



Vol. 16, No. 52

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers DECEMBER 29, 2017



Glenn Miller Orchestra Glenn Miller Orchestra Returns

Shell Point Retirement Community continues the Performing Arts program of its 2017-18 Concert Series with a concert by the Glenn Miller Orchestra at the Village Church on The Island at Shell Point on Thursday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m. The concert is open to the public, with tickets available for purchase online at www.shellpoint. org/concerts or by phone at 454-2067.

Known for its unique jazz sound and popularity for both concert and swing dance engagements, the Glenn Miller Orchestra is considered one of the great bands of its time. As a young musician in the late 1920s, Glenn Miller toured with several orchestras, and played and recorded with the likes of Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Gene Krupa, Eddie Condon and Coleman Hawkins before forming the Glenn Miller Orchestra.

The present-day Glenn Miller Orchestra was formed in 1956 and has

photo provided

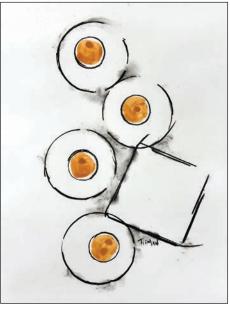
been touring consistently ever since. The 19 current members of the orchestra hail from all parts of the country and, in 2012, vocalist Nick Hilscher took the helm as band director. The orchestra performs an average of 300 shows a year and has toured all 50 states, Canada, Mexico, Europe, South America and Japan. 🗱

FREE Take Me Home



Work by Guy Tiemens images provided Opening Reception During Art Walk

Arts for ACT Gallery is holding an exhibit opening and artists reception during Art Walk on Friday, January 5 from 6 to 10 p.m. This month, the gallery will feature Guy Tiemans' exhibit entitled Of



Work by Guy Tiemens

Tinkertoys and Crayons in the Main Gallery. In the White Gallery, there will be a group exhibit by The Southwest Florida Craft Guild entitled Pattern and Decoration. Also showing will be new works from the gallery co-op artists.

Tiemans received a bachelor of fine arts degree in printmaking and photography at Alfred University and a master of fine arts degree in glass art from Southern Illinois University. He was an artist's assistant for the world-class glass continued on page 7

Humanitarian Award Presented

Jim Nathan, former president of Lee Health, is this year's recipient of the Frank Haskell Humanitarian Award. Nathan was honored at Lee Health Foundation's Evening of Appreciation, held on December 14, which hosted about 200 of Lee Health's most committed donors and supporters.

Nathan served Lee Health as president/ CEO for more than 30 years. He led Lee Health's growth from one hospital to a comprehensive health system. Nathan is also an adjunct faculty member for Florida Gulf Coast University and a current board member of the FGCU Foundation. Previously, he was chairman of the Florida Hospital Association, founding chairman of the Safety Net Hospital Alliance of Florida, founding chair of LeeSar and Cooperative Services of Florida, founding chairman of the Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida and campaign chairman and president of the United Way of Lee County.

Nathan has received several awards for his leadership including the Clara Barton Humanitarian Award by the American Red Cross and the Founder's Award from Lee Mental Health for his ongoing support of mental health initiatives in Southwest Florida. He was also voted a Person of the Decade by *Gulfshore Life*, chosen as a laureate for Junior Achievement, named Person of Distinction for the past 25 years by *The News-Press*, and received the



Jim Nathan

photo provided

Gulfshore Business Lifetime of Distinction award.

"Jim was the heart and visionary of Lee Health for so long," said Skip Leonard, chief foundation officer for Lee Health. "He embodies all that the Frank Haskell Humanitarian Award signifies. This is recognition of all Jim has done not only for Lee Health and our patients, but for Southwest Florida and the healthcare industry as a whole."

The award is named in honor of Frank Haskell, co-founder, with his wife Betty, of Barbara's Friends – Golisano Children's Hospital Cancer Fund, part of Lee Health Foundation. It recognizes outstanding leadership in the advancement of quality health care for the citizens of Southwest Florida.

