



## Local Brewery Captures Awards



Point Ybel representatives, including Amy and Walt Costello (middle), pose for a selfie after the satisfying day in Tampa photo provided

**P**oint Ybel Brewing Company won big at the 2017 Best Florida Beer Professional Championship this past weekend.

The local brewery, located at 16120 San Carlos Boulevard in Fort Myers, captured a Gold medal and two Silver medals

at the competition in Tampa.

Point Ybel Brewery's Grey Mangrove Smoked Porter, brewed with house-smoked grains from actual Sanibel oak, won a Gold medal in the Smoke/Wood-Aged Beer category. The Beach House

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Kayleigh O'Connell as Smitty and Mike Dinko as Saul photo courtesy Lab Theater

## Behind The Scene Antics At Lab Theater

by Di Saggau

**I**f you want some good laughs and lots of hearty chuckles, make it a point to see *Play On* at Laboratory Theater of Florida. It's a hoot and a half. If you have ever been involved in community

theater, you will really relate to it, but that's not a necessity to enjoy the play. This outstanding cast has the audience in stitches as they try to cope with an irritating and inexperienced playwright who insists on making changes throughout rehearsals and even the opening night performance. I truly enjoyed this show.

Louise Wigglesworth is Gerry, the director of the show. She has her hands full with not only the changes the playwright wants to make, but with the

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## Pioneer Day And BBQ Rib Cook-off

**L**ee County Emergency Medical Services Cracked Rib BBQ Team will defend their championship at the 13th annual Pioneer Day and BBQ Rib Cook-off. The family-fun festival will be held at DeSoto Veterans Memorial Park on State Road 70 just west of Arcadia on Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Other teams of emergency service personnel and firefighters vying in the cook-off are the Division of Florida Forestry Service, City of Fort Myers Bottoms Up BBQ, DeSoto County Fire and Rescue and DeSoto County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Sweet Florida BBQ.

The teams will also prepare chicken, pulled pork and other entrees. Baked goods, cane syrup, gator bites, homemade jams and jellies, strawberry shortcake, swamp cabbage and other special and traditional Florida foods will also be available.

Celebrating the history and heritage of Southwest Florida, the DeSoto County Historical Society will commemorate the centennial of the Arcadia National Guard's participation in the "Great War" also known as World War I. Assisting with the



DeSoto County Historical Society Member Cindy Ely demonstrates butter churning photos provided

commemoration will be U.S. Army Major General (ret.) James Lee "Jimmy" Dozier, who started his career in the Arcadia National Guard.

Tradition says that the City of Arcadia is the namesake of Arcadia Albritton Coker, and she will tell her story. Another



Children exploring a 1926 La France classic fire truck. Antique cars and vintage and fly-wheel engines will also be on exhibit.

legendary character – Acrefoot Johnson – will also make an appearance as tales about his prodigious size and walking prowess are recounted. Many volunteers will be dressed in period costume to help recreate Florida's frontier era.

The festival will feature a "cow camp" with working and retired cowboys to

explain their gear and talk about the history of their profession. Civil War re-enactors will fire black-powder weapons and have more on display.

Demonstrators will show off their pioneer skills and craftsmanship in wood carving, thread spinning, soap-making,

continued on page 32



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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

# Centennial Celebration Kick-Off

by Gerri Reaves, PhD



On August 10, 1985, the City of Fort Myers began a Centennial Celebration that would extend over the next seven months. Why such an extended period?

The settlement of Fort Myers had become a town – at least in spirit – on August 12, 1885, when 45 men voted unanimously to incorporate. However, the state of Florida did not make it official until March 24, 1886.

Thus, that seven months of celebration symbolized the time between the town's decision to incorporate and the incorporation becoming official.

The Centennial Celebration Committee had established a time frame – August 10, 1985 until March 23, 1986 – in which to hold events and observances, including historic river tours, parades, shuffleboard and tennis tournaments, an historical pageant, a Pioneer Centennial Dinner, a flower show, and much, much more.

The two-day's early start was presumably because August 10 fell on a Saturday.

The Centennial committee co-chairs were Charlie Stiles and writer and historian Prudy Taylor Board.

Following a brief parade, at 10 a.m. on August 10, Mayor Arthur N. Hamel opened the ceremonies at the Exhibition Hall, which stood just west of Hendry Street by the Caloosahatchee. Rain had forced the festivities indoors.

The commemorative fan in the photo conveniently shows the program, with one notable exception: the guest of honor, Danny Thomas, was given the key to the city.

Thomas starred in the 1950s and 1960s television series *Make Room for Daddy*. Today, he might be better remembered as the father of actress and activist Marlo Thomas, who is also the wife of former daytime talk-show host Phil Donahue.

The ceremony concluded with Hamel and Thomas cutting a ribbon to officially open the "Hall of History." Then more than 1,000 people flowed in to see exhibits



The Centennial Celebration opened at the riverfront Exhibition Hall, pictured here soon after its construction in 1954. It was the site of many community events and celebrity appearances.

photo courtesy SWFL Historical Society



The Exhibition Hall, which stood on the west side of Hendry Street at the river, was demolished in 2007

photo by Gerri Reaves

by local organizations such as the Southwest Florida Historical Society, the Red Cross, the Boy Scouts and others.

This ceremony was one of many community events held at the hall, which was built in 1954, before it fell into disrepair and was demolished in 2007. Other notable celebrities, such as Elvis Presley and Milton Berle appeared there too.

Walk down Hendry Street to the river and imagine a beautiful Exhibition Hall filled with people ready to celebrate Fort Myers' 100th birthday – for more than seven months!

Then learn more about the city's many celebrations throughout history at the following two research centers.

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

It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Call 939-4044 or visit [swflhistoricalsociety.org](http://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](http://leecountyblackhistorysociety.org).

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



A commemorative fan detailed the opening ceremonies on August 10, 1985

photo by Gerri Reaves

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Amy Marcs in her native New York

photo provided

## Alliance Show Boosts Women's History Month

New York City based writer and performer Amy Marcs brings her autobiographical one-woman comedy *Nice T!ts* to Southwest Florida for its debut. The production runs at the Alliance for the Arts during the weekend of March 17, 18 and 19. *Nice T!ts* explores Marcs' diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer and its influence on her perceptions of femininity, womanhood,

confidence and self-worth.

"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," Marcs said.

Marcs, who lost her mother to breast cancer at 17, chose comedy as an icebreaker for people to feel more comfortable when discussing difficult and uncomfortable subjects. At its core, *Nice T!ts* is a celebration of women and the transformative power of art to heal.

For more information or tickets, call 939-2787 or visit [www.ArtInLee.org](http://www.ArtInLee.org).✱

## An Evening With George And Ira Gershwin

Opera Theater of Connecticut, long time participant of the Sanibel Music Festival, will showcase the music of George and Ira Gershwin at the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, 2050 Periwinkle Way, on Tuesday, March 21 at 8 p.m.

An exciting young cast of singing actors including Music Director and Accompanist Robert Ashens, Rachel Policar, Shannon Kressler Dooley, Kelly Atkins, Matt Morgan and John Dooley, will perform favorite selections from the musicals and music of the Gershwins'.

George Gershwin began composing in Tin Pan Alley at the age of 18. His

older brother, Ira, later wrote lyrics under a pseudonym, not wanting to trade off George's success. The brothers collaborated for the first time in 1921 and, in 1924, they wrote their first Broadway hit *Lady Be Good*. Twelve Broadway hits followed, until George's untimely death from a brain tumor in 1937. Ira later teamed up with such accomplished composers as Jerome Kern, Kurt Weill and Harold Arlen. His mastery of songwriting has often been overshadowed by the success he and George had together. Sponsored by the LAT Foundation and Lee Ann Tauck.

Tickets may be purchased for \$45 each at [www.sanibelmusicfestival.org](http://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.✱

## Fill The Boot To Support MDA

Members of the Southwest Florida Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Local 1826 are set to kick off the annual Fill the Boot fundraising campaign to help the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) find urgently needed treatments and cures for muscular dystrophy, ALS and related diseases that severely limit strength and mobility to local families here in Southwest Florida.

Local firefighters and paramedics will be spread across the county with boots in hand for this year's drive on Friday, March 17, Saturday, March 18 and Sunday, March 19 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. each day looking to raise \$200,000 this weekend. Last year, they had a record-breaking year, raising over \$174,000 for local families battling muscle disease and ALS, making them number one in the state of Florida and ninth in the country.

"For more than 60 years, firefighters have stood on the front lines with MDA in the fight to free individuals and the families who love them, from the harm of these life-threatening muscle diseases," said Executive Director Erin Randall. "Each year, Local 1826 firefighters dedicate countless hours of their time participating in Fill the Boot drives and at MDA Summer Camp. We're grateful for their steadfast drive

and uncommon caring toward the kids and adults we serve and look forward to working together once again to make this Fill the Boot season a huge success."


MDA's spirited Fill the Boot campaign is an honored tradition in which thousands of dedicated firefighters in hometowns across America hit the streets or storefronts asking pedestrians, motorists, customers and other passersby to make a donation to MDA, using their collective strength to help kids and adults live longer and grow stronger.


Funds raised through the 2017 Local 1826 Fill the Boot events empower families with life-enhancing resources and support that open new possibilities and maximize independence so they can experience the world without any limits.

In addition to Fill the Boot drives, fire fighter contributions from year-round local events help support MDA's efforts to raise awareness and provide professional and public education about neuromuscular diseases.

Contributions also help MDA's efforts to fund groundbreaking research and life-enhancing programs such as state-of-the-art support groups and care centers, including the MDA Care Center at Sarasota Memorial Hospital in Sarasota. They also help send more than 30 local kids to "the best week of the year" at MDA summer camp at no cost to their families at Rotary Camp in Brandon.✱

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# Art Bazaar To Benefit Student Scholarship Awards



Senior student participants from 2015

photo courtesy FMBAA

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA) invites visitors and residents to support its local student scholarship program by shopping for original art at the Art Bazaar at Santini Marina Plaza on Sunday, March 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Proceeds from the art sale and other events contribute to a significant percentage of the FMBAA scholarship funds awarded annually. The student exhibit, which will contain works from college-bound seniors from Cypress Lake Center for the Arts, Cypress Lake High School as well as the work of sixth to eighth graders from Cypress Lake Middle School, will be hung in the FMBAA gallery from Saturday, March 25 through Wednesday, March 29. Scholarships will be awarded at the reception held on Sunday, March 26 from 1 to 3 p.m. The gallery is located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard on Fort Myers Beach. Admission is free to the public.

Marge Lee will head the judging team that determines this year's recipients for the scholarship awards and other awards.

For more information, call 463-3909 or stop by the Fort Myers Beach Art Association gallery. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Visit [www.fortmyersbeachart.com](http://www.fortmyersbeachart.com) to learn more.✱



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With 1925 square feet of living space this is truly a one of a kind home. Bayside Estates is an active over 55 premier retirement community with multiple activities and clubs. Just five minutes from Fort Myers Beach and ten minutes from Sanibel Island. Too many extras to list.

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Opera Theater of Connecticut

photos courtesy Sanibel Music Festival

## An Evening Of Arias And Songs

Opera Theater of Connecticut (OTC) will present an evening of excerpts from favorite French operas as well as works by Offenbach, Delibes, Thomas and others at the Sanibel Music Festival at Sanibel Congregational United Church on Saturday, March 25 at 8 p.m.

French opera is second only to Italian opera in the length, breadth and diversity of its history. Yet many think of only a handful of titles – *Carmen*, *Faust*, *Pelleas et Melisande*, *Samson et Dalila*. It began in the 17th century and is still very much alive. It includes everything from grand opera to operetta to comic opera. The evening's program will be sung by six young professional opera singers including baritone John Dooley, sopranos Shannon

Kessler Dooley and Rachel Policar, mezzo-soprano Evanna Lai, tenor Matt Morgan, bass Andrew Potter, accompanied by music director Robert Ashens. Artistic director Alan Mann will supplement each segment with supertitles and commentary. OTC, the oldest opera company in Connecticut, was founded in 1986. It has broad educational outreach programs and brings affordable arts to an underserved area. The performance is sponsored by the Estate of Christine Johnson and Friends of Opera.

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

Sanibel Congregational United Church is located at 2050 Periwinkle Way.✱

## Disney Musical Comes To Church

Evangelical Christian School will present "a tale as old as time," Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, running April 6 through 8 at Evangelical Christian School.

This fun and family-friendly musical, adapted from the original Disney film, brings to life the timeless story of a selfish and hot tempered prince who is turned into a hideous monster and must win the affection of a beautiful, young

girl in order to regain his humanity. This Broadway musical includes the classic songs *Be Our Guest*, *If I Can't Love Her*, *A Change In Me*, the title song *Beauty and the Beast* and many more. The exuberant show offers humor, romance and excitement for all ages.

Performances are 7 p.m. nightly and one 2 p.m. Saturday matinee. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students, which can be purchased online at [www.seatyourself.biz/goecs](http://www.seatyourself.biz/goecs) or by calling the ECS Box Office at 936-3319.

Evangelical Christian School is located at 8237 Beacon Manor Boulevard in Fort Myers.✱

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## by Tom Hall



Scouler. Three years in the making, the documentary follows a visionary's quest to secure BP disaster funds, rally community support and deploy 18,000 tons of concrete to create 36 artificial reefs along Florida's Paradise Coast. Through captivating aerial footage and in-depth interviews, the film also shows the symbiotic relationship between, and the natural beauty of, the Everglades, the Ten Thousand Islands, the Gulf of Mexico and Collier County. And who better to help provide narration and interviews for a film like this than iconic Everglades fine art photographer Clyde Butcher?

Although he will always be associated with the Florida Everglades, Butcher is deeply committed to recording and protecting precious landscapes throughout the world. Because of the majestic beauty, boldness and depth of all his subjects, Butcher's photographs have earned him recognition as the foremost landscape photographic artist in America today.

Among his numerous awards and accolades is membership in the Artist Hall of Fame, the highest honor that the State of Florida can award to a private citizen. Butcher is also a recipient of the State of Florida's Heartland Community Service Award in recognition of the role he has played in educating the people of Florida about the beauty of their state. In a

similar vein, the Sierra Club has given him the Ansel Adams Conservation Award, which is given to photographers who show excellence in photography and have contributed to the public's awareness of the environment. Butcher has also received the North American Nature Photography Association's Lifetime Achievement Award, International University's 2005 Humanitarian of the Year Award, and the 2011 Distinguished Artists Award from the Florida House in Washington, DC.

The beauty and importance of his photography has resulted in museum exhibits throughout the United States, an exhibit at the National Gallery of Art in Prague celebrating the new millennium, and a request by the United Nations to photograph the mountains of Cuba to commemorate the Year of the Mountains.

Collections of Butcher's work can be seen in his books, which include:

- *Portfolio I, Florida Landscapes*
- *1995 Limited Edition Collection*
- *Visions for the Next Millennium*
- *Nature's Places of Spiritual*

## Sanctuary

- *Florida Landscape*
- *Living Waters – Florida's Aquatic*

*Preserves*

- Cuba – The Natural Beauty
- Apalachicola River – An American Treasure

- *Seeing the Light: Wilderness and Salvation, a Photographer's Tale*

- *America the Beautiful*, a table top

collection of his work from across the United States;

- *Big Cypress Swamp – The Western* *Everglades*, which features images from the Big Cypress Swamp where he and wife Niki made their home for 16 years

- *Portfolio II – Florida*, a collection of images from Florida

Butcher had either hosted or been the featured guest in six Public Broadcasting System programs, including an award-winning half-hour documentary on him titled *Visions of Florida, Big Cypress Preserve: Jewel of the Everglades, Living Waters – Aquatic Preserves of Florida*, which he hosted, and *Apalachicola River – An American Treasure*, in which he was the featured guest. As these award-winning



Work by Everglades photographer Clyde Butcher

photo courtesy [www.artswfl.com](http://www.artswfl.com)

documentaries underscore, the Everglades possesses particular significance to Butcher. The Everglades have changed much in the last 100 years. Originally comprising more than three million acres, early settlers drained the land for agriculture and diverted the natural flow of water to rivers like the Caloosahatchee. In the aftermath of the destructive hurricanes of 1926 and 1928, miles of canals, dikes and dams were installed to protect the land around Lake Okeechobee from flooding. Urban areas and their highway connections have further encroached on the watershed and siphoned its water. But through the years, Butcher's photography has demonstrated that the Florida of times past is still there, even if it's harder to find and reach.

Other projects include work for Florida's Save Our Rivers program, the South Florida Water Management District, the Department of Environmental Protection, Divisions of State Lands, the Bureau of Submerged Lands and Preserves, Everglades National Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, the Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, River Keepers and the Wilderness Society.

Butcher's black-and-white landscape photography is known for evoking a feeling that America's vistas are timeless even as development approaches. His images of the Florida Everglades, national parks and Cuba are celebrated for the tiny details that emerge from each print – the texture of bark, the veins of a leaf, the ripples within the shadow of a cloud reflected in a body of water. But beyond the aesthetic merits of his work, what distinguishes Clyde Butcher's photography from that of other landscape photographers is the incredibly detailed mural-sized prints he produces.

To capture the images he covets, Butcher hikes off the beaten path with large format cameras, lenses and unexposed film in tow to get just the right shot. He has been known to stand in chest-deep water for hours, waiting until the light, clouds and composition of each dramatic composition come together.

"I try to use the largest film possible for the particular subject I'm planning to photograph," Butcher explained. "So if I have a huge, broad landscape, I use the 12x20-inch view camera. If I am

photographing something like the Ghost orchid. I use a 4x5-inch view camera."

