



PHOTO BY KEVIN MERRITT

Paddlers on the Great Calusa Blueway.

Calusa
continued from 4B

become an economical way to get up close and personal with nature.

“The whole family can get involved in kayaking and it’s a great sport for a sluggish economy,” he said.

Another popular segment of the Great Calusa Blueway festival is the “Shooting the Blueway” third annual photo contest which began in March and ends during the festival. Entries can include photos shot along the Calusa Blueway canoe and kayak trail. Prizes will be awarded at the Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival in November.

Photographers can compete in three categories. They include paddlers on the trail, nature photography and signs on the Blueway. The later should feature Calusa Blueway markers, access points and fun spots. Prizes include an enlarged, matted and framed version of their photo and possible publication in various magazines, newspapers and online. Contest organizers will recognize “Shooting the Blueway” winners and runners-up on the final Saturday of the Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival. There is no fee to enter the contest, although participants must include their name, address, phone number, e-mail address, title and location of their photo. Each participant can submit up to three photos. The deadline to submit photos

is October 1, 2010. Participants must e-mail their photos to BClayton@LeeGov.com by the deadline for consideration. Judges will include Cape Coral artist and kayaker Jeannette Chupack, Fort Myers photo artist and author Mark Renz and newspaper photographer Andrew West of The News-Press.

Attendees can attend the Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival on two separate weekends. The first part of the festival is from October 29 through November 1 and the second part of the festival is from November 4 through November 7.

Paddlers can access free maps and GPS coordinates online at the Great Calusa Blueway website along with a list of put-in sites, boat rental resources and guided tours. Guided moonlight trips, ghost tours, eco-trips and fishing adventures are a just a few things many outfitters offer. Outfitters can be found all along the trail from Pine Island Sound to Estero Bay and the Caloosahatchee River and its tributaries. On any given tour, paddlers can expect to come upon all types of avian and water wildlife such as dolphins, manatees, sea turtles, game fish and river otters.

For more information on the Great Calusa Blueway, click to CalusaBlueway.com. For more information on the Calusa Blueway Paddling Festival, click to CalusaBluewayPaddlingFestival.com.



PHOTO BY KEVIN MERRITT

Hickory Bait and Tackle in Estero.

Old Florida alive and well at Hickory Bait and Tackle

KEVIN MERRITT
Banner Correspondent

Nestled among the mangroves, just a short drive from busy Coconut Point in Estero, stands one of the last remaining bastions of old Florida waterfront fish camps. Hickory Bait and Tackle is the only public boat launch remaining on the east side of Estero Bay. The marina draws local boaters and visitors alike, courtesy of its authentic landscape and commitment to preserving rustic traditions of life on the water.

Long before high-rise real estate dotted the eastern shore of Estero bay, the area harbored a rich tradition of commercial fishing. The spirit of career watermen can still be found at the fully functioning marina thanks to owner and operator Captain Dave Lanier.

“I have tried to preserve a way of life that has stood on this property for a long time,” said Lanier, who can often be found toiling over the meticulous construction of commercial blue crab traps. He makes and sells traps for stone and blue crab, pinfish and also bait cages.

The Weeks family originally owned the property but it eventually changed

hands and landed with Lanier three years ago. Since then he has made many improvements. Some of those changes have included a kayak launch and rentals for people who choose paddle power, wet slips and dry storage. Lanier has a background in law enforcement, so it’s no surprise that the entire operation remains secure via video surveillance.

Lanier’s background in regional law enforcement and a stint with the United Nations Police seems a stark contrast to the man that can be found drinking rich Cuban coffee or enjoying a fine cigar in the shade of his marina. But Lanier is every bit a waterman. Hidden behind sun squinted eyes is an intimacy with the waters of Estero Bay that translates itself into a peaceful, laid back lifestyle.

“I sometimes miss the adrenaline rush, but I certainly don’t mind the relaxed atmosphere here,” said Lanier. “After many years in an adversarial type occupation, I was ready for this lifestyle.”

Hickory Bait and Tackle appears allergic to the stresses, hustle and bustle of a typical marina. Patrons

■ see **Hickory** on 12B

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BONITA SPRINGS

Citizen of the Year

NOMINEE'S NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

BUSINESS (IF APPLICABLE) _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

YEARS ACTIVE IN BONITA SPRINGS? _____

Please provide a brief description of the nominee’s business and civic accomplishments and why this nominee should be the 2010 Bonita Springs Citizen of the Year.

