

THE WEEKLY NEWS

FREE Take Me Home

Vol. 16, No. 22

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

JUNE 2, 2017

Themed Group Show During Art Walk



Evidence of Things Not Hoped For by Jason Fleenor

image provided

The 9th annual June Juried Art Exhibition, opening Friday, June 2 at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC), includes work based on the theme Positive/Negative. The group show contains works from nearly

40 artists who are vying for Overall Best of Show, SBDAC's Pick and People's Choice Awards.

The first viewing is free from 6 to 10 p.m. on June 2 during Art Walk.

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Violeta

photos provided

Hibiscus Show And Plant Sale This Sunday

The James E. Hendry Chapter of the American Hibiscus Society 66th annual Hibiscus Show and Plant Sale will take place at Araba Shriners on Sunday, June 4 from 1 to 4 p.m. The show is the oldest, largest and best attended of all Florida's hibiscus shows, attracting several hundred people annually. There is no charge to attend.

"The event will showcase hundreds of different hybrid hibiscus blooms in a



Fire n Ice

variety of colors and forms which will be judged in several different classes including amateur, collector, open collector, commercial and seedlings," said Patricia Myers, president of the club.

Patricia Myers, president of the club.
More than 600 hybrid hibiscus plants will be for sale. Free raffle tickets will be given away every 30 minutes for gift certificates from Baskets by Patricia, Bennett's Coffee, Butterfly Estates, The Clam Bake, Eager Beaver Car Wash, Edison Estates Gift Shop, Edison Ford Estates, Edison Restaurant, Five Guys Burgers & Fries, Florida Repertory Theatre, Fussy Female, Gavin's Ace Hardware, Hooter's, Imaginarium, Jersey Mike's, Messmer Florist, Natalie's Skin

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Summer Concert Series Kicks Off Next Friday



Frankie Colt

The Sounds of Summer concert series brings popular performers to the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center from June through August. The multi-genre, biweekly series includes

photos provided

the People's Choice Awards for the June Juried Exhibition and culminates in the Summer Singer Songwriter Competition. Each concert will bring audiences a unique and entertaining



Sarah Hadeka

experience. Tickets are \$5 per show. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and performances begin at 8 p.m.

mances begin at 8 p.m.
Frankie Colt and Sarah Hadeka will perform Friday, June 9.

Colt is an independent artist based out of the Southwest Florida area. She has been playing guitar since age 12. Over the years, her musical styling has

changed from acoustic folk to bluegrass to her now heavier sound of alternative rock music witnessed in her latest EP release, *Transmutation*. Learn more at www.facebook.com/frankiecolt/.

Hadeka's debut EP, Here I Am, is an entirely self-written and self-produced foray into the wide realm of original

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Relaxing At The River View

by Gerri Reaves, PhD



he spacious River View Hotel was one of the town's earliest and, as the name implies, it had a river view from its location on First Street just east of Monroe Street.

When the photo was taken, probably in the 19-teens, West First Street had not been built, and First essentially ended at Monroe, down which the railroad ran.

In fact, the photographer who took this photo, was positioned right at the railroad tracks. The hotel's proximity to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad (ACL) passenger depot on Monroe featured in early advertisements.

But first, a little background on this hotel's history before it was relocated to this spot back in 1895. One of the three conjoined buildings had been built in 1882 as the Keystone Hotel and stood on the riverfront on First near Park Avenue.

The Keystone is famous as the place where Thomas A. Edison and his bride, Mina, stayed after arriving in Fort Myers on their honeymoon in 1886.

The hotel changed names, ownership and management several times by the time this historic photo was taken.

Not long after it was relocated and for a short time, it was named the Windsor Hotel. Around 1911, it was substantially enlarged and then renamed the River View.

In the historic photo, note unpaved First Street running in front of the hotel and curving right (south). Also note the muddy shore in the foreground and the packing houses and docks visible in the distance on the left.

By the time the photo was taken, a seawall had been constructed as part of the development of Bay Street, so there was a margin of land between the hotel and the

It consisted of two three-story hotel buildings and the River View Café, a one-story café and kitchen on the east side. The sections were connected by balconies and walk-

Advertisements touted the European plan, a dining room, 630 feet of porches, hot



The River View Hotel was located on First Street east of Monroe. This photo taken before West First Street was built probably dates to the 19-teens. In the distance (left) are the docks and packing house of downtown's riverfront. photo courtesy SWFL Florida Historical Society

Publisher

Lorin Arundel

Bob Petcher

Advertising Sales



The River View Hotel's former location

photo by Gerri Reaves

and cold Sulphur baths, clean rooms and "the best beds in Florida." It was a "delightful resort" with an abundance of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, guavas and mangoes.

In 1924, a large ad, titled "Fair To Tourists!" appearing in the Fort Myers Press appealed to the boom-time automobile tourist.

The ad featured a letter from the U.S. Automobile Association in Washington, D.C., that recognized the hotel for giving tourists a "square deal" in price and service.

By around 1930, however, the old-Florida hotel's days were coming to a close, despite an ability to repeatedly reinvent itself. It had lasted from the town's pre-incorporation era to the beginning of the Great Depression.

By then, most of downtown's pioneer structures had already been replaced with brick or stone ones. Brick streets and modern street lighting created that signature boom-time look.

And, West First had been built.

Other major changes by the time the River View vanished from view? In 1924, a new ACL passenger depot had been constructed on Peck Street, so tourist traffic was no longer in such easy reach or as relevant to a hotel's economic survival.

In the mid-1930s, a service station was built on part of the land once occupied by the

Today, the City of Palms Parking Garage and the Strayhorn Building fill the former 'River View.

Walk down to First and Monroe and imagine it's a century ago and you're at "the end of the road." Picture ACL passengers arriving and heading for the River View.

Then visit these two research centers to learn more about downtown's early hotels. 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 www.swflhistoricalsociety.org for more infor-

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 www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org. Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society and the Story of Fort

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The Fishing Pier by Tom Breckenridge

ACT Gallery To Open Dual Exhibit

rts for ACT Gallery will host an opening reception featuring the work of Tom Breckenridge during Art Walk on Friday, June 2 from 6 to 10 p.m. His work and new work by the gallery co-op artists will be on display through July 3.

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TROPICAL WINE

images courtesy Arts for ACT Gallery

Breckenridge, who is originally from Keosauqua, Iowa but grew up in Fort Lauderdale, is a gallery member artist and volunteer. His traveling experience in the U.S. Marine Corps, which covered 17 countries and five continents, is reflected in his art styles. He also served in the U.S. Coast Guard and graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1998.

Breckenridge, who became a



Red by Tom Breckenridge

full-time, self-taught artist in Southwest Florida in 2016, learned his unique style of color and composition using predominantly acrylics. He has produced a wide array of pieces including darker themes, some with emotion and some even with humor,

and numerous pieces of varying styles and commissions. Breckenridge's earlier works were known to have a realist and impressionist style that include many nautical and beach themes.

The artist hosts paint parties and gives private lessons. His updated body of works can be found at www.artpal. com/tombreck.

Arts for ACT Gallery and DAAS Coop Art Gallery & Gifts are joining forces in a collaborative exhibition. DAAS will feature the works of approximately 25 artists who are currently members of DAAS Co-op.

This is the first time we collaborate with Arts for ACT as an entity. As individual artists, many DAAS members have contributed to their fundraising events or exhibited at the ACT gallery. This (exhibit) will be like bringing a little DAAS into ACT Gallery," said Xavier Brignoni, who is co-founder of the cooperative gallery. "We will

feature paintings, sculptures and even a selection of artistic jewelry from the members.'

For more information, call 337-5050. Arts for ACT Gallery is located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort

Social Media **Contest Winners**

AFSA first!, a FutureMakers Coalition campaign aimed at informing Southwest Florida high school seniors and their parents about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, recently announced five winners of the #IFiledFAFSAfirst social media

One high school senior each from Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties who entered the contest has been randomly selected to receive \$500 to use toward college or career school expenses. The contest winners

• Anthony Vigliotti, Florida SouthWestern Collegiate High School, Charlotte County

• Jason Mirabal, Gulf Coast High School, Collier County

• Blanca Aranda, Moore Haven Middle High School, Glades County • Thalia Esquivel, LaBelle High

School, Hendry County Maria Estrada, Dunbar High

School, Lee County The contest was launched to drive

social media awareness and encourage conversation about FAFSA amongst

high school seniors. To participate in the contest, students created a unique post on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, tagged five friends and FAFSA first!, and used the hashtag #IFiledFAFSAfirst.

The most recent data from Florida College Access Network shows that as of March 31, 33.34 percent of Southwest Florida seniors have completed their FAFSA. The campaign's goal is to achieve 40 percent FAFSA completion in the region by the end of the school year, a 5 percent increase over the 2015-16 school year.

The federal deadline for filing FAFSA is June 30, although colleges and universities have varying priority and filing deadlines.

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

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

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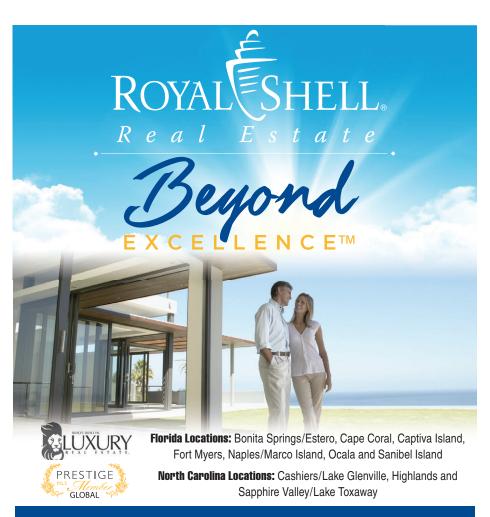


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Fort Myers Art:

Improved Art Walk Strolls This Weekend



by Tom Hall

The River
District will
come alive
during the evening
of Friday, June 2
when Art Walk returns to downtown
Fort Myers. Now a
two-day event, Art
Walk will continue
Saturday, June 3
from 11 a.m. to 4

p.m. With exciting new exhibits and live art demonstrations, rain or shine, this is a "must attend event."

New exhibits include exceptional art in a variety of mediums done by a bevy of local artists and some national and international artists as well. You can meet the artists at the self-guided Friday night walk, which brings together art enthusiasts, collectors and community friends who celebrate the arts each month. First Street is closed to traffic during the Friday night Art Walk. Local artists set up in the street selling their art, and face painting is offered at several locations along First Street. At the Broadway and First Street intersection, the Fort Myers Art League will be hosting a Make It/Take It table for children of all ages.

Saturday Art Walk is a quieter affair with most of the galleries open for examining the art at more leisurely pace.

This new and improved version of Art Walk includes 14 galleries and art stops, including:



The streets come alive in downtown Fort Myers during monthly Art Walks

photos courtesy www.artswfl

- American Legion Veterans Gallery showing art created by veterans
- Art League of Fort Myers new exhibits each month
- Arts for ACT Gallery features three or more art exhibits every month plus co-op members' art
- Bootlegger Alley Gallery outdoor gallery open only during Art Walk in The Patio de Leon
- Grand Illusion Gallery art, T-shirts and more
- T-shirts and more
 Marc Harris Wildlife Photography on Jackson Street
- Miville Art Gallery art and photography in the Franklin Shops
- Ollie Mack Gentry Photography photography at 2180 West First Street
- Reverie & Rock Art Gallery concert photography and surrealistic digital art
- Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center Main Gallery exhibit and Capitol exhibit on the third floor

- The Barrel Room jazz art on Bay Street
- Timeless Gallery gallery and gift shop featuring steampunk art and more
- Two Newts Gallery co-op gallery located off West First Street at 2064 Bayside Parkway
- Unit A urban contemporary gallery of internationally-acclaimed artist Marcus Jansen, located in Gardener's Park

As this survey of participating galleries reveals, Fort Myers Art Walk spans the core of downtown Fort Myers and includes the Gardener's Park area and West First Street. Most of the action is located on First Street but you can obtain a Fort Myers Art Walk map at any of the galleries that will lead you to all the art venues and Art Walk partners. "Enjoy cultural venues, restaurants, bars and businesses, plus live music," touts the River District Alliance. "Watch live art demos on First Street, eat amazing food, shop the unique local boutiques or just enjoy the atmosphere."

So whether you prefer the energy of night or the calm of day, there's something for everyone during this new and improved weekend of art that Fort Myers still calls Art Walk.

There is free street parking or pay \$5 at any of the parking garages. In season, ride the free River District Trollev.

Fort Myers Art Walk is a pet-friendly and family-friendly free event.

Fort Myers Art Walk is hosted by The River District Alliance, a non-profit organization. For more information, visit www.fortmyersriverdistrictalliance. com. To become a volunteer, partner or sponsor of Fort Myers Art Walk, contact Claudia Goode via cgoode@actabuse.com.

Square One Improv is back at The Lab

On June 2, Square One Improv returns to The Lab Theater with a night of hilarious antics. Every facet of the completely improvised show is based on the audience's suggestions.

With years of experience performing and competing nationally, Square One delivers a gut-busting, one-of-a-kind show every time. For more information, call the theater at 218-0481.

Jansen's UNIT A studio announces 'open door' policy

Marcus Jansen's studio at 2633 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard has announced it will open to the public from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 3. In addition to examples of Jansen's urban landscape and faceless paintings, UNIT A will have reviews and copies of the artist's latest books, Decade and Aftermath, which are both available for purchase.

For more information, call 240-1053 or visit http://www.unitaspace.com.

Recently, Rita De Muynck, a Belgianborn artist who lives, works and studies art in the imposing former cement mill in Schlehdorf am Kochelsee in Bavaria, Germany, presented work by Jansen parallel to the Murnau cultural events taking place May 20 and 21.

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



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Volunteers Needed June 10

Volunteers are needed for neighborhood accountability boards and a free training session is planned for Saturday, June 10.

A neighborhood accountability board (NAB) is a voluntary diversion program for youth who committed a crime. Volunteers attend a NAB conference with the youth, youth's parent/guardian, victim and other NAB volunteers to develop a case plan for the youth. Volunteers represent the community in this process, addressing the harm caused to the community and how to repair the harm.

Volunteers are asked to complete an application, attend a free, one-day training session and observe two conferences. A background check is conducted on all potential volunteers. Volunteers are not required to commit to a set amount of hours; any amount of time given to the program is appreciated.

Volunteer training will be held at the Lee County Human and Veteran Services Building, 2440 Thompson Street, in Fort Myers on Saturday, June 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For additional information or to reserve a spot, contact Nora Donato-Hitchcock at 533-7947 or NDonato-Hitchcock@leegov.com. Lunch will be ordered from the Oasis Restaurant. Cost varies from \$7 to \$12, or you can bring your own.

NABs are scheduled in the community that the crime took place, located throughout Lee County. Conferences can last up to two hours. Volunteers are emailed a conference schedule weekly, and carpooling to a NAB is always available. For more information, visit www.leegov.com/dhs/neighborhood/youth.

Artwork Chosen For Summerset Sailboat Race

at Ricci's painting entitled Sails in the Sunset was entered into the 2017 Cape Coral Art League's Fish & Ships painting competition in April of 2017. That painting was chosen by the Caloosahatchee Marching and Chowder Society (CMCS) as the official artwork for the 52nd annual Summerset Regatta, slated for October 6 to 8 on Fort Myers Beach. The regatta raises money for youth

Ricci's original painting was completed with acrylic ink and watercolor. The image will be featured on the 2017 regatta T-shirt and used in marketing materials.

