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THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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Vol. 14, No. 11

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

MARCH 20, 2015

Thunderbird Exhibition At Edison Ford



One of the vintage Ford Thunderbirds to be on display at the Edison Ford Winter Estates

The Edison & Ford Winter Estates will be hosting the Ford Thunderbird Exhibition on Saturday, April 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thunderbirds, or T-Birds, as they are affectionately known from all eras, will be displayed on the historic, riverside property of Henry Ford. Owners will be on hand to visit with guests and answer questions.

The Ford Thunderbird lives on in the hearts of so many people, in the garages of collectors and in the memories of millions. At one of the most beautiful sites in Fort Myers, this is a fitting tribute to the legacy of the American automobile and Henry Ford. The history of the Thunderbird has included two-seaters, roadsters, convertibles and four-door models, hardtops and sedans, more than 4 million of them. Over the years,

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This is the 23rd year that the Alliance has partnered with Lee Arts Educators Association

The Future Of Art At The Alliance

Artwork created by Lee County students will once again fill the gallery walls at the Alliance for the Arts throughout the month of April. This is the 23rd year the Alliance has partnered with the Lee Arts Educators Association (LAEA) to give students a chance to display their art in a formal exhibition.

The show features more than 40 schools and hundreds of works in a variety of mediums.

Artwork by elementary and middle school students will be on display from March 30 through April 10 with an opening reception on Tuesday, April 7 from 5 to 7 p.m.

High school work will then be exhibited with a second opening reception on Wednesday, continued on page 5



Girl Scout garbage band

Girl Scouts Make Instruments From Garbage

To fit with the recycling theme of Upcycle! Art Fest on April 1 and 2 at JN 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge, a new, local "garbage band" will perform with instruments made from recycled materials.

Junior Girl Scout Troop #673 fourth- and fifth-graders from south Fort Myers have fashioned guitars and a cello out of Girl Scout cookie boxes and shakers out of plastic bottles, said leader Anisa Stewart.

"The girls have been working on energy and the way to conserve it this year and will be making recycled instruments out of recyclables and garbage and performing songs with them as their end-of-the-year Innovate Project," she added.

"We are so excited to hear the girls play and sing their songs," said Barb Rogers, Upcycle! Art Fest committee chair. "What a great, fun addition this will be to the spirit of Upcycle!"

The festival will take place at the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days and will feature the upcycled works of more than 20 artists

for display, judging, and sales. Activities will include artist exhibits, an art sale, a silent auction of select artists' work, make-and-take crafts for kids and adults, artist demonstrations and environmental exhibitors.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge hosts Upcycle! Art Fest with sponsorship support from Cip's Place, George & Wendy's Seafood Grille, Island Sun, Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild and Ann-Marie and Don Wildman.

"We are once again planning an educational and entertaining event that will directly benefit wildlife and its habitat at 'Ding' Darling," said DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller. "Besides demonstrating the importance of recycling and conservation, it will offer visitors opportunities to purchase one-of-a-kind pieces and even try their hand at it."

Any businesses or individuals interested in sponsoring or participating in Upcycle! Art Fest may contact Miller at 292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.✱



Girl Scouts from Troop #673 practice for Upcycle! with their instruments made from repurposed materials, including Girl Scout cookie boxes

City's Annual Spring Egg Hunt

The City of Fort Myers Recreation Division invites all children up to 6 years old to participate in the annual Spring Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 29 at Centennial Park. During the event, 4,000 eggs will cover Centennial Park, and a special visitor is expected to attend.

The event begins at 10 a.m. with free children's activities including face painting, a sidewalk chalk area, bean bag toss and a pre-Egg Hunt warmup with Mr. Gary.

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

New Fords Arrive



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

This circa-1915 photo records the happy occasion of Fort Myers' first Ford dealership taking possession of new cars at the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad (ACL) depot at Main and Monroe streets.

The depot had been built soon after the ACL extended its line to Fort Myers from Punta Gorda in 1904. It stood alongside the tracks on the northwest corner of McGregor Boulevard and Monroe Street. (Later, that section of McGregor was known as Main Street.)

The depot served both as a passenger depot, and freight and shipping office.

Hill & Co. Garage, an authorized dealer for "Ford, the Universal Car," was located on the north side of Bay Street between Hendry and Jackson. It had moved there about the time this photo was taken.

The business advertised its mechanics' specific training for working on Ford cars, trucks, and Fordson tractors. They followed recommendations of the Ford Service School at the Ford factory, using genuine Ford parts, mechanics, special tools and machinery.

Prior to the move to Bay, Joseph W. Hill had run Hill & Co. on Second Street just west of Fowler in a building built by his business partner, Capt. William H. "Bill" Towles, cattle baron and powerhouse of the Lee County Board of Commissioners.

Edward H. Sykes, too, was part of the business, which would later become Sykes & Hill Co.



Workers from Sykes & Hill Co., authorized Ford agents, unload new automobiles at the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad depot circa-1915

courtesy Southwest Florida Historical Society



The Lee County Public Works Building is now located where a passenger and freight depot once stood along Monroe Street just north of Main

photo by Gerri Reaves

Henry Ford was a valued customer of the town's first Ford dealership. When he was preparing to visit town in February 1914, he sent Hill & Co. an order for three Tin Lizzies to be ready for him upon arrival.

In 1926, the Ford dealership moved from Bay to a spectacular new building for which Henry Ford chose the design. It was on Main, just a stone's throw from the ACL depot.

Over the decades, Sykes & Hill evolved into Lee Motors, and later Galloway Ford, so it has a long history in Fort Myers.

As for the depot, it was demolished in the early 1960s, by which time it was used only for freight.

Today, the site is occupied by the Lee County Public Works Building.

Visit the spot where countless people – and new automobiles – arrived and departed by train.

Then walk over to the Southwest Florida Museum of History at 2031 Jackson Street to learn more about the sale of new-fangled automobiles in town a century ago.

Call 321-7430 for information, or go to museumofhistory.org. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

If you love local history, don't forget to visit the Southwest Florida Historical Society's research center and check out the archives.

The all-volunteer non-profit organization is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts.

Hours are Wednesday and Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon and Wednesday 4 to 7 p.m. Call 939-4044 for more information.

Sources: *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl H. Grismer and the archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society. ✨



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Fort Myers Public Art:

Saturday Art Fair In Downtown Fort Myers



by Tom Hall

The Fort Myers Downtown Saturday Art Fair takes place under the awnings of the galleries, shops and offices that border First Street (where artists set up) and Hendry Street (where the crafters congregate) in the refurbished and restored downtown Fort Myers River District. With wide sidewalks, majestic palms and old-time charm just steps from the

waters of the Caloosahatchee River, these bricked thoroughfares are ideally-suited to an outdoor art fair. As an added bonus, First Street is dotted by some of the River District's best galleries and boutiques, including Arts for ACT Gallery, the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, the Rene Miville Gallery, tincture and Enjewel.

Arts for ACT is located in the front of the century-old Arcade Building where acclaimed winter residents, inventors and industry pioneers Thomas Edison, Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone once watched early motion pictures with their spouses and friends. Today, the Arcade Building is not only home to Arts for ACT, but to the Florida Repertory Theatre, which has been designated as "one of America's top repertory companies" by the *Wall Street Journal*.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center occupies the 1933 neoclassic revival federal building that was home first to the United States Post Office (until 1965) and then the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida (until 1998). The Rene Miville Gallery is located upstairs in the Streamline Moderne building built in 1937



The Fort Myers Downtown Saturday Art Fair is from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

by hardware magnate WP Franklin, which now houses the dozens of arts, craft and boutique vendors who make The Franklin Shops on First a must-see downtown Fort Myers shopping destination.

Over three dozen accomplished artists participate in the Fort Myers Downtown Saturday Art Fair, and the number grows each month. Together, they treat River District art lovers to affordable original works of art in oil, acrylic, watercolor and mixed media, photography, prints and giclees, wire and metal sculpture, ceramics and pot-

tery, hand-crafted jewelry of every imaginable kind and composition, stained and fused glass, upcycled art, designer wear and unique artsy gifts of all kinds.

The intimate, small-town ambiance of the River District engenders casual conversation between collectors and the participating artists, who willingly share stories about where they find inspiration, how they craft the unique pieces they sell and what drew them to the arts in the first place. If you don't find exactly what you are looking for, they will be pleased to make what you want. They'll even deliver it to your home!

The downtown galleries are open during the art fair. This amplifies festival-goers' art viewing experience and, whether before, during or afterwards, art lovers have numerous dining choices including Ford's Garage, The Firestone, The Connection, Twisted Vine and the Veranda, with United Cafe Bar & Bistro, Hiway Sports Bar, Spirits of Bacchus, The World Famous Cigar Bar and Hotel Indigo's Phi in

the Sky rooftop lounge offering adult beverages and their own unique atmosphere.

There is no charge to attend the Saturday Art Fair and there is ample free parking within easy walking distance of First Street. For more information, go to www.fortmyersartwalk.com.

An arts advocate, Tom Hall guides weekly walking tours of the River District's public art collection in Fort Myers. For more information, go to truetours.net.✱

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Fill The Boot Campaign Kicks Off

Members of the Southwest Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, along with the Muscular Dystrophy Association, will host a special event to kick off the annual Fill The Boot fundraising campaign and continue a 60-year tradition of helping save and improve the lives of people fighting muscle disease. Together, the MDA team and MDA family members will recognize Local 1826 for their effort in 2014 to raise \$136,007 for our Southwest Florida MDA. Local 1826 held the top spot in Florida for the most collections in 2014.

Local 1826 members and MDA will kick off the 2015 Fill The Boot campaign at the Fort Myers Beach Fire Department, located at 3043 Estero Blvd. in Fort Myers Beach on Friday, March 20 from 9 to 9:30 a.m.

More than 100 members of the Southwest Professional Firefighters and Paramedics will fan out across Lee County with boots in hand for this year's Fill The Boot drive from March 20 through March 22 at various times between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., at multiple intersections throughout Lee County. The intersection and department represented will include:

- Colonial Blvd. and Fowler Street – City of Fort Myers
- Treeline Avenue and Terminal Access Road – CFR
- Southpointe Blvd and College Parkway – Iona-McGregor
- US 41 and Crystal Drive – South Trail
- US 41 and Six Mile Cypress – South Trail
- US 41 and Sanibel Blvd. – San Carlos
- Ben Hill Griffin and Gulf Center Drive – San Carlos
- Buckingham Road and Palm Beach Blvd – Fort Myers Shores
- Palm Beach Blvd and I-75 on ramp – Tice
- Buckingham Blvd and Orange River Road – Fort Myers Shores
- Bayshore and I-75 – Bayshore
- Bayshore and US 41 – North Fort Myers
- Estero Blvd and 5th Avenue – Fort Myers Beach
- Six Mile Cypress/Ortiz Avenue at Colonial Blvd. – EMS
- US 41 and Coconut Road – Estero
- Corkscrew Road and Ben Hill Griffin Parkway – Estero
- Gunnery Road and Lee Blvd. – Lehigh Acres
- Pine Island Road and Stringfellow Road – Pine Island

For more than six decades, firefighters have fueled MDA's mission to find treatments and cures for life-threatening muscle diseases. Muscular dystrophy and other

related life-threatening diseases take away people's ability to walk, move, smile, talk and even breathe.

Funds raised through the 2015 Lee County Fill The Boot event support MDA's life-enhancing programs such as state-of-the-art support groups and clinics, including the MDA Clinic at Sarasota Memorial Hospital in Sarasota. They also make MDA summer camp possible so kids with muscle disease can enjoy "the best week of the year" at Rotary Camp Florida in Brandon, Florida and nearly 80 other locations nationwide.*

Grande Dames Tea Returns March 20

PACE Center For Girls of Lee County announced that women's specialty retailer White House Black Market has signed on for its seventh year as the title sponsor of the Grande Dames Tea for 2015, which will honor three more of our community's most revered women.

Other major sponsors include the Broadway Palm, Edison National Bank. R.S. Walsh Landscaping and The News-Press Media Group.

The honorees for 2014 are Sharlene Hamel Dozier of Fort Myers, Jacke McCurdy of Bonita Springs and Melvin Morgan of Fort Myers.

The Grande Dames Tea will take place on Friday, March 20 at the Broadway Palm on Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers from 1 to 3 p.m. Mei-Mei Chan, News-Press Media Group president and publisher, will once again serve as mis-

tress of ceremonies.

Seats may be reserved online at www.pacecenter.org/lee or by calling 470-7548.

The Grande Dames Tea was originated by PACE Center For Girls of Lee County to honor women who have played major roles in Southwest Florida history through decades of service, philanthropy and helping others. The theme is The Wisdom of Age – Honoring The Female Spirit.

This is the seventh year of the historic Grande Dames Tea. Previous honorees have included Berne Davis, Eleanore Kleist and the late Barbara B. Mann in 2009; Jeanne Bochette, Helen Hendry and Veronica Shoemaker in 2010; Myra Daniels, Kathleen Nealon and the late Mimi Straub in 2011; Michel Doherty, Mavis Stinson Miller, and Anna "Boots" Tolles in 2012; Thelma Hodges, Helen O'Rourke McClary and Ettie Francis Walsh in 2013; and Barbara Norris Brown, Sarah Sciple and Margaret Sirianni in 2014.

For more information about this event, call 470-7548 or visit www.pacecenter.org/lee.

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From page 1

Future Of Art



More than 40 area schools are participating

April 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. and remain on display until April 24.

Winners will be selected in several categories and Best in Show will be awarded. Refreshments for the high school reception will be provided by Evan's Neighborhood Pizza in Fort Myers.

LAEA is a group of art teachers who work to recognize and promote students who show an interest and aptitude in the visual arts. Artwork by LAEA member teachers will be on display in the Alliance Member Gallery. The Theatre Lobby will feature *Broadsides: Poetry off the Shelf*, works created by artists and poets.

The Alliance galleries are open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are free and open to the public. The Alliance is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard just south of Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.✱✱



A previous Future of Art exhibition at the Alliance

From page 1

Spring Egg Hunt

Concessions will be available as well as a photo opportunity with the Bunny.

The Egg Hunt begins promptly at 10:30 a.m. Children must be able to walk

on their own; parents will not be able to assist them. There will be a drawing for special prizes following the egg hunt.

Children should bring their own basket to collect the eggs. There is no registration or fee required. Plan to bring the kids and enjoy a great Fort Myers tradition.✱✱




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Calendar Girls Support Guide Dogs



The Calendar Girls with dogs, puppies and handlers from Southeastern Guide Dogs

Along with Southeastern Guide Dog puppies and their puppy-raisers, The Calendar Girls participated in the 57th annual Fort Myers Beach Shrimp Parade on March 14. The Calendar Girls took home the first place trophy in their dance division.
For more information, call Katherine at 850-6010 or visit www.calendargirlsfloida.com.

Bikers Vs. Brainers Trivia Tournament

On Sunday, April 12 from 5 to 7 p.m., a team of motorcyclists will go head-to-head with a team of MENSANS in a Bikers Vs. Brainers trivia tournament at the Royal Palm Yacht Club to benefit the SWSF MENSA Scholarship Fund. The event is open to the public and there is no admission charge. Come and learn a little... and laugh a lot. Additional contributions for the scholarship fund will be gladly accepted.
The City Pier Building at the Royal Palm Yacht Club is located at 1300 Hendry Street in Downtown Fort Myers.

Calusa Chapter Of MOAA Presents Hootchie-Cootchie Dinner Dance

The Calusa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) invites the public to attend the Hootchie-Cootchie Dinner Dance on Saturday, April 18. The event will be held at the German-American Club, located at 2101 Pine Island Road SW in Cape Coral.
The event begins at 5 p.m., with a dinner buffet starting at 6:30 p.m. A cash bar will be available from 5 to 11 p.m. Entertainment will be provided from 7:30 to 11 p.m.
Casual dress attire is recommended. Both a wine raffle and 50/50 drawing will be provided. The cost is \$25 per person. All proceeds support local veterans and JROTC scholarships.
Tickets and additional information are available by calling Bob Saldarini at 549-2339.
The Military Officers Association of America is a national organization representing the interests of the military. Florida is the third largest state of membership.
Information about the Calusa Chapter of MOAA may be obtained by contacting the Calusa Chapter President Nick Hubbell at 240-381-3975. Membership information may be obtained by contacting Tim Cook at 945-6155.

Imaginarium Summer Camps

Camp I-Sci And Camp I-Zoom will take place this summer at The Imaginarium in Fort Myers. Registration is now open. All camp sessions include fun and educational hands-on activities, themed instruction, special guests and exhibit exploration. The innovative curriculum integrates science, the arts and humanities, inspires the imagination and encourages a love of learning. All sessions will be split by grade level into two classes.
Offerings at the nine-week camp include: Out the Door, Let's explore!; Chemistry: Kitchen to KABOOM!; Crime Time: i-Sci Investigators, Engineering through Robotics: and Tech Talk:

Technology Explorers.
The Imaginarium will partner again this year with Zoomers Amusement Park to offer Camp i-Zoom! for three weeks. It will include:
June 15 to 19: Dream It! Build It! Engineering in the Park!
July 13 to 17: Gears, Gadgets & Gobots!
August 3 to 7: Crime Time: I-Zoom Investigators!
For weekly themes, pricing, more information, and to register, visit www.i-sci.org. Those with questions may call 321-7413.
The Imaginarium is located in historic downtown Fort Myers at Cranford Avenue and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

HORTOONS



Lake Kennedy Senior Center Yeehaw Arcadia Youth Rodeo

Join the Kennedy Kruisers as they jiddle-up for the Yeehaw Arcadia Youth Rodeo on Saturday, March 21. Bus trip participants should arrive at the Lake Kennedy Center by 7:30 a.m. prior to departing at 7:45 a.m. The bus will return to Cape Coral by approximately 6:30 p.m.
First, passengers will enjoy a Dutch-treat buffet breakfast stop at Golden Corral. Then, all will be amazed with some of the bravest youngsters mutton bustin, calf riding, steer riding, barrel racing, bull riding, roping and more.
Cost is \$32 for members and \$37 for non-members. Preregistration is required.
Lake Kennedy Senior Center is located at 400 Santa Barbara Boulevard in Cape Coral. For more information, call 574-0575.

Our email address is press@riverweekly.com

Rotary Club To Honor Nominees At Scholar-Athlete Awards



Nominees for last year's Scholar-Athlete Awards

Rotary Club of Fort Myers South will honor 36 nominees and announce the scholarship recipients and other award winners at its Scholar-Athlete Awards banquet from 7 to 9 p.m. May 6 at the Crowne Plaza in Fort Myers. The scholarship program recognizes top athletes from area high schools based on athletic and academic achievement, along with strength of character.

Joe Dooley will deliver the keynote address. Dooley is in his second season as head coach of the Florida Gulf Coast University men's basketball team. In 2013-14, he guided the Eagles to their first Atlantic Sun Conference regular-season championship and first trip to the NIT.

The Southwest Florida Rheem Team will underwrite two \$5,000 scholarships as the program's title scholarship sponsor. In addition to sponsoring the scholarships, the Rheem Team hosts an online People's Choice Scholar-Athlete Award, where the winner receives an iPad.

Eighteen Lee County-area high schools each nominated one top male and female varsity letter winner who maintains a minimum 3.2 GPA, is involved in school and community activities and demonstrates leadership characteristics. A selection committee of Rotary South members interviews nominees and selects the winners.

The 36 nominees are: Kinzie Frey and Thaddeus Ward from Bishop Verot Catholic High School, Darby Pfeifer and Zeb Burton III from Canterbury School, McKenna Beach and Joseph Mesaros from Cape Coral High School, Nyree Mahone and Corey Kerknesner from Cypress Lake High School, Kiara Desamours and Christopher Sutherland from Dunbar High School, Liz Lorenzo and Marlon Reyes from East Lee County High School, Madison Cernohous and Ryne Hensley from Estero High School, Sarah Candiano and Carson Pearlman from Evangelical Christian School, Mallory Towe and James Brunson from Fort Myers High School, Carla Mateo and Jacob Yaeger from Gateway Charter School, Lacie Ellithorpe and Zach Yankovich from Ida S. Baker High School, Nicole Ellis and Matthieu Jeannelas from Island Coast High School, Emily Collier and John Haugabook, Jr. from Lehigh Senior High School, Holly Fritz

Voluntary Pre-K Enrollment Open

Applications are now being accepted to enroll children in the Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK) education program for the 2015-16 school year. VPK does not have any income requirements and is free for all children four years old on or before September 1 of the program year.