THE RIVER - DECEMBER 29, 2017

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Fire On The River At Carson Street



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

n May 28, 1965, one of the last remnants of Fort Myers' once-thriving steamboat business disappeared when the Collier Terminal at Carson Street was destroyed by fire. Hundreds of people turned up to witness the demise of the historic terminal, as the nighttime blaze lit up the waterfront and the new Caloosahatchee Bridge.

A shrimp trawler was damaged too, but fortunately, several others were moved from the wharf before at least two gasoline tanks exploded.

Fire fighters couldn't save the two-story building, which was flammable "fat pine" beneath the stucco, so they eventually

turned off the water and abandoned efforts. The fire was thought to have begun in a workshop area on the wooden docks

behind the terminal. The building, most of the dock, a shrimp ice house, tools and equipment, and 4,000

pounds of shrimp were lost. More than 40 years earlier, in 1923, Barron G. Collier had gone into the steamboat business on the river at Carson when he bought an existing business, the Fort Myers Steamship Company, which had been started by IW Riggs and Harry Botts.

The facilities, which consisted of a wharf, warehouse and offices, were renamed the Collier Terminal.

The fleet's first vessel was the City of Everglades, followed by City of Tampa, City of Punta Gorda, City of Fort Myers and City of Punta Blanca. Ads described them as

'ocean-going oil-burning steel ships" with regular schedules serving Southwest Florida. The line carried passengers, cargo and mail, and competed with the long-established lines that operated from the City Dock at Jackson Street.

Also in 1923, after managing to get a new county carved from Lee County and get-



In 1965, a fire destroyed the 1927 Collier Terminal on the Caloosahatchee at Carson Street photo courtesv IMAG History & Science Center

Today, no sign of a boom-time steamship terminal is evident. Activities such as sailing and playing in the adjoining park have replaced those of the early working waterfront. photo by Gerri Reaves

ting it named for him (talk about political clout!), Collier got busy ensuring the completion of the Tamiami Trail.

That road linking Tampa and Miami wouldn't be completed until 1928, but meanwhile, the aptly named Barron Collier was doing all he could to develop transportation options in Southwest Florida.

Doing so was crucial to developing his new county, whose seat was Everglades (now called Everglades City).

Oddly enough, Collier even competed against his own new steam line, for he also owned a bus line, Tamiami Trail Tours, headquartered in Fort Myers.

Only three years after purchasing the facilities at Carson, they were destroyed. Collier rebuilt in the architectural style of boom times: the yellow stucco building with a decorative arch and tower pictured here. It was completed in February 1927, but the new steam line was out of business by the late 1920s.

For many years after the fire, shrimp- and seafood-packing businesses operated at the foot of Carson.

Walk down to the foot of Carson Street and imagine a busy steamship terminal, where passengers can embark for points near and far.

Then visit the following research centers to learn about the steamboat lines that provided Fort Myers with up-to-date travel before the railroad and automobile took over.

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 Tropical

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fort Myers



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Graphic Arts/ Production Ann Ziehl, Manager Amanda Hartman Justin Wilder



From left, Lucy Sundby, Holly Wilson and Danielle Channell play sisters

Tragicomedy Involves Sisters

The Laboratory Theater of Florida presents *Crimes of the Heart*, by Beth Henley from Friday, January 5 through Sunday, January 21.

The tragicomedy tells the story of the three Magrath sisters, Meg, Babe and Lenny, who reunite at Old Granddaddy's home in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, after Babe shoots her abusive husband. The sisters were raised in a dysfunctional family with a penchant for ugly predicaments. Each has endured her share of hardship and misery. Past resentments bubble to the surface as the sisters are forced to deal with assorted relatives and past relationships while coping with Babe's latest incident. Each sister is forced to face the consequences of the "crimes of the heart" she has committed.

The play won the 1981 Pulitzer Prize

Veterans Honored

n December 16, 146 wreaths were

placed on every veteran's grave in

the Bonita Springs Cemetery for Wreaths Across America Day, thanks to the Estero Island Chapter, National Society

With 146 Wreaths

Daughters of the American Revolution,

Chapter, New Life Church, veterans and

active duty members of the United States

Wreath Day was celebrated at 1440

with help from the Barefoot Beach

military.

e Channell play sisters photo provided for Drama and was nominated for the

Tony Award for Best Play. Performance dates at Lab Theater are as follows: January 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18,

19 and 20 at 8 p.m.; and January 14, 21 at 2 p.m.