Ricci graduated from Mt. Mary University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with a degree in art and elementary education. After 28 years of teaching, she retired and began taking workshops in watercolor painting. She now teaches watercolor painting at the Cape Coral Art League.

Ricci has donated originals and prints to help raise funds for the local food pantry, the school district, the Pink Ribbon of Barron County Wisconsin and other organizations over the years. Her painting Alligator was recently exhibited in the Art Council of Southwest Florida Winners' Circle Show 2017 at the Von Liebig Art Center in Naples. Several of her paintings can be viewed at www.patricia-ricci. artistwebsites.com/.

CMCS is a non-profit Sailing Club, which raises money each year to benefit



Sails in the Sunset by Pat Ricci

Gulf Coast Youth Sailing organizations in Southwest Florida and youth sailing activities from Tampa Bay to Marco Island. At the 50th Summerset Regatta, 70 boats entered in the race and raised approximately \$15,000.

Last year, CMCS was able to contribute

\$9,900 to young sailors and marine enthusiasts of these communities. The awards breakdown is as follows \$9,000 to the Fort Myers/Cape Coral area: \$1,000 to the Ostego Bay Foundation for youth marine education; \$4,000 to the Edison Sailing Center for youth sailing travel grants; \$4,000 set aside for 20 youth

learn-to-sail scholarships at the Edison Sailing Center

\$900 to Punta Gorda, Naples and Marco Island areas: \$300 to the Punta Gorda Sailing Club; \$500 to Naples Community Sailing; \$100 to Marco Island Youth Sailing.

For more information on the regatta, contact Allen Fiske, vice commodore of the Summerset Regatta at 305-720-7494 or MinimumBalance@gmail.com. For more information on Ricci, contact Suzanne Sims at the Cape Coral Art League at 772-5657 or CCAL@capecoralartleague.

Alliance Makes Call To Artists

The Alliance for the Arts is seeking artists to submit their work to Fired Up: A Juried Exhibit. The exhibit will feature works inspired by fire or in some way use flames and heat in their creation, including ceramics, glass and welded

An entry may consist of one to three artworks. All entries must be submitted online no later than August 12. Artists can download the prospectus and submit work at www.ArtInLee.org/FiredUp.

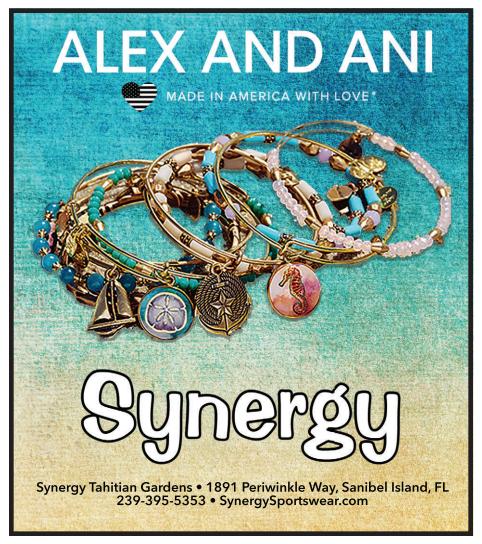
This year's juror is Lee Brotherton. Her fine arts career includes serving as an elementary art teacher, art museum work, art gallery manager and sales consultant. During this time, Brotherton constantly dreamt of being a full-time artist.

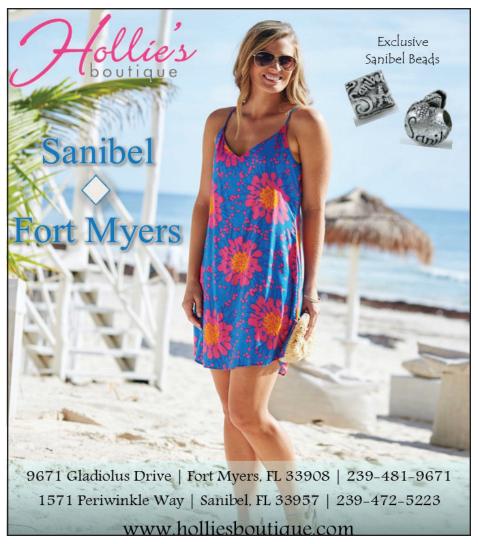
Brotherton has over 20 years of creating, marketing and selling pottery recreations and original sculpture and paintings. Her sculptures are in private, corporate and museum collections throughout the world.

The opening celebration will be held on September 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. Brotherton will be on hand to present awards including \$300 for Best In Show, \$125 for second place and \$75 for third place.

Meet exhibiting artists and Brotherton during a conversational walk and talk as they discuss their works on September 9 at 6 p.m. during SoCo Second Saturday Art Crawl. This exhibit runs until September

For more information, call 939-2787 or visit www.ArtInLee.org.菜





Along The River

The Alliance for the Arts June exhibition entitled All Florida will be on display from this Friday, June 2 until Friday, June 30. Opening reception and awards ceremony for the juried show is set for this Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. The exhibition features pieces created by artists working in a wide variety of media from all over the state.

This year's juror is Kimberly Riner, the visual arts director at the Averitt Center for the Arts in Georgia, will be on hand to present awards including \$1,000 cash for Best In Show, a 2nd place \$250 gift certificate for Golden Paints, \$100 cash for 3rd place and Juror's Choice Award(s) for Alliance for the Arts membership(s). There will be a conversational gallery walk and talk with the juror on Saturday, June 3 at 10 a.m.

All Florida is sponsored in part by Elemental Stone and Waterworks.

Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard. For more information, call 939-2787 or visit www. ArtInLee.org

Alliance for the Arts GreenMarket will host free backyard farming workshops every Saturday morning this June and July at 10:30 a.m., beginning this Saturday, June 2. Workshops will cover topics about food security, backyard vegetable gardening, beekeeping, raising livestock for eggs and meat, permaculture, brewing and distilling, and food preservation.

This year's workshop series is titled When The Shelves Go Bare and deals with increased concerns about a potential future

1400 Colonial Blvd. #27, Ft. Myers



A previous organic vegetable growing workshop conducted by Millisa Bell at the Alliance GreenMarket photo provided

food shortage.

Although workshops are free, small donations are welcomed. The Alliance for the Arts GreenMarket strives to support local growers, bakers and artisans. Local growers currently at the market include SOL Urban Farm, Green Paradise Eco Farm, Brittain Farms, Pine Manor Community Garden and The Unruly Gardener

The Alliance GreenMarket is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers.

For more information, call 939-2787 or visit www.ArtInLee.org.

for fitness, fun and fabulous living

The Audubon of Southwest Florida

will hold its **annual meeting** at the Southwest Florida Masonic Temple this Saturday, June 3. A spaghetti dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by a short business meeting that will include nominations and election of the 2017-18 board of directors.

The featured program begins at 7

p.m. with guest speaker John Cassani, who has been part of most of the region's ecologically focused nonprofits over the years including Riverwatch, the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, Audubon, the Southwest Florida Amphibian Monitoring Network and the Southwest Florida Watershed Council. He was most recently named the Calusa Waterkeeper, a full-time advocate for the Caloosahatchee, its tributaries and the estuary system from Charlotte Harbor to Estero Bay.

The dinner, prepared and served by chapter volunteers, includes beverages, salad, mixed fruit, spaghetti with sauce, garlic toast and desserts. Feel free to bring a dish to share for the dessert table, which is always a big hit.

Both the dinner and program are open to the public and presented free of charge. Donations are appreciated. RSVP to www.audubon.southwest.florida@gmail.com.

The Southwest Florida Masonic Temple is located at 10868 Metro Parkway in Fort Myers

The Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium (CNCP) will hold its weekly-themed NatureLab Summer Camp each week beginning this Monday, June 5. The camp runs until Wednesday, August 9. Children from age 6 to 15, first grade to 10th grade, can register for the camp, which is daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

continued on page 20

LARC Receives \$2,500 Grant

Rotary Club of Sanibel-Captiva recently awarded LARC a \$2,500 grant to purchase tablet computers for their adult day training and community support programs.

LARC has been serving the needs of individuals impacted by intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1954 and provides specialized training so clients can live, work and participate in their communities to the fullest extent that their capabilities allow.

"Tablet technology has so many benefits," said Pamela Jenkins, director of community services for LARC. "The touch screen is particularly useful for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and can be used to help develop motor skills, cognitive abilities, language comprehension and speech. We can use them for life-skills training, tracking clients progress and to help clients apply for jobs, leading to more independent and productive lives."

Angela Katz, development director for LARC, stated a "huge need" for technology. "There is a wide range of apps that are designed to assist individuals with disabilities, from touch to speak apps and academics, to apps that monitor behavioral progress. This technology truly helps people with disabilities participate more fully in all aspects of life and increases their opportunities for education, social interactions and potential for meaningful employment."

For more information, visit www. larcleecounty.org or contact Angela Katz at 334-6285 ext. 229.

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Florida Triathlon

Sanibel Island





Free Autism Screening

olisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, will offer a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for toddlers age 18 months to age 5 on Friday, June 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The screening will be held on the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile at the Family Health Center, 2256 Heitman Street, in Fort Myers.

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

combined.

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

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

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

High school student leaders attended the Regional Student Summit

Regional Student Summit A Success

ocal high school students gathered at Hodges University to participate in the FutureMakers Coalition's second annual Regional Student Summit earlier this month.

The summit engaged and involved students in the progression of Southwest Florida's regional initiative to develop a more skilled workforce. The annual event was geared toward listening to students to better understand educational and career aspirations as well as challenges from their perspective while developing student leaders to participate in the FutureMakers Coalition. Activities included sharing

regional data and facilitating discussions to understand students' insights, including regional data reflecting inequities in graduation rates; engaging in meaningful discussions with peers about their communities, schools and futures; and documenting findings through pictures with the use of graphic facilitators.

The goal of the FutureMakers Coalition is to transform the workforce by increasing the number of Southwest Florida residents with degrees, certificates and other high-quality credentials by the year 2025. Southwest Florida was one of 75 metropolitan areas selected as part of Lumina Foundation's Community Partnership for Attainment to increase post-secondary attainment nationwide.

The Southwest Florida Community

photo provided

Foundation serves as the anchor organization for the FutureMakers Coalition. The Coalition encourages residents to join and support this community-changing initiative. It is looking for partners from all sectors to invest resources, including time, expertise, funding and more. For more information, visit www.futuremakerscoalition.com, call 274-5900 or email Tessa LeSage at TLeSage@floridacommunity.com.

State Lauds Local Church Member



Raymond Ballinger of Lutheran Services of Florida Southwest was recognized with the Outstanding Program Leadership 2017 Award photo provided

member of Lutheran Services of Florida Southwest in Fort Myers was among 12 individuals and organizations around the state that were recently recognized for outstanding contributions in the service of Florida's continued on page 12

State PowerPoint Champion

₹ach year Dunbar High School ■ produces some amazing talent and this year is no exception. Johan Ruiz, a sophomore at Dunbar High, captured first place in the 2017 Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Florida State Championship competition in PowerPoint 2013. Now he has the opportunity to compete in Certiport's 2017 MOS U.S. National Championship in Orlando next month.

Ruiz competed against thousands of other participants in Florida. "It is a significant testament to our technology programs here at Dunbar High School to continually beat out competitors on the state, national and world level," said Dunbar High Principal Carl Burnside.

Ruiz is no stranger to this level of competition. Last year, he took third place in the PowerPoint 2013 event. "I am so ecstatic that Johan performed so well. We really do have the winning formula," said Denise Spence, IT programs manager.



Johan Ruiz

photo provided

For more information on Dunbar High School's Academy for Technology Excellence certification program, contact Denise Spence at 461-5322

For more information on other certification programs or the Microsoft Office Worldwide Competition go to www.Certiport.com.☆



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OBITUARY



JANET C. HAYES

rs. Janet C. Hayes of Fort Myers, Florida and formerly of Sanibel Island, Florida, passed away peacefully in her home on Thursday, May 25, 2017. She was 74. Janet was born December 16, 1942 in Staten Island, New York, the beautiful daughter of the late Edward and Rita Hayes. In addition to working as a hairdresser and beautician, she worked in various retail sales positions throughout her career.

Janet was a devoted wife, loving mother, dear sister and beloved grandmother and great grandmother who will be dearly missed. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her beloved husband, Daniel Barnett Hayes (October 30, 2014). Janet is survived by her three sons, Gary Hayes (Tracey), Bryan Hayes (Jaclynne) and Todd Hayes (Jennifer). She is also survived by her sister, Alice Artale, nine grandchildren, Lauren, Kelsey, Sara, Anna, Daniel, Kyle, Tyler, Isabella and Elley. Janet also leaves behind her great grandson, Grayson.

A celebration of life will be held at noon on Saturday, June 3 at Fort Myers Memorial Gardens, 1589 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. A reception will follow at Cristof's on McGregor, 10231 McGregor Boulevard

Janet will be laid to rest next to her husband in Fort Myers Memorial Gardens cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, 14010 Roosevelt Blvd., #709, Clearwater, FL 33762 or online a http://www.alz.org/flgulfcoast/in_my_ community_donate.asp#DonateNow. Online condolences and memories may be shared on Janet's tribute page at www.fortmyersmemorial.com.

Manatee Park Summer Camp

pace is still available for the Eco-. Detectives Summer Camp at Manatee Park. The first two-week session starts Monday, June 5.

The camp is two weeks of environmental-themed activities from June 5 to 9 and June 19 to 23 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Campers explore nature by hiking, tracking, animal study and more at Manatee Park, located on the Orange River in east Fort Myers. Campers get wet and dirty in these exciting handson activities. They should bring a lunch, sunscreen and a water bottle and wear clothing appropriate for a day outdoors.

Eco-Detectives Summer Camp is \$75 per week. Register online or contact Nancy Kilmartin at nkilmartin@leegov.com.

Manatee Park is open 8 a.m. to sunset and is located at 10901 Palm Beach Boulevard, 1.3 miles east of I-75 on State Road 80, directly across the street from the FPL power plant. Parking fee required. No pets allowed. For more information,

Theater Presents True Colors

The Laboratory Theater of Florida welcomes the Southwest Florida Gay & Lesbian Chorus for the first performance of the True Colors of Pride 2017 Concert Season on Saturday, June 3 at 7 p.m.

Dedicated to celebrating the diversity in all of us, the Southwest Florida Gay & Lesbian Chorus challenges you to show your pride by wearing your colors and waving your flags for an evening of celebrating you. In addition to the signature song True Colors, the evening will feature selections such as All the Things You Are, Bridge Over Troubled Water, Dare to Dream, Forever Motown, Swingin at Basie's Place, and more.

Summer Feeding Program To Begin

The Lee County School District is participating in the USDA Summer Food Service Program, set to begin Monday, June 5 and run through Friday, July 28. Participating sites will provide nutritious meals to kids and teens age 18 and younger. Meals are free and there are no income or registration requirements.

Nutritionally balanced meals will be provided to all children during summer vacation when school breakfasts and lunches are not available. These programs are only approved for geographical areas of need where 50 percent or more of the children qualify for free and reduced price meals during the school year.