The VPK program helps prepare four-year-olds for Kindergarten and increases his or her chances of continued educational success. Parents may enroll their child in a program that offers a total of 540 education classroom hours during a traditional school year or 300 educational classroom hours in a summer program.

Parents have the option to apply with assistance at the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida (ELC) or online at vpkcp.floridaearlylearning.com or through the ELC website at www.elcofswfl.org under the parent tab. To make an appointment with the ELC, call 935-6100.

"The VPK experience is extremely beneficial for four-year-old children. Being in this program helps each child

enter kindergarten ready to learn," said Susan Block, CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida. "We encourage all families with young children to enroll in this free early learning opportunity."

In order to receive a certificate for the program, parents must submit proof of birth to verify the child's age and proof of Florida residency. After the documents are submitted and approved by the ELC, parents will receive an email informing them to download the certificate (online applicants only). The certificate should then be signed by the parent and taken to the provider to complete. The provider then returns the completed certificate to the ELC office for processing. Deadlines are posted on the ELC's website. Classrooms with fewer than four children will not be enrolled.

The Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida exists to enhance the quality of children's lives by providing low-income families, early childhood educators, caregivers and community partners in Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties opportunities to positively impact the future. For details on its services or to donate, visit www.elcofswfl.org or call 935-6100.✱

and Rodney Hunter IV from Mariner High School, Lindsay Stramel and Jacob Duff from North Fort Myers High School, Abigail Mast and Kevin Mclltrot from Riverdale High School, Mallory Berner and Jacob Ashby from South Fort Myers High School, and Nicole Nicely and Terrance DeAvila from Southwest Florida Christian Academy.

For more information, contact Rob Scharlau at 810-2554 or rob.scharlau@busey.com.✱

St. Francis Xavier School End Of Year Celebration Is May 1

St. Francis Xavier School, the first Catholic school in Southwest Florida, will have its End of the Year Celebration on Friday, May 1, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Admission is \$50 each or \$90 for two.

There will be music by Live Wire, dinner catered by Bruno's of Brooklyn Italian Eatery, a silent auction and a raffle. The school is offering a raffle in which only 500 tickets for \$50 each are sold for one lucky winner to receive a brand new golf cart. The golf cart is valued at \$7,000 and is sponsored in part by Impulse Custom Golf Carts.

Proceeds from the silent auction, raffle, sponsorships, ticket sales and donations will help underwrite new technology and school improvement projects.

Tickets and a range of sponsorships and donation opportunities are available for the event.

The school is at 2055 Heitman Street in Fort Myers. For more information, contact Esther Kiesel at 334-7707 ext. 243 or esther.kiesel@stfrancisfortmyers.org.✱



A golf cart is being raffled

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Along The River



A scene from the movie

On Friday evening beginning at 7 p.m., **Music Walk** returns to downtown Fort Myers. The River District comes alive every month with live music on the third Friday in the historic River District. More than a dozen participating venues feature music by local and regional talent. Restaurants, bars, art galleries and shops showcase a wide range of music during Music Walk. From jazz and blues to rock, drums and more, each month brings great music and new energy to the historic bricked streets of downtown. Music Walk is currently chaired by Lance of Ford's Garage. For more information, contact him at 645-6457 or go to www.fortmyersmusicwalk.com. Also on Friday, the City of Fort Myers Recreation Division invites you and your family to a free **Movie Night in the Park at Centennial**. The feature presentation is *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*. Alexander's day begins with gum stuck in his hair, followed by more calamities. However, he finds little sympathy from his family and begins to wonder if bad things only happen to him, his mom, dad, brother and sister – who all find themselves living through their own terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. The film stars Steve Carell and Jennifer Garner.

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Tom in America has been officially selected for the 2015 Fort Myers Film Festival. It stars Academy Award nominees Burt Young and Sally Kirkland. Above is a scene from the film.

Movie in the Park at Centennial runs from 8 to 10 p.m. Parking and admission is free, and all concessions are \$1. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. Centennial Park is located at 2000 West First Street, Fort Myers, along the Caloosahatchee. For more information, visit www.cityftmyers.com. On Friday and Saturday, stop by **Shell Point Retirement Community** for its annual **Resident Art Show & Sale**. It is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days in the Woodland Commons and is open to the public. The event is free to attend. An exciting new twist has been added; this year, each artist will have a personal display and be present to discuss his or her art medium, while giving viewers the opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind gifts. Media at this year's show will include photography, stained glass, woodworking, pottery, sculpture, paintings, lapidary, collage, and much more. Winners of the raffle drawings will receive either an original piece of art or Lucky Bucks to be used toward a purchase at the 2015 Art Show & Sale. Shell Point is located at 15101 Shell Point Boulevard, Fort Myers near the Sanibel Causeway. For more information, call 466-1131 or go to www.shellpoint.org/events. On Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the **Southwest Florida Reading Festival** returns to the Harborside Event Center and Centennial Park. Perfect for all ages, the event is free to attend. The annual festival incites a passion for reading. Renew your interest in reading and hear an author speak. Get inspired to borrow or buy the book, maybe even to write one of your own. There will be approximately 10 vendors selling food. Harborside Event Center is located at 1375 Monroe Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information about the Southwest Florida Reading Festival, visit www.readfest.org. On Sunday, the **Mastersingers** perform at **Faith United Methodist Church** in Fort Myers. The concert, entitled Voice of the Masters, begins at 4 p.m. The concert features both the Mastersingers' large chorus as well as the Chamber Chorus in a reverent performance of excerpts from master works. Tickets are only available at the door for \$10. Faith United Methodist Church is located at 15690 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers. For more information, call 288-2535 or go to www.mastersingersfm.com. On Wednesday, March 25, **The Fort Myers Film Festival** kicks off its fifth annual event at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. The festival continues through March 29 at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center and Alliance for the Arts. The final award ceremony will be held at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. The Fort Myers Film Festival is an Intelligent independent filmmaker's preferred event to showcase the finest local and international cinematic works. One of the selections is an independent drama called *Tom in America*. A married elderly man finds a Tom of Finland doll that triggers a long-ignored impulse. The film stars Academy Award nominees Sally Kirkland and Burt Young, along with Jacques Mitchell, Alex Kruz and Dawn Young. It was directed by Flavio Alves. For more information about tickets and locations, call 810-6323 or go to www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com.

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15880 San Carlos Boulevard #110, Fort Myers. Call 208-8889.

DOC FORD'S RUM BAR & GRILLE

Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille is named for the Doc Ford character in local author Randy Wayne White's best-selling mystery novels.

It's a well known gathering place with indoor and outdoor patio seating. The combined menu offers all the lunch and dinner items from 11 a.m. until closing. It includes cedar plank salmon topped with a mango chipotle glaze or a marinated



Doc Ford's has the perfect condiments for any meal. All signature hot sauces are available for purchase at any Doc Ford's location.

grilled chicken sandwich and there's a well provisioned raw bar. Tropical drinks are a specialty, notably the signature rum drink, Island Mojito.

708 Fisherman's Wharf, Fort Myers Beach. Call 765-9660.

ICHIBAN

Ichiban is a downtown favorite for

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Nervous Nellie's is a casual, family-fun restaurant that boasts a large selection of appetizers, fresh seafood, over-stuffed sandwiches and entrées. Dine in air-conditioned comfort or outside on Nellie's expansive waterfront patio. Happy hour all day. Grab a bite to eat or drink and swing to the beats of live reggae, rock and island music from the area's premier musical talent.

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continued on page 21

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Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION (UUA)

Where diversity is treasured, 2756 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers Sunday Services at 9 and 11 a.m. Adult Education Workshop at 10 a.m. The Reverend Margaret L. Beard, Minister 239-226-0900 – www.allfaiths-uc.org

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

10291 Bayshore Rd., N. Fort Myers Divine Liturgy is on Sun. at 10:30 a.m.; Rosary begins at 10 a.m. Lenten services (Presanctified Liturgy) will be on Wed. evenings at 6 p.m. starting on Feb. 22. Administrator is Very Rev. Peter Lickman, ph. 305-651-0991. We are a Church of the Eastern Catholic or Byzantine Rite, 1.5 mi. east of Int. 75.

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers Reverend Fr. Dean Nastos, Proistamenos Orthros Service Sunday 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy Sunday 10 a.m., www.annunciation.flgoarch.org, 239-481-2099

BETH SHILOH

MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171 Rabbi: Judah Hungerman Friday Service, 8 p.m., Saturday Service, 11 a.m. Shabbat School Saturday Morning, Adult Hebrew Classes. Call for information on full program.

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES CHURCH OF GOD

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Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

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OF SW FLORIDA ORTHODOX

5620 Winkler Road, Fort Myers

Rabbi Yitzchok Minkowicz

433-7708, E-mail: rabbi@chabadswf.org

Web site: www.chabadswf.org

Services: Friday 6:30 p.m.; Saturday Kab-

balah class 9 a.m.; Shacharit 10 a.m.;

Kiddush at noon. Minyan: Monday and

Thursday 7 a.m.

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE

10200 Cypress Cove Circle Fort Myers 239-850-3943, Located at Cypress Cove Retirement Center on HealthPark Campus An ecumenical non-denominational community of believers. Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m. Reverend Ted Althouse, Pastor revtedalthouse@aol.com

CHURCH OF THE CROSS

13500 Freshman Lane; 768-2188

Pastor: Bud Stephens; A nondemonimational church emphasizing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Sunday Service: 9:15 a.m. Traditional,

10:45 Contemporary.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

1619 Llewellyn Drive Fort Myers Just off McGregor across from the Edison/ Ford Winter Estates 334-4978, Pastor: Douglas Kelchner, Worship times Sunday's 9 and 10:30 a.m. Website: www.taecc.com

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2439 McGregor Boulevard, 334-8937 Rev. Dr. Jeffrey DeYoe, Senior Pastor Reverend David Dietzel, Pastor Emeritus. Traditional Sunday service 10 a.m. Nursery available

CYPRESS LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH

8400 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 481-5442 Randy A. Alston, Reverend. Sunday Services: Bible study, 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m., Evening Worship, 7 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

CYPRESS LAKE

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8260 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 481-3233. www.clpc.us.

Clint Cottrell, pastor

Prayer Service 8 a.m., Praise 9 a.m., Chil-

dren's Church 9 a.m., Traditional 11 a.m.

Summer: Prayer Service 8 a.m.

Combined Traditional/Praise 10 a.m.

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8570 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 482-1250,

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FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15690 McGregor Boulevard

Fort Myers, 482-2030

Pastor: David Stauffer.

Traditional services 8:45 a.m.;

Contemporary, 10:30 a.m.

Go south on McGregor Boulevard. The

church is ½ mile past the intersection of

Gladiolus and San Carlos Boulevard on

the way to Sanibel.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

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River District. www.time4thinkers.com,

www.christiansciencefortmyers.com,

www.christianscience.com

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13545 American Colony Boulevard

off Daniels Parkway in the Colony,

Fort Myers, 936-2511

Pastor: Reverend Joey Brummett

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Morning Wor-

ship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening, 6 p.m.;

Wednesday Family Night, 7 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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2466 First Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901

239-332-1152, www.fumcftmyers.org

Sunday: 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship

9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

5 p.m. Youth Program

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5916 Winkler Road, Fort Myers, 437-4330

Reverend Mark Condrey, Pastor

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Church School: 9:15 a.m.

FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST:

8210 College Parkway, Fort Myers,

482-3133. Philip White, pastor

Morning Worship: 10 a.m.

Church School: 10:15 a.m.

Adult Forum: 11:30 a.m.

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL

CONGREGATION

9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers 454-

4778 The Reverend Ray Buchanan -

Rector.

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charist with Healing; Sunday 8 a.m., Holy

Eucharist, Rite One; 9:30 a.m., Family

Eucharist with Healing and Church School

Tuesday 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer (in

Spanish); Wednesday 9:30 a.m., Eucharist

with Healing. Child care available at Satur-

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239-985-8503

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11 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship.

7 p.m. Wednesday Evening Bible Study

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3825 McGregor Boulevard. Fort Myers

Pastor Eddie Spencer

8 & 9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship

8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Sunday School

Youth and Children's programming runs

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www.newhopefortmyers.org

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17625 Pine Ridge Road,

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Amazing Grace Worship: 10:30 AM

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Web site: peacecommunitychurch.com

e-mail: peace1265@aol.com

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239-495-0400, Senior Pastor: Todd Weston

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Sunday: 7, 9, 11, and 5:30 p.m.

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Christian Academy Choirs Perform At Choral Festival



Southwest Christian Christian Academy choir members

Southwest Florida Christian Academy's middle school and beginning choirs performed at Indian Rocks Christian School at the ACSI Choral Festival. The festival requires performance of two musical selections chosen from a required music list provided by ACSI for each choir. The choirs are judged based on a set of criteria listed on a rubric, some of which are interpretation of style, musicality and tone.

The middle school choir was told by the judges that they had the "most musical" performance of the day or as written on the judges sheet, "Best of Show." The beginning choir was commended as most fun to watch because they had great facial expressions.✱

Share your community news with us.
Call 415-7732, Fax: 415-7702
or email press@riverweekly.com

Easter Services At New Hope Presbyterian

All are invited to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at New Hope Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 5, at one of the four Easter worship services: 6:30, 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

The 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service will be

held on the front patio of the church. A free pancake breakfast will be served after the service at 7:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The 8 and 9:30 a.m. Traditional Services will be held in the sanctuary. Under the direction of Music Director Phil Chandler, the New Hope Singers will be accompanied by organ, trumpet and tympani.

The 11 a.m. Contemporary Service will also be held in the sanctuary. New Hope's Contemporary Music Director Kevin Kenworthy and the Praise Team will sing a variety of contemporary music favorites. Senior Pastor Eddie Spencer will speak at all four services.

New Hope Presbyterian Church (EPC) is a reformed church which seeks to obey the Great Commission through family ministry, worship, instruction and service. New Hope is located at 3825 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers, two blocks south of Fort Myers Country Club. Sunday worship services are held at 8 and 9:30 a.m. (Traditional) and 11 a.m. (Contemporary). Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes are available for adults, youth and children. Nursery care is provided. For more information, contact the New Hope church office at 274-1230 or visit the website at www.newhopefortmyers.org.✱

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Southwest Christian Academy choir members

From page 10

Churches/Temples

THE NEW CHURCH

The New Church of SWFL is located 10811 Sunset Plaza Circ. #401, behind Zoomers. Rev. Gabriella Cahaley officiates worship services on Sundays at 11 a.m. during the season. Other worship events are held on the beach in Fort Myers Beach. See our webpage <http://www.newchurchflorida.com/> or call for more information 239-481-5535.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH FORT MYERS

13411 Shire Lane (off Daniels Parkway one mile west of I-75). Minister: The Reverend Allison Farnum. Sunday services and religious education at 10:30 a.m. For information on all church events call 561-2700 or visit www.uucfm.org.

UNITY OF BONITA SPRINGS

Family Service 10 to 11 a.m. Healing Circle 11 a.m. Hospitality and Fellowship, 11 a.m. Inspiring lesson, uplifting and dynamic music, meditation in a loving environment. Service held at 28285 Imperial

Street, Bonita Springs. Call 947-3100.

UNITY OF FORT MYERS

11120 Ranchette Rd, Fort Myers
Sunday Services: 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Children's classes: 11 a.m. Reverend Jim Rosemergy. 239-278-1511, web: www.unityoffortmyers.org. Our God is Love, Our Race is Human, Our Religion is Oneness

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9065 Ligon Court, Fort Myers, across from HealthPark Hospital, 481-2125
Senior Pastor: Robert Brunson
Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 11 a.m. Blended Worship www.westminsterfortmyers.org

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

2120 Collier Ave, Fort Myers, 274-8881;
Services: Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m. Bishop Gaspar and Michele Anastasi

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

7401 Winkler Road, Fort Myers, 481-4040, Pastor Curtis Deterding. Sunday Services 8 a.m. Traditional, 10:45 a.m. Blended, 9:30 a.m. Educational Hour. Web site www.zionfm.org.✱

SPRING BAZAAR

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ
is hosting its Annual Bazaar



SATURDAY, MARCH 28th, 9AM-1PM

Local artists and crafters will be selling Baskets, Soaps, Paintings, Plants, Photography, Candles, Fused Glass, Herbs, Jewelry. There will be Baked Goods, a Silent Auction; gently used furniture, household items and books.

Proceeds benefit area missions supporting women and children

(239) 472-0497

2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL

www.sanibelucc.org

Spring Species Begin To Arrive



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

From winter conditions to summer conditions, all in just a few quick weeks. What a positive upswing in fishing action an almost 20 degree increase in water temperature brings. With our long term weather forecasts not showing anymore cold fronts, our winter should be all but done, and some of the more glamorous and sought after migratory species will be on the way soon.

Springtime is an awesome time to be out on the water. Everything comes back to life with bait and the fish that feed on it throughout our waterways, as they slowly make the march north for the summer. Even with our usual strong prevailing winds of March and April, boaters and fishermen are still smiling after a February

that was much colder than advertised, making getting out on the water often a challenge.

One of the springtime species that has already started to show up in huge numbers is Spanish mackerel. From the beaches to the passes and throughout the sound, mackerel are one species that are extremely angler friendly, easy to catch and very plentiful. Fast and fun are the words that come to mind when I think of Spanish mackerel fishing. The methods they can be caught with are almost endless, from trolling spoons and plugs to sight fishing them on a fly rod with a clouser minnow.

Blacktip sharks are also doing the spring thing and have invaded the area, with sharks being caught from beach to bay. Their average size runs from two to four feet, with a few getting even bigger. They make for a fun fish to target on medium spinning tackle, often jumping clear out of the water and making long fast runs during the fight. Tie a chum bag off the back of the boat out on basically any grass flat within sight of a pass and it won't take long for them to show up to the party. Another favorite method for shore anglers is night fishing the trough between the sandbars from the beach.



Mary Laser from Sanibel and Stu Grinnell from Ithaca, New York with a tackle busting jack crevalle caught while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell

Natural baits, either live or fresh cut, work best.

Big schools of ladyfish, jacks and bluefish can also be run into just about anywhere right now. If you're just looking to keep the rods bent, there is probably not any better fast paced action to be found. Small jigs and spoons thrown into the blitz of feeding fish and simply wound back in get hit every cast. This is some of the most novice angler friendly fishing on the planet, with anyone being able to cast and catch these hard feeding fish on an artificial. Stay away from treble hooks whenever possible and even crush the barbs down on your jigs and spoons to make for quick and easy releases. Don't forget to bring some bigger tackle along as wherever there are this many fish, there are bigger fish feeding on the easy meal.

One go-to method I used this past week was chumming live shiners in some of the narrow channels and creek mouths. The mail boat channel and small deep creek mouths feeding "Ding" Darling were all loaded with a variety of the above mentioned species and also good places to get out of the often rough conditions on the open sound. Watching the fish explode on the surface, it was a

matter of just free lining a hooked shiner to where the fish were chasing the freebies. Add a few really big trout to the mix in these same places and it was a good way to spend an hour or so of fast paced drag screaming catching.

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been fishing local waters since he moved to Sanibel in 1980. He now lives in St. James City and works as a back country fishing guide. If you have comments or questions email captmattmitchell@aol.com.

Send Us Your Fish Tales

The River Weekly would like to hear from anglers about their catches. Send us details including tackle, bait and weather conditions, date of catch, species and weight, and include photographs with identification. Drop them at the River Weekly, 1609 Hendry Street, Suite 15, Fort Myers, Florida 33901, or email to press@riverweekly.com.

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Dave Doane

CROW Case Of The Week:

Ambassador-
Elect Sneezy

by Patricia Molloy

The Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*) is a nocturnal omnivore that is the only marsupial native to North America. The trademark marsupium, or pouch, develops on the abdomen of

the female and is where litters of baby opossums will spend the first two months of their lives nursing and growing.

