

The Flow

November 2014 Newsletter
John Capece, Editor

Special Events & Meetings

- Dec 2: [SFWMD Caloosahatchee Community Forum](#) in Ft. Myers
- Dec 3: [Riverwatch Holiday Party](#) in LaBelle
- Dec 4-27: [Calusa Nature Center December Events](#)
- Jan 3: [Audubon Christmas Bird Count](#)
- Jan 25: [Oxbow and Riverlore Cruise](#)

Editorial Disclaimer
Visit the CRCA web site
crca.caloosahatchee.org
Join us at [Facebook](#)



CRCA founding member Keith & Lorna Kibbey host 18th River Ride.

Holiday Party on Dec 3



You are invited to the CRCA Annual Holiday Party on Wed, Dec 3, from 6pm to 8pm at the Captain Francis A. Hendry House, 512 Fraser Ave, LaBelle. Bring a covered dish. Riverwatch will provide the meat dishes. RSVP to Riverwatch@caloosahatchee.org or call 239-245-9954 and leave a message. [\[Email RSVP Link\]](#)

Landslide for Land Buy



Floridians spoke clearly, with 75% of voters approving constitutional Amendment 1 dedicating money to conservation & recreation. Now lawmakers must implement it properly. They may yet again attempt to thwart the desires of voters as Sen. David Simmons (R-Maitland) says in the Miami Herald. [\[News Press Editorial\]](#)

[\[SCCF\]](#) [\[Miami Herald\]](#)

Come Discuss River Projects

Please join us
**Caloosahatchee
Community
Forum**

SFWMD invites interested stakeholders to collaborate on science & projects benefiting the Caloosahatchee River & Estuary. The Dec 2 meeting will focus on prioritizing regional and local projects. Hosts and moderators of the event will be SFWMD's Dan DeLisi and Phil Flood.

[\[SFWMD Event Details\]](#)

New EvCo Representatives



Riverwatch appointed two directors (Ray Judah and Mary Rawl) to represent CRCA in meetings of the Everglades Coalition. The EvCo annual conference is Jan 8-10 with the theme "Send it South: Water for America's Everglades." [\[2015 EvCo Conference\]](#)

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18th Annual River Ride



Over 50 riders braved cold, wind, & rain to participate in the 18th Annual CRCA Caloosahatchee River Ride. The annual fund raising event is a safe outing thanks to escorts by Hendry County Sheriff's deputies. Thanks to all riders, sponsors, and volunteers. [\[Photo 1\]](#) [\[Photo 2\]](#) [\[Photo 3\]](#) [\[Photo 4\]](#) [\[Photo 5\]](#) [\[No shows\]](#)

New Board Members



At the Nov 5 CRCA meeting, five new directors were added to the Riverwatch Board: John Cassani from Watershed Council, Jennifer Hecker from the Conservancy, Alexis Meyer from Sierra Club, Phil Buchanan from Pine Island, and Rae Ann Wessel from SCCF.

20th Anniversary Celebration



Save the date! On April 1, 2015 plan to attend a very special 20th anniversary celebration of the founding of Riverwatch. Hosting the event will be the Ft. Myers News-Press as coordinated by CRCA past-president Wayne Daltry. CRCA was born in 1994 after a community forum organized by the News-Press.

River Hall Development Density Debate



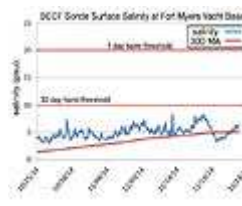
Changing Lee County's Comprehensive Plan to allow for a 50 percent increase in density, in what up to now has been called rural lands, may not have caught the attention of many local citizens, but it scares me half to death, says Lee County Commissioner Frank Mann. [\[Frank Mann Opinion\]](#) [\[Process\]](#) [\[Decision\]](#) [\[News Press Opinion\]](#) [\[Fred Burson Opinion\]](#)

Fort Myers Yacht Basin



Residents at the Ft. Myers Yacht Basin like the current operations and there is little they would want to see changed. They do not like the idea of Ft. Myers outsourcing or creating a public-private partnership to handle the yacht basin's resources. [\[News Press\]](#)

Caloosahatchee (Nov 18-24)



Flows to the estuary at S79 averaged 1,247 cfs over the past week with 57% of flow originating from the watershed. The salinity at Iona (20 psu) this week continues to be below the optimal range for oysters. [\[SCCF Caloosahatchee Condition Report\]](#) [\[Graphic\]](#) [\[SCCF Web Site\]](#)

LaBelle Heritage Museum Speaker



Melissa Timo of Florida Public Archaeology will be a guest speaker at the LaBelle Heritage Museum on Wednesday, Jan 7, 2015. Miss Timo's presentation will cover the steamboats that played a very important role in the early development of Florida. [\[Details\]](#) [\[LHM Web Site\]](#)

Manatee Paparazzi



Cooler weather locally means cold weather up north and our annual influx of snow birds and manatees. Both gather this time of year at Lee County Manatee Park - a holiday season must-see jewel of our area, located across from the FPL power plant on SR80 east of I-75. [\[Cartoon\]](#) [\[Manatee Park Facebook\]](#) [\[Manatee Park Webpage\]](#)

Oxbow and Riverlore Cruise



Join SCCF on an Oxbow and Riverlore Cruise to experience the historic Caloosahatchee. Guided by Rae Ann Wessel, these trips provide a relaxing opportunity to gain a personal perspective on the river - its history, folklore, issues and solutions. [\[Flier\]](#)

People of Influence: Wayne Daltry



In October the News Press named CRCA past president Wayne Daltry to its "People of Influence" select list of 27 individuals who shaped SW FL, some dating back to 1800s. Wayne is Lee County's resident sage — futurist, historian, sociologist, demographer, consensus-builder. Congratulations, Wayne! [\[News Press\]](#)

New DEP Secretary



Clifford Wilson takes over as Interim DEP Secretary upon the resignation of Hershel Vinyard who departs on the heels of Rick Scott's re-election as Governor. Wilson ran the DEP regulatory program that was criticized for lack of enforcement actions. [\[Tampa Bay Times\]](#) [\[SaintPetersBlog\]](#) [\[Clifford Wilson\]](#) [\[Previous Clifford Wilson News\]](#)

Red Tide



While the Caloosahatchee estuary and nearby beaches are free of red tide, it lurks off Naples. Scientists have identified a dozen nutrient sources that feed blooms, but they say no single source is responsible for the toxic outbreak. [\[News Press\]](#) [\[Current Conditions Map\]](#) [\[Phys.org\]](#)

Guided Nature Walks



Guided nature walks are provided by Conservation 20/20 volunteers and IFAS Master Gardeners on Saturdays during the winter season, between December-March. Parking is free and no fee or registration is required. [\[Flier\]](#)

People of Influence: Ray Judah



Riverwatch counts another of its leaders among the News Press list of "People of Influence." CRCA director Ray Judah was added to the prestigious list this month. Elected to the Lee Co. BOCC, he served 6 terms for a total of 24 years as Commissioner. [\[News Press\]](#)

See CRCA web page for more details on each of the newsletter articles <http://crca.caloosahatchee.org/>

Editorial Disclaimer: Views or opinions expressed in the CRCA web site & newsletter are solely those of the author(s) & do not necessarily represent those of "Riverwatch." Direct comments & questions to John Capece, CRCA Newsletter Editor.