



Bandana's coming back November 29!

South Venice Beach Wave

NOVEMBER 2020

The heart of South Venice since 1955

Calendar

November 29

**OUTDOOR CONCERT
with Bandana**

Details on Page 5

December 12

JEWELRY SALE

Details on Page 5

Indoor meetings and events at the Civic Association are on hold for now. We'll keep in touch by email as and if circumstances change.

Meanwhile, let us all:

WEAR OUR MASKS
SOCIAL DISTANCE WHEN WE CAN
STAY SAFE, AND
BE GOOD NEIGHBORS

**BOTH THE SVCA AND TRUST
OFFICES ARE CLOSED TO WALK IN
TRAFFIC AT PRESENT. You can still
contact us by phone to
941-493-0006 or by email to
info@southvenicebeach.org**

SVCA's MISSION

*To protect, preserve and improve
our community's character, condi-
tions and quality of life.*

*To bring South Venice together to
promote the civic, social,
intellectual and recreational
interests of South Venice*

FROM DUKE DOOGUE

Message from the President



The SVCA is very fortunate to have a group of great volunteers, who give of their time, treasure and talent to help us grow and develop the SVCA and to serve the people of South Venice.

I want to thank Joan Giovinazzo and her amazing team of volunteers, who did such an outstanding job on our successful "pre-sale" garage sale in October .

We also need to thank the many members of South Venice community, for their generous donations.

The proceeds from the sale are being used to improve our electrical system in the building, further allowing us to consider producing more events for the benefit of the South Venice community, and raising more funds which will in turn be put back into the South Venice Civic Association to make our venue even more attractive and enjoyable for renters and our members.

I grew up as an only child, and supposedly only-children are more independent and self-reliant, than those growing up in a larger family. Personally, I have always been independent in my attitudes and in my thinking, and also very self-

Continued on Page 3

2020 FUNDRAISER

**Win a 4-seater
Golf Cart!**

**Raffle tickets are \$50
Only 32 left!**

**Drawing to be
held on
December 31,
2020**



Tickets: CALL OR EMAIL THE OFFICE
941-493-0006
info@southvenicebeach.org
or contact any Board member

South Venice Civic Association

*The heart of South Venice
since 1955*

**720 Alligator Drive
South Venice Beach, FL 34293**

Phone: 941-493-0006

Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

www.SouthVeniceBeach.org
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South Venice Beach WAVE

Editor: Maureen Holland
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This has been a very disappointing year in terms of social engagements and associations. In March governments at all levels engaged in the construction of new social conventions and then used emergency powers to enforce those conventions.

At first we were uncertain of the degree of risk that COVID-19 represented. That uncertainty engendered fears that this virus was more contagious and deadly than any virus in our history. We responded by doing what we believed was our part: we locked down our households and our economy to "bend the curve" to enable our medical facilities to handle the anticipated surge in hospitalizations.

That was seven months ago. During the interim, the directives from those in leadership positions morphed from "follow the science" to "follow the scientists".

I am done following the scientists. I am following the science and the science says masks do not work. As a result I do not wear a mask.

If the SVCA's members wish to follow the scientists I in no way wish them to fear me for not wearing a mask. Hence, it is unlikely I will remain a member should masks remain required for any association meeting or activity.

Social conventions are arbitrary and changeable. It is likely that absent some form of immunity, the use of face covering will continue indefinitely. I have no desire to socialize in this manner or demand this of others. I would simply ask that people use common sense when socializing. If you are not feeling well, do not put others at risk. I will gladly do the same.

This is a difficult situation that we have to deal with. I recognize we have many senior citizens in the association. These same people need the interactions more so to address issues they may need help with.

I will gladly sign away any release the association may believe it needs to allow the members to freely interact as we did before the lockdown. Hopefully the Board will address this squarely and inform us all of its intentions before year end to enable 2021 to be a great one for the SVCA.

Daniel J. Gauthier III, South Venice

Our reply to Dan:

Thanks for your letter Dan. We appreciate the frustration – we've all been experiencing it. The SVCA has and will continue to follow 'best practices' as defined by the CDC. We feel this is our responsibility .

