

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Chelle Koster Walton

239-699-4754

ChelleTrav@aol.com

Caption: Betty Anholt and Charles LeBuff will debut their new book *Protecting Sanibel and Captiva Island* with two lectures on Dec. 13.

DDWS hosts Shop ‘Ding’ holiday event

Special lectures and free refreshments will be highlights of the Refuge Nature Store’s Shop “Ding” holiday event in the “Ding” Darling Visitor & Education Center, hosted by the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) on Thursday, Dec. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Charles LeBuff and Betty Anholt will debut their new book and present two special lectures that day at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., with book-signings to follow. Their *Protecting Sanibel and Captiva Islands: The Conservation Story* releases earlier in the month and will be available for purchase in the Nature Store, which is offering a special one-day holiday-giving package promotion -- \$35 for two books on Dec. 13. (Regular price is \$21.99 each.)

The Refuge Nature Store will also be offering exclusive items available only that day, along with its stock of holiday stocking stuffers and other gift items. It will serve cookies and other refreshments during the event. Shoppers can also visit the DDWS Giving Tree to make a tax-deductible donation to refuge land acquisition, education, and research.

The Refuge Nature Store carries a complete line of birding and nature books for adults and kids, wildlife toys and games, local artisan wares, wildlife holiday ornaments, gifts made from recycled materials, nature-themed jewelry and home décor, logo T-shirts and hats, and a wide variety of stocking stuffers and other gifts for men, women, and children. All profits from Nature Store purchases go directly to benefiting wildlife and conservation.

For more information on the Refuge Happy Hour Shopping, call 239-472-1100 ext. 241.

Below is a schedule of special events planned by DDWS and the refuge for the upcoming season. For details visit dingdarlingsociety.org.

DDWS Annual Meeting – Dec. 5, 2018
Free Winter Programs – Jan. 7-April 28, 2019
2019 Biweekly Wednesday Film Series – Jan. 9-April 3, 2019
2019 Friday Lecture Series – Jan. 25-April 12, 2019
Woodring 100th Anniversary Exhibition Unveiling – Jan. 23, 2019
Woodring 100th Anniversary Exhibition – Jan. 23-March 25, 2019
Go Wild for “Ding”-- Call of the Osprey Fundraiser – Feb. 13, 2019

ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop profits.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 4 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

###