As one of the oldest mammals on earth, the opossum has survived for at least 70 million years. Despite popular belief, opossums do not hang from their tails while sleeping; their tails are not strong enough to support them for extended periods of time. They do, however, serve a very important function.

An opossum's tail is long and scaly and acts as a fifth hand. When the animal is climbing a tree, it will wrap its tail around a branch for balance, allowing it to use its front paws to grasp nearby branches. Known as a prehensile tail, opossums rely heavily on the body part.

CROW is currently caring for a young male opossum (#14-3324) which was admitted to the wildlife clinic after being

hit by a car. Examinations and radiographs indicated that he had suffered multiple injuries, including head and neck trauma and severe injury to his tail. The patient has endured several surgeries by the specialized vets which have proven to be life-saving. Sadly, he is not a candidate for re-release; his tail was so damaged that amputation was necessary.

"He's doing, overall, OK. He's still pretty bright and alert and feisty. He's not getting any worse," Dr. Brittany Stevens said several weeks ago when discussing his progress. "He continues to have a corneal ulcer, which is causing him discomfort."

Since that discussion, the opossum has improved significantly. "It's been quite awhile since his first surgery," explained Dr. Heather. "He is now totally healed. Both of his eyes are now fine and he sees well out of both."

The staff and students at CROW have become so attached to the opossum that they have given him a nickname: Sneezy. Dr. Heather hopes to obtain permission to keep Sneezy as a wildlife ambassador to help teach the public respect for wildlife and the environment.

CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.) is a non-profit wildlife hospital providing veterinary care for native and migratory wildlife from our local area. The hospital accepts patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mail donations to P.O. Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644 or visit www.crowclinic.org.*



The Virginia opossum, patient #14-3324, has won the hearts of staff and students for his enduring will to survive. Because he is not releasable, he may be granted ambassador status.



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Plant Smart

Starburst Clerodendrum



Non-native starburst clerodendrum's stunning flower show occurs during the winter and early spring months in South Florida

photos by Gerri Reaves

Take one look at starburst clerodendrum (*Clerodendrum quadriloculare*) in bloom and you'll understand why it has a host of evocative common names: shooting star, winter starburst, bronze-leaved clerodendrum,

Philippine glorybower and firecracker bush.

A native of New Guinea and the Philippines, it is a member of the verbenaceae family and a popular ornamental. This fast-grower can be grown as a many-branched shrub or be shaped into a tree that can reach more than 15 feet tall.

The bark is pale and the young stems quadrangular, thus the term quadriloculare in the species name.

The pairs of dark-green oblong leaves have pointed tips and purplish undersides.

It blooms during the cooler months in South Florida, producing showy round clusters at the branch ends. The clusters measure up to a foot across and range in color from white or pink to coral or plum.

Individual tubular flowers have five recurved petals and a narrow pink tube. They attract bees, hummingbirds and long-tongued butterflies.

The fleshy purple fruit contains four stones.

This plant needs full sun for maximum flowering. It will bloom in partial shade, but will have a tendency to become leggy.

Although it requires plenty of water to get established, it is subsequently drought tolerant.

Propagation is easy with cuttings or root suckers, but beware. The rhizomes, or running underground root-like stems,



Large clusters of five-petaled flowers attract bees, hummingbirds, and long-tongued butterflies

spread aggressively. In some parts of the world, including Hawaii, it is officially listed as an invasive species.

It can also be grown as a container plant.

Sources: cabi.org, freshfromflorida.com, and lee.ifas.ufl.edu.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱

Fisherman's Paradise:

The Power Of Faith



by Cynthia A. Williams

Berry C. Williams (1915 to 1976) was something of a legend as a fisherman in the waters off Fort Myers in the 1950s and early 1960s.

Reproduced for you here are chapters from his unfinished *Fisherman's Paradise*, an account of his fishing adventures that are often hilarious and always instructional. It is presented by Williams' daughter, Cynthia Williams, a freelance writer and editor living in Bokeelia on Pine Island.

Chapter VIII Part IV

The Episcopal Mission church to which Berry belongs is throwing a fish fry as part of a membership drive. Berry has a few hours to catch the fish needed to feed 200 people at the senior warden's house on the river that afternoon. He is gambling on catching reds among the mangroves in Dead Oyster Bay and has just made his first cast; if he lands in the mangroves instead of in the prop roots, the wary redfish "will take off like a startled covey of quail."

"Miraculously, my aim was unerring,



A shimmering red

for my weight skimmed the green leaves and my flicking shrimp had no sooner sunk from sight than something tried to take it. There was no mistaking that bite. It was a red, and a sizeable one! He came counter-clockwise from under the mangroves and I hurriedly adjusted my stardrag to check him from going back into the roots, but not enough to tear the hook from his mouth. When he headed for open water, I had a good chance of playing him on my terms instead of his.

Once he was far enough out, I lessened the drag so he could play out line with wide sweeps over the bay with just a steady pressure on him to tire him. That way, I'd have him winded and ready for the net in a few minutes. In about three minutes, I deftly dipped my long-handled net out and sacked up a shimmering red that would hit the scales at about 12 pounds. As I jiggled the hook from his mouth, I thought, 'Thank God!' and then hilariously shouted, 'Fire one!'

"So as not to disturb a winning formula, I re-baited my hook with a shrimp impaled lengthwise and flicking and eased it back into the same spot. Pay dirt again! This one headed for the inner recesses of the mangroves and I was lucky to get him checked and headed out to the open water. He was a real lunker, a stubborn one that gave angry twists of his head in an effort to shake the hook. I had to chance horsing him into the open, for if he got back into the mangroves and but touched the line against the razor-sharp barnacles, my line would pop. I was praying for

help from above and help was promptly forthcoming."

To be continued next week...✱

America's Boating Course

The San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons that serves South Fort Myers, Fort Myers

Beach, Bonita Springs and Estero, will be offering America's Boating Course on Saturday, April 4, from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This course is recognized by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. The state of Florida recently passed legislation requiring anyone born after January 1, 1988 to have passed a safe boating course and obtain a Boating Safety Education ID card, which is valid for life, in order to operate a boat with more than 10 HP. Each student will receive a card/certificate from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission upon completion of the class. The course consists of two sessions on consecutive Saturdays. The second session will be on Saturday, April 11, also from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Topics covered include hull design, docking, anchoring, handling boating emergencies, reading channel markers and other topics to make each boating experience safer and more enjoyable. Successful completion of this course entitles the boater to six months free membership in a United States Power Squadron.

The cost of the course is \$45 with a \$20 cost for a second person sharing the instruction materials.

The course will be taught at the San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron Classroom located at 16048 San Carlos Boulevard at the corner of Kelly Road (across from ACE Hardware). Register online at www.scbps.com or call the office 466-4040.✱

Cypress Cove Gala Passes Half-Way Mark In Raising Memory Care Funds



Tim and Inge Pinckney at the gala

Hundreds of toe-tapping partygoers attended the March 14 annual gala at Cypress Cove at HealthPark, raising thousands of dollars toward the community's \$3.5 million goal for benefiting creation of The Memory Care Residences at Cypress Cove.

Officials announced that evening at An Undersea Fantasy that more than two-thirds of the community's \$3.5 million fundraising goal has now been raised. Peter Busch, NBC-2 evening anchor and emcee at the gala, explained the importance of the new memory care facility that will open in 2016.

Also making remarks at the gala were Cypress Cove Board Chair Carl Barraco, Lee FP, Inc. President Doug Dodson and Cypress Cove Executive Director Michele Wasserlauf.

Cypress Cove's memory care residences will feature a unique two-story, four household facility providing a home-like living environment with private suites for 44 residents. A variety of stimulating, cutting-edge programming has been designed to assist residents of the new community.



Mary Franklin, Resident Life director, looks at thermometer showing that fundraising for the new memory care facility has passed the two-thirds mark



Partygoers Lauren Taylor and Sammy Daniels



Bob Moore and Marjorie York

Signature sponsors were Stevens Construction, Inc., GMK Associates, Inc., Northern Trust, bluespire and Pfizer.✴

Be A Police Recruit For The Day

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You're invited to participate in a hands-on experience to learn more about the fascinating career of a law enforcement officer. This one-day training program for business leaders, media and local delegation is designed to give citizens an up-close and personal look at what rules, regulations and policies the police follow and what misconceptions the public may have about the law.

Questions? Call (239) 334-3897
or email RosaLH@LeeSchools.net

Apply today. Space is limited!

The Southwest Florida Public Service Academy invited the public to its Be a Police Recruit for the Day Academy on Friday, March 27. The academy is at 4312 Michigan Avenue in Fort Myers. The course is modeled after the Civilian Police Academy and participants will receive an up-close and personal view of basic recruit training and the requirements of the training program.

Local business and community leaders and members of the media are invited to sign up for the program, which will include a tour of the academy, demonstrations of defensive tactics, response to scenarios such as loitering at a convenience store and responding to a burglar alarm, and training on administering the standardized field sobriety tests for DUI traffic stops. Lunch will be provided and all participants will

continued on page 25

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Family Dysfunction And Sibling Rivalry At Florida Rep



Horton Foote's Tony-nominated Best Play, *Dividing the Estate*, will be on stage at Florida Repertory Theatre March 20 through April 8. Foote is an Academy Award, Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning author.

In *Dividing the Estate*, Gordon family matriarch Stella Gordon is determined not to divide her 100-year-old Texas estate despite her family's declining wealth, but her three grown children have other plans. Old resentments and sibling rivalries surface as the members of this dysfunctional family go head to head to see who might claim the

Dozens Of Best-Selling Authors Coming To Fort Myers March 21

Twenty nine nationally acclaimed and best-selling authors are coming to Fort Myers to meet their fans and talk about their books at the 16th annual Southwest Florida Reading Festival on Saturday, March 21 at the Harborside Event Center and Centennial Park in the Fort Myers River District.

The Southwest Florida Reading Festival brings in popular authors for adults, teens and children from all over the country to stimulate the community and encourage a community wide culture of reading for pleasure and personal development. The festival is a day-long event filled with fascinating and dynamic author presentations, lively programs and activities for teens and children, the latest library technology, contests, booksellers, book signings, a free book for every child and teen and the Reading Rocks! Teen Battle of the Bands! The festival draws an average of 18,000 people annually.

The festival kicks-off on Friday, March 20 with the Evening with the Authors where all the authors meet and mingle with the public. A few of the award-winning authors scheduled to attend both events include adult authors Susan Mallery and Jeff Lindsay, teen authors Holly Goldberg Sloan and Cinda Williams Chima, and children's authors Tom Angleberger and Amy Ignatow. The complete list of authors can be found at www.readfest.org.

"The Southwest Florida Reading Festival has an outstanding reputation among authors and publishers which is how we continue to bring in great authors year after year," said festival coordinator Margie Byers. "The festival committee works year-round to recruit diverse and popular authors and they have done another stellar job this year."

The Southwest Florida Reading Festival is free and is 100 percent community supported through generous donations, sponsorships and grants. To help ensure the continuation of this free community event, visit www.readfest.org to make a secure online donation. Author information, dates of partner events, directions to the event and more are available at www.readfest.org or call 479-INFO (4636).✧

biggest piece of the pie.

The 13-member cast features Rachel Burttram, Chris Clavelli, Patricia Idlette, Carrie Lund, Sara Morsey, Jason Parrish, Brendan Powers, Brittany Albury, John Archie, Courtney Feiman, Cindy De La Cruz, Elise Lorraine Miller and Kayla Tomas.

Florida Rep Producing Artistic Director Robert Cacioppo directs the production, Dennis Maulden is the set designer, Jim Hunter is the lighting designer, Roberta Malcolm is the resident costume designer, John Kiselica is the sound designer and James Danford is the production stage manager.

Performances are Tuesday to Saturday at 8 p.m., with matinees on Wednesday, Sunday, and selected Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Dividing the Estate is sponsored by Bruce and Janet Bunch.

Tickets are on sale through the box office at 332-4488 and online at floridarep.org. Single tickets are \$49 and \$45; \$25 back row seating is available 48 hours in advance of each performance.

Florida Repertory Theatre performs in the historic Arcade Theatre on Bay Street between Jackson and Hendry streets with ample free parking in the Fort Myers River District.✧

Film Documents The Human Cost Of Food Supply



The Fort Myers Film Festival will present a screening of the independent documentary film *Food Chains* on Saturday, March 28 at 1 p.m. in the Foulds Theatre at the Alliance for the Arts.

A Q&A with members of the Coalition of Immokalee workers including Santiago Perez will follow the film.

The narrative of the film focuses on a highly-lauded group of tomato pickers from Southern Florida – the Coalition of Immokalee Workers or CIW – who are revolutionizing farm labor. Their story is one of hope and promise for the triumph



of morality over corporate greed, to ensure a dignified life for farm workers and a more humane, transparent food chain. The film's executive producers include Eva Longoria and Eric Schlosser.

There is more interest in food these days than ever, yet there is very little interest in the hands that pick it. Farmworkers, the foundation of our fresh food industry, are routinely abused and robbed of wages. In extreme cases they can be beaten, sexually harassed or even enslaved – all within the borders of the United States.

Food Chains reveals the human cost in our food supply and the complicity of large buyers of produce like fast food and supermarkets. Fast food is big, but supermarkets are bigger – earning \$4 trillion globally. They have tremendous power over the agricultural system. Over the past three decades they have drained revenue from their supply chain leaving farmworkers in poverty and forced to work under subhuman conditions. Yet many take no responsibility for this.

Seating is open and there is a \$5 suggested donation at the door. The Fort Myers Film Festival runs March 25 to 29 with screenings at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, Regal Cinemas Bell Tower, and Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

More information is available at ArtInLee.org or fortmyersfilmfestival.com.

The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard just south of Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.✧

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SANIBEL ISLAND



Cultural Festival At The Alliance



There is outdoor seating for attendees to watch the performances

The 4th annual Banglafest will return to the Alliance for the Arts on Sunday, April 5 from 12 to 5 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Organized by the Bangladeshi American Society of Southwest Florida, Banglafest consists of cultural performances which showcase the heritage of Bangladesh.

There will be fashion displays of cultural motifs, traditions in dressing and the colorful lifestyle. A food fair brings the authentic taste and rich flavors of Bangladeshi cuisine to the community. There will be local talent performing songs, music, arts, dance and fashion shows. The main attraction is Bangladeshi renowned singer Anima DeCosta, known for her melodious voice.

The Alliance for the Arts is at 10091 McGregor Boulevard.✽



Bangladeshi traditions are shared



There are plenty of attractions for all ages



A previous Banglafest

Blues By The Bay To Support Children

An evening of live music, food and drinks, will be held Tuesday, April 7 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sanibel waterfront home of Sandy Stilwell.

Blues by the Bay will feature samplings from Sanibel's finest restaurants and purveyors including Bailey's, Blue Coyote Supper Club, Keyline Bistro and SS Hookers. Fine wines and a signature Blue Bay Martini will be served courtesy of E&J Gallo Winery. The champagne sponsor is The Lighthouse Resort & Tiki Bar.

Live auction items will be offered and all proceeds will benefit the School Success programs for at-risk children in the Harlem Heights neighborhood in Fort Myers. Sponsors include Stilwell Enterprises. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available.

"It's important to me to be able to help our community," said Stilwell. "The Heights Foundation's mission is to build strong, self-sufficient families and education is the key to their success."

"Our School Success program includes academic tutoring, after-school and summer camp programs, scholarship and college access assistance, school supplies, and tuition support", said Kathryn Kelly, president and CEO of The Heights Foundation. "Each program is geared to meet the specific needs of children and young adults who seek to further their education."

Tickets are \$125 each. Sponsorships with exclusive benefits are also available. Purchase tickets at www.heightsfoundation.org/blues or call Laurie Stanley at 482-7706.

Harlem Heights was originally settled as a rural agricultural community. Approximately 780 children live in a mixture of single-family homes and multi-family apartments. Demographically, the population is approximately 70 percent Hispanic, 20 percent African-American and 8 percent Caucasian. The poverty rate for children in Harlem Heights is more than twice the county average, with family income 40 percent below the county average. Kelly says families are not able to easily access family support services located in downtown Fort Myers, and benefit greatly from programs located within the neighborhood.✽



Fort Myers Beach Art Association Art Bazaar And Student Exhibit

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA) invites residents and visitors to support the local student scholarship program through its Art Bazaar and Student Exhibit.

On March 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the association will be hosting an Art Bazaar fundraiser to raise funding for its annual student scholarships at Santini Marina Plaza on Fort Myers Beach. Members will have original artwork and prints for sale including framed and unframed work, cards, and more.

The proceeds from the sale contribute to a significant percentage of the scholarship funds awarded annually, totaling over \$4,000. The scholarships and cash awards are presented in April to area high school college bound students who will be studying the arts and have submitted an artwork entry to the art association gallery. The judge for this year will be Pat Fair, a well-known local artist and instructor.

The Student Art Exhibit will be on display in the Fort Myers Beach Art Association Gallery April 11 to 16. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 to 3 p.m. on Sunday. A reception for the Student Art Exhibit will be held Sunday, April 12 from 3 to 5 p.m.

This exhibit contains works from college bound seniors from Cypress Lake Center for the Arts, Cypress Lake High School as well as the work of sixth through eighth graders from Cypress Lake Middle School.

The gallery is currently hosting an exhibit from the Watercolor Group in Studio 2 during gallery hours. It will be on view through March 27.

For more information, call 463-3909 or stop by the Fort Myers Beach Art Association gallery located on Donora Boulevard and Shell Mound Boulevard, one mile south of the Matanzas Bridge. Visit www.fortmyersbeachart.com.✽



Art Bazaar shopper

American Vinyl Music Festival Returns

The American Vinyl All-Star Band, which features such legendary artists as Jeffrey "Skunk" Baxter (Doobie Brothers/Steely Dan), Barry Goudreau (formerly of Boston), Fran Sheehan (formerly of Boston), Leroy "LRS" Romans (The Wailers/3rd World), Robert "Mousey" Thompson (James Brown) and Danny Beissel (Fosterchild), will perform a special benefit concert for Wounded Warrior Project at Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers on Saturday, March 28 from 2 to 10 p.m.

The 4th annual American Vinyl Music Festival will mark the All-Stars' fourth consecutive year performing for Wounded Warrior Project and to celebrate the band has invited some of rock n' roll's most iconic musicians to join them on stage.

Special guests will include Steve Augeri (former lead singer of Journey) and his band; Charlie Colin of Train; Chaz Trippy of the Gregg Allman Band; Phil Stokes of Pure Prairie League; Shawn Beamer of Molly Hatchet and Sally Taylor. The inspirational vocals of Kyle Cousins from Rock4Autism, The Tucci Band, Buck 22, The Sean Chambers Band, Sarah Hadeka & Nothing Serious are also scheduled to appear throughout the event.

Currently touring at select venues across the country, The American Vinyl All-Star Band has delighted fans and critics alike with their versatile style, professional musicianship and years of experience performing with some of the most recognized bands in the industry.

Tickets are available now at www.eventbrite.com. A portion of all ticket sales



benefit Wounded Warrior Project.

Wounded Warrior Project has a vision of of wounded service members in our nation's history. To achieve this objective, WWP is committed to a lifetime of service and commitment through its mission: to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. WWP currently serves more than 65,000 warriors and nearly 9,500 family members through its 20 unique programs and services.

To get involved and learn more, visit woundedwarriorproject.org. ✨



Piano Concert Offered At FGCU

The Bower School of Music & the Arts at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) presents Piano Music of Mozart and Schubert from Seoul, South Korea as the final concert of the 2014-15 Faculty & Guest Artist Series. The performance takes place on Thursday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the U. Tobe Recital Hall and will feature Daehyun Kim, pianist.

Kim's international performances and recordings are noted for their sensitivity and emotional content. He has taught at Indiana University, Seoul National University and several other institutions of higher education. He is currently vice professor at Myungii College of Music.

Tickets for this event are \$10 for the general public and \$7 for students and are available for purchase online at www.fgcu.edu/cas/bsm or at the door.