Clyde began making large prints as long ago as 1968, but over the last 20 or so years, he has refined and perfected his technique of producing mural-sized prints. "The first time I did a huge print, I had to wash it in a swimming pool," laughed Butcher. "Eventually, I moved into a large space, where I built big sinks to handle the large sizes of my prints."

"I want people to view my work up close," mused Butcher about his desire to create large scale prints. "When you're in nature, you're scanning from the log to that tree to the bird to the water, and your mind puts the images together to create the feeling of the scene. When you view my large prints, your mind does the same thing because you cannot see all the images all at once. And sharpness is the key to it. Your eyes – your brain – wants things to be clear and sharp. All of that makes the viewer relate to my images in a way that is similar to the peace felt when being out in nature. I want my images to create a positive emotion in people, with the hope that they carry that emotion out into their lives to make the world a better place in which to live."

Within the last couple of years, Butcher has begun to substitute lightweight, compact point-and-shoot digital cameras for the heavy, clunky view cameras and wide angle lenses of the past. However, his emphasis remains unchanged. He still looks for angles and details that will draw his viewers into each image he takes.

"When I see a scene that stirs my soul, I photograph it," he added. "Since I have been photographing the landscape for over 50 years, I instinctively see texture, value, scale and composition, which create a satisfying photograph to me personally. I'm always glad when it's well-received by others."

While, in the end, Butcher's black-and-white photographs explore his own uniquely personal relationship with nature, he does hope that his images inspire feelings of stewardship toward the environment. The wilderness has always been a place where he's found sanctuary and serenity. It was there he sought refuge after his 17-year-old son, Ted, was killed

continued on page 23

















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Bring your pooch to JetBlue Park on April 8

## Dog Walkathon

Looking for something fun to do with the whole family, including the family dog? Come out to Southeastern Guide Dogs 31st annual Walkathon at JetBlue Park on Saturday, April 8 at 8 a.m. The benefit will include a morning filled with friends, fun, food, music, shopping and, of course, lots of dogs.

photo provided

Presented by Publix and Publix PAWS, a free Publix program for pet parents, this 3K walk is for a great cause. All of the money raised helps provide extraordinary guide dogs to the visually impaired and service dogs to veterans with post traumatic stress disorder.

Visit [www.guidedogs.org](http://www.guidedogs.org) to sign up and put together a team of friends and family to raise funds.✱

## Five Dollar Items At Fundraiser

Women in Southwest Florida are invited to shop and support the local affiliate of Dress for Success at a special Pop Up Shop event on Saturday, March 18. Doors will be open to the public from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Dress for Success SW Florida located at 12995 South Cleveland Avenue Suite 153 in Fort Myers. All items will be \$5. Money raised through this new fundraising concept will benefit the new Women Empowered Through Employment Series (WETES) for women in the community.

WETES is a new employer-driven program designed by Dress for Success SW Florida for unemployed and underemployed women seeking jobs and new careers. The program aims to empower women through sessions including How to Dress for Success resume preparation, consultations and mock interviews. Some of the employers involved are Chico's FAS, Arthrex, Hertz and Shell Point Retirement Community. Karen Anderson, president of the board of directors for Dress for Success of SW Florida, is the chairman for the program that will begin in June.

A large selection of name brand clothing in all sizes will be available at the Pop Up Shop, including an extensive inventory of new clothing that was recently donated in women's sizes 12 to 26. Queen Grace, a distinctive plus-size designer collection, has made a major donation. Dress for Success was the beneficiary of 2,500 items of clothing from



Clothing for sale at Dress for Success SW Florida Pop Up Shop

photo provided

Designer Marina Zelner (now Lamitina), who once lived in Southwest Florida, when she closed the Naples-based company for health reasons and relocated to New Jersey. The local affiliate received a portion of that inventory. In addition to clothing, items available for sale will include jewelry, handbags, shoes and accessories.

Dress for Success SW Florida helps women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Founder and CEO Barbara Dell said, "We rely on our fundraisers to empower the women in our community who are referred to us by our partner agencies and other nonprofits. This is very important work."

For more information, contact Nickole Hendra at 689-4992 or visit [www.dfsswflorida.org](http://www.dfsswflorida.org).✱

# SANIBEL Music FESTIVAL

## Save March For Music 2017

Concerts are held at the Sanibel Congregational U.C.C.  
2050 Periwinkle Way at 8:00 p.m.



### Emerson String Quartet

With an unparalleled list of achievements over three decades including nine Grammys they were inducted into the Classical Music Hall of Fame in 2010.

**Saturday, March 18 • \$50**

*Sponsored by Sue & Tom Pick*



### An Evening with George and Ira Gershwin

Selections from their classic songs will be performed with piano accompaniment by an exciting young cast of singing actors.

**Tuesday, March 21 • \$45**

*Sponsored by the LAT Foundation*



### Opera Theater of Connecticut – French Composers

Including everything from grand opera to comic opera, OTC will present selections from the rich French opera tradition sung by six professional singers along with witty commentary by Artistic Director Alan Mann.

**Saturday, March 25 • \$45**

*Sponsored by the Estate of Christine Johnson & Friends of Opera*

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Tickets available on-line at  
**[www.sanibelmusicfestival.org](http://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.





## Along The River

The public is invited to attend a special **standard flower show** this Friday and Saturday, March 17 and 18 at the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council headquarters, located at 2166 Virginia Avenue in Fort Myers, the home of the **Berne Davis Botanical Garden**. It will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. on Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The biennial show, presented by the Garden Council, is free to the public and is titled Celebration. It represents the history and heritage of the council, the present day talents and the future. Donations for the council will be accepted.

The show will feature 48 designs displayed on creative staging throughout the gardens. As a National Garden Club (NGC) member, the show will be judged by panels of NGC accredited judges from Florida Flower Show Judges, which is part of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Exhibitor awards to be presented include an Award of Design Excellence, Award of Horticulture Excellence, Educational Top Exhibitor Award and Artistic Craft Award.

There will be many section awards offered in both design and horticulture. Special awards for design and horticulture will be the Kay Holloway President's Design and Horticulture Award as well as People's Choice Awards. There will be more than 100 exhibits for the public to see.

For additional information, contact



DeSoto County Historical Society President Adrian Cline congratulates Bruce Collins and his grandsons Austin and Parker Evans of the Lee County Emergency Medical Services Cracked Rib BBQ Team. They won first prize in last year's BBQ Rib Cook-off.

Bernadette Hamera at 233-1166 or bhamera@outlook.com.

Pure Florida's Fort Myers location will present celebratory **St. Patrick's Day cruises** this Friday, March 17, offering buy-one-get-one-free drinks aboard any Pure Florida cruise throughout the day.

Passengers cruising from Pure Florida's Fort Myers location will cruise the Caloosahatchee aboard the *M/V Edison Explorer*. Cruises will depart at noon, 2 and 4 p.m., with sunset cruises departing at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$32 per passenger. Drinks will be available for

purchase on board.

Narration on local history, wildlife and ecology is provided by U.S. Coast Guard-certified captains, who are also master naturalists. Aboard the vessels, guests are invited to relax and enjoy the natural beauty of Southwest Florida and observe the wildlife native to the region. While Pure Florida cannot guarantee animal sightings in the wild, the captain will alert passengers to wildlife such as dolphins, eagles, manatee, native birds and more. Guests aboard the special cruise are invited to post pictures to social media using hashtag #GoPureFL for a chance to receive a \$100 gift certificate to Pure Florida for additional fun on the water.

The *M/V Edison Explorer* departs from **The Marina at Edison Ford**, located at 2360 W. First Street in Fort Myers. Reservations are required.

For more information on Pure Florida or to register for a St. Patrick's Day cruise, visit [www.PureFL.com](http://www.PureFL.com) or call Pure Florida's Fort Myers location at 919-2965.

The largest car show in Southwest Florida is coming to town this weekend.

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**, located at 11821 Bayshore Road in Fort Myers this Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19.

The car show will be held on Saturday 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 held 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](http://www.roadhousepromotions.com) or call Wayne Wilmoth at 272-1895.

More than two dozen nationally acclaimed authors plan to meet their

fans and talk about their books at the 18th annual **Southwest Florida Reading Festival** on Saturday, March 18 at **Centennial Park** in the Fort Myers River District.

The festival is a free, day-long event filled with sensational author talks, the latest library technology, contests, booksellers, book signings, activities for teens and children, a free book for every child and teen and the Reading Rocks! Teen Battle of the Bands. The festival draws an average of 18,000 people annually. The Reading Festival is the largest one-day reading festival in Florida and runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine.

The festival starts Friday evening, March 17 at the Marina at Edison & Ford with the Evening with the Authors. The event provides the opportunity for fans to meet, mingle and dine with authors. Tickets to the dinner and reception can be purchased online at [www.Readfest.org](http://www.Readfest.org).

The 13th annual **Pioneer Day and BBQ Rib Cook-off** will be held at **DeSoto Veterans Memorial Park** on State Road 70 just west of Arcadia this Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Teams will prepare ribs, chicken, pulled pork and other entrees. Baked goods, cane syrup, gator bites, homemade jams and jellies, strawberry shortcake, swamp cabbage and other special and traditional Florida foods will also be available.

The festival will feature a "cow camp" with working and retired cowboys to explain their gear and talk about the history of their profession. Civil War re-enactors will fire black-powder weapons and have more on display.

Demonstrators will show off their pioneer skills and craftsmanship in wood carving, thread spinning, soap-making, quilting, pine-needle basket-making, blacksmithing and churning butter – with biscuits to sample the butter.

The "Discover History" children's area will feature many free hands-on activities plus plenty of old-fashioned toys and classic games.

The festival will also showcase vintage automobiles, antique and flywheel engines, a classic fire truck, Florida authors and Florida artists, historical exhibits by area churches and other organizations, and animals.

For more information, visit [www.historicdesoto.org](http://www.historicdesoto.org) or call 863-266-5774.

The **Paradise Coastmen** will perform this Tuesday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the 2017 Concert Series at **St. Peter Lutheran Church**. The popular group is Fort Myers-Naples premier men's barbershop chorus and has been entertaining Southwest Florida audiences for more than 40 years. The concert will feature a fun-filled evening of barbershop classics, as well as pop and folk favorites sung in their award-winning harmonies.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and admission is free. Donations will be accepted.

St. Peter Lutheran Church is located at 3751 Estero Boulevard in Fort Myers Beach. Call 463-4251 for more information.✱

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## New Art Exhibit At Community Foundation



Judi Ekholm poses with one of her paintings

photos provided

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation will launch a new art display at its Community Hub in April.

Beginning April 6, the Fresh Aire exhibit will feature an adventure in color through the paintings inspired by artist Judi Ekholm's road journey through 11 national parks and 21 states.

Ekholm focuses on different vantage points, and her technique is similar to the Old Masters with many layers of fine paint and glazing. Her images of landscapes and gardens are both romantic and bold. She creates all sizes and scales of paintings, and each one makes its own original and unique statement. Her impressionistic paintings can be found in more than 700 international collections.

The artist is originally from a suburb of Louisville, Kentucky. She received a master

of arts in teaching at Indiana University and has studied with Bill Bailey and James McGarrell. She is a master gardener, and her oil paintings exhibit her knowledge and love of the land.

The exhibit is open to the public and will run through May during regular community foundation business hours: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Some paintings are located in meeting rooms, so those interested in seeing the exhibit are asked to call before arriving to make sure all areas are accessible. The Community Hub at the foundation is located at 8771 College Parkway, Building 2, Suite 201, in Fort Myers.

For more information about the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, call 274-5900 or visit [www.floridacommunity.com](http://www.floridacommunity.com).✱



Midnight Madness by Judi Ekholm



Aglow by Judi Ekholm

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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](http://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](http://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](mailto:rabbi@chabadswf.org). [www.chabadswf.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 to12 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](http://www.christiansciencefortmyers.net), [www.christianscience.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:nbcministry@embarqmail.com), [www.facebook.com/nbcministry](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.peaceftmyers.com), [peace@peaceftmyers.com](mailto:peace@peaceftmyers.com).

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

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

**SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER**  
Meditation classes. Guided meditations, methods to relaxe body and focus mind on virtuous objects. Bring peace and happiness into daily activity. 567-9739. [www.MeditationInFortMyers.org](http://www.MeditationInFortMyers.org).

**SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
12171 Iona Road, Fort Myers, off McGregor and north of Gladiolus. 489-3973. Father Lorenzo Gonzalez. Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. Saturday 3 and 5 p.m. Sunday 7, 9, 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Reconciliation Saturday 9 a.m. or by appointment.

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

**SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
3049 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, 344-0012. Pastor Reverend Steve Filizzi. An Affirming and Inclusive Congregation  
Sunday Services 10 a.m.

**SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL (LCMS)**  
3595 Broadway, Fort Myers, 939-1218, Worship: Saturday 5:30 p.m., Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m. Bible Study for adults and children Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

**SAINT PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
3751 Estero Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach, 463-4251, [www.speterfmb.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.unityoffortmyers.org). Our God is Love, Our Race is Human, Our Religion is Oneness

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

**WORD OF LIFE CHURCH**  
2120 Collier Avenue, Fort Myers. 274-8881. Sunday 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m. Bishop Gaspar and Michele Anastasi

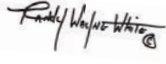
**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
7401 Winkler Road, Fort Myers. 481-4040. Pastor Curtis Deterding. Sunday 8 a.m. Traditional, 10:45 a.m. Blended, 9:30 a.m. Eductional Hour. [www.zionfm.org](http://www.zionfm.org)✠





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# Wine And Food Fest Raises Millions For Pediatric Health Care



Co-chairs Christin Collins and Debbie Toler with a Champagne greeter from Zhantra Entertainment photos provided

Bidders uncorked the power of giving in a big way, raising \$3.2 million for pediatric health care during SWFL Children's Charities, Inc.'s 2017 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest. One hundred percent of ticket sales and live auction bids from the annual fundraiser benefit SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. beneficiaries: Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University and Florida SouthWestern State College.

Made possible by title sponsor Hostess Brands, the two-day event featured Chef Vintner Dinners on February 24 at private venues throughout Southwest Florida and The Grand Tasting & Live Auction on February 25, where more than 350 people came together at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club. The weekend of giving concluded with an Uncorked Celebration Party at Six Bends Harley-Davidson, which featured live performances by The Loving Mary Band and Steeltown Religion.

The live auction featured a selection of 40 exclusive getaways, wine and culinary offerings and once-in-a-lifetime experiences. Among the highlights was a trip to the 2017 Masters in Augusta, Georgia, hosted by PGA golfer Bobby Clampett, which brought in \$60,000. Another coveted lot was an intimate six-night cruise for six aboard the 127-foot yacht *M/Y Bella Una*, courtesy of Joe Anderson and Mary Dewane, owners of Benovia Winery, with stops in Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York City, which raised \$60,000. A three-night getaway for six people at the Relais & Chateaux Auberge du Soleil Resort in Napa Valley, featuring an exclusive library and barrel tasting at V Madrone Cellars, private tours of Continuum Estate and Chappellet Vineyards, and a hot air balloon ride over Napa Valley added another \$60,000 towards SWFL Children's Charities overall fundraising total.

A number of donors doubled their donations to the live auction, providing an additional opportunity for auction-goers to stake their claim on the exclusive experiences up for bid. The 2017 Child Artists, Leo and Lola Grabinski, took the stage during the auction to present their work of art, a vibrant painting that depicts their story of survival, and the largest piece created in the history of the Child Artist program. The Child Art raised \$180,000, and the original painting will adorn the walls of Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, where the twins spent 98 days in the NICU after being born 13 weeks early in 2011.

A popular item among auction-goers, Pass the Hat featured a variety of items, including a 2012 Corvette, college scholarships, tickets to a Jimmy Fallon show and a diamond wedding ring. The collection of prizes was auctioned off to the winning bidder for \$150,000.

During the live auction, SWFL Children's Charities highlighted an important sector of pediatric health care where funding has been lacking, the area of behavioral and mental health. With an estimated 46,000 children in the region who currently have, or have had, a seriously debilitating mental disorder, the funds raised during this segment of the live auction will fulfill a growing need. Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest's Fund-A-Cause for mental and behavioral health raised \$1 million in collective bids, and will be dedicated to helping build the foundation for a comprehensive mental health program to serve the children of Southwest Florida.

The Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest has raised \$18.8 million over the past nine years, making it the most successful fundraising event in Lee County and one of the top-grossing wine fests in the country.

For more information, visit [www.swflwinefest.org](http://www.swflwinefest.org).



From left, Shari and Gary Staglin of Staglin Family Vineyard, Andie and Don Vogt, and Dave and Cheryl Cophia



Ocean Prime Naples' Executive Chef Jason Mallon, center, and his team served guests during the Grand Tasting



Bidders celebrate during the live auction



Riot Parade entertains guests with a drumline performance during the Grand Tasting



# FORT MYERS FARE

## DOC FORD'S RUM BAR & GRILLE

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

It's a well-known gathering place with indoor and outdoor patio seating. The combined menu offers all the lunch and dinner items from 11 a.m. until closing. It includes cedar plank salmon topped with a mango chipotle glaze or a marinated grilled chicken sandwich and there's a well provisioned raw bar. Tropical drinks are a specialty, notably the signature rum drink, Island Mojito.

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

## ISLAND COW

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

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

2163 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. Call 472-0606.

## 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.



From left, William Jackson, Sammy Chaianant, Rigo Valacsay and Denny Cho of Sundial's Shima Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar

photo provided

## SUMMERLIN JAKE'S

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

17501 Harbour Pointe Drive, 466-5377.

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1451 Middle Gulf Drive, Sanibel 472-4151.