Summer feeding sites that are located at schools provide meals to all children in the immediate vicinity in addition to those enrolled in summer school.

To find a location near you, visit www. leeschools.net or www.summerfoodflorida. org. You may also dial 2-1-1 or text "FoodFL" to 877-877 for more

Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 2756 McGregor Boulevard, allfaiths-uc.org, 226-0900. ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE

RITE CATHOLIC

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 10291 Bayshore Road, 305-651-0991.

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX

Sunday 9 and 10 a.m. 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, annunciation.fl.goarch.org, 481-2099.

BETH SHILOH MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. 15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171.

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES Sunday 10:30 a.m. 16581 McGregor Boulevard, 267-3166.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH ORTHODOX Friday 6:30 p.m. 5620 Winkler Road,

chabadswf.org, 433-7708.

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE Sunday 10 a.m. 10200 Cypress Cove Circle,

revtedalthouse@aol.com, 850-3943. **CHURCH OF THE CROSS** Sunday 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. 13500

Freshman Lane, 768-2188. CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 1619 Llewellyn Drive, taecc.com, 334-4978.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday 10 a.m. 2439 McGregor Boulevard, 334-8937

CYPRESS LAKE BAPTIST

Sunday 9:45 and 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m. 8400 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-5442.

CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday 8, 9, 10 and 11 a.m. 8260 Cypress Lake Drive, www.clpc.us, 481-3233.

CYPRESS LAKE UNITED METHODIST Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 8570 Cypress

Lake Drive, 482-1250. FAITH FELLOWSHIP WORLD OUTREACH

Sunday 10:30 a.m., Thursday 7:30 p.m., Friday 7:30 p.m. 6111 South Pointe Boulevard, 278-3638.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST

Sunday 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. 15690

McGregor Boulevard, 482-2030. FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST Sunday 10:30 a.m. 2390 West First Street, christiansciencefortmyers.net,

christianscience.com. FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. 13545

American Colony Boulevard, 936-2511 FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. 2466 First

Street, www.fumcftmyers.org, 332-1152. FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 5916 Winkler Road,

FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST; Sunday 10 a.m., 8210 College Parkway,

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

Saturday 5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Tuesday 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday 9:30 a.m. 9650 Gladiolus Drive, 454-4778.

JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC

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

KINGDOM LIFE

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 2154 McGregor Boulevard, 218-8343.

LAMB OF GOD

Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m. 19691 Cypress View Drive, lambofgodchurch.net, 267-3525.

NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER

Friday 6:30 and 7 p.m. 8505 Jenny Cae Lane, nbcministry@embarqmail.com, facebook.com/nbcministry, 656-0416. **NEW COVENANT EYES**

Monthly 9 a.m. 1900 Park Meadows Drive, newcovenanteyes.com, 220-8519. NEW HOPE BAPTIST

Sunday 11 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 10, 985-8503. **NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN**

Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 10051 Plantation Road, www.newhopefortmyers. org, 274-1230.

PEACE COMMUNITY

Sunday 10:30 a.m. www. 17671 Pine Ridge Road, peacecommunitychurch.com, 267-

PEACE LUTHERAN

Sunday 9:30 a.m. 15840 McGregor Boulevard, www.peaceftmyers.com, peace@peaceftmyers.com. 437-2599. REDEEMER LUTHERAN

Sunday 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. 3950 Winkler

Fxt 274-0143 RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

8, 9:45 and 11:30 a.m. 21580 River Ranch Road, 495-0400.

SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER Meditation classes. MeditationInFortMyers. org, 567-9739.

SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.; Saturday

3 and 5 p.m.; Sunday 7, 9 and 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m. 12171 Iona Road, 489-3973.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC

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. 2157 Cleveland Avenue, 334-2161.

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE **METROPOLITAN**

Sunday 10 a.m. 3049 McGregor Boulevard, 344-0012.

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN

Saturday 5:30 p.m.; Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m. 3595 Broadway, 939-1218.

SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY

Sunday 9:30 a.m. 111 Evergreen Road, saintnicholasmonastery.org, 997-2847. ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC

Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.; Saturday 4 p.m.; Sunday 9 and 11 a.m. 13031 Palm Beach Boulevard, 693-0818.

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST

Sunday 11 a.m.; Wednesday 6 p.m. 16940 McGregor Boulevard, 454-3336

TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE

Friday Shabbat 7:30 p.m.; Torah Saturday 9 a.m.; Religious School Wednesday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.16225 Winkler Road, templebethel.com, 433-0018.
TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

Friday 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. tjswfl. org.14486 A&W Bulb Road, 433-0201. THE NEW CHURCH

Sunday 11 a.m. 10811 Sunset Plaza Circle #401, newchurchflorida.com. 481-5535.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 13411 Shire Lane, uucfm.org, 561-2700. UNITY OF FORT MYERS

Sunday 9:15 and 11 a.m. 11120 Ranchette Road, unityoffortmyers.org, 278-1511. **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN**

CHURCH

Sunday 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. 9065 Ligon

Court, 481-2125. WORD OF LIFE

Sunday 10 a.m., Wednesday 7 p.m. 2120 Collier Avenue, 274-8881.

ZION LUTHERAN

Sunday 8, 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. 7401 Winkler Road, zionfm.org, 481-4040.☼



Neal Communities SWFL Regional President Michael Greenberg helps a student pick out her backpack for the upcoming school year photos provided

New Location For Backpack Event

he Multicultural Centre of Southwest Florida recently announced Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School will serve as the new venue for the 18th annual Big Backpack Event, to be held on Sunday, July 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Every year thousands of kids receive free backpacks and school supplies while celebrating diversity in our community. Admission is free to this festival event, which has become the largest backto-school outreach program in Lee

County. In advance of the Big Backpack Event, community members are invited to participate in the Adopt-A-Student fundraiser. Each \$10 donation provides a student with a new backpack and school supplies that include notebook paper,

folders, crayons, glue, pencils and pens. For the past 17 years, the Multicultural Centre of Southwest Florida has been hosting this popular community outreach event that to date has provided new backpacks and school supplies to more than 35,000 students. The event lends a helping hand to students and families in need, while celebrating the diversity in Southwest Florida with live multicultural entertainment on the main stage



Smiles all around at the Big Backpack Event

including hip hop, Irish step dance, salsa and more.

The first 2,000 or more children ages 5 to 12 will receive free backpacks and school supplies while supplies last. Children must be present with a parent or guardian to receive free supplies. The line typically begins to form as early as 7 a.m., but moves quickly once the doors open.

Families will enjoy other event festivities such as face painting, inflatables, clowns and live entertainment. Thanks to sponsors and vendors, students may also receive eye exams, haircuts and other giveaways at the event while supplies last.

Multicultural Centre of Southwest Florida Executive Director Leonardo

Garcia said, "Allowing students to prepare for a new school year with confidence and pride is an experience I am grateful to share every year with our committee, sponsors, vendors and volunteers. Combining that experience with a celebration of the diversity that makes our community so vibrant makes the Big Backpack Event a special occasion to look forward to year after

Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School is located at 4750 Winkler Avenue in Fort Myers.

For more information on Adopt-A-Student, vendor, volunteer or business sponsorship opportunities, visit www. multicultural-centre.org or email info@ multicultural-centre.org.☆

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From left, DDWS Philanthropic Coordinator Carrie Alexander, tournament-winning Team YAM members Richard and Mark Sparrow, Doc Ford's co-owner Marty Harrity and "Ding" Darling Deputy Refuge Manager Nate Caswell photos provided

`Ding' Tarpon Tournament Victors Win Big

he 6th annual "Ding" Darling & Doc Ford's Tarpon Tournament on May 19 paid out a record \$37,650 in prizes this year to five winning teams.

Because last year's tournament only awarded two teams, the balance of that prize money rolled into a one hundred percent payout of anglers' registration fees from this year.

"The huge purse this year meant the field of 50 boats filled quickly," said "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS) executive director Birgie Miller. To celebrate our sixth anniversary, we



First catch of the day by Team Bait Box

opened the tourney to six additional boats, which further fattened the purse.

First place prize of \$16,942.50 went to Team YAM members Mark and Richard Sparrow, who caught three

of the 16 fish pulled in by anglers on tournament day. Team Doc Ford's caught two fish for a second-place award of \$9,412.50. Team Bait Box pulled in the first fish of the day 17 minutes after the tournament opened, winning third place and \$5,647.50. Fourth place winner Team San Carlos Marine took home \$3,765, and fifth place winner Team Mabry Brothers netted \$1,882.50.

The award for female angler went to Dep Powers from Team Fishin' Divas, senior angler award to Cliff Young from Team Shock & Awe, and amateur team award to Team Shock & Awe.

DDWS organizes the annual tournament with Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille of Sanibel Island, Fort Myers Beach and Captiva Island as the title sponsor to benefit wildlife, education, and research – including water quality research – at JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island. DDWS will announce the total sum raised next week.

Because all fees collected return to the anglers, funds raised by the tournament come entirely through sponsorships and the silent auction at the captain's meeting the evening prior to the tournament.

For more information on the tournament, visit www.

Care Unit Program Makes Huge Impact

Then Wally Kazich's wife, Jeanette, was hospitalized in the Gulf Coast Medical Center Intensive Care Unit (ICU), and unable to speak to her caregivers, Kazich didn't just want the staff to read anecdotes about her; he wanted them to see her as a loving wife, mother and grandmother. So, Kazich filled the walls of his wife's room with pictures.

Lee Health caregivers are always looking for creative ways to connect with patients. Many times, patients share their stories -their personal interests, ambitions, achievementswith their caregivers. Sometimes however, especially in the ICUs where patients may not be awake or able to communicate, it is difficult to gain the same insights or make the same connections. The Gulf Coast Medical Center ICU Team developed My Story to allow family members to share information about their loved ones to help staff better know and understand each individual in their care.

Though it's a simple process, the impact of My Story has been powerful. My Story involves the use of paper and pen to introduce the patient to the care team. Large sheets of paper are hung in the patient's room and family members are encouraged to share as much or as little as they want about their loved one. They can highlight their likes and dislikes, accomplishments,

hobbies and personality traits.

When Wally learned about My Story from Lucy Davis, patient care liaison, he began what eventually became a 'gallery' of Jeanette's life, inside her hospital room. "Our home is filled with family pictures," Kazich says. "I wanted to give Jeanette's room a homier feel. I stuck 75 pictures on the walls - pictures from baseball games, trips to the zoo, parties, Easter egg hunts. The nurses, doctors, everyone who came in the room looked at the pictures and asked about Jeanette, our children and grandchildren. I'd never done that before, but it totally changed the atmosphere of the room and the connection with the staff.

Through My Story, staff learned about the musical abilities of another patient who played the drums and banjo. Another patient's family shared that their loved one liked to fish with his grandchildren and had been married for 60 years.

Davis says My Story is a powerful tool and healing mechanism. "My Story highlights the real person in the bed - not simply the medical issue that brought them to the hospital," she said. "It enhances the empathy the team feels because they better understand who it is they are caring for, and what that person means to the people in their life."

While the ICU is a wonderful place for this initiative, it is valuable in many areas of the hospital. The ICU team has shared the initiative at internal meetings, and other units throughout Lee Health are considering implementing the program as well. 以

From page 9

Church Member

children who are at risk of falling into the delinquency and child welfare systems.

Raymond Ballinger was presented with the Outstanding Program Leadership award at the 2017 Florida Network of Youth and Family Services Awards Luncheon at the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek as part of the Florida Network's annual meeting on May 10 to 12. The Florida Network celebrated their 40th anniversary during the annual meeting and hosted guests such as past board members and executive directors. Leaders and agencies that have embodied the vision and core values of the Florida Network this year were eligible to receive an award at the event.

The services provided by the member agencies and shelters of the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services play a critical role in the fight against youth homelessness, truancy, sex trafficking of Florida's children and other critical issues that threaten Florida's families.

Today and always, we are proud to honor leaders and agencies that work every day to change the lives of Florida's youth, build stronger families and improve our communities, said Florida Network President and CEO Stacy Gromatski at the awards ceremony. "For the past 40 years, we have been continually amazed by the remarkable work and dedication of these youth services executives, volunteers, staff, leaders and board members throughout Florida and

are excited to recognize their accomplishments.

The 2017 Florida Network Annual Awards winners are:

Agency of the Year 2017 - Center for Family & Child Enrichment (Miami)

Agency of the Year 2017 – Family Resources, Inc. (Manatee and Pinellas

Chairman's Leadership Award 2017 – Dr. Robert E. Lehton (Board Member at Crosswinds Youth Services in Cocoa)

Chairman's Leadership Award 2017 - Dr. Richard Mankin (Board Member at CDS Family and Behavioral Services in Gainesville)

Counselor of the Year 2017 – Rosani Morales (Children's Home Society in

Network Executive of the Year 2017 Kim Sirdevan (Youth Crisis Center in Jacksonville)

Program of the Year 2017 - Growing Carol's Gems, Mt. Bethel Human Services Corporation (Fort Lauderdale)

Outstanding Program Leadership 2017 – Raymond Ballinger (Lutheran Services of Florida Southwest in Fort Myers)

Youth Care Worker of the Year 2017 - Jimmy Brown (Miami Bridge in Miami)

Nurse of the Year 2017 – Ericha Laymon (Anchorage Children's Home in Panama City Beach)

Networker of the Year 2017 -Kimberly Vanterpool (Orange County Youth Services in Orlando)

President's Award 2017 – Phil Whitby (Orange County Youth Shelter in Orlando)

For more information on the Florida network, visit www.floridanetwork.org.\$ CROW Case Of The Week:

Adult **Burrowing Owl**

by Bob Petcher

he burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia) is so named due to its unique home preference. It is a tiny owl that lives in the ground as opposed to many other species of owls that live in trees. The little owl averages 10 inches in height and weighs only six ounces.

While it is small, this species of owl has long legs and utilizes

them to sprint through its neighborhood – open areas with low vegetation – to hunt or escape from trouble. They do fly as well.

Burrowing owls use their burrows for nesting and roosting as well as a place to hide when threatened by natural predators such as coyotes, snakes, cats and dogs. Once hidden, they emit rattling and hissing sounds comparable to a rattlesnake. Interestingly, rattlesnakes also occupy such burrows that are said to be originally dug by prairie dogs or others like ground squirrels.

Burrowing owls are an enigma and possess other differences from their owl cousins. They lack ear tuffs. They eat fruit and seeds. They are active during the day. They can live near airports. The latter is not a choice but, due to their declining species status; they must find other less attractive places to roost.

One may find it difficult to spot a burrowing owl in its home field. They are well camouflaged due to their brownish color and small size and have the ability to sit still. Patience is needed in scanning the horizon



Patient #17-1545 appears alert after suffering injury from being hit by a vehicle photo by Brian Bohlman

and trying to find the small dirt mounds around their hurrow entrances

At CROW, an adult burrowing owl was admitted to the clinic from Cape Coral on May 9 after being hit by a car. Although x-rays showed "no significant findings," a small defect was examined on the patient's left clavicle. Combined with the patient's inability to fly, the veterinarians suspected a clavicular fracture

"Based on the radiographs and exams, we are able to determine this area was the source of discomfort. However, radiographs were inconclusive in determining if it was indeed a clavicular fracture," said CROW DVM intern Dr. Spencer Kehoe. "It could be an older injury that we were palpating which needed more time to heal or it could be soft tissue damage causing the problem."