BUT, now that fall is here, outdoor events are possible and we've already scheduled a big party with Bandana on November 29. We're also planning a Christmas Tree lighting in December (date TBA). And all the Neighborhood Improvement and Clean Up projects have restarted as well. Last Saturday we had an outdoor yard sale. It was well attended and people enjoyed seeing each other!

I'm really sorry to hear you are considering leaving the Association – especially at a time when, like so many other non-profit organizations, we have seen our rental and event revenue take such a hit. But we certainly will survive and be here for our community when it is again safe to do so. And, member or not, you'll always be welcomed at future meetings and events.

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NETWORK NAME:
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ACCESS KEY:
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South Venice Beach Wave

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President's Message Continued

reliant when it came to personal development and growth. When I took over as president of the South Venice Civic Association, I mentioned that we would be "pulling ourselves up by our own bootstraps"! By this I meant that we would rely on our volunteers, and use the resources we had, to put together a series of programs and events that would be beneficial and enjoyable to our members and also generate revenue, that we could use to fund improvements in the South Venice Civic Association.

The board and I had a series of Planning Sessions, at which we planned for successful events. We put a series of events on the calendar, such as events aimed at attracting younger families and children such as our Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Breakfast with Santa, which were very successful events at attracting young families.

We also put together events designed to attract and appeal to the broader audience of our South Venice residents. Our July Fourth Barbecue with Bandana was so successful that we had to turn away over 40 people; we couldn't safely accommodate them.

The money so raised, once again, went to improving our electrical system. That is what I meant when I said "pulling ourselves up by our own bootstraps"!

We had planned a great series of events throughout the balance of 2020, which were unfortunately totally disrupted by Covid-19.

We have also implemented a system whereby we inventory, track, and conveniently store signs that we need for these events. Signs, as I learned in the real estate industry, are a great way to inform the public of events, and to attract those people to our events. We have also set up systems to allow our renters, to move the tables in and out of our hall, and have invested in a number of wheeled transportation devices for these tables. We are also systematically replacing the round tables which were donated to us by the South Venice Yacht Club, as many of them are now on their last legs, literally and figuratively, and we are replacing them with heavier duty, plastic tables, so that we will be well set up to cater for the various hall rental opportunities that become available.

Depending on what the CDC recommends regarding public attendance at events, we will be planning a full slate of events for 2021, subject to the reality of how best to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic in our community.

We are set up and are ready to go as soon we get the green light for holding events, and

attracting members of our South Venice community to enjoy our offerings at the South Venice Civic Association.

On Sunday November 29, we will be having an outdoor Bandana concert - on the basketball court from 5:00 to 8:00pm. Please bring your own chair and we will have Barbecue pork and barbecue chicken sandwiches, as well as wine, beer and sodas, available for purchase! So please mark your calendars, and come out and enjoy our outdoor concert with Bandana!

We are also continuing with our very successful Educated Consumer series and I have planned a ZOOM tax planning seminar for early December, giving you useful suggestions you can implement prior to the end of 2020. Further details will be communicated in an email blast. We are also going to have a Zoom program on Wills, Trusts and Estates in January with Bishop Toups (who previously presented a very successful seminar). Once again, more information will be conveyed in an email blast. Please let any of the Board members know if you would like to have any other topics covered in our Educated Consumer series. I see this as a very important part of our role as the SVCA, to reach out and help educate our members on a wide range of topics of importance to you.

I wish you and your families a very happy Thanksgiving, and look forward to hearing from you in the future!

Position open on Beach Trust

The South Venice Beach Endowment Trust was created in 2000 by the South Venice Civic Association for the purpose of, among other things, protecting the beach and waterfront property assets of South Venice as well as operating and maintaining the ferry and boat ramp. The Trust consists of five Trustees who each serve 5-year terms, with one term expiring each year - Bob Pietras term ends this year and he will be missed.