## TERRA NOSTRA

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

Owners Fernando and Sao Uva welcome you to their new location after spending many years on Fort Myers Beach. They bring over Chef Anthony Grandepioggia 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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## Prime Time For Sheephead



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

**W**inds finally calmed down and came to a end by early in the week after several crazy windy days. Even though weather conditions were perfect most of the week to be out

enjoying time on the water, we had a few days of having to deal with a lousy tide pattern. The lack of any kind of tide for a few hours mid-morning to early afternoon made it seem like the fish switch had been flipped to the off position.

Luckily, before the zero water movement period, we did really well during my morning charters by catching lots of snook and trout. Then, during the afternoon charters, things started off really slow until the tide picked up, and we generally finished up really well. I don't get to pick when the fish decide to eat, but as long as it does happen at some point during a charter, it's all good. I'd always

prefer to finish up hot then start off a trip on fire and have it quit. Learning why the fish just aren't feeding is all part of the complex puzzle we call fishing.

Most of my week was spent fishing mangrove creeks and channels with live shiners for snook, trout and a few top-of-the-slot redfish. Being able to work every nook and cranny of a single mangrove creek while catching fish at almost every stop is a awesome thing. As usual, the snook required a cast close to the roots. Often, if the bait did not get taken, it would gradually swing out into the channel and get swatted at and then eaten by a trout. Most of these deeper creek trout measured from 16 to 20 inches with even a few going over the 20-inch max.

Any time we had good moving current, the bite was outstanding. Then, as the water movement quit, so did the action. I found myself bouncing spot to spot during these no-tide times with the same lack of results. I even went in and around the passes for these few hours and still could not find any current at all. Then, as soon as the water started to move at all, the fish began to feed again. This same pattern played out for three or four very frustrating days until the tide pattern finally improved.

Sheepshead are in full spawn mode during the month of March and, although our conditions seem too warm to me to be fishing for them, they are still here in



Eric Kibbie with a redfish caught while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell

good numbers. Capt. Jason, who runs our second boat, has been catching lots of keepers on deeper shorelines and crusty dock pilings in and around the passes. If you want some of these tasty fillets before this fishery comes to a end, then you still have a few weeks to get it done. Mangrove creek fishing for sheepshead has proved a little tougher as water temperatures have just been too warm to shut down the many shrimp-stealers that live in these same mangroves.

Even with the dredging in full swing in

Blind Pass, this whole area is hard to beat if your looking to catch sheepshead either from a boat or from land. With a cool down in the weeks forecast, sheepshead fishing will really heat up until temperatures rebound.

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](mailto:captmattmitchell@aol.com). ✨

## Send Us Your Fish Tales

**W**e 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](mailto:press@islandsunnews.com) or call 395-0113.

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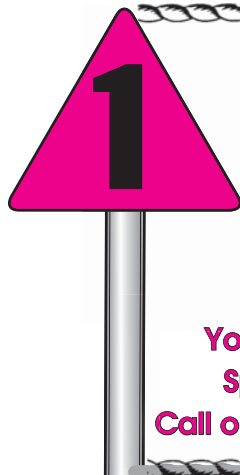


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Dave Doane



## CROW Case Of The Week:

## Great Horned Owl



by Bob Petcher

The great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*) is the classic storybook owl with its intimidating stare, deep throaty hoot, stiff feathered tufts behind the ears and barrel-shaped body. Even its resonant call is the quintessential stuttering song of the owl that you heard growing up or were startled by while watching a television horror show.

When this owl takes flight, it does so with full broad wings. This may be the only time you can view such a creature. The great horned owl is a master of camouflage, thanks to its natural-colored plumage that has various shades of brown. This big owl with a large head can be two feet long and possess a wingspan of three to five feet. And that's the male species; females are larger.

The second heaviest owl in North America (the snowy owl is heavier) roosts during the day and hunts at night. Night is its most active time of day.

Possibly the most imposing part of the owl is its talons. Large and powerful, the average span of a fully spread foot is nearly eight inches. These talons are utilized to maim or kill prey by squeezing or stabbing.

The calls of the great horned owl are not as prevalent during this time of year. Territorial hooting tends to decrease in February and March when the focus is on egg laying.

At CROW, an adult great horned owl arrived from Cape Coral on March 8. CROW officials reported the owl was lethargic and had a large amount of blood on its right leg and wing. During the initial examination, a small wound was found on a digit of the right foot. X-rays showed a small fracture in the wounded digit. Chemistry

tests showed the patient was anemic. Medical staff performed a full blood transfusion by using blood donated from a healthy adult great horned owl that serves as one of the clinic's educational animals. Dr. Julia Hill explained the reasoning behind the blood transfusion.

"Birds are actually very good at coping with anemia, especially from a chronic condition. However in this case, the owl's packed cell volume, percentage of circulating red blood cell, decreased suddenly due to acute bleeding," she said. "The owl also had signs of shock, which indicated the body was not able to compensate for the blood loss well enough and that a transfusion was necessary."

"Basically, we were fortunate to have another great horned owl that could donate. It is safe to draw about one percent of a bird's body weight of blood. The transfusion process is fairly simple in theory. We draw blood from a donor into a syringe with anticoagulant, and then give that blood to the recipient immediately through a filter, to prevent clotting, over several hours. The recipient must be monitored carefully during this time for an adverse reaction to the transfusion, in which case it would have to be discontinued. Both patients are monitored for several days post-transfusion to make sure they are making new red blood cells appropriately."

Tests were done for rodenticide poisoning, since there were beliefs that the large amount of blood on the bird's foot and wing was possibly due to anticoagulation.

"A blood test is available, but it takes weeks to get results. So in this case, we started treatment on a presumptive diagnosis," said Dr. Hill. "Since the owl had clinical signs of anticoagulation and is improving with therapy, we will continue the treatment for now but may consider other diagnostics if the clinical picture changes."

Patient updates after the weekend appear to be positive.



Patient #17-509 receives an exam

photo by Brian Bohlman

"Over the past two days, the packed cell volume has been gradually increasing, which is a great sign and means the patient is making new red blood cells," added Dr. Hill. "There has been no more active bleeding noted. The patient is more alert and feisty when handled."

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](http://www.crowclinic.org).



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## Plant Smart

## Common Dayflower

by Gerri Reaves

**N**on-native common dayflower (*Commelina diffusa*) is one of several dayflowers that are widespread in Florida. Commonly found in moist lawns, woods or in ditches, it is considered by some people to be an invasive or noxious weed.

If you eliminate this species from your landscape, be sure not to confuse it with its native relative, the whitemouth, or erect, dayflower (*Commelina erecta*), which is worth keeping.

Common dayflower is a member of the spiderwort family. It is also called climbing, spreading or creeping dayflower. The latter name refers to the plant's characteristic of rooting at the stem nodes and forming mats.

As the word dayflower suggests, the pretty blue blooms last only a day. Solitary flowers of an inch or less across bloom all year. They have three stamens and three petals, the lower one smaller than the upper two.

The smooth lance-shaped or ovate leaves have a basal sheath, are alternate, and measure one to five inches long.

The stems usually reach one-half to two feet tall, branching extensively along the ground.



**Non-native common dayflower is one of several species growing amid the turf grass**  
photo by Gerri Reaves

It spreads via stems and seeds.

Dayflower species are used medicinally as a diuretic. Parts of them are edible, either raw or cooked.

The petal extract has been used to make indigo dye and paint.

Sources: *Wildflowers of Florida* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, eattheweeds.com, plantbook.org, and swfwmd.state.fl.us.

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

## Lake Kennedy Senior Center

## Ecological Dolphin Cruise

**T**he Kenedy Kruisers will be taking a Half Day Ecological Dolphin and Lunch Cruise on Thursday, March 22. Interested participants are asked to arrive before 10 a.m. and the senior center. Departure is 10:15 a.m. with a return time prior to 3:30 p.m.

The three-hour eco-tour will go through the coastal areas of Southwest Florida within the waters of San Carlos Bay. There

will be possible encounters with dolphins as well as views of nesting osprey, egrets and heron prior to a stop on Picnic Island for lunch, exploration of the water and shore and shelling. On the return trip, time will be spent cruising through a natural mangrove forest where the significance of mangroves to this intricate ecosystem will be taught. You may also spot a manatee out for an afternoon float.

Cost is \$61 per member and \$66 per non-member. Pre-registration required.

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

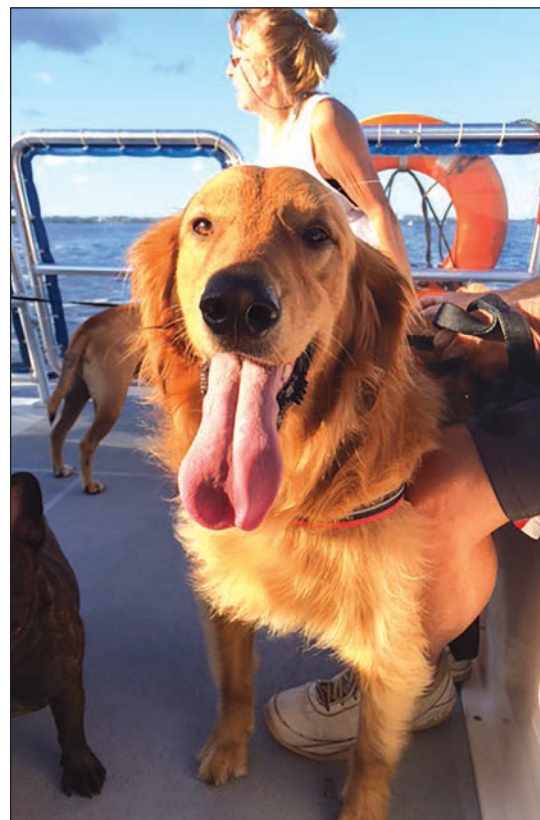
## Bark On The Ark Cruises

**P**ure Florida's Fort Myers location will present Bark on the Ark cruise from 8 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 25. Guests will have the opportunity to bring their dogs aboard the *M/V Edison Explorer* for a sightseeing river cruise to Picnic Island, an island located between Sanibel and Pine Island that exhibits the natural beauty of Southwest Florida.

Passengers can enjoy a peaceful cruise along the Caloosahatchee River followed by a playful time on the island, socializing with man's best friend. During the excursion, dogs and owners can run, swim and play catch while enjoying the sunshine, water, sand and fresh air. While Pure Florida cannot guarantee animal sightings in the wild, the captain will alert passengers to wildlife such as dolphins, eagles, manatee, native birds and more.

Water, Frisbees and dog treats are included for the canines. Soda, wine and beer will also be available for purchase. The *M/V Edison Explorer* departs from The Marina at Edison Ford, located at 2360 W. First St. in Fort Myers.

Registration for the tour is \$44 per person. Groups of six or more can call for discounted group rates. Reservations are required as room is limited to 25 passengers and their pets. All dogs that can follow basic commands are welcome. For more information or to book your ticket, call 919-2965 or visit [www.PureFL.com](http://www.PureFL.com).\*



**Pets will enjoy a peaceful cruise on the Caloosahatchee with Pure Florida's Bark on the Ark**  
photo provided

## Chart Reading Course

**T**he 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 located at 16048 San Carlos Boulevard in Fort Myers.

The class will teach students how to read local waters Chart Number 11427.

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

Since there is 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 a single and \$65 for two people sharing the materials. The cost includes a divider and a plotter. Students can register at [www.SCBPS.com](http://www.SCBPS.com) or call 466-4040 and leave a message.\*

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# Congress Needs To Fund Coastal Infrastructure

submitted by  
Ken and Kate Gooderham,  
ASBPA Managing Directors

**W**hat can Congress do to protect our country's invaluable coastal resources? First and foremost, fund coastal infrastructure.

The American Shore & Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) is recommending at least \$5 billion over 10 years to rebuild and restore our nation's beach, dunes, wetlands and other coastal flood risk reduction infrastructure. This should include building already authorized, but unfunded, coastal projects around the country. These projects all have a positive benefit-cost ratio (meaning they have been determined to have a positive return on investment), but they have to compete for annual appropriations and federal new-start limitations.

This \$5 billion investment should also send funding directly to states that have coastal projects they would like to see implemented but don't have the funding to start. While federal involvement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is critical to every water project, allowing states the opportunity to lead on some projects has shown in some places to be more cost effective and to get projects built quicker.

We're seeing this in Louisiana on a number of their coastal restoration

projects where they are using money from the RESTORE Act, Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) funding following the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

Innovative financing that allows for public-private partnerships may prove helpful on some smaller-scale projects. For example, we have begun to see environmental mitigation banking generate funds for important coastal projects. Finance schemes that allow companies or communities to reduce their flood insurance by building dunes have created helpful incentives for coastal infrastructure.

However, large-scale projects that will drive job creation and protect communities need federal investment. Industry will not build a beach simply for tax credits, they need to be paid. Since the public and our national economy benefit from sound and substantial coastal infrastructure, the federal government must provide that funding. Financing options and incentivizing private investment is helpful for smaller localized projects, but to really create jobs and make a sound investment, the federal government needs to fund coastal projects.

Furthermore, federal investment in water and coastal infrastructure will ensure projects are coordinated regionally and provide benefits across coastal communities. ASBPA does not want to see "random acts of restoration," which often prove ineffective and economically inefficient. The regional approach to coastal management – in funding as well as in planning – ensures projects are effective and the benefits are distributed evenly around the coast.

Finally, Congress has an important role to play in oversight of our federal agencies with water and coastal infrastructure in their jurisdictions. One of the most important things ASBPA advocates for is Regional Sediment Management (RSM) and Beneficial Use of Dredged Material (BUDM). The placement of dredged sand and other sediment on beaches, dunes and coastal wetlands can serve multiple benefits, including flood and storm risk reduction, ecological restoration and adaptation to sea level rise. As sediment sources become increasingly scarce, the USACE and other agencies must manage sediment as the valuable and limited resource it is.

Congress recently authorized a "South Atlantic Coastal Study," which directs USACE to conduct a study of coastal areas located within the geographic boundaries of the South Atlantic Division to identify the risks and vulnerabilities of those areas of increased hurricane and storm damage as a result of sea level rise. This study will also include a focus on sediment resources and coastal erosion issues.

Like the North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study authorized after Hurricane Sandy, this study will ensure coastal projects are coordinated regionally and are achieving multiple benefits, and help USACE and other agencies find new and better ways to guide the management and preservation of America's coasts.

Water and coastal infrastructure, such as beaches, dunes, wetlands and the like, may not fit the traditional vision of traditional infrastructure such as steel and concrete stretching as high or as far as the eye can see. But they are just as critical to

our nation's economy and well-being, and they provide just as many, if not more, jobs and other economic benefits.

Natural water and coastal infrastructure provide jobs via construction and restoration; via recreation (including hunting and fishing) and tourism; via support for the coastal community's local economy; and via protection of property and local business from flood and storm damage. Investing in coastal infrastructure is also a wise investment, since if we don't invest now, we'll pay more in recovery from damages later.

Visit [www.asbpa](http://www.asbpa) to learn more.\*

## Bunche Beach Bird Nature Walk

**E**xperience the birds of Bunche Beach with a bird patrol guide on Thursday, March 30 at 5:30 p.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](http://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.\*

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Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva

photos provided

# Women Team Up To Help Build Habitat Homes

Habitat for Humanity (Habitat) of Lee and Hendry counties recently kicked off Women Build 2017 fundraising with a party hosted by returning title sponsor Chico's FAS, Inc. and its family of brands – Chico's, White House Black Market, and Soma – at their National Store Support Center in Fort Myers. Nearly 200 women from Southwest Florida attended, formed teams and committed to raise \$150,000 to fund the rehab of three homes for three families.

Women Build is Habitat's initiative to engage women in the effort to provide safe and decent homes for deserving families in need. By recruiting,

educating and inspiring women to build, they can transform lives in their communities. Since 2011, Women Build in Lee and Hendry counties has housed 12 families and 25 children through local fundraising and volunteer efforts. Chico's FAS is the Women Build title sponsor and has generously supported Women Build for five years. Silver Hammers sponsors include Bell Tower Shops, GL Homes, Mark Loren Designs, Norman Love Confections, Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva, the Al & Nancy Burnett Charitable Foundation, and Lowe's, while the Bronze Hammer sponsors are Edison National Bank and Pavese Law Firm. Local women are needed to help raise \$150,000 to fund the rehab of the three homes and to provide womanpower for the construction. For more information on donating or participating call 652-1673 or visit [www.habitat4humanity.org](http://www.habitat4humanity.org).



From left, Blanca Perez, Raisa Porro, Lisset Diaz, Ana Villacis, Zuki Otero Perez and Tanya Soholt



Jay Scanlon and David Owen



Gary Aubuchon and Brian Lucas



Gabriela and Claudia Martinez



The Women Build team raising the most funds wins the coveted Women Build trophy



Fort Myers Derby Girls



From page 1

## Lab Theater

actors themselves, who are constantly either mispronouncing words or totally forgetting their lines. Scott Carpenter (Henry) and Cindi Heimberg (Polly) play husband and wife. Mike Dinko as Saul is constantly throwing insults at Polly. Rachael Dominguez (Violet) and Steven Coe (Billy) are young love interests. Kendra Weaver is Aggie, the frustrated stage manager, and Yvonne Shadrach is Louise, the equally frustrated sound technician. She ends up having the last laugh. Gerrie Benzing is Phyllis, the playwright. Be sure to watch her reactions in the front row when the cast gives their opening night performance where everything that can go wrong does.