No other injuries were found as a result of it being hit by a vehicle. CROW officials did say the owl was emaciated upon arrival to the clinic.

The patient was fed and quickly increased its appetite and responded well to pain medications. It was given one week of cage rest. Afterwards, the owl was given a second flight test and passed. It was then moved to an outside enclosure, where it continued to eat well. Pain medications were discontinued.

Last Friday, the prognosis looked good for the owl's imminent release back to the wild.

"It has been outside for about a week and is very close to release, hopefully in the next day or two," Dr. Kehoe said at the time.

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.☆



Wind And Weather Woes



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

'ay and September are generally my two favorite Imonths for fishing, but so far this May, despite the fact we have huge numbers of tarpon all over, fishing for them has been much tougher than usual due to the crazy wind and weather conditions. May weather is normally calm with light winds that are near perfect conditions to

sight fish and the annual schools of tarpon that invade our area. Over the past few weeks, I can only count on one hand how many days of May-like conditions we have had. Ask anyone who has even tried tarpon fishing this month and the story is the same, "The weather has kicked our butts most days.

Strong wind and tarpon fishing just don't mix as almost all tarpon fishing is done in open exposed water. Unlike other fisheries where you can tuck away when targeting tarpon, wind seriously reduces your options. Casting live baits to slow moving pods as they gulp air has been the dream but far from the reality on most tarpon charters. Most of my tarpon trips have involved hunkering down in areas that tarpon frequent and soaking cut baits on the bottom along with casting a few live baits on floats. This method of fishing for tarpon is not glamorous but is basically the only option during days of 20 mph winds.

Being able to switch it up on a few trips and target catch-and-release snook with live shiners has been a much more successful fishery. At least when we snook fish there are plenty of places to hide from whatever the wind is doing and have a great day fishing. Along with snook, we have been catching lots of trout and, for clients looking for fillets, the mangrove snapper bite only keeps getting better and better.

Taking a few days off from chasing tarpon this week was a relief during the horrible tarpon conditions we experienced. Just being able to sit on favorite sheltered mangrove shorelines and areas in and around the passes and be able to watch clients catch fish after fish was a much needed change of pace. No matter how far out a tarpon trip is planned, it still is decided by mother nature. This whole month of May, mother nature has been extremely hard to deal

With what turned out to be a crazy weather month of May coming to a end, we still will have lots of tarpon around. Hopefully during the month of June, conditions will improve and become much more stable, making this one of a kind fishery a whole lot more angler-friendly. What is so frustrating about tarpon fishing is there are just so many tarpon here right now and when we do get to enjoy near perfect conditions its been incredible action. Seems we get just a couple of good days in a row then the winds kick up and we suffer chasing silver shadows for the next week. Luckily, we have lots of other fishing options and are able to still get out. Catching snook after snook is not a bad plan B.



A tarpon before release

photo provided

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.

Send Us Your Fish Tales

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 or call 395-0113.

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Plant Smart

Monkeypod

by Gerri Reaves

onkeypod (Pithecellobium dulce) is a member of the pea family and native to Mexico, Central America and northern South America. It has spread to many parts of the tropical and sub-tropical world, including South Florida.

Many old specimens of this tree can be found in the area. This evergreen was introduced as a street and landscape tree but was found to have a high susceptibility to hurricane damage.

So easily does it grow and spread that in some places it is considered invasive. Hardiness, adaptability to a range of conditions, drought tolerance and fire resistance enhance its competitive edge. It is also a nitrogen fixer (i.e., produces its own fertilizer).

It forms dense thickets that provide cover for

birds, who also spread the seeds. It can grow to 70 feet tall with a wide spread, sometimes forming multiple trunks.

The compound leaves are alternate, with two pairs of oval or oblong leaflets. New growth is reddish.

The trunks and stems are armed with sharp thorns. They inspire another of the plant's many common names, Madras thorn, and make the species a good security

Manila tamarind is another common name. Fragrant clusters of creamy- or greenish-white flowers bloom most profusely in the winter months. Spherical with numerous stamens, they have a puff-ball look.

By far the most conspicuous feature of the plant, however, is the coiled seed pods that ripen to red and open to reveal vivid color contrasts.

The smooth flat black seeds contrast with the surrounding white or pinkish aril and the red pod. The fleshy edible aril is used to make sweetened drinks.

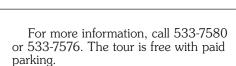
The name monkeypod derives from two of the pod's characteristics. Pithecellobium is Greek for monkey's ear, referring to the pod's shape, and dulce means sweet, referring to the aril.

The wood is used to make a wide variety of products, from containers and pallets to tool handles and posts. The bark, pulp, roots and leaves have medicinal

Guided Birding Tour At Lakes Park

ake a nature walk with a bird patrol guide at Lakes Regional Park on Saturday, June 3 at 8 a.m. This easy walk along clear paths offers an opportunity to see birds in native vegetation with experienced bird patrol guides pointing out the many species in Lakes Park, a Lee County birding hot spot and crucial nesting area for many birds. Wear comfortable shoes and dress to be outside. Bring water, sunscreen and binoculars.

Lakes Regional Park is located at 7330 Gladiolus Drive in Fort Myers. Meet at Shelter A7. Enter Lakes Park gate from Gladiolus. Turn right. Drive to end of road, continue through the parking lot. Shelter A7 is located near the Train Station.



Experience the beautiful birds of Bunche Beach with a bird patrol guide on Saturday, February 11 at 8 a.m. Bunche Beach is an excellent spot to see both migrant and resident waders and shorebirds working the mudflats at low tide due to the diversity of micro-invertebrates. You may also see waterfowl, raptors and warblers. Bring binoculars, sun protection, shoes that can get wet and a bottle of drinking water.

Meet on the beach, located in South Fort Myers, off Summerlin Road. Drive south of John Morris Road until it deadends. This tour is free with parking fee of \$2 per hour (tour is approximately two hours). Restrooms are available. For more information, call 707-3015.

Tours are provided in cooperation



In this undeveloped lot, large monkeypods and younger sprouts flourish, some intertwining with large strangler figs photos by Gerri Reaves



Monkeypod's twisted pod contains edible pulp and smooth seeds that are dispersed



Non-native monkeypod produces clusters of creamy-white fragrant flowers

Take care when handling this tree, not only because of the sharp thorns but because of the sap can irritate the skin and eyes.

Monkeypod is a relative of two more desirable trees that are native to Florida, catclaw blackbead (Pithecellobium unguis-cati) and Florida Keys blackbead (Pithecellobium keyense). Both are host plants for the large orange sulphur butterfly, and the latter is listed as threatened by the state.

Sources: 500 Plants of South Florida by Julia F. Morton, Florida Landscape Plants by John V. Watkins and Thomas J. Sheehan, cabi.org, eol.org, and lee.ifas. ufl.edu.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.☆

Wildlife Visits Community

submitted by Tom Rodgers

fter many dry months, we Ifinally got a nice downpour that brought several wildlife visitors to the Myerlee North Community. This guy not only appeared in the lake behind our home, but decided to take a stroll throughout the neighborhood. This beautiful Florida softshell turtle was approximately two feet long from the tip of its nose to the end of its tail.₩



Florida softshell turtle

photo by Tom Rodgers



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Financial Gifts And Tips For New Graduates



by Jennifer Basey

It's graduation season again. If your child is graduating from high school or college, you have reason to celebrate. But what should you give to your newly minted diploma holder? You might

want to consider offering a combination of financial gifts and tips, which, taken together, could set your graduate on a path toward a successful, independent life.

What sort of gifts and tips should you consider? Here are a few ideas:

- Give a few shares of stock. Everyone should understand the financial markets and how they work. One great way to encourage this interest is to give your child a few shares of stock. Young people enjoy owning a piece of a company that makes the products and services they like - and the very act of ownership can inspire them to learn more about investing and to ask questions: What causes the stock price to go up or down? How long should I hold this stock? Should I own several stocks like this one, or is it better to branch out to find new opportunities? Over time, in learning the answers to these and other questions, your child can become familiar with investing and how to make the best
- Encourage your graduate to open an IRA. Your child can open an IRA as long as he or she has some earned income. You might want to suggest that your child consider a Roth IRA, which, at the child's age and income level, may be a

good choice. With a Roth IRA, children can access their contributions at any time, tax- and penalty-free. They can't touch the earnings without incurring both taxes and penalties, however, until they reach age $59^{1}/_{2}$. But you will want to encourage them to keep the money in their IRA intact, giving it the chance to grow.

 Provide some financial education. Unfortunately, most young people don't really receive any kind of formal financial education. Of course, you can try to provide some of this knowledge to your own children, but, as you know, advice from Mom and Dad sometimes gets ignored. However, you might get better results if you arrange for your recent graduate to meet with a financial professional. As mentioned above, owning stocks, and following their progress, can teach your children a great deal about investing, but a financial professional can paint the "big picture" and explain how all aspects of money management - such as borrowing, budgeting, saving and investing -fit together to help individuals stay in control of their finances and make progress toward their important financial goals, such as buying a house and retiring in comfort. Recent graduates, whether leaving high school or college, are at "turning points" in their lives and can benefit greatly from understanding the importance of developing good, lifelong financial habits.

Most of us can think of several money-related mistakes we've made over the course of many years. And your children will make some errors, too. But by providing them with some appropriate financial gifts and valuable advice upon their graduation, they may well be better prepared to keep those mistakes to a minimum – while maximizing their ability to make good decisions.

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.

VFMB is a coalition of citizens and stakeholders formed in early 2016 to bring clarity to the important issues that development brings to the island. While TPI's third design concept clears some bureaucratic hurdles, VFMB warns the project sets a bad precedent for presupposing an exception to the town's comprehensive plan, to which all other developers are beholden.

Although the number of rooms has decreased for the proposed Times Square Resorts versus the original 2015 Grand Resorts development, TPI still wants to build a considerable number of hotel rooms over the limit allowed under the comprehensive plan. VFMB says this increase in hotel density, along with the proposed public access waterpark, will exacerbate traffic by bringing more cars to already overcrowded streets and parking facilities.

The comprehensive plan, as codified by the land development code, recognizes that Fort Myers Beach is already overbuilt. continued on page 17

Electric Grid Strengthened For Storm Readiness

Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) continues to upgrade its system in the Fort Myers area as part of its ongoing work to strengthen the power grid and improve service reliability. Company investments, which include strengthening power lines and power poles, trimming trees around power lines and installing smart grid technology, help make the grid more reliable day-to-day and more storm-resilient.

"We continue to build a stronger and smarter electric grid to provide our customers with reliable service year-round," said Eric Silagy, president and CEO of FPL. "Our ongoing investments in strengthening the electric grid and utilizing advanced smart grid technology help us deliver electricity our customers can count on in good weather and bad. This was never more evident than during last year's hurricane season."

FPL's investments to the grid were tested last year during Hurricane Matthew and demonstrated its benefits to customers. FPL restored 99 percent of customers affected by Hurricane Matthew by the end of two full days of restoration following the hurricane's exit from its service area. Smart grid automated switches on FPL's system prevented 118,000 customer interruptions, and strengthened main power lines performed 30 percent better than non-strengthened main power lines. Furthermore, no FPL transmission poles and hardened main power line poles failed.

For everyday reliability, strengthened power lines perform approximately 40 percent better than lines that have not been strengthened, which improves reliability and speeds restoration efforts during severe weather such as afternoon summer thunderstorms.

When the planned 2017 work is completed, FPL will have made the following improvements in and near Fort Myers since 2006:

- Strengthened 19 main power lines, including those that serve all critical and community services, such as Lee Memorial Hospital, Health Park Medical Center, Shell Point Nursing Pavilion, Gulf Coast Hospital, Lee County Emergency Operations Center, the City of Fort Myers Fire-Rescue Station, the Tice Fire Department and a water treatment plant, which are necessary for communities to recover after a storm;
- Cleared tree branches and vegetation a major cause of power outages from 390 miles of power lines every year, and more than 4,290 miles since 2006;
- Inspected all 31,362 power poles every eight years, strengthening or replacing those that no longer meet the company's standards for strength;

• Installed smart grid technology, including 51 automated switches on main power lines and 1,053 automated

switches on smaller power lines serving neighborhoods, to help detect problems and restore service faster when outages occur; and

• Inspected 115 main power lines and equipment using infrared technology to detect issues before they cause a power interruption.

"FPL has the most reliable service of any investor-owned energy company in Florida, but we are never satisfied," said Manny Miranda, senior vice president of power delivery for FPL. "We're working hard every day to provide our customers within the Fort Myers area with electric service they can count on. This includes several new projects in the area, such as the Lee County Justice Center and the Lee County Port Authority Fire-Rescue Station."

LCEC Delivers More Than Power

t Lee County Electric
Cooperative (LCEC), our values
go far beyond a page on our
website or a poster in our building.
They are our guiding principles and the
framework by which LCEC has grown
over the past 77 years. Just recently,
two LCEC employees demonstrated our
core value to energize the community
by taking an active role to make
Southwest Florida an even better place
to work and live.

Installation Services Technician Bill was at a local 7-Eleven recently when he encountered a mother and her daughter frantically searching for the famously infamous fidget spinners. When Bill heard that 7-Eleven was sold out, he ran to his work van to grab a brand new fidget spinner which he had bought for one of his four kids. After asking the mom if it was okay to give the daughter the fidget spinner, the mother and daughter were thrilled and gladly accepted the offer. "We have not transitioned well to moving here from Tallahassee. Bill showed my daughter that there are still kind, good people left," said the thankful mother. Bill thought nothing of this gesture, but this small act of kindness is something this mother and daughter won't soon forget.

Lineman Kenny needed access to a property so he called the owner to let him in the gate. The home owner had left to bring her son to school not realizing that the child had dropped his \$20 in lunch money. Kenny saw the \$20 by the gate and when he finished his work, left the money in the screen entry to the house. The homeowner got home and quickly called LCEC to say how much she appreciated Kenny's integrity and work ethic.

These are just two recent examples of LCEC employees energizing the community. LCEC officials are so incredibly proud of the amazing work that Bill, Kenny and the rest of their 375-plus employees do in and outside of work to respect and better this community. From volunteering to doing the right thing, LCEC employees are the company's most valuable resource.

Hotel Density Remains An Issue For Stakeholders

fter two years, three development plans, two application filings and TPI Hospitality's long-awaited successful submission of a development plan for its Fort Myers Beach Times Square Resort project to Foert Myers Beach Town Council, the Voice of Fort Myers Beach (VFMB) stands its ground in regard to the overall size and number of hotel rooms permitted, citing "density matters."

"Our hope is that town council recognizes that density is at the heart of the comprehensive plan," said Robert Boykin of the Pink Shell Beach Resort. "Infrastructure on the island has not changed since the creation and adoption of the town's comprehensive plan. Density was a concern then, and is a concern now."



United Way VITA tax preparer Ivonne Mendez working with clients

photos provided

Tax Assistance Program Brings In Refunds

he United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee provided high-quality tax preparation services to 3,868 low to moderate income families completely free of charge in Lee, Hendry, Glades, Okeechobee and Charlotte

counties for the 2016 tax year. Refunds to those using the free service totaled over \$5,705,500 showing a 21.6 percent increase over last year.

