



Get Nostalgic At Downtown Concert Series

Vinyl Vibes, a nostalgic three-concert series that will feature some of the best tribute and cover acts in the nation, will be showcased at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in the next three months. General admission tickets are \$45 and VIP tickets are \$59 for each show.

On Saturday, December 16, the Memphis Motown Experience kicks off the series with a tribute concert performing R&B from the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. Hear music from artists like the Temptations, Etta James, The Four Tops, Diana Ross, and Smokey Robinson. Cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m. with the show at 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.sbdac.com/event/memphis-motown-experience/.

On Friday, January 19, An Evening with the King will feature Ted Torres paying tribute to the one and only Elvis Presley. Put on your blue suede shoes and dance the night away. Cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m. with the show at 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.sbdac.com/event/an-evening-with-the-king/.

On Saturday, February 24, The Mersey Beatles will perform Beatles music during a matinee performance at 4 p.m. and an evening show at 8 p.m. This group is the world's only all Liverpool born Beatles' tribute band. For more



Ted Torres as Elvis photo provided information, visit www.sbdac.com/event/the-mersey-beatles/.

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



The cast of *Jingle ARRGH the Way* photo provided

Christmas Pirate Adventure At Broadway Palm

Broadway Palm Children's Theatre sets sail on a Christmas pirate adventure with *Jingle ARRGH the Way* playing December 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 22 and 24. This all-new musical is based on Melinda Long's children's book, *How I Became a Pirate*.

A mysterious message sends Captain Braid Beard and his pirate crew back to seek out the young Jeremy Jacob to help

solve a riddle and find the Christmas treasure. Favorite characters, a rollicking story, great songs and a trip to the North Pole to find "you know who" makes *Jingle ARRGH the Way* a delightful holiday show for the whole family.

Broadway Palm Children's Theatre presents full-scale productions that are great for all ages. Performances begin with a buffet, followed by the show.

Ticket prices for the buffet and the show are \$19 for all ages. Group rates are available for parties of 20 or more. For showtimes and tickets, call 278-4422 or visit www.BroadwayPalm.com. The theater is located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.✱

Former Players Gather To Honor Coach Thimlar

It was a night of reminiscing as former players came back to their alma mater to honor their coach and renew old friendships. On December 1, Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) hosted an alumni event at Suncoast Credit Union Arena at FSW, paying tribute to former Edison College basketball coach Hugh Thimlar.

The 92-year-old Thimlar was on hand to be greeted by one player after another, as well as many fans from the early era of college basketball in Southwest Florida.

"What a great way to not only pay tribute to our coach but to also bridge the generations," said Brad Branson, a former NBA pro who got his start at the college. "Coach was so happy to see many of his old players. I'm so glad we could all come together to celebrate his achievements."

Coach Thimlar was the first basketball coach at the school when it was first known as Edison Junior College and served the institution from 1966 to 1992. In that time, he amassed a record of 413 wins against 338 losses. His teams included five All-Americans, 21 players in the Florida Community College All-Star Game, and 90 percent of his college players continued education after attending the college.

"Our new arena really belongs to these former play-



Edison player Bennie "Chicken" Bundage with Coach Thimlar photos provided

ers," said Joe Turner, director of institutional promotions and development. "We would not be where we are today had it not been for what they and Coach

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Coach Thimlar with his assistant coach Bill Geddes and FSW head coach Marty Richter

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Downtown Fair



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

In this 1916 photo, Col. (Cornelius) Halgrim stands by his exhibit titled The Spirit of Halgrim at a fair at Shultz Park. One can only assume that the ascending signs atop the display of local agricultural products spells out his philosophy: “Perspiration,” “Anticipation” and “Realization.” Col. Halgrim, his wife Nellie, and the family had come to Fort Myers in 1914, where he went into the real estate business. Among his other accomplishments was serving postmaster for a year in the mid-1920s.

Evidently, their two sons inherited that family spirit.

Robert “Bob” is best remembered as the first and longtime curator of the Edison Winter Estate (1948 to 1971). He also was elected the first president of the Southwest Florida Historical Society when it organized in 1963.

Son Ronald was also active in the community. One of his notable efforts was putting on the first Pageant of Light in 1938 in honor of Thomas A. Edison’s birthday, in conjunction with the Woman’s Community Club and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

That early fair, where the colonel set up his Florida-themed booth, was held on a large irregular four-sided parcel called Shultz (or Schultz) Park, which at that time was undeveloped and regarded as a city park. Not until 1921 did the city establish the first official city park.

The property formed a sharp point where Oak Street and Anderson Avenue (now named Main and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, respectively) converged.

The 19-teens photo with the Tootie McGregor Memorial Fountain in the foreground shows how rural that land was then and why it was used as a park. Oak/Main Street is on the left and Anderson Avenue/MLK Jr. Boulevard is on the right.

That “point” forms part of a five-way intersection then called, for obvious reasons, Five Points. The other three converging streets are Cleveland Avenue,



Col. Halgrim poses with his fair exhibit, The Spirit of Halgrim, in 1916 at Shultz Park. Fruit, pigs, fish and game dominated the exhibits at this precursor to the Lee County Fair.

photos courtesy SWFL Florida Historical Society



There’s nothing rural or park-like about this highly developed land today, seen here from the Main Street side

photo by Gerri Reaves

McGregor Boulevard and Carson Street. In those days, Five Points was mainly a residential area, with plenty of large family homes perched around the sprawling intersection.

Shultz Park was so called because it was the property of pioneer George Renton Shultz. For more than 50 years, he ran the telegraph station at Punta Rassa. In fact, he greeted Thomas Edison in 1885 when he stopped before heading up the

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In this 19-teens photo, Shultz’s wooded property, bordered by Oak Street (now Main) on the left and Anderson Avenue (now MLK Jr. Boulevard) on the right, resembles a park. The Tootie McGregor Fountain (foreground) was moved decades ago and is now located at the Fort Myers County Club.

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Yappy Hour To Benefit Humane Society

Bell Tower Shops will host a "howliday"-themed Yappy Hour block party at Center Court on Friday, December 8 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The area's largest pet-friendly social hour benefits the Gulf Coast Humane Society every second Friday of each month. Pet lovers are invited to bring their four-legged friends out to play and enjoy an evening of fun at the dog-friendly shopping, dining and entertainment destination.

During this month's event, owners and their pets are invited to show off their most festive holiday attire for pictures with Santa Claus and a chance to win a gift card for a dog-friendly Bark on the Ark cruise, compliments of Pure Florida. Guests can capture a complimentary picture of their dog with Santa with the donation of dog food, toys, supplies or \$5 donation to the Gulf Coast Humane Society.

Yappy HOur will feature live music by Peter Kolter and Constantine Grim of Electric Mud, a bounce house, a sidewalk chalk station, lawn games and more. Cru will present the beer and wine for the evening, with all proceeds from beer purchases to be donated to the Gulf Coast Humane Society. Omaha Steaks will also offer \$2 hot dogs and \$1 water bottles with proceeds going to the Gulf Coast



Dog owners and their pet at last month's Yappy Hour photo provided

Humane Society. Throughout the event, visitors will have the chance to stop by dog-friendly sponsor stations and can also meet adoptable dogs from the Gulf Coast Humane Society.

To learn more about the event, visit www.thebelltowershops.com or www.facebook.com/BellTowerShops/✱

New York-Based Swing Band To Play At Center

Professor Cunningham and His Old School will provide a swinging concert by fusing jazz and early rhythm and blues at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Friday, December 15. Cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m., while the performance starts at 8 p.m.

The band will showcase the freewheeling sound that made them a New York staple. The grooving repertoire is deeply steeped in the New Orleans tradition, from early jazz to early R&B in the aesthetic of Sidney Bechet, Fats Waller, Professor Longhair, and even Fats Domino.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 the day of the show. A table of 4 costs \$220. Series tickets are \$105.

Professor Cunningham and His Old School jazz band consists of some of the most energetic and accomplished musicians on the New York scene since it's formation in 2012. For more information on the band, visit



Professor Cunningham photo provided professorcunninghamjazz.com.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First St. in the historic downtown Fort Myers River District.✱

White Elephant Sale At Resort

Palmetto Palms RV Resort will hold a Craft and White Elephant Sale on Saturday, December 9 from 8 a.m. to noon. Coffee and donuts will be available. The public is invited to attend this sale.

The RV Resort is located at 19681 Summerlin Road in Fort Myers. For more information, call Marge Gregg at 466-5331.✱

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Joe Anderson and Mary Dewane at a previous wine and food fest photo provided

Charity Group Donates \$110,000 To Wine Country

A group of trustees of SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. have generously pooled together to donate \$110,000 to the Redwood Credit Union (RCU) Community Fund to benefit the Napa Valley and Sonoma County communities hardest hit by the recent fires. Trustees including Art and Bev Cherry, Dave and Cheryl Copham, Fred and Elaine Hawkins, Skip and Julie Leonard, Richard and Vicki Pitbladdo, Jason and Kelly Stephens, Tim and Sandy Youngquist, Bill

and Deb Toler, Don and Andie Vogt and Wayne and Maria Wiles contributed to the RCU Community Fund, designating their dollars to be split between Napa and Sonoma counties to support the victims of the fires.

Long-time supporters of the SWFL Children's Charities, Inc., Benovia Winery owners Joe Anderson and Mary Dewane, have pledged to generously match their donation at \$100,000, bringing the total raised to \$210,000.

"We view the vintners and their employees as true partners in our philanthropy, and we wish to support them in this time of disaster and need," said Elaine Hawkins, trustee and president of the board of directors, SWFL

Children's Charities, Inc. "We watched the devastation brought about by the fires in true horror as lives and property were lost in a region that is dear to our hearts. As fellow 'Benovians,' we were inspired by the generous match offer of Benovia owners Joe Anderson and Mary Dewane, and felt compelled to give back to the people and communities that we have come to appreciate and love."

Celebrating its 10th year, the 2018 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest will feature uniquely themed Chef Vintner Dinners on March 2 at private venues,

and The Grand Tasting and Live Auction on March 3 at Quail West Golf and Country Club, located at 5950 Burnham Rd. in Naples. One hundred percent of monies raised at the auction will benefit SWFL Children's Charities, Inc.'s primary beneficiaries; Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University and Florida SouthWestern State College.

To learn more about SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. and the 2018 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest, visit www.swflwinefest.org.✱

Airport Sounds Of The Season

The Lee County Port Authority's holiday music program, Sounds of the Season, at Southwest Florida International Airport is currently featuring live performances from local elementary, middle and high schools. Sounds of the Season is a great send off for passengers catching a flight or a warm welcome for those arriving for a holiday visit in Southwest Florida.

Performances will take place on the upper level, inside Door 5, in front of the Visitor Information Booth at Southwest Florida International Airport.

Monday, December 11: 10:30 a.m. – The Alva School (jazz band and chorus); 1 p.m. – Island Coast High School (women's choir)

Tuesday, December 12: 9:30 a.m. – Bonita Springs Charter School (5th grade concert choir); 10:30 a.m. – Gateway Elementary School (chorus and instrumental); 11:30 a.m. – Lehigh Elementary School (chorus); 1 p.m. – Gateway Charter High School (concert band and choir)

Wednesday, December 13: 9:30 a.m. – Mirror Lakes Elementary School (4th and 5th grade concert choir); 10:30 a.m. – Hancock Creek Elementary School (chorus); 1 p.m. – Gateway Intermediate Charter School (choir)

Thursday, December 14: 9:30 a.m. – Oasis Charter Elementary School (elementary chorus); 10:30 a.m. – Diplomat Elementary School (chorus); 11:30 a.m. – Veterans Park Academy for the Arts School (elementary vocal ensemble); 1 p.m. – Bonita Springs Middle Center for the Arts (string quartet and choir)

Friday, December 15: 9:30 a.m. – Veterans Park Academy for the Arts

(band and orchestra); 10:30 a.m. – River Hall Elementary School (children's choir); 11:30 a.m. – Sunshine Elementary School (choir); 1 p.m. – Tice Elementary School (chorus)

Monday, December 18: 10:30 a.m. – Heights Elementary School (choir)

Tuesday, December 19: 11 a.m. – Bonita Springs Charter School (concert band)

Thursday, December 21: 11 a.m. – Bonita Springs Charter School (concert band).✱

Register For Winter Arts Camp

The Alliance for the Arts is offering registration for its Winter Arts Camp, a four-day program during the public school winter recess. The camp is presented in partnership with Florida Rep Education and runs January 2 to 5.


Campers are invited to follow Alice down the rabbit hole in a whimsical retelling of Lewis Carroll's most prominent classic, *Alice in Wonderland*. Students ages 5 to 18 will be immersed in a series of scenes and songs showcasing some of Carroll's famously zany characters as Alice and her friends journey to the world of Wonderland. The program combines visual and performing arts.

Winter Arts Camp is \$185 for the week. Drop off begins at 8:45 a.m. with camp starting at 9 a.m. each day. Aftercare is available for an additional cost.

The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information or to register, visit www.ArtInLee.org or call the Florida Rep at 332-4665 ext. 2020.✱

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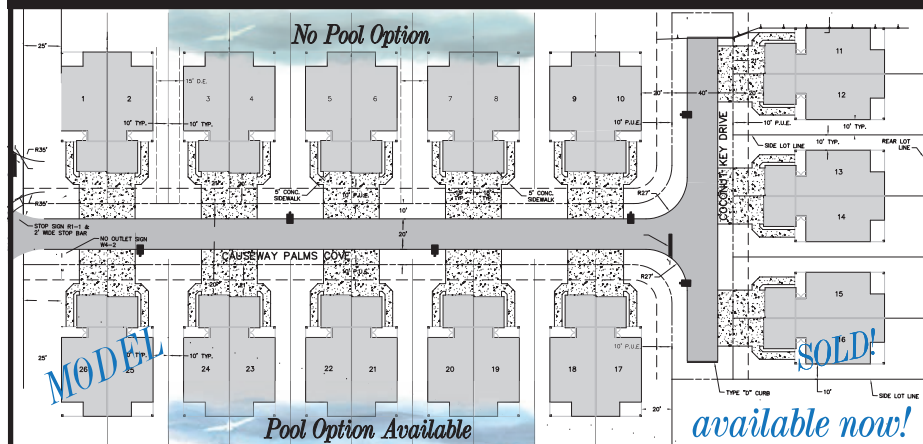
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Fort Myers Art:

Call To Artists For Florida Juried Show



by Tom Hall

The Alliance for the Arts has issued its call to Florida artists who would like to be juried into the 32nd annual All Florida Juried Exhibit. This is the Alliance's longest running

exhibition and features pieces created by artists working in a wide variety of media from all over the State of Florida.

Categories for entry are sculpture, painting (including oil, acrylic, collage, water color and mixed media), photography, prints and drawing. An entry may consist of one to three artworks. All entries must be submitted online no later than January 29, 2018. Artists can download the prospectus and submit their work at www.artinlee.org/AllFlorida18.

This year's juror is Mark Ormond, who has worked for more than 30 years as a museum director and curator, university professor, writer, independent curator and consultant to institutions and private individuals. A graduate of George Washington University and the University of Pennsylvania, he



Visitor viewing one of the works at a previous exhibit

photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

is currently curator of exhibitions at Ringling College Galleries at Ringling College of Art and Design, where he also teaches courses in the business of fine arts and the role of the curator in contemporary art. His essay on Robert Rauschenberg was published in a catalog for an exhibition at Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac in Paris, France that closed on January 7, 2017.

The exhibition is kindly sponsored by Elemental Stone and Waterworks.

The opening celebration will be from 5 to 7 p.m. on March 9. The juror will be on hand to present awards including

\$1,000 cash for Best In Show, a second place \$250 gift certificate for Golden Paints, \$100 cash for third place and Jurors Choice award(s) of Alliance for the Arts membership(s).

Fired Up Exhibit At Alliance

The Alliance for the Arts' September show was supposed to be Fired Up: A Juried Exhibit. Hurricane Irma had other plans. As a result of the damage and power outages associated with the storm, the exhibition had to be postponed. It will be on view at the Alliance from December 8 through January 5, 2018.

