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THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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Vol. 15, No.50

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

DECEMBER 16, 2016



The "eye-catching" first place winning image

photo courtesy Edison National Bank

Edison National Bank Honors Student Nature Photo Contest Winners

The winners have been announced in the annual Student Nature Photography Contest, sponsored by Edison National Bank in cooperation with the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society. Earlier in the school year, Cypress Lake Middle School

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Heights Foundation CEO Kathryn Kelly with Heights Center after school kids at the 2016 Love Your Neighbor evening

photo courtesy Heights Foundation

Heights Foundation Fundraiser

Love Your Neighbor, an annual event featuring Norman Love Confections and Mark Loren Designs, will be held on Tuesday, January 17 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the riverfront Gulf Harbour home of Alan and Patricia Canfield. Guests will sample fine wine and spirits and an assortment of culinary creations from local restaurants and chefs including Blu Sushi, Cru, Summerlin Jake's Seafood & Steaks,

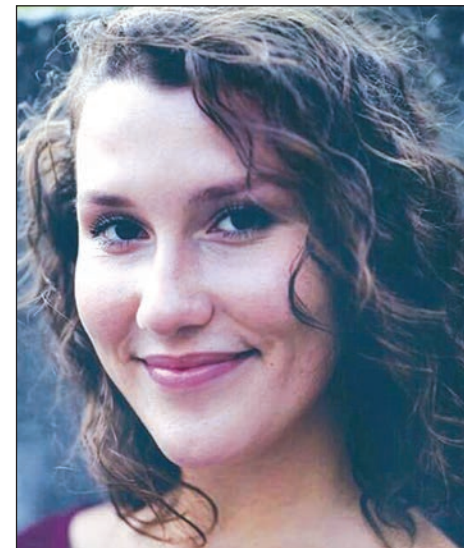
continued on page 10

Young Artists In Holiday Concert At Downtown Library



Callie Atkinson

photos courtesy Young Artists Awards



Martina Long

Two winners of the Young Artists Awards program will present a holiday concert at the downtown Fort Myers Library on Monday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m. The program will be held in the library meeting room at 1651 Lee Street and is

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Fort Myers Beach Art Show And Sale

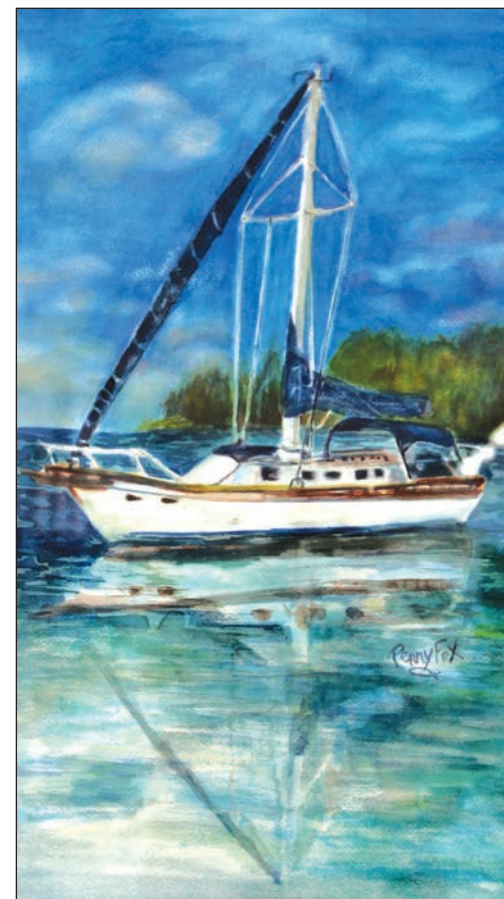
The Art Divine show and sale in both galleries of Fort Myers Beach Art Association is now open to the public. The show and sale features FMBAA member original art – both framed and not framed in mats – priced at or below \$150. The exhibit and sale run until January 12.

If you are interested in learning to paint or use watercolors, many short workshops and classes are being taught at the Fort Myers Beach Art Association this season. Visit www.fortmyersbeachart.com for more information.

The following are classes and events in January:

- January 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Patty O'Kane, Textures and Acrylics: For all levels; \$50/\$55
- January 6 from 9 a.m. to noon – Open House
- January 7, 14 and 21 from 9 a.m. to noon – Patty O'Kane Getting Started with Acrylics: For beginners; \$90/\$105 class series; all materials provided
- January 9, 23 and 30, February 6 and 20 Class Series from 9 a.m. to noon – Sue Pink Beginning Watercolor for Artistic Expression: \$115/\$140
- January 9, 23 and 30, February 6 and 20 Class Series from 1 to 4 p.m. – Cheryl Fausel Intermediate to Advanced Watercolor: \$120/\$145
- January 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Susan Lindsey Portrait In Oils

continued on page 10



An example of art for sale

photo courtesy FMB Art Association

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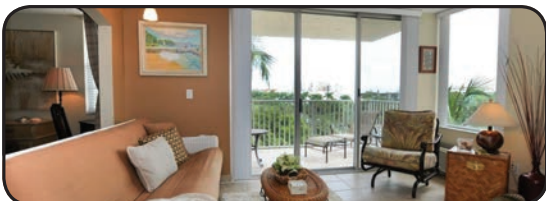
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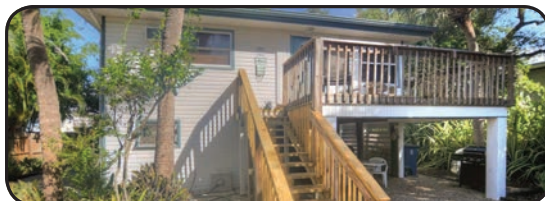
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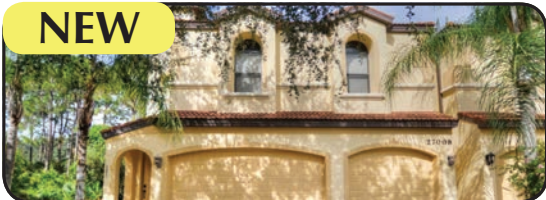


Spacious turnkey, 6th floor condo w/1BD/2BA w/tiled floors in all living areas, storm shutters, under bldg. storage rm. resort pool & spa. Call for private showing.

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MLS#216004180 \$273,000

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

The Bradford Block – Christmastime, 1948



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

When this 1948 Christmastime photograph of the Bradford Block was taken from Jackson Street, downtown was in a post-World War II heyday and shopping was easy on First Street.

People who remember the holidays in mid-20th century downtown couldn't have better memories of how thriving it was, especially at Christmas.

Sears, Roebuck and Co. at the Jackson corner sweeps commandingly from right to left, with its streamline Moderne-style façade, glass tiles and numerous large display windows.

A zoomed-in peek at the window displays reveals huge images of Santa Claus, plus a reminder about the store's Christmas catalogue.

It was the era of the department store on First Street. Sears, Roebuck and Co. was holding a grand Christmas sale, offering everything from clothes and lamps to hand tools and furniture.

Other stores sharing the block with Sears were Gluckman Jeweler, M. Flossie Hill's women's clothing, and Foxworthy & Co. men's clothing. In early December, Gluckman's advertised 25 percent off diamond rings, with engraving and gift wrapping included.

Look mid-block and left of the Arcade Theatre sign and you'll see the oval sign for the well-remembered Sidney Davis Men's Shop. Sidney Davis's full-page newspaper ad offered a long list of "gifts of distinction for that particular man in your life."

Hunters Drug Store on the northeast corner at Hendry was a good place to buy relatively inexpensive gifts such as dresser sets, billfolds, cosmetics, cologne, stationery, and pen and pencil sets.

If more browsing was necessary, across the street there were other nationally known stores, JC Penney and McCrory's, as well as numerous independent or specialty shops:



Sears, Roebuck and Co. dominates this 1948 view of the Bradford Block. Note the Christmas lights over First Street and the holiday window displays.

photo courtesy SWFL Museum of History



Nationally known stores are no longer located in historic downtown, but specialty shops, restaurants and art venues create a lively scene

photo by Gerri Reaves

X-Ray Shoe Store, the Boston Store (clothing) and Evans & Park Women's Clothing, just to name a few.

Penney's urged customers to take advantage of the layaway plan for kids' toys, and McCrory's suggested basic items like gift-boxed handkerchiefs, pajamas, ties or hosiery.

After shopping 'til they dropped, shoppers could grab a cup of coffee or lunch at the Bradford Coffee Shop – notice the catchy coffee cup-shaped sign pointing the way.

Or, they could pop into the Royal Palm Pharmacy in the Earnhardt Building across the street for a fortifying sandwich or ice cream soda.

Those who were simply too tired to go on could escape into the Arcade Theatre for a movie, get a haircut at the barbershop, or send holiday greetings at Western Union.

Or, like the man in the photo (far right), they could just sit on one of the famous downtown green benches and watch the world go by.

Downtown has experienced ups and downs since its mid-twentieth-century peak. Today, the block is vibrant again, but the types of businesses have changed.

Most notably, department stores no longer exist downtown. Sears, Roebuck and Co., for example, migrated to the Edison Mall in the mid-1960s.

However, specialty shops and restaurants are plentiful. Two highly successful changes are that the Arcade Theatre now house Florida Rep and the former Sidney Davis Men's Shop is home to Arts for ACT Gallery and Boutique.

As for street decorations, those strings of lights over the street 68 years ago must have looked pretty at night but can't compete with the greenery and twinkle lights spiraling down vintage light posts today.

Walk down to the Bradford Block and enjoy the holiday lights, good shopping and food, and the feel of a lively downtown.

Learn more about life in 1948 at the following two research centers.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer non-profit organization open Wednesday and Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon and Wednesday 4 to 7 p.m.

It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Call 939-4044 or visit swflhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

The Lee County Black History Society is located at 1936 Henderson Avenue, adjacent to the Williams Academy Museum at Roberto Clemente Park.

Hours for the all-volunteer non-profit organization are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

For more information, call 332-8778 or visit leecountyblackhistorysociety.org.

Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society and the Fort Myers News-Press.*

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THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

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Eren Sisk and Mike Edouard star in *I And You*

photo courtesy Laboratory Theater

Florida Premier At Lab Theater

by Di Saggau

Laboratory Theater of Florida's Artistic Director Annette Trossbach continues to bring cutting-edge theater to our area. Now playing is *I And You* about two high-school misfits who are thrown together for a last minute English project on Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*. Mike Edouard is Anthony, and Eren Sisk is Caroline, and the two deliver astonishingly, sharp and funny performances during this 80-minute drama. The play by Lauren Gunderson is filled with topics including mortality, compatibility, first love and the importance of personal pronouns. Her mismatched characters are both tough and vulnerable.

Caroline has been sick for a long time. When Anthony comes into her bedroom to talk about the school project, she bombards him with "What is going on?" "Why are you here?" and "Is this a joke?" These two impressively talented actors get into our hearts and heads and eventually the ever-deepening script takes on a thought-provoking new level that has the audience talking about it long after it's over.

I was blown away by Sisk's spot on portrayal of Caroline. This is definitely her show and there is a reason for that. She portrays many moods as expertly as any actor I've ever seen. It was truly amazing. The scene where she bounces on her bed doing an air piano pantomime of Jerry Lee Lewis' *Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On* is not only amusing, it shows the scope of her talent. Edouard is also good, more laid back, but there is a reason for that too.

I And You is a play written with intellectual sophistication. We experience a growing relationship between these two youngsters and wonder where it will lead. The ending is unforgettable and will leave you gasping. I rarely leave a play wanting to tell everyone to go see it. That's the way I felt when the curtain call ended. The play is done in three scenes with no intermission. These two actors have received standing ovations after each show and they deserve it.

I And You is directed by Lauren Redeker. It plays through Friday, December 23 at Laboratory Theater of Florida, located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in downtown Fort Myers. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 218-0481 or visit www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com.✧

From page 1

Young Artists

sponsored by the Friends of the Fort Myers Library.

Callie Atkinson, 17, is a senior at Cypress Lake High Center for the Arts. She performs with the nationally ranked The A Cappella Group (TAG) and was featured as Morticia in *The Addams Family* at Cypress. Atkinson recently performed at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in the ensemble in *The Wizard of Oz* and as Perdita in *101 Dalmatians*. She is looking forward to college, where she plans to earn her BFA in musical theater.

Martina Long is a junior at Florida Southern College, working on her BFA in musical theater. Recent credits include *RENT*, *A Chorus Line* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at the Bucker Theatre. She was recently selected to perform in Oslo, Norway for the MTEA international showcase conference and plans to study at Baardar Conservatory next semester in Oslo. Long plans to pursue her dreams of traveling and performing in Europe after college.

Information about the Young Artists Awards program, their upcoming auditions in January, and gala at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre on March 6 is available online at www.youngartistsawards.org or by calling 574-9321.✧

Holiday House Open Through December 23



The 60th annual Holiday House is now open in downtown Fort Myers

photo courtesy Fort Myers Woman's Community Club

The 60th annual Holiday House is now open in downtown Fort Myers. The Fort Myers Woman's Community Club has decorated both the historic Burroughs and Langford Kingston homes at 2505 and 2500 First Street in the traditional holiday colors of red, green, silver and gold with reindeers, pinecones, angels and cardinals. This year's theme is Let Heaven and Nature Sing.

"Both homes are simply dazzling," said Beth Schultz, Holiday House co-chairman. "The Fort Myers Woman's Community Club considers this annual event to be its special gift to the community, and we are looking forward to the best year ever."

Holiday House 2016 is open through Friday, December 23 from 5 to 9 p.m., with the last tour beginning at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for adults, and children under the age of 10 are free. Veterans and active members of the military are free with identification. Santa Claus will be at the Langford-Kingston home to hear children's Christmas wishes.

The Burroughs Home & Gardens and the Langford-Kingston Home are owned by the City of Fort Myers and managed by the Uncommon Friends Foundation. Holiday House proceeds are used to manage and maintain the two homes year round.

Free parking is available behind Grace United Methodist Church at First and Fowler streets. No reservations are required. For more information, visit www.fmwcc.com or on Facebook at HolidayHouseFortMyers.✧

Student Artwork Now Available On License Plates



One of the Kids Tag Art (KTA) winning designs image courtesy Lee County Public Schools

This school year, 2,817 creative designs were completed by fifth graders from 40 Lee district schools participating in Lee County Kids Tag Art (KTA) program, which has raised more than \$38,000 to benefit Lee County arts education.

Two student designs are selected from each school by a panel of art jurors to receive an Award of Distinction recognition. The 80 license plate designs are available for public purchase by visiting the Lee County Tax Collector website

continued on page 6



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The photo contest winners, from left, Karina Papanikolaou, Holland Tyson and Paris Thompson, are joined by Edison National Bank's Susan Nasworthy and JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge representatives involved in the contest

photo courtesy Edison National Bank

From page 1

Photo Contest Winners

students visited the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge to photograph the wildlife and native plants. Edison National Bank provides overall financial support for this annual event, including medals and cash prizes for the winners.

The awards ceremony for the photo contest took place on December 6 at the school. Cypress Lake eighth grade teacher Joy Williams emceed the proceedings with highlights about the students' photography and their time at the refuge. Principal Kelly Maniscalco joined in the ceremony. Also in attendance were Refuge Ranger Becky Larkin and volunteers Ken and Ginny Kopperl, who assisted the students during their photography field trip to the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel.

At the awards ceremony, Edison National Bank Vice President Susan Nasworthy presented award medals to the top three student photographers judged in the contest. The sponsoring bankers also gave the winners \$100, \$75, and \$50 cashier's checks for the top three selected photographs. Those honors went to:

- 1st place – Paris Thompson
- 2nd place – Holland Tyson
- 3rd place – Karina Papanikolaou

"It is truly an honor for Edison National Bank to sponsor this event," said Nasworthy. "Ms. Williams has shared programs like these would not happen without support from the business community. These middle school photographers have captured some very beautiful images. I hope everyone will come see their work in our lobby display at the Cleveland Avenue office."

Every student participating in the contest will receive a \$1 U.S. Mint gold coin from Edison National Bank when they visit the bank's lobby photo display.

The public is invited to visit Edison National Bank to see an award-winning display of student nature photography. The photos are available for viewing starting December 12 during banking hours at the 13000 S. Cleveland Avenue office.

For more information, call 466-1800 or visit www.edisonnationalbank.com.✱

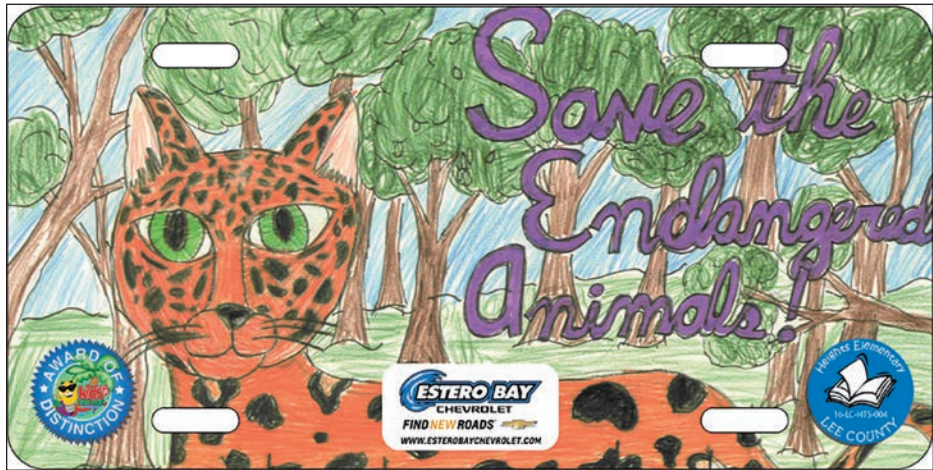
Residents Remembered At Temple Bat Yam

At Yam Temple of the Islands has scheduled a special congregational Memorial Service for Thursday, December 29 at 10:30 a.m. This service will take place in the Sanctuary of the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, Bat Yam's worship home, at 2050 Periwinkle Way.

The seasonal nature of the Bat Yam congregation means that, as a religious group, the opportunity is often missed to say a formal, Jewish good-bye to departed members. The members' funerals often take place elsewhere, usually up North, or, if burial is local, it is at a time when much of the congregation is not in Southwest Florida. The Yom Kippur "Yizkor" service is a major moment in the Jewish calendar to remember those who have died but most of the congregation is worshipping elsewhere that time of year.

From page 4

Kids Tag Art



One of the Kids Tag Art (KTA) winning designs images courtesy Lee County Public Schools



One of the Kids Tag Art (KTA) winning designs

at www.leetc.com. The program is offered by the Lee County Tax Collector in partnership with The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools.

Like most art by young children, each design reflects what is on their minds, from an appeal to save endangered animals to a visual inventory of beach sunsets. In some cases, you'll see the slogan, Love Life, with a brilliant composition of color. These young artists' tag art is now being offered for sale online and available throughout the school year.

You can support art in education by purchasing a Kids Tag Art decorative front-end license plate to display on the front bumper of your car. The proceeds from your purchase will go to back to Lee County School District art classrooms through a grant program administered by The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools.