NOMINATOR'S NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

- Nomination Criteria for 2010 Bonita Citizen of the Year**
- Nominee must have lived in Lee/Collier County for at least 5 years.
 - Can be currently employed or retired.
 - Nominee needs to demonstrate commitment to the community relative to this past year.
 - Nomination forms must be fully completed and returned no later than 5 pm on Friday, September 10.
- For your convenience we have 3 ways you can submit your nomination.
- Submit form online at naplesnews.com/BonitaCitizen
 - Fax Nomination Forms to: 239-213-6096
Attn: Vince Modarelli
 - Mail Nominations to:
Bonita Citizen of the Year Attn: Vince Modarelli
Bonita Daily News
26381 S. Tamiami Trail, Suite 116 Bonita Springs, FL 34134

The 2010 Bonita Citizen of the Year will be recognized at the Bonita Springs Chamber Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 30.

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Hickory

continued from 5B

always stop for a short chat to get the scoop on the latest local fishing or to inquire about other happenings.

"Fish tales are free," says employee and charter guide Darrol Deter.

Though Hickory Bait and Tackle is all about tradition and nostalgia, Lanier sees to it that his marina features all the modern conveniences. Ethanol free fuel is available.

"Ethanol, since being added to fuel has wreaked havoc with boat engines, so we felt it was a nice addition to offer ethanol free fuel," says Lanier, who also offers WIFI on premises and has a regular following of people who come to just hang out near the water and get some work done. Boater and fireman David Torquino frequents Hickory Bait and tackle with his family.

"I love this place, it has such a homey feel and I am all for supporting local small businesses," said Torquino.

All you need for a day on the water can be found in Lanier's office. Fishing tackle is limited to only what one truly needs for fishing in Estero Bay. Live shrimp and pinfish are sold as are frozen baits. One of Lanier's objectives is to provide a one-stop-shop for anyone embarking on a waterborne adventure in Estero Bay.

Estero Bay and the marina can boast abundant wildlife. Manatees, every imaginable Southwest Florida wading bird, eagles, osprey and hawks all bask in Hickory Bait and Tackle's laid back attitude. An early morning departure and a sharp eye could



PHOTO BY KEVIN MERRITT
Hickory Bait and Tackle's Dave Lanier.

result in glimpses of the rare pair of bobcats that lurk the area. Tripod and Elvis, a local duo of alligators, also occasionally make an appearance. Some sizable snook and tarpon await the morning shrimp tank cleaning in order to snatch a free meal.

Lanier offers charter fishing for both families and serious anglers along with eco tours and sunset cruises. Hardcore fisherman can also be found frequenting the marina and several tournaments are held there each year.

But perhaps the most popular gatherings of Hickory Bait and Tackle fans are the quarterly barbecues.

"We try to have a customer appreciation day where we smoke ribs and cook local seafood," said Lanier, who sees the cookouts as an opportunity to give back to the community. "We usually donate the proceedings from our cookouts to various charities."



PHOTO BY KEVIN MERRITT
Blue crab traps for sale at Hickory Bait and Tackle in Estero.



PHOTO BY KEVIN MERRITT
The Torquino family heads out on fishing trip from Hickory Bait and Tackle in Estero.

PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Any — in a storm
- 5 Hummus, e.g.
- 8 Watch chains
- 12 Burn slightly
- 13 Eggs
- 14 Melville opus
- 15 — qua non
- 16 Knowledgeable (hyph.)
- 18 Gawkers
- 20 Cousin's mother
- 21 Myrna of old movies
- 22 Modern-day teller
- 23 Deal with a knot
- 26 Follows, as advice (2 wds.)
- 29 Oodles
- 30 Leg joint
- 31 Tease
- 33 Coll. credits
- 34 Make smooth
- 35 Repudiate

- 36 Geronimo's tribe
- 38 Sweeper
- 39 Wimple wearer
- 40 Custodian's need
- 41 Volvo rival
- 43 Applied gold leaf
- 46 Wrapped up
- 48 Pamplona shouts
- 50 Grades 1-12
- 51 Et, for Hans
- 52 Hi or bye
- 53 Two fives for —
- 54 "Recent" prefix
- 55 Mr. Malden

DOWN

- 1 Floppy takers
- 2 17th state
- 3 Chimed
- 4 Vine support
- 5 Bride's portion
- 6 Folk singer

D	A	T	A	R	O	E	L	O	O	M	
R	E	A	D	U	R	N	G	A	L	A	
A	R	I	D	M	A	G	N	E	T	I	C
M	O	L	E	S	T	A	E	H	O	E	
				R	E	N	E	G	E	D	
U	H	F	R	U	S	E	E	P	I	C	
M	A	L	I	G	N	F	R	O	D	O	
P	H	O	N	E	R	I	N	G	E	R	
S	A	P	S	C	H	I	N	O	A	K	
				T	R	O	O	P	E	R	
L	E	S	H	A	N	D	O	W	N	S	
O	U	T	F	O	X	E	D	K	O	O	L
F	R	E	E	E	S	E	E	R	G	O	
T	O	M	E	S	T	A	R	E	S	T	

