


Events

- Sep 20: [Toxic Puzzle Screening](#) at the Southwest Florida Masonic Center in Fort Myers
- Sep 22: [Toxic Puzzle Screening](#) at Cape Coral Public Library
- Oct 15: [Florida Economic Water Summit](#) at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers



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Dave Granlund's cartoon is gallows humor, but no laughing matter.

U.S. House Must Act Before September 30



**BETTER LATE
THAN NEVER?**
Actually...
It May Be Never!

By Sep 30 Congress needs to authorize funds for the US Harmful Algal Bloom & Hypoxia Research & Control Act. The Senate passed Bill Nelson's S1059 but the House failed to act on HR 4417 offered by Democrats. HR 6645 offered by Rep. Mast (Republican) achieves part of the goals. [\[FL Politics\]](#) [\[Sanibel\]](#) [\[Funding\]](#) [\[Disaster\]](#) [\[Hearing\]](#)

Breathing in HAB Toxins



People who live on the water, in boats at local marinas, say they have had no warning about what the blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) fumes can do to them health wise. Red tide fumes are also harmful. The News-Press started a weekly feature to answer water questions. [\[News-Press\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#) [\[Video\]](#) [\[Inhalation\]](#) [\[Testing\]](#)

Sampling the Caloosahatchee Bloom



James Metcalf, an internationally acclaimed expert on the brain damage caused by toxic algae spent a day sampling the Caloosahatchee River bloom along with Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani on August 22. They took a look at the public health implications of the ongoing water crisis. [\[News-Press\]](#) [\[Photo 1\]](#) [\[Photo 2\]](#) [\[Photo 3\]](#) [\[Video\]](#)

Florida Economic Water Summit



Get your tickets now for the Florida Economic Water Summit scheduled for 7pm on Oct 15 at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. \$10 for program, \$25 for program+dinner. The last Calusa Waterkeeper event sold out with 500 attending and hundreds turned away, so do not let the opportunity slip away. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Get Tickets\]](#) [\[Event Page\]](#)

Dead Zone



A "dead zone," an underwater patch with no plant or animal life, has been found off the coast of Sanibel by Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation scientists. There is no oxygen in the water about 3 to 5 meters down to the surface, in some places all the way down to the bottom in about 8 meters. [\[Sanibel Captiva Islander\]](#)

Panel Puts Pieces Together



The Broadway Palm Theater was filled to capacity on Aug 14, to view a screening of the documentary film, "Toxic Puzzle: Hunt for the Forbidden Killer." A panel of water quality experts featured in the film along with Calusa Waterkeeper John Cassani fielded audience questions after the movie. [\[Island Sand Paper\]](#) [\[Photo 1\]](#) [\[Photo 2\]](#) [\[Photo 3\]](#)

Starpower to Scrappy Nonprofit



International businessman and activist K.C. Schulberg stepped to the helm of Calusa Waterkeeper as executive director, bringing a sterling Hollywood pedigree and fundraising firepower to the group, which spent the first two decades of its existence as a next-to-no budget, all-volunteer outfit. [\[News-Press\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#) [\[Florida Weekly\]](#)

New Threshold for Fresh Water Release



The South Florida Water Management District governing board approved a new minimum threshold (from 300 cubic feet per second to 400 cfs) for dry-season freshwater releases to the Caloosahatchee River. But critics say the new rule will not provide enough water during dry times. 600-700 cfs is needed. [\[News Press\]](#) [\[ForShore\]](#)

Waterkeepers Lead on HAB Task Force



Since 2017 Calusa Waterkeeper has been rallying Florida Waterkeepers in support of state legislation to reactivate the Florida Harmful Algal Task Force by resuming activities of this legislatively-authorized, but unfunded initiative. The CWK board will adopt a new resolution to continue the push. [\[Call to Action\]](#) [\[National Waterkeepers\]](#) [\[Florida Waterkeepers\]](#) [\[2017 Editorial\]](#)

Lake O Causing Red Tide?



