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A Community #ForAllAges

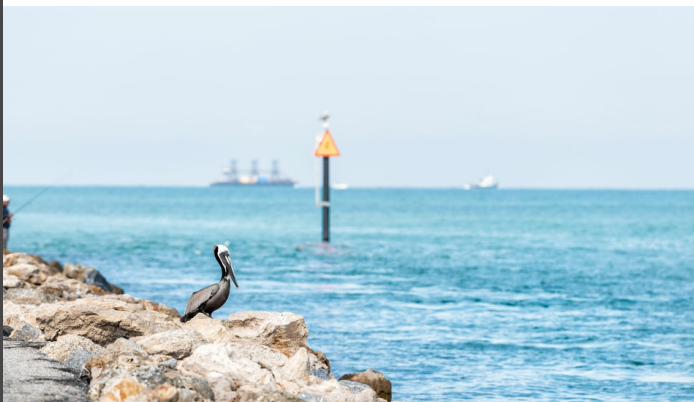
February 2022



## The Sarasota County Fair

The [Sarasota County Fair](#) will be in full swing from March 18-27, 2022, at the Sarasota Fairgrounds located off Fruitville Road. Admission for those 55 & over is \$6.00, with free parking on the fairgrounds.

[A History of the Fair](#)



## BIG News!

The Sarasota County Aging Network and Manatee County Aging Network have merged! These two local non-profit support and resource organizations have joined forces to create the [Suncoast Aging Network](#). The term "stronger together" has been linked to the International Olympic Committee, Pepsi, and even a presidential campaign, and it is a fitting theme for the collective experience and leadership of these two organizations.

With the combined experience of over 140 organizations dedicated to helping older adults thrive, we can anticipate even more great things to come.

**The purpose is to educate the community about available resources, analyze the aging population's needs, identify resources to meet these needs, and advocate for solutions for unmet needs and gaps.**

Membership runs the gamut from home health agencies to living solutions, care management, legal services, county and state programs, real estate and moving specialists, financial services, and much more.

These organizations separately offer

## City of Venice 2023 Calendar Photo Contest

The City of Venice is holding its second annual photography contest for their annual calendar that showcases the beauty and charm of the “City of the Gulf.”

The calendar showcases beautiful photographs and information for residents and visitors on the City Council and advisory board meetings, special events, the city map, and more.

There is a limited run of 5,000 calendars distributed free to citizens at the end of the year. Fifteen photos will be selected with printing and distribution in December 2022.

Entries must be received by Friday, July 15, 2022.

[Please visit the City of Venice website for more information about the calendar photo contest rules.](#)

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## World Poetry Day

Are you ready for an opportunity to engage your mind, explore feelings, and express yourself? On March 22, we celebrate World Poetry Day. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization first adopted World Poetry Day in 1999. The UNESCO describes it as a day to honor poets, revive poetry recitals, promote the reading, writing, and teaching of poetry, and foster the convergence between poetry and other arts such as theater, dance, music, and painting.

Who of us has not read Sonnet 18 by Shakespeare, She Walks in Beauty by Lord Byron, Sonnet 43 by Elizabeth Barrett Browning, or more contemporary offerings such as Phenomenal Woman by Maya Angelou, and The Hill We Climb by Amanda Gorman.

grants to support local non-profit organizations that provide valuable services to older adults in our communities.



[Consider a Membership](#)



## Legacy Trail Update

Segments 1 and 2 of The Legacy Trail extension from Culverhouse Nature Park to Bahia Vista Street are now open, and so is the Ashton Trailhead at 4301 Ashton Road. Two additional trailheads off Webber Street and Pompano Avenue are still under construction. The extension will create nearly 30 miles of continuous non-motorized paved multi-use trail with access to local neighborhoods.

Poetry is practiced in every culture and speaks to our common humanity and shared values.