"In the troubling time in which we are living, it's so refreshing to see a heartwarming story about family," said director Paul Graffy. "This cast is bringing these characters fully to life." "It's a perfect storm of three lovable sisters in extraordinary circumstances that will have audiences laughing through their tears, from the revelation of that poor shrunken ovary to shooing out a gossip-mongering neighbor with a broom," added artistic director Annette Trossbach.

The Laboratory Theater of Florida is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers. To purchase tickets, visit www. brownpapertickets.com or call 218-0481. For more information, visit www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com.

remember the lives of those who served, honor them and those who are serving, and to teach our children that freedom was and is not free.

Thanks go to Mission BBQ and Adam Palladino; Kim Dusenbury Gaide, founder and coordinator of the LeeHealth Military Support Program; John Simons, Navy veteran, of American Legion Post 303 who played taps; Bonita Springs Mayor Peter Simmons who spoke at the ceremony; and to all who sponsored wreaths.

For more information, contact Anita Pinder at 671-2737 or Jamie Gates at 910-2778. To learn more about Estero Island Chapter, visit www.eidar.org/.‡



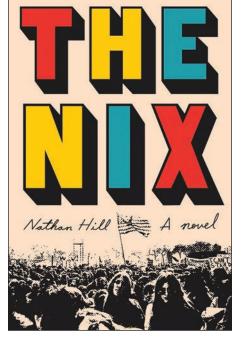
The Nix Author Featured At First Lecture Of 2018



Nathan Hill photo by Michael Lionstar

The Famous Author Lecture Series at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center will feature a lecture by Nathan Hill on Monday, January 8 from noon to 2 p.m. The first lecture of 2018 is sponsored by Finemark Bank. Lunch will be catered by G3 Catering. A book signing and question-and-answer session will also take place.

Nathan Hill's debut novel, *The Nix*, was named the number one book of the year by Audible and *Entertainment Weekly*, as well as one of the year's best books by



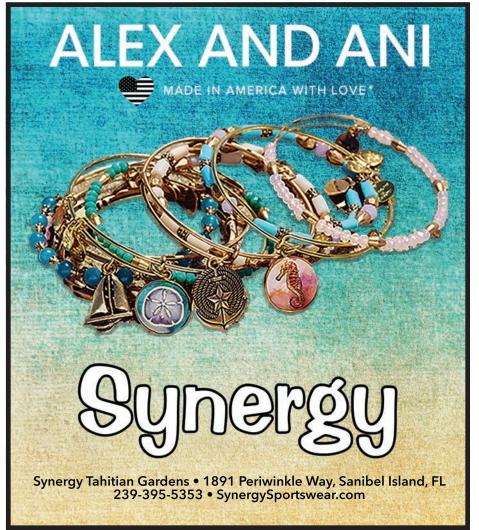
The Nix book cover

image provided

The New York Times, The Washington Post, NPR, Slate, Amazon, and many others. The Nix was the winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for First Fiction. It will be published worldwide in 30 languages.

Tickets are \$35 apiece or \$280 for a table of eight. Series tickets are \$125 or \$1,000 for a table of eight.

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



Celebrated Violinist To Perform With Symphony

ne of the finest living violinists, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, makes a rare appearance in Southwest Florida when she performs with the Gulf Coast Symphony on Sunday, January 7 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at Florida Southwestern State College.

A celebrity of the classical stage, Salerno-Sonnenberg will lead the Gulf Coast Symphony from the concertmaster's chair for Antonio Vivaldi's The Four Seasons (Spring and Winter movements), Arvo Pärt's Fratres, and the Larghetto movement of Sir Edgar William Elgar's Serenade for Strings. Gulf Coast Symphony Maestro Andrew M. Kurtz will conduct Pyotr Illyich Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 in the second half of the program. This tempestuous symphonic work, composed in 1877-1878, mirrored the personal life of the composer during its creation. It tackles the subjects of fate, jealously, sadness and ultimately, happiness and celebration.