Kayleigh O'Connell is Smitty, and it's her debut at Lab Theater. She is majoring in theatre studies at Florida SouthWestern State College. I enjoyed her excellent portrayal as the teenage actress who talked endlessly about her mother's possible reactions to the play. Her facial expressions and mannerisms as Doris, the maid, were spot on. She takes feather dusting to new heights.

The show is done in three acts, a rehearsal, the final dress rehearsal and the hysterical opening night performance. Not only did I thoroughly enjoy the play, I was also transported back many years to when I was involved in community theater. Marvelous memories. *Play On* is directed by Carmen Crussard. It plays through April 1 at Laboratory Theater of Florida, located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in downtown Fort Myers. For tickets, call 218-0481.\*



Christina Prendeville

photos provided

## Nonprofit Elects Board Members

Valerie's House, a nonprofit organization helping children and families work through grief following the death of a loved one, has elected five new members to its board of directors: Victoria Loyola, CPA, Markham Norton Mosteller Wright & Company, P.A.; Michael McCullough, COO, LeeSar; Shannon Mullins, CEO, Mullins Memorial Funeral Home; Christina Mehta Prendeville, CEO, Mehta Communications; and Bjorn Rosinus, CEO, Endeavor Innovative Workspaces.

They join existing board members



Shannon Mullins

Donna J. Caruso, CLU, financial advisor, New York Life; Joy Gugliuzza, realtor, Royal Shell Real Estate; Kristalyn Loson, Esq., assistant city attorney, City of Fort Myers; Scott Sherman, engineering executive, Arthrex Inc.; Mary Silverstein, senior partner, RMG, LLC; Melodie Turkish; and Michelle Whitlock, CEO, Siesta Pebble, Inc.

Valerie's House celebrated its first anniversary in January and is now serving 105 children and their caregivers from Lee, Collier, Charlotte, and Hendry counties. Valerie's House is located at 1618 Avalon Place in downtown Fort Myers and at satellite locations at Cape Christian Church, 2110 Chiquita Boulevard South in Cape Coral and at The Village School at 6000 Goodlette-Frank



Victoria Loyola

Road in Naples.

Founded by Angela Melvin, Valerie's House is named after her mother, Valerie Melvin, a 31-year old nurse and mother of two daughters who was killed in a car accident in 1987 as she drove to pick up her girls from summer camp.

Interested families who want to enroll or mental health professionals who would like to volunteer can contact Danielle Visone at 841-9186 or e-mail Danielle@valereshouseswfl.org. Valerie's House is fully supported through generous donations from the community. For more information or to make donations, visit [www.valereshouseswfl.org](http://www.valereshouseswfl.org) or mail to Valerie's House, Inc., PO Box 1955, Fort Myers, FL 33902.\*

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# Bracket-Busting March Madness Has Arrived With Expected Upsets



by Ed Frank

Have your NCAA brackets been trashed? Writing this column early in the week before even the first games have started, my best guess, based on past history, many of our first-round predictions already have tanked. Remember just a year ago when No. 15-seeded Middle Tennessee upset second-seeded Michigan State in an historic upset over a Spartan team that many had picked to win the National Championship? That was the bracket buster for millions of basketball fans.

If Middle Tennessee didn't end your tournament dreams a year ago, what about the fact that at least one team seeded 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 also won a first-round game.

Yes, March Madness is with us. And who can ever forget last year's championship game when Villanova's Kris Jenkins drained a three-pointer at the buzzer to defeat North Carolina in what many have called one of the best games in NCAA history.

That brings us to our local darling of March Madness – Florida Gulf Coast University. The Atlantic Sun Conference Champion Eagles entered the tournament a 14 seed facing third-seeded Florida State last night, Thursday, in Orlando.

This reporter penciled in the Eagles to down Florida State despite the 14 to 3 seed disadvantage, remembering their magical run in 2013 when they advanced to the Sweet 16 as a 15 seed. That was the first time in NCAA history that a 15 seed had made it to the Sweet 16.

Of course, if the Eagles' upset didn't materialize, my brackets suffered major damage.

This year, like most years, there are many dramatic stories attached to numerous teams that made it to the "big dance." Atop that list is the Northwestern Wildcats that earned a NCAA bid for the first time in the 78-year history of the tournament.

Interestingly, Northwestern, located just a few miles north of the Chicago Cubs Wrigley Field, ended the school's long NCAA drought just four months after the Cubs won the World Series, ending their 108-year-old drought.

And then there is the amazing Michigan Wolverines who won four games in four days to win the Big 10 Tournament Championship last weekend after their plane slid off the runway Wednesday during takeoff.

The seventh-seeded Wolverines face 10th-seeded Oklahoma State in the first round today, Friday.

There is no question that the NCAA annually is one of the top attractions on the sports calendar.

And the amount of money bet in Las Vegas, office pools and online sports books runs into the hundreds of millions. Reportedly, the Las Vegas casinos earn about \$100 million each spring on the NCAA, and some have guessed that this is less than five percent of the total bet each year on the tournament.

In case you're interested, even if your brackets are in the trash, the Las Vegas oddsmakers had made Duke and North Carolina the pre-tournament favorites at 6 to 1 odds, followed by Villanova at 15 to 2, Kansas 8 to 1 and Kentucky 17 to 2. Michigan was 33 to 1 and Notre Dame and Wisconsin, 40 to 1.

Who was your pick to win it all? There are plenty of dark horses for sure. I hope your picks are still alive by the time you read this column.✱

## Spring Training Home Schedules

### Boston Red Sox – JetBlue Park

March 16 – Pittsburgh Pirates; 6:05 p.m.  
March 17 – Houston Astros; 1:05 p.m.  
March 19 – Minnesota Twins; 1:05 p.m.  
March 20 – Baltimore Orioles; 1:05 p.m.  
March 23 – Pittsburgh Pirates; 1:05 p.m.

### Minnesota Twins – CenturyLink Sports Complex

March 18 – Boston Red Sox; 1:05 p.m.  
March 21 – Philadelphia Phillies; 1:05 p.m.  
March 24 – Baltimore Orioles; 7:05 p.m.✱

## Tax Information Seminar

A free seminar designed to educate attendees about tax information will be held on Saturday, March 18. The session will be held at the Lee County Elections Center, across from the Bell Tower Shops at 13180 South Cleveland Avenue, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Valuable information about the Tax Certificate sale process will be presented by Lee County Tax Collector staff, while data on the Tax Deed process will be presented by Lee County Clerk of Court staff. Agency experts will offer important information and answer questions, including the importance of conducting your own research before participating in these processes.

Reservations are not required; seating is based on availability. Arrive early for best selection.✱

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who is the only player to win a league batting title in three different decades?
2. How many seasons did Hall of Fame catcher Mike Piazza have at least 30 home runs, 100-plus RBIs and a batting average of .300 or better?
3. When was the last time before a 2016 bowl game that the Penn State and Georgia football teams faced off?
4. Which two teams hold the NBA record for worst start to a season?
5. In the 1981-82 NHL season, Edmonton's Wayne Gretzky set a record with 92 goals. Did his team go on to win the Stanley Cup?
6. Who was the first NASCAR driver to break 200 mph in a stock car at Talladega?
7. Name the last tennis player 31 or older before Stan Wawrinka in 2016 to win the U.S. Open men's singles title.

## ANSWERS

1. George Brett (1976, '80, '90). 2. Six seasons. 3. It was the 1983 Sugar Bowl following the 1982 season. 4. The 2009-10 New Jersey Nets and the 2015-16 Philadelphia 76ers each started 0-18. 5. No. The Oilers were upset by the Los Angeles Kings in five games in the division semifinals. 6. Buddy Baker, in 1970. 7. Ken Rosewall was 35 when he won in 1970.



Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille is again title sponsor for the 2017 tournament photo provided

## Doc Ford's Co-Sponsors Tarpon Tournney

A fat purse promises to make the sixth annual "Ding" Darling & Doc Ford's Tarpon Tournament on Friday, May 19 the hottest competition on the water. Doc Ford's -- with locations on Sanibel Island, Captiva Island, and Fort Myers Beach -- has again committed to being the title sponsor for the 2017 tournament, along with the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS). Proceeds will benefit wildlife and conservation education at JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island.

The tournament pays out 100 percent of the entry fee (\$500 per boat of up to four) as tournament awards. This year, because a rollover of last year's purse fattens the purse to \$33,000, the 50-boat entry field has already filled. Interested parties can contact DDWS executive director Birgie Miller at 292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org to add their names to a waiting list.

The Captain's Dinner takes place the evening prior, May 18, for anglers and sponsors only at Doc Ford's Rum Bar on Fort Myers Beach.

"There's not another tarpon tournament like it in the area," said Marty Harritty, Doc Ford's co-owner.

"We get fishermen from all over the country."

"Doc Ford's has been a faithful supporter of our efforts at 'Ding' Darling, helping greatly to bolster refuge programs and research to balance federal budget shortfalls," said Miller. "Last year we raised \$55,000 for the refuge as a result of sponsorships, donations and auction proceeds. In its five years of existence, the tourney has raised nearly \$250,000. We're so grateful to Doc Ford's for this huge effort in our behalf."

For more information on the tournament, visit [www.dingdarlingtarpontourney.org](http://www.dingdarlingtarpontourney.org). Anyone interested in becoming a tournament sponsor should contact Miller at 292-0566 or [director@dingdarlingsociety.org](mailto:director@dingdarlingsociety.org).

Tournament sponsors for 2017 include: Title Sponsor: Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille; Premier Sponsors: Diversified Yacht Services, Nimrod, Raiser's Edge; Presenting Sponsors: Mark & Gretchen Banks; Gold Sponsors: Bella Signs & Designs, Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto, Captiva Diva, Fort Myers Marine, The Historic Bait Box, Island Inn, Jensen's Marina, John Grey Painting, Law Office of Janet Strickland PA, On Island, Organized Chaos, Trophy Case of Fort Myers, Whitney's Bait & Tackle, Don and Ann-Marie Wildman; Silver Sponsors: Anisa Jewelry Designs, Lighthouse Recovery Institute, Misty Wells' "Let's Take It Outside" and Sanibel-Captiva Community Bank.✱



## Diversification Industry Report

The Naples-Immokalee-Marco Island metropolitan statistical area (MSA) had the most diverse workforce in the state of Florida, according to a quarterly report issued by Florida Gulf Coast University's Industry Diversification Project. The report ranks the MSA at the top for the second quarter in a row.

The ranking is computed quarterly around the time of the release of workforce data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Since this data is released with a six-month lag, the rankings refer to the state of the workforce for the third quarter of 2016, which spans July through September.

The other two MSAs in Southwest Florida – Cape Coral-Fort Myers and Punta Gorda – ranked 7th and 17th respectively during the same quarter. There are 22 MSAs in the state.

The Southwest Florida workforce region also experienced an increase in industry diversification, going from the 10th most diverse region in the state (out of 24 workforce regions) to the 9th, from the third quarter of 2015 to the third quarter of 2016.

"Although it's significant Naples had the most diverse workforce in the state for a second quarter in a row," Project Director Christopher Westley said, "it also reflects Naples' intense seasonality in its workforce relative to other cities. Naples and Southwest Florida, in

general, becomes less diverse in the winter and spring months as industries adjust to serve the seasonal population."

Westley runs FGCU's Regional Economic Research Institute.

Among Florida workforce regions, the Florida Crown region ranked as the most diverse. This region is comprised of Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist and Union counties. North Florida, which comprises Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton, Suwannee, and Lafayette counties, ranked last.

Labor market data for the fourth quarter of 2016 will be released in June. For more information, visit [www.lutgert.fgcu.edu/idp](http://www.lutgert.fgcu.edu/idp).✱

From page 8

## Along The River

by a drunk driver. "The mysterious spiritual experience of being close to nature helped restore my soul," said Butcher. "It was during that time, I discovered the intimate beauty of the environment. My experience reinforced my sense of dedication to use my art form of photography as an inspiration for others to work together to save nature's places of spiritual sanctuary for future generations."

*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.✱*

## Banks Hires Coordinator

Betty Walters has joined Sanibel Captiva Community Bank as a sales coordinator at its Gateway branch. She supports loan officers in assisting customers with residential loans, including conventional and construction loans, and condominium and commercial lending.

Walters has extensive past experience as a senior loan officer and an originating branch manager. Over the course of 30 years in mortgage banking, she has received numerous awards, including top producer, most profitable branch, sales excellence, outstanding profitability per loan(s) funded, and made the CEO Circle 1994-2008 for exceeding quota closing volume.

Walters has been a Fort Myers resident since 1982 and is an active charity events volunteer for various community organizations.

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



Betty Walters photo provided

near Kelly Road; on College Parkway; and at the intersection of Gateway Boulevard and Devonshire Lakes Drive.

To learn more, visit [www.SanCapBank.com](http://www.SanCapBank.com).✱

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Financial Focus

# Time For Some Financial Spring Cleaning



by Jennifer Basey

Spring is in the air, even if it's not quite there on the calendar. This year, as you shake off the cobwebs from winter and start tidying up around your home and yard, why not also

do some financial spring cleaning?

Actually, you can apply several traditional spring cleaning techniques to your financial situation. Here are a few ideas:

- Look for damage. Damage to your home's siding, shingles and foundation can eventually degrade the structure of your home. Your investment portfolio is also a structure of a sort, and it, too, can be damaged. Specifically, you may have deliberately constructed your portfolio with an investment mix – stocks, fixed-income vehicles, cash instruments, etc. – that's appropriate for your goals and risk tolerance. But over time, your portfolio can evolve in unexpected ways. For example, your stocks may have grown so much in value that they now take up a larger percentage of your holdings than you had intended, possibly subjecting you to a higher degree of risk. If this happens, you may need to rebalance your portfolio.

- Get rid of "clutter." As you look around your home, do you see three mops or four nonfunctional televisions or a stack of magazines from the 1990s? If these items no longer have value, you could get rid of them and clear up some living space. As an investor, you also might have "clutter" – in the form of investments that no longer meet your

needs. If you sold these investments, you could use the proceeds to fill gaps in your portfolio.

- Consolidate. Do you keep your lawnmower in a shed, a rake in your garage, and your gardening tools in the basement? When working on your outdoor tasks, you might find it more efficient to have all these items in one location. You could also have your investments scattered about – an IRA here, a new 401(k) there, and an older 401(k) someplace else. But if you consolidated all your investments in one place, you might cut down on paperwork and fees, and you wouldn't risk losing track of an asset (which actually happens more than you might think). Even more importantly, when you have all your investments with one provider, you'll be better positioned to follow a single, centralized investment strategy.

- Prepare for a rainy day. As part of your outdoor spring cleaning, you may want to look at your gutters and downspouts to make sure they are clear and in good repair, so that they can move rainwater away from your home. Your financial goals need protection, too, so you'll want to ensure you have adequate life and disability insurance.

- Seal leaks. In your home inspection this spring, you may want to investigate doors and windows for leaks and drafts. Your investment portfolio might have some "leaks" also. Are investment-related taxes siphoning off more of your earnings than you realize? A financial professional can offer you recommendations for appropriate tax-advantaged investments.

This spring, when you're cleaning your physical surroundings, take some time to also tidy up your financial environment. You may be pleased with the results.

*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](mailto:jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com).*



Cynthia Shafer, center, pictured with Lee County officials

photo provided

## Beach Realtor Named Citizen Of The Year

by Bob Petcher

Fort Myers Beach realtor Cynthia Shafer was recently honored for her countless years of effort with helping abused, abandoned and neglected children when she was selected as the winner of the 2016 Paulette Burton Citizen of the Year Award at a Lee County Board of County Commissioners meeting.

Shafer, a realtor at Lahaina Realty, has been a guardian ad litem locally since 1993. Her county contributions include serving on the board for Children's Advocacy, Leadership Lee County, Affordable Housing Committee, Coastal Advisory Committee, Lee County Housing Authority and Managed Care Ombudsman Committee. But she is best known and appreciated for her work as founder of the long-standing Bedz For Kidz program, an offshoot of Voices For Kids of Southwest Florida, that supplies bedding and other items to underprivileged children.

Donna Garvey, Shafer's sister, said that Bedz For Kidz – mostly armed by the two ladies and Shafer's husband, John – has delivered more than 2,500 beds, 2,500 sheets, 2,500 pillows, 2,500 blankets and over 3,000 stuffed animals in Southwest Florida's five counties.

"(Cynthia) sees children removed from abusive parents and placed in the care of relatives or foster parents. But those grandparents and aunts and uncles are only allowed to receive a child if they have a bed for the child to sleep in," said Garvey in her nomination letter. "Some are willing to care for the child but can't afford a bed. So she and her husband, John, started buying beds. That is how Bedz For Kidz was born 16 years ago."

### Much Work Done Each Week

According to Garvey, Shafer begins her weekly process by calling families every

Thursday to set up Saturday deliveries. On Fridays, she buys cribs, toddler beds and bunk beds and then assembles them. At each delivery site, Shafer enters the home, makes the bed with the new supplies and doesn't forget to leave a cuddly, stuffed animal for the child. Since the deliveries are to five counties, the Shafer truck can rack up more than 300 miles on some Saturdays.

"She had to talk one little boy into letting go of the Batman sheets long enough so she could make the bed. Then he thanked us for teaching him how to make a bed," Garvey wrote. "Countless little girls have received princess sheets. One boy – who had suffered burns from head to toe when his abusive father set him on fire – needed a double bed so that he wouldn't have to do physical therapy on the floor. A 72-year-old grandma was sleeping on a lawn chair for two and a half years so that her grandchildren could have her bed."