United Way Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a free tax filing service that helps provide financial stability to working individuals and families making \$64,000 or less. Some 124 volunteers were trained and certified in partnership with the IRS this year and served at United Way Houses and other locations



Clockwise from top left, VITA site coordinators Stan Heath, Nancy Martin, Dave Machamer, Rita Tibbetts, Mary Meador, GianCarlos Castano, Maricela Morado and Vicki Riley

during the tax season. Appointments are still available to file a 2016 return at the Estero-San Carlos, LaBelle and Lehigh United Way houses. Those who prefer to file on their own can do so free of charge

at MyFreeTaxes.com.

Cliff Smith, president of the United Way said about the program, "Many workers pay tax preparers high fees and unnecessary charges to get their refund quickly. Our tax assistance sites help families maximize their tax credits and use them to make ends meet or save for the future. We estimate the VITA program and MyFreeTaxes.com saved our local tax filers over three quarters of a million dollars in preparation fees this season.

One VITA preparer, Virginia Fette said, "I prepared a return for a divorcee with

three small children. When I told her the amount of her refund was over \$9,000, she began to cry. She explained that she lost her house and was expecting her car to be repossessed any day. While we were printing her return, she called her mom to share the good news. This makes volunteering very rewarding.

The United Way will be recruiting volunteers to serve as tax preparers, greeters and interpreters for the 2017 tax year over the next few months. Volunteers will complete free classroom and online tax preparation training and certification using the TaxSlayer software. To join, visit www. unitedwaylee.org/become-vita-volunteer/

For more information, call United Way at 433-2000 or visit www.UnitedWayLee. org.₩

From page 16

Hotel Density

Policy 4-B-1 cites overbuilding as the cause of traffic congestion, something the town is already infamous for. A no-net development capacity policy is established in Policy 5-A-5. Stakeholders are concerned about many aspects of development for which the plan defines and recommends policies, including traffic, building height, setbacks, flood zone regulations, parking, density, intensity, health, safety and environmental impacts.

Paul Malbon, owner of Best Western Beach Resort, said, "Voice of Fort Myers Beach feels TPI Hospitality, like any other developer, should respect and build within the guidelines set by the town's

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comprehensive plan. If the town stays committed to its comprehensive plan, TPI will eventually comply with its density restrictions.

Upon submission of its development plan, TPI asked for a condition that has not applied to the island's other hospitality companies. Instead of density, TPI wants the project to be evaluated on a floor-to-area ratio, which is the test for commercial buildings, allowing those developers to build as much as the property area can hold. Due to utilities and other infrastructure demands, hotels are conventionally attributed some amount of density. Under the guidelines of the comprehensive plan, land owned by TPI Hospitality would be permitted to build an estimated 156 rooms, which is the number VFMB will support.

As anxious as residents, businesses

and visitors may be to see TPI Hospitality move forward with development of the property it owns, it is vital that the guidance provided within the Town of Fort Myers Beach's Comprehensive Plan be applied to all developers: 1) to minimize increased traffic issues; 2) to minimum additional parking mayhem; 3) to avoid a slippery slope where all subsequent developers seek to grow beyond the island infrastructure's ability to

The quasi-judicial review process for

codifying the comprehensive plan is rigorous to ensure legal defensibility. Any deviation from the plan would undermine the public's trust in the government's role in representing the interests of all who live in, work in and visit Fort Myers Beach.

In March, VFMB released a report detailing the specific obligations of the Town of Fort Myers Beach Comprehensive Plan, which is available, along with additional support documents, at www.VOICEofFMB.com. \$



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James Or Jordan - Who's Best?



by Ed Frank

s LeBron James and his Cleveland Cavaliers head back to the National Basketball Association Finals for the Lathird consecutive year, the question again surfaces: Has LeBron surpassed Michael Jordan as the greatest to play the game?

It's the subject dominating talk radio, television and other national media. And the question won't be answered regardless of the outcome of the NBA finals between the Cavaliers and the Golden State Warriors, two teams meeting in the third straight NBA Finals.

Here are a few facts to consider:

Jordan has six NBA titles on his resume compared to James' three (seeking his fourth this year).

Jordan leads with five MVP awards to four for James.

To counter these impressive facts favoring Jordon, consider LeBron's recordsetting performance in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference Finals last week when his Cavaliers pummeled the Boston Celtics, 135-102, to advance once again to

His 35 points that night set an all-time NBA postseason record of 5,995 compared to Jordan's 5,987. And he set this record in his 125th postseason game while Jordan's total was over a span of 179 games.

LeBron admitted prior to that game that it "was a goal of mine" to surpass Jordan as the all-time postseason scoring leader.

But that doesn't mean the Jordan versus James debate will abate.

Entering the discussion recently was Hall of Famer Scottie Pippen, who was Jordan's scoring mate during those six Chicago NBA titles in the 1990s.

In an interview for CBS Sports, Pippen said the two basketball greats really shouldn't be compared as Jordan was a different type of player compared to James. He said the same is true when comparing James to the great Kobe Bryant who is number 4 in postseason scoring.

Pippen explained that both Jordan and Bryant were scoring guards. They both wanted to score the basketball when it hit their hands. They were not looking to make or set up plays for others on the floor. "They were not looking to be facilitators," Pippen said.

That's the role LeBron plays because he such a dominant and powerful force, and he's a great passer," Pippen added. "He (James) is the guy that runs a team while Jordan, when he crossed half court, felt his role was to score.

Pippen feels comparing James with Magic Johnson rather than Jordan is a better comparison, although James' physicality and athleticism surpass Magic.

And so the James versus Jordan debate will rage on most likely for years as there's no real answer.

What is certain, however, they are two of the greatest ever to play the game. There's no debate about that statement.

County To Host Honoréd Softball Teams For Training

ee County will host two international softball teams for summer training events this June. The German National Softball Team will conduct a training program in Fort Myers from June 2 to 10, and the Nova Scotian Provincial Softball Team will be here from June 5 to 10. Both teams will use the Lee County Parks & Recreation's CenturyLink Sports Complex and City of Palms Park throughout their stay.

The two training camps will see up to 54 international players and coaches travel to Lee County in preparation for upcoming competitions. Of those, 24 German National Team members will prepare for their 2017 European Softball Championships in Milan, Italy, while 24 to 30 Nova Scotia Provincial team members will prepare for the 2017 Canada Games in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The two training events will bring further awareness to Lee County as a top-notch sports tourism destination, drawing teams from around the world to experience the attractions and amenities of the region.

For more information, visit the Lee County Sports Development website at www.leegov.com/sports.\\$

Applications Sought For Industry Awards

o salute excellence in Lee County's business community, the Horizon Council and Lee County Economic Development Office are seeking applications for the annual Industry Appreciation Awards.

Applications for the 2017 Industry Appreciation Awards are available online at www.LeeCountyBusiness.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday, June 30.

Honorees will be recognized during the Industry Appreciation luncheon on Thursday, October 12 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa, 5001 Coconut Road, in Bonita Springs. Networking begins at 10:30 a.m., and the program is scheduled for 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Horizon Council will honor businesses in five categories:

- Business Citizenship Awarded to a company whose financial, volunteer and active involvement in community organizations and programs create a better quality of business and civic life in Lee County. Awards will be given in two categories: Large (51 and more employees), Small (1 to 50 employees).
- Nonprofit of the Year Awarded to a Section 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that has recognized a business or civic need within our community and through community responsibility, innovation, growth, sound business practices and community partnerships to serve our community with vision and integrity. Awards will be given in two categories: Large (Revenue more than \$1 million), Small (Revenue less than \$1
- Diversity in Business Awarded to a business that has implemented programs in the workplace to create and promote diversity by employing initiatives within the organization and the community. Diversity is generally defined as acknowledging, understanding, accepting, valuing and celebrating differences among people with respect to age, class, ethnicity, gender, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, spiritual practice and public assistance status.
- Startup of the Year Awarded to a company founded in Lee County in the last three to five years with demonstrated continued growth,

both financially and in staffing, since startup while leading and overcoming challenges.

• Business of the Year - Awarded to a company in business six or more years in Lee County, under the same corporate name and ownership, which offers high-quality products and services, provides superior customer service, demonstrates strong ethical standards, is community-minded, supports employee development, exhibits exemplary leadership within its industry and among its clients and contributes to the economic growth and free enterprise of Lee County.☆

Airport Traffic Sets Record In April

uring April, 1,032,783 passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport, an increase of 14.7 percent compared to April 2016. This number also represents the best April in the 34year history of the airport. Year-to-date, passenger traffic is up 1.1 percent from the same period last year.

The traffic leader in April was Southwest with 265,761 passengers traveling to and from Fort Myers. Rounding out the top five airlines were Delta Air Lines (179,415), American (128,641), JetBlue (124,841) and Spirit (104.093).

Southwest Florida International Airport had 9,335 aircraft movements (takeoffs and landings), an increase of 13.6 percent compared to April 2016. Page Field saw 9,814 movements, a 1.6 percent decrease from April 2016. In addition, slightly more than 2.5 million pounds of air freight moved through Southwest Florida International Airport in April 2017, an increase of 1.2 percent compared to April 2016.

Southwest Florida International Airport served 8.6 million passengers in 2016 and is one of the top 50 U.S. airports for passenger traffic. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction. For more information, visit www.flylcpa. com or Like Us on Facebook at www. facebook.com/flyRSW.\$

SPORTS QUIZ

- 1. How many skippers of the New York Mets have managed the team more than five years?
- 2. Name the last person to manage the Chicago White Sox for at least 10 seasons.
- 3. In the 2015 season, Alabama became the second team in the poll era (starting in 1936) to win four national football championships in seven years. Which was the first school to do it?
- 4. Who was the first NBA player to record more than 1,000 assists in a season?
- 5. In 2017, Florida's Jaromir Jagr set an NHL record for most points tallied after turning 40 years old. Who had held the mark?
- 6. How old was Dale Earnhardt when he won his seventh NASCAR Cup championship?
- 7. Name the last time before 2017 that tennis player Venus Williams reached the singles final at the Australian Open.

ANSWERS

1994. 7. It was 2003.

Kevin Porter, in the 1978-79 season. 5. Gordie Howe, with 267 points. 6. He was 43 years old in 1. Terry Collins (2011-present), Bobby Valentine (1996-2002) and Davey Johnson (1984-1990).
2. Jimmy Dykes, 1934-46.
3. Notre Dame won four titles between 1943 and 1949.
4. Detroit's



Lee BIA Executive Vice President Phillip Ford, Lee BIA board member Dan Beiter, Lee BIA Executive Director Christi Pritchett Sarlo and Lee BIA board members Butch Ritter, Annette Nilles and Frank Jenkins photo provided

Fishing Tourney Aids Builders Care

he Lee Building Industry Association (Lee BIA) held its 10th annual Bricks & Sticks Fishing
Tournament the weekend of May 12 to 13 at Tarpon Point Marina in Cape Coral. Proceeds will benefit Lee BIA organization operations as well as provide emergency construction services to elderly and disabled community members in need through the Lee BIA's nonprofit charitable arm, Builders Care.

Through the tournament live auction, the Lee BIA raised \$12,500 for Lee BIA Builders Care. The tournament saw 241 registered anglers on 70 boats raffles competing for cash prizes. The first place prize of \$5,000 was awarded continued on page 22



First place winning boat, Team Better Buildings





Masked Bandit

photos provided

From page 1 Hibiscus Show

Solutions, Oasis Restaurant, Outback Steakhouse, PGA Golf, Pinchers Crab Shack, Salon Nicholas donated by Jane Kolczun, Sandi at Hair Ink Studio, The Spa at La-Te-Da Salon, Snyderman's Shoes, Sun-Fire Nurseries, Talk of the Town Consignment and Wisteria Tea Room.

Sponsors include Craters & Freighters, Driftwood Garden Center, Edison National Bank, Dr. Jacob Goldberger, Greenscapes, Dr. John Kagan, Hooters, Lisa Adams Agency

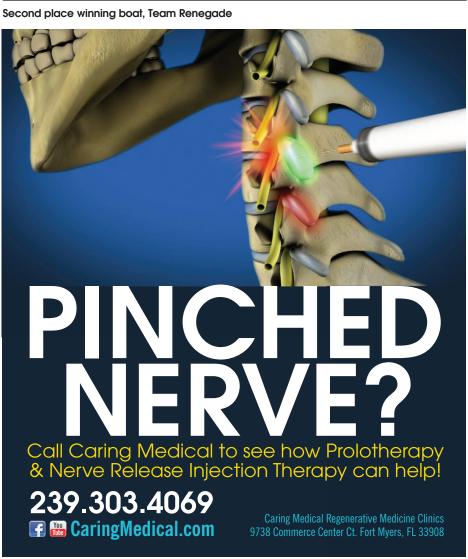


Orange Cappuccino

Allstate Insurance, Riverland Nursery, Storm Shutter Warehouse, Donna & Jim Sublett, Tim's Tree Service and Wilford & Lee.

Members of the society who are experts in the care and growing of hibiscus will be available to provide advice. Should members of the public have questions regarding how the blooms are judged, there will also be several senior American Hibiscus Society judges available to respond.

For more information, visit www. hendrychapterahs.com. Araba Shriners is located at 2010 Hanson Street in





From left, Kathryn Kelly, Robbie Powell, Kari Lefort, Kathleen Simpson, Kathy Irwin and

Legislators Answer Questions At Luncheon

he Chamber of Southwest Florida recently hosted the Post-Legislative Delegation Luncheon to give business and community leaders an opportunity to ask questions and stay informed about new bills

Additionally, the Leadership Lee County class of 2015-16 presented a check for \$10,000 to Kathryn Kelly of the Heights Foundation. The funds will be used to help further the mission of the Heights Foundation. The money was raised by the generous sponsors, donors and 175 guests that attended Leadership Royale on Saturday, April 29 at Suncoast Credit Union Arena.



Paige Anne LeBoutillier and Rep. Heather Fitzenhagen



From left, Rep. Ray Rodrigues, Robbie Roepstorff, Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto and Rep. Dane Eagle



From left, Marilyn Stout, Rep. Byron Donalds and Karen Miller

From page 1

Art Walk

On Friday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m., the People's Choice Awards will feature musical performances by Kyle Anne Duggan and Rosaline. Tickets are \$5. The exhibition closes on Tuesday, June 26 at 4 p.m.

For the Positive/Negative themed show, artists were asked to show how seemingly opposite or contrary forces may actually be complementary, interconnected and interdependent in the natural world, as well as how they may give rise to each other as they interrelate to one another. Positive space refers to the main focus of a picture, while negative space refers to the background. When used creatively and intelligently, positive and negative space together can tell a story using visual composition alone. You cannot have one without the other.

The show's purpose is to exhibit how positive and negative forces cannot exist without one another and how they can coexist. Pieces should explore the tensions and contrast between



Life and Death by Danielle Branchaud images provided

positive and negative, both formally and thematically. Works can include opposite or opposing attitudes, symbols, energies, tricks of perception and other elements.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center



Mommy Doesn't Know by Michelle Caraway

is located at 2301 First Street in the historic downtown Fort Myers River

Visit www.sbdac.com for more information.☆

From page 8

Along The River

with early optional drop off at 8 a.m. and pre-arranged aftercare available until 6 p.m.