Salerno-Sonnenberg has been praised for her compelling performances, daring interpretations, and electric stage presence. Opus Colorado has said, "...she is one of the world's most extraordinary violinists... she is, perhaps, one of the few violinists today who can truly see and re-create the passion and intensity of the composer."

Having served as Resident Artist at Loyola University, College of Music and Fine Arts, New Orleans to great



Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg photo provided

success for the last two seasons, Salerno-Sonnenberg now adds the official title of extraordinary faculty/ director of chamber orchestra to her storied career. She has expanded her career over the past three seasons to share her experience and knowledge as a performing musician in guest residencies at universities throughout the country, building on her recent acclaimed nine-season tenure as music director of the San Francisco-based New Century Chamber Orchestra. At Loyola, she continues her work with The Loyola Strings, the new conductor-less string orchestra she introduced in her first year of residency, as well as on/off campus

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teaching and performances with Loyola students and faculty.

Salerno-Sonnenberg's professional career began in 1981 when she won the Walter W. Naumburg International Violin Competition. Among her recent honors is having Saturday, May 20, 2017 declared "Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg Day" by the mayor of the City and County of San Francisco in honor of contributions to "the vitality of our city and the dedicated work" she carried out as music director of New Century Chamber Orchestra. New Orleans Magazine declared her one of its Top Female Achievers in its June 2017 issue. Other recognition include a 1983 Avery Fisher Career Grant and being named 1988 Ovations Debut Recording Artist of

Lake Kennedy Senior Center Ballroom Beach Blast

The Lake Kennedy Center will host a Ballroom Beach Party on Friday, January 5. Doors will open at 1:30 and the show starts at 2 nm

p.m. and the show starts at 2 p.m. Participants are enchoraged to use beach props and take fun photos to send to family and friends who are surrounded by snow. The dance party will feature entertainer John Goulet. The party will include tropical refreshments and skin cancer checks courtesy of Riverchase Dermatology. Tickets are \$5 per person. Lake Kennedy Senior Center is

Lake Kennedy Senior Center is located at 400 Santa Barbara Boulevard in Cape Coral. For more information, call 574-0575.3

Heroes And Hounds Benefit

Four local organizations will gather to support veterans and animals during Heroes and Hounds at Sun Splash on Saturday, January 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Heroes and Hounds is a dog friendly, family festival to support the funding and building of the Cape Coral Animal Shelter as well as benefit the Southeastern Guide Dogs organization and Holiday 4 Heroes Care Package Program. Cape Coral Police Department will sponsor the Gulf Coast K-9 Competition, which will include police K-9 obstacle course, hardest hitting and fastest dog competition, a K-9 and SWAT demo/display, plus a child ID program. There will also be live music, food and beverage trucks, K-9 demonstrations, carnival style games and raffle prizes. Proceeds from a portion of all food and beverage sales will go to support the featured charitable organizations.

"This is a perfect event to combine our mission of honoring veterans and support local animal organizations. We are partnering with the Cape Coral Police Department to sponsor the Gulf Coast K-9 Competition and expect a great turnout from all over Southwest Florida. It will be a fun and informative event for all attendees," said event organizer and founder of Holiday 4 Heroes, Jonette Kessack

The Cape Coral Animal Shelter is currently fundraising to create a non-profit, no-kill animal shelter. The organization the Year. In 1999, she was honored with the prestigious Avery Fisher Prize, awarded to instrumentalists who have demonstrated "outstanding achievement and excellence in music." In May of that same year, she was awarded an honorary master of musical arts from the New Mexico State University, the first honorary degree the university has ever awarded. An American citizen, Salerno-Sonnenberg was born in Rome and emigrated to the United States at the age of eight to study at The Curtis Institute of Music. She later studied with Dorothy DeLay at The Juilliard School.

Tickets start at \$29, For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.gulfcoastsymphony.org or call 481-4849.3

is dedicated to engaging a special bond between people and animals by means of adoption services, medical care, education and training for the prevention of cruelty and abandonment. The shelter will provide a safe place where animals will receive the care they need and remain until they are placed in a qualified, forever home.