The stories are many, and the tears never stop flowing from both sides of the exchanges.

"Cynthia hugs all those who donate and then gets hugs from those children she delivers to. I see her head out to visit children, type reports, and cry over some of those cases," Garvey wrote. "Then, I see kids' letters saying thank you. She went to the graduation of a foster child when he finished West Point."

Shafer is thankful for those who lend a helping hand or supplies over the years, including Project Linus, Southwest Florida Quilters Guild, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, Girl Scouts Troop 292, Barnes and Noble, Price Cutters, Jerry's Tires and countless others.

### Recognition In The Community

Groups have taken notice of Shafer's tireless work. Florida Realtors named her the 2015 Humanitarian of the Year, Women Who Make Southwest Florida selected her as 2015 WGPU Maker and she was the Honorary Grand Marshal for the Edison Festival Grand Parade of Light

continued on page 31



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## Law Firm Partner To Speak At FGCU Workshop

Paves Law Firm partner Christina Harris Schwinn will speak at an Intern Workshop panel discussion at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 24. The free event is hosted by FGCU and coordinated by Career Sources in conjunction with Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) SWFL.

Schwinn, whose practice area includes labor and employment law, will discuss legal concerns with hiring an intern for your business, guidelines for paid or unpaid internships and the employment status of an intern. For more information or to register for this no-cost workshop, visit [www.shrmswfl.wildapricot.org/event-2455902](http://www.shrmswfl.wildapricot.org/event-2455902)

Schwinn is available to speak to local businesses and organizations on a variety of employment law topics. She can be reached at 336-6228 or



**Christina Harris Schwinn** photo provided  
christinaschwinn@paveselaw.com.  
For more information, visit [www.paveselaw.com](http://www.paveselaw.com).✱

## Temple Bat Yam Passover Seder

Temple Bat Yam will have its Passover Seder on the first night of the holiday, Monday, April 10 at 6 p.m. at The Community House, 2173 Periwinkle Way, on Sanibel. Deadline for reservations is Friday, March 31.

Every spring, Jews around the world celebrate the Passover holiday to commemorate the liberation of the ancient Israelites from Egyptian slavery. The story is described in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) in the Book of Exodus. Passover also serves as a spring harvest festival.

The name of the holiday derives from the last of the 10 plagues inflicted to convince the Egyptian Pharaoh to let the Israelite slaves go from Egypt. The doorposts of the Israelites were specially marked so that the Angel of Death would know to "Pass Over" the Jewish households.

When the Egyptian Pharaoh finally relented and freed the Israelites, it is said that they left in such a hurry that they could not wait for the bread dough to rise (leaven). Therefore, the tradition has continued so that for the duration of the Passover holiday, matzos, flat unleavened bread, is eaten.

The Israelites then came to the Sea of Reeds, now known as the Red Sea. God caused the Sea to part so that Moses was able to lead the people across safely. There was much celebration and thanks given to God, including dancing led by Miriam, the sister of Moses. Thereafter, the Israelites

continued their journey away from Egypt.

The Jewish family-oriented Passover Seder meal is steeped in tradition and ritual. The focal points of the Seder are matzo to remember the hasty departure, bitter herbs as a taste of the bitter slavery in Egypt, wine to celebrate freedom and the recitation of the "Haggadah," the text that recounts the story of the Exodus so that no one forgets the harshness of slavery and the joy of freedom. Reading the "Haggadah" is the fulfillment of the biblical obligation to make the story known to our children so that the message and meaning is not forgotten.

Rabbi Myra Soifer will lead the Seder with assistance from Cantorial Soloist Doug Renfro. Rabbi Soifer will engage the children and, once again, blend the necessary elements for a memorable evening.

The Passover Seder will be a catered dinner including all the favorite traditional foods, supplemented by some homemade dishes and desserts. Guests are encouraged to bring their own personal Seder plates, matzo covers, Elijah and Miriam cups and any other traditional Passover Seder table items to create a homelike ambience. The food items for the Seder plates will be provided.

To make reservations for yourself, family and guests, contact Temple Bat Yam's event coordinators Sue Danford at 579-0744 and Annette Pacyga at 941-740-1650 for information about the cost and to make reservations. Tables will seat up to 8 to 9 people. When ready to make a reservation, indicate the number of people in your party and any seating request.✱

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From left, Deb Penuel, Jennifer Williams, Clara Albanese and Jamie Gates photos provided

## Luncheon And Fashion Show

Literacy Council Gulf Coast (LCGC), the largest nonprofit literacy agency in the United States, recently held its annual Passion for Fashion fundraiser for literacy at Colonial Country Club. Nola Theiss, executive director and founder of Human Trafficking Awareness Partnerships, was the keynote speaker at the February 17 benefit.

The fashion show featured the latest trends from Jennifer's of Fort Myers. All net proceeds from the event will be used to provide literacy programs for families in Lee, Collier, and Hendry counties.

For more information about Literacy Council Gulf Coast, visit [www.literacygulfcoast.org](http://www.literacygulfcoast.org).



From left, Mercedes Reiterer, Elizabeth Lozano and Griselda Torres



Models from Jennifer's



Nola Theiss



Susan Holman



2016 scholarship winners with committee

photo provided

## Applications For Foundation Scholarships

The deadline to submit completed scholarship application packets for Uncommon Friends Foundation's scholarships is Saturday, April 1. Scholarships will be awarded to deserving students, veterans, struggling adults and single parents who are pursuing degrees in education, law, technology and other studies.

Qualifications require that nominees reside in Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, or Hendry counties, need financial assistance, excel in school and/or their personal lives and possess high quality character traits. Scholarships vary in application requirements, duration and financial amounts, while some are for specific schools such as Florida Gulf Coast University, Technical College, and PACE Center for Girls of Lee County.

Visit [www.UncommonFriends.org](http://www.UncommonFriends.org)/ Scholarships/Opportunities for specific scholarship requirements and links to all applications. Application packets include

an application form, a written essay on character, a digital color photograph, and one or more letters from a sponsor such as a service agency, counselor, teacher, or principal. Winners will be announced in May and will be honored at the Uncommon Friends Foundation's Uncommon Evening on Thursday, November 2.

- UFF 2017 Scholarship Award Categories include:
- Berne Davis Future Teacher Scholarship for a student seeking a degree in education
  - Technical College Scholarship for two terms
  - Special Recognition Scholarship
  - Hilliard Scholarships for seniors in Glades and Hendry counties to attend FGCU
  - Florida Prepaid College Foundation for freshmen and sophomores to attend a state college
  - Health Sciences Scholarship for a student seeking a degree in the field of health
  - Lee County Bar Association Scholarship for a student seeking a degree in law
  - Single Parent Scholarship to help a student who has overcome obstacles
  - Veteran's Scholarship for a deserving veteran
  - PACE Center for Girls of Lee County Scholarship
- For more information, visit [www.UncommonFriends.org](http://www.UncommonFriends.org)/ or call 337-9503.

## Letter Carrier Food Drive

Seasonal residents are being urged to leave food for the upcoming annual letter food drive. With Summer coming, school out soon and the need for food assistance greater than ever, letter carriers are gearing up for the 25th annual Stamp Out Hunger food drive. Food collected will be distributed to feed needy families in the area.

The nation's largest single-day food drive will be held on Saturday, May 13. This is the one day when letter carriers collect non-perishable food that has been left by mailboxes. To date, 1.5 billion pounds of food has been collected on the previous food drives.

Northerners and seasonal residents who are returning home prior to May 13 are encouraged to check their pantries for unopened food items; they may drop off their contributions at any post office.

Businesses can set up collection boxes for employees and customers who may not be able to leave food by their mailboxes on May 13. Virtually any kind of food may be donated in unopened, nonbreakable containers. Items especially in need are peanut butter, tuna, rice, beans, canned meats, fruits, vegetables and soups.

For more information, contact Letter Carrier Food Drive Coordinator George Sciascia at [gsciascia@comcast.net](mailto:gsciascia@comcast.net) or 218-1147.



## Foundation Reports Nonprofit Grant Outcomes

Eighteen local nonprofits that were granted \$551,500 in 2016 from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation's available Field of Interest funds as well as individual and corporate donations have reported their annual outcomes.

The established and new programs funded by last year's grants were designed to increase the quality of life in sustainable and equitable ways for Southwest Floridians.

The nonprofits included Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association – Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, Champions for Learning, Charlotte County Homeless Coalition Inc., the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc. (CROW), Family Initiative Incorporated, Glades County Board of County Commissioners, Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc., Gulf Coast Symphony, Gulfshore Opera, Hendry County Library System, I Will Mentorship Foundation, Lee County Alliance for the Arts, Naples Botanical Garden, New Mission Systems International, RCMA, The Heights Center, The Immokalee Foundation and Gulf Coast Humane Society.

Of the funded reporting nonprofits, nearly 90 percent of the tribe programs demonstrated progress toward the



Culinary Arts program at Pine Manor

photos provided

changes nonprofits desired in the region because of their program.

The increase in the amount of collaboration between Foundation-funded nonprofits is 650 percent resulting in 13 collaborative projects between the nonprofit grantees. Examples of these collaborations include Gulf Coast Symphony and the Heights Center's MusicWorks! program for the after-school children along with Family Initiative and the Alliance for the Arts' Art for Autism program.

In Lee County, Gulf Coast Symphony's free Music Works! program at the Heights Center provides an



Garden at Pine Manor

innovative education and social initiative that creates opportunities for personal development in children (grades K-2) through the study of music.

Foundation-funded nonprofits saw an increase from 22.5 to 28.9 percent in knowledge and ability in evaluation skills such as data collection, analysis and reporting.

"Awarding the funding was just the beginning of our partnership with the regional mix of nonprofits," said Sarah Owen, president and CEO of the Community Foundation.

"Staying connected with them all year through their 'tribes' provided a learning community where they shared information and built their capacity to strengthen them and their leadership."

Learn more about the results of the work of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation Tribes through the video featuring the Tribes at [www.floridacommunity.com/tribes/](http://www.floridacommunity.com/tribes/)

For more information about the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, call 239-274-5900 or visit [www.floridacommunity.com](http://www.floridacommunity.com).✱

## Women's Legacy Fund Luncheon

The Women's Legacy Fund (WLF) will host its spring luncheon on Friday, April 7 at 11 a.m. at Gulf Harbour Yacht & Country Club located at 14500 Vista River Drive in Fort Myers. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the luncheon is complimentary and exclusively for WLF contributors and Prima Donors.

A fund of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, the Women's Legacy Fund is a group of women who foster the immersion of women in philanthropy and develop the region's next philanthropic leaders.

The luncheon will include facilitated discussions around the three grant focus areas selected by the WLF grants committee including STEM programs/vocational training for women and girls, micro-lending programs for women and business/market support for women.

In its first 10 years of existence, the WLF has been able to provide \$142,000 in grants to benefit people and communities in Southwest Florida. Currently, WLF has \$638,000 in endowment that will continue to help fund local issues now and in the future.

In 2016, the fund presented a grant check of \$20,000 to Florida Gulf Coast University's Whitaker Center for STEM education. The Girls in Engineering, Math and Science (GEMS) program

used the funding to mentor and inspire female FGCU students and middle school girls in Southwest Florida to pursue STEM careers by providing hands-on, inquiry-driven STEM activities via expertise at Whitaker Center for STEM education at FGCU.

In 2015, the WLF granted \$22,675.92 to the Happehatchee Center. The grant was used for Happehatchee Center's Working to Improve with Self Employment (WISE) Women program, which focuses on the San Carlos Park neighborhood of South Fort Myers and the Covered Wagon Trailer Park in Estero.

Contributors to the WLF give a minimum of \$250 each year (\$100 for women younger than 25). The first half of contributions is pooled for the purpose of immediate annual grants, while the second half is pooled into the WLF's endowment fund which provides additional grants to be made both now and in years to come. Prima Donors are local women who have contributed \$10,000 or more to the WLF endowment and are committed to making an impact in their community through charitable giving.

Luncheon reservations are required by Tuesday, March 28 by calling Sydney Roberts at 274-5900 or emailing [sroberts@floridacommunity.com](mailto:sroberts@floridacommunity.com).

For more information about the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, call 239-274-5900 or visit [www.floridacommunity.com](http://www.floridacommunity.com).✱



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Howard Simon

photos provided

## Public Forum On Civil Liberties

Two members of the Florida office of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) will be coming to The Community House to conduct a first-of-its-kind public forum on Wednesday, March 22 at 7 p.m. There is no cost to attend.

The purpose of the forum is to acquaint the community with the ACLU's current and future work in the state and across the country, and to take input on issues that are of most concern to local residents. ACLU of Florida Executive Director Howard Simon and Legal Director Nancy Abudu will be presenting.

The ACLU is a nonpartisan, non-profit organization whose stated mission is "to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States." For nearly 100 years, the ACLU has been the nation's foremost guardian of liberty, working in courts, legislatures



Nancy Abudu

and communities in carrying out this mission.

With more than 1,000,000 members, nearly 300 staff attorneys over 1,100 paid staff, thousands of volunteers and offices in all 50 states, the ACLU of today continues to vigorously defend individual freedoms including freedom

of speech and religion, a woman's right to choose, the right to due process and citizens' rights to privacy.

Almost 100 years ago, the ACLU fought the harassment and deportation of immigrants whose activism put them at odds with the authorities. In 1939, it won in the U.S. Supreme Court the right for unions to organize. In 1942, the ACLU stood almost alone in its objection to the round-up and internment of more than 110,000 Japanese-Americans in concentration camps.

Many of this country's most cherished rights are the result of the ACLU litigation and advocacy. These include the Scopes trial (the right to teach evolution in public science classrooms) as well as the following Supreme Court cases: Miranda (the right to remain silent); Griswold (the right to contraception); Gideon (the right to a

court-appointed attorney if you can't afford one) and others.

The ACLU of Florida takes up issues that are directly relevant to Florida residents. Following on its involvement in the Flint, Michigan water crisis, where the ACLU worked diligently to investigate the crisis, hold accountable those responsible and demand swift and full resolution of this disaster, the ACLU has begun to look into water quality issues in Florida including the green-blue algae blooms. In Florida, the ACLU is also working on issues such as immigrants' rights, juvenile justice with a focus on keeping children in school and out of the criminal justice system, and the right of physicians to counsel patients on gun safety – the noteworthy Docs versus Glocks case.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel.✱

## Shred Event For Lifesaver Program

Here's the chance for everyone to clean out their files in order to dispose of unneeded paper! The Pilot Club of Fort Myers and the Lee County Sheriff's Office are partnering to hold a shredding event on Saturday, April 15. The event will be held in the northwest corner parking lot of Miromar Outlets, across from the WINK Playground, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

All proceeds of the event will be donated to the sheriff's Project Lifesaver program. Donations of \$5 per box to be shredded are suggested. There should be no binder clips or paper clips attached to paper being shredded. Commercial boxes will not be accepted. Individuals will be on hand to help drivers unload their boxes to be shredded; the boxes can be returned if desired.

The Project Lifesaver began as a partnership of the Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Pilot Club of Fort Myers in 2006. The club continues to be the main source of income to support the program. Individuals with Alzheimer's and Autism, as well as others with related brain dysfunction disorders who tend to wander, wear a personalized

wristband that emits a tracking signal.

When caregivers notify the Lee County Sheriff's Office that the person is missing, a search-and-rescue team responds to the wanderer's area and starts searching with a mobile locator tracking system. Search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes. A representative of the Sheriff's Office maintains contact with the individuals and personally changes batteries in the bracelet as they are needed.

For information about the Pilot Club, contact President Joy Augustine at 691-0069 or personalpropertyappraiser@yahoo.com.✱

## Church Duo Organ Concert

Peace Lutheran Church will host a duo organ concert on Friday, March 24 at 7 p.m.

The concert features Rodney L. Barbour and Richard D. Jaeggi in a sonic spectacular encore presentation on duo organs.

Selections are from all periods of music history and uniquely arranged by Barbour. The classical/digital organ is being provided by Church Organ Concepts of Inverness, Florida.✱

## Adult Living Symposium

Lee Health's Healthy Life Center is presenting an Adult Living Symposium on Thursday, March 23, from 2 to 4:30 p.m., in the Auditorium at Lee Memorial Hospital, 2776 Cleveland Avenue, Fort Myers. The symposium will feature a panel of representatives from local independent and assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities and memory care facilities. The symposium aims to answer:

- What is the difference between an assisted living facility and an independent living facility?
- What is a continuing care

retirement community?

- What is memory care?
- And other questions about care for the ailing and aging

"This Adult Living Symposium offers us the opportunity to partner with some of our local facilities and communities to raise awareness of each option to aging consumers in Lee County," explained Christina Austin, aging life care manager with Lee Health's Senior Care Choices. "The goal of the symposium, and specifically the panel discussion, is to help answer many of the questions seniors and their families have about adult living options."

For more information or to register to attend, call the Healthy Life Center at 495-4475 or email HealthyLifeCenter@LeeHealth.org.✱

# CROW YARD SALE

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## School Smart



by Shelley M. Gregg, NCSP

**D**ear Shelley, I thought your article last week about the benefits of reading with your child was good. I learned a lot. We frequently read e-books at my home

with our preschool kids. Are the benefits the same or should I just read paper books?

Lee S., Fort Myers

Lee,

I'm glad to hear that you read with your children. I can't stress enough how important it is to read with them. Your question about the about the benefits of

reading to your children with e-books is excellent.

Jamie Zibulsky, PhD, an associate professor of psychology at Fairleigh Dickinson University, recently summarized the research from the Review of Educational Research that examined the effects of technology on the reading development of preschool and elementary school children. Here are the highlights from her review.