Taking part in the show are Thais Alvarez, Alyssa Baladad, JoAnne Bedient, Gianna Dubay, Patricia Fay, Ehren Fritz Gerhard, Eric Greenblatt, Carrie Keohane, Jay Lana, Sherry Lavendar, Felipe Maldonado, Sandra Fay Mark, Deborah Martin, John Merchant, Rick Plummer, June Powell, John O'Brien, Marcia Preisler, Mary Etta Rokusek, Ronald Sebring, Gale Shambloott, Joel Shapses, Barbara Simon, Toni Ferrell Sutton, Lynn

Troyer, Mary Voytek, Beverly Yankwitt, Roseline Young and Peter Zell. Each has stepped outside what's normally expected to craft works using fire and heat to make ceramics, glass, welded and other pieces.

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

Brotherton's fine arts career includes serving as an elementary art teacher, art museum work, art gallery manager and sales consultant.

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

*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.**

Holiday House At Historic Homes

Relive the excitement of your childhood Christmas memories as you tour the decked-out historic Burroughs and Langford-Kingston homes during The Fort Myers Woman's Community Club's 61st annual Holiday House from Friday, December 8 through Saturday, December 23 from 5 to 9 p.m. Last tour begins at 8:30pm.

"We want people to see the Christmas of their childhood and help create lasting memories for their children and grandchildren," Holiday House Chair Tracy McGee said.

The two homes and grounds will be decorated to reflect this year's theme The Wonder of Christmas. McGee said to expect "visions of lights, sparkle and decadence of a traditional decor in reds and greens." Tickets are \$5 per person. Children 10 and under are free. Veterans and active military personnel are free with identification.

"Miles of ribbon, garland and lights will again grace the properties to bring on the joy you won't want to miss," she said. "Every bow is created, tree decorated and detail fashioned with

care by our assembly of members and volunteers who work diligently to craft their gift for the community."

In addition to touring the two festively decorated homes and grounds, children can visit with Santa each evening. There will also be other surprises during this year's Holiday House. "Warning to the children: Be on the lookout for some sneaky hidden elves," McGee said.

For 61 years, the Fort Myers Woman's Community Club has been decorating homes for the Christmas holiday as its gift to Southwest Florida. "Holiday House has been a labor of love that our members look forward to sharing with our community every year," McGee said. "Some of our ladies begin constructing and preparing their elaborate and beautiful decorations the summer before."

The Burroughs and Langford-Kingston homes are located in downtown Fort Myers at the corner of First and Fowler streets. The homes are managed by the Uncommon Friends Foundation and the proceeds from Holiday House go to the restoration and care of the homes. For more information, visit www.fmwcc.com or Facebook @HolidayHouseFortMyers.*

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Mariannette LaPuppet photos provided

Diva Comedy Night Returns On January 6

The Alliance for the Arts will present Diva Comedy Night on January 6 at 8 p.m. in the theatre. This one night of side-splitting standup comedy features funny and fierce female comedians all from Florida. General seating tickets are



Shana Manuel

\$15 for Alliance members and \$20 for non-members.

The Divas include Mariannette LaPuppet, an actress and creative writer of almost 30 years; Shana Manuel, a criminal defense attorney by day and stand-up comedian by night; Angela Nacca, representing all the moms, wives, working and menopausal woman of the world; and Cindy-Ann Boisson, a Trinidadian-born comedian.

LaPuppet was a semi-finalist in the first Nick@Nite's search for America's



Angela Nacca

Funniest Mom, a finalist in Comic Cure's Florida's Funniest Female and the winner of the 2015 Annual Comedians Ball in Florida.

Manuel is a crowd favorite at clubs like The Improv and was the winner of the 2016 Pride Comedy Festival in Florida.

Nacca was a finalist in Florida's Funniest Female, placed second in The Ultimate Miami Comedian and was selected as one of the Top 101 comedians to compete in The World Series of Comedy in Las Vegas.



Cindy-Ann Boisson (CinCin)

Boisson took a standup comedy class at The Improv at Hard Rock Fort Lauderdale and performed to a packed audience on graduation night. She has also performed at several festivals and venues throughout South Florida, New York City and Trinidad and Tobago. In April 2017, she participated in Comic Cure's Florida's Funniest Female Competition and was among the finalists.

For more information on this event, visit www.ArtnLee.org or call 239-939-2787.*

From page 2

Historic Downtown

Caloosahatchee and discovering Fort Myers. He and also ran the famous Tarpon House hotel, instrumental in making tarpon fishing in Southwest Florida into a worldwide attraction.

Shultz Park didn't remain a park space for long after the historic photo was taken. By the mid-1920s, the family had sold the land and commercial buildings were beginning to dominate Five Points.

Today, Five Points bears almost no resemblance to the network of traffic lanes, medians, on- and off-ramps, and overpasses at the foot of the Caloosahatchee Bridge.

As for the history of the fair that featured Spirit of Halgrim, some local historians, such as the late Booch DiMarchi, consider this downtown fair as a precursor to the first official Lee County Fair, which was held at Terry Park in February 1919.

One theory posits that the official fair evolved from the three-day La Conquista de Florida celebration, which persisted through 1918.

That extravagant event sponsored by the Accelerator Club, an early booster organization, took place for several years in February in League Field until 1918. (That field was located on the river side of McGregor Boulevard between Clifford Street and Altamont Avenue.)

So the timeline fits.

Exhibits, such as the one pictured, might have been shown in Shultz Park, separate from the more theatrical main events, which included performances, barbecues, races, a carnival, a parade, dancing and the crowning of Princess Florida.

Fortunately, whatever the name or location, the fairs have continued year after year. The Lee County Fair at Terry Park became the Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair, which is now held at the Lee Civic Center in North Fort Myers annually.

The good news is that there's plenty of time to prepare for the fun. The next fair runs February 22 to March 4, 2018.

Walk down to Five Points and imagine a quieter scene with family homes and a park where large buildings and heavy traffic now exist. Then indulge your curiosity about local history by visiting the following research centers.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization open Wednesday and Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon and Wednesday 4 to 7 p.m. It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Call 939-4044 or visit www.swflhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

The Lee County Black History Society is located at 1936 Henderson Avenue, adjacent to the Williams Academy Museum at Roberto Clemente Park. Hours for the all-volunteer, non-profit organization are Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday by appointment only.

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

Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, *Fort Myers Press*, *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl H. Grismer, *Terry Park Centennial Anniversary Commemorative Program*, 1906-2006 by Booch DiMarchi, and www.swflcfair.com.*

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Along The River

The City of Fort Myers will celebrate the season with **Christmas in the Park** in **Centennial Park** this Friday, December 8 from 4 to 10 p.m. All are invited to attend this free event.

The festivities will include children's activities include bounce house, an inflatable obstacle course and a giant slide. At 5 p.m., Santa will arrive by fire truck to visit with the children. Adults will enjoy a performance of holiday favorites by the Southwest Florida Symphony starting at 5 p.m. At 6 p.m., Mayor Randy Henderson will light the city's Christmas tree.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m., the free Movie in the Park is the Christmas classic *Disney's A Christmas Carol*, starring Jim Carrey. One dollar concessions will be available during the movie.

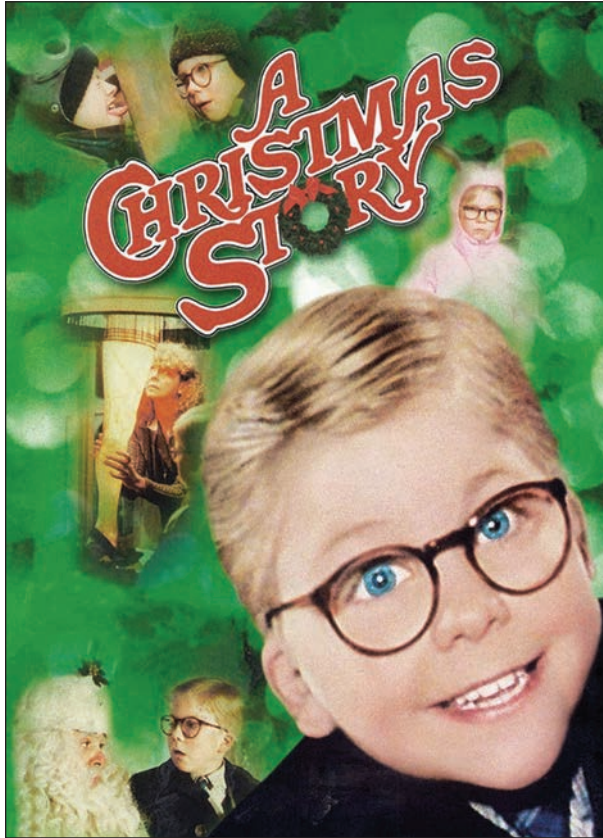
Centennial Park is located in downtown Fort Myers. Remember to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Free onsite parking is available.

The **Calusa Nature Center** will hold a **holiday event** this weekend and next weekend. Beginning this Friday, December 8 from 5:30 to 8 p.m., the center will feature Pictures with Santa, night walk on a decorated trail, holiday crafts and games, refreshments and a campfire with marshmallows. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Holiday Laser Lights in the Planetarium will be offered for an extra \$5 at 6 p.m. Holiday Nights will be held on December 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17.

For more information, visit www.calusanature.org.

The **Alliance for the Arts Fired Up exhibit** will feature the works of 29 Florida artists who have created their pieces using fire or heat in some way. The opening reception will be held this Friday, December 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. It is open to the public.

Juried entries will represent mediums such as ceramics, glass, welded pieces, encaustics and installations. Juror Lee Brotherton will be on hand to present awards. This exhibit runs until January 2. Admission to the gallery is free, but a \$5 suggested donation helps keep arts programming accessible.



A *Christmas Story* movie cover

image courtesy of www.artinlee.com

For more information, visit www.artinlee.org.

This Saturday, November 11, experience the beautiful birds of **Bunche Beach** with a **bird patrol guide** at 10 a.m. Participants meet on the beach, located off John Morris Road.

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

of nature. For more information, call 707-3015 or visit www.birdpatrol.org.

The monthly **SoCo Second Saturday Art Crawl** will showcase another artful night along the **SoCo Cultural District** this Saturday, December 9 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Royal Palm Square will have vendors and live music at the rain or shine monthly event. For more information, visit www.socoswfl.com or call 590-8645.

The **Alliance for the Arts** presents a **free outdoor screening** of *A Christmas Story* on the GreenMarket lawn this Saturday, December 9 at 7 p.m. Blankets, coolers and lawn chairs are welcome for first come, first serve seating.

Admission is free, but a suggested \$10 family donation helps the Alliance continue offering affordable and accessible programming. For more information, call 939-2787 or visit www.ArtInLee.org.

Edison & Ford Winter Estates is continuing its 42nd celebration of **Holiday Nights** with decorated homes of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford. This year's theme is A Star Spangled Holiday and reminisces holidays from the Victorian Era with red, white and blue lights, and decorations.

Holiday Nights features the Liquid Fireworks by Waltzing Waters water fountain light show, history characters Mr. and Mrs. Edison and Mr. and Mrs. Ford hosting a Holiday Tea on December 13 at 6:30 p.m., as well as local artist Doug MacGregor drawing cartoons on December 9, 16 and 23. Santa will be visiting on select nights, and there will be a holiday science show on December 16 from 10 to 11 a.m. Children are also invited each night to make holiday postcards for military personnel.

Holiday Nights tickets for adults are \$20, teens (ages 13 to 19) are \$10, children (ages 6 to 12) are \$2, and children age 5 and younger are free. Edison Ford members are also admitted free. Visitors are able to view the lights from 5:30 to 9 p.m. nightly from November 24 to December 31, except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. To confirm tour times, visit www.EdisonFordWinterEstates.org or call 334-7419.*



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Cape Coral Outdoor Expo And Boat Show

The second annual Cape Coral Outdoor Expo and Boat Show will be held at the German American Social Club from Friday through Sunday, December 8 through 10. The show hours will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The expo and show provide boaters and outdoor enthusiasts the latest boating, kayaks, paddle boarding, ATVs, personal watercrafts, scuba, cycling, water skiing, wake boarding, and much more. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased each day at the event with free on-site parking.

Fishing seminars will be offered all three days from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for attendees to learn fishing techniques from local experts.

"There will be something for every active lifestyle and budget. Over 65 vendors throughout the expo will be selling a wide variety of products and services," said show director Donald Ware. "The expo is the perfect opportunity to find a great deal for the holidays."

Saturday will include a nautical flea market. Participants are invited to sell their used fishing and boating

equipment. No business will be permitted in this area. This is being held on Saturday only, enter and set up is between 8 to 10 a.m. The fee is \$5 per person.

The expo will offer happy hour on Friday and Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m. with live music and food specials. Attendees can enjoy fresh seafood and barbecue from some of Southwest Florida's best chefs.

This year the expo has tripled in the number of local as well as regional boat dealers and manufacturers from the previous year. Attendees will have the opportunity to shop, learn and enjoy the newest outdoor recreational products and activities available in the area.

The German American Social Club is located at 2101 SW Pine Island Road in Cape Coral.*

Pancake Breakfast

Bayside Estates Men's Club will host its monthly Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, December 10 from 8 to 11 a.m. All are invited to the Bayside Recreation Hall for all-you-can-eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausages, coffee and orange juice for \$5. For only \$1 more, get a made-to-order omelet. Bayside Estates is on the corner of San Carlos and Bayside boulevards, south of Pine Ridge Road.*

Book Signing

Mermaid Salon & Day Spa will host Lynne Wissink-Tressler, author of *Crazy Bones! The Tale of a Waggy Tail* and advocate for dog rescue, at 3 p.m. on the following dates: December 9, 13, 15, 20 and 23.

Crazy Bones! The Tale of a Waggy Tail is the story of a Hurricane Katrina refugee, a small dog with a big attitude, who was rescued by a middle-aged spinster from Northern New England. The tale is presented from two points of view: the dog's and the woman's. The contrast in perspective will make you laugh out loud, for the woman is very rigid and regimented, not only in her habits but the way in which she sees the world. On the other paw, the dog is much more realistic and practical. Together they travelled, ran on the beach, and snowshoed through the Maine woods while learning so much about life from each other. They forged a bond that made them inseparable.



Lynne Wissink-Tressler photo provided

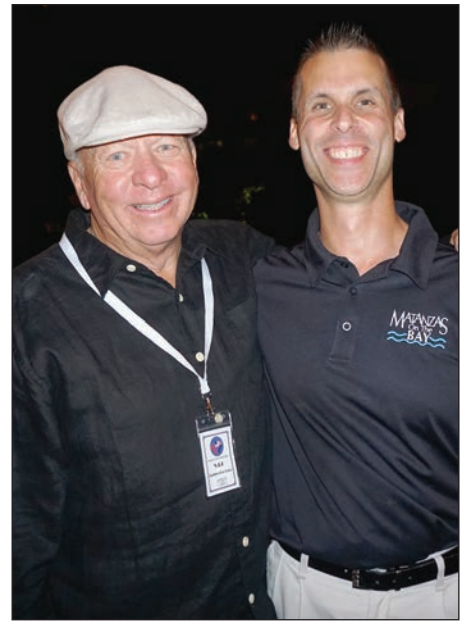
Mermaid Salon & Day Spa is located at 15675 McGregor Boulevard unit 16 in Fort Myers.✱

Wine Fundraiser Benefits OOA

Matanzas on the Bay hosted its inaugural "Wine on the Waterfront" fundraising event, raising \$6,000 to support the mission of Operation Open Arms (OOA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to the care and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in military personnel.

The Veterans Day event featured an intimate food and wine tasting on the outside deck of Matanzas on the Bay, prize drawings and live music from local singer-songwriter and *The Voice* contestant Sheena Brook.

Proceeds from the event will support Operation Open Arms' efforts to treat active, foreign duty U.S. service personnel to special acts of kindness, unique outreach services, and PTSD mental health care within 30 days of returning home from deployment.✱



OOA Founder Capt. John "GiddyUp" Bunch and Matanzas on the Bay General Manager Tony Coppolino photo provided

Call For Poets

The Alliance for the Arts is issuing a call to poets for its inaugural Chapbook celebration on April 5, 2018. Selected poems will be published in a National Poetry Month celebratory chapbook.

Online submissions are due by

February 23, 2018. To be eligible for entry, poets must reside in Southwest Florida and be able to attend the Chapbook reading on April 5, 2018. Poets chosen to participate will be notified in mid-February. A nominal submission fee of \$5 is required, which covers the cost of publication.