The Board of Directors of the South Venice Civic Association is responsible for appointing the new Trustee each year, as outlined in the Trust Agreement. That decision is made in December. If you are interested in being considered for this year's open position, just send or email a letter of interest to the SVCA office, 720 Alligator Dr. or info@southvenicebeach.org before December 5, 2020. The SVCA Board will review applications and talk to applicants before their December Board meeting.

According to the Trust Agreement, in addition to being South Venice property owners, Trustees "must be of high moral character, have an established working or relational affiliation with the Community as determined by the Directors of the SVCA and be eligible and qualified to hold membership in the SVCA with all associated rights and privileges."

Put more simply, the SVCA and Trust are looking for people who are invested in the community as a whole and are committed to working together to preserve the assets and institutions of South Venice.

Captain's Corner:

By CAPTAIN RANDALL PATTERSON



Well, that was some kinda' weird summer, huh?

I want to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation during the pandemic so far and over the coming months. The reduced capacity, time limits, and mask requirements are not what any of us want, but health and safety guidelines and a desire to give beach access to as many people as possible made them necessary. We've tried to be flexible, allowing people extra time when possible and carrying more people when social distancing can be maintained between the parties. Our number of daily passengers has not been significantly lower than normal for this time of year. The longest anyone has had to wait was an hour.

In addition, it has been incredibly hot. We've had several days with a heat index of over 110°. If it weren't for the frequent afternoon showers (normal for this time of year)

it would be unbearable. Of course, the thunderstorms and lightning create the problem of evacuating the beach.

Lots of changes in the ferry house. We lost Captain Jerry to the lure of the Last Frontier, again. It's probably for good this time as he sold his house here. At the same time, Captain David has returned to help us out as a fill-in captain. We're glad he's back and healthy. Captain Ted also sold his house, bought a boat, and is now living aboard with his wife. He plans to stay on with us for a while. And we welcomed a new captain, Rick Paolillo. Be sure to introduce yourselves.

Finally, Captain Ted and I drove the ferry to Englewood for Coast Guard hull inspection and bottom painting. The Coast Guard found no problems with the hull (good for another two years) and the bottom paint looks great. I think that's the longest trip the ferry has ever made. The 11 miles to Quality Boats of Charlotte Harbor took us 4 1/2 hours going down against the wind and tide, and only 3 1/4 hours coming back with both in our favor. It was nice to learn she's capable of covering the distance, even if she's a bit on the slow side.

Looking forward to seeing you snowbirds back when you feel comfortable and safe making the trip.



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Sunday, NOVEMBER 29!



OUTDOORS on the Basketball Court

5:00 to 8:00pm

BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR

- \$10 at the door (kids under 12 FREE)
- Advance tickets at the office 941-493-0006
- There will be BBQ Pork and BBQ chicken sandwiches.
- Cash bar—beer, wine, water and sodas
- NOTE: No coolers please



NEW AT SVCA

Jewelry Sale December 12

This is a unique event—AND an opportunity for some early Christmas shopping! Admission will be by donation of a piece of used jewelry. There will be costume jewelry that has been restored and is completely wearable. There will be vintage pieces and current styles.

All proceeds from this event go to the Civic Association.



FROM GAIL PARKER

BOOK CLUB: *What we're reading*



The Book Club will resume our meetings at the Civic Association on November 19 at 3:00pm. Please wear masks and we will set up to be socially distanced.

Our discussion will be about whatever books we all have been reading since our last meeting all the way back in February! We will also choose a title to read for discussion at the December meeting.

Anyone is welcome to join us for discussion and input for the rest of the winter months. So, if you have thought about joining us, please do. New faces and new voices are always welcome!

Stay safe! Stay well!

Just like at our annual February Community Yard Sale, the crowds showed up and lined up for the October 'pre-sale' sale, scheduled because we'd run out of storage from all the donations that have been pouring in since earlier this year. Now that some space has been made, we can continue to take donations for the big annual sale which is still on schedule for February 2021.

Cherry Giovinazzo has taken over the yard sale project from Gail Parker, who did such an epic job all these years. And Cherry and her volunteers produced a great success—thank you to all of them. With their help, we raised \$1400 for the SVCA.