The camp will be held on the 105-acre nature center, located at 3450 Ortiz Avenue in Fort Myers. Each camper will enjoy arts and crafts, hands-on experiments, and observation and fun encounters with animals. butterflies and nature.

There is no registration fee and camp prices are \$202 per week for non-members or lapsed members, and \$157 per week for current CNCP members. Two shorter scheduled weeks due to summer holidays (three camp days each) are pro-rated accordingly.

For more information, membership or enrollment, visit www.calusanature. org. For details on specific information, call 275-3435.☆

Lincoln In The Bardo

by Di Saggau

Talk about a different type of novel, Lincoln in the Bardo definitely falls into that category. It's the story of young Willie Lincoln, Abraham and Mary Lincoln's 11-year-old son

who died in February 1862, probably of typhoid fever. His death devastated his parents, in fact Willie's mother Mary was so distraught she couldn't even attend his funeral. Abe has enough on his mind dealing with the uproar of the Civil War, and his son's death propels him into extreme grief. He walks into

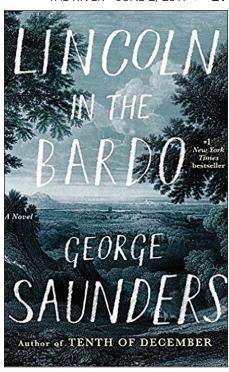
the Georgetown cemetery where Willie's body is entombed in a "sick bed." Several times when Lincoln visits Willie's tomb, he opens it and holds his son once more. Various voices of the dead that surround Willie comment on these scenes, and it is heartbreaking. Some are envious that no one has ever tried to hold them that way. The voices come in snatches throughout the book.

The two main voices are that of Hans Vollman and Roger Bevins III. They think they still have a chance of exiting their "sick boxes" and returning to the lives they have lost. They are joined quite often by an elderly reverend who knows a great deal about the bardo, which refers to the transitional state between life and death defined by Tibetan Buddhism. The ghosts in the novel have a Dantean quality about them as they shape-shift in the world of the bardo.

The story of Lincoln's life during this period, and also what various people think about him, is told through snippets of actual archival statements, and it's fascinating the way Saunders puts it all

together. The president says, "My poor boy, he was too good for this earth, God has called him home." Newspapers report that a grief-stricken Lincoln returns, alone, to the crypt several times to hold his boy's body. From the historical truth, Saunders spins his unforgettable story of familial love and loss that results in a thrilling, supernatural realm both hilarious and terrifying.

Because Willie is a child, he is vulnerable. If he is not vigilant, he will be pinned down by creeping tendrils consisting of damned souls. The way the love of father and son is written brought tears to my eyes. At other times I found myself laughing at statements made by some of the voices. Lincoln in the Bardo is an astonishing feat of imagination. It is daring, generous in spirit and deeply concerned with matters of the heart. It's a thrilling new form with a theatrical panorama of voices living and dead, historical and invented. It asks a timeless, profound question: How do we live and love when we know that everything we love must end?₩



School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

We want our two young children to have some exposure to the arts now before they get tied down with homework. I have seen some summer programs that look

good and want to enroll them. Do you have any info on the benefits for children when they participate in the arts?

Leslie B., Cape Coral

Leslie,

Young children love to draw, paint, sing and dance, and these activities play an important role in their early development. The benefits of arts participation are significant for childhood, and the benefits continue into adolescence and adulthood. Dr. David Murphey, research fellow and director of the Child Trends DataBank has reported on these benefits.

Most important of these benefits is that arts participation is associated with numerous positive developmental, academic and personal outcomes. Developmentally, motor skills, language skills the building blocks of decisionmaking skills and visual-spatial skills are directly enhanced. Motor skills are developed by the motions involved in making art, such as holding a paintbrush, using scissors or scribbling and writing with crayons and other implements. Language skills are increased by making art or just talking about it. The experience provides opportunities to learn words for colors, shapes and actions. Drawing, sculpting with clay and threading beads on a string all develop visual-spatial skills, which are more important than ever. Critical thinking skills begin to be developed through art as the experience of making decisions and choices in the

course of creating art carries over into other parts of life. "If they are exploring and thinking and experimenting and trying new ideas, then creativity has a chance to blossom," said MaryAnn Kohl, an arts educator and author of numerous books about children's art education.

As children mature, benefits from arts participation continues. These include higher grades and test scores, enrollment in post-secondary education, attainment of a bachelor's degree and higher levels of literacy and civic engagement. Secondary school students who participate in the arts are more likely to achieve a degree and tend to continue their artistic habits into adulthood.

Arts participation also promotes children's social-emotional development by fostering positive social skills, regulation of emotions, openness to innovation and connections with new people and ideas. Art instruction can encourage school participation and attendance and lead to greater student self-esteem and motivation. These positive changes can improve overall classroom functioning.

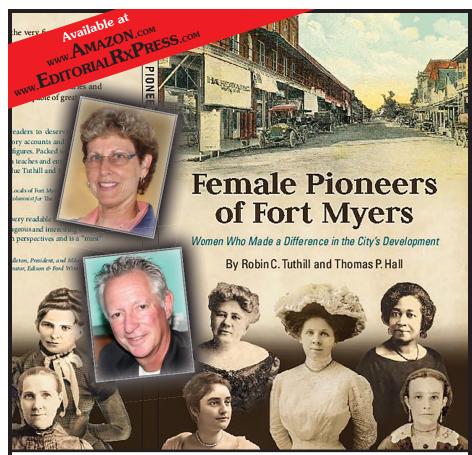
Music, in particular, helps to develop additional abilities. The study of music has been proven to boost brain functioning. Young people who have had music training demonstrate higher cognitive skills across disciplines with strong evidence that math skills are clearly strengthened. There are other indications, not yet conclusive, that children who engage with music at an early age develop neural connections that non-musical children don't develop. Specifically, musically engaged children have heightened perception of tonal changes and improved "auditory processing," the ability to understand speech, which is important for school success.

"Parents need to be aware that children learn a lot more from graphic sources now than in the past," said Dr. Kerry Freedman, Head of Art and Design Education at Northern Illinois University. "Children need to know more about the world than just what they can learn

through text and numbers. Art education teaches students how to interpret, criticize and use visual information, and how to make choices based on it." Knowledge about the visual arts, such as graphic symbolism, is especially important in helping kids become independent, smart consumers and navigate a world filled with marketing logos.

The benefits of arts participation are many. I would encourage you to enroll your children in these experiences.

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



"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



Bill Nash turned 100 years old recently

Rehab Program Staff Celebrates Patient's 100th

ollowing six-vessel open-heart surgery in 2006, William "Bill" Nash started Lee Health's Cardiac Rehabilitation program and has continued ever since. The staff has provided education, exercise and support to Nash and his wife, Eva. Through the years, he has built friendships with the staff and the other cardiac rehabilitation participants. When Nash recently turned 100 years old, the staff decided to throw him a birthday party to celebrate.

'I was surprised that they would do this for me," Nash said. "I think these people are wonderful. They helped me get stronger and healthier after my heart surgery, and they give me the exercises I need to stay that way."

Lynn Durocher, RN, cardiac

photo provided

rehabilitation nurse, said Nash's positive attitude has helped him reach this milestone. "His attitude is the biggest thing," she said. "He has always been determined and focused in rehab, and he is witty and funny and connects with others in the program. He also has a lot of support from Eva, who makes sure he eats heart-healthy meals."

Durocher helped plan the party that featured nods to Nash's life as a pilot, including whistles in the shape of planes and a collage featuring photos of Nash with his Pan American Flying Boat. Nash was always fascinated with aviation and took his first flying lesson at age 12 and flew solo at age 15. He earned his pilot's license while attending college at Temple University. He was a pilot for Pan American and served as a pilot in World War II. He was commissioned as a naval officer during the war.

Nash says he will continue to attend cardiac rehabilitation twice a week for as long as he is able.☆

Hospitals Earn **Achievement Awards**

ape Coral Hospital, Gulf Coast Medical Center, HealthPark Medical Center and Lee Memorial Hospital earned the American Heart Association (AHA)/American Stroke Association's (ASA) Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award. The award recognizes success in implementing evidence-based guidelines and delivering excellent care for stroke patients.

Cape Coral Hospital and Gulf Coast Medical Center were also recognized with Target: Stroke Honor Roll-Elite Plus awards, while Lee Memorial Hospital received the Target: Stroke Honor Roll recognition. These awards acknowledge hospitals' exceptional performance in administration of clot-busting tPA medication, which significantly reduces disability after

"We are excited, and proud, that all four of our hospitals received the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award," said Cindy Drapal, DNP, system director, Lee Health Neurosciences. "Stroke requires swift treatment because time lost is brain lost. Incorporating evidence-based guidelines into our processes ensures the best treatment is available for our community.'

According to the AHA/ASA, stroke is one of the leading causes of death and serious, long-term disability in the United States. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every four minutes; and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.

Get With The Guidelines-Stroke uses the "teachable moment" after a

patient has a stroke and when they are most likely to listen to and follow their health care professionals' guidance. Studies show that patients who are taught how to manage their risk factors while still in the hospital reduce their risk of a second stroke. Additionally, customized patient education materials are provided at discharge and are based on each patient's individual risk profiles.

To receive this particular achievement award, hospitals must achieve 85 percent or higher adherence to all guideline indicators and 75 percent or higher compliance with six of the 10 guideline measures. The Gold level is awarded for 24 consecutive months of performance achievement. These measures include aggressive use of medications, preventative treatments, cholesterol-reducing drugs and smoking cessation—all aimed at reducing death and disability and improving the lives of stroke patients.

To receive the Target: Stroke Honor Roll– Elite Plus recognition, hospitals must administer clot-busting medication within 60 minutes of arrival to the facility in 75 percent or more of eligible acute ischemic strokes and within 45 minutes of arrival in 50 percent of eligible acute ischemic stroke patients treated with IV tPA. The Target: Stroke Honor Roll recognition requires the facility administer tPA within 60 minutes in 50 percent or more of eligible acute ischemic stroke patients.

Offering 24/7 neurointerventional coverage with a full team of specialists, support staff, a dedicated neuroscience intensive care unit for stroke patients and a dedicated neurointerventional suite equipped with state-of-the-art biplane angiography systems, Gulf Coast Medical Center provides lifesaving care around-the-clock and close to home. Gulf Coast Medical Center also is Lee County's only certified Comprehensive Stroke Center.

From page 19

Fishing Tourney

to Team Better Buildings (Eric Carstensen, Mike Carstensen, Miles Meredith and Kristin Carstensen), the second place prize of \$3,000 was awarded to Team Renegade (Dillon Massie, Brian Harris, Lisa Harris and Keith McMenemy) and the third place prize of \$2,000 was awarded to Team Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings (Brian Lynch, Mark Wiles, Jeff Palmer and Darin McMurray).

Sponsors and partners of the Bricks & Sticks Fishing Tournament included: Five County Insurance Agency, Builders Insurance Group, Better Buildings, Inc., Juniper Landscaping, Mohawk Industries, Cape Coral Plumbing, Inc., Wallace International Trucks, JJ Haines, Coastal Building Materials & Dock Supply, Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings, Minto Communities, Ferguson Enterprises, Inc., Harbourside Custom Homes, Stevens Construction, Inc.,

Entegra Roof Tile, Entech Computer Services, Advanced Roofing & Sheet Metal, Emser Tile, Dal-Tile Corporation, SC Custom Homes LLC, Argos RMX LLC, Lee Mar Building and Construction Corp., Gulf Tile Distribution of Florida, Inc., DreamWeaver, Iberia Bank, Kinetico Quality Water Systems, Shaw Industries, Future Foam, NAC Products, International Wholesale Tile, LLC, Lyndon's Bricks & Stones Inc., Southern Soffit, Service Painting of Florida, Mike Patrick Electric, Florida Fishing Products, Wayne Automatic Fire Sprinklers, Inc., Wilbur Smith Attorneys at Law, HONC Industries, Square One, Regions Bank
- Fort Myers, Hooters, Boatmasters and
Truck Daddy's BBQ.

"This fishing tournament would not have been possible over the last 10 years without our generous sponsors, event partners, anglers and committee members that show up year after year" said Phillip Ford, executive vice president of Lee BIA. "It is a good time and for a great cause." **



Third place winning boat, Team Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings



Kyle Anne

From page 1 **Concert Series**

music. Her songs prove her incredible ability play after play and have left her fans wanting more. Hadeka is currently back in the recording studio working on new songs in the realm of pop/rock/ alternative genres. Learn more at www. sarahhadeka.com/.

Rosaline and Kyle Anne Duggan will perform Friday, June 23.

Rosaline is an alt country rock band from Southwest Florida. Band members Caleb Neff, Phil Heacox and Rick Setser describe their sound as country rock swagger that meets singer/ songwriter introspection. Rosaline just completed their first album, One Stoplight Town, due out this year. Learn more about them at www. facebook.com/rosalinetheband/.

Duggan is an accomplished singersongwriter, arranger, composer and performer. She studied songwriting at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, with voice as her principle instrument. Duggan's EP, Florida, was released last year and since has received great reviews from local and national outlets. Learn more about her at www.facebook.com/pg/ KyleAnneMusic.

Strange Arrangement will perform Friday, July 14.

Hailing from tropical paradise Pine Island, Strange Arrangement is a creative musical "family" organized by the Brothers Van Kirk. The group consists of dedicated musicians who are making a positive impact on future generations with a multifaceted approach to creating and delivering music. Brothers Warren and Gregory each have a unique, broad range of musical tastes that are incorporated into their original music. With familiar rhythms and catchy hooks, Strange Arrangement is creating music that's appealing to people of all ages and walks of life. Learn more about them at www.facebook.com/strange. arrangement.7/.

Ries Brothers and The Freecoasters will perform Friday, July 28.

photos provided

The Ries Brothers (pronounced "Rees") are a brother duo from Tampa Bay, who are influenced by their love of rock, blues, funk and reggae. The brothers have just completed a summer headlining tour, highlighted by a performance at The House that Les Paul Built, the legendary Iridium in New York City. The Ries Brothers have also opened for the Allman Brothers, David Cook, Daughtry, Los Lonely Boys, REO Speedwagon, Little River Band, the Edgar Winter Band and The Family Stone among others. Learn more about them at www.riesbrothers.com/.

The Freecoasters are a reggae band from Southwest Florida. Their unique blend of reggae, soul and ska has made them a fixture at local venues. This summer, the Freecoasters will embark on their first U.S. tour. Their 2016 album, Show Up, has been successful in the genre and earned the Freecoasters the title of Best Band in Fort Myers by the Florida Weekly. Learn more about them at www.thefreecoasters.com/.

Danny Sinoff and Morgan Marie will perform on Friday, August 11.

Sinoff embraces the Great American Songbook, touching thousands of people's lives with his jazz music. When he sits down at his piano and sings these graceful melodies, it takes you back to a time where a great show, beautiful music and being surrounded by your friends and family made a night out complete. Learn more about him at www.dannysinoffmusic.com/.

