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THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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Vol. 16, No. 9

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

MARCH 3, 2017

Grande Dames Hand-Made Hats On Sale



The Kimberly

photos provided

Tickets are sold out for the 9th annual Grande Dames Tea on Tuesday, March 14, presented by the PACE Center for Girls of Lee County. A total of 406 tickets have been sold to the tea honoring Patricia Carroll



The Allyson

of Fort Myers, Beverly McNew of Fort Myers and the late Lalai Sapp Hamric of Fort Myers.

The PACE girls are once again creating handmade fascinators that are available for sale. Most hats will be \$50 each with a limited number of specialty hats for \$100. These original creations will be available on a first come basis. For purchasing information, call Jessica

continued on page 26



VIP ticket holders can take part in a star-studded backstage after party that includes food, drinks and dancing
photo courtesy SBDAC

Film Festival Begins March 8

The 7th annual Fort Myers Film Festival will be held March 8 through March 12. Indie film fans can catch the movies that were selected as finalists during the 2016-2017 season of Thank God for Indie Mondays. Various locations will take part in this

city-wide event, including the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, Alliance for the Arts, Imaginarium and Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

The edgy and fresh programming for the Fort Myers Film Festival has gotten the attention of a global independent film community. The festival is an independent

continued on page 23



The Nina and the Pinta

Historic Ships To Dock At Marina

The *Pinta* and the *Nina*, replicas of Columbus' ships, will return to Fort Myers from Thursday, March 15 through Saturday, March 18. The ships will be docked at the Marina at Edison Ford, 2360 West First Street, until their departure early morning on Sunday, March 19.

"We are thrilled to be able to welcome these historic ships back to the Marina at Edison Ford," said Grant

photo courtesy Columbus Foundation

Phelan, owner of the Marina at Edison Ford and Pinchers Crab Shack.

The ships were originally expected to come a day later but are arriving earlier due to the low water levels in the Caloosahatchee.

Guests who visit the ships will receive a voucher for a free drink or free dessert with their ticket purchase, courtesy of Pinchers.

The *Nina* was built completely by hand and without the use of power tools. *Archaeology* magazine called the ship "the most historically correct

continued on page 21

Dramatic Session At Theatre Conspiracy



From left, Curt Sheard, Patrick Day, Cicero McCarter III, Charlie Sloin, Elvis Mortley and Cantrell Canady
photo courtesy Theatre Conspiracy

by Di Saggau

Playwright August Wilson wrote *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* in 1982 about a 1927 recording session in Chicago with a white-owned record company. The recording session in the play actually took place. The play is now

being performed at Theatre Conspiracy, and it ignites a dramatic fuse that reaches an explosive destination in the end. Ma Rainey and her four band members are there to record *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*. Cantrell Canady plays Ma as a big boisterous woman who is both a

continued on page 24

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Leon Corner In Early Days

by Gerri Reaves, PhD



So changed is the building in the historic postcard image that you might not recognize it as today's ornate Leon Building on the southwest corner of First and Hendry.

When JF Smith and physician Dr. Benjamin P. Matheson built it in 1905, it was called the Smith-Matheson Building and was anything but ornate.

It was commonly known as the Stone Block for obvious reasons: those sculpted concrete blocks and the unadorned style. Later, Matheson added a hotel annex to the Stone Block and balconies were added, too.

As the third modern, or non-wood-frame, building in the business district, it followed the brick Heitman Building at First and Jackson (1897-98) and the brick Bradford Hotel on the northeast corner of First and Hendry, also built in 1905.

Several things date the postcard image to circa 1911. Most telling, perhaps, is the fountain facing First Street. The influential pioneer, cattleman, and politician Capt. William "Wild Bill" Towles, who untiringly pushed for progress and town improvements, gave that drinking fountain to the public in June 1910.

It was intended to be an attractive substitute for the circular drinking trough that had been located in the middle of the First and Hendry intersection from 1904 until 1910.

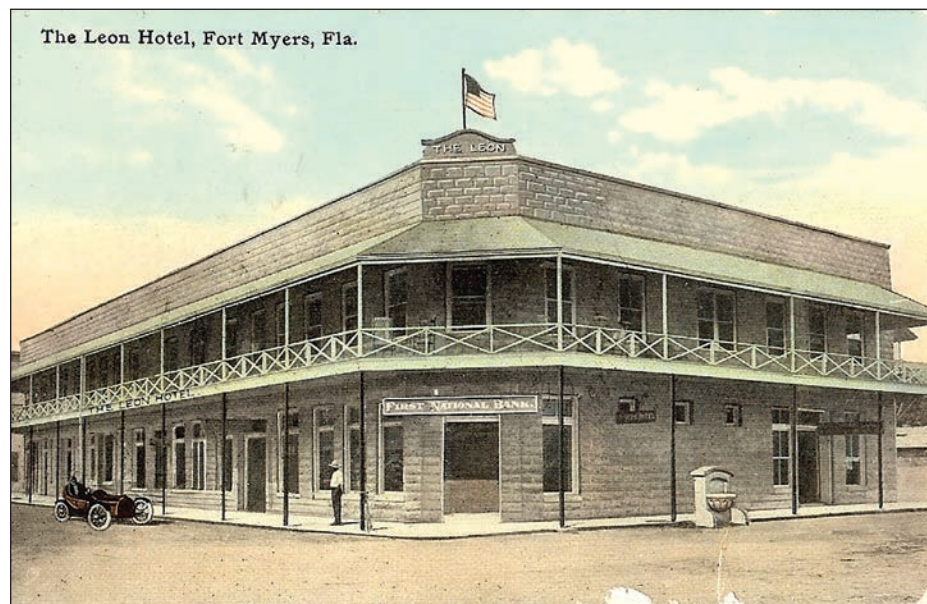
In fact, the trough was removed only a month before Towles's fountain was installed.

The new fountain had a drinking spout for people on the sidewalk side (not visible in photo), but also featured a small drinking area for horses and, below that, one for dogs.

The concrete fountain promoted a more modern look for the cow town and didn't impede the burgeoning automobile traffic.

The sporty roadster (left) in the photo hints at the changes the 20th century was bringing to the streets.

Another clue to the postcard's date is the name "Leon Hotel" on the catty-cornered



The Leon Building, pictured circa 1911, was built in 1905 and was first called the Stone Block for its unadorned style and sculpted concrete-block construction

photo courtesy SWFL Historical Society



Today, the Leon Building's Exotic Revivalist architectural style recalls the changes made by Peter Tonnelier a little over a century ago

photo by Gerri Reaves

parapet. Those words replaced "Smith and Mathison Building 1905," which crowned the building in its earliest days. (Historical sources contain various spellings of Matheson.)

Matheson had originally established his office on the second floor, but that later became the Leon Hotel.

Also, the First National Bank (originally and briefly called the Lee County Bank) was still in located in the first-floor corner when the photo was taken. It had opened there in 1907 and remained there until 1914, when it moved across Hendry Street to a new Neo-Classical Revival style granite building on the southeast corner.

The Stone Block's plain simple style changed drastically after Michigan millionaire Peter Tonnelier and his brother Henry bought it from Matheson in February 1912.

Over the next couple of years, it was transformed it into an example of Exotic Revivalist architecture – quite a change for little Fort Myers. But those Mediterranean, Egyptian and Moroccan motifs are what make the structure so recognizable today.

Peter Tonnelier quickly began redeveloping it and created Tonnelier Court (today's Patio de Leon) to boot. The Leon's image began to change.

Advertisements in 1913 described it as a "leading European hotel" with 22 private baths and as the "only modern hotel in the city" – a bit of a stretch, given the elegant Royal Palm Hotel down the street.

Today, those hotel rooms are condominiums.

Walk to First and Hendry and ponder the enduring Stone Block, which has housed scores of businesses and weathered several renovations and architectural styles over the last 112 years.

If you want to learn more about local history, visit 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 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

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

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

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THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

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Trouper The Raccoon Meets Jackie Evancho Backstage



Following her February 26 concert in Fort Myers, vocalist Jackie Evancho chatted backstage with Dot Lee, caretaker for Trouper the blind raccoon photos by Jeff Lysiak by Jeff Lysiak

Following classical crossover artist Jackie Evancho's performance last Sunday evening at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, the 16-year-old vocalist met Trouper the blind raccoon. Trouper, who has been a fan of Evancho's for the past five years, was invited by the singer's family to be her guest at the show.

Backstage, Trouper and his caretaker,

Dot Lee of Fort Myers, gave Evancho a bouquet of roses.

"I want to thank you all for coming here tonight," the soloist told the audience before her final number of the evening, "even though I know a lot of you came here just to see Trouper the raccoon."

Evancho's setlist included several songs from silver screen classics such as *Pure Imagination* (from *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*), *Somewhere Over*



Jackie Evancho holding Trouper *The Rainbow* (from *The Wizard of Oz*) and *Music of the Night* (from *Phantom of the Opera*).✱

Final Movie Night At Alliance

The Alliance for the Arts will conclude its Outdoor Family Movie Nights series on Friday, March 10 at 7:15 p.m. with *How to Train Your Dragon 2*. Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, coolers and blankets. Admission is free, but a suggested \$10 family donation helps the Alliance continue offering affordable family programming.

The film stars Hiccup and Toothless, who discover an ice cave that is home to hundreds of new wild dragons and the mysterious Dragon Rider. The two friends find themselves at the center of a battle to protect the peace.

"Family Movie Nights are a fun and endearing way to enjoy animated films under the stars with your family and friends," said Brandi Couse, director of education and operations. "It's a great, inexpensive way to treat your family to a movie."

Support for this event is provided by DinoLingo.com Language Learning Programs for Kids, Pediatric Density of Fort Myers, GreenMedinfo, Riverside Realty Group LLC and Staging Matters, Inc. For more information, visit www.ArtInLee.org or call 939-2787.✱

Theater Improv And Comedy

The Laboratory Theater of Florida will be hosting Square One Improv on Friday, March 3 at 7 p.m. and the side-splitting comedy *Play On!* by Rick Abbot from March 10 through April 1.

Square One Improv returns to The Lab Theater with a night of antics and jokes. Every facet of the improvised show is based on the audience's suggestions. Tickets are \$12 to \$15.

Play On! features a group of community theater actors trying to put on a show as the playwright continues to interrupt rehearsal with countless revisions. The show is full of mishaps, mistakes, mayhem and anything else that could possibly go wrong in a production.

"This show is so funny, you might just fall out of your seat with laughter," said Artistic Director Annette Trossbach.

"Your face will hurt from all the smiling."

The show stars Scott Carpenter (Art), Cindi Heimberg (Deathtrap), Steven Coe (Wings), Rachel Dominguez (The Best Man), Mike Dinko (An Empty Plate in the Cafe du Grand Boeuf), Kendra Weaver (Scrooge TV), Louise Wigglesworth (The Velocity of Autumn), Gerrie Benzing (The Best Man), Yvonne Shadrach (Calendar Girls) and Kayleigh O'Connell, who makes her Lab Theater debut. Carmen Crussard (Scrooge TV) directs.

Play On! opens on March 10 at 8 p.m. Performances are on March 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, and April 1 at 8 p.m. and on March 19 and 26 and April 1 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12 for students at the door. Tickets are available at www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com or by calling 218-0481.

The Laboratory Theater of Florida is located in the River District at 1634 Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers.✱

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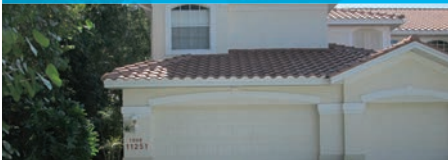
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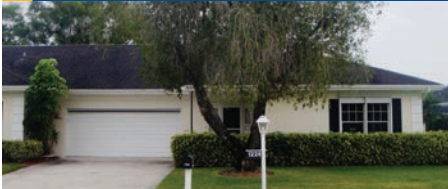
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Jazzy Nights

The Jazzy Nights series at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center features an extravagant evening of cocktails and music on Friday, March 24 beginning with cocktails at 7 p.m. The show is from 8 to 10 p.m. Experience the artist critics call a “modern day Louis Armstrong.” This performance will also feature legendary jazz musicians Lew Del Gatto on saxophone, Joe Delaney on piano, Don Mopsick on bass and Tony Vigilante on drums.

Tickets are \$29 in advance and \$35 at the door. A table of four is \$125, while a table of eight is \$250.

The concert marks the final date of the 2016-17 Jazzy Nights Series. The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First St. in the historic downtown Fort Myers River District.



Wycliffe Gordon photo courtesy SBDAC

Visit www.sbdac.com to purchase tickets.✴

Recipes Sought For Cookbook

Would you love to see your favorite recipe in a Florida cookbook? The State Hometown Cookbook Series by Sheila Simmons and Kent Whitaker is coming to the Sunshine State. *Florida Hometown Cookbook* will be available in Fall 2017. The authors are inviting home cooks across the state to send their favorite recipes to be considered for the book.

“Florida will be the ninth book in the series,” said Simmons. “If we decide to

include the recipe, we will publish their name and hometown beneath the recipe so everyone will know who submitted the recipe. We also send a complimentary copy of the cookbook to each person who has recipes chosen for the book.”

Florida Hometown Cookbook will be about 256 pages and will include more than 250 favorite recipes from hometown cooks all across Florida. Submit recipes by email to amusgrove@gapublishers.com or online at www.submitmyrecipe.com. The deadline for submission is April 5.

For more information or a free catalog of Great American Cookbooks, call toll-free 1-888-854-5954.✴

Tea Parties At Historic Home



Lavender tea party

photo provided

The historic Burroughs Home & Gardens, located at 2505 First Street in downtown Fort Myers, is scheduling tea parties and entertaining luncheon programs on Mona’s dancing porch. Two different entertainment program formats are available. Guests can choose from monthly Teatime Tuesdays or combination Tours with Tea offered exclusively to groups of 10 or more on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Upcoming Teatime Tuesday luncheons with entertainment are scheduled for March 21 with Tisanes to Tickle Your Fancy, April 11 with Victorian Fairy Art Tea and mid-May with a date and program to be announced. Guests will enjoy a light lunch and program by local entertainer Laurie Nienhaus on the history and health benefits of different types of teas through the ages. Ticket prices range from \$26 to \$28.

Groups of 10 or more can add a home tour to one of two entertaining luncheon programs, For the Love of Lavender and How on Earth did Tea Make it This Far? The lavender program revolves around the many uses and folklore of lavender and includes a light tea luncheon with culinary lavender. The tea program is quirky and entertaining, recounting tea’s journey through time and includes a light luncheon with culinary tea. Both programs begin with a tour of the historic Burroughs Home & Gardens at 11 a.m. Ticket prices are \$30.

Seating is limited and advance reservations are required. For more information, visit www.burroughshome.com, contact Tera Miller at Tera@burroughshome.com or call 337-9505.✴

Galloway Soup Kitchen Benefit

The 14th Annual Sam Galloway Jr. & Friends Soup Kitchen Benefit has been scheduled for Thursday, March 9. The event will be held at Sam Galloway Ford & Lincoln, located off of Boy Scout Drive and Summerlin Road. The evening will begin with cocktails and live entertainment at 6 p.m., with dinner to follow at 7 p.m.

The money raised at the event assist in the funding for Community Cooperative, the umbrella agency for the Community Cafés and Markets, the Soup Kitchen, Meals on Wheels, Healthy School Pantry and Food Literacy in Pre-School (FLIP) programs, Mobile Food Pantries, and Social and Education Resource Centers for our hungry and homeless residents in need.

Each year, this homegrown fundraiser continues to be one of the most anticipated signature events in our community; local restaurants, companies and individuals donate the southern-style menu including barbeque chicken and pork, fried chicken, coleslaw, fried

shrimp, cheese grits, swamp cabbage, gourmet meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gumbo, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, fresh green beans, corn bread, banana pudding, homemade cookies and gourmet chocolates.

“This is our 14th year of some dear friends and businesses joining together to help those in need in our community,” said Sam Galloway Jr. “Hunger continues to be a serious problem in our own backyard. More and more of our neighbors and their children need help and it doesn’t seem to be getting any better.”

According to Tracey Galloway, CEO of Community Cooperative, the need within the Southwest Florida community continues to grow.

“There are over 3,400 documented homeless individuals in Lee County; more than 1,200 are children,” she said. “Our mission is to end hunger and homelessness in Lee County by addressing the root causes and finding sustainable solutions to achieve long term success for our clients.”

For more information on attending the event, visit www.CommunityCooperative.com or call 332-7687 ext. 101.✴



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History And Urban Birding Tour Downtown

Experience birding and local history during a unique event in downtown Fort Myers on Monday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m.

History & Urban Birding will be led by chapter birders and local history aficionado Gerri Reaves. Participants will learn about the history of the town and look for birds at sunset over and

around the downtown district and the Caloosahatchee River.

Meet in Centennial Park at the Uncommon Friends water statue across from Harborside Event Center. Recommended parking is on the street near the center.

Wear comfortable shoes and light clothes. Bring your binoculars, camera and water. No tour will be held if rainy conditions are prevailing.