The researchers examined findings across 43 studies and more than 2,000 children. Their goal was to examine how reading the same story in two formats, technology-enhanced vs. traditional print, affected skill development. Here are the conclusions from the study:

"Technology-enhanced storybooks tend to include both multimedia features such as animated illustrations, music and sound effects and interactive features such as hotspots that children can click to access games, questions, dictionaries and videos.

Across studies, the authors found that multimedia features helped children better comprehend stories and words, but that interactive features distracted them from listening to the story.

Exposure to technology-enhanced storybooks leads to greater benefits, but also greater problems, for children from a variety of disadvantaged backgrounds. Children from low SES backgrounds and/or from immigrant, bilingual families benefited most from the multimedia features of technology-enhanced storybooks, likely because the additional information presented nonverbally helped enhance their background knowledge, and thus, comprehension of the story. But interactive features distracted them somewhat more than their more advantaged peers."

Technology-enhanced storybooks seem most likely to help children develop story comprehension and expressive language skills, skills that can be built through conversation and listening to stories. However, these books did no better job than traditional books at helping children develop early literacy skills like phonemic awareness or letter and word recognition that are critical abilities for learning to read.

Given this research here are some guidelines on how to responsibly use technology to build literacy skills.

For now, assume that technology-enhanced stories are most effective at strengthening story comprehension skills, rather than those skills that require kids to focus their attention on the words on the page.

Stick to technology tools that include simpler multimedia features, rather than

those with many interactive features that can distract your child from the main point of the story.

Supervise technology time, so that you can help your child learn how to use those features wisely and when to ignore them. Having a good sense of what he or she is reading about electronically will also allow you to ask follow-up questions and help clarify points that confused him or her.

Think about your child's individual needs, interests, and background when making decisions about the best way to strengthen his or her literacy skills. Stay present with your child and the book experience. It's tempting to let the device do the work read the story, play a game and interact with your child. But there's no substitute for quality parent-child conversation. Keep talking, commenting on interesting words and ideas, and sharing your love of literacy with your child.

Remember that technology can be helpful as a supplement to the language and literacy activities you already engage in with your child, and harmful as a replacement for the language and literacy activities you already engage in with your child.

Shelley Gregg 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.✧

### Book Review

## Sarasota, Sanibel Island & Naples Explorer's Guide



by Di Saggau

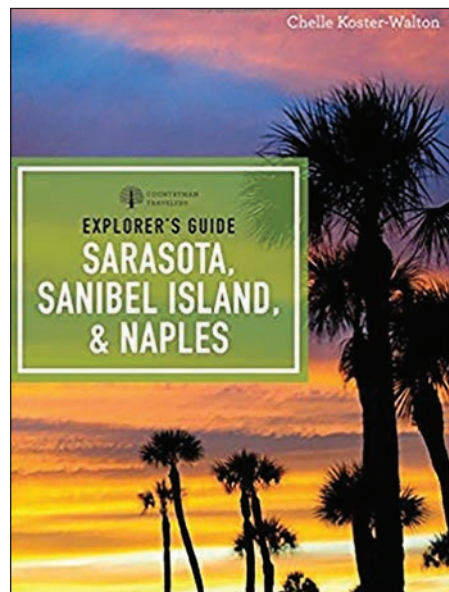
**T**here's nothing like experiencing Florida's gorgeous Gulf Coast, and Sanibel author Chelle Koster Walton has put together a beautiful, comprehensive Sarasota, Sanibel Island & Naples

Explorer's Guide that allows the reader to discover what is available in each area. She includes maps and "Must See" sections and gives advice on what to wear, where to shop, along with a listing of popular restaurants.

There is also a great deal of history included in her book. From Ten Thousand Islands to Naples and the world-famous Everglades, this newly updated and redesigned Explorer's Guide has you covered for every area of your destination to enjoy the beach and a whole lot more.

I asked Walton what her guide offers that others do not. She replied, "This is the only exclusively regional book about this area, and the only print, general-audience guidebook written by a local. So readers get my uncensored curated listing of the area's best. It's more of a locals, snowbirds and armchair travelers guide than it is something for the weekend casual visitor. My 'things' are food and culture, so it is heavy on both."

Walton has been writing guides since 1992 and this is the seventh edition. She updates every three or four years and each update takes at least six months because she has to try to visit every attraction, hotel, restaurant, beach, park, et cetera she can. New in this edition is the "Must See" sections for our area include Edison & Ford Winter Estates, Imaginarium Science Center, Cabbage Key Inn, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, and Lover's Key State Park. If you are



interested in live theater, it's all listed in each geographic location.

In Walton's "High Fives" section of the book you'll discover her top picks in a number of offbeat categories. This includes Family-Loving Resorts, City-Smart Hotels, Inns & B & Bs, Splurge Accommodations, Martini Meccas, Tables With a Water View, Seafood Noshing, Romantic Restaurants, Creative Cuisine, Bikeways, Take a Hike, Shell-Shocked Beaches, Secluded Beaches, Festivals, Art Appreciation and much more.

I asked Chelle if she learned anything new about the area during her research. She said, "I am always learning new things about this area, even Sanibel, where I've lived since 1981. I had not been to downtown Bradenton Beach for a couple of years, and was delighted to find how friendly it has become with its cool Riverwalk, performing arts hall, and new restaurants. Craft breweries have become big, so it was fun sampling them. Something very exciting in Punta Gorda is a forthcoming riverside botanical and sculptures garden that I got to sneak preview. The Peace River Botanical and Sculpture Gardens is expected to open by the end of this year."

Sarasota, Sanibel Island & Naples Explorer's Guide is available at MacIntosh books, "Ding" Darling Nature Store, Barnes & Noble and online.✧

**Available at**  
[www.AMAZON.COM](http://www.AMAZON.COM)  
[WWW.EDITORIALRXPRESS.COM](http://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."

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



## Food Impact Lecture Series



Dr. Sal Lacagnina

photo provided

physical and mental well-being. These interactive and informative lectures are presented by Dr. Sal Lacagnina, system medical director of wellness and employee health.

Food is Medicine – even Hippocrates wrote about this around 400 BC. So why are we not using food as medicine? There are many medications which are plant derived. We know that naturally grown vegetables, fruits, herbs and spices contain healthful chemicals that help us avoid disease and cancer.

Please join Dr. Sal for a fun, informative and interactive presentation if you want to learn more about the impact of food on health.

This month's lecture will be held in the auditorium at Lee Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, March 28 from noon to 1 p.m.

Seating for the lecture is limited and reservations are requested. Call the Health and Wellness registration line at 424-3234.

The Healthy Living lecture series is presented as a program of Healthy Lee, a community resource that was created to empower and inspire the people of Lee County regarding healthy lifestyle choices through education and action. Visit [www.healthylee.com](http://www.healthylee.com) for more information.✱

Lee Health is pleased to bring you the next in a series of free lectures designed to cover a variety of health care topics to help improve your

From page 1

## Local Brewery

Saison grabbed a Silver medal in the Saison category, while the Imperial Jackfruit Sour also gained Silver in American Sour Ale category.

Sanibel residents and owners Walt and Amy Costello couldn't be happier. "It's an honor to bring these medals back to southwest Florida which is the inspiration for all of these beers," said the Costellos.

Two other local breweries gained medals in the professional competition. Momentum Brewhouse, located at 9786 Bonita Beach Rd SE, Bonita Springs, took home two Bronze medals, one for Tricked Out Export Stout in the Stout category and the other for 566 Peated Scotch Ale in the Scotch/Irish Ale category. Fort Myers Brewing Company, located at 12811 Commerce Lakes Drive, suite 27, picked up a Bronze medal for Incognito American-Style Black Ale in the American Amber/Brown Ale category.

Overall, Walking Tree Brewery in Vero Beach captured Best Beer in Florida for Barnacled Manatee as well as Best Small Brewery.

The Best Florida Beer Championships, an AHA and BJCP sanctioned professional beer, mead and cider competition sponsored by Best Florida Beer, focuses on determining the best homebrewed and commercial beers produced and sold in the state of Florida. The goal of the most prestigious professional beer competition is to find Gold medal beers and breweries each year for craft beer enthusiasts from around the state to enjoy.

Point Ybel brewing specializes in using local fruit and ingredients in their beers – most of them beach-themed and tropical. Visit [www.PointYbelBrew.com](http://www.PointYbelBrew.com) for more information. For more information on Momentum Brewhouse and Fort Myers Brewing Company, visit [www.momentumbrewhouse.com](http://www.momentumbrewhouse.com) and [www.fmbrew.com](http://www.fmbrew.com).✱



Point Ybel Brewery captured a Gold and two Silver medals in 2017 to add to its medal collection

photo provided

## School District Naming Rights Initiative

The Lee County School District recently announced a new naming rights initiative allowing companies to put their name on a high school stadium, gymnasium or theater.

The local school district has partnered with Tebo & Associates to manage this project. "This is the largest naming rights initiative in the nation for public schools," shared Brian Siatkowski, managing partner.

Tebo & Associates has negotiated high school naming rights deals for districts like Orange County Public Schools and Albuquerque Public Schools. Tebo also specializes in school-based partnerships and advertising programs.

A 2013 Mintel Research study showed that 75 percent of parents want companies to support schools and 64 percent will switch to companies that do.

"This is a new opportunity for companies to reach our students, families and communities," explained Superintendent Dr. Greg Adkins. "It is a way we can provide companies the benefits and loyalty that come with this kind of support, while helping out students at the same time."

Naming rights range between \$750 and \$8,000 per month based on the amount of traffic around the facility and the number of people who attend events each year.

A new facility naming rights guidebook outlines the details, benefits, and costs.

For more information on what is available, visit [www.leeschools.net/advertising](http://www.leeschools.net/advertising).✱

## Application Fee Waive Week For College Students

Prospective college students can apply for admission to Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) free of charge from March 20 through 26.

FSW's Fee Waiver Week is helpful to students who are interested in going to college, but are concerned with paying the application fee. The Fee Waiver Week timing also ensures online applications to the college are submitted with ample time to get started for the

summer or fall semesters.

"The first step to enrolling at FSW is to complete an application for admission, but students are often hesitant to apply because of the application fee. Prospective students can submit an application during Fee Waiver Week free of charge," said Amber McCown, director of admissions at FSW. "FSW offers a wide variety of academic programs and we encourage students to explore our educational opportunities."

Anyone interested in applying to FSW can visit [www.FSW.edu/apply](http://www.FSW.edu/apply) to access the application, learn about admissions requirements, and other important enrollment information.✱

## Juried Student Art Exhibition

The Art Galleries of Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) will present the 19th annual Juried Student Art Exhibition on Thursday, March 23 beginning at 5 p.m. There will be an opening reception with live music by Balinese Gamelan Orchestra and an awards ceremony beginning at 6 p.m. The exhibit runs through Thursday, April 6.

The exhibit features artwork by FGCU students from more than 300 submissions selected by jurors Chad Jensen, creative director of Thomas Riley Studios; Gisela Carbonell, director of Curatorial Affairs at Artis-Naples, The Baker Museum; and Andy Brown, program manager for the United Arts Council. Students of all levels were invited to participate.

Scholarships and cash awards will be presented to students at the opening reception. The awards include the Carl Schwartz Award for Artistic Endeavor, Rauschenberg Studio Tour Awards, Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild Awards of Excellence, the Frame-It of

Bonita Springs Awards, the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club Award, FineMark Scholarship Award, Thomas Riley Studio Scholarship Award and the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Scholarship Award.

The Art Gallery is located inside the Arts Complex on FGCU's main campus. The University is located off Ben Hill Griffin Parkway, east of I-75 between exits 123 and 128. Parking is available in Lot 7 for gallery visitors; parking passes are available at the parking information booth located at the university's entrance. Following the opening day, the gallery will be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Thursday until 8 p.m.

The exhibition is sponsored in part by U. Tobe, FineMark National Bank & Trust, Thomas Riley Studio, the Smith Family Foundation of Estero, The Beaches of Fort Myers and Sanibel, the Stage of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

For more information on this exhibition and others, visit [www.artgallery.fgcu.edu](http://www.artgallery.fgcu.edu) or contact Anica Sturdivant at 590-7199 or [asturdiv@fgcu.edu](mailto:asturdiv@fgcu.edu).✱



## Mom And Me



by Lizzie and Pryce

**L**izzie 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,

My husband has been an active alcoholic for years. The children and I have suffered dreadfully through job losses, car accidents, loss of friends and a tension filled home. I attended therapy groups and so did the children. Finally, my husband could not deny his condition any longer; he went to detox and also went to a self-help therapy group.

He is now much better, but we are all worn out from all of his abuse and our deprivation. I have a stress-related illness and the children do not have the confidence and self esteem they should have because of his abuse.

Suddenly, now that he is so much better and on his way to recovery, he has told me he wants out of this dysfunctional family. He is filing for divorce and plans to marry a woman he has met at his therapy group, start a new life on the other side of the country, and for me not to count on getting any support for myself or the family.

After all the sacrifices we have made for him, it is very hard for us not to be very angry. What would you suggest we do?

Janet

### Dear Janet,

I have several suggestions for you. Inquire around and go to the best attorney in your area who is familiar with the problems related to alcoholism.

Few marriages can survive the ravages of active alcoholism. Many people die from the effects of alcoholism and they have never had a single drink. Families can be destroyed and the emotional effects can go from generation to generation unless therapy is introduced to help relieve future problems.

Alcoholics seem to be a very self centered group and they only think of their own needs with no consideration for the needs of others (their wives, their husbands, their children, their friends and co-workers).

If you can get some private therapy it can be helpful, but continue to go to Alanon (a therapy group for those closely involved with alcoholics) and have your children to continue to go to Alateen, which is a special group for children of alcoholics. Good luck.

Lizzie

### Dear Janet,

Get yourself the best attorney in town. It is just so much garbage that your soon-to-be former husband thinks he can skip town with another woman and live happily ever after without upholding his current responsibilities. To me, his boasting of... "not to count on getting any support..." are the words of a dry drunk. A dry drunk is similar to an active drunk. And drunks do not make for good family members.

Get a good attorney, develop a good support system and move on with your life. You never know what health and happiness is out there for you and your family.

Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce's email address is [momandmeaging@hotmail.com](mailto:momandmeaging@hotmail.com).✱

From page 24

## Beach Realtor

in 2012. Other realty-based honors include Good Neighbor Award by the National Association of Realtors in 2002 and Florida Realtors' 2009 Associate Realtor of the Year. She also took home the 2010 Voices For Kids Outstanding Service Award and humanitarian for Women's Council of Realtors

For Shafer, the many years she has devoted are not about her but about getting the word out about children in need.

"I am honored to be the 2016 Paulette Burton Citizen of the Year and share this honor with my husband John and sister Donna Garvey, because for the last 16 years they deliver, put beds together and make the beds with new sheets along with me," she said. "(Let's) not forget all the guardian ad litem who along with me represent the abused, abandoned and neglected children in five counties.

"I am a community of 'me's' with the Southwest Quilters donating quilts and the Linus Project blankets and Loving Hands making baby blankets and pillows for cribs and the donations from Realtors, Girl Scouts, churches and foundations that

keep Bedz For Kidz going. The children I represent are also to be mentioned because they keep us going and you know we work for hugs, a smile and a thank you!"

According to Lee County records, the Paulette Burton Citizen of the Year Award "recognizes a Lee County citizen who has provided outstanding civic contributions to Lee County Government. It serves as a tribute to past and present civic activists who have devoted much of their time and energy to citizen involvement with Lee County Government."

The award was created in 1991 in honor of Burton, who died tragically in an automobile accident. She was a longtime Sanibel resident and government watchdog that invested many years serving as a voice of the people to the Lee County Board of County Commissioners and Sanibel political issues.

Those wishing to donate to the cause of helping abused, abandoned and neglected children can make a check out to: Florida Guardian ad Litem, 2075 W. First Street, #300, Fort Myers, FL 33901 or call 533-1425. Make the donation to Bedz For Kidz by adding "beds" to the memo line. Go to [www.guardianadlitem.org](http://www.guardianadlitem.org) to learn more.✱

### Doctor and Dietician

## Sports Injuries And Osteoarthritis



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

**O**ver 90 percent of athletic injuries involve stretched, torn or weakened soft tissue. Sports injuries, whether an ankle sprain, meniscal tear or rotator cuff tendonitis, occur when the repetitive strain of the athletic event is too much for a particular ligament, tendon or muscle to perform. When athletics are performed injury-free, they help us to maintain physical, emotional and mental health. However, when the joint sustains an injury, a cycle of joint instability begins. This cycle continues until it eventually results in osteoarthritis.

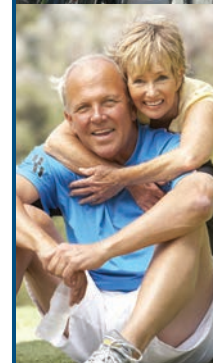
The development of arthritis can occur within a few years or decades, depending on the extent of the injury. While cartilage loss along with the decreased joint motion plays a central

role in osteoarthritis, an injury to the soft tissue structures is actually what initiates this change in equilibrium that leads to the breakdown of cartilage in osteoarthritis.

Standard treatments such as ibuprofen or cortisone injections may provide temporary pain relief from sports injuries, but actually make the athlete prone to re-injury and the continued cycle of joint instability and cartilage degeneration. Pain sensations alert the brain to tissue damage in the body. Using anti-inflammatory treatments to cover up pain is like taking the batteries out of a smoke detector while there is a fire raging. You don't hear that annoying alarm but the house is burning down!