This year, Estero Bay Chevrolet is the program's premiere sponsor. Other community sponsors include Sam Galloway Ford, Title Check, LCEC, Panther Printing, Cathedral Corporation, Minnesota Twins and Hotel Indigo. Sponsorships are still available by contacting Joanne Robertson at joanner@leetc.com or calling 533-6061.

The Lee County Kids Tag Art program's mission is to help enhance art education with supplies and resources for the classroom. Additional in-kind sponsorships offset costs and provide additional recognition and rewards for the students such as attending spring training baseball games.

For more information, visit www.leetc.com. ✱

This special service will memorialize those Bat Yam members who died in 2016, particularly remembering their place in and contributions to the congregation and to Sanibel, Captiva and Fort Myers.

Those lost in 2016 are listed by date of death. They are Marge (and Herb) Kallman in February, formerly from Fort Myers and New York; Hal (and June) Patinkin in June, formerly from Sanibel and Illinois; Marilyn (Lynn) Zheutlin in June, formerly from Sanibel and Michigan; Shirley (and Mel) Bleiberg in July, formerly from Sanibel,

Shell Point and Pennsylvania; and David (and Maria) Crown in December, formerly from Sanibel and Washington, DC.

Because these individuals were long-time area residents and were known to many, both Jewish and non-Jewish, those friends and neighbors from the Sanibel, Captiva and Fort Myers communities are welcome to join with Bat Yam congregants at this special remembrance gathering.✱



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Fort Myers Art:

Opera Youth
To Perform At
Carnegie Hall

by Tom Hall



Canterbury School student Aurora Badia is on a roll. On November 20, she was one of three young artists who received Awards of Excellence in the Estero Fine Art

Show youth competition. A short time later, she learned that she's a second place winner in the Opera Aria Junior Category (age 11 to 14) in The American Protégé International Vocal Competition 2016. As a result of the latter selection, she will perform this weekend on December 17 and 18 at New York's Carnegie Hall!

The American Protégé International Vocal Competition is designed for singers who would like to challenge themselves in a very competitive environment. The competition was open to solo vocalists and vocal groups of all ages, nationalities and countries. Participants were required to submit video recording materials for the audition. Multiple winners were chosen in each vocal and age category.

At the Estero Fine Art Show, Aurora received her Award of Excellence in

drawing. It is the third time she has been an award winner in the youth art competition, including Best of Show in the 17th Bi-Annual Estero Fine Art Show Youth Competition, once again in drawing. The competition gives budding, young artists a golden opportunity to begin learning the rules of being part of a professional art show and exhibition. It exposes young artists to the opportunity of creating art for a living and provides the competitors with an unmatched learning experience by exposing them and their families to artwork they would not have otherwise seen and access to professional artists with whom they can converse and ask questions about participating in art shows as a career.

Badia will have her pick of career paths. Not only does she have a bright future in both the visual and performing arts, she may also choose to follow in her mother's footsteps and become a physician. Dr. Anais Aurora Badia is a board certified dermatologist who holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Miami, a doctoral degree from Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine and her doctor of medicine degree from University of Health Sciences School of Medicine.

DAAS CO-OP To Host Members-Only Show In January

DAAS CO-OP Art Gallery & Gifts will be hosting a much-anticipated members-only show in January. Titled Genesis: An Exhibition by the Artists of DAAS, the exhibition will open on Saturday, January 14, in conjunction with the SoCo Second Saturday art and cultural event.

The January exhibition will feature each artist's interpretation of the world Genesis. Giving the term broad context, DAAS' member artists are creating a number of intriguing pieces in a wide array of media, including painting, mixed media, sculpture and even fine crafts. All of the artwork presented will be for sale, and viewers will be asked to pick a favorite and explain why – as a way of interacting with the artists and each other and inspire artistic discussion.

DAAS CO-OP Art Gallery & Gifts opened its doors in April 2016 and since then has become one of the most prominent art venues in southwest Florida. In October, DAAS joined forces with the Alliance for the Arts, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, The Union Artist Studios and a number of other venues to create a monthly arts and cultural event in the newly-incorporated SoCo Cultural District. Filled with everything from art receptions, live music and performances, and even crafters and vendors, the SoCo Second Saturday event has been a resounding success from its inception. Like DAAS, the 13 participating art and cultural SoCo venues also host special events during the Second Saturday event. More information, programs and maps are available at www.socoswfl.com.

For more information about DAAS CO-OP Gallery & Gifts or to inquire about becoming a member, visit www.daascoop.com. The administration of the gallery reviews potential artist applications year-round. DAAS CO-OP is located in the Royal Palm Square at 1400 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. Business hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fort Myers Film Festival Screens Local Film Three Wishes At TGIM

Curtis Collins' film *Three Wishes* has been submitted for inclusion in March's 7th annual Fort Myers Film Festival. The cineastes who showed up at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art center for last Monday night's Thank God for Indie Mondays (TGIM) got to see the seven-minute film that won both Best Film and *Spotlight Magazine's* People's Choice Award at the 2016 Bonita Springs Film Festival, which concluded on November 3.

The film stars Marty Wisher as a genie freed from a jewel-encrusted bottle by three men who have been shipwrecked for more than two years on a tiny island. It was shot on Bonita Beach in a single morning this past August, Collins told



Aurora Badia, seen holding her Award of Excellence in drawing from the Estero Fine Art Show, will be in New York at an opera competition this weekend

photo courtesy www.artswwfl.com

the TGIM crowd. They were on set at 4 a.m., ready to shoot by first light around 6 a.m. and done by 11 a.m. It took another two-and-a-half weeks to edit the film.

Even though the celebrity judges did note a handful of technical issues that inevitably come with almost any low budget independent short film, Gina Birch, Stella Ruiz and Shawn Guenther found much to love and praise. Birch, in particular, loved the "awesome" storyline and "great" premise while Ruiz said "the genie lady was a lot of fun and my favorite part of the film." One audience member went a step further. "Barbara Eden wore Marty Wisher T-shirts to bed," he proclaimed to enthusiastic applause.

Tom Hall is both an amateur artist and aspiring novelist who writes art quest thrillers. He is in the final stages of completing his debut novel titled *Art Detective*. A former tax attorney, he lives in Estero with his fiancé and their four cats.✽



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White Elephant Sale

Palmetto Palms RV Resort will hold a Craft and White Elephant Sale on Saturday, December 17 from 8 a.m. until noon. The RV Resort is located at 19681 Summerlin Road in Fort Myers. Coffee and donuts will be available.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, call Marge Gregg at 466-5331.✽

Along The River

The **downtown Fort Myers River District** will again be the scene for **Music Walk** this Friday, December 16. Restaurants, bars, art galleries and shops will showcase a wide range of music during the evening from 6 to 10 p.m. Expect live jazz and blues to rock, drums and much more. Each month brings new energy to the historic streets of downtown Fort Myers.

The River District comes alive every month with live music on the third Friday with Music Walk, featuring more than a dozen participating venues with music by local and regional talent.

During Music Walk, join the 4P Music Network at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center. Each performance will be recorded, which can be used to build a promo pack. That recording can be posted on social media and the 4P Music Network to make connections.

There is no fee to join in the fun. Learn more and sign up at www.4pmusic.com/network.

Organized by the River District Alliance, Music Walk was conceived as a sister event to the extremely popular first Friday Art Walk, which brings out more than 2,000 people during off-peak months. Event sponsors include the River District Alliance, Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, Edison National Bank, River District, Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency and the City of Fort Myers.

Visit www.fortmyersriverdistrictalliance.com to learn more.

The 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 toddlers 18 months to 5 years of age.

The next screening on the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be held this Friday, December 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the **Dunbar Jupiter Hammon Public Library**, located at 3095 Blount Street in 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 can make a vast difference for toddlers and their families. They say early intensive behavioral intervention can make an immense difference not just in the development of the child, but in their families as well.

Screenings are conducted by the hospital and are administered by an advanced registered nurse practitioner, who has extensive training and experience in typical child development and developmental disorders.

A physician referral is not required. To schedule a screening, call 343-6838. **Pure Florida's Fort Myers** location will present a **Bark on the Ark cruise** from 8 to 11:30 a.m. this



Canines play on Picnic Island during a recent Pure Florida's Bark on the Ark cruise

photo courtesy Pure Florida

Saturday, December 17. Guests will have the opportunity to bring their dogs aboard the *M/V Edison Explorer* for a sightseeing river excursion to Picnic Island, located between Sanibel and Pine Island.

Passengers will sail along the Caloosahatchee and then stop for playtime on the island. During the excursion, dogs and owners can run, swim and play catch. While Pure Florida cannot guarantee animal sightings in the wild, potential wildlife sightings include dolphins, eagles, manatee, native birds and more.

Water, Frisbees and dog treats are included for the canines. Soda, wine and beer will also be available for purchase. The cruise departs from The Marina at Edison Ford, located at 2360 West First Street in Fort Myers.

The cost is \$44 per person. Reservations are required since space is limited to 25 passengers and their pets. All dogs that can follow basic commands are welcome.

For more information, call 919-2965 or visit www.PureFL.com.

How about **breakfast with Santa and the Edison Ford "ELF" Wizards?**

This Saturday, take a break from the holiday bustle and spend the morning with your children at the **Edison & Ford Winter Estates**, located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in downtown Fort Myers. There will be two seatings, one at 9:30 a.m. and the other at 11 a.m.

Enjoy a unique holiday science show starring Santa and his Wild Wizard Elves, a healthy holiday breakfast, photo opportunities with Santa as well as time to stroll the decorated homes and gardens of the Edison and Ford families. Reservations are required.

Cost for Edison Ford members is \$22; non-members \$25. This includes general admission to the site and breakfast with Santa for one adult and one child. Additional children are \$15 each. For more information or to make

reservations, contact Leeanne Criswell, Edison Ford program registrar, at lcriswell@edisonfordwinterestates.org or call 334-7419.

Runners and joggers are being sought to help end drunk driving with a walk/run fundraiser.

The **Walk Like MADD/ MADD DASH 5K** will be held at **JetBlue Park** this Saturday, December 17 from 9 a.m. to noon. Check-in begins at 8:30

a.m. Registration is free, but you must register by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 16. You can sign up as a walker, team captain, volunteer or even as a virtual walker by making a donation to another walker or team.

The annual Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) event in Southwest Florida is part of a nationwide year-long series of events.

Contact Lori Burke at 791-7560 or lori.burke@madd.org for more information.

Join motorcyclists and motorcycle enthusiasts at **Bootlegger's Waterfront Barbeque and Salty Sam's Marina** this Saturday, December 17 from 5 to 9 p.m. for **Bike Night**.

The monthly event, located at 2200 Main Street on San Carlos Island, just before the Matanzas Bridge leading to Fort Myers Beach, features food and drink specials as well as a Toys For Tots drive, biker games and prizes.


The performers of the Young Artist Awards will entertain at a **Holiday Concert** sponsored by the Friends of the **Fort Myers Library** this Monday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Callie Atkinson, a multi-year winner and finalist, is among those who will be performing. The concert is free and will be held in the library's meeting rooms at 1651 Lee Street in Fort Myers.

The mission of the Young Artists Awards program is to provide performing arts opportunities and scholarships in the areas of dance, drama, vocal and instrumental music performance.✱

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Warner Joins ArtFest Team



Colin Warner photo courtesy ArtFest Fort Myers

ArtFest Fort Myers, Southwest Florida's premier art festival, announced that Colin Warner has joined their staff as a co-production manager. A New York native, Warner has two years of volunteer experience with ArtFest and more than 15 years of professional experience in the multimedia and marketing areas.

In addition to his duties with ArtFest Fort Myers, Warner produces and directs the 92.5 Fox News Daybreak morning show. He obtained a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Oneonta concentrating in media production.

ArtFest Fort Myers, the annual juried fine art festival, takes place February 3 to 5, 2017 in the Fort Myers River District. For more information, visit ArtFestFortMyers.com or call 768-3602.✱

From page 1

Art Show

Working From Live Model: For beginners to advanced; \$50/\$55 plus \$15 modeling fee

- January 15 from 4 to 6 p.m. – Demonstration by Janet Rogers: \$10
- January 16 to 19 – Janet Rogers

Famous Artist Workshop

- January 16 to February 9 – Winter

Juried Show: Free admission

- January 22 from 1 to 2 p.m. –

Gallery Talk: Free admission

- January 22 from 2:15 to 3:30 p.m.

– Winter Juried Show: Free admission

- January 26 to 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Neil Walling Loose Alla Prima Oil Painting: For intermediate to advanced; \$185/\$200

For more information, call 463-3909, email Pam Flaherty at fmbaapublicity@gmail.com or stop by the Fort Myers Beach Arts Association gallery, located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard off of Donora Boulevard, one mile south of the Matanzas Bridge. The gallery is open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through mid-April. Visit www.fortmyersbeacharts.com for updates.✱



The Calendar Girls with DAV Commander Larry Tillar

photo courtesy Linda Floyd

Calendar Girls Visit With Commander

The Calendar Girls were honored to have DAV Commander Larry Tillar visit their dance practice on December 11 in order to present a special collar to their sponsored Southeastern Guide Dog puppy, Anchor.

Since 2006, The Calendar Girls have sponsored 17 world class guide dogs for veterans through the Paws For Patriots program of Southeastern Guide Dogs.

For more information, visit www.calendargirlsflorida.com.✱

From page 1

Heights Foundation

Three Fishermen Seafood Restaurant and The Timbers Restaurant & Fish Market. Beverage sponsors include The Lighthouse Resort & Tiki Bar and List Distillery.

Live and silent auction items will be offered and all proceeds will benefit the School Success Program for at-risk children in the Harlem Heights Neighborhood. At last year's event, \$285,000 was raised. Upgrades and VIP sponsorships that include the exclusive VIP pre-party are available.

Gulf Harbour residents Bill and Caroline Bloomhall, Dave and Cheryl Copham, and Cliff and Georganne Williams will be recognized at the event for their long-time support of The Heights Foundation.

"We are happy to support the good work of The Heights Foundation," said hosts Alan and Patricia Canfield. "The residents of Harlem Heights are our neighbors and the foundation's School Success Program ensures that the children in the neighborhood have the tools they need to succeed in school."

"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. The Gulf Harbour community has been very supportive of The Heights Foundation and we appreciate the Canfields opening their home for this important fundraiser."

Sponsors include the Suncoast Credit Union Foundation, Connie and Ed Lizak, The Javedan Family, JP Morgan Chase, Val Ward Cadillac and Florida Power & Light.

Tickets are now on sale for \$200 each and space is limited. Upgrades and sponsorships that include an exclusive pre-event VIP party are also available. Purchase tickets at www.heightsfoundation.org/lyn or call Karen Lesza at 482-7706.✱

Grammy Winner Holding Concert December 16

The unmistakable sound of multi-Dove and Grammy Award-winning recording artist David Phelps will be featured in Cape Coral on Friday, December 16 at the First Baptist Church. This classic Christmas concert begins at 7 p.m.

Once a childhood musical prodigy from Tomball, Texas, Phelps earned a bachelor's degree in music from Baylor University. Since then, he has become a nationally celebrated vocalist, perhaps best known as the powerful tenor for the multiple Grammy and Dove

Award-winning Gaither Vocal Band.

Emerging as a leading voice in contemporary Christian music, Phelps has been winning the hearts of audiences all over the world for more than two decades. He has performed at numerous venues across the globe, including the White House, New York's Carnegie Hall and the Sydney Opera House in Australia.

This Christmas concert is one of more than a dozen Phelps and his seven-piece musical entourage will hold this season. Songs featured include Phelps' *O Holy Night* recording, as well as his recently released *Freedom* recording.

The First Baptist Church is located at 4117 Coronado Parkway. For more information, call 542-3703 or visit www.firstbaptistcapecoral.com.✱

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COCONUT POINT
Thursdays, 9am-1pm

LAKES PARK (NEW DAY)
Wednesdays, 9am-1 pm

BONITA SPRINGS (at The Promenade)
Saturdays, 8am-12pm

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FORT MYERS FARE

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 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 Chinese and Japanese cuisine. The name means "Number One" in Japanese and offers its customers the perfect balance of great quality and affordable prices. Ichiban has been family owned and operated for 11 years and its enduring popularity is a testament to its exceptional, friendly service.

1520 Broadway #106, Fort Myers. Call 334-6991.

ISLAND COW

Where can you go when you're in the "moood" for some great cookin', local fun and prices that won't make you lose the farm? Try Island Cow on Sanibel.

Island Cow is an airy bistro with French doors leading out to the front and back patios. It is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Dine under the stars while you listen to live music on one of Sanibel's only al fresco eating porches. Now serving full liquor island cocktails!

2163 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. Call 472-0606.



Sea Breeze Cafe at Sundial

photo courtesy Sundial Beach Resort & Spa

LAMOTTA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

LaMotta's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria was established in 1979 and is one of the longest-running family eateries in the Fort Myers area. Chef Camelo LaMotta serves traditional Italian dishes such as chicken parmesan, lasagna, pizza and calzones as well as specialty creations like osso bucco, lobster risotto, pescatore and filet Florentine.

Try LaMotta's New York-style pizza, cooked in a 500-degree oven for the perfect crunchy slice. For specialized desserts, treat yourself to cannolis and tiramisu along with a cappuccino or coffee.

Hours include Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 9 p.m.; closed Sunday.

15660-225 San Carlos Boulevard, Fort Myers, 482-5505

SUMMERLIN JAKE'S

Summerlin Jake's Seafood and Steaks, a sunset dining water view restaurant in Fort Myers, located near the Sanibel Bridge, offers new American cuisine prepared in the old Florida tradition. Paying tribute to the rich history of Punta Rassa, where Jake Summerlin owned a wharf that he used to ship his cattle to Cuba and the local waters that are famous for being the home to big game fishing, Summerlin Jake's offers freshly caught local seafood, tender, juicy prime steaks, smoked ribs, brisket & chicken and heart-healthy, vegan choices that are locally sourced, hand-selected and artfully prepared. Summerlin Jakes is open Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Breakfast served 8 to 11:30 a.m.). Happy Hour is 3 to 6 p.m. daily. Live music on Friday and Saturday 5:30 to 10 p.m.

17501 Harbour Pointe Drive, 466-5377.

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1451 Middle Gulf Drive, Sanibel 472-4151.

TERRA NOSTRA

Terra Nostra Ristorante Italiano serves classic Italian fare in the former Cork & Barrel suite in the Target center at 15880 San Carlos Boulevard.

Owners Fernando and Sao Uva welcome you to their new location after spending many years on Fort Myers Beach. They bring over Chef Anthony Grandepiogga and Maitre d' Reginald Beach. The establishment seats 156 people, including outdoor dining.

The mission of Terra Nostra is to serve homemade food in a restaurant environment. Try some of Fernando's hand-crafted specialties: Bouillabaisse, Chicken Monte Carlo and Penne a la Fiero. With these selections and house favorites, you will never leave hungry. Have a drink from the full liquor bar or sip from the many hand-selected wines or ports. A family atmosphere and attentive service will make your dinner a dinner to remember.