Chapter birders and non-members, beginner to advanced birders are welcome. The tour is free, however, donations are appreciated.✴



Anna Skibinsky

photos courtesy SWFL Symphony

Opera Concert Features Local Celebrity

The Southwest Florida Symphony, Lee County's only professional orchestra and one of the oldest on Florida's gulf coast, continues its 56th season of Masterworks with *A Night at the Opera* at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall on Saturday, March 25. This performance, sponsored by Bell Tower Shops, begins at 8 p.m. Prior to the performance, at 7 p.m., patrons are invited to attend a conductor-led, pre-concert lecture. These lectures are offered in order to better educate audiences about the pieces being performed. Tickets cost between \$27 and \$87 per person and may be purchased at www.swflso.org; by visiting the Southwest Florida Symphony Box Office located at 8290 College Parkway, Suite 103 in Fort Myers; by calling the Symphony Box Office at 418-1500 or at the door, one and a half hours prior to the concert. Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall is located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers.

Masterworks III: A Night at the



Harold Sebastian Smith

Opera returns to the Symphony's Masterworks stage this season due to overwhelming popular demand, having received rave reviews from patrons and the media alike last season. *A Night at the Opera* will be conducted by the Southwest Florida Symphony's internationally renowned music director, Maestro Nir Kabaretti, and boasts performances by two rising opera stars – soprano Anna Skibinski and tenor Harold Meers. This concert features the original musical theater's signature overtures like Rossini's *Barber of Seville*, arias like *Nessun Dorma* from Puccini's *Turandot* and choruses like the *Bell Chorus* from Leoncavallo's *Il Pagliacci*. It's not necessary to be an opera aficionado to appreciate this performance. Also returning to narrate and breathe life into the story lines of featured pieces is opera and classical music enthusiast, NBC-2's Chief Meteorologist Robert Van Winkle. "When I learned that the symphony planned another Night at the Opera, I immediately asked to come back and narrate again," said Van Winkle. "This is such a rare treat for me to be part of a wonderful program like this. Sharing the stage with our city's professional orchestra, two rising opera stars and, of course, Maestro Kabaretti is a real thrill."✱

Heron's Glen Art Show Sunday

The Heron's Glen Artist Group is presenting their annual Fine Art Show on Sunday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Heron's Glen Golf & Country Club ballroom. Meet and purchase directly from the artists. Watercolor, oils, acrylics, pencil, photography and several other medias of artworks will be for sale.

Heron's Glen is located at 2250 Avenida Del Vera in North Fort Myers, four miles north of the Shell Factory on U.S. 41. Call 731-6524 or visit www.heronsglenartistgroup.com for more information.✱



Cruzin' by Fran Mecsko

photo provided

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Tickets available on-line at
www.sanibelmusicfestival.org

or by phone at **239-344-7025**

After February 15, Tickets may also be purchased at
Bank of the Islands, 1699 Periwinkle Way
or Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, 2475 Library
Way. *Cash or check only.*

An Island Tradition

Sanibel Music Festival is grateful for the support of Lee County and Southwest Florida Community Foundation.



Fort Myers Art:

Comedy Praises Women And Art Healing Power



by Tom Hall

New York City-based writer and performer Amy Marcs brings her critically acclaimed, autobiographical one-woman reconstructive comedy *Nice T!ts* to Southwest

Florida during the weekend of March 17, 18 and 19. *Nice T!ts* explores Amy's diagnosis and treatment for breast cancer with humor and heart-felt honesty. The show grapples with themes of femininity, womanhood, confidence and mortality. At its core, *Nice T!ts* is a celebration of women and the transformative power of art to heal.

"I hope to be of service to others with my show; to give hope to women who are going through this, so they know they're not alone and that they are still beautiful, vibrant and sexy," said Marcs. "My story is about the resiliency of the human spirit and finding self-acceptance, love and hope in a very difficult and traumatic situation. And, of course, all told through humor, because I believe that is one of the best healing tools we have."

With keen observations and ample humor, Marcs takes the audience through her journey of physical and psychological reckoning, body confidence and mortality, and her curiously sophisticated rapport with the audience grows in impact as members realize that some of those sitting in the dark have been drawn to the show by experiences similar to hers.

Nice T!ts opens in Foulds Theatre at Alliance for the Arts on Friday, March 17 at 8 p.m. It continues with a 2 p.m. matinee and 8 p.m. show on Saturday, March 18 and a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 19. Performances are sponsored in part by the Meisenberg Family Trust.

Price for tickets is \$22 for Alliance members, \$24 for non-members and \$11 for students with proper ID. For tickets, call 939-2787 or visit www.ArtInLee.org.

Marcs is an actress and voice-over artist signed with the Don Buchwald Agency. She wrote and stars in the show, which she has performed for sold-out crowds at The PIT Loft in New York City and Project Y's Women in Theatre Festival on Theatre Row. She has also appeared on *Fresh 102.7* and *Sirius XM Doctor Radio* to discuss her show and offer her perspective as a breast cancer patient and survivor.

The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers.

Film Festival Documentary Investigates Local Water Pollution

A documentary about Southwest Florida's ongoing environmental water crisis will open the 7th annual Fort Myers Film Festival on March 8. Titled *Black*



Nice T!ts writer and star Amy Marcs

photo courtesy www.artswfl.org

Tide, the 50-minute film is the product of California-based Veriscope Productions and filmmaker Steven Johnson, who grew up in Southwest Florida.

For over 50 years, the combination of water mismanagement by the Army Corps of Engineers and the political power of Big Sugar have created an environmental crisis in South Florida's water. *Black Tide* is an investigative documentary that examines this crisis and looks for solutions to fix the ongoing environmental and economic devastation.

In previous years, the Fort Myers Film Festival has opened with such noteworthy documentaries as *Marcus Jansen: Examine and Report* (2016), *Most Likely to Succeed*, *When I Walk and Alive Inside*. Each received a standing ovation and warm commendations from the Fort Myers mayor Randy Henderson and attending community. Several went on to be distributed nationally, with *Examine & Report* being shown at several international venues during the past year.

This year's film, *Black Tide*, is sure to be controversial, relevant and moving. The film will open with a red-carpet rollout at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall on March 8. Tickets for the film are \$19. VIP tickets for the evening are \$99 each and include both a pre- and post-party with food and drinks. A VIP pass covering the entire festival is \$199.

"I make political and environmental films," Johnson declares in his director's statement about the film. "Frustrated by seeing the environmental devastation in our estuaries caused by the political power of Big Sugar and poor water management decisions, I decided to make this documentary. I worked on it on and off for almost 10 years, while working on other projects. And with its release, South Florida is seeing one of the worst seasons of pollution in many years due to the reasons laid out in this film."

Last year, freshwater releases from Lake Okeechobee caused historic blue-green algae blooms in the St. Lucie River and its estuaries, as well as smaller, but no less lethal, blooms along the Caloosahatchee and in Cape Coral's

intricate network of canals. The situation became so dire in June and July that Governor Rick Scott issued states of emergency for St. Lucie, Martin and Lee counties, whose hotels, restaurants and tourist attractions lost thousands of dollars in lost revenues as tourists and summer visitors cancelled planned visits.

The blooms started in Lake Okeechobee and were carried into both rivers when the Army Corps of Engineers released water from Lake Okeechobee in order to reduce the level of the lake, thereby taking pressure off the dike built nearly 90 years ago to protect Clewiston, Pahokee, Belle Glade, Moore Haven and neighboring towns from flooding like that which occurred when the great hurricane of 1928 drowned between 2,500 and 3,000 people living south of the lake. Besides algae, those releases carried high levels of fertilizer and other nutrients from farmlands to the north and sugar cane fields to the south of the lake which fueled even larger blooms in the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers and their estuaries.

That fertilizer and the suspended solids in those Lake O discharges do more harm, than stimulate algae blooms and growth. They turn the water in the rivers the color of coffee, and that murkiness blocks sunlight, killing off the sea grasses the river once supported while the high nitrogen content renders the rivers and beaches down river unsafe for swimming and fishing. These pollutants have been shown to be particularly harmful to aquatic resources and water quality whenever they exceed 2,800 cubic feet per second (cfs). During last summer's historic algae blooms, the Army Corps was releasing more than 4,000 cfs into the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie notwithstanding the damage it was causing downstream.

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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Along The River

Major League Baseball 2017 Spring Training season is under way. If you are not interested in paying for tickets and parking fees, check out college baseball and softball action for free in Southwest Florida. Baseball and softball players from across the nation are playing games through March 25 at the 27th annual Lee County Parks & Recreation **Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic**.

Men's and women's NCAA Division III baseball and softball teams, as well as NAIA softball teams, are competing in spring break tournaments before their respective seasons begin. More than 150 teams primarily from the midwest and northeast are competing, including the women's softball team at Florida SouthWestern State College.

An estimated 500 games will be played at **CenturyLink Sports Complex, Lee County Player Development Complex, North Collier Regional Park** and **Terry Park Sports Complex**. Admission to the games is free for spectators.

For the complete game schedule or more information, visit www.LeeGov.com/parks/athletics/cusic.

For more information on Lee Parks, call 533-5273 or visit www.leegov.com/sports.

The River District Alliance will host the monthly art event called **Art Walk** in **downtown Fort Myers** this Friday, March 3 from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The

free, self-guided evening tour of visual arts gallery openings takes place each first Friday of each month on a rain or shine basis.

Fourteen galleries invite visitors and residents to meet the artists and enjoy live art demonstrations and live entertainment throughout the river district. There will be an opening reception at Arts for ACT Gallery, located at 2265 First Street, featuring exhibit artists Martha Dodd, Cynthia Egan and ACT co-op artists.

For more information, visit www.fortmyersriverdistrictalliance.com.

Edison & Ford Winter Estates will host its annual **Ford Mustang car show** this Saturday, March 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Owners of Ford Mustangs will be exhibiting their cars on the property along the Caloosahatchee.

The tribute to Henry Ford, the pioneer of the automobile industry, will also include music and food for purchase. Visitors can see the historic homes and tour the beautiful gardens museum and laboratory.

This family event is free for Edison Ford members and \$20 for nonmembers (includes general admission). A portion of the proceeds will benefit the restoration of the antique car collection at Edison Ford.

For more information, call 334-7419 or visit www.EdisonFordWinterEstates.org.

Professional and amateur golfers alike will compete in the **Yuengling Open** at the **Fort Myers Country Club** this Saturday and Sunday, March



Lineup of Mustangs at the Edison Ford

4 and 5. The Yuengling Open is the longest running golf event in the region. This will be the 55th year for the tournament, formerly known as the Coors Light Open.

The Fort Myers Country Club is located at 3591 McGregor Boulevard. Pairings and tee times for the Yuengling Open will be available online at www.cityftmyers.com/234/Yuengling-Open.

For more information, contact Rich Lamb at 321-7488

The 2017 **Cape Coral Irish American Club Festival** will be held at **Sun Splash Family Park**, located at 400 Santa Barbara Boulevard this weekend. The action is from noon to 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 4 and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 5.

Celtic entertainment includes The Screaming Orphans, West of Galway, Rathkeltair, Brendan Nolan, Celtic Stew, Kellyn Celtic Arts, Irish Dance Academy of Sarasota, Ian Gold, Fiona Molloy and Lee County Pipes and Drums.

A raffle drawing gives participants a chance to win a fully paid trip to Ireland.

For more information, visit www.capecoralirishamericanclub.org.

Take a step back in time at the **Night at the Museum Gala 2017** this Saturday, March 4 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the **Imaginarium Science Center and Southwest Florida Museum of History** – under the same roof at 2000 Cranford Avenue in Fort Myers.

Enjoy endless hors d'oeuvres, an open bar, historic re-enactments and amazing auction items. Along the way, discover extinct animals and figures of Florida history come to life. Proceeds

photo courtesy Edison & Ford Winter Estates

will raise funds as the new combined museum rolls out a comprehensive plan to bring new exhibits, expanded programming and much more excitement to benefit the Southwest Florida community and visitors of all ages. All money raised at the event benefits The Imaginarium Group, a 501(c)3 organization that supports the Imaginarium and the Southwest Florida Museum of History in raising exhibit and education program funds.

For additional information, visit www.i-sci.org.

Special Equestrians is bringing together the area's most successful restaurateurs for **Taste of Love**, the annual food and wine extravaganza to be held this Sunday, March 5 from 5 to 9 p.m. at **The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon**, located at 2158 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

The popular event's theme is Meet Us At The Ranch and will feature dishes from the area's most successful culinarians, wine pairings, live and silent auctions and entertainment. Local celebrity auctioneer Jay Severson and emcee Gina Birch will oversee the evening's events. More than 400 guests attended the event in 2016, raising \$160,000 for the therapeutic horseback riding program.

All proceeds from Taste of Love will benefit Special Equestrians, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children and adults with disabilities by providing a structured therapeutic horseback riding program and equine assisted activities. The Special Equestrians therapeutic riding program has been awarded Premier Accredited Center status by the Professional

continued on page 11

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Daedalus Quartet

photo courtesy Sanibel Music Festival

Acclaimed String Quartet To Perform March 11

The Daedalus Quartet, a leader among the new generation of string ensembles, will perform at the Sanibel Music Festival on Saturday, March 11 at the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way, beginning at 8 p.m.

Winners of the top prize in the Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2001, the Daedalus members hold degrees from the Juilliard School, Curtis Institute, Cleveland Institute and Harvard University. They have performed in many leading musical venues, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Boston's Gardner Museum and all of the major Canadian venues. Abroad, they have been

heard in famed locations such as the Musikverein in Vienna, the Mozarteum in Salzburg, and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. They have impressed critics and listeners alike with the security, interpretive ability and sheer gusto of their performance.

Sponsored by Bunny and Joel Ospa and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, their program will include:

- Beethoven's *String Quartet in F major, Op. 18, No. 1*
- Janáček's *String Quartet No. 1, After Tolstoy's The Kreutzer Sonata*
- Brahms' *String Quartet No. 3 in B-flat major, Op. 67*

Tickets may be purchased for \$45 each online at www.sanibelmusicfestival.org or by calling 344-7025. Tickets may also be purchased by cash or check only at the Bank of the Islands, 1699 Periwinkle Way, and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, 2477 Library Way on Sanibel.*

From page 10

Along The River

Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship. Serving Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties, Special Equestrians is a United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee counties partner agency that has been serving Southwest Florida for more than 29 years.

Tickets are \$100 per person and may be purchased online at www.specialequestrians.net or by calling 851-7070 or emailing jtfifer@gmail.com

The 14th annual **Young Artists Awards Gala** will be held this Monday, March 6 at the **Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre**. For \$55, a ticket includes a silent auction beginning at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. and the show starting at 7 p.m. In addition to the performances judged by professionals in attendance that evening, the program will feature the Audience Choice award, where ticketholders are invited to vote on their

favorite performer. Thirty-five cash scholarships and other prizes will be awarded to the students this year. There will also be a special appearance by the Cypress Lake Center for the Arts award-winning The A Cappella Group. The stage host for the evening is Lois Thome of WINK-TV.

On four separate audition days during two weekends in January, seven panels of 60 professionals and educators in the performing arts adjudicated registered auditions in dance, drama, instrumental music, classical voice and contemporary voice/musical theater. The best of performing arts students ages 8 to 21 from throughout Southwest Florida participated in the largest independent performing arts competition in Lee County, held on the campus of the Alliance for the Arts/Foulds Theatre in Fort Myers.

Tickets can be obtained at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre box office in person, by calling 278-4422 or by visiting www.broadwaypalm.com.*

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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. RRev. Dr. Jean M. Simpson and Rev. Ellen Palmer Marsey. 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.lambogodchurch.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

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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

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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.speterfmb.com.

Sunday worship service at 8:30 and 10:30 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.

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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. Eductional Hour. www.zionfm.org✠



David AR White photos provided

Reception Planned For Producer-Actor

A special VIP reception is planned for David AR White, the producer and actor in *God's Not Dead*. White will be the guest speaker at Lifeline Family Center's 21st annual benefit dinner on Thursday, March 30.

About 600 community leaders are expected to attend the event at McGregor Baptist Church, 3750 Colonial Boulevard, in Fort Myers. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets to the VIP reception with White are available from \$1,000 for four people and include dinner. Tickets without the VIP reception are \$70 each or \$400 for a table of eight.

Tickets may be purchased at www.lifelinefamilycenter.org/benefit-dinner or by calling 242-7238.

Reports say *God's Not Dead* is the most successful independent faith-based film of all time, making White's studio, Pure Flix, the most successful Christian film production company in the industry.

"We are very pleased that David AR White will be coming to Southwest Florida to share his story and help all of us to have the courage to dream big. He is one of the most prolific filmmakers in the faith-based arena today," said Lifeline Family Center President and Founder Kathy Miller. "His message is sure to resonate with all believers."

Lifeline Family Center provides a home in Cape Coral for homeless young women in crisis pregnancies to help them become self-supporting through education, job training, parenting classes, professional counseling and spiritual guidance. It is the only residential program in Lee County for homeless young women in crisis pregnancies who are not part of the foster care program.

In the residential program, Lifeline Family Center serves up to 12 young women, ages 16 to 22, and up to 24 babies at a time. In the Outreach Ministry program, more than 6,000 women have received assistance with material needs, adoption counseling and resource referrals. The non-profit also operates a 24/7 Pregnancy Phone Helpline, provides free pregnancy tests, free ultrasounds by appointment and does outreach to all areas of Lee County, including all college campuses.

Several young women who have graduated from the two-year residential program also will speak about their experience at the benefit dinner and

how Lifeline Family Center made a difference in their lives.

White was raised in a small Mennonite farming town outside of Dodge City, Kansas and, at age 19, moved to Los Angeles to start his successful career as an actor, writer, director and producer.