For submission guidelines and to submit your work online, visit www.artinlee.org/chapbook.

[artinlee.org/chapbook](http://www.artinlee.org/chapbook).

The 2018 Chapbook Juror will be Joyce Peseroff. Peseroff is the author of five collections of poetry, including *The Hardness Scale* (1977, reissued in 2000), *A Dog in the Lifeboat* (1991), *Mortal Education* (2000), *Eastern Mountain Time* (2006) and *Know Thyself* (2015, Carnegie Mellon Poetry Series). Her honors include grants

from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Massachusetts Artists Foundation as well as a Pushcart Prize.

Peseroff lives in Bedford, Massachusetts, and spends the winter in North Fort Myers. She taught at the University of Massachusetts-Boston, where she directed the Creative Writing MFA Program in its first four years.✱

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Mastersingers To Present Christmas Concert On Sanibel



The Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers photo provided

The Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers return to the Sanibel Community Church for a performance of Christmas on Sanibel, this year's version of their iconic seasonal concert on Sunday, December 10 at 6 p.m. There will be a Christmas carol sing-a-long at 5:30 p.m. and a reception in the courtyard following the concert. There is no admission charge. A love offering will be received to benefit Florida Baptist's Children's Home. This year's concert will feature Christmas classics composed by Francis Poulenc, John Rutter, Randall Thompson

and contemporary American composers Gwyneth Walker and Z. Randall Stroope. Brass, percussion, organ and longtime piano accompanist Janet Carter will accompany the 80-voice chorus. "Singing at the Community Church every year, is one of the highlights of our season," said Mastersingers Artistic Director Jeff Faux. "The audience is always so appreciative, our hosts at the church are so gracious and welcoming and our singers have such a great time performing in that wonderful space, that it's almost like coming home for the holidays."

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.
BIBLESHARE
10 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Tuesday, 7050 Winkler Rd, Suite 121, www.simplysimpleworship.com, 437-8835.
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
Wednesday 12 noon Testimony Service, 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, 437-4330.
FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST;
Sunday 10 a.m., 8210 College Parkway, 482-3133.
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, 481-1143.
KINGDOM LIFE
Sunday 10:30 a.m. 2154 McGregor Boulevard, 218-8343.
LAMB OF GOD
Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m. 19691 Cypress

The Christmas on Sanibel concert is one of three holiday performances in a busy December for the Mastersingers. The group is also taking part in an Afternoon of Readings and Carols at New Hope Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 3 in a free community concert whose collection will benefit the South Fort Myers Food

Pantry. On Sunday, December 17, the Mastersingers will join the Gulf Coast Symphony in their annual Holiday Pops concert, Deck the Halls, at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. The Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way. For more information, visit www.mastersingersfm.com.✽

Support Our Homeless Veterans: Give A New Pair Of Shoes

submitted by Dan Perkins

We are just a couple of weeks into our program to provide 150 homeless veterans with shoes. As of November 28, we have collected 63 pairs of shoes. Our goal is to try and get to 150 pairs. If you or your family or civic group is looking for something different to do this Christmas season, why not offer a hand up to those who have served us. They need sneakers, work boots and dress shoes in sizes 9 to 11. Socks would be an added bonus. To those of you that have already donated, thank you for your generosity. We have until December 19 to get as many pairs as we can. We have added three more drop-off locations to the list and they are: Southwest Florida Military Museum, 4820 Leonard Street in Cape Coral; American Legion Post 123, 4249 Sanibel-Captiva Road on Sanibel; and St. Columbkille Catholic Church, 12171 Iona Road in Fort Myers. Other locations on Sanibel are: Bailey's General Store, 2477 Periwinkle Way; The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, 949 Sand Castle Road; and St. Isabel Catholic Church, 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call Dan Perkins at 973-687-4826.✽

Blue Christmas Church Service

Peace Lutheran Church will present its 9th annual Blue Christmas Service on Thursday, December 14 at 10 a.m. Everyone is invited to feel the hope and love of the Christmas season. There will

be a worship service of healing, filled with prayer, scripture and Christmas hymns to everyone, especially those experiencing loss. If you know of someone who is not feeling especially joyful about Christmas, invite them to join with others who empathize and understand. Peace Lutheran Church is located at 15840 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. Call 437-2599 for more information.✽

View Drive, lambogodchurch.net, 267-3525.
NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER
Friday 6:30 and 7 p.m. 8505 Jenny Cae Lane, nbcmministry@embarqmail.com, facebook.com/nbcmministry, 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, 267-7400.
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 Ext., 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 10 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.✽

CROW Case Of The Week:

Limpkin



by Bob Petcher

The limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) is an unusual bird with a limited appetite. The large heron-like bird, which is more closely related to a crane, dines mainly on apple snails, a freshwater snail that

is found in lakes and marshes around Southwest Florida. Using a curved bill that works like tweezers, the water bird can slip into the apple snail's chamber area to extract its next meal.

The limpkin is actually more populated in the southern regions of the American tropics, but can be found in Florida looking for its favorite prey. Once in the state, the long-neck bird will also dine on other crustaceans, like mussels and oysters as well as insects, worms and small amphibians.

At CROW, a juvenile limpkin was admitted from North Fort Myers with a fractured right humerus and significant soft-tissue swelling in its right shoulder. The bird also had an open wound on its right wing. Upon completion of the intake exam, an IV catheter was placed in the left brachial vein and the wound was closed to protect the bone prior to surgery to repair the fracture.

Dr. Robin Bast, CROW veterinary

intern, explained the reasoning for the IV catheter placement and why the wound was temporarily closed prior to surgery.

"Since there was a significant amount of soft tissue trauma in the affected wing and the potential for impaired circulation in that area, we placed the IV catheter in the other wing to ensure that fluids and medications would be effectively given systemically," she said. "The laceration was cleaned and temporarily closed to protect the fractured ends of the bone, as well as the underlying exposed muscle tissue, nerves and blood vessels. This helps prevent those tissues from becoming more contaminated or from drying out prior to surgical repair. The bird was stabilized with IV fluids and medications for 24 hours so it was a better candidate for anesthesia and surgical repair of the fracture the next day."

That following day, surgery was performed to place pins to stabilize the fractured wing. After the delicate procedure, the entire wing was placed in a body wrap for added stability.

"Surgery involved reducing the two fracture fragments so they were aligned in normal anatomical position – muscle contracture had pulled the two pieces so they were overriding each other abnormally – and placing an IM pin/cross pin to form an external fixator," said Dr. Bast.

CROW officials confirmed that limpkins are "not a common patient" at the clinic. Only one or two of this bird species are received at the clinic per year. It was unknown how this particular



Patient #17-3978 prior to its passing

photo by Brian Bohman

patient was injured upon intake.

"A specific traumatic event was not witnessed, so we do not know what caused the fracture in this bird," said Dr. Bast. "However, on presentation, the fracture was acute in nature. (It) had happened very recently, was actively bleeding and had minimal gross contamination of the open wound."

The patient's injuries proved to be too much. The limpkin passed on its seventh day at the clinic.

"Unfortunately, despite intensive care,

the limpkin succumbed to complications from its injuries and passed away on Monday," added Dr. Bast.

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.

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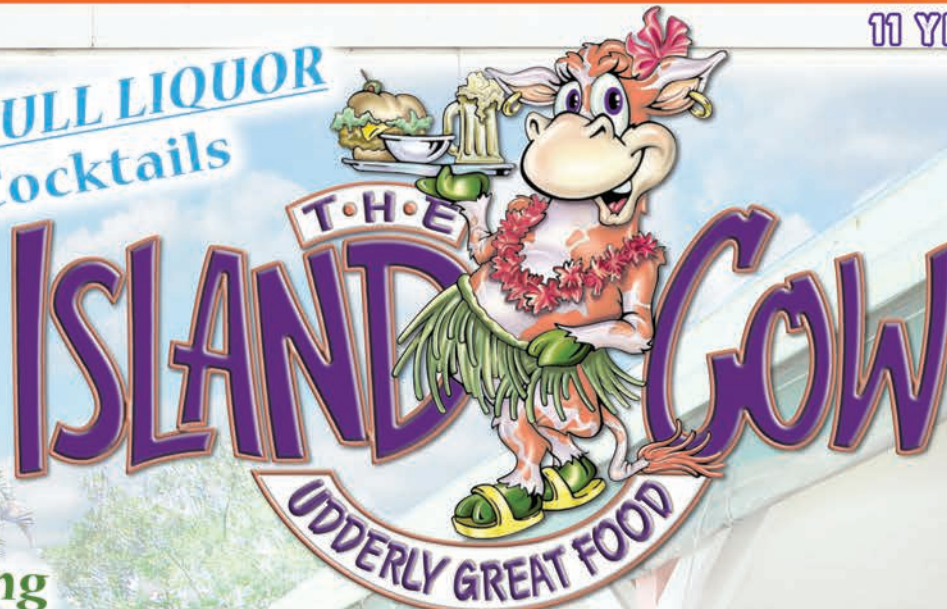
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Cleaner Water Finally



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

With all the reports of red tide in the news, I have still not seen any dead fish in Pine Island Sound. The consistent northeast winds we have had for over

a week seem to be keeping this red tide offshore and moving south. Brown water in the sound since Hurricane Irma has started to clear up as the water north of Redfish Pass is finally beginning to clear with pretty water now showing up during the incoming tide. This cleaner water will only continue to improve in the southern sound now that the amount of water being released from Lake O has been reduced.

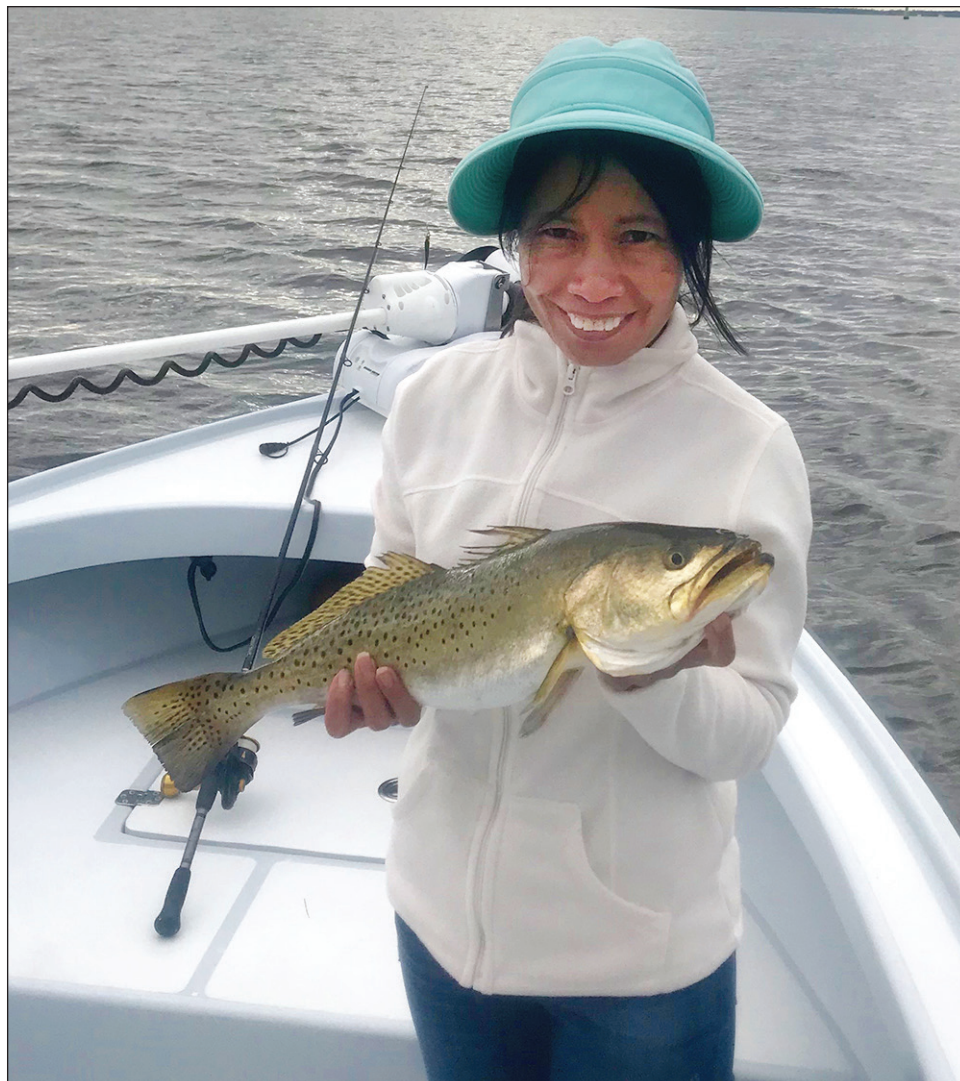
Despite the brown water in the southern sound, fishing has been good with a great mixed bag of species. Mangrove creek mouths have been best during the low incoming tides with snook, gag grouper, mangrove snappers and lots of bigger jack crevalle. Once the tide has come up some, I have been switching it up and fishing for some of the larger gator trout of the year in the pot holes on the open grass flats at the southern end of the sound. Many of the

trout we have been catching are well over the 20-inch max.

Snook season closed as of December 1 for our regio, and this fishery is now all catch and release only until March 1. With water temperatures still in the low 70s, the snook bite has been some of the best action for my anglers. Deeper docks with good tide flow have held some of the larger snook, while many mangrove shorelines I've been fishing are holding what seems like unlimited amounts of 20- to 25-inch fish. While catching these mangrove snook, it often does not take long for a hungry dolphin to show up and start feeding on the snook we are releasing. Once this happens, it's time to move on no matter how good the bite is.

My personal favorite fishing this time of year is working mangrove shorelines while throwing soft plastic jigs. The brown water in the southern sound is just perfect for a root beer or dark-colored soft plastic jig. We troll motor down along a wind blown shoreline while picking apart every nook and cranny. This is a great way to cover lots of water and catch some big snook and redfish. There is nothing much more satisfying when you get a big snook to eat an artificial bait.

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



Joy Stafford from St Louis, Missouri with a big gator trout caught while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided

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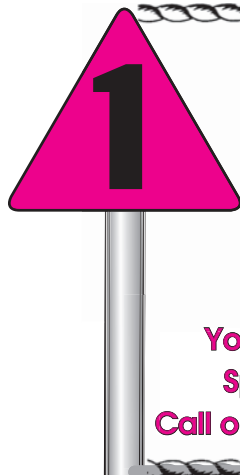
472-5800
Jensen's Marina
Captiva Island

Send Us Your Fish Tales

We would like to hear from anglers about their catches.

Send us details including tackle, bait and weather conditions, date of catch, species and weight, and include a photograph with identification.

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Dave Doane



Silver buttonwood have woody button-like fruit
photos by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart

Cute As A Button

by Gerri Reaves

Pictured here are a few of the many species that have the word “button” in their common names. That moniker might be inspired by fruit resembling actual buttons or by fruit or flowers that are merely button-like in appearance.

Both the flowers and woody fruit of native silver buttonwood (*Conocarpus erectus* var. *sericeus*) certainly bring buttons to mind.

Silver buttonwood grows as either a shrub or tree and is noted for its ornamental value and wildlife friendliness.

The velvety silvery gray leaves are particularly attractive, making it all more unfortunate that many landscapers and homeowners repeatedly flat-top it into hedge, thus not only eliminating the “silver” but robbing birds of cover and nesting habitat and epiphytes of growing platforms.

The tree produces dense rounded flowerheads, but those inconspicuous greenish blooms can’t compete with the eye-catching “buttons,” which are reddish brown, cone-shaped and about a half-inch across.

Yellow batchelor’s button’s (*Polygala rugelii*) flower is easy to picture in the buttonhole of any jacket. This low-maintenance, sun-loving wildflower is



Yellow batchelor’s button would dress up any jacket

native to Florida’s moist pinelands and prairies.

What appears to be one flower is actually a densely packed cylindrical or thimble-shaped head of small yellow flowers measuring an inch to an inch and a half across. They bloom throughout the year, appearing solitarily on a slender stem that can be up to three feet tall.

Common buttonbush’s (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) white, fragrant, “flower balls” look like starry buttons.