Terra Nostra is open six days a week from 4:30 to 10 p.m. It is closed Tuesday until further notice.

15880 San Carlos Boulevard, Suite 110, Fort Myers, 590-8147.

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Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION (UUA)

2756 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers. Sunday Services 9 and 11 a.m., Adult Education Workshop 10 a.m., Reverend Margaret L. Beard, Minister. 226-0900. www.allfaiths-uc.org

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

10291 Bayshore Road, North Fort Myers. Divine Liturgy Sunday 10:30 a.m.; Rosary begins 10 a.m. Lenten services (Presanctified Liturgy) will be on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. starting February. Very Reverend Peter Lickman, 305-651-0991. Church of the Eastern Catholic or Byzantine Rite, 1.5 mi. east of Interstate 75.

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers. Reverend Father Dean Nastos, Orthos Service Sunday 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy Sunday 10 a.m., Fellowship Programs, Sunday School, Bible Study. annunciation.fl.goarch.org, 481-2099

BETH SHILOH

MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

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

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES CHURCH OF GOD

16581 McGregor Boulevard, 267-3166. Just past the Tanger Outlet Mall. Pastor Barry Lentz, 281-3063. Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH

OF SW FLORIDA ORTHODOX

5620 Winkler Road, Fort Myers. Rabbi Yitzchok Minkowicz. 433-7708, rabbi@chabadswf.org. www.chabadswf.org. Friday service 6:30 p.m.; Saturday Kabbalah 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 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 10:30 a.m. Website: www.taecc.com

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2439 McGregor Boulevard, 334-8937. Reverend 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

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8260 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 481-3233. www.clpc.us. Clint Cottrell, Pastor. Prayer Service 8 a.m., Praise 9 a.m., Children's Church 9 a.m., Traditional 11 a.m. Summer Prayer Service 8 a.m.

Combined Traditional/Praise 10 a.m.

CYPRESS LAKE UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

8570 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 482-1250, 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday Traditional Service 9:30 a.m. Praise Service Sunday School all times.

FAITH FELLOWSHIP WORLD

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

6111 South Pointe Boulevard, Fort Myers, 278-3638. Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Voice of Faith, WCRN 13.50 AM Radio, Sunday, 1:30 p.m.; Thursday Service, 7:30 p.m.; Friday Youth Service, 7:30 p.m.

Nursery care for pre-school children and Children's Church ages 5 to 12 available.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15690 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 482-2030. Pastor David Stauffer. Traditional Service Sunday 8:45 a.m., Contemporary Service Sunday 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

2390 West First Street, next door to Edison Estates. 10:30 a.m. Sunday Service and Sunday School; 12 noon Wednesday Testimony Meeting. Child care provided at services. Reading Room located in church building for quiet study and information about Christian Science. Monday and Friday noon to 3 p.m., Wednesday 1 to 3 p.m. www.christiansciencefortmyers.net, www.christianscience.com

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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 Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Family Night, 7 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Downtown Fort Myers River District, 2466 First Street, 332-1152. www.fumcftmyers.org. Sunday Services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Blended Church Service; 5:30 p.m. Youth Group.

FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CONGREGATION

5916 Winkler Road, Fort Myers, 437-4330. Pastor Reverend Mark Condrey. 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. Reverend Anton DeWet, pastor. Morning Worship: 10 a.m., Church School: 10:15 a.m. Friendship Time follows worship.

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

9650 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers 454-4778.

Reverend Ray Buchanan Rector. Saturday 5 p.m., Eucharist 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 Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. services.

JESUS THE WORKER

CATHOLIC CHURCH

881 Nuna Avenue, Fort Myers, 481-1143. Masses Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 8 and 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

KINGDOM LIFE CHURCH

2154 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 218-8343. Pastor Randy and Anita Thurman. 10:30 a.m. Sunday Service.

LAMB OF GOD CHURCH

A few federated Lutheran (ELCA) and Episcopal Congregation. 19691 Cypress View Drive, Fort Myers. 267-3525. www.lambofgodchurch.net. Reverend Dr. James Reho. Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m. Sunday's Cool for Children 10 a.m.

NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER

New Home Church, 8505 Jenny Cae Lane, North Fort Myers, 656-0416. Weekly Friday meeting meet and greet 6:30 p.m. Kingdom Teaching 7 p.m. Fellowship and refreshments. nbcministry@embarqmail.com, www.facebook.com/nbcministry. Alex and Patricia Wiggins, Ministers

NEW COVENANT EYES CHURCH

See Clearly. Meeting monthly at 9 a.m. at the Elks Lodge. 1900 Park Meadows Drive, Fort Myers. 220-8519. Pastor Alan Bondar. www.newcovenanteyes.com. LIFT Kidz program, free coffee and donuts.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH OF FORT MYERS

16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 10. 985-8503. 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 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 and 9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship. 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship. 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday School. Youth and Children's programming runs concurrent to Sunday services. Nursery care provided at all services. 274-1230. www.newhopefortmyers.org.

PEACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Fort Myers Beach Masonic Lodge. 17671 Pine Ridge Road. 267-7400. Pastors, Gail and RC Fleeman. Adult Discussion Classes 8:45 a.m. Countdown to Worship 10:10 a.m. Amazing Grace Worship: 10:30 a.m. www.peacecommunitychurch.com.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. Peace a member of ELCA. Weekly communion with traditional liturgy, organ and choir. 15840 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, on the way to Sanibel. 437-2599, www.peaceftmyers.com, peace@peaceftmyers.com.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

3950 Winkler Ext., Fort Myers, 274-0143. 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. Sunday Services. Daily early learning center/day care.

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

21580 River Ranch Road, Estero. 495-0400, Senior Pastor Todd Weston. 8 and 9:45 a.m. Services; 11:30 a.m. Legacy Service, multi-generational.

SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER

Meditation classes. Guided meditations, methods to relax body and focus mind on virtuous objects. Bring peace and happiness into daily activity. 567-9739. www.MeditationInFortMyers.org.

SAINT COLUMBKILLE

CATHOLIC CHURCH

12171 Iona Road, Fort Myers, off McGregor and north of Gladiolus. 489-3973. Father Lorenzo Gonzalez. Monday 6:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday 8 a.m. Saturday 3 p.m.; Sunday 8, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Reconciliation Saturday 9 a.m. or by appointment.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

CATHOLIC CHURCH

2157 Cleveland Avenue, Fort Myers, 334-2161. Masses: Monday through Thursday 6:45 a.m.; Friday 6:45 and 11 a.m.; Saturday 4 p.m.; Sunday 6:45, 9:30 and 11 a.m., 12:15, 4 Creole and 6 p.m.

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

3049 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 344-0012. Pastor Reverend Steve Filizzi. An Affirming and Inclusive Congregation. Sunday Services 10 a.m.

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL (LCMS)

3595 Broadway, Fort Myers, 939-1218, Worship: Saturday 5:30 p.m., Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m. Bible Study for adults and children Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

SAINT PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

3751 Estero Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach, 463-4251, www.stpeterfmb.com.

Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m.

SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY

Church and Bookstore. 111 Evergreen Road (southwest corner of Evergreen Road and Gail Street.) Liturgical services conducted in English and Church Slavonic; following the Julian (Old) Calendar. Liturgical Services Sundays and Holy Days 9:30 a.m. Holy Liturgy 0 a.m. Call to confirm service schedule: 997-2847; Bookstore 691-1775. www.saintnicholasmonastery.org.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

13031 Palm Beach Boulevard (3 miles east of I75) East Fort Myers (across from Fort Myers Shores) 693-0818. 9 a.m. Tuesday through Friday. 4 p.m. Saturday, 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST CHURCH

16940 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 454-3336. Robert G. Kasten Pastor. Sunday 11 a.m. Nursery 9:45 a.m. Sunday School all ages. Junior Church grades one to five. Wee Church Pre-K to K. Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednsday Service 6 p.m.

TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE

16225 Winkler Road Fort Myers. 433-0018, www.templebethel.com. Religious School Director Dale Cohen, Learning Tree Director Jesyca Virnig, Office Manager Karen Kagan. Union For Reform Judaism Shabbat Service Friday 7:30 p.m., Torah Study Saturday 9 a.m. Religious School Wednesday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. Learning Tree Monday through Friday.

TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

14486 A&W Bulb Road, Fort Myers, 433-0201, Rabbi: Rabbi Marc Sack Minyan: Monday at 9 a.m. Religious Education: Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Services Friday 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. www.tjswfl.org.

THE NEW CHURCH

The New Church of SWFL, 10811 Sunset Plaza Circle #401, behind Zoomers. Reverend Gabriella Cahaley. Sundays 11 a.m. during the season. Other worship events on Fort Myers Beach. <http://www.newchurchflorida.com>. 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. 561-2700. www.uucfm.org.

UNITY OF BONITA SPRINGS

28285 Imperial Street, Bonita Springs. 947-3100. 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.

UNITY OF FORT MYERS

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

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

9065 Ligon Court, Fort Myers, across from HealthPark Hospital, 481-2125. Pastor: Byron West. Sunday Services: 9:30 a.m. Discipleship Classes for all ages, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee, 10:45 a.m. Corporate Worship.

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

2120 Collier Avenue, Fort Myers. 274-8881. 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 8 a.m. Traditional, 10:45 a.m. Blended, 9:30 a.m. Educational Hour. www.zionfm.org ✠

Middle Schoolers Take Part In Environmental Outreach Project



Middle schoolers from Cape Coral Unity School

photos courtesy Captiva Cruises

Middle School students from Cape Coral Unity School cruised to Cayo Costa State Park on a No Child Left on Shore field trip as part of an Environmental Education Outreach Project, a cooperative endeavor of Captiva Cruises and The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) which strives to provide the younger generation of Southwest Florida an opportunity to experience firsthand the invaluable resources of the Caloosahatchee watershed and estuarine environment.

Due to a new moon and north winds, the tide was very low on the morning of the field trip, making it a perfect opportunity to beachcomb and wade in the shallow

emergencies and reading channel markers.

Successful completion entitles the boater to six months free membership in the United States Power Squadrons with the purchase of a 12-month membership.

The two-day course is \$60; there is a \$20 fee for a second person sharing the instruction materials. The cost includes lunch after the second Saturday class.

The squadron is also offering the Local Waters/Local Charts class on Saturday, January 21, from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class is geared toward new boaters and boaters new to the area, as well as those wishing to learn chart reading. It will provide the basics of navigation oriented to the Fort Myers area. Students will be using chart 11427, so bring this chart to class.

Optional on-the-water training will be offered at a later date. The cost of the class is \$45.

Both courses 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 at www.scbps.com or by calling 466-4040.*

and includes a narrated tour and refreshments.

The event will begin in the classroom at the Calusa Heritage Trail, located at 13810 Waterfront Drive in Pineland. The Captiva Cruises boat will depart and return to the dock of Tarpon Lodge. Reservations are required and seating is limited. Call 283-2062. Proceeds benefit the Randell Research Center.*



A student shows shells found on Cayo Costa

waters of Cayo Costa State Park. Students discovered sand dollars, sea urchins, whelks, conchs and even an octopus was found in the tidal waters in between the Gulf beach and seaward sandbar. For many of these students, it was their first exposure to the wonders of our shorelines.

During the cruise portion of the field trip, a trawling net was used to enable students to observe puffer fish, trigger fish, pin fish, a flounder and sea urchins. Students were amazed at the abundance of life within the Back Bay waters and were able to learn why the habitats of the coastal environment are so important.

For more information about Captiva Cruises' and SCCF's No Child Left on Shore initiative, or to sponsor a local school or youth group to participate in this exciting opportunity, contact SCCF at 472-2329 or Captiva Cruises at 472-5300.*



A student shows the sand dollars he found

Two Upcoming Boating Courses

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 beginning Saturday, January 7, 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, January 14, also from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Topics covered include hull design, docking, anchoring, handling boating

Winter Solstice Boat Cruise

The Randell Research Center and Captiva Cruises are offering a Winter Solstice Boat Cruise on Wednesday, December 21 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$55 per person

A HOLIDAY FEAST

BY THE SEA.



Join us Sunday, December 25
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Plant Smart

Paintedleaf

by Gerri Reaves

Festive poinsettias are a traditional decorative fixture during the holiday season. The bright red, non-native ornamental brightens up the season, only to usually be discarded after New Year's Day.

But did you know that Florida has several species of native poinsettias? In fact, one – pineland poinsettia (*Poinsettia pinetorum*) – is on the state's endangered list.

Although the native poinsettias are less showy than the imported species, they deserve recognition, propagation and protection.

If you've run across a native poinsettia in your yard or while on a walk, it was probably paintedleaf (*Poinsettia cyathophora*), also called fire-on-the-mountain.

It is common throughout the state and grows weed-like in a variety of spots, from natural areas to undeveloped lots, roadsides and disturbed sites.

The wildflower's name comes from the bright-red dab of "paint" at the base of what appear to be large flower petals but are actually bracts, or specialized leaves.

At the center of a swirl of red are clusters of tiny, greenish, petal-less flowers that bloom all year.

The true leaves vary greatly in shape, from fiddle-shaped, to ovate or lance-like, and even narrow and grass-like.

Paintedleaf grows up to five feet tall, varying in form from full and multi-branched to spindly and vine-like.



Paintedleaf is one of several native poinsettias. The leaf shape and form vary.

The plant is basically self-maintaining, drought tolerant and self-sowing. It prefers full sun to partial shade and can be propagated with the seeds.

Those seeds attract mourning doves and the flowers are a nectar source for butterflies.

When you think "poinsettia," remember paintedleaf. And if it volunteers in your yard, be glad.

Sources: *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida*, *Wildflowers of Florida* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, and *nsis.org*.

*Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.**



photos by Gerri Reaves

Free Fly Fishing Expo January 5



The Sanibel Fly Fishers, Sanibel Sea School, and Canterbury School of Fort Myers are jointly hosting a fly fishing expo on Thursday, January 5 from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Canterbury School gymnasium.

"We invite all who are interested in learning about fly fishing and caring for our marine environment to join us for an evening of sharing information with our fellow citizens" said Doug Greene, president of the Sanibel Fly Fishers Club.

One of the goals of the Sanibel Fly Fishers club is to promote the sport of fly fishing, and this expo is designed to help people become better acquainted with the sport. Fly fishing involves equipment that is slightly different from traditional fishing methods, and can seem intimidating. Their goal is to help people learn about fly fishing equipment and techniques in a comfortable atmosphere and have a little hands-on experience to become better informed about the sport.

Fly fishing is different from other rod fishing because the weight of the line is used to project the fly, while other fishing methods rely on a weighted hook, or an

attached weight to project the hook into the water. And, many fly fishers enjoy making their own flies, which for many is an enjoyable and integral part of the sport.

The mission of Sanibel Sea School is to improve the ocean's future – one person at a time.

"At Sanibel Sea School, we have taught fishing to adults for several years, and although our classes are not fly fishing classes per se, we do place a heavy emphasis on fly fishing techniques," said Dr. Bruce Neill, the school's executive director.

Fly fishing is perhaps one of the most intimate methods of fishing. The goal is to be very closely linked to the fish, and have the minimal amount of tackle linking the fisher and fish. "We want to help people become more connected to the ocean, and for many fly fishing is a really great way to do that; fishing is one of the ways that people study, and learn about the ocean, and we want to help them accomplish that," added Dr. Neill.

Casting instructions at the expo will be provided by one of Southwest Florida's best fly casting instructors, Joe Mahler. Several local fly tiers will be demonstrating how they tie their favorite flies and provide tips and insight on ways to tie flies. JoEllen Wilson, a fisheries biologist with the Bonefish Tarpon Trust, will speak about Juvenile Tarpon Habitat in Southwest Florida. There will also be demonstrations on knot tying, and people will demonstrate and explain the types of fly fishing gear commonly used in this part of the world. Several local marine conservation organizations will also have tables at the event.

Admission is free and several great door prizes will be given away, including a complete fly fishing outfit – rod, reel and line, and flies – and hats and T-shirts will be awarded at the end of the evening's program.

Pizza and soda will be available for a small contribution to help cover the expenses of the food.

Visit the Sanibel Fly Fishers Facebook page, or stop by Sanibel Sea School for more information about the expo.

The Canterbury School gymnasium is located at 8141 College Parkway in Fort Myers.*

Flea Market And Yard Sale

Hope United Church in San Carlos Park/Estero is holding a community Flea Market and Garage Sale the second Saturday of each month, from 8 a.m. until noon in their parking lot. The church is located at 7470 Hickory Drive in Fort Myers, on U.S. 41, two miles south of Alico and one mile north of Estero Parkway.

There will be 30 outdoor spaces available for \$20 per space. This is the market's 7th year, running October through March.

All proceeds remain with vendors renting spaces/tables. The only revenue to the church is the space rental charge, and for coffee and foodstuffs.

The church will also be selling excess electronics and other equipment no longer needed. All items are in working order but are being sold "as-is," with no warranties or guarantees.

To reserve a spot, drop by the church office between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays. Spaces are sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Renters must provide their own tables. Setup is between 7 and 8 a.m. Spaces are reserved by a cash payment.

Call 267-3331 with questions.*



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CROW Case Of The Week:

Northern Raccoon



by Bob Petcher

For the second time in four weeks, an injured northern raccoon is being reported on within this column.

The prior patient was an adult bandit-looking mammal that was treated for mange during a nearly two month period before being released last Thursday near Lehigh Acres after a successful recovery.

Now, a juvenile female species of the common raccoon is being rehabilitated at CROW. She was brought to the clinic by a rescuer on November 30 after appearing to be lost and hungry. While it appeared to be bright, alert and responsive, it did suffer intermittent gazing and stumbling. X-rays revealed the patient had a dome-shaped skull, which confirmed a condition known as hydrocephaly.

Hydrocephaly is defined as an abnormal collection of fluid in the brain area that typically causes increased pressure inside the skull. Older people have been known to suffer with headaches, double vision, poor balance, urinary problems, personality changes and other mental impairment. Human

babies have experienced a rapid increase in head size. The condition for youth can be attributed to birth defects, but hydrocephalus has been known to be acquired later in life as well.

This particular condition for the juvenile northern raccoon will be life-altering but not life-threatening. Due to her condition, instead of being released once rehabilitation is complete, she will enter the education field as an animal ambassador at a wildlife facility, said CROW DVM intern Dr. Spencer Kehoe.

Since arriving at the clinic, the patient's overall health has improved. After a timid appetite upon arrival, Kehoe states the young mammal has since increased its food intake and has gained weight. Quality-of-life checkups are being administered frequently, according to CROW medical staff.

"The raccoon remains bright and alert and is eating very well and gaining weight," Kehoe said in giving an update Tuesday. "When it arrived, it weighed 850 grams and is currently weighing almost 2.7 pounds."

Kehoe said patient #16-3677 will receive medication "to help reduce the fluid."

At this point, the female patient resides indoors but is expected to move outdoors to interact with other members of its species in the near future.