After co-starring for three years in the TV show, *Evening Shade*, with Burt Reynolds and many other roles in television and film, he became a founding partner in Pure Flix. Some of his film credits, in addition to *God's Not Dead* and *God's Not Dead 2*, include *Revelation Road 1 & 2*, *The Black Rider, SIX... the Mark Unleashed*, *Hidden Secrets*, *Holyman Undercover*, *Jerusalem Countdown*, and *Dancer and the Dame*.

White also produced and starred in the original film, *Brother White*, that earned him a Cable FAX Program Award nomination for Best Actor. He is currently in production on a sitcom, *Hitting the Breaks*, which stars special guests such as Tim Tebow, Rob Schneider and Morgan Fairchild.

He also is working on his first book, *Between Heaven and Hollywood: Chasing Your God-Given Dreams*.

White lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Andrea, and their three children.✧

Church Speaker

Roxanne Wendling, administrator of Guardian Ad Litem Foundation, will speak at the Community Wednesday Dinner on Wednesday, March 8 at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 13411 Shire Lane, of Fort Myers. The speech, at 6:45 p.m. in Hobart Hall, is open to the public, and follows a \$5 buffet at 6 p.m. also open to the public.

Wendling's speech will include information about the foundation's programs on behalf of neglected children of Southwest Florida. She will be encouraging attendees to offer voices for those children.✧

Garage Sale

Gulf Coast Church of Christ's annual garage sale will take place on Saturday, March 4 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Come and stock your home with furniture, pictures, dishes, linens, clothes, jewelry and more. A concession stand will be open with beverages for purchase.

Gulf Coast Church of Christ is located at 9550 Ben C. Pratt/Six Mile Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers.

For more information call 936-4554 or email stevecald@juno.com.✧

Calusa Heritage Day

Calusa Heritage Day will be held on the Calusa Heritage Trail on the property of Randell Research Center on Saturday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Calusa Heritage Day is an outdoor archaeology and ecology history festival celebrating the Calusa legacy with speakers, replicators, guided walking and boat tours, exhibitors, children's activities and more. Food for sale. Free

water available throughout festival; bring a water bottle.

Cost is \$5 and free for members and children ages 11 and younger.

Visit www.flmnh.ufl.edu/calendar/grid/calusa-heritage-day/ or call Cindy Bear or Linda at 283-2157 for more information.

Calusa Heritage Trail is a 0.7 mile interpretive walkway that leads visitors through the mounds, canals and other features of the Pineland archaeological site. Randell Research Center is located at 13810 Waterfront Drive in Pineland. Use Bokeelia for GPS settings.✧

Car Show Benefit

Roadhouse Promotions presents a benefit event to raise funds for the United Cerebral Palsy Organization of Southwest Florida. The SWFL Nationals Car Show & Classic Car Auction will be held at the Lee Civic Center, 11821 Bayshore Road, in Fort Myers on March 18 to 19.

The car show will be held on Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be hundreds of original

and custom cars, an automotive swap meet, vendors, food court, music, 50/50 raffle and acres of fine classic cars. The classic car auction will be on Saturday and Sunday.

Parking is \$5 and admission is \$10 with active military and children age 12 and under admitted free. There will be something for the whole family to enjoy. Come out and help the United Cerebral Palsy Organization of Southwest Florida. For more information, visit www.roadhousepromotions.com or call Wayne Wilmoth at 272-1895.✧

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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.

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2163 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. Call 472-0606.



The Uvas and the staff at Terra Nostra welcome you

photo by Bob Petcher

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.; Saturday from noon to 9 p.m.; Sunday from 4 to 9 p.m.

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.

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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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February Tarpon, Really!!



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

The opening of snook season and the official start of spring, March 1, usually comes and goes without much excitement as water temperatures are generally still too cold to give anglers

much of a shot at catching that first keeper of season until at least a little bit closer to April. This year's winter has been so warm that catching a tarpon in February was not even out of the realm of possibilities. After what has been basically a winter heat wave with very few cold fronts, our water temperature seldom dropped below 70 degrees for more than a few days before quickly rebounding.

Yes, believe it or not, scattered reports of tarpon being caught have been coming in for the past few weeks in many of the early season deep channel "soak a cut bait" spots

throughout the sound. I was yet to see a tarpon with my own eyes until last Saturday while riding a deeper channel on the inside of Captiva while up on my tower. This 100-pound-plus fish was just laid up a foot or two below the surface in clear water as I rode by. All I could do was stare as I had no tackle close to big enough on board to even think about casting a bait to it. Tarpon arriving in mid-February is not unheard of, although it does not happen most years. If we continue with this same warm weather pattern, all of us tarpon anglers might get at least a few extra weeks or even months to enjoy this fishery.

Shiner fishing in mangrove creeks continues to go off with snook, redfish, trout and mangrove snapper often caught right in the same creek. Many of these narrow creek systems have strong currents that make for perfect ambush spots that a gamefish can sit in and pick off a bait as it comes flying by on the tide. The majority of the action in many of these creeks is undersized, hard-fighting, high-flying snook, but now and again a deeper bend or hole is loaded up with big redfish. This happened to me twice this week with one memorable stop producing four bruiser redfish ranging from 25 to 30 inches. Until you have hooked into a



Fritz Neubauer from Ohio with a oversized redfish caught and released while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week

big charging redfish in a really small narrow creek, it's hard to imagine how strong they are.

It really does seem a little strange to be writing about tarpon fishing the last week of February but, unlike people, fish don't have a calendar to look at to base their annual travel plans on. Life

as a fish is all about water temperature.

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 395-0113.

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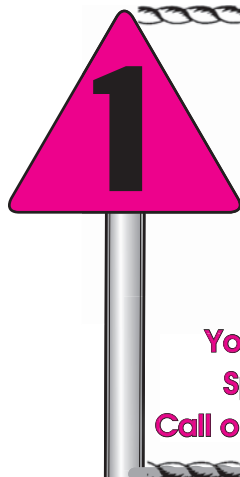
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Dave Doane

CROW Case Of The Week:

Baby Animals



by Bob Petcher

Baby animals can warm just about anyone's heart. The way they look up at you with their "puppy dog" eyes and their cute and wide-eyed glares. Unfortunately, their curiosity and naivety can also lead them into trouble and somewhat out of favor for a while. Patience and a good camera angle can help in these trying situations.

At CROW, animal babies are a very common sight in the clinic, especially in the springtime. They are regarded as one of the most common types of animals that the hospital takes in.

"We are starting to enter baby season now that spring is around the corner," said CROW DVM intern Dr. Spencer Kehoe. "We will be getting in several hundred baby animals, such as otters, squirrels, raccoons, birds – especially doves – just to name a few, over the next several months."

According to CROW officials, raptors (owls, hawks, eagles) nest from December through early spring. For songbirds, nesting season is generally in the spring months of March and April. Nesting season for mammals vary. Squirrels usually mate and raise offspring in late summer months, while

opossums do so in the early summer months. Due to the climate in the region, raccoons are more inclined to mate throughout the year.

Sometimes, people see animal babies on the ground and think they are injured or lost because their parents are not in plain sight or heard. These same people believe they are doing the right thing by picking up these small creatures and bringing them to CROW or other animal clinics.

In fact, several reports of perfectly healthy juvenile birds and animals have been brought to CROW because of a belief that the animal has been orphaned. CROW staff calls these creatures "abducted animals." In 2016, CROW received hundreds of baby animal abductions.

"Unfortunately, (baby animals are presented) to CROW because well-meaning people have accidentally abducted these animals, not understanding that they are in fact not orphaned," said Dr. Kehoe.

Dr. Heather Barron, CROW's hospital director, has begun a program entitled If You Care Leave It There in an effort to reduce the number of abducted animals entering the clinic. The program offers a brochure that allows one to be educated on the difference between orphaned and abducted and what one can do once faced in a possible "rescue" scenario.

Within the brochure, Dr. Barron offers information that everyone must adhere to:

*"If you happen to see a young, wild
continued on page 21*



Clockwise from top left, a baby northern raccoon, a baby eastern screech owl, a baby eastern grey squirrel and baby great horned owl

photos by Brian Bohman

Featured Lunch of the Week

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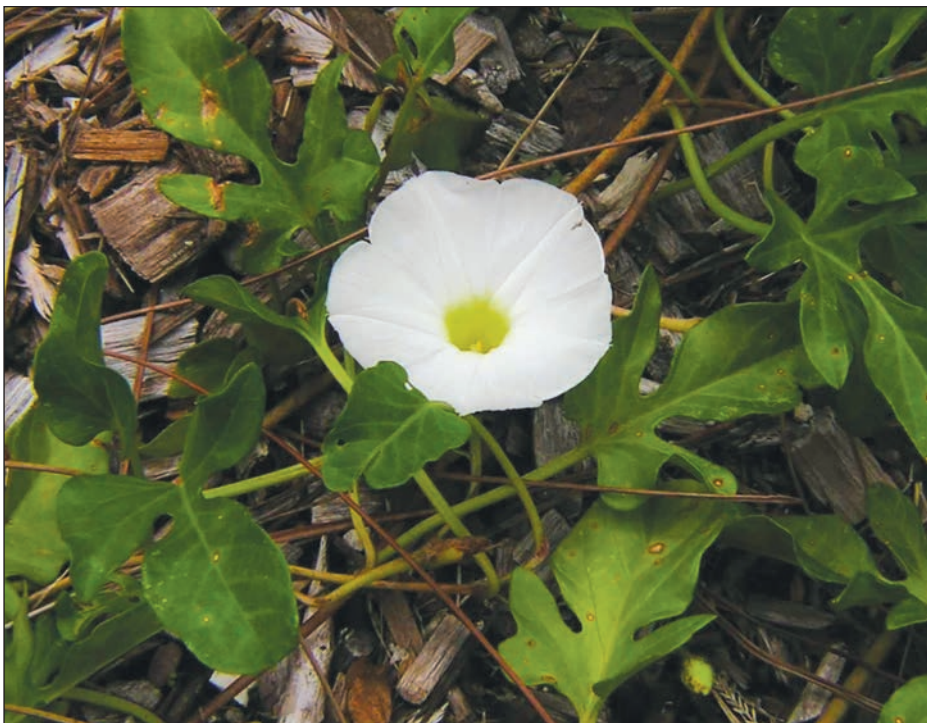
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Native beach morning-glory has showy tubular white flowers

photo by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart

Beach Morning-Glory

by Gerri Reaves

Native beach morning-glory (*Ipomoea imperati*) is an excellent soil binder and therefore valuable in restoring and protecting

sand dunes.

Its native habitat is coastal dunes above the high-water line. Hardy, resilient and fast-growing, it spreads along the bare sand, forming dense mats.

This non-climbing perennial vine stabilizes the soil by rooting at the nodes and sending down taproots.

The reddish-brown unbranched stems usually reach only a few feet, but

can reach up to 90.

But this plant also has characteristics beyond the practical. Like many other members of the morning-glory family, it has pretty funnel-shaped, or tubular, flowers.

Those showy flowers measure about two inches across and have five sepals, stamens, and united petals with wavy edges that are barely lobed.

Solitary and white with yellow centers, or throats, they bloom in the leaf axils, peaking in late summer into fall.

The alternate notched leaves are fleshy with a leathery texture. They vary in shape and have three to seven lobes. Sometimes they are fiddle-shaped, inspiring another common name, fiddle-leaf morning glory.

Give this vine full sun and moist well-drained sandy soil. It will grow even in nutrient-poor soil and might be the answer for a sandy area where other things won't grow well.

It makes an excellent groundcover in a coastal landscape and grows to about six inches high.

Because it's highly drought tolerant, it will not need irrigation once established.

Propagate it with the four hairy seeds in the small brown fruit capsule or with rhizome cuttings.

Sources: *Florida Wildflowers*

and *Their Natural Communities* by Walter Kingsley Taylor, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, enature.com, gcrl.usm.edu, regionalconservation.org and wildflower.org.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱

Bunche Beach Bird Nature Walk

Experience the birds of Bunche Beach with a bird patrol guide on Saturday, March 11 at 8 a.m.

Meet on the beachfront located in South Fort Myers off Summerlin Road on the south end John Morris Road.

Migrant and resident waders and shorebirds tend to work the mudflats at low tide due to the diversity of micro-invertebrates at Bunche Beach.

Bring binoculars, sun protection, shoes that can get wet, a bottle of drinking water, your curiosity and love of nature.

For more information, call 707-3015 or visit www.birdpatrol.org. The event is free with a parking fee of \$2 per hour. Tour is approximately two hours. Provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation.✱

Chart Reading Course

The San Carlos Bay Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, will be conducting its popular Local Waters Chart Reading class on Saturday, March 18 from 8 a.m. to noon. The class will be held at the squadron classroom at 16048 San Carlos Boulevard, close to the Kelly Road intersection, in Fort Myers. The class will teach students how to read local waters chart 11427. Students will learn

the basics of latitude and longitude, how to find where they are and how to get to where they want to go and how to take bearings.

While we have a very limited number of charts in the classroom, students are strongly urged to bring chart 11427 to class. Charts are best purchased online from Ocean Grafix. Be sure to order the MAPFOLD version. The cost of the class is \$45 for one person and \$65 for two people sharing the materials. The cost includes a divider and a plotter. Students can register at www.SCBPS.com or call 466-4040 and leave a message.✱

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Yacht Club Valentine's Luncheon



Yacht club members at a recent Valentine's Day luncheon photo courtesy FMB Yacht Club

On February 14, the Fort Myers Beach Yacht Club held their annual Valentine's Day luncheon at the Bayfront Bistro at Snook Bight Marina. More than 50 members and guests enjoyed several hours of camaraderie, good food and a beautiful day. Couples competed in a blindfolded navigation challenge culminating in a piñata breaking, and everyone was a winner. The Latin foods buffet prepared by Chef Eduardo of the Bayfront Bistro was enjoyed by all. The luncheon was coordinated by club members Margret Schmidt and Art Holzer.

The Fort Myers Beach Yacht Club was formed in 1953 and incorporated as a not-for-profit organization for the purpose of promoting safe, enjoyable boating and good fellowship. Meetings are held once a month – normally at the American Legion Post on San Carlos Island. Prospective new members wishing additional membership information should contact Membership Chair Pete Oiderma at 463-6240 or Commodore Rosemary Davison at 463-332 or visit www.FMBYachtClub.org.



Male painted bunting

photo by Bob Mislán

Where Painted Buntings Spend The Winter

Bird watchers in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina are being asked to help scientists learn where the eastern populations of painted buntings spend the winter. Anyone who sees these birds is asked to report their observations through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Project FeederWatch, a winter-long survey of bird species. The Cornell Lab and the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center have joined forces to gather much-needed wintering information.

"Using observations of painted buntings that FeederWatch participants have submitted since 2011, we have been able to get a sense of where southeastern populations are likely to winter in the United States," said FeederWatch leader Emma Greig. "We don't know the relative importance of these sites because of

large gaps in information. FeederWatch participants can contribute significantly to the conservation of this beautiful bird."

Splashed with red, blue, green and yellow, the male painted bunting is one of the most colorful songbirds in North America. Loss of habitat from development, along with climate change, sea level rise and the illegal bird trade have combined to caused the eastern population of painted buntings to plummet.

"Recent results from the North American Breeding Bird Survey have shown that populations of eastern painted buntings that breed farther south have declined much faster than northern populations," said Cornell Lab researcher Viviana Ruiz, who is co-leading the effort to collect information about the species. "Knowing where painted buntings spend the winter is critical if we are to develop effective strategies to help conserve this iconic species year-round."

Those not already a part of the project can still join for the current season, which runs through early April. In fact, by joining

continued on page 31

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From left, Bill Dillon, Gus Simmons, Tina Dicharia, Brian Cheffer and Jack Morgan
photos courtesy Sanibel Captiva Community Bank



From left, Brian Murty, Tim Murty, Patty Murty and Craig Albert



From left, Craig Clouse, Steve Bowen and Jerry McHale

Bank Branch Opening

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank celebrated the opening of their newest branch located in Downtown Fort Myers during a reception at The Bacchus Room at Prime de Leon.

The bank's sixth branch is located in the Edison Theatre building at 1533 Hendry Street. Customers can transact banking business and take advantage of hands-on, individual service Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and until 5 p.m. on Fridays.

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank's professionals provide customized individual and business banking services and specialize in residential loans. The bank provides free personal and business checking, top-yielding money market accounts, safe deposit boxes, electronic statements and a mobile banking app. To learn more, visit www.sancapbank.com.



Todd Guttery and Paul Giordano



From left, David Wright, Jack Morgan, Beth Countryman and Sawyer Smith



From left, Veronica Larriva, Bill Dillon, Jared Duke and Jack Morgan



From left, David Hall, Joe Coleman and David Isley



From left, Jaci Fitch, Veronica LeBlanc, Jennifer Briggs and Jake Stoutenburgh

Museum Re-Envisioned As Director Returns

After earning his history degree at FGCU, Matt Johnson was hired as educator-historian at the Southwest Florida Museum of History in 2001. With his return to that cherished Fort Myers institution, Johnson's career path now comes full-circle, yet signals an exciting new beginning.

After many years of planning, the Museum of History is finally located under the same roof as the Imaginarium Science Center. As executive director of the newly merged museum, Johnson will work with its board to envision a future for history and science that puts them on equal footing to tell the story of Southwest Florida.