Answers from 8/21

- 7 Chum
- 8 On-line features
- 9 Comet, to an ancient
- 10 Gravy dish
- 11 Put down turf
- 17 Java buy
- 19 Want-ad letters
- 22 Did well
- 23 Snort of disgust
- 24 Director Ephron
- 25 Recipe amt.
- 26 Murray or Rice
- 27 Layered cookie
- 28 Billionth, in combos
- 30 Actress Madeline
- 32 Prom locale
- 34 Diver's gear
- 35 Ship repair site (2 wds.)
- 37 Darth's real name
- 38 — Paese cheese
- 40 Buster
- 41 Season
- 42 Post-workout feeling
- 43 Chromosome unit
- 44 Lamb's pen name
- 45 Treasured
- 46 Early veggie
- 47 Rifle, e.g.
- 49 Note before la

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16			17			
	18			19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	
29				30				31	32	
33			34				35			
	36		37				38			
			39			40				
	41	42			43			44	45	
46				47			48			49
50				51			52			
53				54			55			

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SUDOKU

	6	1		2				
			7	4		1		
5					1	9		
9		4			3			
3	5						7	8
	8							
	2			6				
	9		5			4		
			3	2				9

8	3	5	6	2	7	4	1	9
7	9	1	3	8	4	2	5	6
6	4	2	5	9	1	8	7	3
1	6	9	4	5	3	7	2	8
4	7	8	9	6	2	1	3	5
2	5	3	1	7	8	6	9	4
5	8	6	2	1	9	3	4	7
9	2	4	7	3	6	5	8	1
3	1	7	8	4	5	9	6	2

Answers from 8/21

Level: Intermediate

How it works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Notebook

continued from 11B

PLEIN AIR PAINTING GROUP

The First Community Bank of Bonita Springs at 28235 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs, has donated the lobby area to the Plein Air Painting Group of Bonita Springs to display their works of art. Stop in and enjoy a cup of coffee and cookies as you browse the wonderful works of watercolor, pastels, oils and acrylic.

ROTARY CLUB OF BONITA SPRINGS NOON

Rotary International, a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations and promoting good will and peace throughout the world. Info: bonitaspringsnoonrotary.org

SAN CARLOS PARK/ESTERO KIWANIS CLUB

Meets for breakfast at 7 a.m. every Thursday at the Talk of the Town in San Carlos Park. Info: 267-9777 or 267-7525.

SINGLES DIRECTION

Meets monthly for dinner programs and outings for singles of Bonita, 50

years and older focused on Christian fellowship. Meetings are held at First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs, 9751 Bonita Beach Road. Info: 495-1744.

SINGLES BLESSING SINGLES

Singles Blessing Singles of Bonita Springs has been suspended until further notice. Info: (239) 947-6016.

SONS OF NORWAY

Sons of Norway Gulf Coast Vikings of Estero Lodge 683 welcomes guests, new members and especially children. We meet at the Breckenridge Club House in Estero. Info: (239) 947-0100.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA VESPA CLUB

All club events are open to all scooter riders. Many of our members own: Vespa, Aprilia, Kymco, Cushman, Motofino, Suzuki, Piaggio and Honda scooters. The club provides an organized outlet for local scooter owners to share their experiences. Info: scooteratz@yahoo.com.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

Widows and Widowers Association, a group of women and men who have lost their loved one and want to share

friendship and fun together, meet regularly. Info: (239) 331-8893 or (239) 591-2984.

WOOD CARVERS

Bonita Wood Carvers meet weekly throughout the year on Wednesday afternoons at the Estero Community & Recreation Center. Instruction is available for beginners and advanced carvers enhance their skills during the regular club sessions. Info: Lynn Sheeley, (239) 482-6822.

ZONTA CLUB OF BONITA SPRINGS

The Zonta Club of Bonita Springs is an organization of business and professional women dedicated to improving the circumstances of women at all stages of life, both locally and globally. The Club meets the third Wednesday of the month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Spanish Wells Golf & Country Club. Info: (239) 434-5134 or e-mail zonta@comcast.net.

Notebook items must be submitted to bannereditor@The-Banner.com by 5 p.m. Thursdays for the following Wednesday edition, and 5 p.m. Tuesdays for the following Saturday.

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