Sun Splash is located at 400 Santa Barbara Boulevard in Cape Coral. For more information on the shelter, visit www.capecoralanimalshelter.com.*

Shop For Success Event

More than 400 women shopped at Shop for Success, Dress for Success Southwest Florida's annual signature shopping event that took place last month at the Crowne Plaza Fort Myers at Bell Tower Shops. Shoppers purchased mostly new or gently used clothing and accessories collected from sponsors and the community. VIP tickets were sold out and lines formed before the sale opened.

Shop for Success featured more than 5,000 square feet of clothing in sizes 00 to 26 and accessories, including dresses, tops, pants, skirts, suits, jackets, shoes, handbags, scarves and jewelry, with prices starting at \$5. White House Black Market and Chico's were prominently featured as part of the sale. White House Black Market set up a department of new merchandise.

Some women who purchased clothing at Shop for Success told staff that they had experienced losses from Hurricane Irma. The purchases they made not only benefited Dress for Success Southwest Florida, but also helped these women begin to replace their wardrobes lost to the storm.

All proceeds from the events benefit Dress for Success Southwest Florida in its mission to jumpstart a woman's career by providing not only work appropriate attire through its Suits for Self Sufficiency program, but also education and training through its custom Women Empowered Through Employment Series (WETES).

Event sponsors include Dress for Success SW Florida founding sponsor White House Black Market, 31 Gifts, Card Systems, Conric PR & Marketing, Crowne Plaza Fort Myers at Bell Tower Shops, Frank & Sons Moving, Markham Norton Mosteller Wright & Company, PA, and Stevens Construction.



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Fort Myers Art: Popular Musical Breaks Theater's Fourth Wall



by Tom Hall

ew shows come to the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre (or any other venue, for that matter) with more anticipation or fanfare than Chicago. With still-timely songs and

libretto, groundbreaking choreography that pays homage to the great Bob Fosse, and a couple of powerful female leads who can both sing and dance, the musical has it all. It's no wonder that the six-time Emmy winner is the longest-running American musical in Broadway history. In fact, only *Phantom of the Opera* has had a longer run.

The musical is based on true, headline-grabbing murders and their corresponding trials that took place in Chicago in the 1920s. One murderous thread follows an aspiring vaudevillian by the name of Roxie Hart who is arrested for murdering her extramarital lover. The other focuses on Velma Kelly, a night club entertainer and double-murderess that Roxie meets in jail. Unaccustomed to sharing the spotlight with anyone, Velma does not take well to being upstaged by the spoiled, self-absorbed newcomer. Simmering emotion boils over when the feisty vixens fight for the spotlight after hiring the same cold-blooded criminal defense attorney, Billy Flynn.

Chicago runs from Saturday,



Chicago begins showing at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre on Saturday, December 30 photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

December 30 to Saturday, February 10. Visit www.broadwaypalm.com/shows/ chicago for more information.

Art Center Hosting Spirit Mask Workshop In January

Local artist Rose Young is holding a spirit mask workshop at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Wednesday, January 24. Learn the basics of tapestry weaving. Weave a 13-inch by 26-inch artwork. Interpret your inner spirit by creating a distinctive mask or bag. The loom and materials are yours to keep, which will allow you to continue weaving other projects at home, such as wall hangings, purses, table mats and wearable art. In addition to the loom, the \$20 kit fee includes tools, yarns, embellishments and written instructions.

Roseline Young has been teaching

art for more than three decades. Her forte is finding ways to integrate art into



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the community – by painting murals at libraries, hospitals and schools and creating installations and hanging artworks for galleries, festivals and museums. When it comes to fiber art, Rose thoroughly enjoys the interplay of threads, textures and color. She relishes creating fabrics with paint, dye, silk screen, heavy texture, weaving and dense quilting.

Young's work has been accepted into exhibits across the United States, Great

Call To Artists For Florida Juried Exhibition

he Alliance for the Arts is seeking Florida artists to submit their work to the annual All Florida Juried Exhibit. The show's opening reception is March 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. 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 1 to 3 artworks. All entries must be submitted online no later than April 29. Artists can download the prospectus and submit their work at www.artinlee.org/ AllFlorida18.