Attendees at the Night at the Museum gala fundraiser on the grounds of the combined Imaginarium and SWFL Museum of History from 7 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, March 4 will enjoy the big reveal of a refreshed brand, conceptual plans



Matt Johnson

photo provided

for expansion and the strategic vision for the combined museum. In the meantime, staff, board members and volunteers are busily ushering in a transformation under the famous blue water tower on Cranford Avenue, which represents a homecoming

of its own for Johnson.

A year after his former history professor tapped him for the educator-historian position at the Museum of History, she left as its director, leaving Johnson in charge. Later, the Imaginarium had a similar vacancy, which he took on concurrently. He got pulled away to oversee Harborside Event Center as its interim manager in 2013 and was again the go-to to serve as interim assistant city manager in 2015 and interim community development director in 2016, which he did until the end of this January.

When it came time to bring science and history together, Johnson was the natural choice to execute on that objective.

"There was nothing natural about the separation," Johnson said. "History and science are lenses through which we view and understand our world. They are trying to tell the same story – about how the world works, where and why cultures are established, and how we can use that understanding to create positive change."

Visit www.i-sci.org for tickets to A Night at the Museum. Extinct animals and colorful figures of Florida's storied past will come to life and "Night Watchman" Ted Fitzgeorge will serve as tour guide. Enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, auctions and the excitement of a whole new museum experience for all ages. All proceeds will support the new museum.✱

From page 17

CROW Case

animal, please leave it alone unless there appears to be something wrong – a clear injury or a fallen nest.

"If the nest has fallen out of a tree but the young inside the nest appear healthy, please replace the nest in the tree as high up as you can reach. If this is not possible, consider placing the nest in nearby bushes or even nailing it to the side of the tree in an area where the young will have some shade and shelter from the elements. If the nest itself is missing or damaged, an artificial nest may be created."

The brochure also educates on nestlings, fledglings, bunnies, raccoon

kits, bobcat kittens and otter pups. You can pick up a hard copy at CROW's visitor education center at 3883 Sanibel Captiva Road or visit <http://crowclinic.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/If-You-Care.pdf> to view it online.

"Although we are a state-of-the-art wildlife hospital and can treat some pretty amazing animal injuries and illnesses with advanced medicine, no one raises healthy babies better than their parents," added Dr. Kehoe.

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

Business Hall Of Fame Tickets

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are now available for Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida's 2017 Business Hall of Fame, Lee County, which will take place on Tuesday, May 2 with a cocktail reception at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs. During the dinner and awards ceremony, Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida will induct Teri Hansen, APR, owner and president of Priority Marketing, and Sandy Stilwell, CEO and owner of Stilwell Enterprises & Restaurant Group into the 2017 Business Hall of Fame, Lee County. To learn more about the upcoming event, or for information on sponsorship opportunities and individual tickets, visit www.JASWFL.org or call 225-2590.

The prestigious award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who serve as role models for youth through their professional accomplishments and commitment to the community. Hansen and Stilwell will join a distinguished group

of individuals who have been inducted into the Business Hall of Fame since it was founded in 1999.

Business sponsorships are available and include entrance to the event with premium diamond sponsorships at \$10,000, platinum level sponsorships for \$8,000 and gold level sponsorships for \$5,500. These levels include eight seats, with an additional two seats reserved for students. Additional sponsorships available are silver sponsor level for \$2,000, which includes eight seats with two additional seats for students, and bronze sponsor level for \$1,000, which includes four seats at a reserved table. Individual seats are also available for \$250 each.

Sponsors also are needed to support student admission, which is \$125 per ticket. Junior Achievement students attending the event will have an opportunity to practice their etiquette skills while interacting with local professionals. Additionally, full-page and half-page advertisements are available in the event program book for \$1,000 and \$500 respectively. To reserve tables, individual tickets or to become a sponsor, call the Junior Achievement office at 225-2590 or visit www.JASWFL.org. Proceeds benefit local Junior Achievement programs.✱

From page 1

Historic Ships

Columbus replica ever built." In 2005, the *Pinta*, also a caravel, was launched in Brazil and was the first ship to site land in the New World. Historians consider the caravel the Space Shuttle of the 15th century.

Both ships tour together as a new and enhanced "sailing museum" for the purpose of educating the public and school children on the "caravel," a Portuguese ship used by Columbus and many early explorers to discover the world. Before him, the Old World and the New World remained separate and distinct continents and, ever since, their fates have been bound together for better or for worse.

While in port, the public is invited to visit the ships for a walk-aboard, self-guided tour. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors, and \$6 for students age 5 to 16. Children age 4 and younger are free. The ships are open every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. No reservations are necessary.

Teachers or organizations wishing to schedule a 30-minute guided tour with a crew member should call 787-672-2152 or email columfnd1492@gmail.com. Minimum of 15 people; \$5 per person. No maximum limit. Visit www.ninapinta.org for more information.

Guests can follow the ships socially as well through their Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages leading up to and following their visit to the Marina at Edison Ford.✱



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Media Frenzy Greet Tim Tebow At New York Mets Minor League Camp



by Ed Frank

There are hundreds of minor league baseball players reporting to Spring Training camps in Florida and Arizona, but not a single one has received the media frenzy as former University of Florida Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow. At 29 years old, Tebow is attempting the highly unlikely transition from football stardom to baseball – a sport he last competed in 12 years ago as a high school junior. Tebow signed a Minor League contract with the New York Mets last September and reported to the team’s Spring Training headquarters this week at Port St. Lucie, Florida.

He was greeted by a large crowd of reporters, photographers and baseball fans where he held a press conference.

“I’m not going to worry about what everyone’s writing or what everybody’s thinking. I just want to be able to continue the process, enjoy the process, enjoy every day and get to know my teammates,” he said before taking batting practice.

Tebow’s long-shot attempt at professional baseball stirs memories of basketball legend Michael Jordan’s aspirations in 1994 when he left the Chicago Bulls for a season with AA Birmingham where he batted .202 in 127 games before returning to the Bulls.

Tebow, however, is adamant about a baseball career despite being a decade older than many top-level baseball prospects. He participated in the instructional league in Port St. Lucie and played in the Arizona Fall League, batting .194 in 70 plate appearances.

“I knew (baseball) was a big challenge – imagine picking up the sport after 12 years of not playing...it’s not an easy thing to do. Hitting a baseball is one of the hardest things in sports,” Tebow said.

Tebow’s name is legendary at the University of Florida where he led the team to national championships in 2006 and 2008. He went on to play in the NFL for the Denver Broncos and the New York Jets.

Just as Jordan drew record Minor League crowds during his one year in baseball, Tebow also is certain to be a star attraction during Spring Training.

His jerseys already were seen around the Mets training camp. And his autograph was sought by throngs of baseball fans.

Tebow contends he is serious about a baseball career and that it is not a publicity stunt.

Less than 10 percent of Minor League baseball prospects ever make it to the Major

Leagues. The odds are that Tebow will be among the 90 percent who don’t make it.

Everblades Continue To Dominate ECHL

The Florida Everblades hockey team continues to dominate the ECHL, holding commanding first-place leads in both the Eastern Conference and the South Division.

The local hockey team began the week with a season record of 36-12-2-3, a 10-point division lead and a seven-point conference first-place standing.

The Everblades are home this weekend at Germain Arena, hosting Atlanta at 7:30 p.m. tonight, Friday, and 7 p.m. Saturday.*

Spring Training Home Schedules

Boston Red Sox – JetBlue Park

March 2 –Tampa Bay; 1:05 p.m.

March 5 – Atlanta; 1:05 p.m.

March 9 – Team USA, Baseball Classic; 1:05 p.m.

Minnesota Twins – CenturyLink Sports Complex

March 4 – Toronto; 1:05 p.m.

March 6 – St. Louis; 1:05 p.m.

March 8 – Team USA, Baseball Classic; 7:05 p.m.

March 9 – Columbia, World Baseball Classic; 1:05 p.m.*

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 2015, the New York Mets’ Michael Conforto became the third-youngest player (22) in World Series history to have a multiple-homer game. Who was younger?
2. Who was the last Chicago White Sox pitcher to win 20 games in a season?
3. In 2016, TCU tied a record for biggest comeback in a bowl game (31 points). Who else did it?
4. The Los Angeles Lakers (33 games) and Golden State Warriors (28) have the two longest winning streaks in NBA history. Which team is third?
5. Name the last NHL defenseman before Ottawa’s Erik Karlsson in 2015-16 to have an 80-point season?
6. Toronto FC’s Sebastian Giovinco, in 2016, recorded the fourth hat trick in Major League Soccer playoff history. Name two of the first three to do it.
7. Whom did Evander Holyfield beat to win the undisputed heavyweight boxing crown for the first time?

ANSWERS

1. Andruw Jones was 19 when he did it for Atlanta in 1996, while Tony Kubek was 21 when he did it for the New York Yankees in 1957. 2. Esteban Loaiza won 21 games in 2003. 3. Texas Tech. in 2006 versus Minnesota. 4. The Miami Heat won 27 games in a row in 2013. 5. Nicklas Lidstrom had 80 points for Detroit in 2005-06. 6. Raul Diaz Alce (1996), Stern John (1999) and Landon Donovan (2014). 7. James “Buster” Douglas, in 1990.



Sailboats in the 2016 charity regatta racing to windward mark

photo provided

Charity Regatta Sails Mid-March

Cruising and racing sailboats in all classes will reach for the wind at the 41st annual Gulf Coast Sailing Club (GCSC) Charity Regatta for Southwest Florida on Saturday, March 18 and Sunday, March 19. Much of the race will be viewable between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. from the Naples Pier and surrounding beach area. The community is invited

to enjoy the charity regatta from land as sailors raise funds to benefit children in the community who are affected by the loss of loved ones through the Avow Children’s Bereavement Program as well as special needs and underprivileged youth and others who may find joy in sailing through Freedom Waters Foundation, Naples Community Sailing Center and Marco Island Community Sailing Center.

America’s Cup 35 Host Tucker Thompson, a veteran sailing commentator, will make a presentation at the regatta dinner at Naples Sailing and

Yacht Club on March 19. The former champion racer who sailed on America’s True during the 2000 America’s Cup in New Zealand and has covered the America’s Cup on TV since the 2007 Cup in Valencia, Spain said, “I will bring southwest Florida the thrill of this global sailing competition while supporting the charity work of a great local sailing club.” Thompson noted that Oracle Team USA has their work cut out for them to defend the 35th Americas Cup in Bermuda.

The presentation by Thompson at the 2017 regatta offers an exciting way to experience firsthand the America’s Cup in an evening of entertainment for all regatta participants, volunteers, sponsors and those interested in attending and contributing to the charity programs that are beneficiaries of the charity regatta proceeds. Thompson will present an exciting multimedia show with the latest results of the Louis Vuitton America’s Cup World Series and an insider look of what to expect for AC35 in Bermuda in May and June 2017. The Bermuda Tourism Authority and Bremont Watches provide support for Tucker Thompson in his role as a public host of AC35.

“This is our invitation to the community to join with our sailors and come out to see the races on the beach and pier in Naples,” stated Craig Spicer, GCSC regatta chairman. “Spinnakers will be flying, and racers will be

maneuvering around the marks placed nearby the pier.”

GCSC proudly announced the top sponsors of the 2017 charity regatta with key sponsor Family Wealth Planning Group of Raymond James at platinum level; and Naples Hansen Team Realtors, Mark Muller, Bob and Lorelei Diamond and Finemark National Bank at silver level.

GCSC commodore Paul Carlson added, “Sailing is fun, and also contributes so much to the beauty of our Neapolitan community. Gulf Coast Sailing Club is also the heart of sailing in Southwest Florida, and we believe in giving back to the community and sharing the joy of sailing with those who may not be able to participate without some extra help.” Carlson added, “We are calling upon our community to make the event even more exciting by cheering on the beautiful sailboats racing for a cause and a better community in Naples.”

Boat registration for the 2017 Gulf Coast Sailing Club Charity Regatta starts at \$125. Sponsorships are available starting at a \$100 booster.

For Regatta boat registration, dinner or sponsorship information, visit www.gulfcoastsailingclub.org. Direct donations to the Avow Children’s Bereavement Program are convenient to arrange at www.avowcares.org/gcscregatta.*

Record Year For Sports Tourism

Lee County hosted a record number of 139 amateur sporting events in 2016, generating its highest year on record in terms of economic impact. According to figures released from Lee County Sports Development, the year generated \$67.1 million in direct visitor spending, a 9 percent increase from the previous year.

Hosting 24 additional events in 2016, the year brought 147,463 sports visitors to Lee County, resulting in 157,079 hotel room nights sold. The figures were announced at a recent meeting of the Lee County Tourist Development Council.

"Lee County continues to serve as a leading destination within the sports tourism industry, bringing a variety of amateur sporting events to the members of our community and greatly impacting our local economy," said Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass, who serves as the Lee Board of County Commissioners' liaison to the Tourist Development Council and chairs the TDC.

"The past year had the highest direct impact numbers in history, surpassing the record-breaking impact numbers of 2014," said Jeff Mielke, executive director of Lee County Sports Development. "Strategic partnerships and the increase in events hosted in our region were key to creating a successful year for Lee County, also generating the second-highest numbers in hotel room nights and event attendance in our history."

Among the highlights from 2016:

- July was the highest hitting month of the year in regards to hotel room nights, event attendance and direct economic impact. Amateur baseball was a home run for Lee County, with Perfect Game events serving as 12 of the 15 events hosted in the month of July. Additional events included the East Coast Finals for the North American Roller Hockey Championships (NARCh) and the USA Netball 2016 National Championship event, the first Netball event hosted in Lee County. The month resulted in 37,590 hotel room nights, a combined total of

28,931 participants and spectators and \$17.3 million in direct economic impact.

- October 2016 brought in an all-time high in this month's history with 16,657 hotel room nights. October included Lee County Sports Development's announcement of a new global softball development initiative between USA Softball, World Baseball and Softball Confederation (WBSC) and European Softball Federation (ESF) to bring European players and coaches to the U.S. during the off-season for training.

- November was the second-best month of the year with 26,455 hotel room nights and \$12.3 million in direct impact. Events included Roy Hobbs World Series, Senior Softball-USA's Winter National Championships, United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) National Convention and the return of Florida Half Century Softball.

- December highlights include Lee County serving as the host of the annual U.S. Sports Congress, which attracted top-level decision makers from the world of amateur sports to the region. The event featured about 40 senior-level executives of sport governing bodies that represent tens of thousands of amateur athletes who participate in their programs.

Lee County hosted 115 amateur sporting events in 2015, bringing 148,073 sports visitors, 152,400 hotel room nights sold and \$61.5 million in direct visitor spending to Lee County.

For more information, call 533-5273 or visit www.leegov.com/sports.✱

Club Breakfast

Bayside Estates Men's club will host its final monthly Pancake Breakfast of the season in the recreation hall on Sunday, March 12 from 8 to 11 a.m.,

Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausages, coffee and orange juice for the cost of \$5. For only \$1 more, get a made-to-order omelet. All are invited to attend.

Bayside Estates is located at 17601 San Carlos Boulevard at the corner of Pine Ridge Road. Signs are at both street entrances.✱

From page 1

Film Festival

filmmaker's event to create, unite and showcase the finest artistic cinematic works.

The Black Tie Red Carpet Gala at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall kicks off the festival on March 8. The gala will begin with the rolling out of the red carpet, paparazzi, and doors opening at 5 p.m. for drinks, mingling and musical entertainment with local and international filmmakers prior to the featured movie. Food will be provided by La Trattoria Cafe Napole, Crave Culinare, White Pear Catering and others.

Black Tide is the opening night film. It is a documentary film by Steven Johnson that explores the challenges those who look to maintain clean

Southwest Florida waters contend with from water mismanagement, to the influence of big business and politics. Tickets for the film are \$19. VIP tickets that include a pre- and post-party with food and drinks are \$99.

Between March 9 and 12, tickets are \$10 per film. For \$199, you can get a VIP All Access Pass.

On March 12, there will be a Champagne & Dessert Awards Gala at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. Join the local and international filmmakers as they celebrate the winners of the Fort Myers Film Festival. Champagne and dessert will be served, short award winning films will be played and toasts will be pronounced. Tickets are \$15.

Visit www.sbdac.com or www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com for information and tickets.✱

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Financial Focus

Women Must Act To Overcome Financial Challenges



by Jennifer Basey

International Women's Day, observed on March 8, celebrates the social, cultural and political achievements of women. Yet, women continue to face many challenges.

For one thing, women still encounter gender-specific obstacles to their important financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement. If you're a woman, what can you do to get past these barriers?

First of all, you need to recognize them. Here are a few to consider:

- Longer life spans – A 65-year-old woman is expected to live, on average, another 20.5 years, compared to 17.9 years for a 65-year-old man, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. That's another 2.5 years of life, and 2.5 years more of expenses.
- Lower incomes – Women working full time in the United States typically are paid 80 percent of what men earn, according to Census Bureau data.
- More time away from the workforce – Men work an average of 38 years, compared to just 29 for women, according to the Pew Research Center and the Social Security Administration. The gap is largely due to women taking time off to care for young children and elderly parents. Women who work substantially fewer years than men will miss out on hundreds of thousands of dollars in earnings and many years of contributions to 401(k)s or other retirement plans.