"It has been adapting well outside during playtime and enjoys enrichment to keep her curiosity and mind active," said Kehoe. "It will soon be introduced to other raccoons."

CROW officials are now seeking a

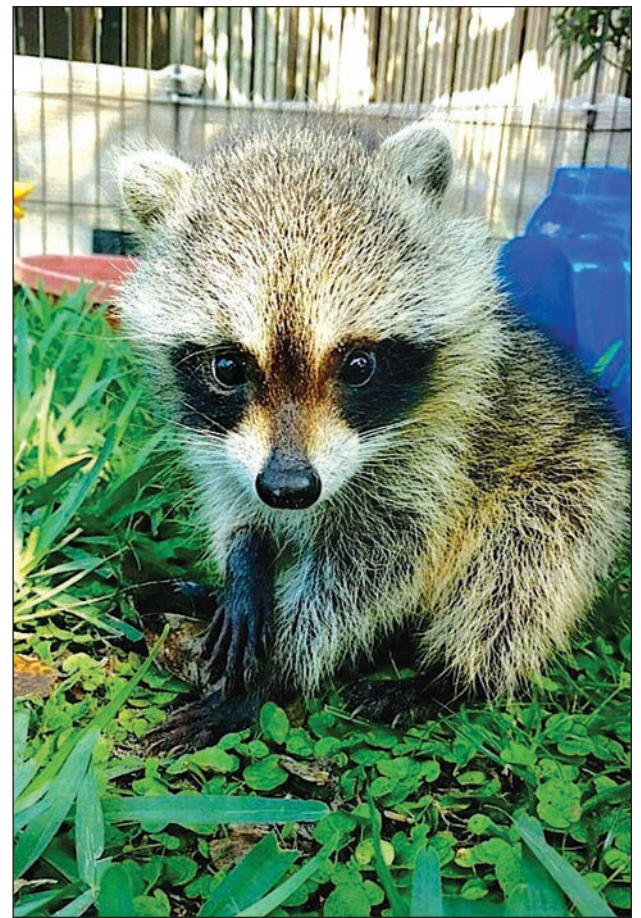
facility for the patient to reside and live out a productive life as an informational animal – a raccoon's life is typically less than five years long – that educates instead of forages.

CROW Education Coordinator Rachel Rainbolt has previously stated she sees the educational process as essential to affect change.

"Education improves a person's awareness of the intrinsic value of wildlife, thus increasing their appreciation for the connection between humans, animals and the environment," Rainbolt said earlier.

At CROW, raccoons are generally known to be regular customers. In 2015, the masked mammals ranked #3 in the patient top 10 list. This year, CROW has cared for 265 raccoons thus far.

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



Patient #16-3677 will become an educational ambassador once fully rehabilitated photo by Kenny Howell

donations to PO Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644 or visit www.crowclinic.org.

Breakfast With Santa At Estates



Have breakfast with Santa

photo courtesy Edison Ford Estates

Children and their parents are invited to have breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 17 at 9:30 or 11 a.m. at Edison & Ford Winter Estates.

Santa and the Edison Wild Wizards will also perform a special holiday science show.

Tickets include a self-guided tour of the winter home sites of the Edison and Ford families.

The cost is \$22 for Edison Ford members and \$25 for nonmembers, and includes one adult and one child. Each additional child is \$15.

For reservations, call LeeAnne Criswell at 334-7419 or email LCriswell@EdisonFordWinterEstates.org.

The estates are located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers.✱

Church Holding Five Christmas Eve Services

Next Level Church will hold five identical Christmas Eve services at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers, at 5 and 7 p.m. on December 23 and at 3, 5 and 7 p.m. on December 24.

The church expects more than 7,500 people to attend each 75-minute presentation. Every service will include Christmas music, worship and a message from Pastor Matt Keller.

A kids' team will serve families and provide a safe and loving environment for babies through 5 years old. Children from kindergarten and up are welcome to attend the main service.

Coffee, cookies, hot chocolate and more will be available in the lobby before each service.

Tickets are free and will be collected at the door to best accommodate everyone. To reserve free tickets, visit <http://nextlevelchurch.com/christmas/>.✱

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Pre-Cold Front Fishing Goes Off



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Nothing gets me fired up this time of year as much as fishing when the wind blows hard out of the south. During these often short periods of warm south

wind, which happen as a cold front approaches, the bite can just go off. This often rough setup can bring some of the fastest-paced action on snook, trout and redfish we see any time of the year. The stronger the approaching cold front usually the better this bite can be.

This exact setup played out mid-week with strong, southerly winds holding the water up higher than the tide chart forecast. Conditions were pretty rough, with wind gusts over 20 mph, so we started off close to home, choosing to fish some favorite southerly facing mangrove shorelines. At the first stop, within 10 minutes we had a

slam, which included a 26-inch trout on the very first cast, followed up almost immediately by a 26-inch redfish. Every cast for about 20 minutes at this first stop got bit, with most of the action coming from snook in the mid 20-inch range.

Most of the morning the wind blew hard out of the south and the bite was just on at every shoreline we fished. Then, by late morning, the wind started to make that switch, changing from southwest to west, then northwest as the fishing action quickly ground to a halt. Getting the timing right during these periods of south winds as a cold front approaches is all part of our winter fishing pattern and key to finding the best winter action. Get it right and you can have a crazy, memorable day. Get it wrong by a hour or two and you will want to forget your day.

For the next few days following the passing of the first cold front, I spent my time catching limits of mangrove snapper for my clients along with some catch-and-release snook action. One favorite spot in the southern sound is only a few hundred yards out from the intercostal in 12 feet of water. It's still a mystery to me what's on the bottom here, but it comes up roughly 3 to 4 feet on the sonar and is definitely some



John Faulkner from Pine Island with a 26-inch trout and 26-inch redfish caught this week with Capt. Matt Mitchell



kind of man-made structure. My guess would be either a sunken barge or a concrete rubble pile.

This spot, along with many others just like it throughout the sound, are always good for mixed-bag action. We anchored up here late in the week chumming live shiners and having big mangrove snapper explode on the surface. Catching our limit of snapper all over 12 inches came quickly, along with my clients hooking into some much larger gag groupers that made it back to the structure before breaking them off. As temperatures continue to cool down, all these same open water man-made structure spots will begin to stack up with big sheepshead.

A much stronger secondary cold front came through just in time to

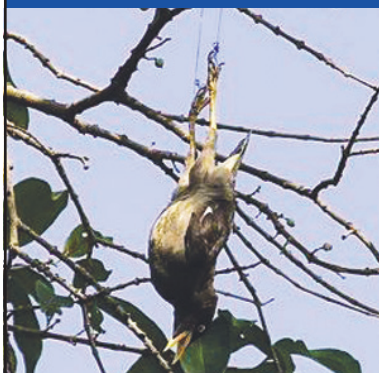
wreck the weekend's fishing plans, as conditions got too rough and cold to be out on the water for a few days. This up-and-down weather pattern is all just a part of our wintertime fishing and will continue until spring. Learning to take advantage of the best times to fish and when it's just better to stay in can only be learned over time. No matter how strong the south wind blows, I'm going fishing.

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

We 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 a photograph with identification. Email to press@islandsunnews.com or call 395-1213.

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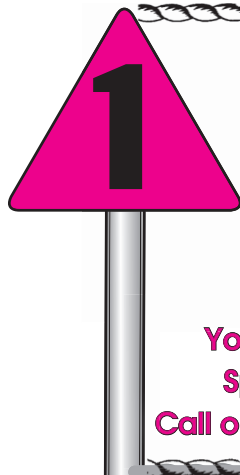


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Dave Doane

Pure Florida Recognized At Flagler Awards



Merry Coffman and Robin Rosario of Pure Florida at the 2016 Flagler Awards
photo courtesy Pure Florida

Pure Florida was recently recognized for excellence in tourism marketing by Visit Florida for its Cruise Cash program, a direct email marketing automation campaign that delivers Cruise Cash to the inboxes of users who subscribe to Pure Florida's email database. Pure Florida's automated email campaign, developed by

Priority Marketing, earned a Bronze Award at the 2016 Flagler Awards, held during the 49th annual Governor's Conference on Tourism held at the Hilton Orlando.

Pure Florida's current Cruise Cash program offers website visitors a total of \$15 in savings to be used on sightseeing cruises, fishing trips, boat rentals, jet ski rentals and tours by signing up to receive Pure Florida's monthly e-newsletter. The concept was previously implemented by Pure Florida as printed coupons that were distributed to hotels and tourist centers, however, Priority Marketing redeveloped and re-launched the campaign, establishing a new design and a format that would function well for both print and digital programs.

Pure Florida received an immediate response to the Cruise Cash campaign. Since the start of the campaign in November 2015, Pure Florida has seen a more than 900 percent increase in email registrations, as well as a 45 percent increase in website traffic.

The Flagler Awards recognize outstanding tourism marketing in Florida and the organizations that work to enhance Florida's position as one of the world's most popular travel destinations. Winners were selected by a team of judges based on an individual evaluation of creativity, innovation, production quality and effectiveness.*

First Mimi Coin Of The Season Found In Kettle

For the 12th year in a row, The Salvation Army has found what's become affectionately known as a Mimi coin in its Lee County kettles. This year, a 1904 liberty head gold coin was found in one of The Salvation Army's signature red kettles, with the traditional note that reads, "In loving memory of Mimi."

"It's exciting for The Salvation Army to be the recipient of this gift for the 12th consecutive year," said Maj. Tim Gilliam, area commander for The Salvation Army. "We may never know who Mimi or the donor are, but I thank God for them both. The donation of

this coin will go a long way in helping the less fortunate in our community."

The identities of the donor and their beloved Mimi continue to be a well-kept secret as Salvation Army staff look forward to finding the famed coin in the kettles each year. Just 19 days from Christmas, the coin was donated on December 6 at a Publix in East Fort Myers and discovered in the last kettle counted for the day.

The Salvation Army will have the coin professionally appraised for its market value, though online collectors are selling similar coins for up to \$1,600.

The income from the sale of this coin will help boost kettle totals for this season. As of December 5, this year's Red Kettle Campaign is at 45 percent of its \$500,000 goal. The campaign will run through Christmas eve.*

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Expanded Wildlife Hospital Opens At Conservancy



The Conservancy of Southwest Florida hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the opening of the expanded von Arx Wildlife Hospital

photos courtesy Conservancy of Southwest Florida



From left, Dr. Jerry Jackson, Rob Moher, Kate Talano, and Dolph and Sharon von Arx

The new outdoor wildlife rehabilitation and guest education areas are now open at the von Arx Wildlife Hospital at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida in Naples. The expansion includes state-of-the-art wildlife recovery areas and new structures that allow the Conservancy staff and volunteers to best serve the growing number of sick, injured and orphaned native animals brought to the Conservancy for care.

"For many of our von Arx Wildlife Hospital patients, most of their recovery time takes place outside – in a more natural setting," said Joanna Fitzgerald, director of the von Arx Wildlife Hospital at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. "The new outdoor wildlife recovery areas provide the optimal environment for these animals to recuperate with the goal of giving them a chance to be free."

Behind-the-scenes expansion features include:

- A new and enlarged shorebird recovery area
- Two large outdoor rehabilitation structures to accommodate the increasing number of patients, including the ability to care for otters through the entire rehabilitation project

- Eight small mammal recovery areas

- Improvements to infrastructure including water, power and caregiver access
- Additional maintenance and storage facilities

Guest Education Areas

Due to permits, the vast majority of work at the von Arx Wildlife Hospital happens behind-the-scenes, away from public view. The new public exhibits provide guests with a variety of opportunities to learn about work that takes place inside the wildlife hospital and how to prevent injury to wildlife.

Sapakie Wildlife Exhibit Hall

The new Sapakie Wildlife Exhibits are geared toward educating members and visitors on the reasons why animals are admitted to the von Arx Wildlife Hospital,



The new outdoor wildlife rehabilitation and guest education areas are now open at the von Arx Wildlife Hospital at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida



From left, Rob Moher with Diana and Sen. Garrett Richter

the types of medical care they receive, and the ways the public can help prevent wildlife injuries. In addition, the exhibit has a kids' play area, where children can transform into Junior Veterinarians and join Dr. Ollie Owl for hands-on activities emphasizing how the hospital cares for patients.

von Arx Wildlife Viewing Pavilion

The new von Arx Wildlife Viewing Pavilion gives guests the opportunity to come face-to-beak with three wildlife ambassadors. These permanent residents are former hospital patients. Due to the severity of their injuries, they are unable to survive in the wild. Guests can meet a red-tailed hawk, bald eagle and an Eastern screech owl.

The \$2.3 million expansion, built by Stevens Construction, began with a \$500,000 leadership gift from Dolph and Sharon von Arx. The Conservancy earned a competitive grant from the State of Florida for another \$500,000 for the expansion.

"The increase in the number of injured wildlife in our region created an urgent need for enhanced rehabilitation areas for these patients," said Dolph von Arx, former Conservancy board chairman. "Sharon and I are pleased that we can continue to support the Conservancy's mission to care for injured and orphaned wildlife."

Prevention Of Injury To Wildlife Campaign

During the expansion celebration, the Conservancy announced a new public outreach campaign, Through Their Eyes. The campaign intends for the public to see life through the eyes of Southwest Florida's wildlife. The initiative's call to action urges the community to protect wildlife and preserve their habitats. The campaign was inspired through a partnership between the Conservancy and advertising students at the University of Miami's School of Communication.

Additional campaign components include:

- An injury prevention tip sheet and webpage that offers 14 ways to prevent injury to wildlife.
- Honorary wildlife spokespeople including Dr. Jerry Jackson and Kate Talano. Dr. Jackson, wildlife biologist and host of *With The Wild Things* on WGCU Radio, was introduced as the Conservancy's first honorary wildlife spokesperson. In this volunteer role, Jackson will offer a public citizen view of wildlife protection, helping

to educate the community through wildlife talks, articles and a social media campaign.

Talano, a senior at Seacrest High School and volunteer at the Conservancy's von Arx Wildlife Hospital will serve as the Youth Wildlife Ambassador.

- The county will be placing Conservancy Pelican Protection signs at Bayview, Port of the Islands, Caxambas, Cocohatchee, Collier Boulevard and Goodland Boat Park. They will be placed at the fish cleaning stations. A total of 12 signs (two at each location) will reach more than 200,000 people annually.

- Humane Society of Collier County, led by Michael Simonik, has agreed to partner on messaging to new pet owners about how to keep cats and wildlife safe.

- Expansion of Joanna Fitzgerald's long-running column *A Week at the Wildlife Hospital* to run not only in the *Naples Daily News*, but also in the *News-Press*.

"I am inspired and motivated by the willingness of so many facets of our community to come together in support of preventing injury to wildlife," said Rob Moher, Conservancy president and CEO. "From generous donors to representatives from the county and city leadership, to local media outlets and beyond, this level of commitment empowers us with the resources to further our mission of protecting and rehabilitating our wildlife. I am so grateful to be a part of this joint effort."

Commitment To Sustainable Building Practices

The von Arx Wildlife Hospital was the first building in Collier County, and the first wildlife hospital in the state to achieve LEED Platinum Certification for its environmentally conscious design and construction. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

For more information regarding opportunities to support the von Arx Wildlife Hospital, visit www.conservancy.org/wildlife/expansion or contact Paul Seifert at 403-4205 or PaulS@conservancy.org.



From left, Scott Wanrow, JJ Slaugh, Dan Adams and Rob Moher

Blessings In A Backpack Introduces New Business Partnership Initiative



Youngster eating an apple

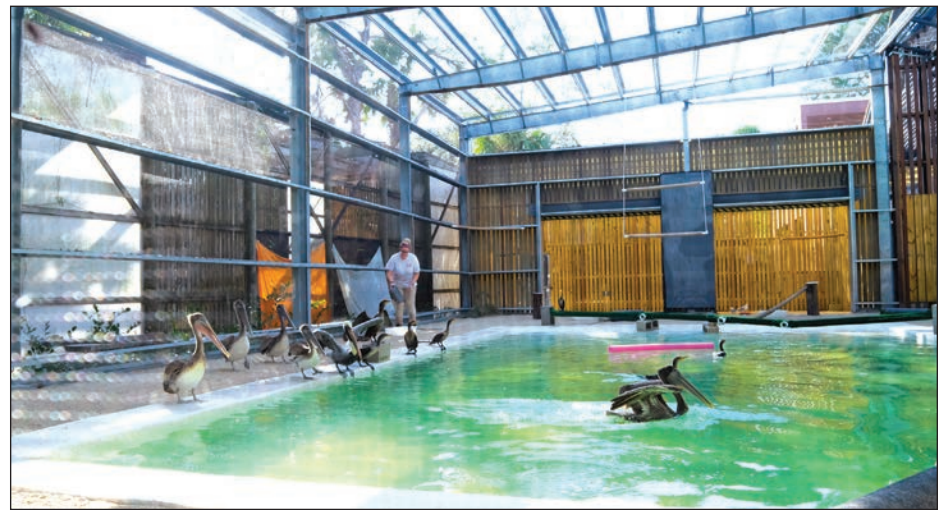
photo courtesy Blessings in a Backpack

In Lee and Collier counties, 60,000 elementary students who receive free breakfast and lunch would struggle to get the nutrition they need over the weekend without Blessings in a Backpack of Southwest Florida. Now through the end of 2016, businesses can team up with the organization, which sends enough breakfast, lunch and snack foods home with more than 3,000 students on Friday afternoons to get them through to a productive, happy Monday morning.

With the Business Partner Initiative, companies can choose from four annual giving levels to receive various benefits while directly feeding local children. A 501(c)3 non-profit organization, Blessings in a Backpack offers a Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum sponsorship level to businesses as they finalize year-end giving plans. Ranging from \$1,000 to more than \$50,000, the Business Partner giving levels will directly feed



Rob Moher with Kate Talano, the new youth wildlife ambassador at the Conservancy's von Arx Wildlife Hospital



Pelicans enjoying the water at the newly expanded von Arx Wildlife Hospital at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida

from 10 to 500 children this school year. All Business Partners will enjoy online recognition with their company logo on the Blessings in Backpack SWFL website.

Silver or higher-level sponsors receive two to 20 tickets to the organization's VIP Event, Baseball for Blessings, scheduled on March 11, 2017, for seats on the Sky Deck of Hammond Stadium when the Minnesota Twins take on the Boston Red Sox. Other benefits, per giving level, include the company's logo on printed materials, choice of school or area where the contribution feeds local children, sponsor status for Baseball for Blessings, event banner and company shout-out at the VIP game.

"The need is growing, with thousands of students waiting for our help," Cecelia St. Arnold said. "It only takes \$100 to feed one child four meals every weekend for 38 weeks! Southwest Florida's businesses have a unique opportunity to make an exponential impact as we try to feed an additional 1,000 children this year."