For more information, contact Joanna Hoch at 745-4268 or jhoch@fgcu.edu. ✨



Daehyun Kim

Pigs Rock Lunchbox Series Musical

Florida Repertory Theatre's Lunchbox Series returns to the Alliance for the Arts on Saturday, April 11 at 11 a.m. with *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*.

"They made me the Big Bad Wolf. That's it. The real story. I was framed." There are two sides to every story – even *The Three Little Pigs*. Based on the beloved children's book, this rock musical goes inside the trial of the century as Alexander T. Wolf answers for his crimes against HAM-anity! Audiences of all ages will huff and puff with laughter as they help to decide the fate of the alleged Big Bad Wolf.

The show is recommended for grades 4 through 8. The \$12 admission price includes the performance, lunch and an interactive post-show workshop with the



actors and producers. Reservations are required to guarantee your lunch order. Tickets are available at floridarepeducation.org or through the Florida Rep box office at 332-4488.

The Alliance for the Arts is at 10091 McGregor Boulevard, just south of Colonial Boulevard, in Fort Myers. ✨

New Non-Stop Fort Myers To Cincinnati Service Announced

The Lee County Port Authority announced last week that Frontier Airline's will begin daily non-stop service between Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW) and Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG) on April 30.

For more information or to book a flight, visit www.flyfrontier.com. ✨



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Iconic Comedy At Broadway Palm



Scenes from *The Odd Couple*

Off Broadway Palm Theatre presents the Tony Award-winning comedy *The Odd Couple* playing now through May 2. This iconic, comedic masterpiece by Neil Simon premiered on Broadway in 1965, was revived in a successful 1968 film and 1970s television series and has just recently been revived again in a new television sitcom on CBS.

Felix Ungar, a neat-freak news writer, is thrown out by his wife. His only refuge is with his best friend, Oscar Madison, a recently divorced, messy sportswriter. After only a short time together, Oscar feels compelled to throw his new roommate out, but he quickly realizes that Felix



may have had a positive effect on him. This unusual pair, with distinctly different approaches to life, love and housework, has been an audience favorite for 50 years.

The Odd Couple is directed by Victor Legarreta. Playing the role of Felix Ungar is Off Broadway Palm's artistic director, Paul Bernier, and playing Oscar Madison is Broadway Palm veteran, Rob Summers. Other cast members include Eric Cover, Paul Glodfelter, Amy Marie McCleary, Katie Pankow, Jerry Sciarrio and Rick Sebastian.

The intimate 100-seat theater is located in the main lobby of Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

Performances are Tuesday through Sunday evenings with selected matinees. Tickets are \$31 to \$51 with group discounts available for parties of 20 or more. They can be reserved by calling 278-4422, by visiting www.BroadwayPalm.com or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. ✱



Alliance For The Arts To Launch New Logo And Campus Enrichment Plan



Images being used social media

The Alliance For the Arts is celebrating its 40th anniversary. From its beginning in 1975, the Alliance has continuously grown and evolved to better serve the arts community, members and the public at large. Its 10-acre campus on the corner of McGregor and Colonial boulevards in Fort Myers is a place where people connect to the arts. The non-profit also advocates for the importance of art to both individuals and the broader economy.

On Tuesday, March 24, the Alliance will launch its brand new logo, campus enrichment plan and its plans for the future. The celebration begins with a presentation at 6 p.m. followed by a reception. RSVP at ArtInLee.org or call 939-2787.

The Alliance for the Arts supports artists and arts organizations in our area as the state designated Local Arts Agency for Lee County. The campus and galleries are open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. ✱

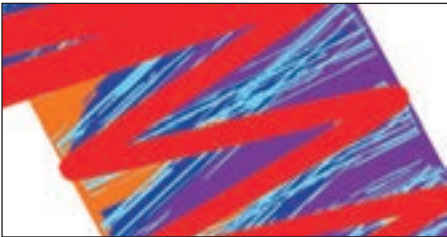


Image the Alliance has used on social media

Creating In Paradise

An art exhibition by members of the National League of American Pen Women Southwest Florida branch will take place at the Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center from March 6 through March 24, during Women's History Month.

The league was established in 1897 by a group of career women in the arts working in Washington, D.C., home of the official headquarters, serving 185 branches throughout the U.S. It is dedicated to the development of creative talents of professional women artists, writers, and composers.

Famous pen women include Georgia O'Keeffe, Marjorie Stoneman Douglas, Willa Cather and Vinnie Ream.

The Southwest Florida branch was established in 1977, serving members from Naples to Punta Gorda. It is comprised of professional award- and grant-winning artists and writers whose works are in numerous public and private col-



lections, museums and libraries and are published nationally and internationally.

This exhibition is inspired by the sunny and tropical Florida environment and showcases the creativity and originality of this group of women in the arts.

The Davis art center is at 2301 First Street, downtown Fort Myers. ✱

Share your community news with us.
Call 415-7732, Fax: 415-7702
or email press@riverweekly.com

A Romantic Comedy At Lab Theater



by Di Saggau

Same Time, Next Year is a charming, romantic comedy by Bernard Slade that has been around since 1975. It's now showing at Laboratory Theater of Florida, and it remains a

real crowd-pleaser. The two-person play stars James Recca and Tammy Richardson as George and Doris, a couple who, though they're married to others, meet once a year for romantic trysts at an inn in Northern California. The hotel room remains the same, but time marches on as we follow the characters through the ups and downs of 25 years in their lives. Their intimacy and need for each other grows and changes

Although the play focuses on infidelity, there is an underlying sweetness and gentleness to the tale. We like George and Doris and sympathize with their need for each other. We watch them grow over the course of time. Each of the six scenes in the play is spaced five years apart. A



James Recca and Tammy Richardson in *Same Time, Next Year*

radio announces news headlines of the day to let us know the time frame.

A lot of energy emerges as the characters develop. During the time they spend with each other, they discuss the births, deaths and marital problems each is experiencing at home, while they adapt themselves to the changes affecting their lives. The play works as a social history of two decades that include a bitterly divisive war as well as enormous social changes.

There is a fine, natural interaction between Recca and Richardson. The dialogue, while somewhat dated, is still

enjoyable. Doris tells George, "I was a virgin when I got married, sort of." She tells George that her husband says the best years of his life were when he was in the service. She goes on to say that three of those years were spent in a Japanese prison camp.

Director Scott Carpenter has created an amusing show with great performances. *Same Time, Next Year* plays through March 28 at Laboratory Theater of Florida, 1634 Woodford Avenue in Downtown Fort Myers. For tickets call 218-0481.✱

Symphony Series For Youngsters

Gulf Coast Symphony concludes its 2015 Musical Discovery Series at the Alliance for the Arts on Saturday, April 25 from 10 to 11 a.m. with an exploration of percussion. The free event allows children to meet musicians and learn about their instruments in a fun, relaxed environment. There's a Musical Discovery Zone and mini concert followed by a Q&A with musicians.

The program is recommended for grades K to 6th and is free with a suggested \$5 family donation. Family programming at the Alliance is supported in part by the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs.

The Gulf Coast Symphony works to contribute to the cultural enrichment of Lee County by producing and performing a broad variety of concerts and creating a diverse, innovative, and balanced program of performances, events, and community and education projects that reaches the widest possible public. Learn more at www.gulfcoastsymphony.org.

Visit www.ArtInLee.org or call 939-2787 to learn more.

The Alliance campus and galleries are open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard just south of Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.✱

A Comedy Then And Now By Tom Stoppard

by Di Saggau

Arcadia by Tom Stoppard is hailed as his richest, most ravishing comedy to date. A play of wit, intellect, language, brio and emotion. It's a complicated piece and is now showing at Theatre Conspiracy.

Arcadia is played in two time frames, 1809 and the present, by two sets of characters. They share the same English country house in Sidley Park and occasionally the same stage props, including an ancient tortoise that's named Plautus in 1809 and Lightning today. It appears in every scene, symbolizing long-suffering endurance and the continuity of existence. The activities of two modern scholars and the house's current residents are juxtaposed with those of the people who lived there in the earlier period.

The play opens in 1809 with Septimus Hodge (Juan Alejandro) trying to distract 13-year-old Thomasina (Holly Hagan) from her curiosity about "carnal embrace." Their conversation is interrupted by Ezra Chater (Trevor Beauvois-Kinney) a poet and guest at the house who is angry that his wife was caught in a "carnal embrace" with Septimus. He demands a duel.

The next scene is present day. Hannah Jarvis (Angel Christine Duncan) is researching the house and garden.



Juan Alejandro and Holly Hagan

Bernard Nightingale (Josh Chapman) enters with Chloe Coverly (Paige Grant). He conceals his identity from Hannah because he gave her last book a poor review. When Chloe accidentally reveals Bernard's identity, Hannah reacts angrily but agrees to share her research material, which enables him to propose the theory that one of the 1809 inhabitants, Chater, was killed in a duel by Lord Byron. This mystery is at the center of *Arcadia*.

The scenes continue to go back and forth with characters that are often driven, very intelligent and furiously articulate. They address art, science, history, love, truth and how they intersect.

Most reviewers love this play. I'm still

trying to figure out why it was not my cup of tea. Opening night, I had trouble hearing some of the dialogue and this is a play where every word counts. I loved the costuming and the concept. Artistic Director Bill Taylor is to be applauded for bringing cutting edge drama to our area.

Others in the cast are Jim Yarnes, Austin Harn, Joann Haley, Patrick Hart, Jacob Alganon Beal and Ashtin Trueblood.

Arcadia plays through March 28 at Theatre Conspiracy at the Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. Call 936-3239 for tickets or log onto theatreconspiracy.org.✱

From page 9

Fort Myers Fare

for patrons. The GPS coordinates are 26°27'23.41" N • 81°57'15.18" W.

1131 First Street, Fort Myers Beach at the Fort Myers Historic Seaport at Nervous Nellie's Marina. Call 463-8077.

SS HOOKERS

Get hooked on great cuisine and spirits at SS Hookers. The restaurant pays tribute to the rich history of Punta Rassa, the home of big game fishing. It serves American cuisine with a Cajun twist. Waterview dining is available daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

After a triumphant day of fishing, bring your catch to the restaurant: "If you hook it, our chef will cook it."

A late night bar features live music nightly. A fresh seafood market, bait shop and gifts are also on site.

17501 Harbour Pointe Drive, Fort Myers. Call 466-4377.

SUNSHINE GRILLE

Formerly known as the Sunshine Seafood Cafe and Lounge, Sunshine Grille serves all of your favorite dishes for lunch and dinner. In addition to its previous menu, the restaurant is also serving gourmet flat breads prepared in a wood fire stove with fresh oak. Wood-fired steaks fill out the menu, including a ribeye and a porterhouse, to go along with our famous wood fired filet mignon.

Happy hour and live music are featured daily.

8700 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers. Call 489-2233.✱

Lee Democrats Celebrate Goal Of Equality



Arlene Goldberg

On March 6, Lee County Democrats came together at Fort Myers Unitarian Universalist Church to celebrate their goal of true equality for all. The evening was a unique opportunity to view equality through different lenses: marriage, income, race, immigration and gender.

Arlene Goldberg's story of the fight for marriage equality is especially poignant. When Arlene's wife and partner of nearly 50 years, Carol Goldwasser, passed away last year, Goldberg was unable to be listed as spouse on the death certificate or to collect survivor Social Security benefits. When she read in the newspapers that



Nely Rodriguez and her translator

there was a lawsuit against the State of Florida by the ACLU and SAVE, she joined the eight other same-sex couples who had married elsewhere in the U.S. She didn't view herself as an activist, but was driven by passion and circumstance to fight what seemed like an injustice.

In August 2014, U.S. District Judge Robert L. Hinkle of Tallahassee ruled that Florida's gay marriage ban was unconstitutional, paving the way for Florida to become the 36th state to recognize and allow same sex marriages. And Goldberg was able to be recognized as "wife" on Goldwasser's death certificate.

Nely Rodriguez, a member and organizer of the Coalition of Immokalee

Workers (CIW), spoke in Spanish about her experiences as a female worker in the tomato fields of Florida. The CIW has been a pioneer in the prosecution of numerous multi-state farm worker slavery operations across the Southeastern U.S. Rodriguez has been active in the establishment of the Fair Food Program, which has enlisted major retailers and restaurant chains to pressure most of Florida's tomato growers to increase wages, mandate rest breaks and forbid sexual harassment and verbal abuse of their workers. She said that the Fair Food Program has markedly improved the lives of field workers through shorter days, higher pay and better working conditions for the

thousands of laborers who pick the crops. Although things are better, much remains to be done.

Rodriguez was one of 21 women, chosen from 200 nominees to be highlighted in WGPU Public Media's project *2013 Makers: Women Who Make Southwest Florida*. She also accepted the 2013 Franklin D. Roosevelt Freedom from Want Medal on behalf of the CIW, and was recognized with the 2012 Woman of Courage Award from UNANIMA.

Other notable speakers included:

- Edgar E. Felix, a former NFL player who has been training members of the community to assist families being torn apart by unresolved immigration issues;

- Jim Brantley, a former fire rescue services worker turned labor attorney and expert on labor and employment law matters. He helps his clients solve labor and employment law issues;

- Abdul' haq Muhammed, executive director of the Quality Life Center and community leader. His vision for uplifting children and adults is being realized in the programs at the center;

- Dr. Maureen McKenna, president of the Democratic Women's Club of Florida, which provides forums for discussion of public matters and supports and encourages qualified women to seek elected office.

April Freeman, 2016 Democratic Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, 19th Florida District, spoke briefly about her passion for equality, one of her three big campaign issues in the 2014 election.

The evening was organized by members of the Lee County Democratic Party. Entertainment was provided by performers from the Quality Life Center and by singer/guitarist Kelly Neff.✴

Market Outlook Conference In April

An economic outlook conference returns to Florida Gulf Coast University on Friday, April 3. The Lutgert College of Business at FGCU is partnering with Christensen Financial, Inc., and The Mortgage Bankers Association of Southwest Florida to present an annual review and outlook for our national and regional economies. It will take place from 8:45 to 11 a.m. at the Cohen Center Ballroom on the campus of FGCU.

The regionally- and nationally-known featured speakers are: David Altig, director of research and executive vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta; Douglas Duncan, senior vice president and chief economist at Fannie Mae; and Gary Jackson, director of the Regional Economic Research Institute at FGCU, who will share important information and insights on the regional economy.

The Market Outlook 2015 Conference follows a long-standing tradition of bringing nationally-known speakers from the Federal Reserve Banks and other agencies, such as Fannie Mae, who can provide key insights into the regional economy.

"This is a great conference that focuses on our economy and brings faculty, students, businesses, government, and citizens together to understand and discuss the latest information on the economy," said Robert Beatty, dean of the Lutgert College of Business. "Gary Jackson and Nigel Fullick, of Christensen Financial, have brought similar conferences to FGCU benefiting students, faculty, staff and the local business community."

"Nigel has been a strong supporter of FGCU, the Lutgert College of Business, its students and faculty," said Jackson. "The conference is a great way to bring the business community together to understand and discuss our economic environment. Nigel also spearheaded the effort to obtain the support of prominent local businesses and organizations including the City of Bonita Springs, The *Naples Daily News*, Mortgage Bankers Association of Southwest Florida, John R. Wood Properties, CNL Bank, Conroy, Conroy & Durant, and the Bonita-Estero Area Board of Realtors."

"The Federal Reserve Bank is a strong supporter of programs which provide an educational forum for the public, professionals, and especially students on factors shaping our economic present and future," said Fullick. "Dave Altig is headquartered in Atlanta and is the primary research director for the Atlanta Fed's territory that includes Florida, Alabama, Georgia, and portions of Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee."

Doug Duncan is a preeminent source for the real estate and banking industry, as Fannie Mae is the largest provider of liquidity for residential mortgage loans in the United States and played a major role in guiding the residential real estate market recovery."

"The MBA is proud to be supporting an event that will also provide scholarship awards to three finance and economics students," said MBA of Southwest Florida president, Teresa Walker.

Sponsors are invited to a special breakfast with the Market Outlook presenters at 8 a.m. on the day of the event. For information on the event, sponsoring a table or purchasing individual tickets, log onto www.mbaswf.org or call Gisela Gonzalez at 949-7423.✴

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April Events At Davis Art Center



Florida Artists Group member, *Playing The Passage II*

Florida Artists Group (FLAG), a statewide non-profit arts organization formed by retired professional artists as a not-for-profit corporation promoting two- and three-dimensional art, will be in display at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center April 3, from 6 to 10 p.m. during Art Walk. Admission is free.

The work of FLAG members ranges from traditional realism to monumental, unique and unusual abstraction. Exhibit on display through April 24.

April 3: Closing exhibit party for Cuban American artist Antonio Guerrero. Exhibit is titled *Tailor Boat*. Free, 6 to 10 p.m.

April 7: Art Talk Tuesday. Meet the artist and join in a walk and talk about the exhibiting art work, learn about different mediums and see what inspires and evokes

From page 1

Thunderbird Exhibition



The Ford Thunderbird Exhibition returns on April 4

there have been several different models, but the nostalgia has never waned.

A portion of the proceeds from the Thunderbird show will benefit the restoration of the antique car collection of Edison Ford. Visitors can look forward to:

- "Henry and Clara Ford" leading informal tours throughout the event
- Thunderbird Car Talks
- Everglades BBQ for purchase at the Ford Cottage Lawn
- Live Music with The Flash Back Duo

Admission to the Thunderbird show is free for Edison Ford members, while non-member admission is \$20 for adults and \$11 for children, which includes an audio tour as well as admission to see the homes, gardens, laboratory and museum.

Thunderbird owners can register their car for this special show by calling LEEANNE CRISWELL at 334-7419. There is no fee for registration.✧



Cypress String Quartet

the artist to create. Held Tuesdays following the first Friday opening Art Walk exhibit. \$5 admission; 7 to 9 p.m.

April 9: Connect Networking. Positive and inspiring networking event, with uplifting topics, guest speakers, raffle prizes and appetizers. Expand your business and personal relationships. Held the second Thursday of every month, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. \$10 general admission; \$30 business promotional table

April 11: Luau of Life Event, an evening of Polynesian and tropical fun. It includes all the excitement and spectacle of a traditional luau in a venue set with tropical ambiance with something for each of the senses and includes traditional hula and fire dancing. Luau of Life benefits Pediatric Oncology Research.

Runs 6 to 10 p.m., \$150 per person, \$250 couple, \$1,200 VIP table.

April 20: Famous Author Lunch & Lecture with Deirdre Marie Capone. Born in Chicago, to a large Italian family, Capone is the author of the recently published *Uncle Al Capone: The Untold Story from Inside the Family* (Recap Publishing, 2012). She is the only remaining Capone family member with first-hand knowledge of her family's legacy. Tickets \$35, tables of eight, \$350. Noon to 2 p.m.

April 23: Art & Poetry Networking Event. An evening of local art and poetry. Artists will showcase their work for the local community. Also this is a chance for anyone and everyone to come and meet upcoming artists and poets in the area. 8 p.m., \$10 admission

April 24: Cypress String Quartet, sponsored by Rob and Ruth Diefenbach.

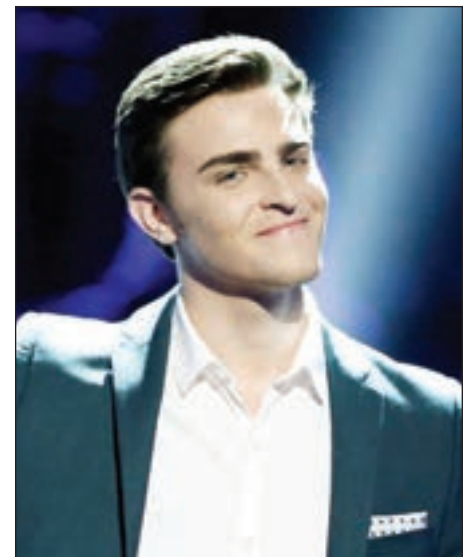
The quartet has been praised by *Gramophone* for its "artistry of uncommon insight and cohesion," and its sound has been called "beautifully proportioned and powerful" by *The Washington Post*. The Cypress Quartet was formed in San Francisco in 1996. Cocktails at 7 p.m., performance 8 p.m. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door

April 20-26 and April 29-May 3: Ghostbird Theater presents: *The Guardsman* by Ferenc Molnár, directed by Barry Cavin. It depicts a married celebrity couple behaving badly. Way before Beyonce and JayZ, even before Liz and Richard, there was the Actor and the Actress! James Brock's new translation delivers all the farcical hilarity but doesn't shy away from the dark interiors of jealousy and suspicion that haunt all couples – famous or not. Hollywood might have made this story before but it was never seen quite like this. Admission \$10, curtain 8 p.m.