These statistics certainly are sobering, but they don't mean you are powerless to improve your financial security. In fact, you can do quite a lot, including the following:

- Boost your retirement plan contributions – Put in as much as you can afford to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored plan, and increase your contributions whenever you get a raise. And even if you have a 401(k), you may still be eligible to contribute to an IRA.
- Invest for growth – Some studies have shown that women may invest less aggressively than men. If you invest mostly in conservative vehicles, you may run the risk of falling short of your financial goals. To achieve these goals, you'll need a reasonable amount of growth potential in your portfolio.
- Extend your working life – If you like your job, you may want to consider sticking with it a couple of years past when you initially thought you'd retire. You'll be able to add to your retirement accounts, and the extra years of work may help you increase your Social Security benefits. These payments are based on an average of your highest 35 years of earnings, so if you have a zero in some of these years, it will pull the average down. Consequently, your extra years of work may help erase those zeros. But even if you have a long, unbroken work record, your extended career can help you in regard to Social Security, because the extra money may mean you can afford to delay collecting benefits – and the longer you wait past 62, the bigger your checks will be – at least until you turn 70, when they "max out."

You'll help yourself by becoming familiar with the special issues women face in meeting their long-term goals. As you know, women have met challenges successfully for a long time. After all, Ginger Rogers did everything Fred Astaire did... except backwards... and in heels.

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.✴



Calendar Girls at the Gatlin show

photo courtesy Calendar Girls

Calendar Girls

The Calendar Girls brought their wild west show for the crowd at Cape Cabaret during the Gatlin show on

Friday, February 17. For more information, visit www.calendargirlsflorida.com. Calendar Girls Florida have been sponsoring guide dogs for veterans since 2006.✴

From page 1

Theater Conspiracy

heroine and extremely difficult to work with. Arriving late for the session, she acts as if she owns the place. She lashes out mostly at her youngest band member, a trumpet player named Levee (Roosevelt Stewart). He has written a new jazzy arrangement of the song but Ma refuses to sing it.

Levee is a damaged character mostly due to a tragic memory he has with the white world. His bandmates tease him for blowing a week's salary on a new pair of shoes. Those shoes are important to Levee. He brings the audience to a deathly silence when giving a bitter speech shouting, "Where the hell was God when all this was going on?" His band members are Cutler (Curt Sheard) on trombone, who likes to play the songs the way they have always been played. Toledo (Elvis Mortley) on piano is a wise old codger with lots of opinions. I loved his line, "I've been a fool, but I've never been the same fool twice." On bass is Slow Drag (Cicero McCarter III), who keeps a bottle handy in a plain paper bag.

Irvin (Charlie Sloin) is Ma's manager. He works with Mel Sturdyvant (Patrick Day), the record producer. Ma deals them fits, refusing to sing until she has her supply of Coca-Cola and until her nephew Sylvester (Vladimyr Bellefleur),

a chronic stutterer, is allowed to record the introduction on her recording. This situation, and the many times the band members reminisce about their old gigs on the road, add a great deal of humor to this serious play.

Ma Rainey recorded a number of songs on the Paramount label, including the number that gives Wilson's work its title. The play's themes are power, ambition and self-delusion. There are some wonderful songs scattered throughout, but this is not a musical. It's about music and the black American experience. Though it's not in the play, I discovered that Ma was getting \$200 per record at a time when Al Jolson, performing in black face, earned \$10,000 for the same work. One can imagine how that fact haunted Ma and her band. Also important to the cast is Shaunte Manuel as Dussie Mae, Ma's lover, and Austin Hart as a policeman.

This extraordinary play makes us wonder where everyone was when all this was going on. Artistic director Bill Taylor told the audience prior to the show, that Theatre Conspiracy's new initiative is to include producing plays for minority artists and audiences. *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* achieves that goal. It's a play full of talented actors portraying a powerful message, and I highly recommend you see it. The show plays through March 11 at Theatre Conspiracy in the Foulds Theatre at Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For tickets, call 936-3239.✴



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Partnership To Build 40th Home

Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry counties and Chico's FAS, Inc. and its family of brands - Chico's, White House Black Market and Soma - will raise the walls on this year's sponsored home on March 8, International Women's Day, which celebrates the achievements of women nationwide.

Since 2001, Chico's FAS has partnered with Habitat and worked alongside families to build strength and stability through shelter. "As we continue to strengthen our community in Lee and Hendry counties, Habitat is fortunate to have Chico's FAS' commitment and focus on positively impacting our community," said Kitty Green, CEO and president of Habitat for Humanity.

"On International Women's Day, Chico's FAS is proud to build our 40th home through our longstanding partnership with Habitat for Humanity, supporting our company's commitment to the well-being of women and their families. Our associates rally around this cause and often make it a team building experience," says Jessica Wells, VP of Public Relations and Corporate Communications for Chico's FAS, Inc.

Chico's FAS' 40th Habitat home will provide a family of three a safe and

affordable three bedroom, two bath home. Offering a hand up, Habitat and Chico's FAS are making the dream of homeownership a reality for families in Lee and Hendry counties.✱

Bank Branch Opens Doors

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank has opened its seventh Southwest Florida branch. Located at the corner of Gateway Boulevard and Devonshire Lakes Drive, the Gateway branch will provide customers with hands-on, individual banking service Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and until 5 p.m. on Fridays.

"We are proud to be the only bank open and operating in Gateway," said Craig Albert, president of Sanibel Captiva Community Bank. "Businesses and neighborhood residents alike will find the branch location very convenient and easy to conduct banking business."

Founded in 2003, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank has two locations on Sanibel: the main office at 2475 Library Way and 1037 Periwinkle Way, and four additional locations in Fort Myers: in the Edison Theatre building in downtown Fort Myers; in the Myerlee community; McGregor Boulevard near Kelly Road; and on College Parkway.

Visit www.SanCapBank.com to learn more.✱

VCB Gains Adrian Awards

The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) received several Adrian Awards presented by the Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMIA) during its awards gala at the New York Marriott Marquis on February 21.

The annual ceremony recognizes marketing achievements from all segments of the travel, hospitality and tourism industry within three main divisions: advertising, digital marketing and public relations. This year's competition drew nearly 1,200 entries from around the world, with honorees being selected by a panel of senior industry and media experts.

The VCB, in partnership with its agency, MMGY Global, received a silver award for public relations and three bronze awards for advertising and digital marketing. The VCB received the silver honor for its six-page feature placement in Martha Stewart Living, *Tropic Wonders*, a stand-alone, visual story that highlights the tropical fruits and agricultural offerings found on Pine Island. Additionally, the VCB received bronze honors for its National Seashell Day consumer campaign, spring newspaper advertising campaign and Slow Down spring TV campaign,

which generated more than 23 million impressions in nine key U.S. markets.

"The VCB has won a number of Adrian Awards over the years, and we are honored to see our hard work recognized yet again by one of the leading hospitality sales and marketing organizations," said VCB Executive Director Tamara Pigott. "These accolades reflect our team's continued success and efforts to showcase The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel and all it has to offer."✱

Republican Women

Lee Republican Women Federated will hold a monthly lunch meeting at Pinchers - The Marina at Edison Ford at Monday, March 13.

Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott will be March's program speaker. Social begins at 11:15 a.m. followed by the lunch and program.

Cost is \$22. The public is invited.

Pinchers is located at 2360 West First Street in Fort Myers, adjacent to the Edison & Ford Winter Estates in the Fort Myers Downtown River District

To RSVP, visit www.leerepublicanwomen.com or contact Wren Morefield at 270-210-1284 or wrenspet@hotmail.com before Thursday, March 9 at noon.✱

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Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties' Construction team and Toyota Production System Support Center team pose for a photo. From left, Habitat Construction Administrator Olivia Rivera, TSSC Manager Michele Thomas, Habitat Board Member Tim Hawkins, Habitat VP of Construction John Dailey, TSSC President Terry Hoinouchi, Habitat Construction Purchasing Brian Hower, TSSC Project General Manager Lisa Richardson, Habitat Warehouse Manager Carlos Perez and Habitat Volunteer Jim Flaherty photos provided

Toyota President Visits Habitat Plot

On February 15, Toyota Production System Support Center (TSSC) President Takashi "Terry" Horinouchi, Project General Manager Lisa Richardson and Manager Michele Thomas toured Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry counties' North Fort Myers campus. The tour was

part of a partnership between Habitat and TSSC to identify opportunities in Habitat's wall-building warehouse to apply the Toyota Production System (TPS), a culture of problem solving at every level of the organization from top management to the shop floor or area of need. Habitat and TSSC will work alongside one another for several weeks to make positive, sustainable improvements in the wall-building warehouse, and then Habitat will apply



Horinouchi reviews Habitat's wall building process

the TPS knowledge to other areas of the organization.

"We are grateful to partner with the Toyota Production System Support Center. Learning the Toyota Production System and applying the principles to our organization will strengthen our impact and help us to continue empowering Lee and Hendry county families through homeownership", said Kitty Green, president and CEO for Habitat.

Established in 1992, the Toyota Production System Support Center (TSSC) is a not-for-profit corporation



Richardson nails part of a wall for a future Habitat home

affiliated with Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc. TSSC shares with organizations the Toyota Production System (TPS). Specifically, TSSC focuses on helping organizations make substantial process improvement by developing people, increasing productivity, safety and quality and decreasing cost to help them do more with less.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry counties, to volunteer or donate, visit www.Habitat4Humanity.org.✧

Junior Achievement Seeks Volunteers

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida is currently seeking individual and group volunteers to help spread the Junior Achievement message to students throughout Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties. Junior Achievement programs serve students kindergarten to the 12th grade at both public and private schools, as well as after-school programs and special at-risk groups, helping to prepare the next generation of Southwest Floridians for success in future careers via lessons on financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship.

Volunteers are needed to lead both traditional Junior Achievement programs as well as JA in a Day programs. Traditional programs encompass weekly 45-minute classroom visits over a five- to seven-week period. JA in a Day programs include one half-day program, typically offered from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers teach fun-filled, easy-to-follow lessons, sharing their expertise in business, personal finance and career preparation with the students. Participants of all ages and walks of life are eligible to teach JA's curriculum in elementary, middle and high school classes in Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties.

Volunteers are accepted year-round

and are provided with all necessary supplies and comprehensive training.

"Leading the JA program was an awesome experience," said volunteer Mark Davidson. "The material was easy to understand and fun for the students."

Locally, Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida partnered with more than 150 classroom business volunteers during the 2015-2016 school year to provide more than 8,700 students with Junior Achievement programs in more than 360 classes throughout Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties.

"I feel as if I truly changed many young lives," said volunteer Judith Yevick. "I can't wait to lead another JA program – it was incredibly rewarding."

In addition to in-classroom volunteers, Junior Achievement is also looking for businesses that are interested in "adopting" a school, grade level or classroom, which involves providing financial support for JA program materials and the option of volunteering to share the Junior Achievement message.

Volunteer opportunities are described in detail at www.jaswfl.org, and individuals who are interested in participating can call the Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida office at 225-2590. For Lee County volunteer opportunities, contact Lysa Kennedy at lkennedy@jaswfl.org. For Collier County volunteer opportunities, contact John Telischak at jtelischak@jaswfl.org.✧



The Abigail

photos provided

From page 1

Grande Dames

McAfee at 425-2366 ext. 2315.

Those interested in joining the Grande Dames Tea waiting list, should tickets become available, can call McAfee.

"We are very grateful to our community and our sponsors for making this event the spectacular success that it has been year after year," said PACE Lee Executive Director Meg Geltner.

Eunice and Alexandra Bremner are the title sponsors for the Grande Dames Tea in honor and loving memory of Berne Davis, Barbara B. Mann and Eleanore Kleist, the



The Alexandria

first class of Grande Dames honored at this event.

Major sponsors are Edison National Bank, Galloway Family of Dealerships, RS Walsh Landscaping, Famous Dave's Restaurant, U.S. Sugar, the Daniel R. & Anne M. Harper Foundation, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Caloosa Tent & Rental, Ruth Messmer Florist and Noela Chocolates.

Michael Jung, The News-Press Media Group president and publisher, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Nancy Finch will serve as Grande Dames Tea chair with Kathy Toll serving as co-chair. Both women are members of the PACE Lee Board of Directors.✧

Florida Economic Almanac Release

Florida Gulf Coast University's Regional Economic Research Institute (RERI) has released the 2017 *Southwest Florida Economic Almanac*, a 352-page resource publication presenting socioeconomic and demographic data for the region.

"The publication turned out to be a much bigger deal than we expected a year ago," said RERI Director Christopher Westley. "Back then, our goal was to produce an annual supplement to our popular monthly publication, *Regional Economic Indicators*."

But the need for a comprehensive almanac for the region became obvious once Westley started talking about the project with area business and community leaders. "It turns out that the RERI collects and uses lots of useful information that traditionally does not see the light of day. The idea was for a publication that would make this information available to the public in a format that could be updated annually."

The almanac is divided into sections covering socioeconomics, agriculture, health, education, housing, income and finance, charitable giving, government spending and assistance, real estate, and many others. There is even a section on innovation that measures patents, computer and Internet access, and an innovation index.

Data primarily focuses on the five-county region encompassing Southwest Florida: Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties.

"The idea is for a resource that would prove invaluable to anyone

researching our area, whether it's an out-of-state firm investigating our market, a law office working on a case, a member of the media working on a story, or even a middle-school student completing a report," Westley said.

The almanac is quite detailed. Here are examples: Southwest Florida surpassed \$1 billion in 2012, the last year this data was collected; there is an almost 3-to-2 ratio of men to women in Glades County for the population aged 45 and lower, significantly higher than the ratio found in the rest of Southwest Florida; there are well over 2,000 farms in Southwest Florida covering more than one million acres of land; Southwest Florida's population is now well above the 1.2 million mark, with Lee County population alone accounting for more than half of that number; Southwest Florida generated more than 1.4-million tons of municipal solid waste in 2015, 38 percent more than the figure recorded in 2011?

"It has every piece of data that you'd expect to find in an almanac," Westley said. "But I expect even more detail to be added in years to come."

Westley is soliciting sponsorships for the inaugural edition and for the 2018 edition as well. Since the RERI is financed through projects such as this, these funds will be put toward the eventual creation of an online portal for the almanac, allowing users to download data. Westley thinks this portal can become a reality in two years.

Until then, the *Southwest Florida Economic Almanac* can be accessed and downloaded at www.fgcu.edu/swflalmanac.

For details, contact Chris Westley at 590-7090 or cwestley@fgcu.edu.

Business Climate Survey Shows Rise

Following a small increase in the previous quarter, the Executive Business Climate Index for Lee County rose five index points to 68, according to a report recently released by the Horizon Council and Florida Gulf Coast University's Regional Economic Research Institute.

The two quarters of consecutive increases followed three quarters of decline.

"It's a big jump which might reflect the passing of a particularly acrimonious election cycle that was affecting consumption and investment decisions in our region," said FGCU economist Christopher Westley. "There is more certainty in the economy today that wasn't there before the election."

The index results from calculations made to survey responses of Lee County business executives and is measured on a scale of 0 to 100.

The remainder of the survey queried executives on their level of business optimism as well as on perceptions of the incoming Trump Administration

effect on their businesses. Also included in the survey were questions regarding executives' opinions about President Obama's greatest success and failure as president.

The results are compared with national surveys considering the same topics.

One question – "Do you think the actions the new president and Congress will take next year will make your company better off, worse off, or have no effect on your business?" – had a reply of 64 percent of local respondents indicating better off compared to 51 percent nationally. Only 7 percent of local respondents indicated worse off, compared to 17 percent nationally.

"What's interesting to me is the difference between local and national impressions about the economy," Westley said. "It provides a measure of the disconnect that can exist between economic actors in our region and those in other parts of the country."

The full report is available on the FGCU's Regional Economic Research Institute website at www.fgcu.edu/cob/reri/bcs_current.pdf.

For details, contact Chris Westley at 590-7090 or cwestley@fgcu.edu.

Democratic Women

The Democratic Women's Club (DWC) of Lee County will hold its monthly membership meetings on Saturday, March 11 at 10:30 a.m. at the Quality Life Center of Fort Myers, 3210 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Boulevard, in Fort Myers.

Guest speaker will be Frances E. Davey, an assistant professor of history at Florida Gulf Coast University. She received her PhD in the history of American civilization from the University of Delaware. Her teaching and research interests focus on U.S. women's history of the 19th and 20th century, oral history, material culture, and public history. Her current research includes several oral history projects, the topics of which include childhood

memories of World War II and stories of abortion and reproductive rights. She is currently working on a manuscript titled *All the Graces In One: The Development of Women's Collegiate Athletics, 1874-1930*, which investigates the impact of early collegiate athletics on popular concepts of womanhood. Professor Davey's will be speaking on *Histories of Choice: Stories of Abortion and Reproductive Rights*. This student-driven, faculty-led project at Florida Gulf Coast University explores the historical context and aftermath of *Roe v. Wade*, one of the most important Supreme Court decisions in modern American history.

If you are interested in telling your story or if you have questions about our project, contact any one of the professors: Frances Davey fdavey@fgcu.edu, Kris De Welde, kdewelde@fgcu.edu, or Nicola Foote, nfoote@fgcu.edu.

Scholarship Applications Sought

The Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center is currently accepting scholarship applications from local Lee County college-bound students for its 2017 Scholarship Award Program. The scholarships are for those who have had a personal experience with someone suffering from Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder.