Marie is a vocalist from Southwest Florida best known for her throwback sound. A jazz singer at heart, she has been involved in a variety of projects, from country and pop to jazz and blues. Her musical companion, Alec Prorock, is a musician and multi-instrumentalist residing in Fort Myers, where he attends the Bower School of Music & The Arts at Florida Gulf Coast University. He released his debut solo album, Cloud Chameleon, in February of 2016. Prorock is a student of master musicians Matthew Sonneborn, Dan Miller and Danny Jordan. Learn more about them at www.morganmariemusic.

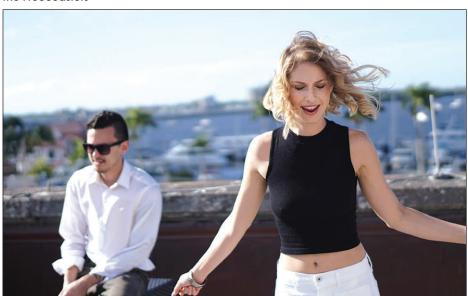
The Summer Singer Songwriter



Ries brothers



The Freecoasters



Alec Prorock and Morgan Marie

Competition is scheduled for Friday, August 25.

The songwriter competition invites musical artists ages 18 and older to enter for a chance to win the Grand Prize or People's Choice. The Grand Prize winner will receive 12 hours of recording time at the new Six Fingers Studio inside the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, plus a performance spot

at the Island Hopper Songwriter Fest. The People's Choice winner will receive eight hours of recording time at Six Fingers Studio. Sign up begins Friday, June 9 at www.sbdac.com.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in the historic downtown Fort Myers River District. Visit www.sbdac.com for more information and tickets.☆

Should Health Agencies Control Your Latte?



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

ear Readers:
It's so sad,
and it breaks
my heart that a
16-year-old boy died
from an arrhythmia
that occurred
from ingesting too
many caffeineated
stimulants. According
to the news, the

lethal combination included a large Mountain Dew, a latte from McDonald's and an energy drink, all within two hours. Just FYI, most energy shots contain guarana and ginseng or other stimulants. The tragedy has increased awareness for many families as well as regulatory agencies.

Should health agencies regulate the amount of caffeine put into coffee and energy drinks in the same manner that they do tobacco? They are even considering restrictions and a ban.

I don't want the establishment having any say-so about the amount of caffeine in my caramel macchiato or Red Bull. It's understood when I drink one of these or take a Vivarin, or whatever my choice is, that I'm going to feel a jolt. Last week, I tried pure Coffeeberry Fruit extract and consumed what amounted to at least 800 mg all at once. My head buzzed for a few hours, and I was nauseous but I am used to caffeine, so I knew I would be okay.

I think it's horrible that certain companies have marketing campaigns aimed directly at children. I also think the manufacturers of these beverages should take some blame, and they should stop increasing caffeine levels just to get a jump on their competitor and come up

with their next marketing shtick.

And there is some personal accountability just as there is with alcohol. When you drink too much alcohol, there is a natural consequence of feeling sick and hungover. Perhaps the consequence is not so obvious with caffeine. One challenge that parents face is that cappuccinos, energy shots, Mountain Dew and others are all legal substances (and they should be) so abuse of them is uncomplicated due to easy

How do you feel?

1. Is caffeine a strong and potentially dangerous stimulant or not?

2. Does caffeine impact certain people worse than others, like children or elderly, or those with vascular compromise (known or unknown)?

Would you like to share your opinion? Write me at www.suzycohen.com. I'd love to know you're thoughts.

I have a pharmacist's perspective so, for me, number one is "no" because pure caffeine doesn't even come close to prescription ADHD stimulants such as methylphenidate or the famous combo drug which consists of amphetamine and dextroamphetamine. Amphetamine is known on the street as "speed" or "whizz." These drugs are dispensed to children by the millions on a daily basis and suddenly a Monster's a problem?! Or a mocha latte? Do you truly get what I'm saying here?

The answer to number two is "yes," caffeine is metabolized more slowly by all the above groups and will raise blood pressure and cause arrhythmia's more frequently. Have open conversations with your kids about this, because their peers are encouraging abuse of these drinks in order to increase alertness and 'smartness' before exams. It's sad but true

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.*

Doctor and Dietician

Herniated And Degenerated Discs





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

o bulging discs always cause pain? Well, actually no. Did you know that when you bend, it is a normal occurrence for a disc to bulge? You are also 1 percent shorter in the evening than in the morning, another normal state of the spine, as it compresses the disks between your vertebrae during the day. A person with a degenerated, bulging, or herniated disc that is discovered by an MRI should know that this may be a coincidental finding and unrelated to the actual pain he or she is experiencing.

A degenerated disc is one that is losing water and flattening. This is a usual phenomenon that occurs with age. Degeneration of a disc begins as soon as the vertebral ligaments become loose and cause spinal instability, allowing the vertebral segments to move excessively and cause pain. The excessive movement or hypermobility of these segments adds strain to the vertebral discs. The body attempts to correct this by tensing the back muscles. Visits to a chiropractor or medical doctor typically begin at this time. Eventually these discs cannot sustain the added pressure and begin to flatten and/or herniate.

A herniated disc occurs when the annulus fibrosus, a ring of ligament tissue, no longer holds the gelatinous solution in the disc, resulting in a weakened disc. The vertebral ligaments must then work harder because the discs no longer cushion the back. A downward path of degeneration and pain is the end result. Anytime a diagnosis of a degenerative condition is given, the area needs regeneration. When it comes to degenerative discs, regenerative treatments such as prolotherapy and stem cell therapy are gaining in popularity. These are non-surgical, natural injection therapy options that strengthen vertebral ligaments and prevent the progressive degeneration that occurs with age to the intervertebral discs.

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

Mom And Me





by Lizzie and Pryce

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,

I am tired of some older people constantly complaining about their knees, hips and their many illnesses.

They compare their lab findings and dwell on all their medicines and what they cost and where they bought them. Other seniors talk about giving away their possessions, books and collections even when they are in good health.

Some seem to enjoy being the center of attention when they talk about their complaints.

What happens to people when they reach their 70s?

Aubrey

Dear Aubrey,

People who complain about poor health may be experiencing bad health for the first time in their lives and they are having difficulty coping. Others may have had busy lives and now retired are bored and their medicines and ailments are the center of their concerns. Then, of course, there are always those people who are just plain chronic complainers.

Maybe you are one of those lucky people who enjoy good health. Be grateful for your good fortune, but please have a little compassion for those who are suffering.

Lizzie

Dear Aubrey,

What we select to talk about or focus on is personal choice. Why some people choose to talk about problems and concerns – I don't know, maybe part personality, part boredom or part attention-seeking.

Also, I do not think only individuals 70-plus focus on problems and concerns. The good news is you have a choice – choose to be positive.

Pryc

Third Grade Scores Improve

rade 3 Florida Standards
Assessments (FSA) English
Language Arts (ELA) assessment
results have been released by the
Florida Department of Education
(FLDOE) and Lee County performance
continues to improve.

While recognizing the opportunity for continued improvement, Superintendent Dr. Greg Adkins is pleased with the results. "This is the highest level of proficiency our district has seen since the implementation of the FSA," he said. "I'm very happy all of our state-designated turn-around schools made double-digit gains in student achievement – an incredible accomplishment. We are currently ranked third among the top 10 mega

districts in Florida. Our continued focus on the objectives of Vision 2020 are starting to pay off."

Individual score reports will be available at schools in late June/early July pending distribution by the FLDOE.

Florida standards are in place to help Florida students succeed and serve Florida students by measuring education gains and progress. Florida assessments include FSA ELA, FSA Mathematics, end-of-course (EOC) subjects (Civics, Algebra 1, Biology 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, US History) and the statewide Science assessment for fifth and eighth graders.

Resources and other important information about Florida assessments can be found on the FSA Portal, www. fsassessments.org. Students, parents/guardians and educators are encouraged to visit this site.



Midsummer Melon Salsa

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida



Midsummer Melon Salsa

3 cups watermelon (seedless if available), diced

½ cup bell pepper (green, or your favorite color), diced

- 2 tablespoons lime juice, freshly squeezed
- 1 tablespoon cilantro, chopped
- 1 tablespoon green onions, chopped

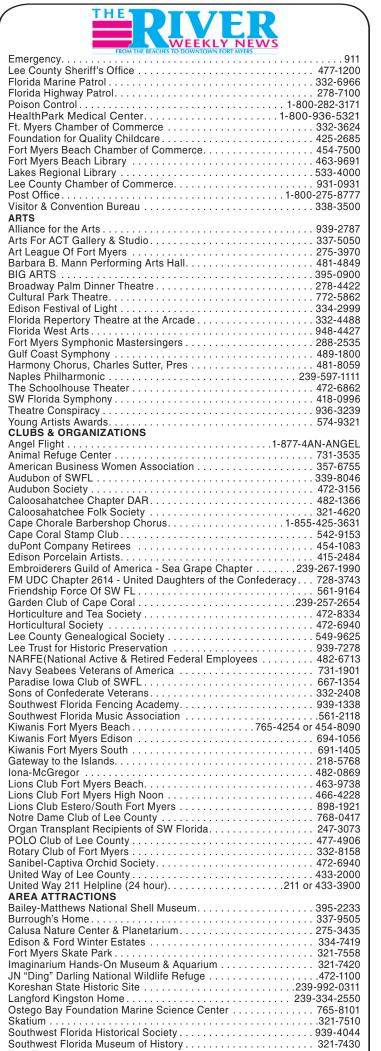
1 tablespoon jalapeño pepper, finely chopped Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper to taste Combine all ingredients. Cover and refrigerate 1 hour to let all of the flavors come together. Tip: This light summer-style salsa is a great way to liven up fresh Florida seafood. Use this salsa recipe as a template to make any kind of salsa; just replace the melon with your favorite fruit or veggie.

Yield: Six servings
Nutritional Value Per Serving
Calories 320; Total Fat 4g; Cholesterol 0mg;
Sodium 163mg; Total Carbohydrates 73g;
Protein 6g. Good source of Vitamin C.

Look for Fresh from Florida ingredients at your grocery store.**

HORTOONS





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

PUZZLES

PEOPLE OF Super Crossword THE PAST

ACROSS 52 Watergate 95 Mrs. 88 Weight-loss 1 Ousts whistleblower Addams, to 1 Bugling beast 48 Hate strategy 7 Fig. on a new had anxiety? 2 Winning sign 50 Horse to bust 89 Narrow strip Gomez car sticker 96 Bygone flight 3 Cochlea site 51 All mixed up 59 Island near of land: 11 Isle of Minos Molokai 4 Relative of 53 Abstract Abbr. inits. 60 — for "apple" 97 "Aquarius" artist Paul 90 Feng -16 Pro music an attaché 61 Charles of 5 Trying trip 54 Scrabble pick providers 91 Russian network 98 Chilly 55 Tight-fisted 19 Lost lady in **CBS News** 6 Take effect news agency 101 Hereditary "The Raven" 62 "CSI" actress 92 Penetrating 7 What to call type 20 "That clarifies 56 Karloff of film woodwind Flisabeth helices an Fnglish 65 Solar system 103 Small needle it" nobleman 57 Timber 93 Sarges, say 21 Saabs, say 8 Retirees' members wolves 98 Jewish case 69 Ending for 58 City near 105 Have one's 22 Use scissors fund org. mystical pent- or hexcake and eat 9 Marina del -Minneapolis tradition 23 Enron 70 Citi Field stat 10 Like a smug 62 Seville 99 Last letters scandal 107 "The Ward" 100 Dwell (on) figure was 71 Reds great know-it-all locale 11 OPEC, e.g. 63 Hair dve inactive? met a tough actress 102 Like insteps 12 Mai tai liquor 26 Suffix of fruit hallucinated 64 Fan of the challenge? and rainbows 76 Santa — (hot 104 Hip place 13 Sked guess drinks auditorily? Jazz 27 - Pie (cold desert wind) 113 Teusually 106 Winter bug 14 Pacific island 66 Attorney or treat) 77 Unveil, in (giggles) nation 108 Gaucho rope 15 Actor Will 28 Sternward poetry 114 Blueswoman heir follower 109 "The Dance" 67 Nutty candy 78 Swiss resort 29 Lucas of film Smith 16 U.S. capital artist 115 Fuzz figure 31 By way of. lake and environs 68 Misc. abbr. Matisse 79 Greek 110 Female briefly 116 Machine for 17 Deemed 69 Nails the test 33 "Three's goat 111 Fetch mountain sowing 18 Infuses 72 Actors Culkin 80 "Is there an 118 Become old Company' 24 Wellness gp. and Calhoun 73 Pages for actor started echo -? 119 "The Great 25 Awry 112 Sans -82 With 38dozing? Ziegfeld" 30 Horse-track think pieces (font style) Across, they 117 Pioneer 38 See 82figure caused has-been 74 Handling the 31 Slim and fit Across have film a road jam? matter Boone, to 75 Kind 40 Money owed 126 UNLV part bloopers 32 Greek Juno townsfolk 41 Floral wreath **83** "This 127 Valuable 34 Eatery card 81 Schools, to 120 — de plume -!" (fighting 42 Pappies store 35 Impose — on the French 121 Hail. 128 River of Pisa 43 Lyric writer words) (forbid) 82 "Hero" coto Ovid **122** Rap's Gershwin 86 Teen sleuth 129 Not coastal 36 Pages star Davis 44 Lyric work noted the 130 Pack carrier (through) 84 NYC-to-Dr. — 123 A, in Italy 47 Toe part subtle 131 Targeted 37 "- & Stitch" Seattle dir. 49 "Lulu" difference? 132 In order 39 Long couch 85 Berry from 124 Opal ending composer 94 "Gladiator" 133 States of 45 Room with a Brazil 125 LPs' Berg actor Davis change 39-Down 87 Bike, e.g. successors 12 13 14 16 17 19 20 21 22 23 26 27 28 29 30 32 35 38 40 42 43 44 48 49 52 57 59 60 61 63 65 71 73 76 78 79 80 83 86 89 92 94 95 96 105 106 100 101 103 104 107 113 108 109 114 115 116 118 119 120 121 122 | 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133

King Crossword

14

ACROSS

- Space
- Recipe meas.
- Lass
- Luster
- 10 Calcutta's land
- High, wispy

16

- cloud
- 13 Orphan Annie's
- benefactor 16 Really messy
- place Frogs' hangouts
- 18 Whopper
- 19 Crooked 20 Witnessed
- Represen-
- tative
- 23 Dervish
- "Two and a Half Men®
- 26 Oodles
- Cacophony
- 28 Colorado tribe
- 30 Chum 33 Spider's
- cousin
- Certain
- winner Assessed
- 38 Tittles
- Iowa State's
- home

8 Meager Centers 10 Egos' count-

erparts

athlete

14 Refuse to

15 D.C. fig.

19 Stiller or

Affleck

- DOWN 1 Lightheartedly 12 Downhill
 - silly

40 Scepter

41 Scratch

- 2 Dry
- 3 Nursery item Bronze
- medalist's
- place 5 Belarade
- natives
- 6 Lima's land Summertime
- 20 Firmament 21 Rap sheet entry
- 22 Best Picture of 1982
- 23 Bambi, for one

- 24 28-Down, to Tokyo 25 Toss in
- 26 lo and Ganymede, e.g.
- Japanese city
- 29 Homeric epic Heavenly
- gate keeper Št. –
- Census stats 1960s hallu-
- cinogen
- 34 Entrance
- 35 Dalai -

UP ON THE MAGIC MAZE ROOF

SLJGSDAXVS P N KCAXVSLQOLJHECAY R V Η Е Α N E)G E K PCNENLJHFN BYXTSLVTARPMI MKAIDRGEDP I SHBN ZHBDEHEXSHRGSWT TUIMSTRTCQOAANN LFRIANNETNALLJI IODGFEDCAUYFFOA

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

DXSWVVTSELGNIHS

Antenna Dormer Fiddler Birds Chimney Flags Dish Flashing

Gutters Saint Nick Shingles Solar panels Thatch Vents Weather vane

HENRY BOLTINOFF

new pitcher? We got him from the Elm

Street Hawks for two fielders and a dozen

answer on page 29

	within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then ters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!
KINTH	
KINTH	
Hide	
CROWE	
Alcove	
CHINE	
Features	
SALITED	
	TODAY'S WORD
	TODAY'S WORD

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

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 29

HOCUS-FOCUS

FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



is missing. 4. Duck is missing. 5. Swing is missing. 6. Head is titted. Differences: 1. Shirt on tree is smaller, 2. Undershirt is missing. 3. Rock

Misunderstood **Breed Adoption** Program



Dolly photos provided

here's been a breed of dog which has taken turns being demonized in society, starting with the German Shepard in the 1970s.

