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What To Do the week of Dec. 27, 2021-Jan. 2, 2022

Each Monday, the <u>Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB)</u> lets you know What To Do in Lee County.

**Let us know:** Events, along with high-res images, can be submitted for consideration by emailing **Jackie Parker**, VCB communications manager. Deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday before the week of publication. Thank you!

**NEW! QR CODE FLYER (click to print and display)** 

WHAT TO DO EVENTS LISTING (click to print)

**FARMERS MARKETS (click to print)** 

**CRAFT BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES (click to print)** 



## Monday, Dec. 27

**Chair Yoga for Every Body, Alliance for the Arts, Fort Myers** 

Chair Yoga is a gentle practice in which yoga poses are



performed using the stability and safety of a chair. No matter the skill level, Chair Yoga teaches balance, flexibility and mindfulness. Bring yoga mat and wear nonslip shoes, part of four-week class, \$60 members, \$70 non-members, 9-10 a.m., registration required, *Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-939-2787, artinlee.org* 



#### Tuesday, Dec. 28

# Beginning Photography Session, Koreshan State Park, Estero

Bring your camera and learn the basics of photography, the best places to snap that perfect photo, discover unusual plants, buildings and critters that make up the many interesting aspects of Koreshan State Park.

Session will begin in front of Art Hall. 10-11:30 a.m. Tour is free with park entry fee: \$5 per vehicle with 2-8 occupants, \$4 per single-occupant vehicle, \$2 for pedestrians and bicyclists. Masks suggested but not required. Koreshan State Park, 3800 Corkscrew Road, Estero, 239-992-0311, eventbrite.com



### Wednesday, Dec. 29

# Family fun kayak tour, Mound House, Fort Myers Beach

Perfect fun for families with children ages 6 & up. See birds, dolphins, manatees and other wildlife while paddling through the Estero Bay mangroves. 2 p.m., \$25 ages 13 & up; \$15 ages 6 to 12, includes Mound House admission and all paddling equipment. *Mound House 451 Connecticut St., Fort Myers Beach, 239-765-0865, www.moundhouse.org* 



### Thursday, Dec. 30

Noon Year's Eve Celebration, Northwest Regional Library, Cape Coral

Celebrate the end of 2021 at this family-friendly, daytime bash. Enjoy music, dancing and, at 11:59 a.m., ring in the hour with balloons, noise and fun. *Northwest Regional Library, 519 Chiquita Blvd. N., Cape Coral, 239-533-4700, leelibrary.librarymarket.com* 



## "Cirque Dreams Holidaze," Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers

Circus show "Cirque Dreams Holidaze" returns to Mann Hall with holiday storybook characters, aerialists and new twists on holiday tunes like "Deck The Halls," "Winter Wonderland" and "Jingle Bell Rock." 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, and 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31. \$37-\$67. Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, 13350 FSW Parkway, south Fort Myers. 239-481-4849, bbmannpah.com



## Friday, Dec. 31, New Year's Eve

#### Mindfulness Walk, Bailey Tract, Sanibel Island

Offered Friday, Dec. 31 and Saturday, Jan. 1, the walk includes a hike around Ani Marsh to connect to oneself and the peace of the present moment. Organized by J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Bring bug spray, hat, sunscreen, water. Registration required, 8:30-9:30 a.m., free. Bailey Tract Main Entrance, 515 Tarpon Bay Road, Sanibel, eventbrite.com



#### **Downtown Countdown, Fort Myers**

Ring in the New Year in downtown Fort Myers with five stages of music and more. 6 p.m.-12:30 a.m. *River District Alliance*, 239-313-5129, <u>myriverdistrict.com</u>

South Cape New Year's Eve Trolley Event, Cape Coral Ring in 2022 in Cape Coral's Entertainment District and



ride trolleys to enjoy entertainment, live music and more. 8 p.m.-1 a.m., **eventbrite.com** 



# Fort Myers Beach New Year's Eve & Town Birthday Celebration, Times Square, Fort Myers Beach

Come celebrate the birthday of the Town of Fort Myers Beach and New Year's Eve at Times Square. Festivities begin with free cupcakes starting at noon. Live music will be played throughout the day. The town will be shooting off fireworks from the Fort Myers Beach Pier beginning at 9 p.m. Times Square, 830 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, www.fortmyersbeach.org



### Saturday, Jan. 1, New Year's Day

# Silk scarf painting class with Marie Dyer, Edison and Ford Winter Estates, Fort Myers

Join us for a silk scarf painting class in the river pavilion along the Caloosahatchee River. Participants will make a 14" x 72" silk scarf that can be worn or hung as a piece of artwork. They also make great holiday gifts. All materials are included in the fee. Registration required. 9 a.m. Edison Ford members \$90; non-members \$100. Edison and Ford Winter Estates, 2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-334-7419, edisonfordwinterestates.org



# First Day Beach Hike, Lovers Key State Park, Fort Myers Beach

Join a park ranger for a special hike along the Lovers Key shoreline. First Day Hikes are a part of a nationwide initiative led by America's state parks to encourage people to get outdoors on New Year's Day. On this guided hike, you'll discover the many seashells that wash ashore at Lovers Key, learn about the creatures who crafted these iconic Florida treasures and enjoy a morning walk on the beach as we kick off 2022.