Seniors from local high schools are invited to submit an application for a

\$1,000 scholarship. Each applicant is asked to write a narrative about his/her positive experience with a family member or friend who is affected by Alzheimer's disease or dementia. A panel of Advisory Council members of the Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center will review the applications focusing on the narrative as well as the student's volunteer experience and future goals.

Completed applications, including letters of recommendation, must be postmarked by March 31. Recipients will be announced in May. To obtain an application, students can visit www.alzheimersswfl.org.

For more information, call 437-3007.

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A Charity With An Amazing History

Have you driven down Gladiolus Drive and noticed a small turquoise building situated in front of Heights Elementary School? This cinderblock building has been helping residents in the Harlem Heights area and others in our community for more than 40 years.

In the 1950s, much of the area was covered by fields of gladiolus flowers. The migrant workers needed help taking care of their children while they went to work in the fields. A church mission group built the cinderblock building that took care of the children in a safe, nurturing place. They also provided blankets and other needed items to the families.

From this humble beginning, the center has grown into what it is today and it still is true to the original mission of the organization: to provide quality childcare for low-income children in the area while their parents go off to work. They now do this for approximately 160 children a year from infant to school age. Parents are required to pay based on a sliding scale and the number of children in their family. The center gets its funding from various government sources and the United Way, and it must work to raise over \$325,000 from private donors and organizations to sponsor their programs.

The center is a nationally accredited professional preschool learning environment that has been awarded the Gold Seal of Excellence by the State of Florida. The offered programs allow children to grow, learn and thrive.

Two nourishing meals and snacks are provided for the children so they may grow. Developing minds cannot concentrate on academics, if they are hungry. The educational program is based on the creative curriculum designed to specifically meet the social, emotional, physical and developmental needs of the children that are cared for, allowing them to learn. Together education, care, love and concern for emotional needs are met through a family-centered environment, and children are empowered to thrive and build a better future.

If interested in attending, fundraisers include:

- Gulf Harbour luncheon: Friday, March 31 at noon. Fashion show, luncheon, trunk show, shopping and silent auction starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Serve It Up 4 Kids: Tennis event on Thursday, April 13 at Legends Golf and Country Club. All skill levels are invited to participate.
- Tee It Up “FORE” Kids golf event: Saturday, April 22 at Shell Point Golf Club, lunch.
- Annual Rummage Sale: Partnering with Fort Myers Christian Church on Friday, March 3 and Saturday, March 4 at 5916 Winkler Road. Contributable items should be brought to the center, 10320 Gladiolus Drive.

Fundraiser contributions include: \$100 provides milk for children for a week; \$500 provides school water service for one month; \$1,500 provides all meals and snacks for one week.

Call the center at 481-2100 if you have any questions or to make your reservations for an event. Join us to make a difference in a child’s life.✱

each group with a male or female FGCU golf team player. The teams competed against each other for prizes and awards given out at the luncheon following the scramble.

JE Charlotte joined the FGCU Athletics Eagle Club board as the chair of the Sarasota Advisory Committee in November 2013. He and his wife, Virginia Charlotte, have two daughters who attended FGCU. The intent of the committee is to advance the cause of FGCU Athletics by creating access to the programs, its coaches, staff and student athletes for its most dedicated supporters.✱

Social Media Contest Launch

FAFSA first!, a FutureMakers Coalition campaign aimed at informing Southwest Florida high school seniors and their parents about the free application for Federal Student Aid, is launching a social media contest challenging high school students to share why #FiledFAFSAfirst.

To be eligible to enter the contest, the student must be graduating spring 2017 from a high school in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry or Lee county. To enter the contest, the participant must create a unique post on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, tag five friends and FAFSA first!, and use the hashtag #FiledFAFSAfirst.

All entries must be submitted by Friday, March 17. Five winners, one from each county, will be chosen to receive \$500 toward college or career school expenses. Winners will be notified in late March. For more information and contest entry rules, visit www.FAFSAfirst.org/contest.

“We want to harness teenagers’ social media savvy to spread news and information about FAFSA as far and wide as possible throughout our region,” said Tessa LeSage, director of social innovation and sustainability, Southwest Florida Community Foundation, which serves as the backbone organization for the FutureMakers Coalition. “As of February 3, Southwest Florida’s FAFSA completion rate is at 27.6 percent, which is a great start. We have further to go to achieve our campaign goal of 40 percent this school year.”

Research shows FAFSA completion rates correlate with the percentage of workforce who hold degrees, certificates and high-quality credentials. The FutureMakers Coalition partners throughout the region are working to educate high school seniors and their parents about FAFSA and why it is important to file.

Each year, the federal government provides more than \$150 billion in financial aid (grants, work-study and loans) for college and career school. To apply for this aid, every high school senior who plans to attend college or career school must complete the FAFSA. State governments and many colleges, career schools and private organizations also use FAFSA information to determine additional financial aid awards.

The federal deadline for filing FAFSA is June 30. Florida’s state deadline is May 15, for the date by which FAFSA needs to be processed. Colleges and universities also have varying priority and filing deadlines.

New for the 2017-18 application, FAFSA became available October 1, 2016 and allows applicants to use their 2015 income tax returns. Previously, FAFSA was not available until January 1 for filing, and it required income tax information for the most recent tax year, even though that often meant students’ and parents’ actual tax returns hadn’t yet been filed with the IRS. By filing FAFSA earlier and using accurate income tax information that is already available, students and parents will benefit by receiving financial aid award offers from schools sooner and can make informed decisions about college or career school affordability.

Visit www.FAFSAfirst.org to learn more about the campaign and for information and resources about FAFSA.✱

College Tool Aids Community

Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) recently launched Career Coach, an online tool for students and members of the community wanting to explore local and state job listings, wage and salary information, and degrees for chosen careers.

Career Coach features a short and long career assessment that suggests potential career fields and goes even further by allowing visitors to explore job descriptions, salary projections, growth rates, potential employers, the amount of education required for a specific position and even offering real-time local and state job listings from Indeed.com.

The new service is available at www.FSW.edu/careercoach and can be used anytime or anywhere by middle or high schools students, prospective FSW students, current FSW students and members of the Southwest Florida community seeking a new career opportunity.

“Our mission is to prepare students for successful and productive lives. Career Coach not only helps them set goals and stay on track while taking classes, it also assists them after graduation by suggesting options for advanced degrees or leading them directly to local job listings in their field,” said Dr. Laura Antczak, assistant vice president for enrollment management and student success.

Besides being accessible at larger college events such as the FSW Open Houses, Transfer Fairs and Career Fairs, FSW will expand Career Coach’s reach by servicing alumni, local workforce training programs and community organizations.

For more information or to access Career Coach, visit www.FSW.edu/careercoach.✱

Golf Scramble Benefits College

Venice-based commercial construction company, JE Charlotte Construction Corp., was the presenting sponsor of the Florida Gulf Coast University’s Challenge Cup Scramble on January 28.

Benefiting Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) athletics to raise scholarship funds for student athletes, the tournament netted \$10,000. Eighteen foursomes participated in the golf tournament, which paired

Lake Kennedy Senior Center

Lunch And Learn Program

Edward Jones Financial Advisor Brad Jessen and Certified Elder Law Attorney Norma Hand Brill will provide helpful information regarding estate planning at a free lunch and learn program on Wednesday, March 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lake Kennedy

Center, 400 Santa Barbara Boulevard, in Cape Coral.

Learn more about estate planning account registration, beneficiary designation, will, trust and life insurance. Lunch from Bob Evans is courtesy of Edward Jones. Preregistration is required.

Call 574-0575 for more information and to preregister.

Lake Kennedy Senior Center is located at 400 Santa Barbara Boulevard in Cape Coral. For more information, call 574-0575.✱

Doctor and Dietician

Shoulder Arthroscopy



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

Shoulder arthroscopy is a popular procedure, since it is less invasive than other surgical techniques, with recipients hoping for less pain and a quicker recovery. Recent studies, though, are focusing on complications that result during this procedure.

All surgical procedures come with possible problems, including side effects related to anesthesia and the possibility of infection. And let's face it, when tissue is cut and scraped, pulled and stretched, and removed from the joint, the joint is no longer the same. In addition to this, some recent concerns have to do with the irrigation that is used during a shoulder arthroscopy.

A healthy shoulder holds less than 1/30th of an ounce of joint fluid. Now, the capsule around the joint can allow

for some stretch to accommodate for some swelling without damaging tissue, but it is not made to hold copious amounts of fluid without stretching the capsule too much. The stretched out joint capsule makes the shoulder unstable and prone to more pain and injury. This can explain why some people do not get better after shoulder surgery or why they develop new pain after undergoing the operation.

Furthermore, when the shoulder joint is irrigated with a lot of fluid, the neck circumference enlarges, interfering with breathing. And when surgery is prolonged, this risk increases. Plus, it takes around 12 hours for the fluid to reabsorb, making the process more difficult for older patients to handle.

Studies have found that the risks decrease with an experienced surgeon, since they have a better understanding of the entire process and may take less time, which requires less fluid. We would recommend fully exploring non-surgical alternatives before undergoing arthroscopic surgery. Discuss your case with a regenerative medicine specialist who may suggest successful ways to alleviate pain and avoid surgical risks altogether.

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.✱

FGCU To Address Biodiversity Crisis

Florida Gulf Coast University will host a diverse panel of 22 accomplished conservation scientists, environmental educators, and resource managers from March 7 to 9 at FGCU's Cohen Center in Fort Myers. The group will share important findings on biodiversity conservation at Conserving Biodiversity: Challenges for Florida in the Anthropocene. The program will emphasize the relevance of biodiversity loss to restoration projects, ecosystem services, and social and economic issues.

A slate of renowned invited speakers representing the science, policy and education of biodiversity will include:

- Thomas Lovejoy, founder of the PBS series, *Nature*, and Elected University Professor at George Mason University;

- Reed Noss, author of *Forgotten Grasslands of the South: Natural History and Conservation* and Provost's Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Central Florida

- Many other prominent researchers in the sciences of conservation, environmental education, and resource management

Many experts consider Florida an epicenter for conservation impacts and efforts, as the biodiversity of Florida is affected by sea-level rise linked to climate change, habitat change caused by population growth, and species invasions that, together, severely impact the state's ecosystems. Florida's biological diversity is one of its greatest treasures, and the vital foundation of our social and economic systems. This region faces great challenges as society tries to preserve its unique biodiversity while planning for rapid changes in population, climate and land use.

Florida's population is now the nation's third largest, having surpassed New York state in 2014. Many experts consider Florida an epicenter for conservation research and efforts. Its biodiversity is particularly challenged by climate change, habitat loss and invasive species, which interact to severely impact ecosystems. In response, the conference will focus on these three conservation challenges.

Admission is \$25 for the Tuesday, March 7 kick-off event (\$20 in advance), an evening with Reed Noss; or \$100 for the full three-day program.

For more information, send an email to biodiversityconference@fgcu.edu or visit www.fgcu.edu/biodiversityconference/index.html.✱



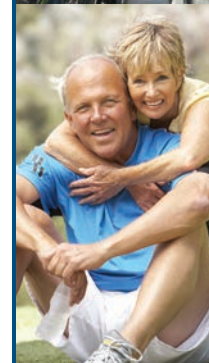
The Periwinkle Garden Club of Fort Myers presented a donation to sponsor a raised bed at the new CCI Able Garden. From left, Periwinkle Endowment Chair Teta Roberts, CCI CEO Tracey Galloway and Periwinkle President Sonja Suitor. photo provided

Able Garden Helps Disabled

A new Able Garden has wide aisles, some shade structures and elevated garden beds so that clients in wheel chairs and with limited mobility can enjoy gardening again. Veterans and school children who helped at the former garden are looking forward to getting back to gardening when the facility opens in mid-March. The Able Garden is a

project of Community Cooperative Inc. (CCI), formerly called the Soup Kitchen on Martin Luther King Boulevard in Fort Myers.

The Able Garden will supply fresh produce and some fruit for the 500,000 pounds of food CCI distributes through its onsite cafe, mobile pantries and the 65,000 hot, freshly prepared meals delivered yearly to elderly shut-ins. CCI wraps a variety of social services around each food and pantry offering. CCI assisted 20,000 Lee County residents in 2015.✱



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January 9 - March 31, 2017

The journey of a million miles begins with a single step...

Take a step toward healthier living by joining Healthy Lee's Million Mile Movement! We're challenging Lee County to get more active by moving 1,000,000 miles in 90 days.

Whether you're walking, running, biking or swimming, register for this community-wide challenge for **FREE** at www.HealthyLee.com and begin logging your "movement" today.

Be part of the Million Mile Movement!

WHO? Lee County residents of all ages and fitness levels can participate as an individual or as a group

WHAT? Any form of movement qualifies, walking, running, biking, swimming and even weight training

HOW? Register at www.HealthyLee.com and on Jan. 9, start logging your miles on the Challenge Portal, powered by Fit Nation

The Million Mile Movement is part of Healthy Lee's mission to empower and inspire the people of Lee County to make healthy lifestyle choices through education and action.

For more information, visit www.HealthyLee.com



Attendees at the Gulfshore Ballet's grand opening for their new facility photos provided

New Training Facility For Aspiring Ballerinas

Gulfshore Ballet revealed a brand new facility, located at 5636 Youngquist Road in Fort Myers. The facility will enable the organization to continue its mission of serving more deserving students in the community. "We've been bursting at the seams at our current space of 16 years. This move to a new location is pivotal to the growth of Gulfshore Ballet," said Gulfshore Ballet Executive Director Lisa Tafel. "Our new facility will allow us to increase programming, accommodate more students and cater to the demand for more simultaneous instruction."

During a grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony on February 20, the volunteer-led board of directors and aspiring ballerinas revealed the new space, which boasts 6,000 square feet, an expansion of nearly 2,400 square feet more than the school's current location, just two miles south of its longtime Andrea Lane address.

The new location offers three fully equipped studios complete with mirrors, barres, flooring and new sound system. It includes three dedicated dressing rooms, enhanced office facilities, an executive conference room and a larger parking lot.

"Today's grand opening is historic for our ballet company," added artistic director Iliana Lopez. "Our new home gives our remarkable students a better-equipped environment to thrive in training and prepare for professional careers in the arts."

To make this dream of a new facility a reality, the not-for-profit has been conducting a Dance into the Future capital campaign with the fundraising goal of \$100,000. Naming opportunities throughout the facility range from \$2,500 to \$10,000. Donors can also be featured on an artistic donor display to be presented in the school lobby, which range from \$250 to \$2,000. To date, the ballet school has raised more than \$18,000.

To donate to the capital campaign, visit the Dance into the Future web page at www.gsballet.org/content/capital-campaign.



Gulfshore Ballet's Leadership Team



Sophia Long and Faith Wood



Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Youngquist Road facility



Welcoming guests to the grand opening

Book Review

Banana Cream Pie Murder



by Di Saggau

On Monday, March 6 at 7 p.m. the Sanibel Library Author Series will feature Joanne Fluke. She's famous for her Hannah Swensen mysteries that also offer

numerous delicious recipes. Her latest book is *Banana Cream Pie Murder* and it's a perfect example of why she is a queen of culinary mystery. Her famous Banana Cream Pie is found at the scene of a murder in the small Minnesota town of Lake Eden.

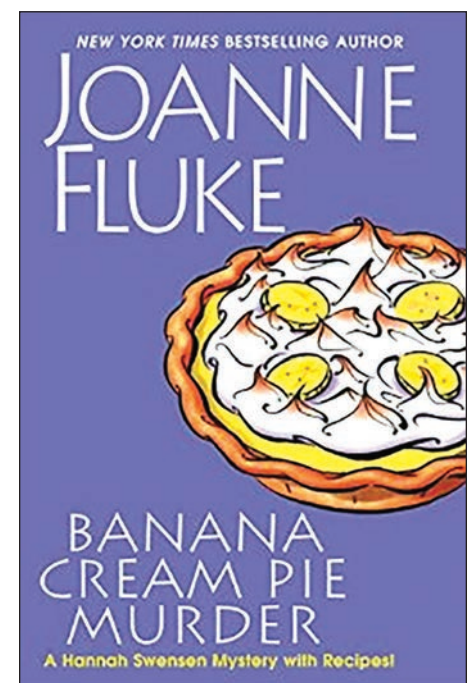
In earlier novels, Hannah's baked goods have also been found at murder scenes. In one the victim had been eating her Chocolate Chip Crunch Cookies, and in another her Strawberry Shortcake had been spilled all over the floor, and the list goes on and on. That's the trademark of Fluke's best-selling mystery series.

Hannah's mother Delores hears screams and then gunshots coming from the residence of Tori Bascomb, a friend, neighbor and retired stage actress. To make matters worse, she discovers the body of her friend in her apartment, lying dead on the studio rug. Hannah is due to return shortly from her honeymoon and Delores enlists her help to find the killer.

A banana cream pie and two dessert plates laid out on the coffee table of the apartment suggest that Tori might have known her killer. Suspects include her brother Richard, Lake Eden's philandering mayor and Tricia Barthel,

one of the students who comes to Tori's apartment for acting lessons. Of course, it also could have been a random intruder. As Hannah goes about her sleuthing, the talk in the book concerns a lot of baking and cooking and to the reader's delight, the recipes appear soon after a chapter ends. I don't do much baking or cooking any longer, but I was intrigued by a few of the recipes. The Cheesy Beer Muffins, for sure and the Special Corn Chowder. There are 21 original recipes in the book.