The stereotyping of "bad" breeds continued in the 1980s with the Doberman, while the 1990s, the Rottweiler took its turn being negatively labeled as a dangerous dog.

For the last 15-plus years, though, the pitbull has had a stronghold on the "dangerous" breed label, and it has shown through overzealous laws in cities banning

the breed completely, to breed restrictions in living facilities.

The negative stereotype by society has many undesirable cause-and-effects on these types of dogs in shelters, including Gulf Coast Humane Society, located 2010 Arcadia Street in Fort Myers.

People have such a negative opinion of this type of dog, and it is not fair to each individual animal," said GCHS Executive Director Jennifer Galloway. "Some of our sweetest dogs are our bully breeds. They are loyal and have such a calm temperament. But some of our longest termers end up being this type of

dog."

But with a new grant from the Levitetz

"Dally's Dream, there Family Foundation's Dolly's Dream, there will be more incentives to adopt one of these breeds. The Dolly's Dream Program will also shed a fresh, positive light on these misunderstood breeds through education to eliminate the ignorant stereotypes that are out there.

Each month through the Dolly's Dream Adoption Program, GCHS will be highlighting two bully breed type of dogs a month to help enhance their odds of being adopted. Those incentives include many benefits to the dogs' adopters, including a new leash and collar, training crate, food, a dog bed, toys and food, with treats.

At the signing of the adoption papers, a surprise gift will be given to the adoptive parents - all thanks to the Dolly's Dream

We sponsor five shelters throughout Florida," said Daniella Jordan of the Levitetz Family Foundation. "The Dolly's Dream Adoption Program has been a huge success, and we are looking at expanding. We are looking to partner with well-established and well-known organizations, ones which have the proper infrastructure and support us in our mission. When I came across GCHS, it was a no brainer.'

The two sponsored dogs will not lose their Dolly's Dream status if they are not adopted through that month, instead will remain a Dolly Dog until they are adopted. Their kennels will be highlighted with a hanging Dolly's Dream logo sign and a kennel card explaining what the adoption program is all about.

The Dolly's Dream Adoption program started when Jeff Levitetz adopted Dolly in 2011, from Lady Luck Animal Rescue.

"Dolly is the dog that taught him how amazing this breed truly is," Jordan said. "Their first days together she was timid and scared of her new surroundings and then little by little she would explore her new home, and as time went by she became very happy. He couldn't have been happier Dolly found him!

"He never expected the happiness she would bring into his life. And little did he

know that he would end up with three more, Dexter, Monk, and Zeus. Dolly is the reason why we continue to save dogs like her.

The first two GCHS dogs who are Dolly's Dream dogs are Misha and Rocky. The GCHS' Dolly's Dream webpage can be found at www.gulfcoasthumanesociety. org/dollys-dream.html.

Misha is the "love sponge" of the shelter, because she seeks out the love and affection from anyone who will give it to her. She has a beautiful black coat, with white "racing stripes" which wrap around her belly, possibly caused by a boar attack in which her fur grew back white around the scars.

"She is very people friendly and likes to lay in laps and lick her human," Galloway said. "She is dog tolerant and would be great in a house. Every one of our volunteers and staff members just love her and wonder why she is still available for adoption.

Misha is six and a half years old and has been at GCHS since February 19. Her Dolly's Dream page can be found at www. gulfcoasthumanesociety.org/misha---dollysdream.html.

Rocky is the GCHS "Rockstar" and is just over five and a half years old. He has intense eyes and loves attention. His energy can be harnessed after training by

continued on page 31

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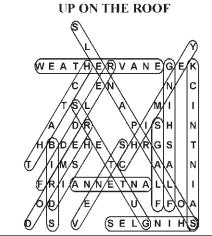
SUPER CROSSWORD

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

KING CROSSWORD



MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars ★★★

FOR WEEK OF JUNE 5, 2017

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A recent spate of confusion regarding decisionmaking begins to clear up. But caution is still advised. Continue to check details. An old friend has important news.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're anxious to see your ideas move from concept to development. But trying to force the issue right now could backfire. Wait for movement to resume shortly.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Keep your thoughts focused on the positive as you deal with an unexpected turn of events in a personal or professional relationship. This could be the start of a welcome

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Health matters take on added importance at this time. Deal with them before they interfere with your summer plans. A relationship that cooled off could soon warm up again.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) While a few details involving upcoming decisions still need your attention, you fun-loving Felines can begin to spend more time enjoying your lively social life again.

VIRGO (August 23 to September

22) That long-sought-after career change could require you to move to another city. Weigh your decision carefully before either accepting or rejecting the offer out

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A workplace situation can be awkward for Librans who prefer to keep their problems private. But you might have to "tell-all" if you hope to see it resolved in your favor.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Although your financial situation starts to improve this week, you still need to be cautious about money matters. Avoid major obligations, for now.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your overall aspects continue to brighten, allowing you to tackle long-deferred challenges. A change in travel plans could work to your benefit.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Things seem to be slowing down for the usually restless Sea Goat. But wouldn't a bit of respite be just what you need right now? Activity picks up by the

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February

18) Personal relationships take a positive turn for both married and single Aquarians. Professional commitments, however, could be complicated by newly emerging events.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A decision you thought was final might be reopened as new facts are discovered. This could lead to a short-term problem, but ultimately might prove beneficial.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your keen

interest in pursuing global events could lead you into a career as a politician or iournalist.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- On June 13, 1381, a large mob of English peasants marches into London and begins burning and looting the city. The Peasants' Revolt began when Parliament restricted voting rights by raising the poll
- On June 17, 1579, during his circumnavigation of the world, Francis Drake anchors his ship, the Golden Hind, just north of present-day San Francisco and claims the territory for England's Queen Elizabeth I. Drake called the land Nova Albion.
- On June 14, 1777, during the American Revolution, the Continental Congress adopts a resolution stating that "the flag of the United States be 13 alternate stripes red and white" and that "the Union be 13 stars, white in a blue field." The "Stars and Stripes" are commemorated every June 14 on Flag Day.
- On June 15, 1877, Henry Ossian Flipper, born a slave in Georgia in 1856, is the first black cadet to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. Flipper was appointed a second lieutenant in the all-black 10th
- On June 12, 1920, Man O' War wins the 52nd Belmont Stakes, and sets the record for the fastest mile ever run by a horse to that time. "Big Red" was the greatest thoroughbred of his generation.
- On June 16, 1961, Rudolf Nureyev, the young star of the Soviet Union's Kirov Ballet, defects at an airport in Paris. Nureyev broke from the company and threw himself into the arms of airport security, screaming, "Protect me!" The high-profile defection was a blow to Soviet prestige.

• On June 18, 1984, talk-radio icon Alan Berg, the self-described "man you love to hate," is shot and killed in his driveway. The 50-year-old host had stirred up controversy with his outspoken personality, abrasive approach and liberal views. His story provided inspiration for the 1988 film "Talk Radio."

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, beloved creator of Sherlock Holmes, who made the following sage observation: "I should dearly love that the world should be ever so little better for my presence. Even on this small stage we have our two sides, and something might be done by throwing all one's weight on the scale of breadth, tolerance, charity, temperance, peace and kindliness to man and beast. We can't all strike very big blows, and even the little

ones count for something."

• In France, writing a bad check is not just bad form — it's illegal. Violators of the 'cheque sans provision" law are subject to criminal fines and can be banned from writing checks for up to five years.

 You might be shocked if you came across the term "lust-house" in, say, a newspaper. You shouldn't be, though -- it doesn't mean what you think it means. The term comes to us (unsurprisingly) from German, where the word might refer to either a country house or a tavern with a beer garden.

• There was a time when the game of checkers was commonly -- and condescendingly -- called "chess for ladies."

• Avian veterinarians agree: One of the main health problems faced by pet parrots is obesity. Evidently, Polly wants more than just a cracker.

 It's interesting to speculate whether American singer, songwriter and record producer Kid Rock would have met with as much success had he kept the name he was given at birth, Bob Ritchie

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Wear your learning, like your watch, in a private pocket, and do not pull it out and strike it merely to show you have one. If you are asked what o'clock it is, tell it, but do not proclaim it hourly and unasked, like the watchman." - Lord Chesterfield

SCRAMBLERS

solution

- 1. Think; 2. Cower;
- 3. Niche: 4. Details

Today's Word

TWINKIES

TRIVIA TEST

- 1. MOVIES: Which 1974 movie featured a character named Jake Gittes?
- LANGUAGE: What are three letters of the Greek alphabet that begin
- with the letter "p"? HUMAN ANATOMY: What part of the brain regulates body temperature and controls the autonomic nervous sustem?
- 4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is a hussar?
- 5. MYTHOLOGY: Which figure in Greek mythology possessed the gift of prophecy?
- GEOGRAPHY: What artificial structure connects the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea?
- TELEVISION: Who played the lead role in the drama "Columbo"?
- MUSIC: What Barry Manilow song started with the line ""Her name was Lola"?
- GOVERNMENT: What amendment to the Constitution authorized federal taxes on income?
- 10.FOOD & DRINK: What shape is the pasta called farfalle?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

10. Bows or butterflies 8. "Copacabana" 9. Sixteenth Amendment 5. Cassandra 6. Suez Canal 7. Peter Falk porseman in a European light calvary unit A.1 sumplified hypothalamus 4. A.1 is and position of the injury of the 1. "Chinatown" (Jack Micholson) 2. Phi,

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Shore Fishing:



Don't Harm The Fish

by Capt. Matt Mitchell

anding a big fish from the beach can be hard on the fish. Dragging a fish up onto the sand if you're going to release it is not an option as it usually damages or kills the fish.

- Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it.
- The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.
- If you want a picture with the fish, support it as you lift it out of the water - and do it guickly.
- Before releasing, revive the fish while holding it in the water; moving it slowly back and forth so water goes over its gills. The fish will let you know when it's ready to swim off.
- Florida just recently changed the regulations on fishing from shore. Florida residents as well as out of state visitors need a fishing license to fish from shore.

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PETS OF THE WEEK





Gumbo ID# 699374

Joe ID# 678519

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Gumbo And Joe

umbo is a 3-year-old male chihuahua who is a constant companion type of guy. If you are looking for an emotionally secure and low-maintenance relationship, he is all you need. If you let him sit at your feet and walk by your side, he will be your devoted companion forever!

Adoption Fee: \$75

Joe is a 1-year-old male domestic shorthair who is the whole package: smart, furry, four legs, loves to learn and lives to please! He is a lap cat that likes a little adventure on

Adoption Fee: \$30

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

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

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, ageappropriate 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

The adoption package is valued at \$500.₺

Haven on Earth Animal League Gidget And Davey Jones



Gidget

i, my name is **▲**Gidget. I am a really sweet girl and only 8 months old. I'm very petite, and I have gorgeous medium-length hair. I like to play mother to other kitties. I'm up-to-date on all vaccinations and spayed. My adoption fee is \$75. I am currently residing at the Petco at Gulf Coast Town



Davey Jones

Center. Stop in and see me today.

Hi there. I'm Davey Jones. I am such a cute little boy. I have a short black and white coat, and just the cutest little face. I'm up-to-date on vaccinations and neutered. I have been living at the PetSmart on Six Mile Cypress Parkway, and I want to live in a real home so badly. My adoption fee is \$75. Come see me and take me home.

We are being cared for by Haven on Earth Animal League. For more information, call Diane at 860-833-4472 or email havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo.com.\$





Misha

Rocky

From page 27

Adoption Program

GCHS staff members and volunteers. He is harness-trained and would be an amazing walking partner.

"Rocky has a beautiful blue-gray coat and has the most amazing brown eyes, which show the affection he has for people," Galloway said. "He has received much training since he arrived at GCHS in January of 2016. Although we love our Rockstar, everyone here at GCHS wants him to find his perfect forever home. Both he and Misha deserve that.

Rocky's Dolly's Dream webpage can be found at www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org/rocky--dollys-dream.html.

Jordan has seen firsthand how Dolly's Dream sponsored dogs have found their forever homes. The incentives offered through the Dolly's Dream Adoption Program can be just enough to have a potential adopter to take a second look at these worthwhile dogs.

That alone could be just enough to have them fall in love with the dogs.

'The truth is that dogs can be expensive," Jordan said. "But that is the commitment one signs up for when adopting a dog. But if by advertising these goodies and supplies, we are able to even have someone take a second look at this dog, we are happy.

Yes, our goal is to get them adopted, but our second goal is to educate. So when someone walks by a kennel that has our Dolly's Dream sign and a list of everything they come with it has them asking why that dog. We know the answer to that... because pit bulls are awesome!"

To inquire about the Levitetz Family Foundation Dolly's Dream Adoption Program, visit www. levitetzfamilyfoundation.org/dolly-s-dream.

Misha and Rocky can also be viewed at www. gulfcoasthumanesociety.org, along with all the other dogs and cats at the GCHS.☼

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

•						
Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Barefoot Beach	Bonita Springs	2003	5,650	\$4,385,000	\$4,000,000	40
Palmetto Point	Fort Myers	2007	7,403	\$3,995,000	\$3,358,000	202
Del Sega	Sanibel	1991	4,164	\$1,899,000	\$1,810,000	340
Valencia Terrace	Fort Myers	1956	2,894	\$1,219,000	\$1,100,000	51
Shell Harbor	Sanibel	1970	2,048	\$979,000	\$950,000	63
Palm Acres	Fort Myers	1972	2,100	\$949,900	\$890,000	23
Dunes At Sanibel Island	Sanibel	1980	2,741	\$849,900	\$700,000	52
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1973	1,895	\$734,000	\$734,000	96
Whiskey Creek Club Estates	Fort Myers	1982	4,079	\$725,000	\$700,000	143
Catalpa Cove	Fort Myers	2002	2,248	\$699,000	\$650,000	4



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