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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA TO HOLD FIRST NAUTICAL EXPO EVENT**

**Southwest FL, April 27, 2021...** Southwest Florida's Nautical Mile Publications, Inc. announces the 2021 Nautical Expo at the Lee Civic Center May 15 and 16. The one-of-a-kind show is attracting exhibitors from all over Florida with a wide variety of fine art, marine gadgets and coastal exhibits. Attendees can meet world famous nautical artists including Craig Deitrich, Steve Whitlock and Douglas Snidely and browse the indoor acre-sized air conditioned building along with an outdoor arts and crafts market. People can watch custom fishing rod building, fly-tying demonstrations, and see some of SW Florida's most popular fishing skiffs, new and used boating and fishing gear, kayaks, coastal exhibits, nautical jewelry and outdoor sportswear.

Salt and freshwater fishing seminars, sponsored by MirrOlure, will be held on the hour from local guides including bass fishing expert, Capt. Mark King, from Lake Okeechobee. On stage Saturday at 11am and 1pm is the "Miss Nautical Mile" pageant hosted by Miss Global United States. Attendees can also hold a twelve-foot Python and pet a live alligator. Knockerball and the "Go-Swim USA" models are coming over from Miami, and attendees can meet International Mermaid, Faith Lynn, who will be on display in an eight-foot clamshell with her 250-pound silicone tail which is a great photo opportunity for kids.

Nautical Mile's publisher, Jim Griffiths, stated, "Southwest Florida offers a unique coastal environment, and Lee County deserves a bigger star on the map. Between our recent population growth, the Civic Center's massive size, and 2,300 parking spots, the Expo is expected to break a forty-three year two-day show attendance record. We've even developed a system where purchases can be waiting at the gate so attendees can enjoy the show hands-free."

Nearly two-million impressions on social media has attracted exhibitors from all over Florida who will be participating in one of the largest nautical markets in the state. Included for attendees is a "Food Truck Bonanza" where multiple food trucks will be on-site both days serving \$5 portions so people can try a bit of everything. A breakfast truck will be on-site both days with fresh coffee and a unique menu for early risers.

Hours are Saturday from 9-5, and Sunday from 10-4. General admission is \$12, re-entry on Sunday is free, and active police officers are invited to attend as a guest of the show. To encourage boating and fishing in our youth, kids under eighteen may attend for free.

The "Million-Dollar" Expo: While they last, over one-million-dollars worth of Two-for-One passes can be found at the following SW Florida restaurants and businesses: Miceli's in Matlacha, Metro Diner and Lobster Lady in Cape Coral, Eddie's Seafood in Nokomis, various SW Florida Ace Hardware stores, along with multiple SW Florida Jets Pizza locations.

The Lee Civic Center is located 11831 Bayshore Road in North Fort Myers.

For more information about Nautical Expo 2021 - [www.NauticalMileMagazine.com](http://www.NauticalMileMagazine.com)