They are comprised of numerous tubular four-lobed florets. In spring and summer, the dense flowerheads appear in clusters on long stalks.

This native shrub or small tree is an excellent choice for a natural garden because it attracts bees, hummingbirds, and various butterflies.

It produces a woody brown ball on which the nut-like fruit are found, perhaps another inspiration for calling it “button.”

Non-native shrubby false buttonweed (*Spermacoce verticillata*) is a relative of buttonbush but easy to overlook, since it’s a low-growing wildflower and usually treated as a weed.

It blooms year-round just about anywhere, producing white rounded heads of less than an inch across. As with buttonbush, the heads are made up of tiny four-petaled flowers. However, they appear not only at the stem ends but at the stem nodes too.

Although non-native, it’s non-invasive and does provide nectar for various insects.



Common buttonbush produces fragrant flowerballs

Sources: *Everglades Wildflowers* by Roger L. Hammer, *Florida Wild Flowers and Roadside Plants* by C. Ritchie Bell and Bryan J. Taylor; *Gardening for Florida’s Butterflies* by Pamela F. Traas; *A Gardener’s Guide to Florida’s Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio; *The Guide to Florida Wildflowers* by Walter Kingsley Taylor; *Native Florida Plants* by



Low-growing non-native shrubby false buttonweed is a relative of common buttonbush

Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell; *The Shrubs and Woody Vines of Florida* by Gil Nelson; *Wildflowers of Florida* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela; www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu; www.fnps.org; https://floridata.com; and www.regionalconservation.org.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✧

Park And Open Spaces Planning

The City of Fort Myers Parks and Open Spaces System Master Plan committee will host one final open house to gather feedback for planning the city’s direction for its parks and open spaces for the coming decade. Attendees will have the opportunity to listen and offer feedback on Thursday, December 14 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Dr. Ann Murphy Knight STARS Complex. Refreshments will be served.

This workshop culminates a series of five workshops that took place throughout the city during 2016 and 2017 to gather input.

“Our local parks and recreational facilities provide a great quality of life

that our city provides for its citizens and visitors alike,” said Richard Moulton, director of public works. “We are inviting the public to join us in crafting a vision for bike paths, walking trails, neighborhood parks, and/or regional green spaces. This final workshop culminates a yearlong effort to gather community feedback that will help shape the way our parks and green spaces evolve over the next several years.”

The workshop is designed in an open house format so attendees can drop in at their convenience during the allotted timeframe.

Dr. Ann Murphy Knight STARS Complex is located at 2980 Edison Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, call 321-7590 or visit www.cityftmyers.com.✧

Animal Services Gift Tree And Pet Photo Event

Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) will celebrate the 25 Strays of Christmas with a Gift Giving Tree in the adoption lobby and a pet photo event to benefit the Animal Care Trust Fund.

The Gift Giving Tree is decorated with ornaments featuring adoptable pets and their Christmas wish list. Visitors may pick one up and return it to by December 21 to help make the animals’ holiday a little brighter. If a selected pet is lucky enough to find a home for the holiday, the pet will be able to take its gifts to the new home.

Pet photos with “Santa Paws” will be

available from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, December 9. People are welcome to bring their own pets in for the event. A \$5 donation will go to the Animal Care Trust Fund to care for animals in need. Participants will receive two photos delivered via email.

In 2016, Animal Services was able to spend almost \$100,000 for major surgeries, consultations and medical care outside of the ability of its veterinary staff because of the generous donations made to the trust fund. To learn more about the fund, visit www.leegov.com/animalservices/trustfund

Adoptions are available 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Visit www.leelostpets.com to see pets available for adoption.

LCDAS is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers.✧

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Superior Interiors

Continuity With Color A Must



by Linda Coin

Many decorators recommend color continuity throughout a house. However, this doesn't mean using the same color scheme in every room – how boring would that be. It

does, however, mean a smooth color transition from one room to the next.

One connecting color will serve to accomplish this. It could be a soft sage green shade, or Robin's egg blue, or buttercup yellow – any color actually. The key is to use your connecting color in varying degrees of intensity from room to room. Sometimes your main color in one room would then be better used as an accent color in an adjoining room. It might be carpeting in one room, walls in another, an occasional chair in a third, an element in the drapery fabric in a fourth.

It's also extremely important to add one unexpected fun splash of color into your basic color scheme. Did you know that when we walk into any room, our eyes crave visual movement? And by adding a splash of color – something unexpected into your overall color scheme, you instantly add visual interest into your design plan.

Think about a basic color scheme of

buttercup yellow, sage greens and warm winter whites. Most would find this a calming color palette and can easily visualize carrying varying degrees of intensity of these colors from room to room. But just think about the awesome impact a splash of color could add. How about introducing a warm coral shade into this color scheme. By cleverly using this color in accent or accessory pieces, and then moving these colored accents strategically around your room, you've immediately created a much more pleasing design plan, full of impact and visual interest.

And, if you love to rearrange your furniture, just think of the possibilities color continuity from room to room affords. All your furniture pieces, as well as your accessories can be easily interchangeable color-wise room to room.

Linda Coin is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands and can be reached at linda@coindeciden.com.✽

MOAA Meeting

The next meeting of the Lee Coast Chapter of MOAA (Military Officers Association of America) will be held at Crown Colony Golf and Country Club on Monday, December 11 at 5:45 p.m. Retired Brigadier General Edward Dyer, a Naples resident who serves as a special advisor to Home Base, the nonprofit organization helping veterans, will be the speaker.

Former, retired or active duty uniformed officers who are interested in joining MOAA can contact Terry Robertson at 352-638-5838 for membership information.✽

Financial Focus

Be Extra Vigilant About Protecting Financial Data



by Jennifer Basey

To help achieve your long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement, you should save and invest regularly. But that's only part of the picture. You also need to protect your financial assets in

various ways. One such method is guarding your personal information – especially any information that could be linked to your financial accounts. It's obviously important to be vigilant at any time, but you need to be even more on your toes during the holiday season, when fraudsters are particularly active.

So, to help keep your important data under wraps during the holidays, consider these suggestions:

Extend your protection to all mobile devices. Identity thieves can now compromise your mobile devices by installing spyware that steals usernames, passwords and credit card information. Fortunately, you can fight back. By doing a little research online, you can find the best mobile security software for your needs.

Use multiple passwords. Online security specialists recommend that you use different passwords for each new online shopping site you visit during the holiday season. Although this might seem like a hassle, it can be helpful, because even if identity thieves were to grab one of your new passwords, they still couldn't use it for other sites you may visit. And you can even find a free online program that can help you keep track of all your passwords.

Be suspicious of "huge savings." It happens every holiday season – identity

thieves develop fake sites with attractive graphics and stunningly low prices on a variety of items, especially digital devices. If you fall for these pitches, you won't get any merchandise, but you might get a handful of headaches once the bad guys have your credit card number and other personal information. To prevent this, be wary of any deal that sounds too good to be true, and do some digging on the websites that offer these mega-savings.

Watch for fake shipping notices.

During the holidays, when you may do a lot of online shopping, you will probably receive some legitimate shipping notices. But the bad guys have gotten pretty good at generating fake notices designed to resemble those from UPS, FedEx and even the U.S. Postal Service. If you were to click on the link provided by one of these bogus notices, you could either take on some malware or get taken to a "phishing" website created by the shipping notice forgers. Your best defense: Only shop with legitimate merchants and only use the tracking numbers given to you in the email you received immediately after making your purchases.

Keep your Social Security number to yourself. As a general rule, don't give out your Social Security number online – to anyone. No legitimate retailer needs this number.

Finally, be aware that not all attempts at stealing your personal information will come online. When you're out shopping at old-fashioned, brick-and-mortar stores, consider bringing just one credit card with you – and protect that card from prying eyes.

By following these precautions, you should be able to greatly reduce the risk of being victimized by identity thieves and other miscreants. And the more comfortable you are in doing your holiday shopping, the more you can enjoy the season.

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.✽

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Junior Achievement Advisory Board

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida recently announced the members of its 2018 Business Hall of Fame, Lee County, Advisory Board. The committee will be led by chair Richard Durnwald, financial advisor for Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company; and co-chair Scott Fischer, CEO and founder of Scott Fischer Enterprises. The 2018 Business Hall of Fame, Lee County will take place Wednesday, April 25 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs.

Other members selected to this year's board include: Scott Beatty, attorney at Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt; Brandon Box, executive vice president and market president for Iberiabank; Jason Brewer, senior vice president and market president for BB&T; Christin Collins, director of Lee Health Wellness

Centers for Lee Health; David Collins, executive mortgage loan officer for Florida Community Bank; Joe Gammons, president of Office Furniture & Design Concepts, Inc.; Jan-Erik Hustrulid, business development coordinator for Owen-Ames-Kimball Company; Travis Merrick, branch manager at GFA International, Inc.; Mary Vlasak Snell, attorney at Pavese Law Firm; Sandy Stilwell-Youngquist, owner and CEO of Stilwell Enterprises & Restaurant Group; Gary Tasman, CEO and principal broker for Cushman & Wakefield Commercial Property Southwest Florida; and Sharon Torregrossa, public relations manager for Specialized Veterinary Services.

The advisory board is responsible for selecting the laureates for the 2018 Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame, Lee County, in recognition of their service as positive role models to youth and significant contributions to the local business community. The laureates will be honored at the 2018 Business Hall of Fame, Lee County award ceremony in April. For more information on the event, sponsorship opportunities or purchasing tickets, visit www.JASWFL.org.✽

Salute To The Brave Honors Local Veterans



Veteran Jay Lamborn, who served in the Marines, is presented with his rebuilt Jeep from Savage 4x4's Jim Thompson at Salute to the Brave: HERO Project. Thanks to the efforts of Savage 4x4 and Top Rocker Events, Jay and two other veterans were honored with rebuilds of their vehicles. photos provided

Top Rocker Events and Savage 4x4 recently collaborated to honor our country's veterans on Saturday, November 11 at the inaugural Salute to the Brave: HERO Project at Six Bends Harley-Davidson in Fort Myers. The second event in the Morgan & Morgan Signature Series, Salute to the Brave featured a dignified ceremony, monstrous vehicle rebuilds, a lifted truck show, food, music and a grueling obstacle course challenge, with proceeds benefiting Avow.

Highlights from the event included the national anthem, honor guard and veteran pinning led by Avow as well as the Savage 4x4 HERO Project builds presented to three local veterans.*



Former Army soldier Ed Vuolo and his daughter with a presented rebuilt Jeep



Veteran Josh Golliher was an Army Combat Medic who served in Afghanistan. Here he is checking out his rebuilt Ford F-250 at the inaugural Salute to the Brave: HERO Project.

Manatee Lecture

The Friends of Mound House will continue its monthly Tuesday speaker series on a variety of environmental topics when Nancy Kilmartin discusses Manatees of Southwest Florida at Mound House on December 12. Refreshments will be served at 5:30 p.m., with the lecture beginning at 6.

Kilmartin, the former lead environmental educator for Lee County's Manatee Park, began environmental consulting after earning a bachelor's degree from University of South Florida. She has worked for "Ding" Darling, Tarpon Bay Recreation and the Department of Environmental Protection for 12 years as a park naturalist. At the DEP, she was promoted to District AmeriCorps program director. Since August 2017, Kilmartin has been a park ranger for Lee County.

The speaker series continues on January 9, with Southern Florida Amid a Global Renaissance of Research About Bird Movement Patterns, with Florida Gulf Coast University Assistant Professor



Nancy Kilmartin photo provided

of Environment Science (Conservation Biology) Kara Lefevre, of the Department of Marine and Ecological Sciences.

Mound House is located at 451 Connecticut Street on Fort Myers Beach. For more information, call 765-0865.*

Annual Luncheon

Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida will hold its annual Choice Affair luncheon at Crowne Plaza Fort Myers on December 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

This year's event commemorates the legacy of retiring CEO Barbara Zdravecky and will feature Dahlia Lithwick, the

senior editor and legal correspondent for *Slate*. A renowned writer and journalist, Lithwick will share her expertise on the role of women in shaping legislation and court decisions.

General tickets are \$75. For more information, visit www.ppaction.org.

Crowne Plaza Fort Myers is located within Bell Tower Shops at 13051 Bell Tower Drive in Fort Myers.*

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The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club volunteered with Luvybear Quilts 4 Tots, Inc. in assembling and packaging bears and quilts as a part of Kiwanis One Day photos provided

Kiwanians Donate Time And Funds For Quilts For Tots

The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club recently joined Kiwanis members around the world in devoting volunteer hours to hands-on service in an event called Kiwanis One Day. The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club volunteered with Luvybear Quilts 4 Tots, Inc. in assembling and packaging bears and quilts. The work day resulted in 785 units that will go to the Children's Network for National Adoption Month, Cape Coral Hospital Emergency Department and Golisano Children's Hospital. Members of the Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club sponsored leadership programs, including Florida Gulf Coast University Circle K International also volunteered along with some residents of

Bella Vida.

In addition to hands-on service, the club presented Luvybear Quilts 4 Tots, Inc. a check for \$1,000 at a recent meeting to offset material costs.

Nancy Nelson, Luvybear Quilts 4 Tots, Inc. founder, said, "We far surpassed our goal of 450 bears and quilts and ended the day with 785. We are so grateful to the 30 volunteers that made this happen."

The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club is looking for more service-minded individuals and business professionals who would like to make a direct impact on the community through volunteering. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in Fort Myers. For details on joining the Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club, contact membership chair Stewart Ross at 507-304-1624 or stewart.ross@mnsu.edu. The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club can be found on Facebook or online at www.metro-mcgregor.com.✱



From left, Nancy Nelson, Todd Adams, Tyler Skaathsus, Paul Weinstein and Ian Nelson



From left, Kate Smiley, Linda Petrik, Matthew Toomey and Lindsey Lenhart assemble and package bears and quilts

Shoes for Homeless Vets



The VA Hospitals in St. Petersburg and Tampa have over 150 homeless veterans living onsite. The one thing the hospitals said they needed for the vets is shoes. If you don't have a decent pair of shoes, it's hard to get hired or, in many cases, do the work that is required. A new group, Sanibel Shoes for Vets, is holding a drive to get new shoes for the vets.

We need work shoes, sneakers and dress shoes in sizes 9 to 11.

These are the current drop-off sites:

SANIBEL

American Legion Post 123, 4249 Sanibel-Captiva Road
Bailey's General Store, 2477 Periwinkle Way
The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, 949 Sand Castle Road
St. Isabel Catholic Church, 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road

FORT MYERS

St. Columbkille Catholic Church, 12171 Iona Road

CAPE CORAL

Southwest Florida Military Museum, 4820 Leonard Street

If you want to make a difference in a veteran's life, send him a new pair of shoes. This program will run until the week of Christmas.

Any questions, please call Dan Perkins at 973-687-4826

SalusCare Place Grand Opening

SalusCare, Inc., will celebrate the grand opening of SalusCare Place on the campus of its Transitional Living Center in central Fort Myers on Tuesday, December 12. The grand opening and ribbon-cutting of the first unit at SalusCare Place, The Bryce Burke House, will begin at 3 p.m. at 2056-B South Street.

SalusCare Place and its units will provide a safe and healthy living environment to help those with substance use issues learn how to sustain long-term recovery and live independently. Unlike a residential program, SalusCare Place will be governed by those who live there, who will establish their own rules within a sober environment.

"The goal is for those living in the recovery residence to support each other and form their own family unit. They will cook and eat meals together, clean and maintain the home, and offer support to each other – much like a family does," said Rosemary Boisvert, assistant vice president of residential services for SalusCare.

The first recovery residence is three bedrooms and two baths that will serve up to six people with each bedroom housing one to two residents. This first recovery residence is for men only, ages 18 and

older, although Boisvert said additional recovery residences for both men and women are planned at SalusCare Place.

Because SalusCare Place is self-supporting with no government subsidies, residents are expected to pay a fee, which can be as low as \$18.76 per day, which will include all utilities. Food costs are additional.

Boisvert said the program is modeled after standards set by the National Alliance of Recovery Residences (NARR) and the Florida Association of Recovery Residences (FARR). "Studies show that persons in recovery residences have a greater rate of success than those who follow a traditional residential course of treatment and aftercare," she said.