This year's juror is Mark Ormond. Ormond 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 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

Britain, China and Australia. Her largest work was an installation at the New Orleans International Airport. Notable, as well, was an ornament she created for the White House Christmas tree that is now in the Smithsonian's collection. In Louisiana, her work can be seen at the St. Bernard Public Library, New Orleans Juvenile Justice Building and numerous private collections. Florida Publix Supermarket is the recipient of six of Rose's community paintings, and Fort Myers recently installed a 6- by 60-foot artwork titled Currents at the Fort Myers Stars Complex.

Young has won numerous awards, sharing her expertise at conferences, workshops and classes at the Rose Line Weaving Studio in Cape Coral. She believes art can be a strong advocate for change in ways that words sometimes fail.

For more information n Rose Young and her artwork, visit www. RoseLineWeaving.webs.com.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in the downtown Fort Myers River District. For more information, call 333-1933 or visit www.sbdac.com.

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.举



Dragonfly Dreams

image provided

Thaddaeus Ropac in Paris, France, that closed January 7, 2017.

Ormond will be on hand to present awards including \$1,000 cash for Best In Show, a 2nd Place \$250 gift certificate for Golden Paints, \$100 cash for 3rd place and Jurors Choice Award(s) of Alliance for the Arts membership(s).

The exhibition is sponsored by Elemental Stone and Waterworks.

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

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Police Department Presents Holiday Gift



PACE Director Meg Geltner, far right, Chief Derrick Diggs, fourth from right, with members of FMPD and PACE students photo provided

n December 15, Chief Derrick Diggs and members of the Fort Myers Police Department presented PACE Center for Girls, Lee County with an early Christmas gift in the form of a \$13,000 check. Chief Diggs, in front of a conference room filled with PACE students and staff, handed over an enlarged check to PACE Executive Director Meg M. Geltner as title sponsor payment for PACE's Tides of Change fundraiser. "The Fort Myers Police Department is here today to recognize a successful partnership with PACE Center for Girls, Lee County, and we are proud to support a program of counselling and education for young girls and women in a safe and nurturing environment," said Chief Diggs. "This program keeps

girls out of the Juvenile Justice system, improves their academic performance and teaches girls how to make successful choices." "Our relationship with the Fort

Myers Police Department is invaluable to the success of our PACE girls, building positive impressions of law enforcement that reduces risk-taking behavior," said Geltner. "This generous gift reflects the deep commitment Chief Diggs and the FMPD has to our community and helps create a brighter future for our PACE girls."

Tides of Change was held on November 3 at Marine Max in Fort Myers and helped celebrate the Lee PACE Center's 10th anniversary serving the needs of young women.**

Airport News During Holidays

ee County Port Authority offices will be closed January 1 and 2 in observance of the New Year's holiday.

Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW) is expected to be busy during the lasy days of 2017. Arrive at least two hours prior to a domestic flight departure and three hours prior to an international flight.

Roads are busier during holidays, so allow extra time to get to the airport. To avoid congestion on local roadways,

From page 1 Reception

artist William Carlson and has pursued a career as a glass artist.

Tiemans eventually moved to Southwest Florida, raised a family and returned to his art by converting his garage into a studio space and beginning his new quest to create.

Of Tinkertoys and Crayons is a series of colorful, low relief mixed media pieces and loose, gestural pieces with penciled lines and splashes of color. use the I-75 Direct Connect to get to and from RSW.

Be ready to place all electronics larger than a cellphone in a bin for security screening. Visit the Transportation Security Administration's website at www.tsa.gov for tips about what you can and cannot bring through the security checkpoint.

RSW has plenty of on-airport parking.

If there is inclement weather forecasted at destination or connecting airports, travelers should check with their air carrier to see if there are any changes to their flight schedules. For more airport information, visit www.flylcpa.com.**

The Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild involves members that combine old-world craftsmanship with contemporary techniques to produce unique works of art. Mediums may include metal, glass, wood, stone, fiber, clay, jewelry, photography and mixed media. Visit www.swflfinecraftguild.org/ to learn more about the guild.

Both exhibitions will remain on display through January 29.

Arts for ACT Gallery is located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers.☆

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Along The River

If you didn't get a chance to view any special holiday displays the past few weeks, you still have a chance to get in the spirit.