April 26: Ricky Manning in Concert. Manning, from the NBC reality singing competition series *The Voice*, performs live, organized by the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center Junior Board of Directors. Opens 6:30 p.m., \$15 general admission, \$25 VIP Meet and Greet, \$25.✧



Florida Artists Group member, *Honey Textures Of Tuscany*



Ricky Manning

Kelly Greens Golf & Tennis Classic Raised \$40,000 For Hope Hospice



Lynn Larsen, Larry and Roxanne Enright and Kathy and Mike Catalano



Larry Enright, Allen Nasif



Frank Phillips, Merril Pyes



Steve Mansfield and Red and Ram Crandall



Rich Sherwood and John Beresticki



Sue and Peter Loal

Kelly Greens Golf & Country Club hosted its 14th annual Golf and Tennis Classic to benefit Hope Hospice. Together, 140 golfers and tennis players raised \$40,000, including proceeds from both silent and live auctions held during the evening's banquet.

Hope Hospice is a nonprofit health care organization dedicated to providing care and comfort to every individual and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey. For more information, call 454-3100 or visit www.HopeHCS.org.

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Sip in Style Fashion Bash will take place at Bell Tower Shops' Center Court

Spring Fashion Show To Benefit Local Charities

On Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m., The Bell Tower Shops will host Sip in Style Fashion Bash, showcasing Spring 2015's hot trends for men and women from retailers including

Saks Fifth Avenue, Talbots and White House | Black Market. Models include representatives from Scott Fisher Enterprises, Florida Southwestern State College, Lee County Sheriff's Office, Edison National Bank, Gulf Coast Humane Society and Edison Ford Winter Estates. Beginning at 5 p.m., VIP guests will be treated to cocktail service and light hors d'oeuvres for \$20 per person. Proceeds from VIP tickets will benefit Dress for Success and Blessings in a Backpack. VIP seating is limited to the first 200 customers and reservations are encouraged. To reserve VIP seating, call 489-1221.

Sip in Style Fashion Bash is presented by Dr. Flaharty & Azul Cosmetic Surgery & Medical Spa and additional sponsors include Florida Weekly, Y100, 95.3 The River, Living Local and Edison National Bank. It will be one of the first events to be held in the newly renovated Center Court space at The Bell Tower Shops. The specially designed space features the area's first stage-in-the-round, which will provide excellent show visibility from any angle. About The Bell Tower Shops: The dog-friendly Bell Tower Shops is an open-air lifestyle center, located in Fort Myers at U.S. 41 and Daniels Parkway, with 40 retailers, including Saks Fifth Avenue and The Fresh Market, several restaurants and Bell Tower 20 Regal Cinemas. To learn more, log onto www.TheBellTowerShops.com, or call 489-1221. Dress for Success promotes economic independence of disadvantaged women by



Rebecca Goff models a dress at a previous show while Krista Fogelsong acts as emcee

providing professional attire, a network of support, and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Blessings in a Backpack provides elementary schoolchildren who are on the federal free and reduced price meal program with a backpack of food to take home for 38 weekends during the school year.

Twins First-Round Pick Has 95 MPH Arm As Shortstop, Not Pitcher



by Ed Frank

Close your eyes and imagine you are a first-baseman set to catch a blazing 95-mile-an-hour throw from your shortstop.

Once you dip your hand in ice water to relieve the pain, you realize that missile didn't come from any ordinary shortstop – a position where a hard throw might average 80 mph.

The description above belongs to 19-year-old Nick Gordon, the Minnesota Twins first-round draft pick last year (5th overall), and whose name could make baseball headlines for years to come.

It's no wonder that the polite, friendly youngster possesses such a rocket arm when you consider his baseball genes. His father, Tom "Flash" Gordon, was a Major League three-time All-Star, whose 21-year career included a record 54 straight pitching saves. And older brother, Dee, 26, the second baseman for the Miami Marlins, led the Major Leagues last year with 64 stolen bases and 12 triples. He was traded to the Marlins from the Los Angeles Dodgers last December.

Nick, a Florida native, signed with the Twins for a hefty \$3.8 million bonus just four days after drafted. He had starred as both a pitcher and shortstop at Olympia High School in Orlando where he was named Florida Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year.

When selected by the Twins last June, Twins General Manager Terry Ryan said the teenager had been scouted by nine of his scouts just that year and 16 scouts in the last two years. According to *Baseball America*, he had the best infield arm in the 2014 draft.

Nick had verbally committed to a full-ride baseball scholarship to Florida State but, after lengthy discussions with his family and agent, decided to pursue a professional career. However, as a top student in high school with a 3.5 grade point average, he intends to work towards a college degree via the Internet.

Soon after signing with the Twins last year, he was assigned to their rookie Elizabethton farm team of the Appalachian League where he hit a solid .294 in 57 games and was named to the league's post-season All-Star team.

He enters the 2015 season as the 33rd best prospect in baseball according to MLB.com, and will likely start this year at Low A Cedar Rapids of the Midwest League, according to Brad Steil, the Twins director of Minor League operations.

As a high school junior as both a pitcher and shortstop, he hit .505 and was 5-1 as a pitcher with a miniscule .078 ERA. But he concentrated solely on the shortstop position in his senior year when he blasted a .494 average.

We asked Nick what role his father played in the decision to forgo pitching for the infield. "He didn't push me either way but I inherited my arm strength from my father," he said referring to his whiplash throw from short to first.

His older brother, Dee, "is the fastest man on earth," he said while explaining his

64 stolen bases last season. "But I'm pretty fast myself." He had 11 stolen bases in his rookie year at Elizabethton.

Although his All-Star father played as recently as 2010, he has not continued a baseball career as a coach or scout, preferring to travel to watch his sons in action. It's a closely-knit family. A middle brother is completing his master's degree, a 16-year-old sister "is the family princess and my Mom is the queen," Nick joked.

A first-round draft pick brings with it the pressure to perform. "I love the pressure. I want to get better every day," he said.

The 6-foot, 2-inch left-handed hitting shortstop trained this past off-season with Hall-of-Fame shortstop Barry Larkin. Nick also lifted weights in a competitive gym and worked out at the IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida.

Nick Gordon knows it's a long step-by-step road from Minor League baseball to Major League baseball. His father and brother traveled that road successfully. It's a good bet that the younger Gordon, with that 95-mile-an-hour throwing arm, will follow that path.✪



Twins first-round draft pick Nick Gordon

From page 15

Be A Police Recruit For The Day

receive a T-shirt.

"You won't find a better way to learn about the dangerous and difficult jobs the men and women who serve as law enforcement officers do than by attending the one-day academy program," said Todd G. Everly, academy director. "The instructors are experts in their fields because they are current, in-the-field professionals. The objective of this program is to produce informed citizens who understand what our law enforcement professionals experience every day."

The course fee is \$50 and registration forms are available at the academy's website, www.swfpa.org.

The Southwest Florida Public Service Academy provides certified education in criminal justice, firefighting and public works. It is a program of the School District of Lee County and is open to high school graduates or those with a GED equivalent who are 18 years old or older.✪

Solar Go-Kart Races At FGCU

Teams from area schools are tuning up their entries for the third annual High School Solar Go-Kart Challenge presented on Saturday, March 21 by the Whitaker Center for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education and the Renewable Energy Institute at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU).

A dozen South Florida high schools will compete in races from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the main campus loop. They are Barron Collier, Bishop Verot, Clewiston, Gulf Coast, Hardee, Immokalee, Key West, Labelle, Lely, Naples, North Fort Myers and South Fort Myers. Students have spent months building the go-karts from kits, customizing their vehicles in hopes of outpacing their competitors. The vehicles can reach up to 30 mph.

Elementary and middle school teams will race miniature solar-powered cars from 2 to 4 p.m. An awards ceremony will be held afterward.

Spectators are welcome to watch the races and should arrive on campus by 10:30 a.m. to avoid lane closures and

traffic delays. Visitors should use Parking Area 3 or Parking Garage 3. The race start and finish line will be in front of Parking Garage 4.

The event is the culmination of the yearlong STEM Tour organized by the STEM Team of SW Florida, a group of community leaders, educators and parents advocating for programming that engages K-12 students in fun learning activities in the designated fields of study. Other events included a solar-oven cook-off at the Imaginarium Science Center, a solar boat race at Algenol Biofuels in Bonita Springs and an energy challenge at The Village School in Naples. The hands-on activity gives students the chance to learn critical thinking skills while having fun, according to chemistry professor Laura Frost, director of the Whitaker Center.

"Students learn through doing instead of through listening to a teacher or reading about it in a book," she said. "Building a mini-solar car or a solar go-kart requires lots of testing and problem solving before race day."

For more information, go to www.fgcu.edu/WhitakerCenter or contact the Whitaker Center at 590-7444 or lfrost@fgcu.edu.✪

Lionfish Fest Is About Raising Funds And Banishing These Pesky Fish

The Heights Foundation and Lee Reefs are hosting the second annual Lionfish Fest, Feast on the Beast on Sunday, March 29 from 3: to 6 p.m. at The Heights Center, Fort Myers.

The public is invited to join celebrated local chefs who will present a unique twist on Florida fare – delectable lionfish from gulf waters. Guests will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite dish. The event will include door prizes, auction items, a signature tropical drink by Wicked Dolphin and live music, as well as displays about lionfish and our reefs. Mitch and Billy from ScubaNation will present their crazy underwater videos. Kellie Burns of NBC-2 will emcee the event. Admission is \$50 per person, free for children under 12.

The goal is to raise awareness of the invasive lionfish and the importance of conservation of local reefs. All proceeds of the events will benefit Lee Reef's Marine Management Fund and The Heights Center.

"Lionfish are an invasive species that have no natural enemies," said Mike Campbell, environmental specialist and artificial reef director for Lee County Division of Natural Resources. "If there can be public demand for the filets that are delicate, white and comparable to hHogfish, it's possible to create a sustainable fishery and lessen the harmful impact on our reefs. Our goal is to give seafood suppliers, restaurateurs and the public the opportunity to become familiar with lionfish."

"We are excited to host the second annual Lionfish Fest at The Heights Center," said Kathryn Kelly, president and CEO of The Heights Foundation. "Lionfish are delicious and our talented local chefs will come up with some amazing recipes and samplings. This will be a fun event for the entire family."

To purchase tickets for the Lionfish Fest visit www.heightsfoundation.org/lionfish or contact Laurie Stanley at 482-7706 or lauries@heightsfoundation.org.✪



Individual award winners, from left: Ben Styra, Logan Banks, Laura Goranova, McKenzie Mader, Adele Howard, Sydney Marcy, Anusha Malik, Zach Costa, Cameron Uig, Max Ahmadi and Jared Oliitsky

Crestwell Students Win STEM Awards

The Florida Gulf Coast University STEM Competition is offered by the Department of Chemistry and Mathematics to encourage students to develop their interests and abilities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Crestwell students participated in the individual and team competitions.

The award winners are: Life Science: Laura Goranova, 2nd place; Jared Oliitsky, 6th place; Sydney Marcy, 7th place; and Erika Dinsmore, 8th place. Earth & Space Science: Logan Banks, 1st place; Ben Styra, 8th place. Physical Science: Zach Costa, 7th place; McKenzie Mader, 8th place. Math & Engineering: Adele Howard, 3rd place; Cameron Ugi, 4th place; Max Ahmadi, 7th place; and Anusha Malik, 8th place.



Adele Howard, Sydney Marcy, Matthew Cooper and Anusha Malik, who placed fourth in the team competition



Letter Carrier Food Drive Is May 9

Letter carriers in Lee County are gearing up for the 23rd annual national letter carrier food drive. The nation's largest single-day food drive, Stamp Out Hunger, will be held on Saturday, May 9. This is the one day when letter carriers collect non-perishable food that has been left at mailboxes.

Seasonal residents returning home before May 9 may drop off their contributions at any post office.

Summer is coming, school will be out, and the need for food assistance will be great. Food collected in Lee County will be distributed by the Harry Chapin Food Bank and several other agencies. All food

collected in this food drive is distributed to participating agencies at no cost.

Businesses can set up collection boxes for employees and customers who may not be able to leave food at their mailboxes on May 9. Non-perishable food in unopened, non-breakable containers may be donated. Items especially in need are peanut butter, tuna, rice, beans, canned meats, fruits, vegetables and soups.

Volunteers are needed to assist letter carriers with their pickups. For more information in Lee County, contact Megan Fasig with the United Way at 433-2000 ext. 228 megan@unitedwaylee.org.

Volunteers are also needed to help at post offices with preliminary food sorting on May 9. Contact Tanya Phillips at Harry Chapin Food Bank at 334-7007 ext. 141 or tanyaphillips@harrychapin-foodbank.org, or Kim Berghs at United Way at 433-2000 ext. 260 or kim@unitedwaylee.org.

FGCU Hosts 26th Annual Wanderlust Event

Training tomorrow's resort and hospitality professionals is a vital mission in a place like Southwest Florida, where tourism is among the top industries, employing one of every five people.

It's the mission of Florida Gulf Coast University's School of Resort & Hospitality Management (RHM) to prepare tomorrow's leaders in these industries and the school's annual fundraiser, the Wanderlust Travel Extravaganza, plays a critical role in accomplishing that goal.

The 26th annual Wanderlust is set to take place from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on

Saturday, April 11 at Herbert J. Sugden Hall on the FGCU campus. The festive evening features food stations, unlimited drinks, and live and silent auctions, which include travel packages, fine wines and rounds of golf at some of the region's finest courses.

This year's food stations will be provided by SS Hookers, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa, and RHM students led by chef/instructor James Fraser.

Tickets for this year's event start at \$150 per person.

Wanderlust began as a fundraising event organized by the region's hospitality industry to bring awareness to importance of the industry and the need to provide training for future leaders. Once FGCU began its Resort and Hospitality program in 2003, funding was directed to its operation and scholarships for its students.

In recent years, students from the RHM program took over the planning and production. Many of the auction packages are donated by hospitality industry leaders, who make up the school's Advisory Board. Planning the event themselves creates a sense of pride among the students as they apply what they learn in classes to create a successful fundraising event.

For further information, visit www.fgcu.edu/wanderlust or contact FGCU Associate Professor Scott Lee at slee@fgcu.edu or Alana Martin at agsmartin@fgcu.edu.

Share your community news with us.

Call 415-7732, Fax: 415-7702 or email press@riverweekly.com

Pine Island Flatwoods Nature Walk



A pine lily in bloom at Pine Island Flatwoods.

A Lee County volunteer naturalist will lead a mile long nature walk at Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 28. The preserve is located at 6351 Stringfellow Road, St. James City.

The 90-minute walk takes participants through a longleaf pine flat woods that is home to gopher tortoises and bright orange pine lilies. Fire plays a major role in the maintenance of this habitat, which once covered large areas of the southeastern United States.

No reservations are required and participants should dress for the weather and wear sturdy walking shoes. Call 707-8251 for more information.

Habitat Home To Be Dedicated To Volunteer Harold Elsesser, 91



Harold Elsesser and Donna Aldrich at the Habitat Family Reunion

With over 20,000 volunteer hours and 25 years of service, Harold Elsesser is the longest running volunteer for Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry counties in the world, second only to former president and first lady Jimmy and Roslyn Carter. At age 91, Elsesser continues to lead volunteers, known as Harold's Group, for Habitat on a weekly basis, rehabbing homes for low-income families in need.

Last year, to honor his 90th birthday, Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry recognized him for his selfless service at the Habitat Family Reunion party. He was presented with 90 nails to be used in a Habitat home bearing his name.

That Habitat home will be dedicated on Friday, March 20, at 10:30 a.m. at 1002 Winsome Road, North Fort Myers. Anyone who would like to attend the dedication ceremony is invited. The new homeowner as well as Elsesser will be there for the key presentation and refreshments will be served afterwards.

For more information on the dedication or how to donate time or funds to the mission of Habitat for Humanity, call 652-0434.✽

Uncommon Friends Board Members

Nine community leaders have been named to the Uncommon Friends Foundation's Board of Directors. They are

- Gaile Anthony, retired Lee Memorial Hospital System administrator and community activist

- Helena Dabrowski, director of finance, Sunshine Ace Hardware
- Larry Kiker, representing the Lee County Board of Commissioners
- Pam LaRiviere, representing the School District of Lee County
- Hunter Martin, Enterprise Holdings, Inc.
- Karen Serrell, curriculum staff development, School District of Lee County
- Caryn Smith, executive consultant, Rodan+Fields Dermatologists
- Marilyn Stout, former Lee Memorial Hospital Board member and community activist

- Ted Todd, Ted Todd Insurance

The Uncommon Friends Foundation, a not for profit 501©3 organization established in 1993, is dedicated to lifelong character building among today's youth and business leaders. Its mission is to promote character education in schools, business ethics in the workplace, and historic preservation of the Burroughs Home and James Newton archives.

For more information, call 337-9505 or visit www.uncommonfriends.org.✽

Teacher Nominations Sought For Character Education Award

Elementary, middle and high school teacher nominations are being sought for the annual Character Education Champion Teacher Award to be presented by the Uncommon Friends Foundation. Teachers in public, private and charter schools in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties are eligible to be nominated, either by themselves or co-workers. The deadline for nominations is Friday, April 10.

Awards will be presented to the 2015 Champion Teachers during the Uncommon Evening dinner in the fall. The award recognizes outstanding educators who incorporate lessons learned from the Uncommon Friends to teach character education. These educators inspire their students to adopt the characteristics of the five Uncommon Friends, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, Dr. Alexis Carrel, and Charles Lindbergh, intellectual giants who helped shape the 20th Century, and incorporate

Association Funds Lehigh Services



Rae Nicely

The Community Health Association (CHA) established a \$1.5 million fund at the Southwest Florida Community Foundation to support Lehigh Community Services.

The association is a private non-profit foundation based in Lehigh Acres that has been promoting health education

and improving the quality of care in Southwest Florida for 45 years. This new endowed fund establishes a legacy at the Community Foundation to ensure continued support of the citizens of Lehigh Acres.

Lehigh Community Services, a 501(c)(3) organization, started in 1977 for charitable purposes to assist in furthering the welfare and well-being of residents of Lehigh Acres. The agency provides emergency services while promoting self-sufficiency.

"Our cup overflows thanks to the Community Healthy Association for its faith in our agency and generous support, which allows us to continue its amazing legacy in our community," said Rae Nicely, executive director of Lehigh Community Services. "This funding is a godsend, and we're humbled and sincerely grateful for this incredible opportunity to expand services in Lehigh."

Lehigh Community Services recently received its first annual check for \$62,645.04.

For more information about the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, call 274-5900 or visit www.floridacommunity.com.✽

Philanthropy And Volunteerism

The Partnership for Philanthropic Planning (PPP) of Lee County will present a program on Volunteerism at the Thursday, March 26 meeting. Ken O'Donnell, executive vice president and market president of Busey Bank, Fort Myers, will share his personal insights and research regarding volunteerism and what motivates Americans to be viewed as one of the most generous societies on the globe.

Attendees will hear about the benefits of volunteerism from an individual, business and societal perspective and review recent trends and statistics regarding volunteerism.

O'Donnell maintains numerous volunteer leadership positions, was a founding member of Workforce Now in Southwest Florida, and was instrumental in Busey Bank's funding the start-up of the Southwest Florida Regional Economic Alliance.

The meeting will be held at Blue Coyote Business & Social Club, 9854 Caloosa Yacht and Racquet Club Drive, Fort Myers from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m., lunch and pro-



Ken O'Donnell

gram begin at noon. The event is free to members and \$25 for non-members and includes lunch.