Modern techniques that utilize a person's own cells for healing, such as Platelet Rich Plasma, are becoming increasingly popular for non-surgical repair. Most sports injuries respond very well to these types of regenerative injection therapies. They allow a safe return to sports that is dependent on the true integrity of the tissue, versus turning off the pain with a higher dose of pills or cortisone. It can be a win-win for injured athletes both young and old.

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



join the  
**MILLION MILE  
MOVEMENT**  
an initiative of **HealthyLee**.  
CHOOSE.COMMIT.CHANGE!

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.HealthyLee.com)**



Eden Energy Medicine (part 3)

## Strengthen Your Heart's Energy



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

The last two columns were devoted to the boosting heart energy. So far, we have learned:

1. Improving our internal compass to help revitalize
2. Holding our heart source point to reduce heart disease
3. Biting down on the little finger to calm the body
4. Tracing the heart meridian

Today, you will be introduced to yet additional tools to strengthen the heart energy. The fascinating part of these approaches are that they are endless. When working one-on-one with a client, the energies are assessed, with a determination made as to which technique is the most viable. I have helped clients reduce and eliminate prescription medications that were taken for years (of course, with the monitoring of their physician) – all by moving the energies.

These exercises boost and strengthen heart energy. By doing these exercises, expect to find more comfort and calm with heart disease. They are easy, quick and beneficial.

Belt Flow is horizontal band of energy. Frequently energy gets stuck from the waist up and from the waist down. Around the belly is a horizontal flow of energy known as the Belt

Flow. If energy is not flowing through this area, it gets stuck. From the waist up, it affects the heart. By opening this channel, you help balance the flow of energy to and from the heart throughout the entire body. This is a fun exercise, especially for kids, since we use affirmations that are memorable.

- Place both hands on your back at the right side and sweep across the sides, around the front of your belly. Lift your hands, move them to your back two more times and then sweep the hands down the opposite leg. The affirmation is, "Where is my belt? Where is my belt? Where is by belt? My pants are falling down!"
- Place both hands on your back at the left side, sweep across the sides and around the front of your belly. Lift your hands and repeat two more times and then sweep down the opposite leg. Use the affirmation to help you remember.

By doing this technique, the energy is able to flow from the head to the toes and vice versa, with no energetic obstruction that keeps it stuck at the waist.

Cross arms and push hard with fingers. Cross the hands over the chest and wrap the fingers around the outside of the arms. Push into the outside of your arms, massaging from the shoulders to elbows. Use nice pressure and do as long as it feels good.

Because there are so many tools to utilize in working with heart issues, there will be one more column associated with tools to use for the heart.

*If you have a question, email Karen at [SemmEnergyCenter@gmail.com](mailto:SemmEnergyCenter@gmail.com) or visit [www.semmelmanenergy.com](http://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.\**

dearRPharmacist

## Benzodiazepine Dangers And Lies



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

**Dear Readers:** You know how you can tell a kid not to touch a hot stove, but they'll do it because they have to learn "hot" for themselves? That's how it feels to me. It's the same with medications.

I've seen happy, otherwise normal people lose their life, their jobs, their relationships and their minds to the use of common, popular drugs that come easily prescribed by well-meaning doctors. Benzos are a nightmare to get off of, and the tolerance withdrawal symptoms can cause major disability. I have a much longer version of this benzo article, including natural options for relaxation. To receive your copy, go to [www.suzycohen.com](http://www.suzycohen.com) and sign up for my free newsletter, then I'll email it.

In my 25 years as a licensed pharmacist, I have seen miracles and disasters associated with medicine. Benzodiazepines are among the most prescribed drugs for the elderly, and their side effects are associated with dizziness and drowsiness and, of course, the natural consequence to that... falling and hip fractures.

Benzodiazepines are widely available and account for 35 percent of drug-related visits to hospital emergency rooms and urgent care clinics. The drug companies that manufacture and move these drugs only recommend that they be used short-term, generally up to only a few weeks, yet many of you have taken them for years. Chronic benzos use might also cause long-term neurological damage that is so

difficult to diagnose that it's possible to be accidentally diagnosed with atypical forms of common neurological disorders, such as ALS, Parkinson's, MS and Alzheimer's.

Some signs of benzo abuse or dependence make you look like you're drunk. For example, it can cause slurred speech, drowsiness, dizziness, rage, fatigue and memory loss. In fact, both alcohol and benzos work by impacting the receptors of gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA-a) in the brain. You're not making more GABA, you're just making better use of the GABA you have, making it hang around longer in your brain and gut, and thus relaxing you more. GABA receptors eventually atrophy, and GABA levels drop.

If you've never started, and a benzo prescription is suddenly given to you, say, "No thanks doc, Suzy said not to start this!" A recent study published in the journal *International Clinical Psychopharmacology* by researchers in Finland found that among the 22 percent of study participants who had used benzodiazepines had a 20 percent increase in risk of stroke.

You cannot suddenly stop. It's dangerous, so do not stop your medication. But if you are at the place where a doctor wants you to begin the medication, I beg you to say no. Don't believe this, "Yeah, there's absolutely no harm in taking this, don't worry so much."

My opinion is you're either dealing with an ignorant practitioner, or it's a flat-out lie. A quick google search reveals benzodiazepine risks. My concern is once you begin benzodiazepines, there will be no choice but to keep raising your dosage or face tolerance withdrawal, or worse... suffer the consequences that slowly claim your brain. If you're trying to get off, please see an addiction specialist, do not suddenly stop.

*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](http://www.SuzyCohen.com).\**



The Fiddle Crabs

From page 1

## Pioneer Day

quilting, pine-needle basket-making, blacksmithing, and churning butter – with biscuits to sample the butter.

The Discover History children's area will feature many free hands-on activities plus plenty of old-fashioned toys and classic games.

Musical entertainment ranges from soloists – Lee James, Keith Mathys and Florida's Harmonica Champion Johnny Shannon – to bands like the Fiddle Crabs, an old-time string band from Punta Gorda playing music popular in country towns of the 19th and 20th century, classic country of Barney and Nancy Miesse of Lake Placid and the Suncoast Dulcimers of Port Charlotte

photos provided



Sons of Confederate Veterans, Cow Cavalry, Camp 2181, will have a display and demonstration of period weaponry

performing old-time tunes.

Sponsored by Mosaic, the Arcadia Rotary Club and First State Bank of Arcadia, the festival will also showcase vintage automobiles, antique and flywheel engines, a classic fire truck,

Florida authors and Florida artists, historical exhibits by area churches and other organizations, and animals.

For more information, visit [www.historicdesoto.org](http://www.historicdesoto.org) or call 863-266-5774.\*



# PETS OF THE WEEK

## Lee County Domestic Animal Services

### Domino And Ginger

Animal Services has had a run of black and white cats at the shelter lately. Domino is a 7-month-old male domestic shorthair and the perfect almost adult yet still a kitten age. He is very playful and would love to go home with one of his many feline friends at Animal Services. Domino's adoption fee is \$50. As always, cats and kittens are "adopt one, get one free."



Domino ID# 691637



Ginger ID# 691441

Ginger is a 10-month-old female pit bull who has a gentle soul and is just beginning to come out of her shell. She is a bit unsure of her surroundings at the shelter. She longs to have a home of her own where her true personality can come out.

She is very well-mannered for a dog her age. If you are looking for a younger dog to grow with your family, Ginger will be the perfect addition. Ginger's adoption fee is \$50.

Through March, you will receive \$25 off all adoption fees. Bring in a children's book to donate and receive an additional \$10 off.

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

The shelter is open for adoptions from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office off Six Mile Cypress Parkway.

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

The adoption package is valued at \$500.\*

## Haven on Earth Animal League

### Gumdrop And Molly

Hi there... I'm Gumdrop. I am such a sweet little guy just waiting for someone to take me home. I like to purr nonstop. I'm only 3 months old and I have beautiful bright green eyes. Stop in the Petco at Gulf Coast Town Center to see me. I'm neutered and up-to-date on all vaccines. My adoption fee is \$125.

Hello, my name is Molly. I am a very loveable, female tortoiseshell tabby with beautiful markings. I'm 4 years old and I have a very quiet disposition. I'm spayed and up-to-date on all vaccines. My adoption fee is \$100. I am currently residing at the PetSmart at Colonial Boulevard and Six Mile Cypress. Please come adopt me so I can have a home of my own.

To find out more about either adoptable cat, call Diane at 860-833-4472 or email Haven on Earth Animal League at [havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo.com](mailto:havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo.com).

We are being cared for by Haven on Earth Animal League. For more information, email [havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo.com](mailto:havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo.com).\*



Gumdrop



Molly

## PAWS Of Sanibel

### Bowman

PAWS of Sanibel found this Papillon mix on Bowman's Beach Road on March 3. They have named him Bowman and believe he is a Papillon mix, weighing just under 7 pounds. Papillon is French for "butterfly," which their ears resemble. He is currently in a foster home and his foster mom says he is house trained and super sweet.



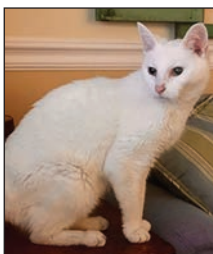
Bowman

If you have any information about who he belongs to or are interested in adopting, call Pam at PAWS of Sanibel at 472-4823.\*

## PAWS Of Sanibel

### Peyton

This is Peyton. He was picked up on Sanibel Captiva Road near the Medical Clinic on February 20. He was wearing a collar with a heart shaped tag. PAWS of Sanibel has been calling the numbers listed on the tag, but without positive results. Also, the



Peyton

Sanibel Police Department has indicated that the person whose name appears on the tag is deceased. Through local veterinary records, this kitty was born on November 1, 1997. Observing him, and because of his age, PAWS has had some medical testing performed, and it appears he is in pretty good condition for his age. Peyton is very vocal (he talks a lot) and extremely sweet.

If you know anything about this sweet boy, contact Pam at PAWS of Sanibel by calling 472-4823.\*

## PAWS Of Sanibel

### Hugo And Caramel

PAWS of Sanibel is trying to find a temporary foster for two dogs, beginning in April, while the owner continues to undergo cancer treatment, which is taking longer than anticipated and won't be finished until July. The dogs have been staying with friends since last fall, and the arrangement has been working great. However, they can only continue fostering them until next month.

The dogs can be fostered together or separate. They are bonded but also resilient and we know that



Hugo and Caramel

## 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](mailto:press@riverweekly.com)

continued on page 39



PUZZLES

Answers on page 37

Super Crossword

ADD CAMPAIGN

- ACROSS
- 1 British Derby town
- 6 — apso (terrier)
- 11 Billy's bleat
- 14 Time and —
- 19 Name on a mower
- 20 Greek letters
- 21 Raised RRs
- 22 Storybook elephant
- 23 Cheer up the singer of "Galveston"?
- 26 Cowboy rope
- 27 "Aw, quit — bellyachin'!"
- 28 Frozen cubes
- 29 Puck, for one
- 30 Lack of law
- 32 Rice fields whose workers love a frothy pastry filling?
- 38 With a very sharp image, for short
- 40 Ipanema site, briefly
- 41 Drink in many a 58-Across
- 42 Corp. VIP
- 43 Scottish boys testifying in court?
- 49 Fr. woman with a halo
- 52 "As I see it," to a texter
- 53 "Science Guy" Bill
- 54 Turkey Day tuber
- 55 Artistic users of acid
- 58 Pub barrel
- 59 Farm fowls
- 61 Food grinder
- 65 "Zapped!" actor Willie
- 66 GQ staffers
- 67 Threw one's ordinary existence into confusion?
- 71 Sky's color, in Salerno
- 72 Luau guitar, for short
- 73 Océan filler
- 74 Driver's 180
- 75 Horse riders' activity in an Asian island country?
- 81 Insult, hip-hop-style
- 84 "— a Grecian Urn"
- 85 Actor Davis
- 86 Rebuke to Brutus
- 87 Rhea's kin
- 88 Bill or Hillary
- 90 Suffix with joy or humor
- 93 Slim fish
- 94 Big primate
- 95 Slugger Griffey
- 96 Officer in charge of soft packing material?
- 102 Tycoon Onassis
- 104 Two, to José
- 105 Take it on the — (escape)
- 106 Woes
- 107 NFL announcer John acting up?
- 115 Typical
- 116 Crude stuff
- 117 Stud's place
- 118 Pay a visit to
- 121 Municipal
- 122 Deliver a craze follower into custody?
- 128 Up in the air
- 129 Nero's "I love"
- 130 Spirits in bottles
- 131 — -car (Avis service)
- 132 Hopes to get
- 133 "Fresh Air" ainer
- 134 Artery-opening tube
- 135 Letters of plurals
- DOWN
- 1 All nerves
- 2 Brazilian soccer hero
- 3 Sniffers in rescue operations
- 4 O'Hare airport code
- 5 Army doc
- 6 Tablecloths, e.g.
- 7 Ad — committee
- 8 "I'm — loss"
- 9 Froot Loops toucan
- 10 In line with
- 11 Hybrid meat
- 12 Completely
- 13 Like — in the face
- 14 Wear away
- 15 Beehive, e.g.
- 16 Ancient calculators
- 17 Machine shop tool
- 18 Gets ragged
- 24 Prefix with car or chic
- 25 Make dim, as by tears
- 31 Opposite of day, in Bonn
- 33 Kooky
- 34 Nation south of Braz.
- 35 Super-small
- 36 Opus finale
- 37 Drop-line link
- 38 "Looks great to me!"
- 39 Called
- 44 Aid for an asthmatic
- 45 Looked at amorously
- 46 Wire, e.g.
- 47 Stone of film
- 48 Word
- 49 Interstate rig
- 50 Not kosher
- 51 Nero's "to be"
- 56 Cruel Roman emperor
- 57 Physically fit
- 60 Aspersions
- 62 Linear, for short
- 63 Weigh down
- 64 As — (usually)
- 68 Squeezes (out)
- 69 Arnaz of TV
- 70 Her niece is Dorothy
- 71 Weed — (lawn care brand)
- 75 Foot coverer
- 76 Be inactive
- 77 "No, Hans"
- 78 Charlie Chaplin's last wife
- 79 Era after era
- 80 Agenda part
- 81 Envy and lust
- 82 Urge to act
- 83 Plaintiffs
- 89 In arrears
- 91 Wrinkly citrus fruit
- 92 Flip through
- 97 34th prez
- 98 Show respect (to)
- 99 "Because — so!"
- 100 "Wow!," in an IM
- 101 Not a one
- 102 Going with the flow
- 103 Strikes back, say
- 107 Kind of parrot
- 108 Teresa's city
- 109 English county
- 110 "Borstal Boy" author
- 111 Many YouTube uploads
- 112 Prove apt for
- 113 Little battery
- 114 Rapper with six Grammys
- 119 Villa d'—
- 120 Greek letters
- 123 Rock blaster
- 124 Pooch's doc
- 125 Propyl ending
- 126 — Tin Tin
- 127 Arles article

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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	76	77				78			79			80			81	82	83		
84						85						86			87				
88					89				90	91	92		93			94			
95					96		97	98	99			100			101				
			102	103			104			105					106				
107	108	109				110			111				112	113	114				
115								116					117				118	119	120
121						122	123				124	125	126			127			
128						129				130					131				
132						133				134					135				

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Without help
- 5 \$ dispenser
- 8 MPs' quarry
- 12 Speedy steed
- 13 Meadow
- 14 Toy block name
- 15 Time rival
- 17 Dregs
- 18 Recipient
- 19 Brings forth
- 21 Feudal worker
- 24 Hooter
- 25 Isn't well
- 28 Hebrew month
- 30 Discoverer's cry
- 33 To and —
- 34 Visit habitual-
- 35 Zero
- 36 Coffee break hour
- 37 Leave out
- 38 On in years
- 39 Martini ingredient
- 41 Banish to Hades
- 43 Cultural, as some cuisines
- 46 Pass along
- 50 False god
- 51 Thin, as a fracture
- 54 Soft cheese
- 55 Kind
- 10 Curved mold-
- ing
- 11 Privation
- 16 Teeny
- 20 Electrical measure
- 22 Paper quan-
- tity
- 23 Liquid
- 25 Toward the stern
- 26 Anger
- 27 Classical music lover
- 29 "Do — others ..."
- 31 Hasten
- 32 Ancient
- 34 "— soit qui
- mal y pense"
- 38 Aviatrix
- Earhart
- 40 Bay, for one
- 42 Bobby of hockey
- 43 Recedes
- 44 Poi base
- 45 Item in a pot, maybe
- 47 MGM mascot
- 48 Con
- 49 Nays' undo-
- ers
- 52 Muhammad or Laila
- 53 Eisenhower

DOWN

- 1 Beach matter
- 2 Twistable
- 3 Tennis venue, maybe
- 4 Preoccupy
- 5 Hearty brew
- 6 Ball prop
- 7 Create
- 8 Let
- 9 From Sunday through Saturday
- 10 Curved mold-
- ing
- 11 Privation
- 16 Teeny
- 20 Electrical measure
- 22 Paper quan-
- tity
- 23 Liquid
- 25 Toward the stern
- 26 Anger
- 27 Classical music lover
- 29 "Do — others ..."
- 31 Hasten
- 32 Ancient
- 34 "— soit qui
- mal y pense"
- 38 Aviatrix
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- 45 Item in a pot, maybe
- 47 MGM mascot
- 48 Con
- 49 Nays' undo-
- ers
- 52 Muhammad or Laila
- 53 Eisenhower

MAGIC MAZE ● SUMO WRESTLING

M N K H E B Y W T G T R O L J

G E B Y (C E R E M O N Y) W U R

P N K I G N D B U Z X I V S Q

O M K I G A L R O E C A R Y W

U S Q P N P N A L Y I J H F E

C A T Y M A K U U C H I X V U

S Q P L M J N M Z T S O K J H

F E C E A B Z Y X O I B D B V

O T N I H S T U O B K R U E U

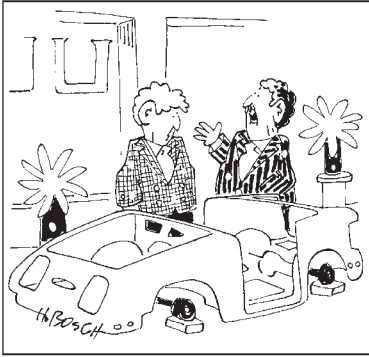
T T O O F E R A B R I O Q L P

S N O I T I D A R T R O Y T C

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

- Barefoot
- Belt
- Bouts
- Ceremony
- Clubs
- Dohyo
- Japan
- Makuuchi
- Rikishi
- Ritual
- Salt
- Shinto
- Tournaments
- Traditions
- Yokozuna





"Let's talk \_\_\_\_\_."