Edison & Ford Winter Estates will offer **Holiday Nights** through New Year's Day. The winter homes, gardens, and historic buildings of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford are decorated with thousands of lights and traditional holiday decorations.

The Edison Ford Museum and Botanic Research Laboratory as well as the Ford Cottage Shoppe, Museum Store and Garden Shoppe will be open until 9 p.m. throughout Holiday Nights. The museum features two new exhibits: the Smithsonian Spark!Lab – hands-on, interactive, rotating stations with themes from vehicle construction to understanding sound waves – and the Timeline of Innovation – chronological exhibit on major invention from both Edison and Ford

Liquid Fireworks by Waltzing Waters, Inc. continues with a patriotic theme. The show runs 5:30 to 9 p.m. each evening and is included with Edison Ford Holiday Nights admission.

The final Lee County resident night is this Friday, December 29. With proof of residency, residents can receive \$5 off adult admission after 5:30 p.m.

Edison & Ford Winter Estates is located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For ticket prices and more information, visit www. edisonfordwinterestates or call 334-7419.

Fathom's Restaurant and Bar



Holiday Nights at Edison & Ford Winter Estates will be going on through New Year's Day photo provided

will host the monthly **Yappy Hour** this Friday, December 29 between 5 and 7 p.m. Proceeds from beer and wine sales go to the Cape Coral Animal Shelter to help fund the building of a shelter for pets in need.

Community members and their pets are welcome to attend the themed New



Year's Preview Party and enjoy an evening of outdoor entertainment by Remedy while raising funds for the nonprofit organization. Guests are welcome to dress up for the occasion with their best dog party outfits to begin an early celebration of 2018.

The Cape Coral Animal Shelter is currently fundraising to create a non-profit, no-kill animal shelter.

Fathom's Restaurant and Bar is located at 5785 Cape Harbour Drive in Cape Coral. For more information on the shelter, visit www.capecoralanimalshelter. com.

Kick off the old year with a few **New Year's Eve celebrations** this Sunday.

Symphony To Perform Beethoven Works

Southwest Florida Symphony will be performing three signature works from Beethoven during two shows on back-to-back nights.

For the Love of Beethoven will be part of the Shell Point Retirement Community's 2017-18 Concert Series at the Village Church on The Island at Shell Point on Thursday, January 11 beginning at 7:30 p.m. The symphony will then perform three signature works from Beethoven at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Friday, January 12 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Both concerts feature Conductor Nir Kabaretti and Jillian Prescott Music Awards winner Priscila Navarro on piano. The works include Beethoven: *Overture* to Coriolan, Beethoven: Symphony No. 1 and Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5 The Emperor.

The Village Church Auditorium at Shell Point is located at 15100 Shell Point Boulevard in Fort Myers. Visit The Downtown Countdown is a large outdoor party in the **historic River District of Fort Myers**. The celebration kicks off at 8 p.m. There will be a Junior Balloon Drop at 9 p.m. at the corner of First and Hendry streets with great giveaways for the kids. Live bands throughout the night include Electric Mudd, Ever Rock, Razing Cape and the featured U2 Tribute Band on five stages. There will be vendors, food and family fun all the way to midnight with a ball drop and fireworks show over the river.

The **Cape Harbour Marina** will host an annual event that features midnight fireworks and a 170-foot illuminated ball drop. There will be live music, food and drinks. The action begins at 9 p.m. and is free to attendees. The Marina at Cape Harbour is located at 5703 Cape Harbour Drive in Cape Coral. Visit www. capeharbour.com or call 541-1374 for more information.

Fort Myers Beach will hold its annual birthday party on New Year's Eve. At **Times Square**, there will be free cupcakes from noon to 1 p.m. and live music throughout the day. At midnight, there will also be a ball drop and fireworks off the pier at midnight.

Begin the new year with **Thank God for Indie Mondays** at the **Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center** on Monday, January 1. Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 p.m. with the show to start at 7 p.m.