As Hannah continues her investigation she find that solving this crime, and living to tell about it, might prove trickier than she thought. An alarming discovery reveals the killer, and a cliffhanger ending makes the reader wonder what will happen in another book. Joanne Fluke will have a lot to say about this book on Monday, March 6 at 7 p.m. at the Sanibel Public Library, located at 770 Dunlop Road.✱



School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, My son is almost 7 years old and enjoys reading with me. We have now moved into chapter books, which he likes but sometimes I

don't think he understands what we are reading since there aren't lots of pictures in chapter books. What can I do to help him understand more easily and to enjoy reading?

Leah B., Fort Myers

Leah,

One technique for all learners to use for increasing reading comprehension is to use mental imagery while reading. Psychology textbooks define mental imagery as pictures in the mind or a visual representation in the absence of environmental input. Encourage your son to visualize parts of the story in his mind. Visualizations or "mind movies" as visualizations are often referred to will help clarify information, increase understanding, and can include any of the five senses. Below are some techniques to use when reading with your child.

One way to help a child comprehend what he is reading is to encourage him to visualize parts of the story in his mind. Ask your son if he sees pictures in his head "mind movies" when he listens to stories. If so, explain how these "mind movies" help clarify information and increase understanding. If your child doesn't seem to be using mental imagery at this point, you can help him develop this very useful skill. Then give him permission to use this strategy as you read together.

Here are a few simple steps to provide your child with practice developing their mental images. Begin

reading. Pause after a few sentences or paragraphs that contain good descriptive information. Then, share the image you've created in your own mind, and talk about which words from the book helped you "draw" your picture. Your picture can relate to the setting, the characters, or the actions. Talk about how these pictures help you understand what's happening in the story. By doing this, you are modeling the kind of mental imagery you want your child to do.

Continue reading. Pause again and share the new image you created. Then ask your child to share what he sees, hears, tastes, smells and feels. Ask what words helped him create the mental image and emotions. By doing this, you are providing your child with practice with this new skill.

Your images will probably not be identical. This is a great time to talk about why your images might be different. Perhaps your child went on a school field trip or had a school assembly that changed the way they created the picture in their mind. Perhaps experiences you've had as an adult influenced what you "drew." These differences are important to understand and respect and also help teach a child how one's own perspective develops.

Continue this sharing process until it becomes a familiar skill. Once it is familiar, encourage your child to use mental imagery when he is reading by himself. You can feel confident that using mental imagery will help your child increase his reading comprehension.

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.✱

From page 19

Painted Buntings

the project by the end of February, new participants will get the entire 2017-18 FeederWatch season free. Anyone who signs up now, even beyond February 28, will also receive a painted bunting drink coaster.

To learn more about joining Project FeederWatch and to sign up online, visit

www.FeederWatch.org. To register by phone, call the Cornell Lab toll-free at (866) 989-2473. In return for the \$18 fee (\$15 for Cornell Lab members), participants receive the *FeederWatch Handbook* and instructions with tips on how to successfully attract birds to feeders, an identification poster of the most common feeder birds, and a calendar. Participants also receive *Winter Bird Highlights*, an annual summary of FeederWatch findings.✱

Available at
www.AMAZON.COM
www.EDITORIALRXPRESS.COM

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."
 Geri Reaves, PhD, author of *Legendary Locals of Fort Myers* and *Fort Myers, Then & Now*

Heathcare CEO Appointed To Forum Board

Samira K. Beckwith, president and CEO of Hope Healthcare, has been appointed to the National Quality Forum's (NQF) Care Coordination Standing Committee.

A non-profit, independent organization, NQF leads national collaboration to improve health and health care quality through measurement and innovation. Beckwith joins national health care experts on the Care Coordination Standing Committee to review performance measures focused on patient experience, health information technology and transitions of care.

"Communication between clinicians and providers is essential when patients transition between care settings," said Beckwith. "By standardizing measures utilized to assess quality of care coordination, health care providers will be better able to serve patients and their families."

Hope Healthcare is a not-for-profit



Samira K. Beckwith photo provided

health care organization that provides programs and services dedicated to comforting care. For more information, call 482-4673 or visit www.HopeHCS.org.✱

dearPharmacist

11 Essential Oils For Your Thyroid



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: Many of you are taking thyroid supplements or medications already, but you might consider adding one more thing into your thyroid health regimen: Essential oils. The medical community dismisses

essential oils (EO) because after all, how powerful can it be to inhale a flower extract? Once you inhale, this "medicine" goes right into your bloodstream, through tiny capillaries directly into the bloodstream where it then shoots all over your body and activates many biochemical pathways.

It's a fact that inhaling the aroma of lavender can cause relaxation and sleep. We also know peppermint can sometimes help improve a migraine. As for Thyroid-loving essential oils, there are plenty.

When your thyroid is low...

The essential oils that I recommend when you have low thyroid are specifically devoted to stimulating or producing the secretion of thyroid hormones, activating your metabolism or improving symptoms of the disease itself. I can touch on a few here in this limited space, but if you're really interested, go to my website and read the longer version of this article. Try these quick essential oil health hacks for low thyroid disease:

Gut problems: People with hypothyroidism are often overweight and commonly experience frequent stomachache or gas. A few gut-soothing essential oils that can bring you relief

include peppermint, fennel, ginger and chamomile. You can make teas, apply to your skin or inhale depending on the EO.

Muscle aches and pain: People with Hashimoto's and hypothyroidism often hurt more than regular folks, especially after exercising. I'll help you "create" your own soothing balm now: Pour 30 drops of lemongrass and 15 drops of marjoram into your favorite bottle of body lotion. Make sure it's paraben-free, but pick any basic unscented lotion that you like. Then you can rub it onto your sore muscles and body aches.

Fatigue and Exhaustion: My own go-to is a smoked butterscotch latte, double shot – LOL! But we are talking about essential oils today, so try dabbing one drop each of eucalyptus and rosemary to the base of your neck (right onto your thyroid) and it will wake you up. You should also take a quick whiff.

If your thyroid is high...

It would be unfair if I didn't share my knowledge about hyperthyroidism, or Graves' disease (an autoimmune thyroid condition), so here's what I suggest from an EO standpoint. Mix 15 drops of lemongrass with 15 drops of frankincense, 2 drops of myrrh (warning: myrrh smells awful), as well as 10 drops of lemongrass into a container with a tablespoon of apricot or almond oil. This can be sniffed or applied topically to your throat area a few times daily. Don't ingest that, it's topical. Dilute as you desire, leave out the myrrh or replace with sandalwood. This EO blend should help you deal with anxiety, stress, anger, agitation, tremors and insomnia. You don't have to have hyperthyroidism to use this; in fact all of you dealing with stress could try it.

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.✱

Eden Energy Medicine

Strengthen Your Heart's Energy



by Karen L. Semmelman, Certified EEM, JD, AAML (03-01)

Many magazines, articles and professionals now extol the benefits of Energy Medicine, stating it works.

So let's learn some practices that boost heart energy, the biggest generator of electricity in our body.

We are all electromagnetic beings, so every cell of our body has an electrical charge – all influenced by the energy of the heart. The Electric Energy System is one of the nine systems that Eden Energy Medicine addresses. By accessing the electric system, we are able to make subtle energy shifts on the deepest levels.

The next several articles will be devoted to providing tools to help the energetic balance of your heart and, thus, your entire being. The first exercise helps to improve your "internal compass," especially beneficial if you are feeling lost or disconnected with others and yourself. This technique provides instant revitalization:

1. Stretch forehead, to open and clear energies, by placing fingertips of both hands together so they touch in the middle of the forehead and then rake fingers across forehead to each temple.
2. Place thumbs on liver neurovascular points (located at hairline above the center of eyes) and the middle

fingers on the inside edge of eyebrows at the inside edge of each eye socket.

3. Hold thumbs and middle fingers in this position for five to 20 minutes. You will begin to feel shifts occurring and, after taking several deep sighs, you will know you are finished.

4. End by making small Figure 8s over forehead to stabilize the shifts.

A second tool to assist if experiencing any heart "dis-ease," whether arrhythmia, circulation issues, blood pressure, etc. is to hold the heart source point. There are source points associated with each meridian. Source points are acupressure points that act as reservoirs of energy directly associated with the organ itself, enabling a boost or removal of energy from the organ; in this case, the heart. By holding these points for several minutes, you will immediately notice a shift of energy that has a calming impact on the heart's energy.

The heart source point is located on the inside of the wrist crease in line with the little finger. If you bend your wrist and look at the soft underside of your arm, you will notice two prominent tendons in the middle of your arm above the wrist crease. Between these tendons and the outer edge of the soft part of the arm, there is another small tendon right at the crease. This is the heart source point. By holding this source point for several minutes (use the middle finger) until you feel a strong pulse, the disease will calm. Try it... it works and you are shifting your own subtle energies to improve your health and vitality.

If you have a question, email Karen at SemmEnergyCenter@gmail.com or visit www.semmelmanenergy.com. EEM does not diagnose or cure illness, but working with subtle energies of the body has been shown to help many conditions.✱

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,

Sunday was always a fun day for us. We enjoyed going to church services and then going out for a nice brunch.

All this has changed and it is irritating to go to service and you feel that you are sitting in the middle of a day care. The

young parents allowing their children to scream and holler, with no regard for the others all around them. They wear their jeans or cutoffs and look as if they are ready to clean their basements.

Do others complain about these problems, or is it just us?

Dora

Dear Dora,

Most people it seems who go to church are no longer dressed in their "Sunday best." That was a long and distant era. What you wear is no longer important and most of the clergy do not seem to care either. The churches are so happy to see people in the congregation that they would never say a word of criticism. This all seems to be a part of modern times.

Lizzie

Dear Dora,

My generation enjoys casual, comfortable clothing. There is nothing wrong with children being in church with their parents as they probably spend so much time in day care, that this is an opportunity to be together. But if things get out of hand, I think that one parent should take the child out in respect of the others in the congregation and the clergy involved.

Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce's e-mail address is momandmeaging@hotmail.com.✱

PETS OF THE WEEK

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Smokey And Nikita

Smokey is a 10-year-old beautiful male Persian that rocks his new lion cut. As you can see from his picture, he is fully aware of his stunning good looks. He is very friendly both with people and other cats. Smokey is looking for a home to live his golden years in.

His adoption fee is \$25. Nikita is a 9-year-old female Doberman pinscher mix who is one of our "Super Seniors" with a teenager's personality. She is very well-mannered and walks great on a leash. If you like a leaner, she is the perfect choice for you. Her favorite place to be is right by your side.

Her adoption fee is \$25. 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



Smokey ID# 425704



Nikita ID# 371175

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.

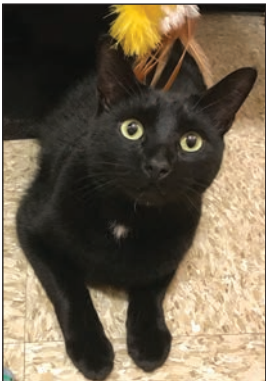
The adoption package is valued at \$500.*

Haven on Earth Animal League

Betty Boo And Mr. Lovey

Hi there! I'm Betty Boo. I'm a spayed female, about 2 years old. I am up-to-date on all shots. I am very sweet and have beautiful green eyes. I even have a white spot on my chest that makes me different from other black kitties. I am currently at the PetSmart at Colonial Boulevard and Six Mile Cypress. Please come see me and take me home. My adoption fee is \$75.

Hello, my name is Mr. Lovey. Check out how I'm posed for the camera. I am around 2 years old and a very good boy. I love being talked to and being brushed. I will show my love by giving you head bumps. I was found wandering around San Carlos Park all by myself. I really want a home to call mine. I am up-to-date on all shots and fully



Betty Boo



Mr. Lovey

vetted. My adoption fee is \$75.

We are being cared for by Haven on Earth Animal League. For more information, email haveneearthanimalleague@yahoo.com.*

HORTOONS



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
Esterio/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

Super Crossword

INTERNAL CAPITAL

ACROSS

1 Seer's "gift,"
for short
4 Pig noise
9 Tosses out
14 Some choir
women
19 With 74-
Down, "Such
gall!"
20 Tree-toppling
ax wielder
21 Expiate, with
"for"
22 Statue of
Liberty
feature
23 African beast
submerged?
26 Ranch rope
27 Unit of Time
28 Park or Fifth:
Abbr.
29 Like partially
spoiled oil?
31 Five-alarm,
for one?
35 Mao — -tung
36 British isle
37 Slyly derisive
38 Mocked by
imitating
41 Humdrum
44 Amor or
Eros
47 Magic lamp
owner's
language?
51 Purpose
52 Property unit
54 Hereditary
unit

55 Daphnis' lover
56 Tan-colored door security feature?
62 Banknotes
64 Wichita-to-Akron dir.
65 Fueled (up)
66 Tennille or Braxton
67 "Misty" crooner Johnny
69 Hero of Sophocles' "Electra"
71 It's hidden in this puzzle's 10 longest answers
73 Native of Cuba's capital
77 Fail to do as promised
79 Watson of "The Bling Ring"
81 Texas border city
82 "The Simpsons" clerk
85 Q-V link
86 Snap-on parts of a tot's tote?
88 Friend of the Lone Ranger
90 Tenderfoot
92 Do injury to

93 Jockey (for)
94 "Farewell, Ms. Clooney!"?
98 Wading birds
102 Raccoon relative
103 Israel's Eban
104 Texas city near Dallas
105 Dick — Dyke
106 Washroom, informally
109 Thoroughly clean some sour fruit?
114 Tune about Houdini?
119 Several eras
120 Flat piece of microfilm
121 Flat, as pop
122 Cause Reagan to digress?
126 By itself
127 Without — (worry-free)
128 Sandbank
129 Thigh's place
130 Fierly feeling
131 Faked out, in ice hockey
132 Utilized a keypad
133 "What — the odds?"

DOWN

1 Set of values
2 — kebab
3 Giant in soda

4 Providing with footwear
5 Modern, in Münster
6 Rent-to- —
7 Adjust on a timeline
8 — Fountain (Rome landmark)
9 Skull bone
10 Great Salt Lake's state
11 — moment too soon
12 Honored a king, maybe
13 Bondmen
14 Razor name
15 Pork cut
16 Like phone calls and outlines
17 1 followed by 27 zeros
18 Like arbors
24 Living proof?
25 Relating to the kidneys
30 McEntire of country
32 — Grande
33 Confound
34 Scholastic meas.
39 Sword part
40 Pres. before JFK
42 Of a large store of data
43 Opposite of "veg"

- 44 "Hasta
—!" (Spanish
"Later!")
- 45 Often-quoted
Wilde
- 46 Sonnet, e.g.
- 47 In one's own
house
- 48 Peruvian of
yore
- 49 Below, in a
46-Down
- 50 "Meh" mark
- 53 Decide
- 57 Pre-'91
empire
- 58 Fade away
- 59 Xanadus
- 60 Lover of
Lennon
- 61 Top part of
some forms
- 63 Intend to
- 67 "Well, I
declare!"
- 68 Actress
Mia
- 70 Brawl
- 72 Diplomat's
bldg.
- 74 See 19-
Across
- 75 Allow to
enter
- 76 Snoots
- 78 Fellas
- 80 Toothpaste
box org.
- 82 — loss for
words
- 83 Many a Net
radio host

84 Teamster ID
86 Utterly fail
87 Toothbrush
brand
89 Pekoe, e.g.
91 Irish actor
Stephen
95 Annoy
96 Crunches
crunch
them
97 Slot car, say
99 Kilmer of
"Top Gun"
100 Not divided
into parts
101 "— Thro' the
Rye"
104 Forceful
105 Line of motor
scooters
107 President of
Syria
108 Verbalize
110 Be
sweltering
111 City NNE of
Tampa
112 N.J. Devil,
e.g.
113 Swamp plant
115 As well
116 Look keenly
117 Neighbor of
Mont.
118 Actor
Richard
123 TV's Turner
124 Keystone
policeman
125 Carly —
Jensen

ACROSS

1	Eden evacu- ee
4	Temporary gifts
9	School org.
12	Lucy of "Elementary"
13	Liver or lung
14	Parcel of land
15	Hearth
17	Past
18	Hot tub
19	Porter
21	Occur
24	Great Lake
25	Web address
26	Banned pesticide
28	"— alive!"
31	Bound
33	Surprised cries
35	Citrus fruit
36	Fancy neck- wear
38	Special —
40	Nashville- based awards org.
41	"Zounds!"
43	Rouse
45	Autobio- graphy's cousin
47	Carnival city
48	— carte
49	"Monopoly" purchase
54	Tit for —
55	More than

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
31				32		33		34		35		
36					37		38		39		40	
				41			42		43		44	
45	46							47				
48					49		50				51	52
54					55						56	
57					58						59	

	enough	9	Football tac-	30	Penn or Astin
56	Explanation		tic involving a	32	Comic-strip
57	Type mea-		tee		possum
	sures	10	Roman gar-	34	Histrionic
58	Called		ment	37	James Clavell
59	Gorilla	11	On		novel
		16	Sixth sense,	39	Stole
DOWN			for short	42	Histrionics
1	Sprite	20	Use a rotary	44	Popular ISP
2	Evening hour,		phone	45	Partner
	in a way	21	Hawaiian	46	Verve
3	Asia's neigh-		dance	50	Spinning stat
	bor (Abbr.)	22	War god	51	"Eureka!"
4	Pruned	23	Settings for	52	Police officer
5	Florida city		settings?	53	Ram's 45-
6	Khan title	27	Nevertheless,		Down
7	Mother-of-		for short		
	pearl	29	Model nee		
8	Derisive looks		Melissa Miller		

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Eden evacu-
4 Temporary
9 School org.
12 Lucy of
"Elementary"
13 Liver or lung
14 Parcel of land
15 Hearth
17 Past
18 Hot tub
19 Porter
21 Occur
24 Great Lake
25 Web address
26 Banned
pesticide
28 "— alive!"
31 Bound
33 Surprised
cries
35 Citrus fruit
36 Fancy neck-
wear
38 Special —
40 Nashville-
based
awards org.
41 "Zounds!"
43 Rouse
45 Autobio-
graphy's
cousin
47 Carnival city
48 — carte
49 "Monopoly"
purchase
54 Tit for —
55 More than

DOWN

- 1 Sprite
- 2 Evening hour,
in a way
- 3 Asia's neigh-
bor (Abbr.)
- 4 Pruned
- 5 Florida city
- 6 Khan title
- 7 Mother-of-
pearl
- 8 Derisive looks

9	Football tactic involving a tee	30	Penn or Astin
10	Roman garment	32	Comic-strip possum
11	On	34	Glisten
16	Sixth sense, for short	37	James Clavell novel
20	Use a rotary phone	39	Stole
21	Hawaiian dance	42	Histrionics
22	War god	44	Popular ISP
23	Settings for settings?	45	Partner
27	Nevertheless, for short	46	Verve
29	Model nee Melissa Miller	50	Spinning stat
		51	"Eureka!"
		52	Police officer
		53	Ram's 45-Down

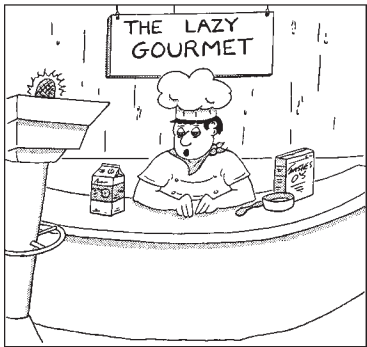
MAGIC MAZE ● — FEET

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

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

Acre	Crow's	Happy	Tender
Board	Cubic	On your	Two left
Cloven	Drag your	Pigs'	Webbed
Cold	Flat	Square	

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					67					68		
69							70		71			72			73				74	75
				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
114				115	116					117	118		119				120			
121										123					124	125				
126													128						129	
130													132						133	



"Okay, everyone ... today we're making
cold _____."