Here are a few simple no or low-cost ways to connect with poetry:

- Check out a book of poetry from your local library
- Begin or end a virtual meeting with a poem
- Organize a poetry reading with friends/family in person or virtually
- Donate books of poetry to a local lending library
- Try your hand at writing a poem
- Recall and read some of your favorite poems from your childhood/youth
- [Listen/view The Poetry Hour here](#)

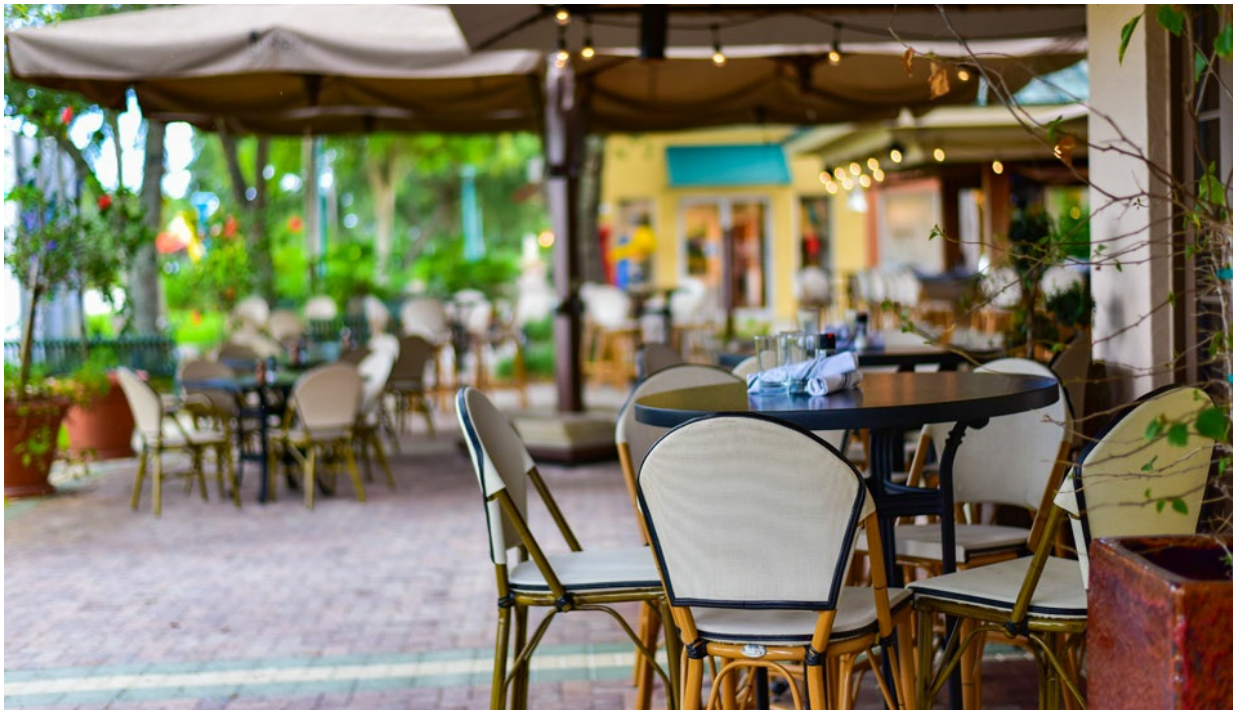
Additionally, the Florida Department of Transportation has approved two new pedestrian overpasses at Bee Ridge and Clark roads and will begin design, construction, and bidding soon.

[Learn more about how to use the new road crossings.](#)

[Sign up for updates on the Legacy Trail Project.](#)

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## Make your Voice Heard



The city has tasked [Kimley-Horn](#) to reimagine Boulevard of the Arts (from Sarasota Bay to Orange Avenue) and 10th Street (from U.S. 41 to Orange Avenue). The [online survey](#) is the first of several opportunities to gather citizen input that can be incorporated into the conceptual design.

The survey takes about 5-10 minutes to complete and is available at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BotA\\_10thSt](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BotA_10thSt). It will close at 5 p.m. on Feb. 28.

For more information, contact Transportation Planner Corinne Tucker at [Corinne.tucker@sarasotaFL.gov](mailto:Corinne.tucker@sarasotaFL.gov) or 941-263-6362.

Rosemary Park: Three concept designs for a new park to be located at Boulevard of the Arts and Central Avenue in the Rosemary District are now available for review and public input:

- A – Urban
- B – Artful
- C – Tranquil

The city's design team created the concepts with Kimley-Horn based on initial input from the community. Now, feedback is encouraged as the design process continues.

You're invited to take a [short survey](#) and share your thoughts on the three concepts. The survey is open through Feb. 25.



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