A 2012 study of 245 individuals found that two out of three individuals who entered a typical aftercare program reported some level of drug and/or alcohol use after six months, compared with just one in three individuals who were part of a recovery residence.

Potential admissions will be screened to ensure appropriateness for the community. Individuals admitted to the program will work with a recovery coach to ensure that they remain on their chosen path to sustainable recovery.

For more information about SalusCare Place, admission criteria or community procedures, contact Steven Hill at 600-6131 ext. 6102 or visit www.saluscareflorida.org.✱

Junior Achievement Raises \$100K



Laureates Edward V. Staros and Mark Wilson
photo provided

During the event, Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida inducted laureates Edward V. Staros, vice president and managing director of The Ritz-Carlton Resorts of Naples, and Mark Wilson, president and CEO of London Bay Homes, into its Business Hall of Fame, Collier County. Staros and Wilson joined a distinguished group of individuals who have been inducted into the Business Hall of Fame since it was founded in 1988. Approximately 500 local business professionals attended the event, along with 50 Collier County students involved with Junior Achievement, to recognize these outstanding entrepreneurs who serve as role models for youth through their professional accomplishments and commitment to the community.

"Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida is honored to recognize this year's laureates for their tremendous professional accomplishments and dedication to the community," said Angela Fisher, president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida. "We are grateful for all who came together to celebrate this year's laureates and support Junior Achievement programs, as we work to empower the future generation of Southwest Florida business leaders."

This year's event title sponsors were Mutual of Omaha and Mutual of Omaha Bank. Encore Urology and Structure Medical were the diamond sponsors and Arthrex, Inc. and London Bay Homes were the platinum sponsors. Gold sponsors included Barron Collier Companies, BMO Harris Bank, Collier Enterprises, Florida Community Bank, IBERIABANK, Naples Daily News and Stock Development.✱

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida recently raised \$100,000 during its 2017 Business Hall of Fame, Collier County event at The Ritz-Carlton in Naples. Funds will benefit local Junior Achievement programs, which prepare students for business success through hands-on lessons on work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy.

Bank Hires Vice President

Sharon Neeld has joined Sanibel Captiva Community Bank at the College Parkway branch as vice president of loan servicing. She is responsible for loan servicing, including residential and commercial lending.

A Cape Coral resident since 2012, Neeld has 36 years of banking experience including 30 years in loan operations and servicing.

Founded in 2003, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank has two locations on Sanibel and five additional locations in Fort Myers.

To learn more, visit www.SanCapBank.com.✱



Sharon Neeld

photo provided

Holiday Networking At Bell Tower Shops

Leadership NEXT, a professional organization for advancing business leaders in Southwest Florida, brought to you by the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce, will hold its holiday networking event at Society at Bell Tower Shops on Tuesday, December 12 from 5 to 7 p.m.

In the spirit of holiday giving, guests are encouraged to bring a new and

unwrapped toy for pediatric patients being served at Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

Society, a modern American restaurant, is the area's newest hot spot. The monthly social is sponsored by Bell Tower Shops and is free to attend for members of the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce and \$10 for future members. Light appetizers will be offered complimentary with additional cuisine and libations available for purchase. Guests are encouraged to register in advance at www.fortmyers.org.

Follow Leadership NEXT on Facebook to learn more.✱

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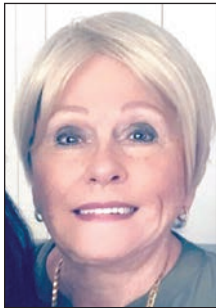
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Book Review

A Legacy Of Spies

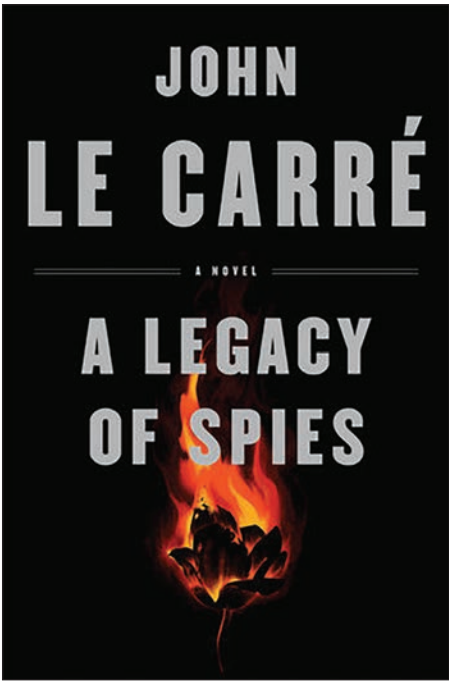


by Di Saggau
John le Carré, AKA David Cornwell, as he approaches age 86, has written what many feel is his finest novel, *A Legacy of Spies*. It is also viewed as a sort of prequel to his famous *The Spy Who Came in From*

the Cold. However this time, his chief protagonist is not George Smiley, but his chief lieutenant, Peter Guillam. Fans will remember him as Smiley's loyal colleague, the man who was instrumental in recruiting Alec Leamas for an operation involving the Berlin Wall.

In this book, Smiley remains mostly in the background, and Guillam takes center stage. The aging former spy is in retirement in Brittany when former colleagues summon him to London to answer some highly sensitive and troublesome questions about the long-buried treacheries of Leamas. These inquiries throw the protagonist into some very bleak moments of the Cold War. Leamas had a son named Christoph, with an East German woman. He is angry and threatens to expose the British secret service in the courts. Because the service, known as "the Circus" cannot find Smiley, they pressure Guillam for the truth about Operation Windfall.

Guillam, at first, denies any knowledge



of the operation, but slowly the truth comes out and, in Le Carré's inimitable style, it makes for a fascinating read. We experience the inner workings of the world of spies. All the main characters are to be scrutinized by a generation with no memory of the Cold War and no patience for its justifications.

Le Carré interweaves past and present so that each character tells his own intense story. Combined they make a single plot both ingenious and thrilling, a story resonating with tension, humor and disagreement over what takes place. Le Carré has been writing for six decades and with *A Legacy of Spies* he hasn't lost his brilliant touch for telling a captivating tale.✧

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, It seems that the older my son gets the less he wants to talk about school. He's in 4th grade now. I try to vary my questions to him but

his answers are usually just a couple of words. What can I do to get him to talk more?

Elsabeth V., Fort Myers Beach

Elsabeth,

Kids typically clam up as they get older. Some see the daily questions as an invasion of privacy, some think that their parents don't trust them or think that they are capable. Often kids want to be in control of the conversation, have it on their terms and schedule. Keeping communication open as your child becomes a teen is crucial. Remember communication can take many forms, conversation for sure but texts, email, phone calls, good night notes slipped under their door and even notes tucked into their lunch are great ways to send supportive messages to your children. Of course, family dinners are the best place for conversation so make sure to eat together as often as possible without phones, TVs etc.

Most kids expect to be asked about their day. And while they expect it, it might be fun to change up some of the same old questions that we ask of our

kids daily and give them a reason to chat.

Here are some sample questions to replace, "How was school today?" My guess is that these questions will elicit a smile, maybe some laughter and some discussion. If you see a positive response to this type of quirky questioning, then you might want to come up with your own quirky questions so you can keep that conversational ball "rolling."

Ten questions to replace "how was school today?"

- What was the funniest thing that happened at school today?
- Which one of your teachers would survive a zombie apocalypse and why?
- Did you catch anyone picking their nose?
- Who made you smile today?
- What new fact did you learn today?
- Who brought the best food for lunch today? What was it?
- What was the nicest thing you did for someone today?
- What was the nicest thing someone did for you today?
- What was the most boring thing you did today? Why?
- What was the most exciting thing you did today?

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

From page 1

Coach Thimlar



Coach Thimlar shows the plaque he was presented in recognition of all he has done for the college's basketball program photos provided

Thimlar accomplished back in the Edison days, a time when sports at our institution was the only game in town."

The reception also kicked off a fundraising effort to endow the Coach Hugh Thimlar Athletic Scholarship



From left, Terry Joiner, who was a cheerleader, with Edison player Brad Branson, who went on to play in the NBA, and Marina Branson

to help future generations of Buccaneers achieve their academic goals. The event resulted in \$4,200 being raised to launch the campaign.

"We are calling on all players and supporters, then and now, to help unite the generations in order to support the players of tomorrow," said Dr. Jeff Allbritten, FSW president.



Greg Brinson and Liston Bochette

For more information or to contribute to the scholarship, call 489-9432.

Florida SouthWestern State College offers a variety of nationally-ranked, career-focused academic programs with two- and four-year degrees, and professional certifications. Students are also active in clubs and programs catered to their interests. FSW debuted its intercollegiate athletics program in the fall 2015. Visit www.FSW.edu for more information.✧

New Board Member

A passion for animals has led Samantha Scott, APR, president of Pushing the Envelope, Inc., to join the Gulf Coast Humane Society (GCHS) Board of Directors.

Scott's innovative business experience in public relations will be a great asset for the no-kill, non-profit GCHS. She is very familiar with the shelter's operations by volunteering, along with her husband, Derek.

"My husband and I have a deep love for animals, especially dogs," she said. "While I've volunteered with the humane society through in-kind services for years and participated in many events, I wanted to do more. It's my hope that by joining the board I will be able to make a greater impact – create more awareness of the needs related to animal welfare faced in our community and save more animals."

Scott also serves as a member of the FGCU Foundation and March of Dimes boards as Chair of the FGCU Marketing Department Advisory Board, and has supported numerous other local non-profits including PACE Center for Girls Lee County, Blessings in a Backpack and more.

"Having Samantha join the Board of Directors will give us an invaluable



Samantha Scott

photo provided

source of helping the shelter, just with her experience in public relations and marketing," said GCHS Executive Director Jennifer Galloway. "We welcome Samantha and her passion for animals will be a great addition to the GCHS family."

GCHS is located at 2010 Arcadia Street in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org.✱

Downtown Project Poised To Move Forward

The City of Fort Myers is partnering with Mainsail Lodging and Development to bring a visionary hotel and convention center project to life in downtown Fort Myers. The project has grown in size and scope since the original presentations, and now it is poised to move forward.

Based on several factors, each party is working together in order to make the project a reality. The total cost of the project is \$87 million. The developer is bringing \$63 million, and the city, along with the Community Redevelopment Agency, through various forms of incentives and Harborside Event Center renovation dollars, is providing the delta. The key factors in the expansion of the project

include connecting the hotel to the convention center, a significant outdoor stage and amphitheater for public use, exterior enhancements to the City Pier building and dock, and multiple enhancements to the hotel and street level retail.

The project consists of a new 245-room full service hotel to be marketed under Marriott's Autograph Collection, a 240-space parking garage (city owned and city revenues), a newly renovated and modernized convention center (city owned), an outdoor amphitheater (city owned) in the park across from Harborside Event Center, and a restaurant, bar and retail store in the City Pier building. This will be marketed as the Oxbow.

Convention groups and locals will be able to enjoy a walkable offering of amenities, which include the aforementioned items, along with a hotel restaurant, street level diner, retail,

continued on page 23

Police K-9 Hero Passes After Cancer Diagnosis

The men and women of the Fort Myers Police Department are mourning the loss of one of our beloved K-9's. Zeus, an 8-1/2-year-old German shepherd, was euthanized yesterday morning after being diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Zeus, alongside his partner, Officer William Schulte, served the citizens of Fort Myers for the past seven years. Officer Schulte and Zeus completed the grueling patrol and narcotics training as a team and were first assigned to the patrol division in 2010. During their time on patrol, Zeus conducted hundreds of building and vehicle searches, tracked down dozens of fleeing felons and put his life on the line on more than one occasion to protect the men and women of the Fort Myers Police Department.

In 2016, Zeus and Officer Schulte were assigned to the department's gang suppression unit where they continued to track down violent offenders and search for illegally carried firearms and narcotics.

Zeus had a softer side with his love for children. He was a favorite at community events that involved children and would sit still for hours while kids took their turn showing their appreciation.

Less than one week ago, Officer Schulte realized there was something wrong with his partner and rushed



Officer William Schulte and Zeus, prior to Zeus' passing photo provided

him to the vet. After days of extensive testing, it was determined that Zeus was suffering from an aggressive type of cancer. Rather than see his partner suffer any longer, Officer Schulte made the difficult decision of putting Zeus to sleep. As a sign of appreciation and respect to the K-9 hero, Zeus was surrounded by members of the Fort Myers Police Department before the procedure was administered. He will be missed.✱

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Teenager Catches State Record Shoal Bass



Sheldon Grace caught a shoal bass

photo provided

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) fisheries biologists certified a new state record shoal bass weighing 5.95 pounds and measuring 22.4 inches long, caught by 14-year-old angler Sheldon Grace from Headland, Alabama. The teenager was excited to catch his shoal bass from a kayak in the Chipola River near Altha, Florida.

"I fought him for about 30 minutes and then when I got him close to the

kayak, the jig popped right out of his mouth," said Sheldon. "I quickly reached into the water and grabbed him because he was the biggest I'd caught all day."

Sheldon and his father often fish for shoal bass and enjoy the beauty of the Chipola River. Shoal bass are one of the five black bass species in Florida.

"You can definitely tell that the quality and quantity of the shoal bass in

continued on page 22



Sam Querrey

photos provided



The Bryan brothers

Top Tennis Pros Swing Into Action For Fundraiser

The 10th annual Madisen's Match celebrity tennis experience to benefit pediatric and adult cancer patients in Southwest Florida and beyond will be held at Miromar Lakes Beach & Golf Club on March 18 and 19.

The fundraiser will feature the number 14-ranked player in the world and 2017 Wimbledon semi-finalist Sam Querrey; 16-time Grand Slam winners Bob and Mike Bryan; and former U.S. number one men's player Mardy Fish.

To kick off the festivities, the Bryan brothers will exchange their tennis rackets for 12-bar rock and roll music as headliners for the 10th anniversary Gala Celebration and Auction at the club on Sunday, March 18 at 6 p.m. The Madisen Match Legends Tennis Camp will be held at 8:45 a.m. on Monday, March 19 followed by the Tennis Pro-Am at 1 p.m.

The grand finale of the two-day fundraiser starts at 6 p.m. Monday, March 19 when the Golisano Children's Hospital Pro Tennis Classic becomes Southwest Florida's first indoor tennis event. A special indoor court will be installed at Suncoast Credit Union Arena on the Fort Myers campus of Florida SouthWestern State College.

Madisen's Match founder Duane Chaney said, "The caliber of our tennis pros, venues and the Southwest Florida



Mardy Fish

community ensures another outstanding success for our 10th year. We're confident we'll continue to grow Madisen's Match, making fun lifetime memories for all involved that in turn help to secure better outcomes for brain tumor patients for decades to come."

The 9th annual Madisen's Match in March 2017 raised nearly \$150,000 for brain tumor-related care and research programs in Southwest Florida. Tickets go on sale December 1.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. For tickets or sponsorship information, visit www.madisensmatch.com.✪✪

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 2016, Jayson Werth tied a Nationals franchise record for consecutive games reaching base (46). Who else did it?
2. Name the player in the 1970s who led the American League in triples and home runs in the same season.
3. When was the last time before 2016 that the Big Ten had four teams ranked in the top 10 of The Associated Press college football poll during the season?
4. Who was the last San Antonio Spurs player before Kawhi Leonard (2015 and 2016) to win the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year Award?
5. In 2017, Nashville's Frederick Gaudreau became the third rookie since 1927 to score game-winning goals in consecutive games in the Stanley Cup Final. Name either of the first two.
6. When was the last time before 2016 that golf was played in the Summer Olympics?
7. Name the golfer who, in 2017, set a record for the lowest 18-hole round in a men's major championship?

ANSWERS

1. Rusty Staub, in 1970, when the franchise was located in Montreal. 2. Jim Rice, in 1978 (15 triples, 46 home runs). 3. In October 1960, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio State and Purdue were ranked in the top 10. 4. David Robinson, in 1992. 5. Pittsburgh's Jake Guentzel (also in 2017) and Boston's Roy Conacher (1939). 6. It was 1904. 7. Branden Grace, at the British Open.

Celebrating 10 Years April 2018



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From left, Billie Jans, Nancy Near and Stevie Joslin

photos provided

Hope Hospice Friends Hold Membership Affair

More than 100 members attended Tea, Champagne and Chocolates, the Friends of Hope Women's Committee for Hope Hospice annual membership event.