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!

Notice
GRADER _____
Covert
CRESTE _____
Faded
LEAST _____
Gait
CAPE _____

TODAY'S WORD

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

SUDOKU

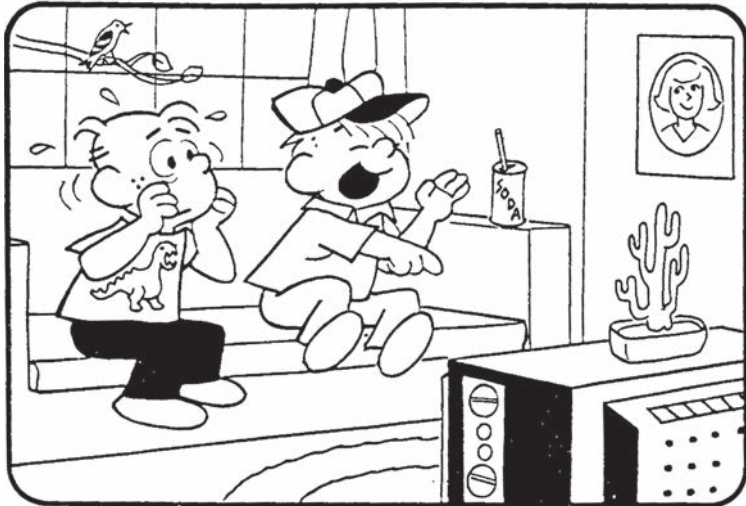
To play Sudoku:

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.

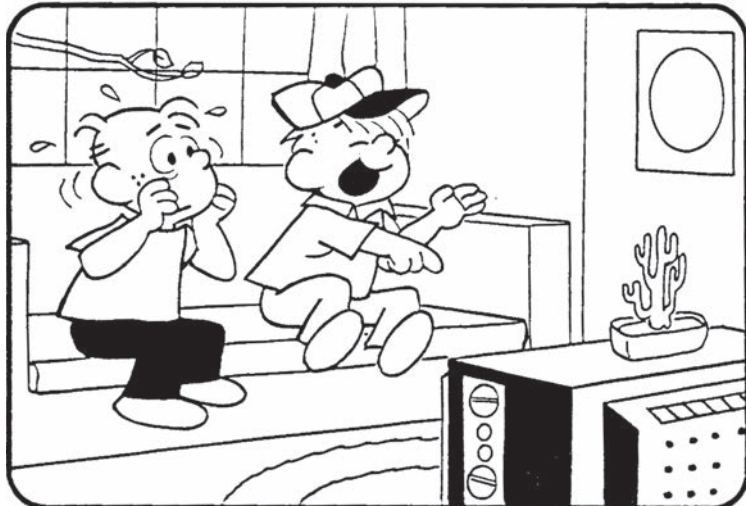
answer on page 37

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Bird is missing. 2. Dinosaur is missing. 3. Arm is moved. 4. Soda can is missing. 5. Portrait is missing. 6. Plant is different.

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Key Vaca Shrimp

- 1½ pounds shrimp, peeled and deveined
 - 1 teaspoon coriander, ground
 - 1 teaspoon allspice, ground
 - 1 tablespoon butter
 - ½ teaspoon lime juice
 - 2 teaspoons brown sugar
 - 1 teaspoon pepper sauce
- In a bowl, combine shrimp, coriander and allspice. Set aside.

Heat butter in a skillet over medium high heat and cook shrimp 3 to 4 minutes on both sides until opaque in the center. Add lime juice, sugar and pepper sauce to pan; stir until sugar is dissolved.

Serve with toasted garlic bread and green salad.*



Key Vaca Shrimp

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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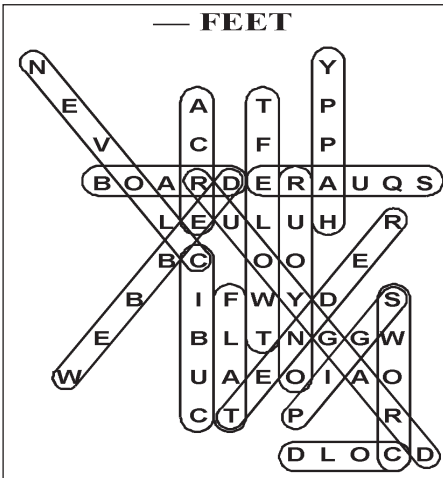
SUPER CROSSWORD

ESP	SNORT	JUNKS	ALTOS
THE	HEWER	ATONE	TORCH
HIPPO	UNDERWATER	RIATA	
ISSUE	AVE	HALFRANCID	
CHILIRATING	TSE	ELY	
SNIDE	APED	BANAL	
LOVEGOD	ALADDIN	RABIC	
USE	LOT	GENE	CHLOE
ECRUPE	EPHOLE	CASH	ENE
GASSED	TONI	MATHIS	
ORESTES	MONEY	HAVANAN	
RENEGE	EMMA	LAREDO	
APURSTU	BABYDOLL	ARMS	
TONTOTYRO	MAR	VIE	
ADIEUROSE	MARY	AVOCETS	
COATI	ABBA	PLANO	
VAN	LAV	SCRUBLEMONS	
ESCAPE	SONG	EO	FICHE
STALE	SIDETRACK	RONALD	
PERSE	ACARE	SHOAL	LEG
ARDOR	DEKED	TYPED	ARE

KING CROSSWORD

EVE	LOANS	PTA
LIU	ORGAN	LOT
FIRE	PLACE	AGO
	SPA	REDCAP
HAPPEN	ERIE	
URL	DDT	SAKES
LEAP	OHS	LIME
ASCOT	OPS	CMA
	EGAD	AWAKEN
MEMOIR	RIO	
ALA	PARK	PLACE
TAT	AMPLE	HOW
ENS	NAMED	APE

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars★★★★

FOR WEEK OF MARCH 6, 2017

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're correct to want to help someone who seems to need assistance. But be careful that he or she isn't pulling the wool over those gorgeous Sheep's eyes. You need more facts.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your Bovine optimism soon will dispel the gloom cast by those naysayers and pessimists who still hover close by. Also, that good news you recently received is part of a fuller message to come.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Feeling jealous over a colleague's success drains the energy you need to meet your own challenges. Wish him or her well, and focus on what you need to do. Results start to show in mid-March.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're likely to feel somewhat Crabby these days, so watch what you say, or you could find yourself making lots of apologies. Your mood starts to brighten by the weekend.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your pride might still be hurting from those unflattering remarks someone made about you. But cheer up, you're about to prove once again why you're the Top Cat in whatever you do.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A misunderstanding with a co-worker could become a real problem unless it's resolved soon. Allow a third party to come in and assess the situation without pressure or prejudice.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Call a family meeting to discuss the care of a loved one at this difficult time. Be careful not to let yourself be pushed into shouldering the full burden on your own.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An upcoming decision could open the way to an exciting venture. However, there are some risks you should know about. Ask more questions before making a commitment.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Personal matters need your attention during the earlier part of the week. You can start to shift your focus to your workaday world by midweek. Friday brings news.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to

January 19) You've been going at a hectic pace for quite a while. It's time now for some much-needed rest and recreation to recharge those hardworking batteries.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) This is a good time to upgrade your current skills or consider getting into an entirely different training program so that you can be prepared for new career opportunities.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Keep a low profile in order to avoid being lured away from the job at hand. Focus on what has to be done, and do it. There'll be time later to enjoy fun with family and friends.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can be a dreamer and a realist. You dream of what you would like to do, and then you face the reality of how to do it.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On March 8, 1669, Mount Etna, on the island of Sicily in modern-day Italy, begins rumbling. Multiple eruptions over the next few weeks killed more than 20,000 people. Most of the victims could have saved themselves, but stayed.

• On March 12, 1933, eight days after his inauguration, President Franklin Roosevelt gives his "fireside chat," a radio broadcast directly from the White House. Roosevelt explained his decision to close the nation's banks to stop mass withdrawals.

• On March 9, 1943, Bobby Fischer, the only American ever to win the chess world championship, is born in Chicago. His last public match, in 1992 against Boris Spassky, netted Fischer the \$2 million prize. He then became a wanted man for tax evasion, and in 2000 renounced his U.S. citizenship.

• On March 6, 1951, the espionage trial of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg begins after the couple is accused of running a spy ring and selling top-secret atomic bomb technology to Russia. The Rosenbergs were convicted, and were the only American civilians to be executed for espionage-related activity during the Cold War.

• On March 11, 1989, "COPS," a documentary-style TV series that follows police officers and sheriff's deputies as they go about their jobs, debuts on FOX. "COPS" went on to become one of the

longest-running shows in television history.

• On March 7, 1999, American filmmaker Stanley Kubrick, whose 13 feature films explored the dark side of human nature, dies in England at age 70. Kubrick was best known for his films "Spartacus" (1960), "Dr. Strangelove" (1964) and "2001: A Space Odyssey" (1968).

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was world-renowned American photographer Ansel Adams who made the following sage observation: "It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."

• You might be surprised to learn that the blood of a grasshopper is white.

• Tacumbú prison in Asunción, Paraguay, is notorious for its overcrowded conditions: 3,500 inmates are crowded into a space designed for half that number, and many of them sleep on cardboard directly on the floor. One inmate, however, until recently enjoyed amenities that many outside the prison walls would love to have. Drug trafficker Chimenés Pavao bribed officials to look the other way, then set up a fully furnished, tastefully decorated three-room suite, complete with air conditioning, a refrigerator, a library, a flat-screen TV, a DVD player and a treadmill. The luxury cell was discovered when a bomb threat caused police to search the entire prison.

• If you've ever been the victim of a purse-snatching, here's a discouraging bit of information: Those who study such things say that four out of five perpetrators get away.

• In 1804 our planet hit a milestone: a population of 1 billion people. It took 123 years to add another billion, then only 33 more to get to 3 billion, in 1960. We crossed the 4 billion mark in 1974, hit 5 billion in 1987, and got to 6 billion in 1999. In 2011 (or early 2012, depending on who's doing the estimating, the earth's population passed 7 billion, and those who study such things expect us to get to 8 billion sometime in the mid- to late 2020s.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are." -- Benjamin Franklin

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Regard; 2. Secret; 3. Stale; 4. Pace

Today's Word
CEREAL

TRIVIA TEST

1. ANATOMY: Where would Haversian canals be located in the human body?
2. MOVIES: Which star of early "Tarzan" movies was a gold-medal winner in the 1924 and 1928 Olympics?
3. GEOGRAPHY: In what body of water do the Comoros islands lie?
4. FOOD & DRINK: What cooking term is Italian for "to the tooth"?
5. MUSIC: Which of Beethoven's symphonies also is known as the "Pastoral Symphony"?
6. COMICS: What profession did Blondie take up in the comic strip in the 1990s?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Where would someone be located in the United States in an area often described locally as "down east"?
8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the only president to serve nonconsecutive terms?
9. LITERATURE: What is the literary genre described by Jonathan Swift as "a glass wherein beholders discover everybody's face but their own"?
10. GEOMETRY: How many sides does a rhombus have?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. The bones
2. Johnny Weissmüller won five gold medals in freestyle swimming
3. Indian Ocean
4. Al dente
5. Symphony No. 6
6. Catering business
7. Eastern New England
8. Grover Cleveland
9. Served as president in 1885 and 1893
10. Four

★ ★ ★ CLASSIFIED ★ CLASSIFIED ★ ★ ★

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*NS 2/10 CC TFN

Energy Medicine And Massage For Your Pet

Karen Semmelman, advanced energy medicine practitioner and former matrimonial lawyer, and Valerie Webb, practice manager and certified canine rehabilitation practitioner with Specialized Veterinary Services, are hosting a pet workshop on Saturday, March 25 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at The Community House. The cost is \$35 and advance registration is required. In this class, you will learn how to provide care and healing for your pet with energy medicine and massage. Chezzy, Semmelman's golden doodle, will assist in showing how to balance energies and massage sore muscles, or help align the body.

Animals have meridians just like humans, and their organs, muscles and systems are comparable. Observe immediate shifts in Chezzy as his systems are balanced and relaxed. If your pet has spasms in parts of its body, you will see how to promote calmness and relief to these areas. Learn skills that will enable you to provide support and needed relief to your pet, whether cat, dog, guinea pig, horse or other creature:

Semmelman, a matrimonial lawyer for 30 years, is enjoying her second career as a certified Eden Energy practitioner, teacher and inspirational speaker. She uses her intuition, and investigative, listening and teaching skills (having taught diverse groups in the legal profession on live TV) to help empower others.

Webb has worked with animals daily for 15 years. She is a licensed veterinary technician, a certified rehabilitation practitioner (which service includes working with pets in water therapy, creating exercises and physical challenges to help them recover from injuries) and adores animals.

If you would like a private session with you and your pet, the cost is \$40 per half-hour. Sessions run from noon to 4:30 p.m. Contact Jan at 472-2155.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way.✽



Karen Semmelman, Valerie Webb and Chezzy

photo provided

Walk For Suicide Prevention Awareness

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) will host its 3rd annual Out of the Darkness Campus Walk to benefit The American Foundation of Suicide Prevention Saturday, March 18 on the FGCU campus.

"We walk to raise awareness about this important health issue," said Julie Rego, LMHC, EdD. "Suicide is the second leading cause of death among U.S. college students. We hope that by walking we can save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide."

Support of this walk will help raise funds for suicide prevention research and educational programs, eliminate the stigma

surrounding suicide and its causes, and encourage those who are suffering from mental illness to seek treatment.

Event sponsors are needed; contact jrego@fgcu.edu for more details. Event sponsors for the Out of the Darkness FGCU Campus Walk include Coca-Cola and Gulfcoast Mental Health Counselors, Inc.

Registration begins at 11 a.m. at the FGCU Campus Student Plaza. The opening ceremony will start at noon. Register online at www.AFSP.org/FGCU. Online registration closes at noon on Friday, March 17, however, participants can register in person at the walk.

Walk donations will be accepted until June 30. There are three different registration types: Walker (individual, team or captain); volunteer (to volunteer at the walk); and virtual walker (if unable to attend but still want to donate or spread the word).✽

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*NS 3/3 CC 3/3

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*NS 3/3 CC TFN

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Seaspray Subdivision	Sanibel	1988	3,071	\$2,700,000	\$2,400,000	4
The Reserve	Estero	2002	5,910	\$2,199,000	\$1,900,000	112
Captiva Beach	Captiva	1963	2,010	\$1,549,000	\$1,475,000	275
Waterside	Estero	1997	3,559	\$1,199,900	\$1,085,000	68
Caprini	Miromar Lakes	2005	3,284	\$1,199,000	\$1,000,000	124
Hidden Harbor	Bonita Springs	1994	3,936	\$998,000	\$882,000	67
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2005	2,838	\$949,700	\$905,000	79
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2003	2,371	\$799,000	\$735,000	90
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2014	2,380	\$789,900	\$700,000	817
Oak Bend	Fort Myers	2007	3,372	\$724,999	\$705,000	140

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate

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