Reservations required. Free with paid park entry, \$4 vehicle with one person, \$8 vehicle with two to eight people. Lovers Key State Park, 8700 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, 239-463-4588,

floridastateparks.org/lovers-key



### Sunday, Jan. 2

#### **Sunday garden tours at Manatee Park, Fort Myers**

A volunteer naturalist leads the tours and participants can learn about the park's history and the native flora and fauna that reside in some of Florida's habitats. Optimum viewing for the Florida manatee is between the months of December through March. 9 a.m. Sundays through March 2022. Tours meet behind the welcome center. Free with paid parking. *Manatee Park*, 10901 Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-533-7275,

<u>leegov.com/parks/parks/manateepark</u>

### **Ongoing events**



### **Lakes Park Holiday Express, Fort Myers**

Through Dec. 30, the Holiday Express miniature train travels through a winter wonderland of lights and decorations. \$6 ages 6 and older, daily 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-9 p.m., Lakes Regional Park, 7330 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers, 239-267-1905,

<u>leegov.com/parks/parks/lakespark</u>



# Wildlife on Wheels, J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel Island

Celebrate the holiday season by visiting the Wildlife on Wheels mobile classroom and learn about our wild neighbors. The event is free and located outside the Visitor & Education Center, Dec. 28-30, noon-3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon Thursday. J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, 1 Wildlife Drive, Sanibel, 239-471-1100, dingdarlingsociety.org



#### **Mid-Cape Winter Lights, Cape Coral**

This immersive holiday experience combines a beautiful assortment of wintry lights to create a must-see, picture-friendly holiday atmosphere you won't want to miss. The route will run through the Mercola Market grounds and features a fun kid-friendly scavenger hunt that will have kids on the ultimate adventure to earn prizes for solving a fun challenge. Free through Dec. 31, begins at dusk. Mercola Festival Grounds, 125 SW 3rd Place, Cape Coral, Facebook event: Mid-Cape Winter Lights - Holiday Lights



# **Holiday Nights, Edison and Ford Winter Estates, Fort Myers**

The 46<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Nights includes thousands of lights, historic decorations, new light displays, visits with Santa, carolers, refreshments, family science shows and more. Open nightly through Jan. 2, self-guided tours, 5:30-9 p.m., \$20 adults; guided tours, at 6 and 7 p.m., \$30 adults. *Edison and Ford Winter Estates, 2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-334-7419,* edisonfordwinterestates.org



### Mondays with the Shell Crafters, Sanibel Island

Free class, supplies cost between \$3-\$5 and the shell crafters will help you make something special. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., class begins at 10 a.m. *The Community House,* 2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, 239-472-2155, sanibelcommunityhouse.net



# Working waterfront tours of San Carlos Island shrimp fleet, Ostego Bay Foundation, Fort Myers Beach

Tours offered from 9 a.m.-noon Wednesdays give a close-up view of the shrimping industry, plus a visit to the Marine Science Center Museum. \$20 adults, \$10 children. Reservations required. Ostego Bay Foundation,

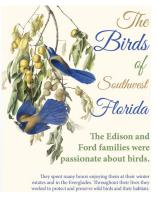
718 Fishermans Wharf, Fort Myers Beach, 239-765-8101, <a href="https://ostegobay.org">ostegobay.org</a>



# Wednesday guided walks, San Carlos Bay Bunche Beach Preserve

Free guided beach walks at 9 a.m. will continue through the end of April 2022. The 718-acre property is an Old Florida natural tidal wetland that ranges from a sandy beach to mangrove forests to salt flats and wildlife. Parking is \$2 an hour and the meeting point for the walks will be the southernmost end of John Morris Road in the parking lot. San Carlos Bay Bunche Beach Preserve, 18201 John Morris Road, Fort Myers, 239-533-7275, leegov.com/parks

#### **Art exhibits**



#### The Birds of Southwest Florida

See bird illustrations by John James Audubon in the Caretaker's House. Included with admission, runs through mid-January. *Edison and Ford Winter Estates*, 2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-334-7419, edisonfordwinterestates.org



#### Small Works Off the Wall exhibit

This gallery show features art priced at \$200 or less. Buy the art and take it home with you. Through Dec. 30. Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-939-2787, artinlee.org

### **Performing arts**



"Singin' in the Rain," Dec. 31-Feb. 12

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, 1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-278-4422, broadwaypalm.com



#### **Murder Mystery Dinner Train**

• "Murder Most Elite," Dec. 26-Feb. 27

Murder Mystery Dinner Train, 2805 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, 239-275-8487, <u>semgulf.com</u>



#### **Players Circle Theater**

- Danny Sinoff, The Music of George and Ira Gershwin, Dec. 27
- Comedy Improv, Oops We're a Troupe, Dec. 30

Players Circle Theater, 16554 North Cleveland Ave., North Fort Myers, 239-800-3292, playerscircletheater.com

## Podcast and audio guide



Shellcast, the podcast that's a beach break for your ears

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