Don't forget though - the Annual Sale will still be happening in February. Contact Julie in the office or Cherry directly if you have donations to drop off or need someone to pick them up for you.

2017 Small Business of the Year



Blair Post, HAS, BC-HIS, ACA
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What I Wish You Knew...

Having worked in this industry for over 20 years, I've seen all too often people who waited to get their hearing checked struggle during conversations. They describe the same pattern, while listening to their friend's story one word sticks out as odd, and they lose track of the rest of the story.

It's always just one word in a story that causes confusion, which results in an interruption since the story doesn't make sense. Needing to ask for help with a misunderstood word gets embarrassing for the listener. Overtime they stop asking for clarity. Then they worry that everyone thinks they are always confused.

Being able to hear a story clearly is what hearing aids should do.

People think wearing a hearing aid is like wearing glasses. When you look at a flower, you see a flower. When you hear a simple noise, like a siren, you hear the sound. However, a better comparison would be listening is like reading, since both involve understanding what is being shared.

Reading is not about looking at words it is about comprehension of words. Reading a story requires you to imagine characters and what they will do. When you get caught up in a story you feel their reactions and hope for their future. You have an emotional response to the characters. You aren't just reading words, you engage in what happens.

Listening to a conversation is not about hearing sounds, it is about the words and their meaning. Listening involves the entire story, including emotions and experiences. You honor your friends by engaging with their stories.

Studies have shown that waiting to address a hearing loss will reduce the words you understand. Every time a word is not understood during a story, you will lose the flow of what is being shared while you try to figure out that one word. Missing out on words during a conversation reduces your ability to connect the words you hear to the full experience of the story.

If you get lost when hearing a story and wonder if you hear well enough, call for a hearing test, 941-244-9300.

(941) 244-9300

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Marla Wilcox at
mswlxc_50@msn.com
303-818-3641

The virus has made scheduling projects difficult for many months, but now the county has eased up on its guidelines, and we have a green light to resume our Trash Buddy projects once again.

Saturday, November 7 - 9:00am

Saturday, January 30 - 9:00am

Grove Workday at Siesta Creek

Meet at corner of Seminole and Quincy. Workers are encouraged to bring yard tools and gloves. There are weeds to be removed and general tidying up of the area. Neighbors have been great in keeping the area mowed and looking good. Face masks please. Trash bags will be provided and the County will be picking up the large pile of refuse

Trash Buddies!

Saturday, December 19 - 9:00am

Alligator Drive Clean-Up

We meet in the SVCA parking lot.

Saturday, January 16 - 9:00am

Venetian Waterway Clean-Up

Meet at Parking lot by tennis courts in Shamrock Park

Saturday, March 20 - 9:00am

Alligator Drive Clean-Up

We meet in the SVCA parking lot.

Community Emergency Response Team

CERT Team as of now is not meeting but discussions are underway with other local groups and with potential volunteers for South Venice CERT.

FROM TERESA GOOD, Shamrock Park

What's up at the Park



I'm so happy that we are finally back to our monthly **Seasons and Serendipity** walks! Please come out and join us as we social distance together, while taking in all the Florida, fall scenery.

Yes, I said Florida fall scenery! Many folks aren't aware that we do see the seasons change in Florida.

The weather is starting to cool down a little more at night, the days are getting shorter and the migratory birds are showing up.

At Shamrock Park, the muhly grass is just beautiful as it shows off its pinkish-purplish flowers stalks which can reach up to 3 or 4 feet high. According to the University of Florida, muhly grass is a fall plant superstar! Besides muhly grass, there are other plants whose leaves may start to turn red. For instance, winged sumac, Virginia creeper, and poison ivy all display red leaves starting this time of year. Sea grape leaves also

turn red from cold giving Floridians a taste of the changing seasons. I've seen some lopsided Indian-grass in the park in areas, which is a beautiful yellow-bronze grass that blooms in fall. Fall is one of the best times



for wildflowers as well. **Blazing star, Narrow-leaf silk grass, climbing hempvine, Florida paintbrush and the lovely Palafoxia (above!)** are just a few you may see while walking through Shamrock Park.