For more information and the sponsorship packet, visit BlessingsinSWFL.org, email Executive Director Cecelia St. Arnold at cstarnold@blessingsinswfl.org or call 410-9592. ✱

Greeters Club Luncheon

The Greeters Club of Greater Fort Myers has scheduled its first luncheon meeting for 2017 on Thursday, January 19. Many members will be returning after holiday travels anticipating the warm and sunny climate and an opportunity to reconnect with their Greeters friends.

The club is starting off the new year with a very inspiring speaker from Laces Of Love, whose mission it is to provide new shoes to low-income and disadvantaged children in Collier and Lee counties. Founded in 2005, this organization has provided 60,000 children with new shoes

as well as a limited number of athletic shoes for student athletes.

Make a luncheon reservation (cost is \$20) and find out more about joining this dynamic group of Lee County women. Send an email to greetersclub@gmail.com; provide your contact information (your name, email address and phone number). You will receive a call confirming your reservation as well as an email confirmation.

Greeters Club of Greater Fort Myers luncheons are held on the third Thursday of the month. Please arrive between 10:30 to 11:15 a.m to check in at the Colonial Country Club, located at 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers. Visit www.greetersclubofgreaterfortmyers.com for more details. ✱

Entrepreneurship Director To Speak At Networking Event

The Entrepreneurial Mindset is the topic at the next Connect Networking event set for Monday, January 23 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC). The director of the Institute for Entrepreneurship, Dr. Sandra Kauanui, is guest speaker.

Kauanui is also chair of the Entrepreneurship Department and professor of Entrepreneurship at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU). Kauanui serves as a member of the advisory board for the Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida and the Small Business Development Center. Kauanui is the principal organizer for the Veterans Florida Entrepreneurship Program and was instrumental, along with her team, in curriculum development of the Entrepreneurship Minor at FGCU and the curriculum being used for the Veterans Florida Entrepreneurship.

Kauanui is an active researcher, keynote speaker and workshop presenter, and has authored and co-authored over 80 publications. She has been an invited guest speaker in the U.S., Canada, Europe, South Africa, Puerto Rico and Romania. She recently traveled to Cuba to organize an entrepreneurial study abroad experience for FGCU students in the summer 2017.

Kauanui received her doctorate in organizational behavior with a secondary degree in entrepreneurship from George Washington University and has an MBA from the College of William & Mary. Kauanui joined Lutgert College of Business in September 2007. Prior to her current appointment, she was at the College of Business at California State Polytechnic University for eight years. When leaving the university in 2007, she was awarded Emeritus status. Before becoming an academic, Kauanui started and ran her own business for 20 years.

Connect Networking is open to all, featuring opportunities where people can expand business and personal relationships and connect in their community. The gatherings take place quarterly and are hosted by Melissa Tschari DeHaven. The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in the downtown Fort Myers River District. Pizza will be provided. Admission is \$10. Networking promotional table space is also available for \$40 and includes admission for two, a microphone spotlight on your business and a 6-foot linen-clothed table. For more information, contact DeHaven at Melissa.sbdac@gmail.com or visit www.sbdac.com.



Sandra Kauanui

photo courtesy SBDAC

Marketing Firm Wins Four Awards

Priority Marketing was recently honored by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts (AIVA), receiving recognition for outstanding creative work at the 12th annual Davey Awards.

The company earned three gold Davey Awards, the competition's highest honor: in the Online Film and Video-Charitable/Not-for-Profit category for videos prepared for the 2016 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest; in the Online Film and Video-Education category for a strategic plan video created for the School District of Lee County; and in the Websites-Charitable Organization category for the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest website, www.SWFLWineFest.org.

The firm also earned a silver Davey

Award in the Social Features-Use of Photography & Graphics category for the Norman Love Confections Facebook page.

The Davey Awards is an international creative award focused exclusively on honoring outstanding creative work from the best small agencies worldwide. The awards received nearly 4,000 entries from ad agencies, interactive agencies, production firms, in-house creative professionals, graphic designers, design firms and public relations firms. The Davey Awards is judged and overseen by the AIVA, a 700+ member organization of leading professionals from various disciplines of the visual arts dedicated to embracing progress and the evolving nature of traditional and interactive media. Entries are judged on their merit, based on a standard of excellence as determined by the AIVA, considering the category entered.



Floyd Lawrence, president of FMBAA, second from left, cut the ribbon

photo courtesy Fort Myers Beach Art Association

Fort Myers Beach Art Association Celebrates 65 Years

On December 8, the Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA) celebrated its 65th year of existence with a ribbon-cutting and anniversary party. Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce President Jacki Liszak and FMBAA Past-President Joan Zeoli assisted FMBAA President Floyd Lawrence with the cutting of the ribbon. Many members of the chamber of commerce attended. Chamber members Ron Fleming, John Gavin and Wayne Gibson each won a mini master painting by raffle. The FMBAA members competed for most artistic appetizer. Award winners were Helma Gansen, Michele Buelow and Donna Bergeron.

A group of artists formed the Fort Myers Beach Art Association in 1951. As the first president, Evalina Green guided the group to form their purpose and begin offering programs for the members and Fort Myers Beach community. The members built a chickee hut and began having meetings, art shows and fundraising events. The art association had two more temporary homes, and then purchased land on Shell Mound Boulevard in 1965. President Mira Sackrisson used her "golden spade" to symbolize the beginning of the first cultural center on the beach in the groundbreaking ceremonies on February 22, 1968. Over the years, the group expanded and improved the building. The organization gained not-for-profit 501(c)3 status in 1956.

The Fort Myers Beach Arts Association gallery is located off Donora Boulevard, one mile south of the Matanzas Bridge at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard. Call 463-3909 or visit www.fortmyersbeachart.com for more information. The gallery is open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kiwanians Donate To Holiday Program For Children



From left, Terry Luster, Martha Smith, Lee Knapp, Viki Luster, Gary Hudson and Lisa Rizzio

photo courtesy Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands

This past week, Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands presented a check for \$500 to Lee Knapp of Stockings 4 Kids, to support its efforts to provide 3,000 stuffed stockings to children in need throughout the community.

"I am so thankful to the Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Club for its continued support," said Knapp, founder of the nonprofit. "Without the support of area businesses and civic clubs like Kiwanis, this annual project could not happen."

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands is comprised of working and retired members who value community service and the friendships formed within the club. There are no formal attendance requirements but members are encouraged to attend meetings and participate in service projects throughout the year.

For more information, call 218-5768 or email gttkiwanis@gmail.com.

Kiwanis Adds Five New Members



From left, Cathy Smith, Jon Wallace, Dick Arndt, Paul Weinstein and Marilyn Weinstein have become members of The Fort Myers Metro-McGregor Kiwanis club

photo courtesy Fort Myers Metro-McGregor Kiwanis

The Fort Myers Metro-McGregor Kiwanis has added five new members to the club roster - Dick Arndt, Cathy Smith, Jon Wallace, Paul Weinstein and Marilyn Weinstein.

Arndt, a seasonal resident that splits his time between Hillsborough, New Jersey and Fort Myers, is a retired CEO of the Eastern Division (New York/New Jersey) of the American Cancer Society. Smith, a Fort Myers resident, is a retired educator with the Lee County School District. Wallace, a seasonal resident that splits his time between Laurens, South Carolina and Fort Myers, is a retired school psychologist. Paul Weinstein, a Fort Myers resident, is a certified financial planner with Weinstein Wilkes Financial Group, LLC and has been active in Kiwanis for 28 years. Marilyn Weinstein, a Fort Myers resident, is a retired administrative professional with Cleveland Typewriter and Computer.*



Ben Doerr and Austin Duncan

photo courtesy SFCA

Academy Introduces New Program

Aspiring to progress toward higher technology initiatives and greater opportunities for local students, Southwest Florida Christian Academy (SFCA) began the implementation of a computer sciences program this school year. Embracing an approach to broaden offerings toward more aggressive STEM programs, SFCA officials have partnered with Project Lead the Way to ensure a focus on meeting the global demands in the area of computer science.

Project Lead the Way is a nationally renowned company specializing in the areas of computer science, engineering and biomedical sciences curriculum. Publix Supermarkets Charities joined the endeavor by donating \$250 to be used toward enhancing the technology-learning environment. SFCA officials note the encouragement received from within the community as well as the enthusiasm witnessed from students and parents as they strive to, once again, offer innovative academic challenges and opportunities.*

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BEST of the ISLANDS 2015

Homecoming For Chris Sale Who Returns In A Red Sox Uniform



by Ed Frank

In less than two months, five-time All-Star pitcher Chris Sale is coming home – home to where he dazzled collegiate pitching at Florida Gulf Coast University that earned him a first-round draft selection by the

Chicago White Sox in 2010.

Last week, in the biggest off-season deal of the year, Sale was traded by the White Sox to the Boston Red Sox, who gave up the No. 1 prospect in all of baseball to get the lanky hurler. So come February, Sale will return to Fort Myers when the Red Sox open Spring Training at JetBlue Park just a few miles away from his old college campus.

The trade immediately made the talent-heavy Red Sox the favorite to win the American League title next season and a 6-1 odds favorite to win the World Series, trailing only the defending champion Chicago Cubs at 15-4, according the Las Vegas Super Book.

Sale is one of the very few in baseball history to reach the Major Leagues in his first year as a professional. He posted a 74-49 record with the White Sox from 2010 to 2016 with a solid ERA of 2.97, while recording 1,238 strikeouts and leading the American League in Ks in 2015.

Now with the Red Sox, he joins a starting pitching rotation of David Price, another five-time All-Star and the 2012 American League Cy Young Award winner, and Rick Porcello, the reigning AL Cy Young Award winner.

Take that pitching staff, coupled with a powerful offense that includes Mookie Betts, Dustin Pedroia, Hanley Ramirez and Xander Bogaerts, and you quickly get the picture why the Red Sox are tabbed to reach the World Series next year.

While Boston gave up a lot of potential talent to obtain Sale, he is owed a modest \$38 million remaining over the next three years.

White Sox General Manager Rick Hahn admitted he hated to part company with Sale, but he got a boatload of talent in return.

Key to the transaction was the acquisition of 21-year-old infielder Yoan Moncada, who is rated the No. 1 prospect in baseball by MLB.com. The Red Sox had invested nearly \$70 million in Moncada that included a \$34 million signing bonus and a \$34 million fine by baseball for exceeding the international signing pool.

In addition to Moncada, the Red Sox traded away fire-ball pitcher Michael Kopech, rated No. 30 among prospects, and two other minor leaguers.



Chris Sale photo courtesy of Boston Red Sox

In the 18 months since the Red Sox hired the shrewd Dave Dombrowski as president of baseball operations, he has lived up to his reputation as a remarkable wheeler and dealer.

The very day he closed the deal on Sale, he acquired his relief set-up man in Tyler Thornburg and his first baseman in Mitch Moreland.

"We feel good. We feel like we have a better ball club. We feel like we really helped ourselves," he said after that epic day.

Don't bet, however, that Dombrowski has closed the door on other future trades in the next few weeks.✱

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Entering 2016, who are the only three players to have won the following awards: a Gold Glove, a Silver Slugger and a Cy Young?
2. When was the last time before 2015 that the Houston Astros had two pitchers win at least 17 games apiece?
3. Who was the first player in NFL history to have 1,000 receiving yards and 1,000 return yards in the same season?
4. Maryland's Diamond Stone set a school record in 2015 for most points in a game by a freshman men's basketball player (39). Who had held the mark?
5. NHL legend Gordie Howe was a member of the famed "Production Line" starting in 1947. Name the two other Hall of Fame members of the original trio.
6. When was the last time before 2016 that Romania failed to medal in women's gymnastics at the Olympics?
7. In 2016, golfer Andrew Landry set a record for the lowest opening-round score (66) at a U.S. Open played at Oakmont (Pa.). Who had held the record?

ANSWERS

1. Zack Greinke, Orel Hershiser and Fernando Valenzuela. 2. In 2005, Andy Pettitte won 17 games and Roy Oswalt won 20. 3. Antonio Brown of the Pittsburgh Steelers, in 2011. 4. Joe Smith, with 33 points in 1993. 5. Ted Lindsay and Sid Abel. 6. It was 1972. 7. Ben Hogan (1953) and Gary Player ('73) each shot a 67.

Pickleball Coming To Sundial Resort

Sundial Beach Resort & Spa has announced the addition of 12 regulation pickleball courts to its lineup of resort amenities and public offerings. The Plexicushion system courts will provide the area with state-of-the-art tournament-grade facilities in a beautiful, lake-front setting. Construction is under way, with an anticipated early spring opening.

Pickleball was invented in 1965 as the result of family boredom and ingenuity, and has enjoyed a rapidly growing burst of popularity. A combination of tennis, badminton and table tennis, it now claims the title of the "fastest growing sport in North America." Suitable for all ages and skill levels, the sport is a game of shot placement rather than strength, and may be played at a leisurely pace or highly competitive tournament level.

"We're looking forward to bringing a quality, state-of-the-art pickleball facility to Southwest Florida," said Phillip Starling, Sundial's general manager. "Not only will Sundial be the first area resort to offer onsite, stand-alone courts to guests, we'll also be providing a resource for local and tournament play in our region."

Erica Cossairt, director of Tennis, will oversee Sundial's pickleball program and league play. Lessons, round robins and clinics for all ages will be available to both resort guests, residents and visitors.

Introductory pickleball memberships will be offered to the public at \$250 annually or a \$5 guest fee per person per hour. Guests of the resort will enjoy complimentary access as part of Sundial's activity package.

In addition, the resort plans to host USA Pickleball Association Tournament play, including competition for all levels and ages with its inaugural tournament planned for later in the year.

For information on memberships and pickleball, email pickleball@sundialresort.com or call 395-6037.✱



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Hundreds Celebrate Grand Opening Of Fire Station One



Firefighter Bryan Bard and George Bard
photos by Eloise Pennington



Fort Myers City Councilwomen Teresa Watkins Brown and Gaile Anthony



Delegates from the Santiago, Dominican Republic Fire Department (Fort Myers's Sister City) had a front-row seat to the celebration



The Central Fire Station sign was moved from the former building on MLK to its new home on Jackson Street

The City of Fort Myers' Fire Station One is officially open for business. On December 5, more than 150 residents and city officials celebrated the grand opening of the new fire station at a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Central Fire Station One on Jackson Street in Fort Myers' Midtown neighborhood. Instead of cutting a ribbon, however, Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson uncoupled a ceremonial fire hose with Ward 4 City Councilman Michael Flanders and other



Instead of a ribbon cutting, dignitaries uncoupled a ceremonial fire hose, which will be displayed at the new fire station



Uncoupling the fire hose



Applause after uncoupling the fire hose



The official raising of the National Colors to designate that the Central Fire Station is officially operational dignitaries.

Mayor Henderson opened the ceremony by reading city council minutes from December 11, 1950, when the city approved the furnishings for the original Central Fire Station, located near the corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Central Avenue.

"I'm sure that was a happy day for the council," said Henderson. "But no more happy than today."

The celebration comes after 65 years at Fire Station One's original home, less than two blocks away. The original 18,000-square-foot station could not accommodate modern equipment such as the FMFD's ladder truck, a necessity near downtown high-rise buildings.

"Today is like Christmas," said Fort Myers Fire Chief Trenton Bowen. "You wait

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for it, and wait for it. And now it's finally here.”

The city's Department of Public Works collaborated with FMFD to create a facility that accomplishes their mutual goals for public safety and community services. The new 30,700-square-foot fire station allows for modern fire apparatus and equipment, and was designed to meet the 2025 projected needs for building space.

The new building is equipped with wireless access on every floor, and training rooms are outfitted with interactive SMART boards. The internal radio communication system has been upgraded to ensure that signals are effectively transmitted in the hurricane-proof building.

In addition, there is now room for the Fire Prevention staff to work in the same building, improving efficiency and allowing for continuity and coordination of projects.

But while the new station features updated amenities, tradition is also strongly emphasized. The new Fire Station One features historical FMFD photos, as well as equipment and artifacts, including a life net and a 1926 fire truck on permanent loan from Lee County Mosquito Control. The original 1950s sign from atop the former building has also been moved to the new Fire Station One.

“There's a lot of pride of tradition here,” added Chief Bowen. “This new fire station is a new page in our history.”**



The Guns n Hoses Pipes n Drums corps kicked off the celebration



Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson thanks FMFD Fire Chief Trenton Bowen with a commemorative fire helmet to mark the occasion



Fort Myers Fire Department's Honor Guard



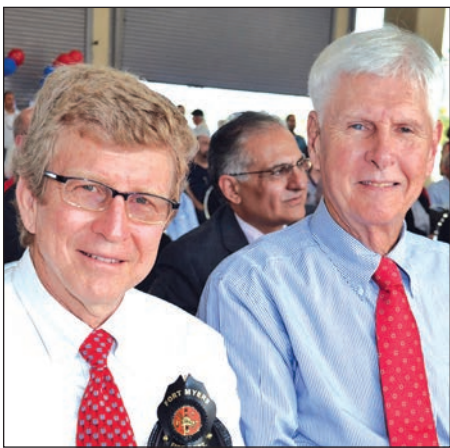
From left, Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson, City Manager Saeed Kazemi and Fire Chief Trenton Bowen



From left, Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson, Interim Public Works Director Richard Moulton, City Manager Saeed Kazemi and Fire Chief Trenton Bowen



Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson and FMFD Division Chief of Operations Scott Wirth



Fort Myers City Councilmen Michael Flanders and Forrest Banks

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PIONEER

Female Pioneers
of Fort Myers

Women Who Made a Difference in the City's Development

By Robin C. Tuthill and Thomas P. Hall

“Packed with facts and employing an engaging storytelling style, [Female Pioneers of Fort Myers] both teaches and entertains. Local history buffs and newcomers to history will value Tuthill and Hall’s research and appreciate the accessible format, too.”

Gerri Reaves, PhD, author of *Legendary Locals of Fort Myers* and *Fort Myers, Then & Now*

Financial Focus

Here's Your Retirement 'To Do' List



by Jennifer Basey

At this time of year, your life is probably more hectic than usual – so you may have assembled an impressive “to do” list. This can be a helpful tool for organizing your activities in the

near future, but have you ever thought of developing a “to do” list for long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement? If not, you may want to think about it.

Here are a few list-worthy items to consider:

- Examine – and re-examine – your planned retirement age. You may have long counted on retiring at a certain age, but are you sure that this goal is the best one for your overall financial situation? Think about it: If you like your job, and you stayed at it for just a few more years, you could significantly boost the funds in your 401(k) or other retirement plan, and you might even be able to delay taking Social Security, which, in turn, would result in larger monthly payments.

- Put a “price tag” on your retirement lifestyle. When you retire, do you want to travel the world or stay at home pursuing your hobbies? Will you truly retire from all types of work, or will you do some consulting or take up part-time employment? Once you know what your retirement lifestyle might look like, you can better estimate your costs and expenses – and this knowledge will help you determine how much you need to withdraw each year from your various retirement accounts, such as your IRA, 401(k) or other employer-based plan.