The event is the official kickoff of the group's seasonal fundraisers, including a February dinner at Bonita Bay Club and a luncheon and style show at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Estero in April.

Chaired by Donna Roberts, with the assistance of Jerry Risk and Eileen Foley, the event was hosted in the home of Barbara Sullivan.

The Friends of Hope Women's Committee has promoted fundraising and volunteerism at Hope Hospice since 2002.

Hope Hospice is a not-for-profit health care organization dedicated to providing care and comfort to every individual and their loved ones as



Dr. Ellen Sayet and Jane Riley

they fulfill life's journey. For more information, call 482-4673 or visit www.HopeHCS.org.✱



From left, Donna Roberts, Samira K. Beckwith and Barbara Sullivan



From left, Manuela Klopfer, Sylvia Weiss, Sarah Knestrick and Cynthia Slack



From left, Marti Horwitz, Brenda Pfohl and Carol Bell



From left, Sara Neel, Samira K. Beckwith and Claire Levesque



Top row from left, Callie Atkinson, Isabella Bank, Lolina Bruggeman-Muñoz, Paul Gavin and Martina Long. Bottom row from left, Kevin Seto, Thomas Short, Stephanie Van Duijn, Annalise Veldhuyzen Van Zantan and Marissa Zumbo. photo provided

Young Artists Awards Grants

The Young Artists Awards program, the largest performing arts education, audition, performance and scholarship program for students from throughout Southwest Florida, recently announced 10 student scholarships, ranging from \$700 to \$2,500, granted to previous student finalists through a competitive written process.

A reception, honoring these students as well as prior sponsors, adjudicators and volunteers, will be held in late December at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

The students' written applications were selected based on a scored judging system by a panel composed of the executive committee members from the numerous applications submitted.

Grants were given to Callie Atkinson (assistance with tuition and expenses at Manhattan School of Music); Isabella Bank (assistance with piano purchase and Summer Music Composition Institute at Wesleyan University); Lolina Bruggeman-Muñoz (assistance to attend Interlochen Summer Camp); Paul Gavin (assistance in producing first album as leader); Martina Long (assistance with convention fees and supplies); Kevin Seto (assistance with community engagement project, supplies and fees); Thomas Short (assistance with tuition expenses at Florida Gulf Coast University); Stephanie Van Duijn (assistance with tuition expenses at Amsterdam Conservatory); Annalise Veldhuyzen Van Zantan (assistance with ballet class tuition and pointe shoes); and Marissa Zumbo (assistance with tuition expenses at University of Central Florida).✱

School District Seeks Donations

Since being committed to the success of each student and the community, the School District of Lee County and the Foundation for Lee County Public Schools is seeking tax-exempt donations to one of four causes

Ambitious goals have been established to assist students in becoming college and career ready so that they can help the district grow and strengthen the economy of Southwest Florida. Public school systems are faced with more challenges than ever before. The School District of Lee County has solutions for each of these challenges. They are outlined in its strategic plan, Vision 2020.

1. Expand the number of high-quality pre-kindergarten classes: Currently, 984 children are enrolled in pre-kindergarten programs. The school district is fortunate to have nine community partners, who provide outstanding, school district-endorsed preschool programs. However, there are many children who cannot attend due to distance, cost or simply space. These children will enter kindergarten at a disadvantage.

2. Expand the number of high-quality after-school and summer programs: The School District of Lee County provides a variety of programs at schools. There

are more than 25 community partners who offer exceptional after-school and/or summer programs. However, there are thousands of children who cannot afford to attend. There are also students who would like to expand their knowledge of science, math, engineering and the arts through these kinds of programs.

3. Grow Your Own Program: From the moment students enter school, a teacher begins life-changing work by helping them learn to read and write, do math, engage in science and discover the fascinating world around us. Research indicates a teacher makes the greatest difference in a child's education and future success. The School District of Lee County is committed to attracting and retaining the best teachers in the nation by providing scholarships to students and support staff who commit to a teaching career with the district.

4. Capital Improvements: The district is growing every year by 1,800 students. With growth, comes the need for new schools, while maintaining current facilities. Capital funding has been reduced by \$200 million over the past 10 years. The capital funding gap is nearly \$478 million over the next five years. The district must ensure students and teachers have safe, modern learning environments.

Visit www.leeschools.net/vision2020. There you can learn more about the plan and donate to the most important investment possible – the children.✱

Database Provides Help For Area Seniors

Local businesses can now apply for inclusion in the Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida database of local service providers. This database helps people find local information, resources and services for seniors, adults with disabilities and their caregivers.

Every month, 4,700 callers reach out to the AAASWFL Elder Helpline (866-41-ELDER), a toll-free service that assists seniors with finding trustworthy local support and resources on aging and disability issues. Much of the information provided via the Helpline comes from the AAASWFL information and referral database.

Entries into the information and referral database must meet several inclusion requirements. Eligible entities must:

Provide or coordinate health and human services for elders, adults with disabilities, or their caregivers.

Have been conducting business for at least one year.

Hold all applicable state, federal, and local licenses, certifications and registrations.

Provide services in at least one of the following counties: Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Lee or Sarasota.

Depending on the nature of the services provided, other eligibility requirements may be applicable.

The information and referral database includes government-funded programs, nonprofit agencies and for-profit businesses. Examples of the types of organizations that can be found in the database include licensed health care facilities, adult day care centers, government agencies, Medicare and Medicaid-certified provider agencies, nonprofit organizations and home care providers. Other entities include support groups, social clubs, recreation programs and volunteer organizations.

From page 20

Shoal Bass

the Chipola River are getting better," said Sheldon. "I had caught about six or seven 2- to 3-pounders and then right at the end of the day, I caught the record."

The former state record shoal bass weighed 5.20 pounds and was caught in 2016 by Jimmy Ray Tice on the Apalachicola River.

The Chipola River is a spring-fed system with an incredibly unique range of habitats and is the only waterbody in Florida where there is a population of naturally reproducing, genetically pure shoal bass. The FWC has implemented several conservation projects to enhance this unique fishery. A video highlighting the charm of the Chipola River and the partnerships forged to protect it can be viewed on YouTube by searching "FWC Chipola River."

To properly certify a new Florida state

The AAASWFL Helpline is part of the U.S. Administration on Aging's nationwide network of Eldercare Locators and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs' statewide Elder Helpline.

AAASWFL responded to more than 57,000 local Helpline calls in 2016. In Southwest Florida, the five most common Helpline requests are for Medicare counseling, homemaking services, transportation, home-delivered meals and energy bill payment assistance.

To request an application packet for inclusion in the information and referral database, contact Destiny Moreland at the Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida at 652-6900 or destiny.moreland@aaaswfl.org. The application packet can also be found online at www.aaaswfl.org/i-need-help.

The AAASWFL Helpline can be reached Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. by calling 866-41-ELDER (866-413-5337). Florida callers outside of the Southwest Florida region may call the statewide Helpline at 800-96-ELDER (800-963-5337).✱

Lee All-County Band To Perform

The Lee All-County Band will hold a free concert to the public in the auditorium of Estero High School on Friday, December 8 at 7 p.m.

The band is comprised of the top middle and high school band musicians in the School District of Lee County. The concert is an opportunity for the auditioned musicians to experience music-making in a large ensemble setting with other student musicians from around the county. It is also a chance for these top-tier student musicians to work with a professional director other than their own.

Gary Green of the University of Miami will be the guest conductor of the approximately 90 high school musicians.

Estero High School is located at 21900 River Ranch Road in Estero.✱

record, a FWC biologist must identify the fish species and witness its weighing on a certified scale. Anglers can check the current state records at www.bigcatchflorida.com by clicking on "State Record," and should notify the nearest FWC regional office if they believe they have caught a record fish. Contact information for FWC regional offices can be found at www.myfwc.com/contact by clicking on "Contact Regional Offices."

The FWC recognizes other memorable freshwater catches through its Big Catch program, which provides certificates commemorating trophy catches of 33 different freshwater species. Largemouth bass catches are recognized by the TrophyCatch program, which is a citizen-science program that partners with industry leaders, such as Bass Pro Shops, to offer rewards for the catch, documentation and release of largemouth bass weighing 8 pounds or heavier.✱

Beautifulife:

The Perfect Gift

by Kay Casperson



Have you ever struggled to find that perfect gift for someone on your list? Whether it be a friend, loved one, a co-worker or someone that just helps you out with your everyday

tasks at hand, it seems there are always a few people that we have a hard time figuring out what the best gift for them would be. We have all been in this predicament so I thought I would try to make it easier for you by giving you some ideas that just might work.

The first thing we need to do is to understand that regardless of the age or gender of the individual, there is always something that you can give that they don't already have. I know, you are already thinking about a few on your list that seem to have everything already but let's see if we can come up with a few surprises.

Personalize it – Find something that this individual likes to do and make it personal by adding a message or even their initials to that particular item.

Get techie – Search for the latest launches in technology, safety, maps, weather or information to see what items might fit your list of giftees.

Inspire – Look for items that are positive and inspirational since everyone needs to be motivated and uplifted on a regular basis.

Subscribe – Everybody has a passion

for something, whether it be wine, coffee, tea, chocolate, healthy food or even reading. Getting a fun subscription can be a nice surprise and something they may not buy for themselves.

Give back – Find a charitable organization that will touch the heart of your recipient and donate to the cause, giving them a certificate in their name and information to follow the organization.

Be creative – Customize a gift basket that caters to a lifestyle. For example, a busy person would love a gift certificate for a relaxing spa treatment and a candle or body product to help them rejuvenate and enjoy the holiday break.

Hopefully this will help spark a few ideas for you because regardless of who is on your list, I know there is something out there that will surprise them and you will rock at being the best and most creative gift giver ever. Remember, it is not the size or cost of the gift but the heart behind it and the thought that was put into it that really matters.

My affirmation for you this week is: "I will search for new and creative ways to make this season of giving more fun, inspirational and joyful for all."

*Kay Casperson is a beauty and lifestyle expert, founder and CEO of Beautifulife by Kay Casperson. She owns resort spas on Sanibel and Captiva Islands and in Disney. Casperson has lived on Sanibel and Captiva Islands for many years with her husband and two daughters and enjoys her beautifulife everyday. For more information, visit www.kaycasperson.com or follow her on social media @kaycasperson.**

will be made on December 23 and December 30.

The Christmas Day and New Year's Day federal holidays will be observed on December 25 and January 1 respectively. Post offices will be closed on those days and only Priority Mail Express packages will be delivered. All post offices will be open and regular mail delivery will resume after the holidays on December 26 and January 2.

For more information, visit www.usps.com/holidaynews.*

Holiday Schedule For Post Offices

Post offices nationwide will be closed on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 and New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31. Post offices will be open regular operating hours on Tuesday, December 26 and January 2.

Blue collection boxes are not serviced on Sundays and that will be the case on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve this year. Regular collections

From page 19

Downtown

rooftop bar, and additional meeting and function space. It is important to note that the city will continue to own the land under the hotel on a ground lease as well as the Harborside Event Center and City Pier building that is also leased to the developer.

The hotel and convention center will employ 250 people, and the project will generate more than 500 construction-related jobs. The hotel and associated projects are expected to bring in over \$50 million in annual spending to the downtown area.

"We are developing a cutting-edge financial structure to continue to build a strong relationship between Mainsail, the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency and the City of Fort Myers," said City Manager Saeed Kazemi. "Mainsail has already invested \$1.5 million to prepare construction drawings, engineering reports and to develop branding for the project. In the mid- and long-term, this investment will immensely enhance the city's economy, quality of life for area residents and appeal to visitors near and far.

The developer has stated that construction will start within 45 days of the city issuing the permit.*

Lee Health Heart-Check Menu Items



From left, Kevin Billings, David Markiewicz, Dr. Larry Antonucci and Larry Altier

photo provided

Lee Health has become the first health care system in the United States to offer select menu items Heart-Check certified for patients, visitors and staff by the American Heart Association. The iconic Heart-Check mark on a Lee Health menu item means the recipe has been certified to satisfy the American Heart Association's (AHA) nutritional requirements including specific guidelines for calories, fat, saturated fat, trans fat, cholesterol, sodium and beneficial nutrients.

"These heart-healthy, balanced meals provide the nourishment necessary for healing and, by offering them in our cafes, we have the opportunity to inspire healthy choices for our staff and visitors," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, Lee Health president and CEO. "Leading the way for other health systems to pursue this certification also reinforces our vision of being a national leader for the advancement of

health and healing."

Larry Altier, Lee Health System director of food and nutrition services, believes the certification will help those within the health system make heart-savvy food selections. "By offering these products and others as key features of our nutrition service, we're promoting a whole food, plant-based approach that allows healthier options. We want consumers to equate Lee Health with providing healthy, nutritious choices."

In 2014, a research study published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* reported that individuals who reported eating foods meeting the American Heart Association's Heart-Check certification requirements were more likely to eat healthier and have fewer heart disease risk factors.

For more information, visit www.leehealth.org.*

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Measure Reverse T3 and Get Thyroid Healthy



by Suzy Cohen, RPh
Dear Readers:
I bet you know how hypothyroidism means reduced level of thyroid hormone. Active thyroid hormone is dubbed as T3. But you probably have not heard of reverse T3. Today I'm

going to tell you why you should never ignore reverse T3 testing, even if your endocrinologist does.
First the basics. The hormone called T3 gives you energy, it's sometimes called the gas pedal in your body. Reverse T3, abbreviated as rT3, would then be the brakes. You sometimes want the brakes, don't you? Or else your body will speed down the highway and zoom out of control, so rT3 is required as part of the push-pull balancing system.
So IMHO, not testing for rT3 levels, is an oversight. If you're rT3 dominant, you're clinically hypothyroid, stressed, anxious, overweight, tired and cold. The scary part is that your TSH and your Free and/or Total T4 levels might be in perfect range. How would know you were rT3 dominant unless you were tested. I'm making a good case here, aren't I?
Thyroid hormone regulation influences your weight and metabolism meaning how fast you burn off that Figgy Pudding. It is responsible for mitochondrial production of ATP, so ask yourself if you're tired all the time. By the way, I have a much longer and comprehensive medical article that gives you much more

information about rT3 and thyroid. This version includes ways on how to lower rT3 naturally and get slim and gorgeous again. I'm happy to email it via my newsletter if you sign up for that at www.suzycohen.com. In the meantime, do you have:
1. Low T3
If you have too little Free T3 relative to T4, you get hypothyroidism. Therefore, you experience weight gain, fatigue, joint and muscle pain, depression and a tendency to feel cold.
2. High rT3
Too much reverse T3 and you get the same effects as hypothyroidism (low T3) because the high rT3 blocks the cell's ability to bind active T3.
If you have high levels of rT3, I suggest you do not use the T4 drugs (Levothyroxine is the generic), because it tends to break down into even more rT3 (as opposed to T3). As a result, some of you still feel awful and hypothyroid, even though you take your medicine, and never miss a dose.
What if rT3 is high? What if your TSH is normal but you still feel terrible? I've covered this entirely in my book, *Thyroid Healthy*. I'll nutshell it for you here by recommending that you talk to your physician about switching medications, and use with that contains T3. I think adaptogenic herbs can help, specifically ones that activate T4 to T3, for example ashwagandha. I'd consult the oracle Dr. Google (lol!) and learn as much as possible about this little gland. It's good to bind heavy metals, another cause for elevated rT3. And finally, there are specific B vitamins and minerals, as well as vitamin D that help reduce rT3 and raise Free T3.
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

Vitamin D And Osteoarthritis



by Ross Hauser, MD
and Marion Hauser, MS, RD
Vitamin D is an important vitamin for our health and low levels have been associated with various disease states, including osteoarthritis. The majority of us primarily meet our vitamin D needs via the sun and exposure to ultraviolet (UVB) radiation. When people age, they lose the ability to synthesize the vitamin D through sun exposure, which puts older people at greater risk for deficiency and the associated diseases. Vitamin D deficiency and osteoarthritis symptoms have some overlap. Those with osteoarthritis suffer from joint pain, muscle wasting and decreased motion in their joints, all of which can increase in severity with age. Symptoms of vitamin D deficiency include greater joint pain,

poor muscle function and progression of osteoarthritis. Will supplementation with Vitamin D help? In many cases, yes. Studies have shown that Vitamin D supplementation may help to decrease the chronic pain people with osteoarthritis experience. An Australian study, in the *Archives of Osteoporosis*, showed that those suffering from knee osteoarthritis combined with Vitamin D deficiency, had improved muscle strength, better knee function and reduced pain with Vitamin D supplementation. This combination resulted in less risk of falls and an overall improved quality of life.
How does Vitamin D do this? It may have a protective effect on cell function resulting in less inflammation. It also may be that osteoarthritis pain leads to reduced physical activity, including outdoor activity, which would lend to the decreased vitamin D levels from sun exposure. Since osteoarthritis is the most common cause of musculoskeletal disability and pain worldwide, supplementing with vitamin D can provide a simple, safe and inexpensive option to consider for reducing pain and improving muscle strength and physical function in those with osteoarthritis.
This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics 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.✧

Lee Health Hospitals Named Among Top 50

Lee Health's Lee Memorial Hospital and HealthPark Medical Center are ranked in IBM Watson Health's 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals for 2018. The 50 top-performing hospitals are broken down by category, including Teaching Hospitals with Cardiovascular Residency Programs, Teaching Hospitals without Cardiovascular Residency Programs and Community Hospitals. Lee Memorial Hospital and HealthPark Medical Center are included on the Teaching Hospitals without Cardiovascular Residency Program list and have been included on the list for six years.
The rankings are determined by reviewing aggregate performance measures in the following areas: clinical outcome measures; clinical process measures; extended outcome measures; efficiency measures; and extended

efficiency measures.
"We are very proud to be ranked among the Top 50 Cardiovascular Hospitals in the country," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, Lee Health president and CEO. "This is a testament to the commitment and dedication of our cardiovascular teams, and is further proof that the processes and innovations we have in place enable us to provide leading-edge, high-quality, patient-centered care. This national recognition also falls directly in line with our vision of inspiring hope and being a national leader for the advancement of health and healing."
The IBM Watson Health 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals study (formerly the Truven Health Analytics study) is an annual, objective, quantitative study that identifies the nation's best providers of cardiovascular care, based on publicly available data and a balanced look at clinical, operational and financial performance metrics. The study is part of the Watson Top 100 Hospitals program. For more information about the 100 Top Hospitals program, go to www.100TopHospitals.com.