If you are curious to know how to identify these plants I've mentioned and interested in learning more about the Florida plants, animals and seasons, join Master Naturalist, Kate Borduas, on Friday, November 13 from 8:00 to 10:00am, as she takes us on a **Journey through Shamrock** that most visitors don't get to experience. Most of the walk is on even, paved ground, but we do walk in the grass, too, to view the plants. Don't forget to bring water and binoculars!



For 65 years, the SVCA has been here for South Venice, for YOU!

**MEMBERSHIP MAKES US STRONG
MEMBERSHIP MAKES US
A COMMUNITY**

Reach out to your neighbors— invite them to join

When we're strong, we are heard at the County on civic and service issues that affect South Venice— like tree trimming, ditch mowing, code enforcement, mosquito spraying, drain maintenance, zoning, permitting, water and sewer.

Together, we work to keep South Venice Beach a community to be proud of!

Beautiful Neighborhoods Initiative • Water Quality Task Force • Siesta Waterway Clean-up • Shamrock Park Clean-up • Community Emergency Response Team • International Coastal Cleanup • Government Affairs Committee to track issues and liaise with Sarasota County

Attention Community Residents A Note From Your Newsletter Publisher:

We are **Community Media** – the publisher of your community newsletter.

We hope that you all are staying safe during the coronavirus pandemic. This is affecting many aspects of daily life for almost every American. Our office staff is following the CDC guidelines of staying home when not feeling well, seeking medical help when necessary, and washing hands constantly.

We encourage you to follow the same guidelines located at coronavirus.gov.

The phrase “We’re all in this together” is more meaningful now more than ever.

What are we doing?

We are still providing a **FREE newsletter to your community**.

This newsletter is FREE to your community because we partner with local and regional businesses to advertise their products and services in this newsletter.

We are temporarily reducing publishing expenses so we can continue to publish your newsletter long term. For your community newsletter this may include:

- Making sure the page count of each newsletter is in line with current advertiser support
- Verifying the number of newsletter copies needed so we don't print too many newsletters

What can you, as a community resident, do?

Suggest businesses to support your newsletter with advertising.

- Who does work in/on your home? Home services trades like roofers, plumbers, A/C, etc.
- Who provides other services for your? insurance, doctors, travel, etc.
- Any other businesses your patronize?

Let us know and we'd love to reach out to them.

Be patient and kind with each other, especially now. Reach out to friends and neighbors who may need help.



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HALF DAY: full hall \$220 or half hall \$120

NON-MEMBER RATES

FULL DAY: full hall \$450 or half hall \$300
HALF DAY: full hall \$260 or half hall \$150

