CHR
community housing & resources

NOVEMBER 2026

newsletter



saturday
november 21
2026





ONE DATE
TWO EVENTS

Kick off a festive holiday season while supporting the ***gift of affordable housing.***

Festival of Trees brings holiday magic back to the islands

The holiday season is about to sparkle a little brighter on Sanibel and Captiva as Community Housing & Resources (CHR) brings back its Winter Wonderland Festival of Trees for a second year.

This festive fundraiser combines holiday creativity, community spirit and a meaningful cause, all in support of CHR's mission to provide affordable housing on the islands.

Leading up to the celebration, 12 uniquely decorated Christmas trees, created by local artists, organizations and community supporters, will be displayed throughout the islands. On Saturday, November 21, 2026, the trees will come together at The Community House, along with 10 beautifully decorated wreaths, for two special holiday events.

scan here or visit **sancapchr.org** for details & benefit tickets

CHR's WINTER WONDERLAND
Festival of TREES

at THE COMMUNITY HOUSE
2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel

public event 11a-3p

- *jingle & mingle through a winter wonderland of trees designed by talented CHR supporters*
- *family fun, holiday story time, presents for kids, photos with Santa*
- *refreshments & cash bar*
- *FREE for kids, $5 suggested CHR donation for adults*

benefit & auction 5:30-7:30p

- *featuring festive music, silent auction, food & drinks – tickets $100*

Celebrating fall **with our island neighbors**

CHR enjoyed a wonderful season of community celebrations! Thank you to the Sanibel Community Association and The Community House for inviting us to participate in their annual Fall Fest. It was a great opportunity to reconnect with neighbors, make new friends and celebrate the season together.

The festivities continued with a little Halloween fun at CHR, bringing plenty of smiles and laughter to our team!



Sharing the LOVE **for Sanibel**

CHR was delighted to participate in the LOVE Sanibel BACK finale, hosted by Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church.

We're grateful to be part of a community that continues to come together, celebrate its connections and support one another. Thank you to everyone who helped make this special gathering possible!

Good Food, **Great Company!**

Our monthly CHR pizza luncheon brought residents and staff together for good food, friendly conversation and community updates.



A special thank-you to Dorothy for sharing what's ahead for Community Housing & Resources. These gatherings are a wonderful reminder that community is about more than housing. It's about the friendships and connections that make a place feel like home.





Michelle's Story

After decades as a stay-at-home mom caring for a disabled child, Michelle Gonzalez faced a brutal decision: Stay trapped in life's difficulties, or get help to turn things around for herself and her family. With Community Housing & Resources at her side, she chose to take that step forward.

"I was like, ***'There's no way. There's a long line.'*** But I spoke to CHR. I put in my paperwork, and I qualified," said Michelle. "I called Bonnie (McCurry, CHR Housing Administrator), and I said, ***'I need help.'*** And she did. She made it happen. Bonnie has really had my back. My life's been a bit bumpy, but this has been a complete 180," she added.

After her marriage ended, she relocated to Sanibel with her daughter and disabled son, while three of her five children remained in Ohio with their father. Determined to rebuild, Michelle arranged in-home nursing care for her son, earned her massage therapy certification, and began working with a local physical therapy group. With stable employment in place, she still faced one major hurdle: ***affordable housing.*** At a friend's suggestion, she contacted CHR. Today, she and her children live in a safe and affordable three-bedroom apartment in one of CHR's quality properties.

"I live in a beautiful community," she said. **"I meet really wonderful people. My daughter loves Sanibel School, while my son is in 10th-grade hospital homebound through Cypress Lake High School. And I'm able to have an amazing job."**

CHR community **highlights**



A heartfelt thank-you to local artist Rachel Pierce for creating the beautiful artwork featured on the Harkey House at Riverview sign!

A longtime supporter of CHR, Rachel captured the unique character and natural beauty of our island community through her colorful design.

We're grateful for her creativity, generosity and continued support of CHR's mission.











October brought many opportunities to connect with the people and organizations who support CHR.

We were grateful to receive a generous grant from SanCap Kiwanis and enjoyed connecting with community members at Congress Jewelers and the Sanibel Island Farmers Market.

A special thank-you also goes to Bank of the Islands for welcoming CHR to share more about our work and the importance of affordable workforce housing.

These partnerships and connections help strengthen our community and spread awareness of the need for affordable housing on Sanibel and Captiva.





CHR recently joined our island partners at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa for a community hiring event, connecting with individuals interested in working and building their futures on Sanibel.

Affordable workforce housing plays an important role in attracting and retaining the people who keep our island communities thriving. We're grateful to Sundial for bringing people together and helping highlight the importance of housing opportunities for our local workforce.

CHR seats WITH A STORY
AN EXHIBIT & AUCTION

a back story

ONCE UPON A TIME,

there was a beloved restaurant called the Sanibel Fish House where islanders and visitors gathered to create memories. One day, a storm sadly destroyed the restaurant.



Community Housing & Resources is now starting a new chapter and creating a new way for this iconic property to serve the island once again: *as affordable housing for the workforce that keeps Sanibel thriving.*

To honor the building's history, local artists have transformed the restaurant's original chairs and benches into one-of-a-kind works of art to be auctioned at our premier annual fundraiser.

we'll save you a seat

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2027

5-7:30p *donor preview begins at 4:30p*
at The Community House – 2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel

Festive color attire please.

enjoy a meaningful night out • acquire original local art
own a piece of Sanibel history • keep essential workers local
create more affordable housing

scan here or visit
sancapchr.org/seats-with-a-story
for details, tickets & sponsorship opportunities

Job Openings

GUEST SERVICES / HOSPITALITY
Blind Pass Condominium
Reservationist
Call Nancy: 239-472-6981

Captiva Civic Association
Director
Call: 239-472-2111

FOOD SERVICE
Sundial Beach Resort & Spa
Pantry Cook, Sushi Artist – Part-Time, Bartender / Server – Turtle's Tiki Bar, Sous Chef, Expo, Line Cook – $800 Sign-On Bonus, Pizza Cook
Apply: https://columbushm.rec.pro.ukg.net/COL1509COHM/JobBoard/0d94c03b-e563-4f86-955a-6dd59150dec7/?q=&o=postedDateDesc

Cheeburger Cheeburger
Food Runner, Line Cook – Part-Time, Seasonal Host / Hostess, Seasonal Milkshake Artist

Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille
Multiple Positions Available
Apply: https://docfords.com/careers/

Jerry's Grocery
Cashier – Multiple Openings
Stockers – Multiple Openings
Apply: CareersatJerrys.com

FACILITIES / MAINTENANCE
Sundial Beach Resort & Spa
Banquet Setup, Housekeeping Supervisor, Public Areas Attendant, Houseperson, Room Attendant, Recreation Attendant, Security Representative
Apply: https://columbushm.rec.pro.ukg.net/COL1509COHM/JobBoard/0d94c03b-e563-4f86-955a-6dd59150dec7/?q=&o=postedDateDesc

PROFESSIONAL / ADMINISTRATIVE
Sundial Beach Resort & Spa
Accounting Coordinator – Part-Time
Recreation & Racquet Sports Assistant Manager

Tarpon Bay Explorers
Retail Positions Available
Call: 239-472-8900

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