Grampy's Pro-Am Tournament

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank is the 2017 Presenting Sponsor of the Grampy's Pro-Am golf tournament benefitting Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida at Fiddlesticks Country Club on Friday, December 8. Registration and lunch begin at 11 a.m. followed by a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Each foursome will include a PGA professional. Cocktails, dinner and awards will follow at 5:30 p.m.
The annual tournament was

established 30 years ago by McDonald's owner/operator Fred Frederic, founder of the Fort Myers Ronald McDonald House and chair of the golf committee for 27 years until his passing in August 2015. It was Frederic's desire to keep families close by providing a "home away from home" for families of hospitalized children.
Grampy's Charities has offered its support and leadership for the foreseeable future. One hundred percent of the event proceeds will benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida.
Fiddlesticks Country Club is located at 15391 Canongate Drive in Fort Myers.

Free Autism Screening

Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, offers a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for toddlers age 18 months to age 5.
The next screening on the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be held at Miromar Outlets on Friday, December 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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. The screenings are administered by an advanced registered nurse practitioner, who has extensive training and experience in typical child development and developmental disorders. A physician referral is not required.
Miromar Outlets is located at 10801 Corkscrew Road in Estero. To schedule a screening, please call 239-343-6838.



Mango Marinated Stone Crab Claws

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

**Mango Marinated Stone Crab Claws**

3 pounds medium stone crab claws
2 cups ripe mango, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
3 tablespoons cilantro, finely chopped
2 jalapeño peppers, seeded and minced
4 tablespoons lime juice
1 tablespoon light brown sugar
salad greens

Crack claws and remove shell and movable pincer, leaving the meat attached to the remaining

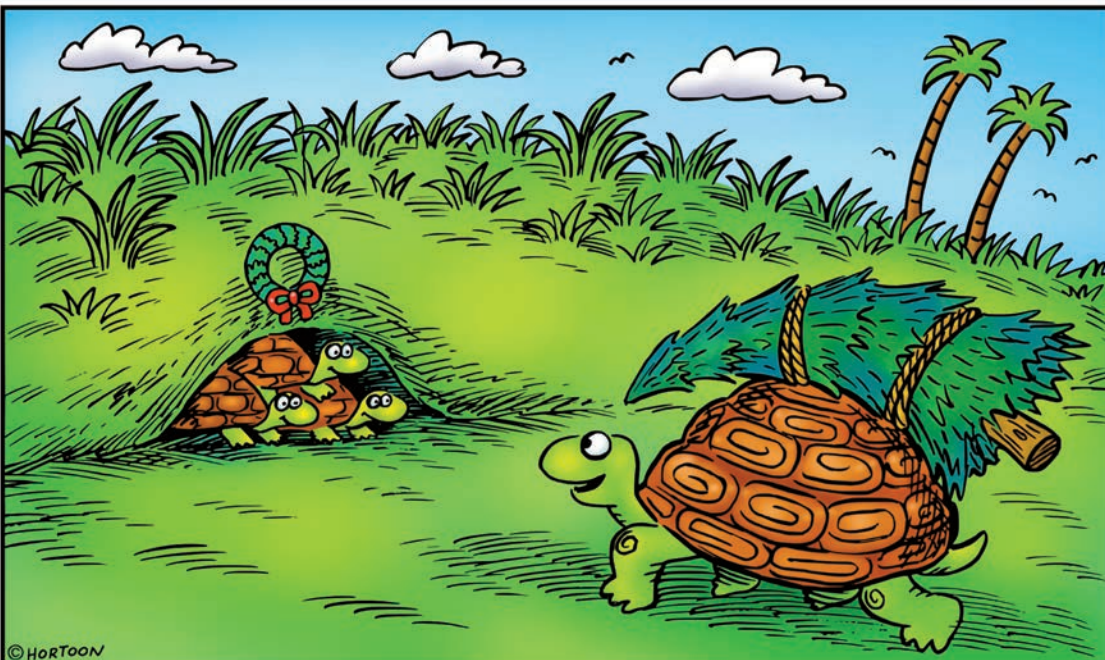
pincer. Place in a single layer in a shallow dish. To make salsa marinade, combine mango, cilantro, peppers, lime juice and sugar in a mixing bowl. Taste for seasoning, adding more lime juice and/or brown sugar as needed. Spoon the salsa mixture over the meaty part of crab claws. Cover and marinate in refrigerator at least 2 hours. Serve claws on a bed of salad greens with mango salsa as an appetizer.

Yield: 4 servings

Nutritional value per serving (4 medium claws with salsa): calories 132, calories from fat 3, total fat 0.29g, saturated fat 0.06g, trans fatty acid 0, cholesterol 45g, total carbohydrates 19g, protein 60g, omega3 fatty acid 0.08g

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

HORTOONS



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THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

Emergency	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
HealthPark Medical Center	1-800-936-5321
Ft. Myers Chamber of Commerce	332-3624
Foundation for Quality Childcare	425-2685
Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce	454-7500
Fort Myers Beach Library	463-9691
Lakes Regional Library	533-4000
Lee County Chamber of Commerce	931-0931
Post Office	1-800-275-8777
Visitor & Convention Bureau	338-3500

ARTS

Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio	337-5050
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall	481-4849
BIG ARTS	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Cultural Park Theatre	772-5862
Edison Festival of Light	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade	332-4488
Florida West Arts	948-4427
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy	936-3239
Young Artists Awards	574-9321

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Angel Flight	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center	731-3535
American Business Women Association	357-6755
Audubon of SWFL	339-8046
Audubon Society	472-3156
Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR	482-1366
Caloosahatchee Folk Society	321-4620
Cape Chorale Barbershop Chorus	1-855-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club	542-9153
duPont Company Retirees	454-1083
Edison Porcelain Artists	415-2484
Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter	239-267-1990
FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Confederacy	728-3743
Friendship Force Of SW FL	561-9164
Garden Club of Cape Coral	239-257-2654
Horticulture and Tea Society	472-8334
Horticultural Society	472-6940
Lee County Genealogical Society	549-9625
Lee Trust for Historic Preservation	939-7278
NARFE (National Active & Retired Federal Employees	482-6713
Navy Seabees Veterans of America	731-1901
Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL	667-1354
Sons of Confederate Veterans	332-2408
Southwest Florida Fencing Academy	939-1338
Southwest Florida Music Association	561-2118
Kiwanis Fort Myers Beach	765-4254 or 454-8090
Kiwanis Fort Myers Edison	694-1056
Kiwanis Fort Myers South	691-1405
Gateway to the Islands	218-5768
Iona-McGregor	482-0869
Lions Club Fort Myers Beach	463-9738
Lions Club Fort Myers High Noon	466-4228
Lions Club Estero/South Fort Myers	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County	768-0417
Organ Transplant Recipients of SW Florida	247-3073
POLO Club of Lee County	477-4906
Rotary Club of Fort Myers	332-8158
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline (24 hour)	211 or 433-3900

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
Burrough's Home	337-9505
Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium	275-3435
Edison & Ford Winter Estates	334-7419
Fort Myers Skate Park	321-7558
Imaginarium Hands-On Museum & Aquarium	321-7420
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Koreshan State Historic Site	239-992-0311
Langford Kingston Home	239-334-2550
Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center	765-8101
Skatium	321-7510
Southwest Florida Historical Society	939-4044
Southwest Florida Museum of History	321-7430
True Tours	945-0405

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PUZZLES

Answers on page 29

Super Crossword

23RD AMENDMENT

ACROSS

ACROSS	50 60-min. units	93 Trial attire	126 Like the pre-	153 Old	280 Somehow
1 Tussle (with)	51 "Rockaria!"	96 Siestas	Easter period	Testament	manages
8 Hindu chant	band, in brief	98 "Mazel —!"	7 — Allan Poe	book	with
14 Robotic floor vacuum	54 Singer Clay	99 Hereditary sequence	8 Comic Jay	48 Racial	84 Pair attached to an axle
20 Predicted	55 San — (Italian resort)	100 Declaration upon pulling your valise forcefully?	9 Bunyan's tool	equality gp.	85 Also- — (losers)
21 Daisy types	57 Poet W.H. —		10 Story for an anchor	49 Part of YTD	86 Scores
22 Relatives of 21-Across	59 Fusion		11 Radials for a Rolls, say	51 Lawn gadget	87 Arose (from)
23 Pounding one's shawl?	64 Old laundry machine	103 Many a handcuffed person	12 Fails to stay poker-faced	52 Dirty looks	88 Painter Paul
25 Like sacred statues	that's totally on the fritz?	105 — Jo ('80s track star)	13 Viper variety	53 Ham — (deli classic)	89 Nectar lover
26 Step up or down	66 Raving sort	106 That guy's	14 Slickers and galoshes	56 Rx signers	90 CIA worker
27 Instant, for short	67 People debating	107 Certain Wall St. trader	15 Wilde with wit	58 Golden rule's second word	93 Searches and robs
28 Santa — College	70 Bistro, e.g.	108 Paradigm	16 Bison-hunting tribe	59 Plenteous	94 Wise-looking
29 In history	71 "Goodbye, Columbus"	109 Hereditary	17 Household	60 Bill of "Real Time"	95 Bucking one
30 Book parts	author when he's very angry?	111 Actress Fay who was always cheerful?	18 Intelligent	61 Japanese film genre	97 Card game expert John
34 What aviator Orville or Wilbur was called?	73 Throw from a steed	117 Get free of	19 Fancy ties	62 Stitch's cartoon pal	99 Bestows
37 Found on these pages	74 Tea garnish	118 Silky goat or rabbit	24 "— the season!"	63 Dive variety	101 Triangle, e.g.
38 Kitty treater	75 Apple debut of 1998	119 Helm handler	28 Gallery gala	64 "Yeah, no kidding!"	102 Fly into — (get furious)
39 Fill up fully	76 Mini-serving	120 Beaches	30 Grub	65 Taylor of "The Nanny"	103 Madison Ave. output
40 Celtics rival	79 Prior to	121 Observed in the vicinity of	31 Berlin man	67 Chair part	104 Find a new purpose for
41 "What the Butler Saw" dramatist Joe	80 Flan need	122 Actor Erik	32 Funnymen Johnson	68 Traipse	108 "— first you don't succeed ..."
42 Does penance	82 Damage done to a periodical?		33 Hireling	69 Sporty auto	110 Corn spike
45 Sprinter Bolt	89 Pub buys	DOWN	34 "... three — a tub"	72 Tepees' kin	111 Once existed
47 Small songbird with a cartoon cat?	91 Find a new place for, as a pet	1 Yackety-yak	35 Ocean liquid	73 — Reader (alternative digest)	112 — pro nobis
	92 Islamic equivalent of kosher	2 Lament	36 Hotel relative	76 Sierra Nevada lake	113 That gal's
		3 — Khan	38 Cast a ballot	77 Sea of — (waters off Ukraine)	114 Levin or Glass
		4 Impose	42 Take — view of	78 Gaming "City" dweller	115 TV neighbor of Homer
		5 Capital of Kosovo	43 "Bad!" sound	81 Non-Jews	116 Time of note
			44 Shopping jaq		

DOWN

1 Yackety-yak
2 Lament
3 — Khan
4 Impose
5 Capital of
Kosovo

King Crossword

ACROSS

ACROSS

1 PC alternative
 4 Like omelettes or quiche
 8 Secondhand
 12 Have bills
 13 Color quality
 14 "The Thin Man" heroine
 15 Hotel personnel
 17 Cole Porter's "Let's —"
 18 Willingly
 19 From then on
 20 Jousting garb
 22 Hunk of soap
 24 Slender
 25 Starving
 29 Encountered
 30 Bullwinkle's foe

DOWN

1 Horde
 2 Shock and —
 3 Pen pal?
 4 Old number?
 5 Blunder
 6 Economist's stat
 7 "Of course"
 8 Victoria's Secret wares
 9 Any time now
 10 Idle or

11 Social engagement
 16 Friend of Dorothy
 19 Vail gear
 20 Charitable donations
 21 Stench
 22 Mariah or Drew
 23 In the thick of
 25 Place setting
 26 Squalid site
 27 Needle holder
 28 "Phooey"

30 Flex
 33 Electrician's job
 34 Spill the beans
 36 Apportion
 37 Blueprint detail
 38 Frau's mate
 39 Met melody
 40 Huffed and puffed
 42 Triumphed
 43 Before
 44 Scoundrel
 45 Leno's employer

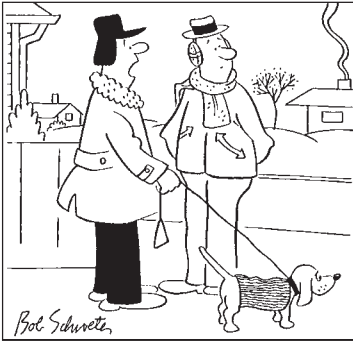
MAGIC MAZE

FITS IN A THIMBLE

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

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

A pea	Corn kernel	Grains of rice	Staple
A tack	Crumb	Grains of sand	Teardrop
Ant	Diamond	Ladybug	Tic Tac
BB shot	Fingertip	M&M	



Bob Schwetzer
"My wife sure had me fooled. All along, I thought she was _____ it for me!"
answer on page 29

SCRAMBLERS

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

Equate
KILNE
Harken
TENSIL
Compel
BEGOIL
Marry
THROBET

TODAY'S WORD

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

SUDOKU

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

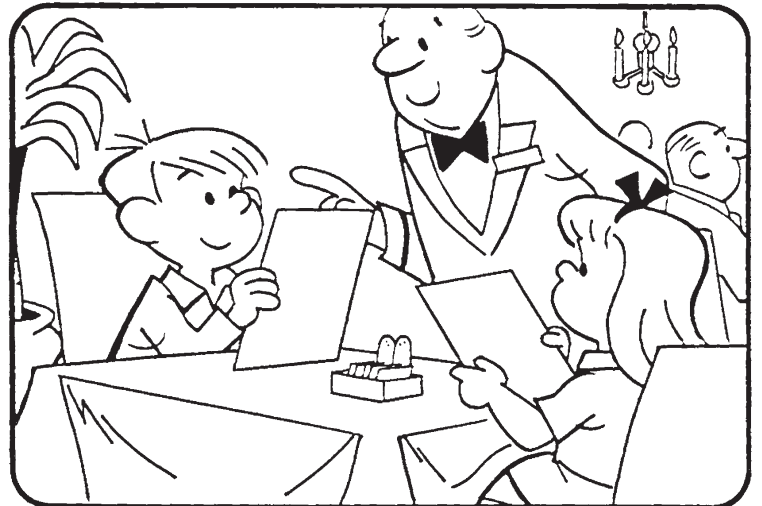
answer on page 29

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Doors are missing. 2. Elbow is concealed. 3. Lamp is missing. 4. Sleeve is shorter. 5. Light fixture is different. 6. Hair is concealed.