A nonprofit marine research institution Mote's scientists discussed red tide at The Argus Foundation event "Meet the Minds: Red Tide - What it is, solutions and prevention" in Sarasota on August 30th. Mote scientists and an agricultural leader say there is no single cause or solution for red tide. [\[Herald Tribune\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#) [\[Septic Tanks\]](#) [\[Climate Change Effects\]](#)

Myra Roberts Artwork



CWK expresses its gratitude to the local artist Myra Roberts who have generously donated some of her latest artwork to be used at CWK events' silent auction. We also thank Jim & Ruth Watkins, Scott & Teresa Simon and Donald Schwartz for supporting CWK through participation in our silent auction. [\[Donald Schwartz\]](#) [\[Scott & Teresa Simon\]](#) [\[Florduh\]](#) [\[Myra Roberts\]](#)

Massive Bloom of Political Cartoons Continues



Artists Cathy Cochrane, Bill Day, Dave Granlund, and Andy Marlette continue to churn out poignant political cartoons. They drive home the tragedy that is this year's relentless series of cyanobacteria and red tide blooms devastating Florida's freshwater bodies and our marine coastlines. [\[Actors\]](#) [\[Fragrances\]](#) [\[Tourists Flee\]](#) [\[Algae Swirl\]](#) [\[Horseshoe Crab\]](#) [\[#!*@ DEP\]](#)

Red Tide Stings Tourist Industry



A red tide and toxic algae bloom crisis is killing marine life and hurting the tourism industry across Florida's Gulf Coast. Local tourist boards are concerned the impact could be felt for a while, as news of the red tide spreads and more tourists cancel or adjust their trips. [\[The Wall Street Journal\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#) [\[Snowbirds\]](#) [\[Bloom & Bust\]](#) [\[Red Ink\]](#)

CWK Humanitarian Award



Calusa Waterkeeper presented Will Prather, owner of the Broadway Palm Theatre, with a Humanitarian Award for his service to community and support in protecting and preserving natural Florida. There is no businessman in the area upon whom so many civic and non-profit organizations depend more. [\[Photo\]](#) [\[The Prather Family\]](#) [\[The Broadway Palm Theatre\]](#)

Silence of Science on Red Tide



Suncoast Waterkeeper Andy Mele challenges voters to confront lawmakers at the polls. Andy calls for expanded research into the dynamics of harmful algal blooms. He also questions scientists on their assertions that red tide is not affected by freshwater discharges of nutrients and cyanobacteria. [\[Herald Tribune\]](#) [\[Andy Mele\]](#) [\[Suncoast Waterkeeper\]](#)

Algae Photos



Photographer Lynne Buchanan's blog, Changing Waters: Human Impact on Florida's Aquatic Systems, shows incredible photos that she captured of toxic algae bloom in its many different forms. [\[Algae Photos\]](#) [\[About Lynne Buchanan\]](#) [\[Algae Bloom Video\]](#)

Finding Solutions to Water Quality Issue



This summer's environmental disaster highlighted decades of water mismanagement and flimsy political will to resolve a range of notorious problems such as Lake Okeechobee pollutants or Billy's Creek fecal bacteria contamination. [\[Gulfshore Business\]](#) [\[Calusa Waterkeeper\]](#) [\[Captains for Cleanwater\]](#) [\[Billys Creek\]](#)

Circus Transformus



Calusa Waterkeeper along with other civic groups participated at the Circus Transformus event at the Broadway Palm on Aug 25-26. Many thanks to Holly Rauen, Solemi Hernandez, her son Alex, John Paul, his daughter Beryl, Gene and Nan, Ruth and Jim, KC, his wife Ynda and others for manning the table. [\[Photo 1\]](#) [\[Photo 2\]](#) [\[Photo 3\]](#)

See Calusa Waterkeeper web page for more details on each of the newsletter articles www.calusawaterkeeper.org
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