- Be aware of retirement plan

withdrawal rules. It isn't enough just to recognize how much you need to withdraw from your retirement plans – you also must know how much you must withdraw. Once you turn 70 ½, you generally have to start taking money out of your traditional IRA and 401(k). These required minimum distributions, or RMDs, are based on your account balance, age and other factors, but the key word to remember is “required.” If you don't withdraw the full amount of the RMD by the applicable deadline, the amount not withdrawn can be taxed at a 50 percent rate.

- Review your health care situation. When you turn 65, you will likely be eligible for Medicare, but you'll want to become familiar with what it does – and doesn't – cover, so you can establish an annual health care budget. And if you are planning to retire early, which might mean losing your employer-sponsored health insurance, you will need to be prepared for potentially large out-of-pocket costs.

- Think about long-term care. One

service that Medicare doesn't cover – or, at best, covers only minimally – is long-term care. If you faced an extended stay in a nursing home, the costs could be catastrophic. A financial professional may be able to help you find a way to reduce this risk.

- Develop your estate plans. Estate planning can be complex, involving many different documents – such as a will, a living trust, power of attorney, etc. – so you'll want to work with a legal professional to ensure you're making the right choices for yourself and your family.

By checking off these items, one by one, your retirement “to do” list will eventually get “done.” And when that happens, you may find yourself pretty well prepared to enjoy life as a retiree.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor. Jennifer Basey is a financial advisor in Fort Myers. She can be reached at jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com.

City Of Palms Classic Single Day Game Tickets Now On Sale



A City of Palms Classic player goes in for the dunk

It's officially time to deck the halls with basketballs as the 44th annual Culligan City of Palms Classic gets set to tip-off at the magnificent new Suncoast Credit Union Arena on the campus of Florida SouthWestern State College. Single day tickets for this star-studded event are now on sale.

With the move to FSW, the sale of six-day ticket packages are soaring for this annual holiday tradition. Organizers say that 900 of the six-day ticket packages have been sold. With single-day tickets now on sale, organizers are expecting record number attendance at this year's tournament.

“We couldn't be happier with the outpouring of support we're getting as we make the move to the new Suncoast Credit Union Arena,” Executive Director John Naylor said. “The teams and fans are in for an incredible week of basketball in this beautiful new venue.”



Action underneath the basket at last year's tournament

Twenty-eight boys high school basketball teams will make their way to Fort Myers for six days of incredible roundball action. Seven of the teams slated for the tournament are ranked in *USA Today's* top 25, including No. 4 Montverde Academy (Montverde, Florida), No. 6 IMG Academy (Bradenton, Florida), No. 8 Westtown School (West Chester, Pennsylvania), No. 9 Patrick School (Hillside, New Jersey), No. 11 Memphis East (Memphis, Tennessee), No. 18 Hudson Catholic High School (Jersey City, New Jersey) and No. 25 Neumann-Goretti High School (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).

In addition to the top teams, eight of *USA Today's* top players will be making the trip to Southwest Florida, including: the No. 1 player in the Class of 2017, DeAndre Ayton (Hillcrest Prep, Arizona); Mohamed Bamba (Westtown School, Pennsylvania); R.J. Barrett (Montverde Academy, Florida); Wendell Carter (Pace Academy, Georgia); Treyvon Duval (IMG Academy, Florida); Kevin Knox (Tampa

Catholic, Florida); Cameron Reddish (Westtown School, Pennsylvania); and Collin Sexton (Pebblebrook High School, Georgia).

Culligan returns for its fourth year as Title Sponsor, and Enterprise Rent-A-Car is Presenting Sponsor for the third year.

Tickets for the tournament are now on sale. Several ticket options are available, including:

- Level I Preferred Single-day tickets. A reserved single day seat in level I for \$50 plus a \$3 processing fee.

- Level II Single-day tickets. A reserved single day seat in level II for \$25 plus a \$3 processing fee.

- Level III Single-day tickets. A reserved single day seat in level III for \$20 plus a \$3 processing fee.

- Level IV General Admission seating. A GA single day seat in level IV for \$15 plus a \$3 processing fee.

- Student Single Day. A single day GA ticket for students for \$10 plus a \$3 processing fee.

- The six-day Preferred Ticket Package. A single-seat six-day ticket package for \$250 plus a \$20 processing fee (third party ticket vendor fee) with seating in the first two rows directly behind the team benches and scorer's table (west side of the arena) or the opposite second row (east side).

- The six-day Reserved Ticket Package. A single-seat six-day ticket package for \$128 plus a \$9 processing fee (third party ticket vendor fee) for the remaining courtside seating (east and west sides of the arena).

- VIP Parking. A six-day Reserved Parking Pass for \$40 plus a \$3 processing fee (third party ticket vendor fee).

For more information and to purchase tickets, call the box office Monday to Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 800-440-7469 or 481-4849 or online at www.fswarena.com.

The lineup of the teams scheduled to play in this year's tournament and other tournament information is available at www.cityofpalmsclassic.com.✱

Foundation Receives Donation For EMS

Florida SouthWestern State (FSW) Foundation received a \$25,000 cash donation to support equipment purchases for the college's emergency medical service technology program.

"The donor of this generous gift wishes to remain anonymous, but understands the importance of training the professionals we need right here," said Dr. Lou Traina, FSW vice president, Institutional Advancement and executive director, FSW Foundation. "More often than not, our graduates stay in our region and use their professional skills to the benefit of us all."

"We are so grateful for this gift because it helps us stay up to date on the equipment we use to train our emergency medical technicians and paramedics. They graduate with not only the classroom knowledge they need, but also the hands-on experience that makes them instrumental in saving lives in our community," said Joe Washburn, program director, Emergency Services Programs. Visit www.FSW.edu for more information.✱

Convenient Care Planned Near Gulf Coast

A new Lee Convenient Care and Lee Physician Group (LPG) multi-specialty practices are planned to open next year on Metro Parkway, near Gulf Coast Medical Center. Lee Health Board of Directors approved a lease with Metro-Daniels (North Parcel) Investors, LLC, for 40,000 square feet of space in a new facility to be constructed and ready for occupancy in the fall of 2017.

"This new location will help to align multi-specialty services of Lee Physician Group and centralize support services for efficiency," said Dave Cato, chief administrative officer, Lee Health Outpatient Services.

Housing the fourth Lee Convenient Care location in Lee County, the new facility will provide urgent care services as an alternative to the emergency department for treatment of non-life threatening injury or illness with the expertise of skilled physicians in a

state-of-the-art clinic.

Convenient Care centers are located throughout Lee County and offer high quality, walk-in medical care for adults and children in a cost effective, comfortable environment from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days per week (except some major holidays).

Convenient Care is appropriate when you have a non-life-threatening emergency, you're unable to get an appointment with your primary care doctor or you don't have a regular doctor. No appointment or referral is necessary, and most insurance is accepted.

"Convenient Care is helpful for individuals who don't have a primary care physician, and it's a great alternative to using the emergency department for non-life-threatening medical issues – especially during season," explained Kris Fay, chief administrative officer of Lee Physician Group. "It gives the community immediate access to quality, hospital-affiliated health care provided by our trusted Lee Physician Group physicians and skilled nurses."

For more information, visit www.LeeHealth.org.✱

University Showcases Students' Work In Exhibit

The art galleries of the Bower School of Music & the Arts at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) present *Changed Surfaces: Work from Students*, with an opening reception 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 12 at the ArtLab Gallery in the FGCU Library.

This exhibition features students' work from the fall 2016 painting workshop course taught by Morgan T. Paine. Artwork from the semester was curated to showcase the range of ideas and techniques explored by the students as they created their own body of work.

The exhibition runs through February 9 and is made possible with the support of U. Tobe and The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel.

The ArtLab Gallery is at the west side of the library building on FGCU's main campus, located at 10501 FGCU Boulevard South. Parking is available in Lot 7 for gallery visitors. Parking passes are available at the information booth at the university's main entrance. Regular viewing hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday, and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday.✱

Chronic Pain Self-Management Workshops

Would you like to learn how to better manage chronic pain conditions such as arthritis, fibromyalgia, back pain, headaches and more?

Lee Health is pleased to announce a free six-week workshop, entitled Chronic Pain Self-Management, a research-based program developed by Stanford University.

Information presented in the workshop can help you become empowered to improve your quality of

life. Learn how to more easily manage your medications; understand the benefits of exercise; manage symptoms of stress, pain and fatigue; and make smarter decisions related to health eating. Participants will also receive a copy of the book, *Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Pain*.

Sessions will be held at two locations next month:

- Fridays, beginning January 6 at The Sanctuary, 8960 Colonial Center Drive in Fort Myers

- Tuesdays, beginning January 10 at the American House Coconut Point, 8460 Murano Del Lago Drive in Estero

Seating is limited and registration is required. Call 343-9264 for more information.✱

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Remarkable Women Of Sanibel & Captiva

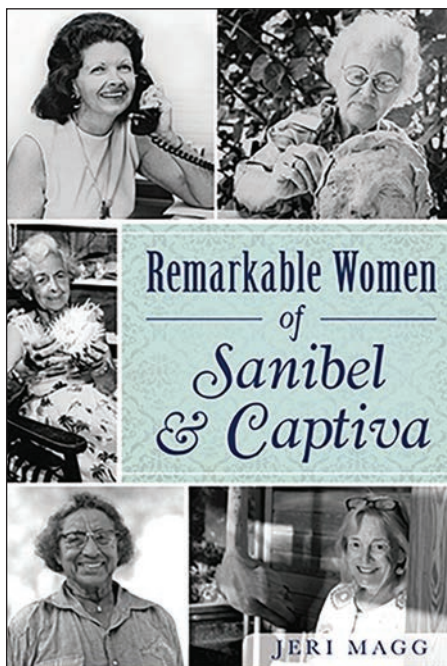


by Di Saggau

In her latest book, Sanibel historian Jeri Magg has compiled the stories and achievements of the remarkable women who forever shaped Sanibel and Captiva Islands. Appropriately named *Remarkable*

Women of Sanibel & Captiva, the book tells the history of countless women who bucked the system to make their marks.

Here are just a few of the women



you'll read about. Sarita Van Vlick and Zee Butler led the fight to preserve the island from unbridled growth and destruction. Helene Gralnick in the early 1980s opened a small shop that became the foundation for Chico's Incorporated. City Manager Judie Zimomra put policies into practice that helped Sanibel flourish after the devastation of Hurricane Charley. Mozella Jordan was the first black caterer on the island. Mariel Goss, on behalf of bike riders, helped get Lee County to provide bike paths on the island. Nola Theiss, a former Sanibel City Council member and mayor, now helps victims of human trafficking. Lavern Phillips worked with her husband to help build BIG ARTS into the organization it is today. Faye Granberry, an avowed conservationist, formed the Horticultural and Orchid societies on Sanibel. The stories of these women and many more are absolutely fascinating.

Magg gives us the history of the island and shares stories about the Calusa

Indians and pirates on the island. She tells us that in 1894, Sanibel's population was 120 with 100 acres in truck farming. Two years later, the population grew to 350 with 500 acres in truck farming, and land was selling for \$10 to \$25 an acre.

When asked what she learned while researching the book, Magg said, "The women in my book came from all walks of life. What could a Confederate War widow, a Cuban fisherman's granddaughter, an international concert pianist or an award-winning actor from New York have in common? They adapted to their surroundings and refused to give up. Most embraced the difficulties of living on the island and were better for it. These women didn't need women's lib, they liberated themselves."

Remarkable Women of Sanibel & Captiva is a remarkable read. It's available at local book stores, at the Sanibel Historical Museum & Village and online.*

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley,
This happens every year when the holidays come around – we all get stressed out. The teachers, the coaches, my kids and me seem to

be overwhelmed. How can I help my kids, which in turn might help everyone else to have less stress and enjoy this season?

Julia M., Fort Myers

Julia,

While we are reminded how difficult the holidays can be for people who are in need, alone or lonely, this season can also be stressful for well functioning families, teachers and schools. The holidays are so fraught with tension because typically are expectations for happiness have been set at a ridiculously high standard.

Movies, TV, advertising and social media depict this season with so many images of "perfection" that many people and especially children become confused about what is real, appropriate and worthwhile for them. Expectations are then heightened, and the holidays can feel like a test of how happy and successful your family is. And if you have children with psychological or learning disorders, even favorite traditions can turn into a test of stamina and patience.

Here are some ideas to help minimize stress and make the holidays more fun and fulfilling:

- Talk with your kids about your traditions, which ones they love and which you might evolve to make them more fun or memorable for everyone. This is especially important when family dynamics have changed because of divorce, a new marriage or sibling, or a death in the family.

- When making holiday plans, be realistic. Remember your children's limitations when you make plans and that will help to reduce stress on everyone. Kids who are anxious about meeting new people or even encountering the extended family will need support and realistic expectations. Kids who have trouble with organization will need help to succeed at gift-giving. Children who tend to be impulsive need structure to minimize disruptive behavior. Not overestimating your kids' patience and ability to focus will help you enjoy yourself more, too.

- Holidays represent a change in a family's normal schedule, and for some kids that's unsettling. Preparing them for changes in their routines, what to expect and what you expect of them will help head off meltdowns. If you're traveling, bring familiar toys and books, and make sure you have quiet one-on-one time like reading before bed.

- Give yourself a break as well. Don't stretch yourself too thin trying to create the "perfect" holiday season. Decide what is important, prioritize and say "no" to what you can't handle. Your kids will be fine with a less than perfect tree, cookies, décor, etc.

- Kids pick up their parents' stress and tension, so they're more likely to be irritable if you are. Have a sense of humor, enjoy your kids for who they are, and keep in mind that what you'll all remember when it's over is likely to be the unexpected moment when everybody was relaxed, not the perfectly choreographed party, dinner or outing.

*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.**

Tourist Council Welcomes New Chairman

The Lee Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) has appointed Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass as chairman of the Tourist Development Council (TDC).

Pendergrass was elected to the Lee Board of County Commissioners District 2 seat in November 2012. He was unanimously sworn-in as chairman of the board at his first meeting. Pendergrass currently serves as the vice-chairman for the BoCC.

He also serves on the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, Public Safety Coordinating Council and Estero Bay Agency. In addition, he serves as a Transportation and Expressway Authority Membership of Florida board director, a member of the Commissioner on Law Enforcement Accreditation, a member of the Metropolitan Planning Organization

and as a Lee Memorial Health System Trauma Advisory Committee member. He was most recently appointed to serve on the Florida Association of Counties Board of Directors.

Pendergrass, a lifelong Fort Myers resident, has spent his career in public service. Pendergrass served 25 years as a City of Fort Myers police officer. After retirement, he became vice president for Private Asset Management Group, an independent financial asset firm.

He has been recognized by state and local officials as well as numerous community groups. Honors include: Senator Burt Saunders Award, Mayors Gold Key Award, City of Fort Myers Proclamation and Employee of the Year. He was also highly decorated upon retiring from the Fort Myers Police Department with the Croix De Negociator Laurel and Distinguished Volunteer Service Cross.

Pendergrass replaces Commissioner Frank Mann as TDC chairman. The nine-member TDC was established by the BoCC in 1983 to increase tourism to Lee County.*

Storybook Ball To Honor Jim And Karen Nathan

NBC-2 news anchor Rachel Pierce will emcee the 23rd annual Storybook Ball benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities on Saturday, February 4, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs. The evening will include a special tribute to honorees Jim and Karen Nathan.

The black-tie evening will begin with cocktails and silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and dancing to the Ruby Baker Band and a live auction, themed to an interpretation of *Aladdin*.

All proceeds support Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida in its mission to create, find and support programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children and their families.

Since its founding in 1996, Ronald McDonald House has served thousands of families from Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry counties, and other states and countries. Here, families find a "home away from home" while their children are undergoing medical treatment at Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

For information about tickets and a variety of sponsorship opportunities, contact Shannon Starr at 437-0202 or visit www.rmhcswfl.org.*

Our email address is press@riverweekly.com

Eagle Scout Takes On Project For Animals At Humane Society



Grayson Graham, a junior at Fort Myers High School, built the shelves inside the GCHS cat cabana room for his Boy Scout Eagle project

photos courtesy GCHS



Grayson Graham presents a \$650 check to Gulf Coast Humane Society Volunteer Coordinator Jenna Walther

submitted by Brian Wierima

Fort Myers High School junior Grayson Graham wanted to do something a little different for his Boy Scout Eagle Troop 193 project and, fortunately for the shelter animals at Gulf Coast Humane Society (GCHS), he chose them. Graham chose GCHS because he has an interest in dogs and cats after being a regular pet-sitter for his neighbors, as well as loving his own cat, Kittie, and golden retriever, Bella.

"I figured making some shelves for the cats at GCHS would be a perfect project," Graham said.

With the help of neighbor, Tim Squires, the duo measured the windows and walls for the shelves and were able to knock the project out in one day.

Association Accepting Entries

The Lee Building Industry Association is accepting entries for its 31st builder model home showcase program, the 2017 Parade of Homes, set for February 17 to 19, February 24 through 26 and March 3 to 5. The parade runs Fridays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sundays from noon until 5 p.m. The deadline to register homes is January 6. Builders can

visit www.BIA.net or call 936-5525 for more information.

The Parade of Homes offers residents and visitors a chance to view a variety of decorated model homes throughout the area — open all at once. Entering the parade also includes entry into one of the area's most recognized award programs. Leading industry building and design experts will judge the models and winners will be announced at the Parade of Homes Awards Banquet on February 21. Winning models receive the Superior Home Award.✪



Tim Squires and Grayson Graham build cat shelves inside the GCHS cat cabana room

The shelves are stained and varnished, and are used regularly by the cats in the GCHS cat cabana, an open room for the felines to roam freely. The shelves are used as resting areas as well as jumping platforms.

But that wasn't all Graham did to help GCHS' animals.

He started an online food drive for the cats and dogs, emailing friends and family.

"At first, my goal was to collect 500 pounds of food, but it took off and I ended up bringing 1,608 pounds of food," Graham said.

Donators could purchase Science Diet food from PetSmart, where Graham made trips to collect. He also secured toys and treats.

He was able to collect \$650 in cash donations as well, and brought the check to GCHS on December 6.

"It feels good to be able to help the animals," Graham said.

Graham has been active in scouting since first grade as a Tiger Cub. His father, Greg Graham, is the scout executive CEO for the Southwest Florida Boy Scouts of America.

With his Boy Scout Eagle project a success, Graham will still be involved at GCHS as a volunteer.✪



Grayson Graham collected 1,608 pounds of food for the animals. GCHS Executive Director Jennifer Galloway was on hand to help unload the donation.

Officer Appreciation Dinner

The Fort Myers Police Foundation will host the Men & Women in Blue of the Year appreciation dinner on Saturday, February 4 at Colonial Country Club, located at 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers.

The celebration honors the brightest stars of the Fort Myers Police Department (FMPD) and other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Department retirements for 2016 will also be recognized. More than 60 officers will be honored.

"These men and women put themselves at risk each and every day to make our community safe, and we think they deserve an evening of recognition and thanks," said Paul Fratello, president of the Fort Myers Police Foundation. "We hope the community will join us in thanking these public servants in blue for all they do for us."