Reservation deadline is Monday, March 23. To RSVP go to www.ppplee.org.

The Partnership for Philanthropic Planning provides programs presented by expert speakers, symposiums, networking and guidance to professionals involved in all aspects of charitable giving. For more information go to www.ppplee.org or call 850-0040.✽

them into their lives.

Nominated individuals must have used lessons from the Uncommon Friends Character Education curriculum, exhibit characteristics of the Uncommon Friends in their personal and professional life, and have the endorsement of a school administrator.

Criteria and the nomination form are available on the foundation's web site, www.uncommonfriends.org. The nomination form and a letter of support from the nominee's supervising administrator are to be sent via email to aroth@uncommonfriends.org by the April 10 deadline. Additional information about the nomination process and the award are available by contacting the Uncommon Friends Foundation, 337-9503.

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Financial Focus

Outlook For Today's Investors



by Jennifer Basey

The world of today is vastly different from the one that existed in, say, 1974. Innovations such as the Internet, smartphones, tablets, Facebook, Twitter and so on have made our lives more enjoyable, efficient and productive in many ways, and have vastly improved our access to the world's knowledge. Yet when it comes to one important area of our lives – investing for the future – many of us may actually face more challenges today than we might have in

the past.

At least two main factors are responsible for this apparent regression. First, following a quarter century during which U.S. workers' income rose fairly steadily, "real" wages – that is, wages after inflation is considered – have been flat or declining since about 1974, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Secondly, during this same time period, we've seen a large drop in the percentage of private-sector workers covered under a "defined benefit" plan – the traditional pension plan in which retired employees receive a specified monthly benefit, with the amount determined by years of service, earnings history and age.

So unlike your counterparts in the 1950s and 1960s, you may not be able to count on a rise in real wages, and you may not have the promise of a regular pension. What, then, can you do to improve your prospects for eventually achieving a comfortable retirement?

First of all, in the absence of a formal

pension, you will need to create your own retirement plan. That means you will need to consider all the opportunities available to you. If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar account, such as a 403(b), contribute as much as you can afford – at the very least, put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered. And even if you participate in your employer's plan, you may also be eligible to open an IRA. If you're self-employed, you still have options such as a SEP IRA or a "solo 401(k)." While these accounts may differ from each other in terms of eligibility, income restrictions and contribution limits, they both offer the same key benefit: the ability to defer taxes on your earnings for many years, typically until retirement.

As for your next main challenge – the need to compensate for stagnant real wages and the subsequent difficulty of boosting your savings – what can you do? For one thing, you will need a reasonable percentage of your portfolio – both inside

and outside your IRA, 401(k) and other retirement plans – devoted to growth-oriented investments. It's true that the value of growth vehicles, such as stocks and stock-based instruments, will always fluctuate. But you can help control this risk by owning a mix of investments, including stocks, bonds, treasury bills, certificates of deposit (CDs) and other securities. Keep in mind, though, that while diversification can reduce the impact of volatility on your holdings, it can't guarantee profit or always protect against loss.

As far as attaining rising wages and enjoying guaranteed retirement payments, we don't have the "certainties" that many people had in the 1950s and 1960s. But you can still help brighten your future – through diligence, discipline and the determination to explore the opportunities available to you.

Jennifer Basey is a financial advisor in Fort Myers. She can be reached at jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com.✴

Fisher's Dream About To Become A Reality, Thanks To UFF Scholarship

Attending Ave Maria School of Law to get a law degree was Jennifer Fisher's out-of-reach dream. She grew up in New Mexico and completed undergraduate studies at Biola University in Los Angeles. She relocated to Fort Myers 10 years ago and worked in a law office for several years. She discovered a passion for the law and enrolled in Florida SouthWestern State College's paralegal studies program. With growing aspirations to be a lawyer, she applied for one of the Uncommon Friends Foundation's student scholarships to help defray tuition and book expenses of law school.

Fisher was awarded the Uncommon Friends Foundation's Special Recognition Scholarship for two consecutive years (2012 and 2013). Not only did she have solid academic credentials, but she embodied the high character qualities that Uncommon Friends Foundation teaches and promotes. She was sponsored the first year by one of her professors at Florida SouthWestern State College and the second year by a law professor at Ave Maria School of Law. Now a third-year law student, Fisher expects to graduate with her Juris Doctorate in May and take her Florida Bar examination this summer. This promising young woman will no doubt go far and be a credit to our community.

Fisher has enjoyed being part of the Uncommon Friends Foundation's many mentors and other scholarship winners who all celebrate achievements and ethics. As a transplant to Southwest Florida, she often encounters people she has met through the scholarship program and feels very much a part of her adopted community.

The scholarship program has been chaired for the last 12 years by Brenda Stewart. Scholarships are available to others like Fisher who want to pursue an education and career that otherwise might be unattainable. Working together with many community service organizations that serve special and underserved populations, the Uncommon Friends Foundation helps sponsors identify deserving individuals who will benefit through its needs- and character-based scholarships. Over the past 20 years, UFF has awarded nearly 450 educational scholarships totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Scholarship awards are available this year in nine categories to help deserving students, veterans and single parents pursue degrees in education, law, technology, and other studies. Nominees must be from Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Glades or Hendry Counties and need financial assistance, excel in school or in life, and possess high quality character traits. Scholarships vary in duration and financial amounts and some are for specific schools such as Florida Gulf Coast University, High Tech Center and PACE Center For Girls of Lee County.



Jennifer Fisher

photo by JoCoFi

Official application forms and requirements can be found online at <http://uncommonfriends.org/scholarships/applications-nominations>. Application packets require an application form, together with an essay from the applicant stating reasons for applying for a scholarship and how the applicant emulates the traits of the Uncommon Friends Foundation. Applicants must also supply a digital color photograph and include one or more letters from a personal sponsor that could be a service agency, school counselor, teacher or principal. Applicants must submit complete application packets by April 15, 2015 via email to angela@uncommonfriends.org.

Uncommon Friends Foundation Scholarship Award Categories

Five Hilliard Scholarships for \$2,000 each for High School Seniors in Glades and Hendry Counties – Five \$2,000 tuition scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors residing in either Glades and Hendry county who will be attending Florida Gulf Coast University. Nominees should need financial assistance, have the potential to succeed in school and possesses positive character traits (a spirit of adventure, a sense of purpose, a commitment to unending personal improvement, and a desire to help others).

Florida Prepaid College Foundation for Ninth Grade Student for Two Years at a State College – Uncommon Friends Foundation and Florida Prepaid College Foundation cooperate to provide a two-year scholarship for state college tuition and fees to select ninth grade students who contract to succeed in high school, stay free of drugs and crime, and fulfill other scholarship conditions.

Special Recognition Scholarship for One Term – This scholarship is awarded to someone who needs financial assistance, has the desire and potential to succeed in school, and possesses positive character traits (a spirit of adventure, a sense of purpose, a commitment to unending personal improvement, and a desire to help others). It is to be used for a future term to help defray books or a portion of educational costs.

High Tech Center Scholarship for One Term – This scholarship is to assist a student of any age with tuition, books and supplies for one future term at High Tech Center. The scholarship is to be used for expenses not covered by other scholarships or grants.

Future Teacher Scholarship for \$1,000 – This scholarship of \$1,000 is for students matriculated in a program leading to a college degree in education.

Single Parent Scholarship for \$1,000 – The Single Parent Scholarship of \$1,000 for a future term is to help a single parent further his or her education to gain skills needed to enter the workforce. This scholarship is focused on single parents who have overcome extraordinary obstacles.

Lee County Bar Association Scholarship for \$1,000 – This scholarship is for students matriculated in a program leading to a degree in law to assist with tuition, books and supplies at any Florida college or university. It recognizes a student's exemplary achievements in high school and performance in the Lee County Bar Association's Mock Trial competition.

Veteran's Scholarship – This scholarship for one future term is awarded to a deserving veteran of any age who has a financial need, the desire and potential to succeed in school, and possesses positive character traits (a spirit of adventure, a sense of purpose, a commitment to unending personal improvement, and a desire to help others). It can be used to help defray the cost of books or a portion of the educational costs.

PACE Center For Girls of Lee County Scholarship for \$1,000 – This new scholarship will be granted to a student to attend PACE Center For Girls of Lee County who has completed the Uncommon Friends Character Education curriculum and demonstrates the high character traits of the Uncommon Friends Foundation, including loyalty, friendship, honesty and integrity.✴

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSPP

Dear Shelley, My 7-year-old son is overweight and we are working on it. I know that being overweight is dangerous for him. He enjoys outdoor physical games with his siblings and with us (parents). Is physical activity enough with family? What else could I do to encourage him?

Letitia W., Cape Coral, Florida

Letitia,

Life can be quite difficult for overweight children. I am glad to hear that you are aware of your son's condition and that you are trying to remedy his condition.

It's very important for you and with guidance from your family doctor to address this problem and help your son. The negative effects of obesity will impact his health, school performance, and social and emotional welfare.

In 2012, more than one third of children and adolescents were overweight or obese. According to the Centers for

Disease Control (CDC), childhood obesity has both immediate and long-term effects on health and well being, with a substantially increased risk of immediate health effects of cardiovascular disease, pre-diabetes, bone/joint problems and psychological problems of stigmatization and poor self-esteem. Long-term health effects may include an increased risk of these same diseases as an adult and several types of cancer as well.

Prevention as per the CDC includes healthy lifestyle habits of healthy eating and physical activity, both of which can lower the risk of becoming obese and developing related diseases.

In regard to physical activity, there is some new research that reported the top barriers for overweight children to participate in physical activity are feeling self-conscious (29 percent), lack of enjoyment (22 percent), poor health (22 percent), lack of self-discipline (21 percent) and lack of energy (21 percent). This new preliminary research from Cincinnati Children's Hospital also indicated that friends play a major role in children's levels of physical activity. This suggests that kids may be more likely to exercise when friends do. Children and teens who did physical activities with a friend were far less likely to cite barriers for not exercising, while family participation or encouragement did not have this effect.

While your son's nutrition and emotional well being are an important emphasis for you and your son, you may also want to consider how to get your son to be active with friends as well. "Having physically active friends may make it easier for obese children to get involved with activities and lower the perceived barriers for doing so, while having a physically active family may not be as inspiring," was noted as an important finding in the CCH research.

I would recommend that you meet with your son's teachers and school counselor to ask for their assistance to increase your son's socialization with children in his class who are physically active. Once you make the school aware of your goals, I'm sure they will help you and your son work towards accomplishing them.

Shelley Greggs is adjunct faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she teaches psychology and education courses. She is also a nationally certified school psychologist and consultant for School Consultation Services, a private educational consulting company. Questions for publication may be addressed to smgreggs@gmail.com. Not all questions submitted can be addressed through this publication.✱

Free Autism Screening

Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, offers a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for children 18 months to five years of age.

The next screening on the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be held on March 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sanctuary Outpatient Center, 8960 Colonial Center Drive, Fort Myers.

It is estimated that one in every 68 children is diagnosed with some form of autism spectrum disorder, making it more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes and pediatric AIDS combined.

Medical consultants for the project stress that an early diagnosis and intensive behavioral intervention can make an immense difference not just in the development of children but in their families as well.

The screening is conducted by the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida and administered by an advanced registered nurse practitioner with extensive training and experience in typical child development and developmental disorders.

A physician referral is not required. To schedule a screening, call 343-6838.✱

AppleJuice

Apple's Family Share; Part I



by Carol Rooksby Weidlich, President, SWACKS

Apple's new Family Sharing allows you to group up to six people in your family, including yourself, to share each other's iTunes, iBooks

and App Store purchases without sharing their Apple ID. You pay for future purchases with the same credit card, approve kids' spending, share photos, a family calendar and much more right from your Apple device (Mac, iPad, iPhone and iPod).

You can set up and use Family Sharing with any iOS8 device, and/or your Mac (which must be running the latest operating system OS X Yosemite) and iTunes 12. For Windows users, your PC must be using iCloud for Windows 4.0 with your iOS8 devices.

To set up one, adult in your family becomes the Family Organizer who sets up Family Sharing by inviting up to five additional family members. The Family Organizer must also agree to pay for any iTunes, iBooks and App Store purchases that are made by any of the Family Sharing members while part of the family group. When the family member joins your Family Share group, the features of Family Sharing are set up on each individual's device(s) automatically.

Once your Family Sharing is set up, all

eligible songs, albums, movies, TV shows, books and apps ever purchased by any family member, are available to each member of your Family Sharing group, as well as new purchases they make. All you'll need to do is visit the Purchased tab in iTunes, iBooks or the App Store, select the family member whose collection you'd like to browse, then download and listen to, read or play anything in their collection. If you want to keep some purchases private, choose hide individual items.

As the Family Organizer, you can limit a group member's purchasing ability by turning on Ask to Buy for those members. Now, when that family member initiates a purchase, the Family Organizer receives an alert. You can review the music, book and/or app that family members want to purchase, then approve or decline their purchase. This works for both free and paid downloads.

To set up Family Sharing, you must know your personal Apple ID and password for your iCloud and iTunes 12 account. Music, movies, TV shows and books can be downloaded on 10 devices (five can be computers) per Family Sharing account. You can delete family members or they can leave your group.

Next week, I'll cover more features of Family Sharing including the Family Photo Album, Family Calendar and Sharing Your Location.

For more information, visit: <https://www.apple.com/support/icloud/family-sharing/>.

Workshops are held the second Tuesday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m., and meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m., with the exception of July and August, at Zion Lutheran Church, 7401 Winkler Road in Fort Myers.

For more information on the South West Florida Apple Computer Knowledge Society (SWACKS), visit www.swacks.org.✱

Salon Academy Offers Scholarships

As part of the 7th annual Grande Dames Tea, The Salon Professional Academy (TSPA) is offering seven scholarships to current and former students of the PACE Center For Girls of Lee County. Each scholarship will include \$2,000 that is applied to tuition for the cosmetology program at TSPA's Fort Myers campus, the only accredited cosmetology school in Southwest Florida recognized by Redken for excellence in education.

"Michel Doherty, heading the Grande Dames Scholarship committee, reached out to us, and we were more than happy to jump on this partnership with them on these scholarships," said Chris Lewis, president of TSPA Fort Myers. "PACE has given these young women hope, and we want to do our part to help them move forward to become successful in our community."

Applications are open to any current or former PACE student who qualifies and are due by Friday, April 3 for classes starting in June to October 2015. Full-time courses begin every four weeks with part-time classes beginning in June. Full-time courses are completed in nine months, while part-time takes 14 months. A high school diploma or GED is required. The Academy also accepts Florida Prepaid College Plans and finan-

cial aid from those who qualify.

Because PACE is a part of the Lee County School District, PACE girls are also eligible for 13 scholarships TSPA recently made available through The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools, Inc.

To apply, PACE students should contact Rachel Rubinski at 425-2366 or Rachel.Rubinski@pacecenter.org, or contact TSPA admissions office at 208-3958.

"We are so appreciative to businesses like TSPA being proactive in helping us lead these women to become productive members of our community," said Meg Geltner, executive director of PACE. "Redken is an industry leader in both hair care and education for salon professionals, and by partnering with TSPA on these scholarships, we feel we are positioning our students for long, successful careers in the industry."

The Grande Dames Tea honoring Sharlene Hamel Dozier of Fort Myers, M. Jacqueline McCurdy of Bonita Springs and Melvin Morgan of Fort Myers will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. on Friday, March 20 at the Broadway Palm, located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. The Grande Dames Tea was originated by PACE to honor women who have played major roles in Southwest Florida history through decades of service, philanthropy and helping others.

The agenda for the tea will include interaction between the PACE girls and the three Grande Dames in a question-and-answer format.

Seats for the tea are \$60 per person and can be reserved either online at pacecenter.org/lee or by calling 470-7648.

For more information, call 208-3958 or visit www.tsapftmyers.com.✱

FGCU Offers Free Conference On Autism Spectrum Disorders

Today, one in 68 children is diagnosed with autism. A free conference addressing Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) will be held on Saturday, April 11 from 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at Florida Gulf Coast University's Cohen Center. The 8th annual Promising Pathways, The Road to Best Practice in Autism will focus on topics relevant to families, educators and health professionals.

The keynote speaker is Chantal Sicile-Kira. Sicile-Kira's passion for empowering others, her love of writing, and her personal interest in autism has led her to become a leader in the field of adolescence and transition to adulthood, and an international speaker and award-winning author of five books. Having first worked with individuals with autism in California, and then raising her son Jeremy in three different countries gives her a perspective few in the field have. Chantal recently founded AutismCollege.com which provides practical information and training on-line for parents and educators.

Sicile-Kira's keynote will discuss the challenges, strengths and dreams of those living with autism. Challenge areas such as sensory processing, communication, social relationships and safety will be explained. How building on a person's strength or special interest can create community connections and employment opportunities will be explored. Finally, the dreams and hopes of those with autism and their families will be discussed, providing a greater understanding of neighbors who may be different, not less.

Conference breakout session topics include: Adolescents on the Autism Spectrum, Instructional Supports and Accommodations, Using the Floortime Model, Picky Eaters and Problem Feeders, Assessment and Treatment of High Functioning Autism in Children, Navigating the Neurotypical Working World, Seizures and Autism Spectrum Disorder, IEPs that Work, How Do Special Education Services Relate to Your Child?, and Supports for Work. A resource fair with vendors from a variety of autism-related businesses and service providers will also be available.

The conference is coordinated by a regional planning committee including parents of children with autism and interested community members, as well as representatives from



Chantal Sicile-Kira, keynote speaker for the Promising Pathways Autism Conference

the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, Florida Gulf Coast University, Lee County School District, Collier County Public Schools and Family Care Council.

"Because of the need for current, research-based information, we are committed to educating all families, educators, healthcare workers, and community members interested in serving individuals with autism," said Leigh Anna Nowak, conference co-chair. "In order to make our conference accessible to all, we have never charged for attendance and our prestigious speakers have typically waived their honoraria. Our generous sponsors help us bring this important information to the community."

Sponsors include PEPSA, Working with the Experts, Adonis Autism Assistance Foundation, Easter Seals Florida, Family Care Council, Honc Marine & Honc Destruction, Golisano Children's Hospital, Katz Counseling & Educational Psychology, Brain Balance of Naples, Florida Institute of Technology, My Autism Connection, Osterhout & McKinney PA, Positive Behavior Support Corporation, Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at USF, Florida Gulf Coast University, David Lawrence Center, TATS, Elly Hagen Marketing & Public Relations, School District of Lee County, Costco, WINK News, The News-Press Media Group and *Parent & Child* magazine. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available.

The event is free and offers continuing education credits for some health-care professionals. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. To register, go to www.fgcu.edu/events/promisingpathways. For more information, email PromisingPathways@fgcu.edu or call 745-3400.✱

Women In Action Conference

A day dedicated to empowering women and girls to develop healthy lifestyles and enjoy a free lunch while attending the Women In Action Conference is planned for Friday, March 20 at the Dr. Carrie Robinson Center in Fort Myers. The Florida Department of Health in Lee County welcomes all women and girls to the conference.

"Women can prevent this disease by taking charge of and controlling their sexual health," said Sindia De La Cruz, minority AIDS coordinator. "Most new HIV infections in women are from heterosexual contact and less than half of those diagnosed have the disease under control."

This prevention program is designed to educate women about HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and risks, connect women with HIV/AIDS resources and offer tools to enable women to educate other women.

DOH-Lee is co-hosting the event with the Community AIDS Network and McGregor Clinic in observance of the 10th anniversary of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. The day is set aside to offer support, hope, reduce stigmas, share information and empower women and girls to learn about the importance of HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment. The conference will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 2990 Edison Avenue in Fort Myers.

The Department of Health works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. For more information, visit www.lee.floridahealth.gov.✱

Dress For Success Announces PURSEonality Drop-Off Locations

Dress for Success SW Florida announced that six local businesses have stepped up to serve as drop-off locations for donations of gently used handbags and purses for sale at the inaugural PURSEonality event. Blessings in a Backpack and Dress for Success SW Florida will come together for one spectacular evening to support the two organizations, which promote the economic independence of women and provide for the nutritional needs of children, respectively.