A child uses a marker during an animal-themed craft

photos provided

Conservancy Fall Programs For Little Explorers

Conservancy of Southwest Florida has introduced its lineup of fall activities for Southwest Florida's youngest conservationists through the Little Explorer Play Zone. Designed for children age 18 months to age 5, Little Explorer

programs allow children to explore nature and discover wildlife through multi-sensory, interactive activities, stories and animal-themed crafts. No registration is required for these special programs. Throughout the programs, Little Explorers will explore the entire Conservancy of Southwest Florida campus and will get to meet the Conservancy's ambassador animals.

"The Little Explorer Play Zone provides a fun-filled opportunity to learn more about the importance of wildlife and nature



Children inside The Busy Tree

while instilling a lifelong commitment to protecting our water, land and wildlife," said Rob Moher, president and CEO of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

In the Little Explorer Play Zone, kids can crawl through a gopher tortoise burrow, explore a life-size bald eagle's nest and participate in special Little Explorer programs. Each program presents a unique theme tied to nature and wildlife, providing learning opportunities on topics that relate to the Conservancy's mission of protecting Southwest Florida's water,

land, wildlife and future. Admission is free for members and is included in general admission price to the Nature Center for non-members.

Upcoming programs include The Busy Tree on December 12 and 14; Outstanding Owls on January 2 and 4; and Lovely Lizards on January 16 and 18.

All Conservancy Nature Center programs and events are online at www.Conservancy.org/Nature-Center. For information, call 262-0304 or visit www.Conservancy.org.

 FRIDAY Cloudy High: 58 Low: 48	 SATURDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 65 Low: 55	 SUNDAY Sunny High: 70 Low: 60	 MONDAY Sunny High: 75 Low: 65	 TUESDAY Sunny High: 77 Low: 67	 WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 80 Low: 69	 THURSDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 73 Low: 63
--	--	--	--	---	---	--

Redfish Pass Tides					Point Ybel Tides					Punta Rassa Tides					Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	3:10 am	10:57 am	6:45 pm	10:13 pm	Fri	2:15 am	10:59 am	5:50 pm	10:15 pm	Fri	3:33 am	10:49 am	5:32 pm	10:51 pm	Fri	5:20 am	2:13 pm	8:55 pm	None
Sat	4:21 am	11:52 am	7:29 pm	None	Sat	3:26 am	11:54 am	6:34 pm	None	Sat	4:56 am	11:47 am	6:27 pm	None	Sat	6:31 am	1:29 am	9:39 pm	3:08 pm
Sun	5:57 am	12:07 am	8:07 pm	12:46 pm	Sun	5:02 am	12:09 am	7:12 pm	12:48 pm	Sun	6:18 am	12:24 am	7:20 pm	12:53 pm	Sun	8:07 am	3:23 am	10:17 pm	4:02 pm
Mon	7:47 am	1:49 am	8:42 pm	1:36 pm	Mon	6:52 am	1:51 am	7:47 pm	1:38 pm	Mon	7:35 am	1:49 am	8:09 pm	1:53 pm	Mon	9:57 am	5:05 am	10:52 pm	4:52 pm
Tue	9:25 am	3:04 am	9:15 pm	2:22 pm	Tue	8:30 am	3:06 am	8:20 pm	2:24 pm	Tue	8:48 am	2:51 am	8:57 pm	2:45 pm	Tue	11:35 am	6:20 am	11:25 pm	5:38 pm
Wed	10:44 am	4:02 am	9:46 pm	3:04 pm	Wed	9:49 am	4:04 am	8:51 pm	3:06 pm	Wed	10:11 am	3:46 am	9:45 pm	3:34 pm	Wed	12:54 pm	7:18 am	11:56 pm	6:20 pm
Thu	11:48 am	4:48 am	10:15 pm	3:41 pm	Thu	10:53 am	4:50 am	9:20 pm	3:43 pm	Thu	11:14 am	4:36 am	10:28 pm	4:23 pm	Thu	1:58 pm	8:04 am	None	6:57 pm

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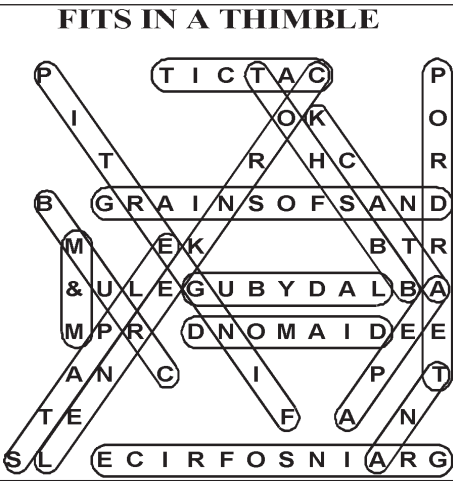
SUPER CROSSWORD

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

KING CROSSWORD

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

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 2017

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Start preparing now to make sure you get the credit you're due for all that effort you put in to get that project off the ground. A new challenge emerges after the 15th.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're still charging full steam ahead on the job -- and that's fine. But take time to share the joy of preparing for the upcoming holidays with folks you love.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A former detractor resists joining your ranks just yet. Give him or her time to learn more about what you're doing. Meanwhile, devote more time to friends and family.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Be careful not to be goaded into a tiff by someone who might be looking for a fight. Remain cool as you make your exit. Be assured that others will rally to your support.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Kudos on getting the well-deserved Lion's share of the rewards for a job well-done. Now you can take a breather from your workaday duties and spend time with your family.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You enjoy a quick spurt of renewed energy just in time to meet that upcoming deadline. A potentially romantic situation looms. How it develops will be up to you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Watch out for distractions that could cause delays and leave you running twice as fast to finish your work by the 15th. Then go ahead and have fun.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might prefer to work on current tasks on your own. But be open to a potentially useful suggestion from someone who admires you and wants to help.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Avoid rushing full gallop into that volunteer project without knowing what's expected of you. Take things a step at a time as you begin to find your way.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Good news: You should begin to feel more comfortable expressing your emotions. This will go a long way in helping you with that personal situation.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An old friend gives confusing signals. Best advice: Don't assume that things will necessarily work themselves out. Ask

questions and demand straight answers. **PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) A new relationship needs time to develop. Be careful not to let your emotions flood your natural sense of caution. Meanwhile, check out that new job offer.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your sense of right and wrong sometimes causes you to come into conflict with others. But you invariably come out ahead.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- On Dec. 11, 1936, Edward VIII becomes the first English monarch to voluntarily abdicate the throne following his scandalous decision to marry American divorcee Wallis Warfield Simpson.
- On Dec. 12, 1901, Italian physicist and radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi succeeds in sending the first radio transmission across the Atlantic Ocean. Detractors had told him the curvature of the earth would limit transmission to 200 miles or less.
- On Dec. 13, 1776, American Gen. Charles Lee leaves his army, riding in search of female sociability at Widow White's Tavern, even though Gen. George Washington repeatedly urged Lee to reinforce Washington's position on the Delaware River. British soldiers captured Lee at the tavern two days later.
- On Dec. 14, 1980, a CIA report claims that the Soviet Union delivered nearly \$7 billion worth of military assistance to Third World nations in 1979, and made over \$8 billion in arms sales the same year. Syria, Iraq and South Yemen were the primary recipients.
- On Dec. 15, 2001, Italy's Leaning Tower of Pisa reopens after a team of experts spent 11 years and \$27 million to fortify the tower without eliminating its famous lean. When completed in 1360, the tower was already leaning, having been built on marshy ground.
- On Dec. 16, 1960, two airplanes collide over New York City, killing 134 people on the planes and on the ground. Christmas presents carried by the plane's passengers were strewn all over the streets, and multiple fires burned for nearly 72 hours.
- On Dec. 17, 1843, Charles Dickens' classic story "A Christmas Carol" is published. Dickens' father was thrown into debtors' prison in 1824, and 12-year-old Charles was sent to work in a factory.

Dickens wrote about the miserable treatment of children and the institution of the debtors' jail in several novels.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was 20th-century French journalist, poet, aristocrat and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupery -- best known for his novella "The Little Prince" -- who made the following sage observation: "A designer knows he has achieved perfection not when there is nothing left to add, but when there is nothing left to take away."
- Eggplants weren't always the deep purple color we know today; originally, the vegetables were white. The color, paired with the ovoid shape, is how the eggplant got its name.
- If you live in Rochester, New York, you're doubtless used to dealing with the hazards and inconveniences of snow and ice. It's America's snowiest city, after all, averaging 94 inches every winter.
- Those who study such things say that paternity leave can have significant domestic impacts. Research shows that men who take a few weeks of leave when they have an addition to their family spend more time on domestic chores and taking care of the kids than men who don't. They cook more, and they're even 50 percent more likely to do laundry. The most interesting finding, though, is the fact that these changes are long-term; the effect tends to last the rest of a man's life.
- Those who suffer from nescience are unlikely to know what "nescience" means: an absence of knowledge.
- The first wristwatch was made by an English clockmaker in 1571. Described as "a wristlet in which there was a clocke," the watch was presented as a gift to Queen Elizabeth I.
- If you're like the average human, you have about 615 hairs for every square centimeter of your skin.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"A man said to the universe: 'Sir I exist!' 'However,' replied the universe, 'The fact has not created in me a sense of obligation.'"

SCRAMBLERS

1. Liken; 2. Listen;
3. Oblige; 4. Betroth

Today's Word
KNITTING

TRIVIA TEST

1. **Literature:** What 20th-century author wrote a short story titled "Gimpel the Fool"?
2. **General Knowledge:** Sometimes called "the second most visited home in America," what Memphis, Tennessee, estate was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006?
3. **Geography:** What is the only mountain in North America that exceeds 20,000 feet?
4. **Firsts:** Who became the first woman in the British Parliament in 1919?
5. **History:** The International Committee of the Red Cross won what prize in 1944?
6. **Science:** In forensic science, what is dermatoglyphics?
7. **Movies:** In one of the movie's classic songs, how much sugar does Mary Poppins say is necessary to make the medicine go down?
8. **Music:** What is the classification for an album that sells 10 million copies?
9. **Explorers:** What European explorer was the first to reach the Mississippi River in 1541?
10. **Medical Terms:** What is a more common name for the malady called pityriasis capitis?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Isaac Bashevis Singer
2. Graceland
3. Denali (Mount McKinley)
4. Lady
5. The Nobel Peace Prize
6. The study of fingerprints
7. A spoonful
8. Diamond
9. Hermandado de Soto
10. Dandruff

★ ★ ★ CLASSIFIED ★ CLASSIFIED ★ ★ ★

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11/17 ★ 12/8

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12/1 ★ 12/15

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Starting mid March available monthly
2B/1B, newly remodeled
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Private deck, Fully equipped,
Contact Bob 410-913-2234
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ANNUAL RENTAL - SANIBEL

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HELP WANTED

FACILITIES AND GROUNDS TECHNICIAN PART TIME

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife
(CROW) on Sanibel is looking for a part-
time person to assist our Facilities and
Grounds Manager. Duties include helping
with preventative maintenance and repairs,
upkeep of grounds, minor issue requests,
painting, cleaning, etc.

Applicants should have a working
knowledge of building systems,
maintenance techniques and outdoor care.
Must be a team player with positive attitude
and must be able to work cooperatively
with co-workers, volunteers and the
public. One weekend work day is required
per week. Please submit a resume to
Operations Mgr., JoEllen Urasky at
jurasky@crowclinic.org to be considered.
12/8 ★ 12/29

PART TIME SEASONAL SALES

Island Pursuit a ladies and Men's
clothing Store is looking for an
experienced sales person.
Must have a background
in clothing sales.

If you are motivated, energetic,
friendly, can work night and weeeknds -
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11/24 ★ 12/8

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LOST PET

LOST CAT, BLACK
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11/24 * TFN

FOR SALE

FOR SALE



Pub table with four chairs.
Great condition. \$150.
Call 239-265-0840 and leave message.
11/3 * TFN

PETS OF THE WEEK

Lee County Domestic Animal Services
Sweetheart And Frost
Hello, my name is Sweetheart. I am a 2-year-old female domestic longhair who is the "Fourth Stray of Christmas" and the perfect home for me is one where I'm appointed the head queen bee. My name is Sweetheart because I am with people, but not so much with other cats. So if one feline is enough for you I am your girl.
My adoption fee is \$50.
Hi, I'm Frost. I'm an 8-month-old male pointer mix who is the "Fifth Stray of Christmas" and my friends gave to me, training to take home with my new family. I am being taught

Canine Good Citizen with the volunteers and staff at LCDAS and have learned lots of new things already. The best part is my new family can continue my training at ABC-4K9's after they adopt me.
My adoption fee is \$50.
For information about this week's pets, call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS) or log on to Animal Services' website at www.LeeLostPets.com. When calling, refer to the animal's ID number. The website updates every hour so you will be able to see if these or any other pets are still available.
The shelter is open for adoptions from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office off Six Mile



Sweetheart ID# 718532
photos provided
Cypress Parkway.



Frost ID# 718966
dogs six months and over, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, training DVD, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Science Diet pet food.
The adoption package is valued at \$500.*

Haven on Earth Animal League
Amber And Sonny
Hi, I'm Amber. I'm Sonny's sister, and I'm just the cutest little calico girl with a white spot on my nose and ear tufts. I'm only 8 weeks old and currently staying with a foster mom. I need someone to love me forever – and hopefully adopt my sister too. My adoption fee is \$125 and includes spaying and vaccinations.
Hello, I'm Sonny. I'm Amber's sister, and I'm a very cute little girl. I'm only 8 weeks old. I have a beautiful white coat with flame point markings – maybe one of my parents was Siamese? I'm just waiting for someone to take me home and love me – and hopefully adopt my sister too. I'm staying with a foster mom and dreaming of my new forever home. My adoption fee is \$125 and includes spaying and vaccinations.
We are being cared for by Haven on Earth Animal League.
For more information, call Diane at 860-833-4472 or email haveneearthanimalleague@yahoo.com.*



Amber photos provided Sonny



Noir and Brindle
PAWS Of Sanibel
photo provided

Noir And Brindle
PAWS is trying to find home(s) for two beautiful kittens. They are six months old siblings, and have been spayed and neutered. Noir is a small black male, with lovely green eyes. Brindle is a beautiful tortoiseshell (tortie) female.
Everyone needs two kittens in the house. However, if you only have room for one, we will just have to find two good homes. It would be wonderful for these two beauties to have a home for the holidays.
If you have room for one or both of these lovely kittens, call Mary Beth at 482-5952.*

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Metes And Bounds	Sanibel	1966	3,856	\$4,250,000	\$3,900,000	229
Sanibel Harbours	Sanibel	1981	1,936	\$1,349,000	\$1,334,000	6
Briarcliff	Fort Myers	1997	5,828	\$1,279,000	\$1,110,000	45
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2017	2,318	\$849,000	\$770,000	44
Bonita Lakes	Bonita Springs	2014	3,348	\$847,777	\$820,000	29
Nature's Cove	Estero	2006	2,659	\$795,000	\$749,000	80
Lakemont	Bonita Springs	1993	3,384	\$749,900	\$695,000	73
Tip Top Isles	Fort Myers Beach	1976	2,948	\$737,000	\$737,000	3
Brendan Cove	Bonita Springs	2002	2,566	\$689,900	\$650,000	73
Novela	Bonita Springs	2007	2,579	\$670,000	\$575,000	21



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Magazine

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