Individual tickets are \$100 and tables of eight are \$750. Sponsorships from \$100 to \$10,000 are also available.

All funds raised by the Police Foundation go toward purchasing life-saving equipment for the FMPD.

Established in 2014, the Fort Myers Police Foundation is a nonprofit whose goal is to help build a stronger bond between the community and its local police department. Since its formation, the foundation has raised more than \$150,000 that has gone toward purchasing medical kits for patrol cars, ballistic shields, electronic ear protection for shooting ranges and a firearms training simulator.

For more information, visit www.fortmyerspolicefoundation.org or call Paul Fratello at 610-470-0049.✪

Christmas Carol Sing Brings In Donations For The Soup Kitchen



Soloists Beth and Bill Filiowich

photos courtesy Community Cooperative

Residents who attended the Christmas Carol Sing at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Myers on December 6 contributed plenty of canned goods to help The Soup Kitchen of Community Cooperative feed the hungry in Southwest Florida.

Donations included about 5,000 pounds of food at the 26th annual Christmas Carol Sing, which was sponsored and organized by the Galloway Family of Dealerships. The canned goods will be distributed immediately to families in need, according to event organizers.

"It is so gratifying to see our community coming together to help those less fortunate, especially during these economic times. The need has never been greater," said event founder Sam Galloway, Jr.

About 2,000 people attended the three performances, which featured a sing-a-long with the First Presbyterian Church Choir, the Estero Ensemble, special guest soloists and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The Christmas Carol Sing is the third of three annual community sing-a-longs presented by First Presbyterian Church and sponsored by the Galloway Family of Dealerships. The other two are Mrs. Edison's Hymn Sing in February (planned next for February 7) as part of the Edison Festival of Light and First Celebrates Freedom on July 6. All three events benefit The Soup Kitchen of Community Cooperative, which was founded by First Presbyterian Church of Fort Myers along with other churches in 1984.✱



George Torres and Renae Kosecki of Lehigh Acres collecting food for Community Cooperative



Estero Ensemble – Marco Ferri, Kristen Weis, Hunter Dahlen and Kris Winselmann – entertain the audience



Rev. Roger Peterson, First Presbyterian Church minister of music, leads the audience in song



Ushers Betty Campbell and Fred Stevens welcome guests to the Christmas Carol Sing



From left, Rev. Paul deJong of First Presbyterian Church, Sam Galloway, Jr., Christmas Carol Sing founder and sponsor, and Tracey Galloway, CEO of Community Cooperative



Gulf Coast Humane Society CEO Jennifer Galloway and her husband, Sam Galloway, III, of the Galloway Family of Dealerships



Katherine Galloway Dougherty of the Galloway Family of Dealerships with her husband Thomas Dougherty



Santa and Mrs. Claus listen to the Christmas wishes of Bree Balcer



First Presbyterian Church organist Eddygrace Bernard

Children's Charities Presents Scholarship Money



Florida Gulf Coast University received a check from SWFL Children's Charities

photos courtesy SWFL Children's Charities

SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. recently presented \$200,000 to both Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) and to Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) to award scholarships to qualifying students within their health care programs. Over the past eight years, the organization has granted more than \$1.6 million to FGCU and FSW for programs and scholarships focused on pediatrics.

Last year, SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. pledged \$1 million to each school to award scholarships to qualify students who are studying to become health professionals with an interest in pursuing pediatrics in Southwest Florida. The \$1 million gifts are payable in five annual installments of \$200,000 to each school. The contributions are raised through SWFL Children's Charities, Inc.'s annual signature event, the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest, and are administered by the schools. The organization's third beneficiary, the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, has received more than \$16 million over the past eight years.

"As we educate the next generation of health care providers for children in our region, SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. is right by our side, generously providing scholarships for deserving students," said FGCU president Wilson G. Bradshaw. "We are grateful for their continued partnership which allows so many students to prepare for the vital role of serving our kids and our community."

"We are grateful to SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. for its continued dedication to health care education," said Dr. Jeff Allbritten, president of FSW. "Their generosity means that our students can focus on their exceptional training so when they graduate, they will make an immediate and positive impact for the medical needs of our region's youth."

"At SWFL Children's Charities, Inc., our goal is to help ensure that children in our region have access to the best health care possible, and it starts with educating students to become dedicated health care professionals in our community," said Andie Vogt, trustee and member of the board of directors, SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. "Both FGCU and FSW have extremely high board passing rates and job placement for graduates, and work closely with local clinical partners such as Lee Health to ensure they are well prepared for caring for our community."

For more information, visit www.swflwinefest.org.



Florida SouthWestern State College received a \$200,000 check

dearRPharmacist

How To Help Parkinson's And Diabetes



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers:

When you think of Parkinson's disease, you probably think of it as a progressive disorder affecting movement and causing tremors of the hands, arms, legs, jaw

and elsewhere. The condition causes movements to be slowed, and a sensation of rigidity and stiffness of the limbs and trunk. Balance can be impacted too. A related condition of Lewy Body Disease may look very similar to Parkinson's but doesn't have to show up with tremors. The cognitive fluctuations are hallmark to both disorders.

The one thing they have in common is the issue with dopamine. There's some kind of malfunction associated with either the production of dopamine or the transport of this "passion hormone" across the synapse... or maybe suppressed "receptor sensitivity," meaning the dopamine is there but it

doesn't get hugged into the cell. This is known as post-synaptic D2 receptor down-regulation. It can happen to people who do not have Parkinson's, for example, those afflicted by withdrawal symptoms from hydrocodone, or kids who took methylphenidate. When SPECHT studies were conducted in children on ADHD stimulants, researchers concluded that their D2 (dopamine) receptors were destroyed. They had a maximum of 20 percent functional ability, and this was published in *Neuropediatrics* in 2003.

I want to keep my article simple today because what I have to tell you is rather exciting. It's about a diabetes drug that's in Phase 2 studies (MSDC-0160). It's not named yet. The emerging research suggests its role in Parkinson's could be even more profound. It's not due to balancing blood sugar either, it's because this diabetes agent improves mitochondrial function. Your mitochondria are the organelles that produce energy for you. They help you make ATP. So this diabetes drug belongs to the category of "Mitochondrial Target of Thiazolidinediones" modulators or mTOT for short. The mTOT drugs make your body more sensitive to insulin. They are insulin sensitizers.

Forget insulin for a minute. The novelty of mTOT drugs is really about energy. If you can improve mitochondrial function in brain cells, you then restore the cells' ability to

convert basic nutrients into energy. Consequently, the cells' ability to handle potentially harmful proteins is normalized, which leads to reduced inflammation and reduced death and dysfunction of the neurons. This may help Alzheimer's, Parkinson's disease, Lewy body dementia and other types of cognitive decline. When I worked in Florida nursing homes for seven years, we saw a lot of this and we had very few tools to use. We had levodopa, a drug from the 70s that's still used today, but ramping up dopamine isn't the cure. Side effects are disturbing.

If this topic is of interest, I have

written a more comprehensive version and I'll email it to you when you sign up for my free newsletter at my website, suzycohen.com. Before I leave you, one more thing. Your gut microbiome matters, so consider high-quality probiotics. There is a direct connection between the microbiome and Parkinson's and other neurological disorders, including Autism.

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.✱

Coalition Observes Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

As a tribute to at least 20 homeless individuals who have lost their lives while living on the streets or in shelters in Lee County this year, the Lee County Homeless Coalition will host its 20th annual Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday, December 21 at 6 p.m.

The community is encouraged to gather on the steps of the Old Lee County Courthouse, located at 2120 Main Street in Fort Myers, to mourn those who have passed. The memorial is also intended to educate and inspire the public to support the community's need for more affordable housing, shelters, living wages and accessible health care.

The vigil will include remarks by Lee County Homeless Coalition representatives Janet Bartos, executive director, and William Rodriguez, board chair. An opening prayer will be presented by Rev. Philip D. Read II of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Taps will be performed by Harvey Charter and Cdr. Victor Paul Tuchman, Post 400 Jewish War veterans. Music will be provided by St. Luke's Episcopal Church Choir.

To learn more, call Bartos at 322-6600 or visit www.leehomeless.org.✱

Doctor and Dietician

High Protein Dessert Ideas



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

Don't let family gatherings or office parties get you sidetracked with eating excessive amounts of sugar, sweets and carbs. Temptations lurk around every corner this time of year, especially in the form of desserts and sweets. The best thing for you to do is to say "no thank you" to the desserts, but if you can't, plan ahead by offering to bring your own dessert to share. It's time to get creative and get cooking.

Here are some preferred ingredients ideas to use in your baking:

- Nuts, seeds and nut butters
- Butter, over margarine, and hydrogenated oils
- Oils such as coconut oil
- Unsweetened coconut flakes

- Cocoa powder
- Small bits of dark chocolate
- Higher fat dairy, i.e. cream, full fat yogurt and Greek yogurt
- Natural no-sugar sweeteners such as Stevia and xylitol instead of artificial sucralose and aspartame.

One of our all-time favorite, fast and easy desserts is roasted almonds sprinkled with cinnamon and a pinch of real sugar. Try roasting other nuts at home too. They are delicious right out of the oven, and much tastier than nuts out of a tub or bag. Such a nice little treat.

Another favorite is making peanut butter balls. Just make sure you use natural peanut butter (or almond or any other kind of nut) without added sugar. Ingredients should read "nuts and salt." It can be mixed with rolled oats, chocolate bits, flax seed and honey. Roll into balls and freeze to set - simple. You can add in other ingredients that you like, such as vanilla, chia seeds, hemp seeds or even protein powder.

There are numerous recipes online for high protein desserts. Give them a try. Look for ingredients that are higher in fat and protein and lower in sugar and carbohydrates. Your body will thank you.

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@caringmedical.com.✱

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,

Years ago as children, my sister and I heard our parents say, "Don't ever put me in a nursing home," or what is now called an assisted living facility.

Times change, living conditions change and longevity changes, as does health and families, and maybe most of all costs and financial resources change.

How do you suggest we get out of this one?

Helen

Dear Helen,

No one should ever be made to

promise that they would never do something because you never know what is your fate down the road. For many people who did promise never to do something, there is positively no other option, or destroy their own or their family's life.

Your parents expressed their opinion at the time, not knowing what would happen down the road. I feel that you are caring for your family and what ever you decide will be the proper choice.

Lizzie

Dear Helen,

Assisted living communities are not today's skilled nursing facilities. Assisted living communities are apartments with social and some medical support. The social support includes scheduled activities, meals and transportation. The medical support includes medication, administration and various other activities depending on the county standards. Nursing homes are still nursing homes, designed for individuals needing skilled nursing care.

Whether assisted living or nursing homes, it is a difficult transition for an individual to leave one's own home. Sometimes, unfortunately, individuals cannot continue to live safely in their own home.

It is difficult to make promises about the future when we do not know what the future will hold. I know this time in any families' journey is difficult, and you will make the best decisions.

Pryce

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

PETS OF THE WEEK

Della is a 2-year-old female American bulldog mix who is a bundle of joy. When she sees you, she will wag her whole body, not just her tail. She's happy to be with people or pets and loves playgroups with other dogs. Why not make this a most joyous holiday and bring home this beautiful girl?

Her adoption fee is \$75 (check Animal Services' website for December specials on select dogs).

Tanya is a 6-month-old female domestic short hair who is one smart little cat; she even has a degree in cuddling! She's a lovable girl who purrs to show how much she loves being touched. She's very attractive, with a beautiful black coat and yellow-hazel eyes. She will melt your heart.

Her adoption fee is \$10 (regularly \$50) during Animal Services' Home 4 The Holidays adoption promotion through December 30.

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 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive in 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.✱



Della ID# 680926



Tanya ID# 675988

PAWS Of Sanibel

Abbey



Abbey

Abbey is currently living in a full house, filled with three dogs and a new baby. Since Abbey is the youngest of the three dogs, her mom and dad would like to find her a loving home. Abbey is 2-years-old, spayed and up to date on her shots. She is very sweet, affectionate and perfectly house trained.

Call Yolanda at PAWS of Sanibel at 691-4488 if you can help Abbey.✱

PAWS Of Sanibel

Cassie Bell



Cassie Bell

This is Cassie Bell. She's a beautiful, fluffy, spayed female kitty, approximately one year old. She does not have a micro chip. She was picked up by the Sanibel Police the evening of the Luminary, Friday, December 2, at 800 Casa Ybel Road in front of Unit 7, not far from Bank of the Islands. She has been at Coral Vet since Saturday. She's been combo tested and had a rabies shot. She is an incredibly sweet little girl, and surely someone is really missing her. If she is your baby, you have any idea where she lives or know her people, call Pam @ PAWS, 472-4823. Thank you!✱

THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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	218-5768
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
Organ Transplant Recipients of SW Florida	247-3073
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	334-7419
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

PUZZLES

Answers on page 37

AS THE SAVING GOES ...

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 9 Super deals
- 15 Stage back-drop
- 20 Aired in installments
- 21 Martial arts instructor
- 22 City near Dallas
- 23 Focus applied when covering a surface with concrete?
- 25 Styx setting
- 26 Ill, to Italians
- 27 Jai —
- 28 Solo in sci-fi
- 29 Hanker for
- 30 Prefix for tax or charge
- 32 College between two hills?
- 36 Suggest
- 39 Puts forward as fact
- 40 Bakery decorator
- 41 Try to be like
- 43 "Pinball Wizard" band
- 46 Shrek is one
- 50 Great review from the wife of George Washington?
- 53 Scandi-navian king's lubricant?
- 56 Certain iPad
- 57 German coin
- 58 Harvest yield
- 60 Crooner Vic
- 61 Tailor, e.g.
- 63 Cut, as a 58-Across
- 65 Hitter Gehrig
- 66 Cause trouble to
- 67 Question to an animal doc at an amusement park?
- 71 Star, e.g.
- 73 "Illmatic" rapper
- 74 Drop-leaf table
- 75 Chief city of the Ruhr
- 78 Butlers
- 80 Ruby and scarlet
- 81 See 31-Down
- 83 Crooner Perry
- 84 Caesar's hail to a mariner?
- 86 Buck that's toiling away?
- 88 Enumeration
- 89 Loafer liner
- 92 Grand Slam tennis events
- 93 Completely engrossed
- 96 President before Bush
- 99 — -lance (pit viper variety)
- 100 Seamstress who was Adam's mate?
- 105 Downed
- 106 Italian cry at a dinner table
- 107 Canon — (camera line)
- 108 Caspian Sea feeder
- 110 "Attack, mutt!"
- 113 Not as young
- 114 Tennis great Rod who keeps everyone safe?
- 119 Pixar figures
- 120 "In this way"
- 121 1970s-90s carrier to Lima
- 122 Collagist Max
- 123 Positive responses
- 124 Eased up on
- DOWN**
- 1 Month after Aug.
- 2 On — with (equal to)
- 3 Paris' — Gauche
- 4 "— already said ..."
- 5 Actor Voight
- 6 First name of Poe
- 7 Perfumery bottle
- 8 6x9-inch book size
- 9 One-eighty from NNW
- 10 "X" amount
- 11 Psych up
- 12 Like a Thai
- 13 Téa on TV
- 14 Moral error
- 15 Ball
- 16 School unit
- 17 Arm bones
- 18 Nonreactive
- 19 Amble along
- 24 Aunts, in Baja
- 29 Month after Nov.
- 30 More briny
- 31 With 81-Across, Beehive State NCAA team
- 33 Lo-fat
- 34 Suffix of ordinals
- 35 Cello forerunner
- 36 "Byzantium" actress Arterton
- 37 AOL letter
- 38 Hip-hop DJ's equipment
- 39 Scrutinizes
- 42 — kwon do (martial art)
- 44 Carpenter's adhesive
- 45 Clued in
- 47 Is a little too proud of
- 48 Queen in a sari
- 49 Stunt master
- 51 Boot part
- 52 Sailors, say
- 54 Take too much of, for short
- 55 Member of an early-1900s art movement
- 58 Debt memos
- 59 Director Clair
- 62 "— -Cop" (1988 film)
- 64 Commercial on the tube
- 65 Olympic sled course
- 68 "How — to know?"
- 69 Celebration
- 70 Jailbreaker
- 71 Indy path
- 72 Shankar on the sitar
- 76 Edit, as text
- 77 Scandi-navian
- 79 Hormones in some replacement therapies
- 80 Harry Potter pal Weasley
- 82 Draft inits.
- 85 Its cap. is Vilnius
- 86 Kaput
- 87 Toss high up
- 90 Brother of Iphigenia
- 91 Director Ang
- 94 Something novel
- 95 Sch. org.
- 97 Supply that's too abundant
- 98 Operating skyward
- 100 Theatricalize
- 101 Courage
- 102 Finish with
- 103 Weird
- 104 Out-of-the-way corners
- 105 Bygone Olds
- 109 Bygone Chevy
- 110 Swedish film shooter
- 111 French noun suffix
- 112 Gunky stuff
- 114 Use skillfully
- 115 Ending for Brooklyn
- 116 Abbr. in trig
- 117 Part of L.A.
- 118 Lemur cousin

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	19	
20									21							22					
23								24								25					
26						27						28				29					
				30	31			32		33	34				35						
36	37	38					39								40						
41						42				43				44	45			46	47	48	49
50								51	52					53			54	55			
56							57					58	59				60				
61					62		63			64						65				66	
															69				70		
			67				68														
71	72				73				74								75			76	77
78				79				80					81			82		83			
84							85					86					87				
88							89				90	91				92					
				93	94	95				96				97	98			99			
100	101	102						103	104							105					
106								107						108		109			110	111	112
113								114					115	116				117	118		
119								120								121					
122								123								124					

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Smell
- 5 U.K. fliers
- 8 Teen's skin woe
- 12 One of the Three Bears
- 13 Conclusion
- 14 TV's Dr. McGraw
- 15 Mideast port
- 16 Wrestling hold
- 18 Tetanus
- 20 Lassoos
- 21 High tennis shot
- 22 Jewel
- 23 Jaunty topper
- 26 Samson's weapon against the Philistines
- 30 Altar affirmative
- 31 London forecast
- 32 Hive dweller
- 33 Arid
- 36 Playwright Henrik
- 38 Noon, in a way
- 39 High card
- 40 Squabble
- 43 Plaster-fiberboard mix
- 47 Home entertainment piece
- 49 Vicinity
- 50 Oodles
- 51 Billboards
- 52 One-named supermodel
- 53 Some ever-greens
- 54 Lad
- 55 Harp's cousin
- 8 Self-assurance
- 9 Hew
- 10 Pleasant
- 11 BPOE members
- 17 Sketched
- 19 Make marginalia
- 22 Choke
- 23 Lobster eater's aid
- 24 Tokyo's old name
- 25 Director Howard
- 26 Cohort of
- 27 Outdated, as a wd.
- 28 Born
- 29 Hollow ender
- 31 Calendar abbr.
- 34 Rejoices
- 35 God, in Grenoble
- 36 Aloof
- 37 Lament
- 39 Pretentious
- 40 Vacationing
- 41 Bronchial sound
- 42 Radiate
- 43 Prank
- 44 Host
- 45 Mad king of literature
- 46 Highway division
- 48 Arrest
- DOWN**
- 1 October birthstone
- 2 Pedestal part
- 3 Oil cartel
- 4 Irritate
- 5 Betty Ford Center program
- 6 From the start
- 7 Govt. Rx watchdog

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18					19				20			
				21				22				
23	24	25				26				27	28	29
30					31					32		
33			34	35				36	37			
			38				39					
40	41	42				43				44	45	46
47					48				49			
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

MAGIC MAZE ● BAY OF —

E A X U R O L S J G D A X V S

P N K I F C A K E X V S Q O L

J H G E C A O X V L T R P N L

J H I F D K B K F B S Y X V T

R P B O G M C K I I W I G E D

B Z R N A U S S R X O W U T R

Q(C A M P E C H E)O R N S Y L

J B L I L A G F S L R D D C S

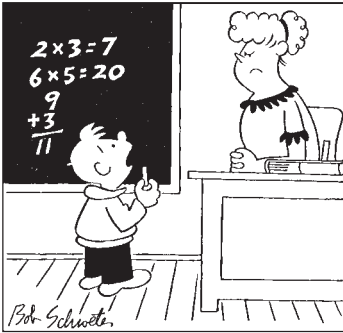
A A T P Y T N E L P A N N G Y

P L A G N E B X W V U H I T S

R N R P O N L K J F I P W G F

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

- Arrows
Bangkok
Bengal
Biscay
- Campeche
Fires
Fundy
Gibraltar
- Isles
Naples
Palma
Plenty
- Puck
Whales
Winds



"So what if my answers are all wrong —
when I grow up I'm going to be a
_____ forecaster!"

answer on page 37

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!