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!

Avoid  
**REGION**

Lean  
**NUGAT**

Appeal  
**LEAP**

Tarnish  
**LIPOS**

**TODAY'S WORD**

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

## SUDOKU

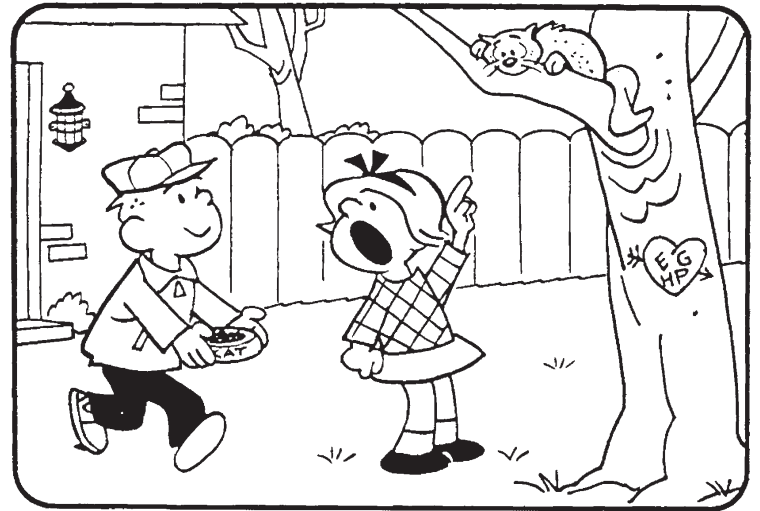
**To play Sudoku:**

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.

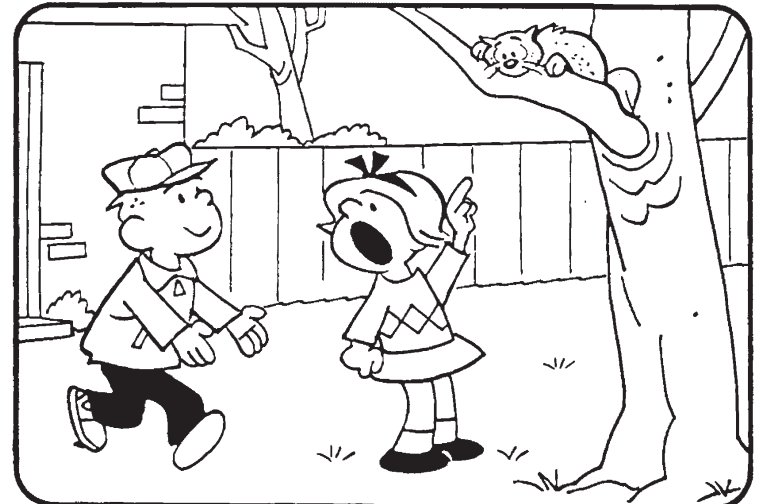
answer on page 37

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTIKOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Light is missing. 2. Dish is missing. 3. Fence is different. 4. Blouse is different. 5. Cat's tail is moved. 6. Carved heart is missing.

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### Florida Oysters Rockefeller

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

Preheat oven on high broil.

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

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

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

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



Florida Oysters Rockefeller

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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President, Di Saggau  
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PUZZLE ANSWERS

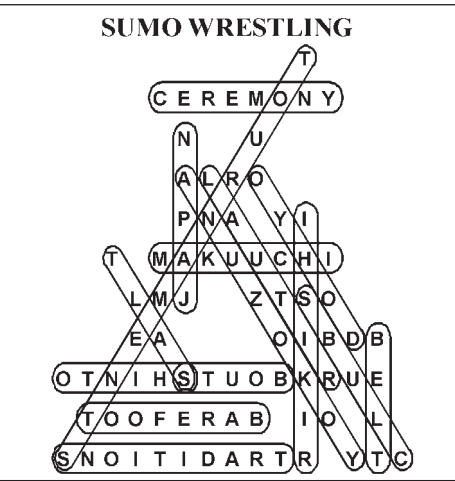
SUPER CROSSWORD

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

KING CROSSWORD

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

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars★★★★

FOR WEEK OF MARCH 20, 2017

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) This is a good time to reassess important relationships, both personal and professional, to see where problems might exist and how they can be overcome. Keep communication lines open.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) It's not easy to bring order to a chaotic situation, whether it's in the workplace or at home. But if anyone can do it, you can. A pleasant surprise awaits you by week's end.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Be careful that you don't make an upcoming decision solely on the word of those who might have their own reasons for wanting you to act as they suggest. Check things out for yourself.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A personal relationship that seems to be going nowhere could be restarted once you know why it stalled. An honest discussion could result in some surprising revelations.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) That unexpected attack of self-doubt could be a way of warning yourself to go slow before making a career-changing decision. Take more time to do a closer study of the facts.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) A workplace problem needs your attention, now, before it deteriorates to a point beyond repair. A trusted third party could be helpful in closing the gaps that have opened.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A recent family situation could give rise to a new problem. Keep an open mind and avoid making judgments about anyone's motives until all the facts are in.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Rely on your always-sharp intuition to alert you to potential problems with someone's attempt to explain away the circumstances behind a puzzling incident.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Although you still need to do some snipping of those lingering loose ends from a past project, you can begin moving on to something else.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) With your self-confidence

levels rising, you should feel quite comfortable with agreeing to take on a possibly troublesome, but potentially well-rewarded, situation.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Travel is favored, both for business and for fun. The end of the week brings news about an upcoming project that could lead toward that promised career change.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) You might feel suddenly overwhelmed by a flood of responsibilities. But if you deal with each one in its turn, you'll soon be able to hold your head above water and move on.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a wonderful way of offering comfort as well as guidance. You would do well in the healing arts.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On March 23, 1839, the initials "OK" are first published, in *The Boston Morning Post*. Meant as an abbreviation for "oll korrekt," a popular slang misspelling of "all correct," its popularity exploded when it was picked up by politicians.

• On March 21, 1871, journalist Henry Morton Stanley begins his search through Africa for missing British explorer Dr. David Livingstone, who had been gone for six years. Reaching Lake Tanganyika, Stanley spotted a white man in the crowd and famously asked, "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"

• On March 25, 1933, President Herbert Hoover accepts the newly commissioned USS Sequoia as the official presidential yacht. The Sequoia would go on to serve eight U.S. presidents. Previously, the Department of Commerce had used it as a decoy to catch Prohibition lawbreakers.

• On March 22, 1947, in response to fears about communism in the United States, President Harry Truman issues an executive decree establishing a sweeping loyalty investigation of federal employees. Loyalty boards were to be set up in every department and agency of the federal government.

• On March 24, 1955, Tennessee Williams' play "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" opens in New York. The play would

win Williams his second Pulitzer Prize, following "A Streetcar Named Desire" in 1947.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was award-winning American author Ann Patchett who made the following sage observation: "The question is whether or not you choose to disturb the world around you, or if you choose to let it go on as if you had never arrived."

• As St. Patrick's Day approaches, you might want to remember that the color originally associated with the Apostle of Ireland was blue, not green.

• In 1861, when a group of Unionist counties decided they didn't want to be part of Virginia any more, West Virginia became the only state formed by breaking away from a Confederate state. That wasn't the only attempt, however; a group of citizens in northern Alabama and eastern Tennessee wanted to band together and form a new state that would be allied with the Union. Unfortunately for this pro-Unionist faction, plans for the would-be state of Nickajack never came to fruition.

• Are you a coddliwompler? You are if you sometimes travel purposefully toward an as-yet-unknown destination.

• At the time of its completion in 1885, the Washington Monument, at 555 feet, was the tallest building in the world. The cornerstone had been laid on July 4, 1848, but insufficient funds and other interruptions repeatedly delayed the work. When the monument finally opened to the public in October 1888, visitors could take a 10-minute steam-powered elevator ride to the top. During the last 12 years of the 19th century, more than 1.5 million people visited.

• Hibernation doesn't always happen in cold weather; warm-weather hibernation, known as estivation, is common among some species of lizards, turtles and snails.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The radical novelty of modern science lies precisely in the rejection of the belief ... that the forces which move the stars and atoms are contingent upon the preferences of the human heart." -- Walter Lippmann

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Ignore; 2. Gaunt; 3. Plea; 4. Spoil

Today's Word  
OPTIONS

TRIVIA TEST

- U.S. STATES: Which state's nickname is "Land of Enchantment"?
- MEASUREMENTS: What does the Fitzpatrick scale measure?
- MOVIES: Who starred as the kid in the original "Karate Kid"?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which is the second-largest of the Hawaiian Islands?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is a knish?
- THEATER: What famous play features a character named Sally Bowles?
- ANATOMY: What are alveoli?
- HISTORY: What were that last names of the 1930s crime duo known as Bonnie and Clyde?
- LANGUAGE: What is the end of the famous proverb that begins, "People who live in glass houses ... ?"
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What does Hitler's title -- "Fuehrer" -- mean in German?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. New Mexico 2. Skin's sensitivity to ultraviolet light 3. Ralph Macchio 4. Maui 5. A pastry filled with meat, cheese or potatoes 6. "Cabaret" 7. Air sacs in the lungs 8. Parker and Barrow 9. "... should not throw stones." 10. Leader



# ★ ★ ★ CLASSIFIED ★ CLASSIFIED ★ ★ ★

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★RS 4/29 CC TFN

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★RS 12/23 CC TFN

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★NS 1/27 CC TFN

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★NS 3/17 CC 4/7

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★NS 3/17 CC 3/24

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### ANNUAL RENTAL

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★NS 3/3 CC TFN

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★NS 3/3 CC 3/24

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★NS 5/20 CC TFN

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★RS 1/25 BM TFN

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\*Mention this add to receive 10% OFF your  
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or Tree Trimming Project.\*  
Call today for a FREE estimate:  
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★RS 12/30 CC TFN

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Residential Cleaning to Satisfaction  
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Sanibel & Captiva Islands.  
Exterior & Interior Cleaning. Tire Dressing.  
I come to your Home, Condo or Hotel.  
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Ashiatsu/Swedish/Hot Stone/Couples/  
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### SANIBEL HOME WATCH SERVICES

Will Check Your Home Weekly/Biweekly  
Very Reasonable Rates  
Licensed - Insured - Bonded  
239-322-8054 Sanibelhw@gmail.com

★NS 9/16 CC TFN

## HELP WANTED

### FRONT DESK AGENT WANTED

Part time, full benefits for right candidate...  
tolls paid. Resort experience a plus, fax or  
email resume only. shellislandbeachclub@  
gmail.com or 239-472-4218 (fax)

★NS 3/17 CC TFN

### JERRY'S FOODS SERVERS & BARISTAS

Part Time Evening And Weekend Front  
End Associates Needed. Looking for  
energetic, personable, and fun  
individuals, with open availability  
Monday through Sunday.  
If interested call and ask for  
John, Norm Sarah 472-9300.  
1700 Periwinkle Way

★NS 5/6 BM TFN

## VEHICLES FOR SALE

### 1963 CHEVROLET CORVETTE SPLIT WINDOW COUPE

Original 340hp Motor, 4 speed,  
contact info: jxkcunz58@gmail.com  
863-225-3829  
★NS 3/17 CC 3/31

### GOLF CART FOR SALE



Street legal, "gas" powered.  
\$7,000. 239-209-6500

★RS 1/20 BM TFN

## BOATS - CANOES - KAYAKS

### PARKER 23 FOOT CENTER CONSOLE

Year 1992. Yamaha E-Tec, 2 stroke, 200hp  
300 hours. Aluminum Twin axle Trailer.  
Asking \$10,000. Call 239-850-6030.

★NS 3/17 CC 3/17

### DOCKAGE

Hourly, Daily, Weekly  
and Monthly.  
Captiva Island 472-5800

★RS 1/4 NC TFN

### 2005 PURSUIT 26' CENTER CONSOLE



Great Fishing Boat.  
One time Sanibel owner.  
2-225 Yamahas - Loaded  
Garmin, Radar, Power Steering, New VHF  
Radio. Very Clean, Excellent Shape.  
New Reduced Price \$54,900.  
Call Conrad Kissell, Walker Marine  
239-823-7647.

★NS 3/3 CC TFN



From page 33

## Hugo And Caramel

two big dogs can be a lot for anyone. The family is staying with relatives on Sanibel, however, they're in a condo that doesn't allow pets. They would love to be able to visit with the dogs and would like to be able to walk them. They would provide all food, etc.

The two dogs are named Hugo and Caramel, short for Carmelita. Both dogs are around 3 years old. Hugo is a vivacious black labrador with a little mastiff mix and much like big teenager. He knows basic commands. He does great with dogs, so-so with cats, and he would do well with an experienced dog owner. He is a large, healthy dog.

Caramel is medium-sized Chow and Terrier mix, is a real good listener and pretty good at keeping Hugo in line. Caramel is a very obedient and attentive dog. They both are kennel trained and sleep together in the same large kennel.

They also go to the kennel for rest and time out as their spot. They eat two scoops each of the same food, mornings and evenings. Food, bowls, kennel and supplies will be provided.

If you can help in any way, or foster one or both of these sweet dogs, call Pam at PAWS of Sanibel at 472-4823.\*

To advertise  
in *The River Weekly News*  
Call 395-1213



### FOR SALE

#### KAYAK



16' Beautiful, Handmade Kayak, very light fast and comfortable, adjustable foot rests. \$1400.00. Call Ken at 239/851-1357. \*NS 3/17 CC 3/17

### GARAGE • MOVING • YARD SALES

#### MOVING SALE

1410 Albatross  
Fri. 3/17 & Sat. 3/18  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Art, house/patio/pool furniture, 2005 regig., misc household & garage items. \*NS 3/17 CC 3/17

#### CROW YARD SALE

March 17 & 18, 9 am to 2 pm.  
3883 Sanibel Captiva Road, Sanibel  
All sales benefit the  
Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife  
Donations being accepted  
through March 15.  
www.crowclinic.org  
\*NS 3/10 CC 3/10

#### GARAGE SALE

Trail bikes trek, mens and boys 26 & 20" W gas and elect weed whips, ext pole saw manual& elect,B & D new hedge trim, gen gard tools /crochet, g. balls, E Sanibel PAR VIEW DR. CALL Jim 641-750-4476 \*NS 3/17 CC 3/17



Calendar girls dance on Estero Boulevard during the annual Shrimp Festival parade

photo by Bill Floyd

## Calendar Girls Capture Award

Lions, puppy raisers and Calendar Girls, oh my! The Calendar Girls performed for the judges to take home first place in the Marching Unit (musical) category in the Fort Myers Beach Lions Club 59th Annual Shrimp Parade on Saturday, March 11. The Calendar Girls along with the Southeastern Guide Dog puppy raisers have participated in the parade for 11 years.

For more information, visit [www.guidedogs.org](http://www.guidedogs.org).\*

## HORTOONS



## Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Gulf Shores	Sanibel	1971	2,827	\$4,495,000	\$4,000,000	287
Tichenors F H Silver King	Captiva	2000	4,669	\$3,950,000	\$3,500,000	0
Creekside	Bonita Springs	2000	6,375	\$1,949,000	\$1,660,000	227
Kinzie Island	Sanibel	1989	3,318	\$1,595,000	\$1,510,000	256
Beachview Country Club Estates	Sanibel	2001	2,908	\$1,149,000	\$1,150,000	32
Rose Garden	Cape Coral	2012	2,765	\$1,100,000	\$1,070,000	91
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2016	2,832	\$989,678	\$967,786	1
Beachview Country Club Estates	Sanibel	1993	2,730	\$929,000	\$900,000	46
Arezzo	Bonita Springs	2005	3,517	\$875,000	\$860,000	3
Venetian Gardens	Fort Myers Beach	1990	1,440	\$825,000	\$825,000	70

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate



# ST. PATRICK'S DAY SIDEWALK SALE

**SAVE UP TO 70% OFF!  
MARCH 17, 18 & 19th**

**SAT, MARCH 18th**

Purchase an item from any store in Sanibel Outlets for a free spin of the "Pot 'o Gold" Prize Wheel. One Spin per person. Must be 18 or older.



**Win Prizes!**

Saturday, March 18th  
From 12 to 2pm  
during the WXKB  
103.9FM  
Live Radio Remote  
at Sanibel Outlets.



# SANIBEL OUTLETS

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20350 Summerlin Rd. • [SanibelOutlets.com](http://SanibelOutlets.com) • Mon-Sat 9-9; Sun 10-6 