PURSEonality will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25 at Center Court in the Bell Tower Shops.

Through Friday, March 13, the public can now donate new and gently used handbags and purses at:

- Bell Tower Management Office – Daniels Parkway and US 41, Fort Myers
- Dress for Success Boutiques – 12995 S. Cleveland Ave. Suite 153, Fort Myers in the Pinebrook Plaza – 9015 Strada Stell Court, Suite 205, Naples
- Encore Bank – 79020 Summerlin Lakes Drive, Fort Myers
- Saks Fifth Avenue in the Bell Tower Shops – Daniels Parkway and US 41, Fort Myers

- Sanibel Captiva Community Bank – 2475 Library Way, Sanibel Island
- Spada Salon and Day Spa – 13161 McGregor Blvd, Suite 1, Fort Myers
- The French Press – 5789 Cape Harbour Drive, Cape Coral

Handbags collected at these locations will be offered for sale, with luxury designer and celebrity-donated purses up for bidding at a silent auction at the PURSEonality event. Dozens of fabulous items donated by event sponsors and vendors will also be available in a Chinese auction. The guys will enjoy their own festivities in a designated "Man Cave" for the evening. VIP sponsors will enjoy early entry at 5:30 p.m.

Dress for Success SW Florida relies on donations and volunteers from the Southwest Florida community to help continue its life-changing mission of providing wardrobes, employment counseling and career development tools to disadvantaged women in the area. Private donors, school officials and volunteers are integral to the mission of Blessings in a Backpack of SWFL, which provides critical weekend nourishment to children who depend on federal food assistance programs they receive at school.

For information on tickets and sponsorships, contact Mary McDonough at Dress for Success SW Florida at 689-4992 or mary@dfsswflorida.org, or Cecilia St. Arnold of Blessings in a Backpack at 410-9592 or Cstarnold@Blessingsinswfl.org.✱

Mom And Me



by Lizzie and Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce answer your questions and give advice about aging concerns from a two-generational perspective. A mother and daughter team, Lizzie is a retired RN and health educator, and Pryce is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice who specializes in the care of elders and people with chronic illnesses.

Dear Mom & Me,

We recently moved to a warmer part of the U.S. We were very anxious to get involved, meet new people and start contributing to the community.

We tried but have now withdrawn to our own little cocoon.

The people all seem resentful to the northerners. They want no change. They want to keep things exactly as they have been for the last 100 years.

We thought we would like it here but now think that it is time to move.

Do you have any suggestions?

Damon

Dear Damon,

"I don't like change." This is so common among the older generation and some people who are much younger and should know better.

If you live, you are constantly changing and so is the world around you.

You can never change people who are set in their ways – you can only change how you feel about them.

See if you can to join a "newcomers" group; maybe you will find others eager to move and shake just like you.

I do wonder, why did you move to your present location and then try to start changing it?

Lizzie

Dear Damon,

Well, there is the problem... not "them" but you. Why go to a new location and try to change them as if you and your ways are better? Not too many people north, south, east or west would be welcoming of an individual coming into their homes and trying to change their way of life. Fine if you want to move again but, as long as you bring yourself and your notions to change people, you will continue to have a problem.

Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce's email address is momandmeaging@hotmail.com.✱

dearPharmacist

The Diabetes Statin Connection



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers:

Did you get diabetes after starting a statin drug? This is very common, statin users often find better cholesterol ratios over time, but higher blood glucose. Sit down for my next

comment: It's entirely possible that you've been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes when in fact you just have hyperglycemia (high blood sugar) and it's just a side effect, and the result of your statin.

The good news is your "diabetes" may even be reversible when your statin treatment is over. I've counted 84 people (including my BookFace mom) who got off their statin and reversed their "diabetes."

It may be news to you, but many studies and reports have shown that statins can cause raise blood sugar, which is sadly and disgracefully mistaken for "diabetes." Now you're on the expensive medication merry-go-round!

Another bombshell coming: People

with high cholesterol have a lower risk of getting diabetes, which is in keeping with what I just told you about statins triggering the condition. I've got the most current information now. Researchers looked at the rates of diabetes among 63,385 Dutch residents in the Netherlands between 1994 and 2014. Of these participants, 25,137 had inherited "Familial Hypercholesterolemia," which is a condition that means high cholesterol from their inherited genes. These people with the genetic snp (pronounced snip) coding for high cholesterol displayed significantly lower rates of type 2 diabetes! The details were reported in the March 2015 edition of JAMA if you want to look it up. The prevalence of type 2 diabetes was actually 38 percent lower, which suggests high cholesterol protects against diabetes. Keep in the back of your mind how people taking statin drugs face an increased risk of developing diabetes, anywhere from nine to 46 percent depending on what study you read.

It's pure genius if you think about it. Here you have multiple studies showing how cholesterol-reducing statins raise blood sugar, and now we see clearly that people who have higher endogenous levels of cholesterol are protected from diabetes. I'm talking about endogenous (body-produced) cholesterol, okay, so this is not your excuse to eat bacon.

Insulin is your God-given pancreatic hormone and it's secreted to help reduce blood sugar after you eat and drink. You want some insulin to maintain blood

glucose levels, but too much of it is the equivalent of acid in your veins. And guess what? The use of statin drugs appears to increase your insulin levels!

Now I'll summarize this:

- High insulin and blood sugar are extremely harmful to your health.
- The regulation of glucose and insulin is crucial.

- The "standard of practice" in medicine calls for severely low levels of cholesterol (in my opinion) hence the need for statins.

- Statins reduce cholesterol, but may raise insulin and blood sugar over time.

- Medications used to reduce blood sugar do not address the full-body inflammatory process that is going on.

- If you started a statin drug and now have diabetes, try to lower your cholesterol with diet and exercise, and don't lower it too much.

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is the author of The 24-Hour Pharmacist and is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit www.SuzyCohen.com.✱

Luncheon To Benefit Hope Hospice

Friends of Hope Women's Committee is hosting its annual Spring Luncheon at the Hyatt

Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa to benefit Hope Hospice and its Rainbow Trails bereavement camp and Pet Peace of Mind programs. The event will take place on Friday, March 27 beginning at 10 a.m. with a reception, boutiques and raffles. The luncheon and fashion show will start at 12:15 p.m.

The event begins with a reception and an opportunity to browse boutiques brimming with fashions, jewelry, handbags and cosmetics, and raffle prizes. Master of Ceremonies Robert Van Winkle from NBC-2 News will host the event, featuring a fashion show with spring apparel from Kay's on the Beach.

Admission is \$100 per person or \$1,250 to sponsor table of 10 guests and program recognition (checks should be made payable to Hope Hospice). To purchase tickets, visit <https://donate.hopehcs.org/spring15>. For more information, call Heather Chester at 489-9164.

Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa is located at 5001 Coconut Road in Bonita Springs. For more information, visit www.HopeHCS.org.✱

Send your
editorial copy to:
press@riverweekly.com

Doctor and Dietitian

Keep Those Joints Moving



by Ross Hauser, MD and Marion Hauser, MS, RD

If you have ever injured a joint and gone to the doctor or physical therapist, you have no doubt heard them stress the importance of range of motion. Having enough motion to keep doing or gaining the ability to do the things you want to do, with no or minimal pain is important to you. So, you listen to the doctor or therapist and go through the motions of the range of motion protocol.

But why is range of motion so important? Your joint – the articulating surfaces of two bones – requires range of motion to be happy and healthy. Joints get a big part of their nutrition from movement. Most of our joints are synovial joints, meaning joints with a fluid-filled capsule

around those two articulating surfaces. Blood flow is a common source of nutrition for many structures in the body, but the articulating surface where the cartilage is located has little blood flow. The joint has to receive its nutrition from the synovial fluid or lubrication along the surface of the joint, and that occurs when the joint is in motion.

Immobilization is not good for the joint. Lack of motion in a joint, as well as when the joint stops moving through its full range of motion, limits the nutrition to the cartilage. Immobilization also does damage to the ligaments of the joint; whereas exercise benefits them. In fact, exercise has been shown to increase the strength of an injured ligament by 50 percent compared to rest. Without movement, the ligaments get weak and the cartilage dries up. Instead of building up, the joint breaks down. This results in both pain and osteoarthritis.

Keep moving and exercise as your doctor or therapist recommends. If you have a joint injury that is not healing, Prolotherapy, a natural regenerative injection technique, can strengthen the ligaments and build up the cartilage.

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Caring Medical and Rehabilitation Services has two locations: one in Oak Park, Illinois, and one in Fort Myers. It was established in 1991 by Ross Hauser, MD, and Marion Hauser, MS, RD. They can be reached at info@carimgmedical.com.✱

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Chico's Hosts Women Build 2015 Kickoff



Gail Markham, a Women Build SuperWoman, shows some muscle at the Women Build 2015 Kickoff Party
photos by Rachel Scott Photography

Last week, Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry counties kicked off fundraising for Women Build 2015 with a party hosted by title sponsor Chico's FAS at its National Store Support Center in Fort Myers. Over 150 women from Southwest Florida attended, forming teams and committing to raise \$100,000 to fund the rehab of two homes for two families.

Kitty Green, president and CEO of

Habitat for Humanity, and Pam Avesian, VP of internal audit for Chico's FAS and a Habitat board member, spoke on the need for affordable housing and the passion behind Women Build.

Women Build is Habitat for Humanity's initiative to encourage women to take action against poverty housing conditions by recruiting, educating and inspiring women to build – and advocate for – simple, decent and affordable homes in their communities.

Betsy Bernstein won an exclusive Mark Loren Designs necklace at the kick-off, valued at more than \$3,000.

“Women are awesome! We now live in a loving home built by many miraculous women. My children and I are so thankful and grateful to Habitat and all of their supporters for all of the hard work they put in to make our dream a reality. Without them we wouldn't have a safe and stable place to call home.” – Vanessa Saez, Women Build 2014 homeowner

Local women are needed to help raise \$100,000 to fund the rehab of the two homes and to provide womanpower for the construction.

For more information on donating or participating, call 652-1677 or visit the Women Build website to create a team, www.habitat4humanity.donorpages.com/2015WomenBuild/.✪



The Women Build team Heels and Hammers posed for a quick group photo at the kick-off party.



Judy Kay, Stephanie Sherman, Pat Lally, Wendi Carroll, Pat Bennar and Lynne Birdt



Christine Ross and Gary Aubuchon at the kick-off party



Vanessa Saez, Women Build 2014 Homeowner, addressing the kickoff attendees



Jeananne Folaros, Susan Erickson, Renee Wagner-Pachiva, Sally Bamman and Lisa Groff

Share your community news with us.
Call 415-7732, Fax: 415-7702 or email press@riverweekly.com

DID YOU KNOW

TRIVIA TEST

1. LITERATURE: Who wrote “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow”?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of India?
3. HISTORY: In what year were East and West Germany reunified?
4. MUSIC: What pop music artist’s first live album was titled “11-17-70”?
5. ANATOMY: What is a synapse?
6. ART: What are putti?
7. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: What 18th-century doctor and writer once said, “Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.”
8. NATURAL WORLD: What kind of creature is a merganser?
9. ENTERTAINERS: What was Bob Hope’s real name?
10. LANGUAGE: What are the two shortest words in English that contain the letters a, b, c, d, e and f?

ANSWERS

1. Washington Irving 2. New Delhi 3. 1990 4. Elton John 5. Gap between two nouns 6. Naked infant boys in artwork 7. Samuel Johnson 8. Duck 9. Leslie Townes Hope 10. Feedback and boldface

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 2014, Jimmy Rollins became the Phillies’ all-time leader in career hits. Who had been No. 1?
2. Who was the longest-serving manager of the Montreal Expos?
3. Three UCLA football coaches have beat Southern Cal in each of their first two times facing the Trojans. Name two of them.
4. How many NBA teams did Rick Adelman coach during his career?
5. When was the last time before the 2013-14 season that the Dallas Stars made the NHL playoffs?
6. Since winning World Cup titles in 1930 and 1950, what is the highest the Uruguay men’s soccer team finished in a World Cup?
7. What was the last major WBC or WBA title belt held by boxer Sugar Ray Leonard?

ANSWERS

1. Mike Schmidt, with 2,234 hits. 2. Felipe Alou, who managed the Expos from 1992 to 2001 (1,409 games). 3. Jim Mora (2012-13), Tommy Prothro (1965-66) and Bob Toledo (1966-97). 4. Five between 1988 and 2014 -- Portland, Golden State, Sacramento, Houston and Minnesota. 5. It was the 2007-08 season. 6. Fourth place in 1954, 1970 and 2010. 7. WBC super middleweight title, 1988-1990.

My Stars★★★★

FOR WEEK OF MARCH 23, 2015

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A pesky health problem should clear up soon. Meanwhile, travel -- both for personal as well as for business reasons -- is strong in the Aries aspect this week, and well into the next.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Look for Bovines to be on the move this week, whether it’s traveling for fun or for business. Other “moves” include workplace adjustments and, for some, relationship changes.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Geminis who have just gone through a hectic period involving job and/or family matters might want to take some well-earned time out to relax and restore those drained energy levels.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A romantic situation seems to have stalled, just when the Moon Child was expecting it to go forward. Could that be a bad case of miscommunication going on. Talk it over openly and honestly.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Showing a genuine interest in something that’s important to a friend, family member or colleague could open a communication line that had been pretty much shut down for a while.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Making a potentially life-changing decision takes as much knowledge as you can gather, plus determination and patience. Take your time working it out. Don’t let anyone rush you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You should be back on schedule and heading in the right direction after clearing up a misunderstanding. But there could still be some setbacks. If so, correct them immediately.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A business matter keeps you pretty busy, but try to squeeze in time to be with family as well as close friends. You need the good vibrations you get from people who care for you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Investing in an attractive prospect (business or personal) with little or no information can be risky. Avoid future problems by getting all the facts before you act.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Someone close to you might have an unexpected reaction to a decision you feel you’re prepared to make. Listen to his or her point of view. It could prove to be surprisingly helpful.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Don’t give up yet. That once warm, personal relationship that seems to be cooling off fast could recover with some tender, loving care, and who better than you to provide it?

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Career matters are strong this week. You might want to enter a training program to enhance your skills. Also, consider getting professional help in preparing a brilliant resume.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a way of respecting the feelings of others, which is one reason people feel comfortable having you in their lives.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On March 24, 1765, the British Parliament passes the Quartering Act, outlining the locations and conditions in which British soldiers are to find room and board in the American colonies. The New York assembly refused to comply with the law.

• On March 28, 1774, upset by the Boston Tea Party and other blatant acts of destruction of British property by American colonists, the British Parliament enacts the Coercive Acts, which included closing the port of Boston and giving immunity to British officials in criminal prosecution.

• On March 26, 1804, President Thomas Jefferson attends a public party at the Senate and leads a crowd in consuming an enormous loaf of bread. The giant bread was baked to go with the remnants of an enormous 1,200-pound block of cheese given by a group of Baptist women two years prior.

• On March 25, 1958, Sugar Ray Robinson defeats Carmen Basilio to regain the middleweight championship. It was the fifth and final title of his career. Robinson is considered by many to be the greatest prizefighter in history.

• On March 23, 1962, Pakistan’s governor, Ayub Khan, gives first lady Jacqueline Kennedy a horse named Sardar because of their common interest in horses. In her memoirs, the first lady referred to Sardar as her “favorite treasure.” She nicknamed the jet gelding “Black Jack.”

• On March 27, 1973, Marlon Brando declines the Academy Award for Best Actor for his performance in “The Godfather.” American Indian actress Sacheen Littlefeather attended the ceremony in Brando’s place, stating that the actor could not accept the award, as he was protesting Hollywood’s portrayal of Native Americans

in film.

• On March 29, 1982, the University of North Carolina wins the NCAA men’s basketball championship with a 63-62 defeat of Georgetown University. With 15 seconds on the clock, Georgetown point guard Fred Brown accidentally threw the ball to Carolina’s James Worthy, mistaking him for a Georgetown teammate. Worthy dribbled out the clock.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was a wise man, Will Rogers, who observed, “Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save.”

• Cleopatra’s husband was her brother, Ptolemy.

• Melanie Roberts, a 41-year-old Ohio woman, was forced to have her left leg amputated. Shortly thereafter, while still recovering, she was shocked to receive a \$600 bill for the funeral of her leg. Evidently, she was supposed to pay for the limb’s burial -- and the bill was even broken down into the separate costs for the plot, the minister, the hearse and the gravediggers.

• The name “Alice” means “noble kind”; “Amy” means “beloved”; “Angela” means “messenger of God”; and “Amanda” means “lovable.”

• During the Muslim feast of Al-Adha, a sheep was to be sacrificed on top of a four-story building in Cairo, Egypt. In a fit of terror or anger, the doomed sheep rushed the executioner, who then lost his balance and fell to his death.

• Ever wonder why so many coin banks are shaped like pigs? Here’s the story: In ancient times, a lump of clay was called a “pygg.” A clay bowl formed from this lump would often be used to hold loose change, and it was called a pygg bowl bank. According to legend, at a later point in history, a potter unfamiliar with the term received an order for several of these pygg bowl banks. Instead of the bowls, he made coin banks shaped like pigs; they became such a hit that they’re still around today.

• The Puritans wouldn’t allow the singing of Christmas carols.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. That is why so many persons don’t fool with it.” -- Dan Kidney

PUZZLE ANSWERS

SMITH READOPTED FOR CASH
CACHIE ARTERIOLE SASHA
ROKER SILLYGR N TRIAD
AREAMAPS A RFDAL
MISTAYS DEBJG SAVANTS
ANN REDANTS GFM
PISMO HERMISSION ZORBA
AIC NEWBIC MOE MOAB
HOE MONALISASM LE STS
AVE ASTRAL TIESUP ENT
MER BEAMWITHPR DE BOA
ELSEE STIES NEEQB
DUNBLUCK YTD GERSHW
ICER MANY K SSELLE
CYNIC ROADSTERS BASED
ECS WREAKED BUO
SAFFRON NIXON PASSERS
TRICIOR A RSTR P
ANNAN HAPPYFACT TONGA
RINSE OVEREAGERS ONION
HLSI WINEPRSS PIRS

LEEJ UNIT CAP
AGRA NONO OVA
NORM FIST DIG
ESSE ART JADE
SKI EMU
TIMBER POLAND
WOER TIBIA
ONWARD PEACHY
RYE ETC
YARD LEA HECK
ODE DULL ISLE
WON AGUE LAIN
LSD MELD DUOS

MEAT

SAUCE TOIR
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P M OCAU CI E
THERMOMETER
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SANIBEL ANNUAL RENTAL WANTED

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*NS 3/20 CC 3/27

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We are also looking for Servers
in the Restaurant various hours
7 days a week.
If interested contact
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*NS 2/6 CC TFN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Volunteers needed for light general
maintenance. Call (CHR) Community
Housing & Resources, Inc. 472-1189.
*NS 11/1 NC TFN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
The Bailey-Matthews National Shell
Museum needs Education and Great Hall
volunteers. No experience necessary, will
train. Please contact Melanie at
(239) 395-2233 ext 11.
*NS 7/11 NC TFN

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY
The Sunshine Ambassador Program
is a new and exciting volunteer opportunity
offered at the Golisano Children's Hospital
of Southwest Florida located within
HealthPark Medical Center. The Sunshine
Ambassadors will greet, assist and be a
positive first point of contact for patients,
families and visitors entering the hospital.
The Ambassadors also make a difference
to families by providing educational
and healthful resources to assist in
GRANDparenting for GRANDchildren.
We are currently seeking
year-round volunteers to work
one 4-hour shift Monday through Friday
from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
or 12:00pm to 4:00 pm.
If you would be interested in learning more
about this wonderful new opportunity,
please contact Lisa Ellinwood, Volunteer
Resources Coordinator at 239-343-5062
at the Golisano Children's Hospital.
*NS 2/8 NC TFN

HELP WANTED

WEEKEND HELP WANTED
Part-time retail sales professional needed
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must be available to work Saturdays
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*NS 1/17 NC TFN

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seniors 55 yrs. old and older, to offer
companionship & friendship
to frail elderly individual who are
homebound and generally living alone.
These volunteers serve 20 hours each
week and receive a small non-taxable
stipend, of \$2.65 per hr. and .40 a mile
for travel, on-duty insurance, as well
as annual health screening.
Please call the Dr. Piper Center
at (239) 332-5346
ask for Jonah or Lourdes.
*NS 2/20 NC TFN

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History of the islands a plus!
Call Evelyn at 239-472-8443 for interview
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*NS 3/6 CC 3/27

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*RS 3/6 CC 5/29

BOATS - CANOES - KAYAKS

**RENT OR BUY
USED, SMALL SAILBOAT**
My wife and I are very experienced sailors
who wish to rent a 15ft or so sailboat
with centerboard to sail between
Captiva Island and mainland during the
day from Saturday, March 21 to thru Friday,
April 3. Alternatively would consider buying
a used sailboat. We own a condo at
South Seas. 314-413-1282
*NS 3/20 CC 3/20

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*RS 1/4 NC TFN

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and garden treasures
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Sanibel
NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE
*NS 3/20 CC 3/20



TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED
LOG ONTO:
IslandSunNews.com
CLICK ON PLACE CLASSIFIEDV



Honey Citrus Stone Crab Claws with Hearts Of Palm Salad

- 3 pounds medium stone crab claws, cooked and chilled
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup rice wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/2 cup orange or tangerine juice
- 8 hearts of palm, fresh or canned
- 1/4 cup red onions, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup red bell peppers, roasted, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup yellow bell peppers, roasted, thinly sliced
- 2 medium oranges or tangerines, peeled and sectioned
- 1/4 cup fresh tarragon leaves, chopped
- 2 cups fresh spinach, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoon fresh parsley, finely chopped

Crack claws; remove shell and movable pincer, leaving the meat attached to the remaining pincer. Set aside. In a small saucepan, combine the sugar, vinegar, honey and orange or tangerine juice. Bring to a boil and cook until thickened to syrup. Remove from heat, cool and set aside. Slice hearts of palm into thin strips. In a bowl, combine the hearts of palm, onions, peppers, orange or tangerine segments, tarragon and spinach. Dress salad with olive oil and vinegar; toss until moistened. Serve salad in the center of



Honey Citrus Stone Crab Claws with Hearts Of Palm Salad

each plate with stone crab claws arranged around the edge. Drizzle the honey citrus sauce over all and garnish with chopped parsley. Serve extra honey citrus sauce on the side.

