertilize your lawn in August. If you feel you must fertilize St. Augustine use an organic such as milorganite or iron for a greener color. Do not use a high nitrogen fertilizer now as it will fuel bug and disease problems. It can also make the lawn more susceptible to water stress which can be a problem in high times of high transpiration as the rapidly growing grass requires larger quantities of water.

When there have been heavy rains the acid loving plants like ixora, gardenia and azalea could use a feeding this month to carry them through their blooming period. Don't forget to feed rose bushes regularly as well. A good nutritional spray can be helpful for all your plants at this time. Nutritional sprays translocate directly through the leaves and so avoids the problem of leaching through the soil which can occur with heavy rains.

The last pruning of the poinsettias must be done before September if there are to be flowers in December for the holiday season. You should also not do any more severe pruning of gardenias beyond August as you will remove the old growth required for flowers in the spring.

Prepare your flower and vegetable beds for fall planting. Rid the site of nematodes and disease

"I am excited to utilize the new ramp," said local fishing guide Capt. Andy Werner. "It will ease some of the pressure and weekend traffic from the other ramps around Marco."

Director of Parks and Recreation Barry Williams predicts the boat ramp will contribute to the quality of life in Goodland and Collier County overall because of its convenient proximity to so many popular local fishing and boating destinations.

"With this boat ramp opening we're really turning the corner of meeting the needs of reaching 25,000 registered voters in Collier County," said Williams.

The new boat park was designed in the style of Old Florida. The main building features a wrap-around porch and observation deck looking out upon Coon Key Pass. There are two retention areas on each end of the property and a covered picnic area for events. The park also features a meeting room for educational events, clubs

and other miscellaneous usage. The Goodland Park Boat Ramp has a fishing pier and observation deck, fish cleaning station and will soon sell tackle, ice and refreshments along with other items for a day on the water.

"Goodland folks were concerned about the ramp at first, but now they seem very excited about this being here and open," said Williams. "We worked closely with them and have had multiple neighborhood meetings and that's helped, so now we feel like many are our friends on this project."

There are 28 wet slips that will be offered on a first come first serve basis.

"We've have received inquiries about the boat slips and expect them to be at a premium because the ramp is a straight shot to the Gulf of Mexico," said Perryman.

Info: visit Collier County Parks and Recreation department's website at www.colliergov.net or call (239) 252-4000.

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November.

It is unbearably hot out there in the garden but you need to put on a good hat and your sun screen and stay on top of your gardening or the bugs, diseases and weeds will take over.

Eileen Ward and her husband, Peter, own and oper-

ate Greensward of Marco Inc., a lawn maintenance and landscaping company. Besides completing horticultural courses from the University of Florida, she has a commercial maintenance spray license and is a registered dealer in agricultural products in Florida.

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WEDNESDAY ART WALK!

HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, August 25th 5pm - 8pm

THEME INTERPRETATIONS BY ARTIST COLONY

Walk through the Artist Colony at the Esplanade and vote on the creative interpretations of this month's theme for a "People's Choice Award." Enjoy Artistic Specials by CJ's ON THE BAY, TARA'S STEAK & LOBSTER HOUSE, STARBUCK'S, STONE COLD CREAMERY AND RICK'S ISLAND SALON.

NEXT ART WALK - SEPTEMBER 29TH!

Look forward to our next month's theme "Almost Autumn," as well as new interpretations and specials.

16 ARTISTS IN 3 LOCATIONS

PORTSIDE Studio

740 North Collier Blvd., #109-10

CAROLYN BURGER

Colorful Impressionism

INEZ HUDSON - Colorful Realism

SANDY MOORE HOWE

Clay Artist

Rightside Studios

760 North Collier Blvd., #103-4

DARREN CLACK - Concrete Artist

BOB FREITOLOSO - Stone Sculpture

BETTY NEWMAN - Exotic Bold Contemporary

TARA O'NEILL - Village Views

JO-ANN SANBORN - Everglades Artist

Waterfront Studios & Gallery

Around the corner from CJ's on the Bay

740 North Collier Blvd., #101 - www.WaterfrontStudiosGallery.com

TONY DALLMANN-JONES - Abstract Expressions

TRACY GUDGEL - Unique Photography & Jewelry

WILLIAM WARD MOSELEY, AIA - Landscapes & Abstracts

MAGGIE DEMARCO - Impressionistic Realism

CAROLYN MACANDREW - Decorative Artist

CLAIRE KEERY - Collage Assemblage

PHYLLIS PRANSKY - Opalescent Landscapes

PAT PERROTTI - Vibrant Florals

www.MARCOIslandArtistColony.com

Gulf

Continued from 1B

support.

"I've lived here for 13 years this time around and lived in Goodland as a teenager," said Goodland resident Emilee Lake. "I'm really happy about this boat park, because it really enhances the value of my home." Lake says she's excited about what the park will bring to the area.

The Goodland community has a small group of restaurants, all of which stand to benefit from the extra traffic generated by the boat ramp which is strategically located in close proximity to the Ten Thousand Islands and Everglades National Park. The new boat ramp puts Collier County boaters five miles closer to the Everglades than Caxambas Park Marina, which is located on the southwestern tip of Marco Island.

Several area fishing guides are also glad the ramp is finally open.