Shrewd
PRETUND

Awry
WAKES

Escort
SHURE

Emerge
PAPARE

TODAY'S WORD

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

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

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Log is missing. 2. Box is smaller. 3. Stocking is reversed. 4. Glass is smaller. 5. Rug is missing. 6. Sleeve cuff is missing.

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Florida Oysters Rockefeller

36 oysters, shucked, on the half shell
 2 cups spinach, cooked and drained
 1/2 cup crispy bacon, crumbled
 1 cup mozzarella cheese
 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated
 1 bell pepper, diced small
 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped fine
 1/4 tablespoon hot pepper sauce
 1/2 cup panko breadcrumbs
 1 lemon, juiced
 4 lemons, quartered for garnish
 Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Preheat oven on high broil.

In a medium-sized mixing bowl, combine spinach, bacon, mozzarella, Parmesan cheese, bell pepper, parsley, hot sauce and lemon juice. Stir ingredients to combine.

Taste spinach mixture and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Place 1 tablespoon or so of the spinach mixture on top of each half-shell oyster.

Place all stuffed oysters on a cookie sheet. Put the cookie sheet in the middle rack of the oven. Carefully watch the oysters under the broiler, and let them cook for several minutes until the oyster edges curl and the top of the stuffing is golden brown and bubbly.

Serve oysters over a bed of ice cream salt with lemon wedges.*



Florida Oysters Rockefeller

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"Wir Sprechen Deutsch"

f g+

FILM SOCIETY

Film Society of Southwest Florida

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 Community Room - Robb & Stucky

4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
 Second Monday of each month

President, Di Saggau
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PUZZLE ANSWERS

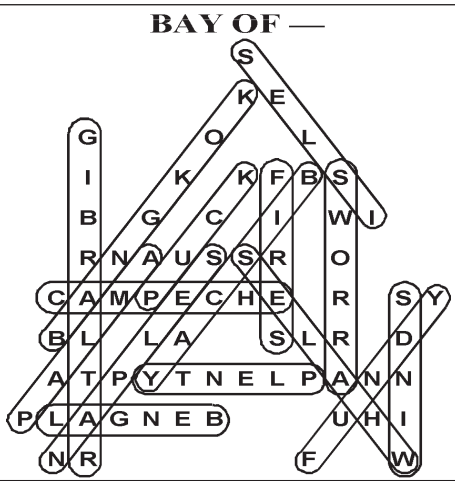
SUPER CROSSWORD

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

KING CROSSWORD

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

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2016

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) I know, dear Lamb, that you don't like anyone trying to take charge of one of your projects, but try to be a bit more flexible. A new idea could help hasten a positive result.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) I'm sure, like the time-thrifty Taurus that you are, that you've done much of your holiday shopping. But don't relax yet. Wrap those gifts now to save yourself lots of unwanted pressure.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be receptive when a family member or friend asks to confide in you. Your positive reaction could ensure that he or she will have a happy holiday experience.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Don't be rushed into wrapping up that workplace problem. Consider leaving it until after the holidays. This way you'll have the facts you need to reach the right resolution.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You'll get news that will make you glow brighter than the lights of the holiday season. Be sure to use what you learn both carefully and kindly, to avoid giving the wrong impression.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) That frayed relationship could be mended in time for the holidays if you were more flexible. Give a little, and you could get back a lot more than you imagined.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Things might not seem to be settling down as quickly as you would prefer. But it might be just a little holiday time flutter. You'll soon get news that will lead to more stability.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Stop getting so involved in everyone's personal problems that you lose precious time with loved ones. Remember, even the Supreme Court closes for the holidays.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) All signs point to a bright holiday, with all of those pesky problems finally resolved in your favor. Share the good times with people you love and, of course, who love you.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your plans should not be set in stone and cemented over. Leave

some openings in case you need to make changes. Spend the holidays with your nearest and dearest.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Surprise! This holiday finds you on the receiving end of the generosity of those who are usually the recipients of so much that you give so freely and lovingly.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) That piece of good news assures that you'll be swimming in clearer, calmer waters this holiday season. There might be a storm or two ahead, but you'll weather it all in fine style.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a flair for seeing things as you'd like them to be, as well as a gift for turning your perceptions into reality.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On Dec. 22, 1808, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony premieres in Vienna, Austria, in a freezing venue. Two hours into the poorly played concert, Beethoven stopped the music and had the ensemble start again from the beginning.

• On Dec. 24, 1923, President Calvin Coolidge touches a button and lights up the first national Christmas tree to grace the White House grounds. The balsam fir was the first to be decorated with electric lights -- a strand of 2,500 red, white and green bulbs.

• On Dec. 21, 1970, Elvis Presley visits President Richard Nixon to offer his services in the government's war on drugs. Presley, who was apparently not searched at the gate, presented the president with a gift -- a World War II-era Colt .45 pistol.

• On Dec. 19, 1986, Michael Sergio, who parachuted into Game Six of the 1986 World Series at New York's Shea Stadium with a "Let's Go Mets" banner, is fined \$500 and sentenced to 100 hours of community service.

• On Dec. 20, 1995, the United Nations peacekeeping force formally transfers military authority in Bosnia to North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces, allowing the deployment of some 60,000 NATO troops.

• On Dec. 25, 2002, University of New Mexico junior placekicker Katie Hnida becomes the first woman to play in a Division I football game. In 2004, Hnida told Sports Illustrated that she had been sexually harassed while at the University

of Colorado. The Colorado football coach responded by calling Hnida "not only a girl" but a "terrible" player. He was suspended briefly and left the team in 2005.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was beloved American humorist and social commentator Will Rogers who made the following sage observation: "Too many people spend money they haven't earned, to buy things they don't want, to impress people they don't like."

• Famed Thoroughbred racehorse Man o' War was as successful off the track as he was on it. After his famed career, he retired to stud, producing more than 64 stakes winners. Man o' War sired 1937 Triple Crown winner War Admiral, and he was grandsire of Seabiscuit, who was Horse of the Year in 1938. In 1966, 37 percent of all stakes winners were descended from Man o' War, and he appears at least 17 times in the bloodline of American Pharoah, the 2015 Triple Crown winner.

• Those who study such things say that hyenas are more closely related to cats than to dogs.

• Those who study spycraft are aware of the many ingenious ways that have been used to pass secret messages. One of the earliest examples occurred in the late 6th century BCE, when Histiaeus, the tyrant of Miletus (in present-day Turkey), shaved the head of his most trusted slave, tattooed a message on the slave's scalp, and waited for the hair to grow back before dispatching the slave to his son-in-law, Aristagoras, along with instructions to shave the slave's head upon his arrival.

• Police in Saudi Arabia have been instructed to arrest young men wearing tight jeans; the garments are considered to be immodest and un-Islamic.

• The Gottfried Krueger Brewing Company, founded in 1858 and based in Newark, New Jersey, has the distinction of producing the first beer in cans, back in January 1935.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"A man is known by the company he keeps. A company is known by the men it keeps." -- Thomas J. Watson

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Prudent; 2. Askew;
3. Usher; 4. Appear

Today's Word
WEATHER

TRIVIA TEST

- MOVIES: What was Grace Kelly's character's name in the movie "High Noon"?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What fear is represented in the phobia called "cryophobia"?
- LITERATURE: What was the name of the island inhabited by tiny people in "Gulliver's Travels"?
- U.S. CITIES: What city bills itself as "The Sweetest Place on Earth"?
- GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Gulf of Riga located?
- HISTORY: How many human beings have walked on the moon?
- ART: Which post-impressionist painter created the series titled "Sunflowers"?
- LANGUAGE: What product was slangily known as a "Tin Lizzie" in the early 20th century?
- ASTRONOMY: What is the largest planet in our solar system?
- MUSIC: Which 1960s rock group recorded the hit song "A Whiter Shade of Pale"?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Amy Fowler Kane 2. Fear of extreme cold, Jupiter 10. Procol Harum
12 7. Vincent van Gogh 8. Model T Ford 9.
chocolate company 5. Northern Europe 6.
Hershey, Pennsylvania, home of the Hershey
ice or frost 3. Lilliput (the Lilliputians) 4.

★ ★ ★ CLASSIFIED ★ CLASSIFIED ★ ★ ★

REAL ESTATE

OPEN HOUSE

See Gorgeous Views
of Bay & Gulf at Punta Rassa!
Monday, December 19 from 10 am to 12pm.
15011 Punta Rassa Road, Unit #802 just
before Sanibel Causeway in Fort Myers.
Call VIP Realtor Brian Johnson
at 239-910-3099 upon arrival
to gain access.
Beautiful HGTV-style remodel!
*NS 12/16 CC 12/16

MARCH WEEK TIMESHARE SALE

Hurricane House, Sanibel. SW corner unit
on water. Sleeps 6. Golf/tennis included at
Dunes. \$45,000. Call owner 416-725-7772.
*NS 12/2 CC TFN

BEACH ROAD CONDO

Short walk to the Beach
2BD/2BTH Asking \$399,000
Call or text Chris 914-629-9434
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*NS 12/16 CC 1/6

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Professional Real Estate Services on
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30 Year Resident of Sanibel.
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*RS 4/29 CC TFN

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NEW STUDIO RENTAL

Studio or small 1 bedr. wanted by quiet 68
yr. semi-retired property owner & landlord
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charliereid@ttlc.net.
*NS 11/11 CC TFN

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WONDERFUL RENTAL IN POPULAR LOCATION ON SANIBEL



2 Rooms, Bathroom,
Approx. 1,000 sq. feet.
This was Molnar Electric's old office.
Call Judy at 239-851-4073.
*RS 8/5 CC TFN

FORMERLY WOOSTER TV HIGHLY VISIBLE FIRST FLOOR SPACE



2424 PALM RIDGE ROAD
FORMERLY WOOSTER TV
1,250 SQ FT 5 YEAR LEASE
\$1,890/MO INCLUDES ALL CAM
CALL JOHN 239 472 6543
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PRIME COMMERCIAL PERIWINKLE EXPOSURE

1633 Periwinkle Suite F and or G
1,300sqft @ \$1,600 a month
including tax or will separate the
2 suites at \$800 a month including tax.
Available November 1st.
Call 239-898-4464
*NS 12/16 CC 12/16

VACATION RENTAL

HOLIDAY RENTAL

Last minute availability
Christmas and Thanksgiving 2016
Charming 3/2 island cottage. Close to
beach and island amenities. Mid island
\$1,600. wk. Contact 2600coyle@gmail.com
*NS11/18 CC 12/30

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*RS 1/4 CC TFN

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FANTASTIC 3 BDRM 3.5 BATH HOME

Fresh and newly remodeled; pool;
boat dock; wifi; beautiful yard;
near Sanctuary golf and Captiva.
Call 817-300-9499
*NS 10/28 CC TFN

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tenants together
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Buttonwood Lane
Darling beach cottage,
2BR/1BA, pool, 5 lots to the beach,
fenced yard, pets allowed w/approval.
Completely renovated/remodeled,
private and very upscale!
New to the market... BOOK NOW! Prefer
multi-month renter! Email:
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*NS 10/14 CC TFN

ADORABLE COTTAGE AVAILABLE NOW!

Steps to beach - Very Private
Prices Reduced for
Jan, Feb or March
2 bed/1 bath W/D Screened porch
Sleeps 4 comfortably
Quiet Residential Neighborhood
East End near Lighthouse Point
Small dog considered w/approval
Local owner: 727.644.6493
www.seagrapecottageatsanibel.com
*NS 12/16 CC TFN

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FEBRUARY STILL AVAILABLE!

Beautiful 3 BR/3 BA Newly Decorated
Sanibel Home With Water Views Just Steps
To The Beach On Camino Del Mar.
Pool And Spa - \$9,995/Month.
Call Lighthouse Realty - 239-579-0511.
*NS 12/16 CC TFN

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Old Florida charm with all new updates!
Ground-level duplex on private lane. Unit
1-2BR/1.5BA, sleeps 6, exercise room.
Unit 2-2BR/1BA, sleeps 7. Each unit has
fully equipped kitchen, separate laundry,
wooded backyard w/privacy fence. Outside
enclosed H/C shower. Bikes, beach chairs,
umbrellas provided. Pets w/approval. Min 1
month-March/April still available!
Contact Chris: 314-406-7058
cgbeckner@yahoo.com.
*NS 12/16 CC 12/23

ANNUAL RENTAL

ANNUAL RENTALS

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Ground Level, 3/2 UF, Clean, Freshly
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\$2,000/mo.

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Gated condo. complex, this Clean 2nd
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beaches and island amenities.
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*NS 11/18 CC 5/26

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*NS 12/9 CC 2/24

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Exterior & Interior Cleaning. Tire Dressing.
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Reasonable Rates. Satisfaction
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3 Hrs. of Jazz/Easy Listening for your
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price. Call: Bonnie G 518-796-4239
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Office/Private Party, Special Event, Real
Estate Open House, etc. A relaxing, fun
form of entertainment at an affordable
price. Call: Bonnie G 518-796-4239
*NS 12/9 CC TFN

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*RS 1/25 BM TFN

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• Registered nurse with 27 years of nursing experience, hold current florida RN license
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• Following professional conduct for delivering nursing care to patients
If interested please call: Rane Ingram at 660-723-0944 or email me at rane. belland.nurse@gmail.com
Resume and references available upon request
*NS 12/16 CC 12/23

HELP WANTED

SUP INSTRUCTOR
Yoloboard Adventures seeking paddler to teach SUP lessons, guide tours, and do rentals and deliveries. Experience helpful but not necessary. FT or PT positions available. Call 239-249-4701
*NS 12/2 CC 12/23

FITNESS CENTER ATTENDANT
The Sanctuary Golf Club is looking for a Fitness Center Attendant to join the team. This position is full-time, seasonal, starts in Jan 2017 & ends approximately in May.

The Fitness Center Attendant will greet and assist all visitors to The Sanctuary's Fitness and Wellness Center.

The Sanctuary offers an attractive compensation & benefits package including, a competitive wage, medical & life insurance coverage, 401k plan, toll reimbursement for Sanibel Causeway (if needed), employee golf privileges & merchandise discounts, health club membership, & meals.
If interested, please call Barbara at 239-284-4495.
*NS 12/16 CC 12/16

JERRY'S FOODS SERVERS & BARISTAS
Part Time Evening And Weekend Front End Associates Needed. Looking for energetic, personable, and fun individuals, with open availability Monday through Sunday.
If interested call and ask for John, Norm Sarah 472-9300.
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*NS 5/6 BM TFN

HELP WANTED
Live on the Island and looking for PT work 2-3 days per week. Flexible schedule. Call 472-4886.
*NS 11/4 BM TFN

LOAN NEEDED

LOAN NEEDED
Looking for private investor loan to consolidate personal debt. I live on Sanibel and can offer second mortgage on my home. Amount needed is \$150,000. This will payoff existing debt.
Please respond to sanibelforme@hotmail.com
*NS 7/22 CC TFN

AUTO FOR SALE

2008 SILVER HONDA ACCORD
142,000 miles, Excellent Condition – Have all service records, \$6,000 OBO.
Contact LisaSanibel@centurylink.net
*NS 12/16 CC 12/16

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HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 CUSTOM DYNA FXDC
With only 3,500 miles.
1450cc, custom chrome, wheels, saddlebags, alarm, electric start, windshield, custom seat.
Includes cover & helmets.
\$9,000 Serious inquiries only
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*NS 12/2 CC 12/23

BOATS - CANOES - KAYAKS

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*RS 1/4 NC TFN

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THANK SANIBEL FOR 11 GREAT YEARS!
PERIWINKLE WAY AUCTION & CONSIGNMENT is now online at
www.SanibelConsignment.com
under **www.EBTH.com** Get auction prices on all antiques, sealife jewelry, nautical items. Ikki Matsumoto island themed prints & Sanibel seashells.
God Bless American & our loyal friends!
*NS 11/18 CC TFN

LOST AND FOUND

LOST CAT
All Black. Last seen in Lungren area. May respond to name of 'Blackie'.
Reward.
Please call 239-277-0058.
*NS 12/9 CC TFN

HORTOONS



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
South Seas Island Resort	Captiva	1990	4,578	\$6,299,000	\$5,803,500	261
South Seas Island Resort	Captiva	1976	3,405	\$3,500,000	\$3,450,000	335
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2016	5,871	\$2,400,000	\$2,200,000	397
Carolands	Bonita Springs	2003	3,535	\$1,999,500	\$1,825,000	98
Laurel Oaks at West Bay Club	Estero	2007	5,071	\$1,849,900	\$1,750,000	0
Orchid Ridge	Estero	2002	4,000	\$1,499,000	\$1,450,000	19
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2015	3,029	\$1,175,000	\$1,175,000	102
Sanibel Estates	Sanibel	1969	1,601	\$995,000	\$945,000	273
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2007	3,794	\$949,000	\$930,000	260
Grande Estates	Estero	2006	3,404	\$925,000	\$825,000	83

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate



*Weekend
with
Santa*

**December 16th, 17th and 18th
Friday, Saturday and Sunday**

Event Schedule:

Free Train Rides Friday & Saturday 2pm to 6pm
Santa arrives on the Polar Express Saturday at 2pm
Visits with Santa Saturday & Sunday 2pm to 4pm

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