Yields four servings
Nutritional Value Per Serving
(4 medium claws with salad) Calories 499, Calories From Fat 247, Total Fat 29g, Saturated Fat 4g, Trans Fatty Acid

0g, Cholesterol 190mg, Total Carbohydrate 51g, Protein 15g, Omega-3 Fatty Acid 0.05g.*

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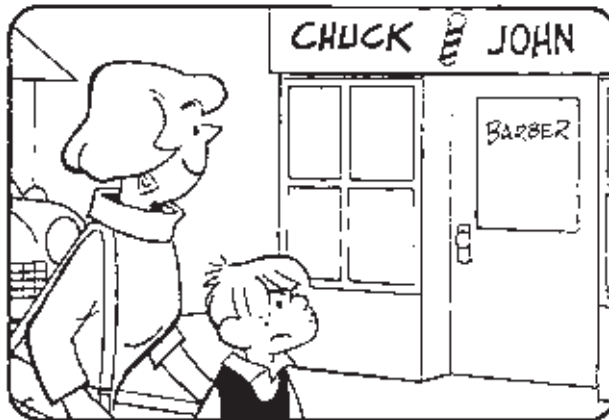
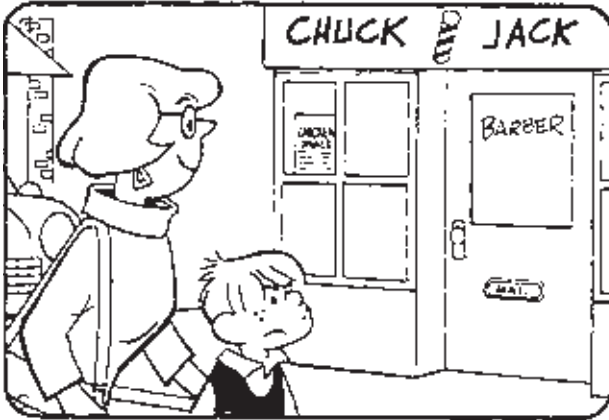
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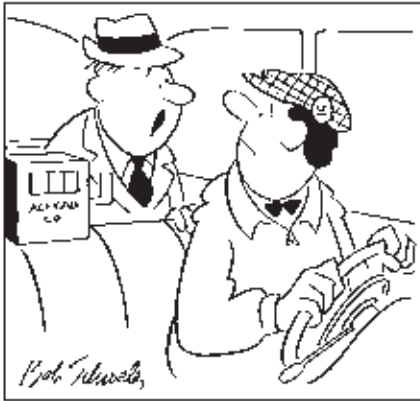
MAGGIE BUTCHER

Career information available
Gift ideas available

HOCUS-FOCUSBY
HENRY BOLTIKOFF

FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS

Differences: 1. Chimpney is missing; 2. Glasses are missing; 3. Sign is missing; 4. Poster is missing; 5. Name is different; 6. Mail slot is missing.



"I'm late for my
appointment — there's an extra five
bucks for you if I miss it altogether!"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then
rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Passage

ARTIST

Dissent

ALINED

Bedeck

DROAN

Weave

ECLIPS

TODAY'S WORD

answer on page 37

PUZZLE ANSWERS**SUDOKU**

6	4	3	8	7	5	2	1	9
2	1	7	4	9	6	8	5	3
9	8	5	2	3	1	4	7	6
7	9	1	6	4	3	5	2	8
8	3	4	5	2	9	7	6	1
5	2	6	7	1	8	9	3	4
4	5	9	3	6	2	1	8	7
1	6	8	9	5	7	3	4	2
3	7	2	1	8	4	6	9	5

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Strait; 2. Denial;
3. Adorn; 4. Splice

Today's Word
DENTIST

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	4			7			1	
		7			6	8		
9			2		1			6
7				4			2	
8	3		5					1
		6			8	9		
	5		3				8	
1					7	3		
		2		8			9	5

SUDOKU

To play Sudoku:
Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (the same number cannot appear more than once in a row, column or 3x3 box.) There is no guessing and no math involved, just logic.

answer on page 37

Pets Of The Week

My name is Zoie and the sign on my kennel should read: "Beware of dog. She will steal your heart!" I could be the goodwill ambassador for my breed. I'm obedient, loving, loyal, kind and gentle. I walk well on a leash and always display good manners when meeting others. I could be your companion, therapy dog or your heater on a cold winter's night. My adoption fee is \$25 (take a shot and make a basket and you will get \$20 off your adoption fee during Animal Services' March Madness adoption promotion).



Zoie ID# 559131

Hi, my name is Crystal and I am sweet and petite. In fact, I am so little, you might think I am still a kitten. My personality is charming and I love to greet people. I am always ready to play or just sit in your lap. My adoption fee is \$50 (take a shot and make a basket and you will get \$20 off your adoption fee during Animal Services' March Madness adoption promotion).



Crystal ID# 612847

For information about this week's pets, call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS) or log on to Animal Services' website at www.LeeLostPets.com. When calling, refer to the animal's ID number. The website updates every hour so you will be able to see if these or any other pets are still available.

The shelter is open for adoptions from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office, off Six Mile Cypress Parkway.

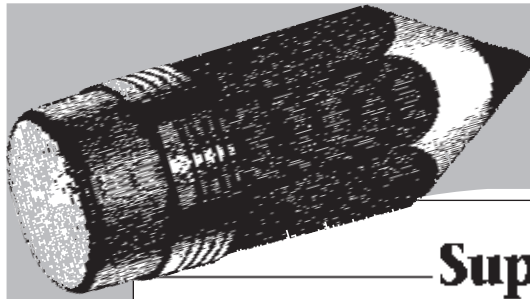
All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, rabies vaccination and county license if three months or older, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs six months and over, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, training DVD, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Science Diet pet food.

The adoption package is valued at \$500.*



Emergency.....	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
HealthPark Medical Center.....	1-800-936-5321
Ft. Myers Chamber of Commerce	332-3624
Foundation for Quality Childcare	425-2685
Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce.....	454-7500
Fort Myers Beach Library	463-9691
Lakes Regional Library	533-4000
Lee County Chamber of Commerce.....	931-0931
Post Office.....	1-800-275-8777
Visitor & Convention Bureau	338-3500
ARTS	
Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio.....	337-5050
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall.....	481-4849
BIG ARTS	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Cultural Park Theatre.....	772-5862
Edison Festival of Light	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade	332-4488
Florida West Arts	948-4427
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy	936-3239
Young Artists Awards.....	574-9321
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
Angel Flight	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center	731-3535
American Business Women Association	357-6755
Audubon of SWFL	339-8046
Audubon Society	472-3156
Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR.....	482-1366
Caloosahatchee Folk Society	321-4620
Cape Chorale Barbershop Chorus.....	1-855-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club	542-9153
duPont Company Retirees	454-1083
Edison Porcelain Artists.....	415-2484
Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter	239-267-1990
FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Confederacy	728-3743
Friendship Force Of SW FL	561-9164
Garden Club of Cape Coral	239-257-2654
Horticulture and Tea Society	472-8334
Horticultural Society	472-6940
Lee County Genealogical Society	549-9625
Lee Trust for Historic Preservation	939-7278
NARFE(National Active & Retired Federal Employees	482-6713
Navy Seabees Veterans of America	731-1901
Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL	667-1354
Sons of Confederate Veterans.....	332-2408
Southwest Florida Fencing Academy.....	939-1338
Southwest Florida Music Association	561-2118
Kiwanis Clubs:	
Fort Myers Beach.....	765-4254 or 454-8090
Fort Myers Edison	694-1056
Fort Myers South	691-1405
Gateway to the Islands.....	415-3100
Iona-McGregor	482-0869
Lions Clubs:	
Fort Myers Beach.....	463-9738
Fort Myers High Noon	466-4228
Estero/South Fort Myers	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County	768-0417
POLO Club of Lee County	477-4906
Rotary Club of Fort Myers	332-8158
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society.....	472-6940
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline (24 hour).....	211 or 433-3900
AREA ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum.....	395-2233
Burrough's Home	337-9505
Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium.....	275-3435
Edison & Ford Winter Estates	334-3614
Fort Myers Skate Park	321-7558
Imaginarium Hands-On Museum & Aquarium	321-7420
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Koreshan State Historic Site	239-992-0311
Langford Kingston Home	239-334-2550
Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center	765-8101
Skatium	321-7510
Southwest Florida Historical Society	939-4044
Southwest Florida Museum of History	321-7430
True Tours	945-0405

To be listed in calling card email your information to:
press@riverweekly.com



BEACH CHAIR PASTIME

answers on page 33

Super Crossword

PICTURE OF JOY

ACROSS

- 1 Will of "Men in Black"
6 Took back as one's own
15 Online money
20 Haddon store
21 Very small blood vessel
22 One of the Obama girls
23 Al of "Today"
24 Joker's self-satisfied expression
25 Base for a jazz choir
26 Aids in local orientation
28 Large black-and-tan beer
30 Loses
31 Clean up, as a program
36 Scholarly sons
37 True-crime writer
38 Fiery insects
40 Onyx, e.g.
41 — Beach (only near San Luis Obispo)
44 Forgiveness of sins
46 "The Greek" of film
50 Voice range

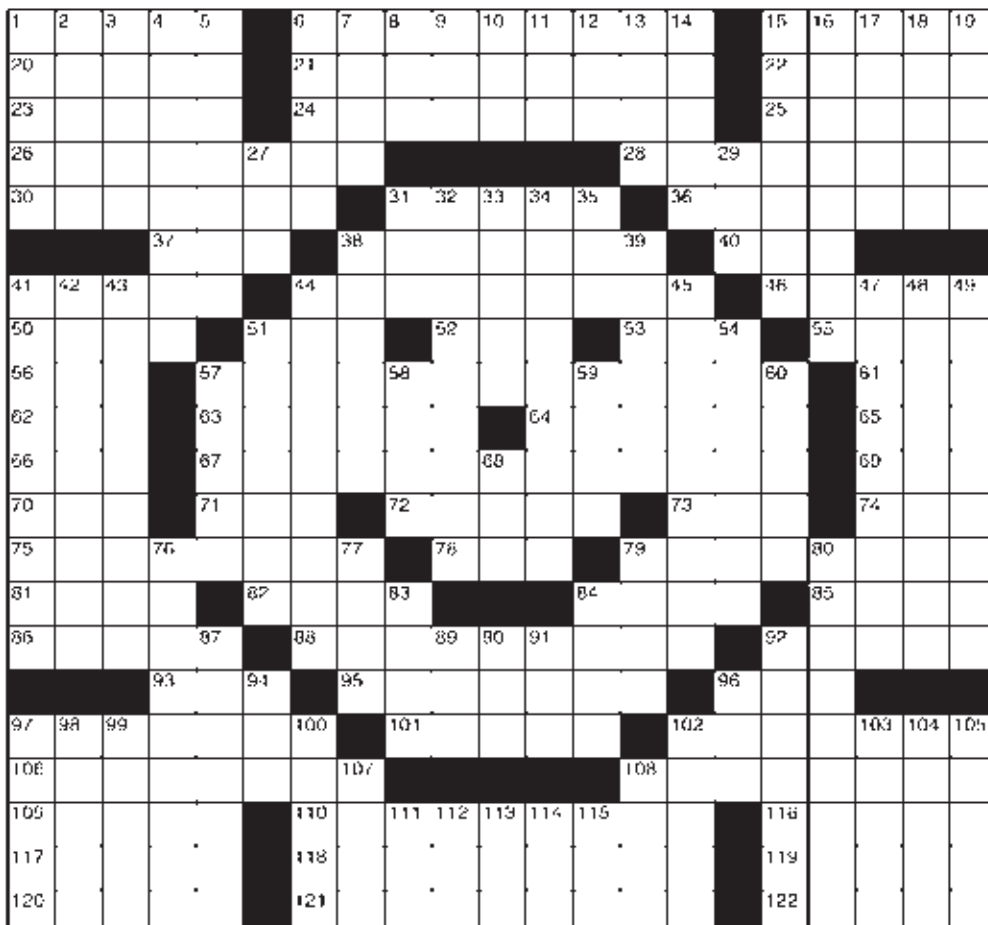
- 51 Just-released
52 Lighter name
53 Stoooge with a bowl cut
55 Biblical kingdom
56 Eurasian deer
57 2003 Julia Roberts film
61 Birds.
62 Blvd.
63 Like galaxies
64 Engaged completely
65 Pro at first aid
66 Sea, in Nice
67 Show delight in one's achievement
69 Kind of snake
70 See 103-Down
71 Fish that may be pulled
72 Places for 11-Down
73 Previously named
74 Osaka sash
75 Pure chance
78 Thus far, on a quarterly stint
79 "I Got Rhythm" composer

- 81 Cake froster
82 Quite a few
84 Luck lips
85 — Decor (magazine)
86 Scornful, negative sort
88 Sports cars
92 on a true story
93 Line of Canon cameras
95 Created, as havoc
96 Comic Abbott
97 Spice from a crocus
101 Johnson's successor
102 Reversal counterparts
106 Like the U.S. flag, in terms of hues
108 Bush pilot's runway
109 U.N.'s Kofi
110 Pleased look (as depicted by this puzzle's grid)
116 Pacific island kingdom
117 Washer cycle
118 Too enthusiastic
119 Pungent bulb

- 120 Adjust, as a watch
121 Gizmo that squeezes grapes
122 British nobles
DOWN
1 "Skedaddle"
2 New Zealand native
3 Clinton advisor
4 Mission to remember
5 Spanish for "brother"
6 Coarse files
7 Deity of strife
8 Pl. of NATO
9 Tierra — Fuogo
10 Suffix with transit
11 Hog
12 Craggy hill
13 Director Kazan
14 Leary of "Rescue Me"
15 Ennio of the Brat Pack
16 Spice of the ginger family
17 Filipino, e.g.
18 Will, biblical y
19 Styx locale
27 Writer Rand
29 Inferior paper

- 31 JFK or FDR's party
32 Food quality
33 Foundation
34 Without injury
35 VW model
38 Heat up again
39 Actress Eiko
41 Lifesaver at an accident scene
42 Sitcom featuring the Ricardos
43 Helm holders
44 Avis offering
45 Glamorous quality
47 Cannes played on January 1
48 Robin's ride
49 Refrained from voting
51 Tiny biting fly
54 Evasive types
57 Silents star
58 Statutes
59 Small drinks
60 Some swords
68 — for lat
76 Anaché
77 Be aware of

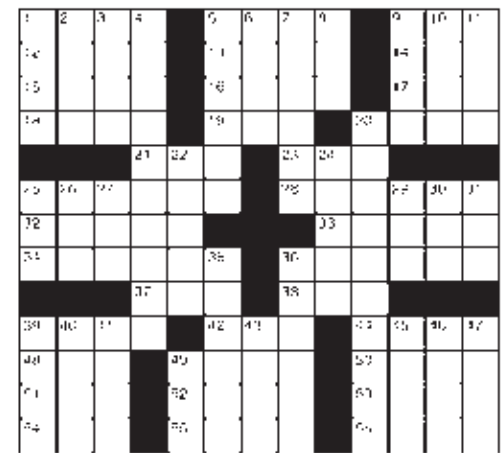
- 79 Enriddle with a bolt
80 Sab marking a grave
83 Spun thread
84 Sharp-witted
87 Small crown
89 Agnus — (lamb figure)
90 Kenny G's specialty
91 Ref's ring decision
92 Public pickup point
94 Fala linkup
96 Liquor server
97 Ringo of rock
98 Palmer of the links
99 Swedes neighbors
100 Not at all, in the sticks
102 Jettes
103 Will 70-Across, 2012 British Open winner
104 Stiffness
105 Runs across
107 Star star
108 Exports
111 Pace for an 11-Down
112 Start to fix?
113 "Indeedy"
114 Not near
115 Become old



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Actor Cobb
5 One
9 Upper limit
12 City of Inda
13 Forbidden act
14 In vitro pet
15 Standard
16 Solidarity symbol
17 Archaeological site
18 Being to Brutus
19 Illustrations
20 Green stone
21 Tackle moguls
23 Ostrich's cousin
25 Woody shout
28 1983 Michener bestseller
32 The sort who'll court
33 Leg bone
34 Anead
36 Sweet
37 Catcher's place?
38 Last ending abor.
39 Pay area
42 Meadow
44 "Phooey!"
48 Phrase in verse
49 Boring



- 50 Capt. e.g.
51 Triumphed
52 Maria symptom
53 Deposited
54 "Acid"
55 Pinnacle play
56 Pairs

DOWN

- 1 Highway division
2 Hollywood clasher
3 Blunders
4 Chef with an eponymous award
5 Pre-located
6 Bleak

- 7 Foot part
8 Youngster
9 Last few notes
10 Enthusiastic, plus
11 Senate staffer
20 TV's "French Chef"
22 Massachusetts politico
24 Sacred composition
25 Low card
26 Charged out
27 Tend the grass
29 "The View"

- 30 Medical research org.
31 Rotation duration
35 Flood
36 Rang out
39 Prolonged cry of grief
40 Lasses
41 Fear as under
43 Hebrew month
45 Biblical brother
46 Adversing award
47 Kesey and Follett
49 Beavers' creation

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U R P N L J H F K D D B Z X V
T R Q O M R K T O P I H F D B
S A U C E Z E Y O W I R V R T
R Q R K O K N T H I E E K E I
H F C E R D A C T T A D S V Z
X A W A K T F N N U V N A A U
P S M R O C A U Q O C I N E M
K T H E R M O M E T E R J L H
I H S F E C L L L A B G D C B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions: forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

And potatoes	Grinder	Locker	Pies
Ball	Head	Man	Sauce
Counter	Hook	Market	Thermometer
Cutter	Loaf	Packer	

Happy Easter



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239-472-0234



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11513 Andy, Rosse Lane
239-395-0823

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