**ASK ABOUT
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WEEKLY RATES**

Home Sales: SEPT 16 to OCT 16, 2020

Address	HTD	BE	FB	Built	Pool	Garage	ADOM	List Price	Close Price
855 POLARIS RD	891	2	2	1972	None	1	35	\$165,000	\$142,500
4891 HERON RD	1,032	2	1	1958	None		41	\$189,900	\$169,000
1540 QUEEN RD	1,631	2	2	1978	None	1	5	\$175,000	\$172,500
1110 S VENICE BLVD	1,618	3	2	1960	None		77	\$189,900	\$180,750
359 BUCKNELL RD	815	2	1	1974	None		13	\$189,900	\$185,000
450 PALMETTO DR	950	2	2	1998	None	2	6	\$185,000	\$185,000
540 BROWN RD	1,032	3	2	1980	None		26	\$210,000	\$204,500
1330 NANTUCKET RD	1,193	3	2	1979	None	1	5	\$200,000	\$205,000
324 AZURE RD	1,139	3	2	1978	None	1	11	\$199,000	\$205,000
164 DURIAN RD	1,044	2	2	1992	None	1	19	\$225,000	\$214,300
2565 ENGLEWOOD RD	1,080	2	2	2002	None	1	2	\$209,900	\$217,500
756 HOBART RD	1,318	3	2	1979	None	1	60	\$215,000	\$220,000
1488 PIEDMONT RD	1,225	2	2	1979	None	1	6	\$235,000	\$232,000
232 SHELL RD	1,403	2	2	1981	None	2	172	\$229,900	\$235,900
3921 SHAMROCK DR	1,254	3	2	1960	None		111	\$239,000	\$239,000
655 HOBART RD	1,282	2	2	1988	None	2	85	\$244,900	\$244,900
521 AVALON RD	1,322	3	2	1982	None	2	9	\$249,900	\$248,000
571 SUNSET BEACH DR	1,631	3	2	1964	Private		33	\$272,500	\$270,500
55 LOYOLA RD	1,680	3	2	1986	None	2	90	\$279,900	\$273,500
630 DARWIN RD	1,624	3	2	1965	Private	1	1	\$268,900	\$273,900
650 ARGUS RD	1,823	3	2	1987	None	2	42	\$274,900	\$274,900
1116 W BAFFIN DR	1,766	3	2	1982	Community	1	0	\$275,000	\$275,000
4340 ALLIGATOR DR	2,231	4	3	1980	None		51	\$279,000	\$279,000
332 PURDUE RD	1,928	3	2	2004	None	2	297	\$299,999	\$280,000
150 BAHAMA RD	1,770	3	2	1977	Private		4	\$295,000	\$282,000
156 HERMES RD	1,679	3	2	1979	Private	2	14	\$289,000	\$285,000
1204 SUNRISE RD	1,746	3	2	1988	None	2	23	\$294,000	\$294,000
461 S QUINCY RD	1,872	3	2	1996	None	2	65	\$317,999	\$295,000
4741 LEMON BAY DR	1,482	3	2	1955	None	1	118	\$314,900	\$295,000
3621 ROSLYN RD	1,837	3	3	1979	None		172	\$308,900	\$300,000
523 SOUTHLAND RD	1,634	3	2	2018	None	2	68	\$310,000	\$317,000
4919 LEMON BAY DR	2,188	4	2	1956	None		149	\$328,000	\$320,000
5960 FERN RD	1,724	3	2	1978	Private	1	35	\$329,900	\$329,000
1373 RINGTAIL RD	1,800	3	2	2019	None	2	268	\$345,000	\$338,000
2031 SCENIC DR	2,662	3	2	2001	None	2	114	\$375,000	\$345,000

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MEMBERSHIP MAKES US STRONG MEMBERSHIP MAKES US A COMMUNITY

When we're strong, we are heard at the County on civic and service issues that affect South Venice — like tree trimming, ditch mowing, code enforcement, mosquito spraying, drain maintenance, water and sewer.

Together, we work to keep South Venice Beach a community to be proud of!

State of the Market

KELLEY ANN AYERS, Ayers Team, Exit King Realty



There were 35 SALES in the last thirty day period... The highest sale was a large home on Scenic Drive with views of the Intracoastal Waterway that closed for \$345,000. The average "sold price per square foot" was \$170,900, up a little bit and again very good. The average sale price was \$252,219; again, up a little bit from last sales period.

The Average Days On Market was 71, good news for homeowners of South Venice Beach! Inventory Is Still Shockingly low with even less this period, only 43 Active listings at the time of this article (Oct 24) - compared to the report in May when there were 94 Active listings! Lastly, 59 homes are currently Under Contract, and that's a large number of homes waiting to close! My sister Katheren and I are experts in South Venice having sold fifteen homes in South Venice this year. It is a very hot market right now and clearly a Seller's Market! If you are thinking of selling or buying Please call for a confidential free market analysis!

Disclaimer: *The sales information was gathered from the Multiple Listing Service and sales were by various participants of MLS. All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.*



**Welcome to the
best neighborhood
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Water Coloring with Carol Merenda every Wednesday at SVCA



OUR CLASSES HAVE RESUMED!

Monthly sessions. Course starts the first Wednesday of every month 1:00 to 4:00pm

The full course is \$90 (plus supplies)

New students may register at the class or contact instructor Carol at 941-366-2866 to get started.

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