Join host Eric Raddatz and co-host Melissa DeHaven, plus judges Kinfay Moroti, Joseph Pearson and Darrell Nutt to help judge film entries for the 2018 Fort Myers Film Festival. There will also be local indie music by Gabrielle A. Macafee and Nutt.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in the historic downtown Fort Myers River District. For more information, visit www. sbdac.com/special-events/ 🗱



Priscila Navarro photo provided www.shellpoint.org for more information and to purchase tickets.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in the historic downtown Fort Myers River District. Visit www.swflso.org for more information and to purchase tickets.*

Habitat Partners With U.S. Sugar To Raise Walls

Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties (Habitat) and U.S. Sugar partnered to raise the walls on an affordable house in Lee County. Early on a Saturday morning, U.S. Sugar employees volunteered alongside Habitat staff and the future Habitat homebuyer to raise the exterior house walls and transform the concrete slab to the framework of a home in just one morning. The three bedroom, two bathroom house will provide a family of four a safe, decent and affordable place to call home.

"Having a home of their own is an important step for most families, and the people of U.S. Sugar are proud to have helped this family build a better future," said Jennifer Black, community relations manager for U.S. Sugar. This will be the seventh Habitat home U.S. Sugar has sponsored and the first in Lee County. The other six Habitat homes were sponsored in Hendry County. U.S. Sugar has not only been generous with their funds but also with their time. U.S. Sugar employees have been on the home sites, raising walls, hammering nails, sweeping floors and contributing volunteer hours of their own.

Families partner with Habitat to earn and purchase a place to call home. Each Habitat homebuyer contributes 300 hours of sweat equity, takes financial literacy and home maintenance classes, pays \$1,700 towards closing cost, and purchases their Habitat home paying an affordable, monthly mortgage.

For more information about sponsoring a home contact Jennifer Hussey-Keene at JenniferK@ habitat4humanity.org or to volunteer contact Morgan Henderson at MorganH@habitat4humanity.org.☆



The team at U.S. Sugar volunteered with Habitat to raise the walls on a new affordable Habitat home in Lee County photo provided

Calusa Blueway Speaker Series Continues

Journalist and author Warren Richey will present Without a Paddle: Racing Twelve Hundred Miles Around Florida by Sea Kayak as the second talk in a series of free Calusa Blueway-related programs at the Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center on Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. .

Richey divides his time between Florida and Washington, D.C. In 2006, he entered the first Ultimate Florida Challenge, a 1,200-mile small boat race around Florida. Ten boats with only paddles and/or sails entered and seven finished. His account of that adventure became a published memoir Without a Paddle.

"I read Warren's book a few years ago and really enjoyed it," said Mike Hammond, Lee County Parks & Recreation's Calusa Blueway coordinator. "People will love hearing about Warren's epic adventures, the legendary WaterTribe races and what the mind goes through when you paddle 1,200 miles almost non-stop."

The remaining Calusa Blueway

Speaker Series talks at the center include: Parke Lewis - Paddling with the Calusa on February 6; and Tommy Thompson - Paddling Cuba on March 6.

The Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center is located at 16760 Bass Road in Fort Myers. For more information, contact Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center at 432-2154 or visit www. fortmyers-sanibel.com.☆





Child Artist Matthew Singleton creates Sparkly Night for the wine and food festival photos by Carol Orr Hartman and Amanda Hartman

ist.

Child Artists For Wine & Food Fest

cancer diagnosis impacts the entire family, and the beauty of a strong Sibling bond is reflected in the paintings of this year's child artists, Matthew Singleton, a five-year-old leukemia patient. and his six-year-old brother, Steven.

Matthew, who started remission in August 2015, is still undergoing treatment at Golisano Children's Hospital, yet he is like any other preschooler. With his brother providing that extra bit of courage, he is full of life, laughter and smiles. Together, they are up for any adventure,

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.simplysimple worship.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

including an upcoming appearance at the

Saturday, March 3 at Quail West Golf and

auction, guests will have the opportunity to

raise their paddles to donate in support of

Sparkly Night and Steven's artwork titled

Golden King were created in collaboration

with Child Art Mentor Jolie Black, whose

daughter, Sophia, was the 2015 child art-

SWFL Children's Charities, Inc.'s child

artist program celebrates the art of survival.

Each year, a young patient of Golisano Children's Hospital is selected to create a

one-of-a-kind work of art to be auctioned

the child artists. Matthew's artwork titled

Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest on

Country Club in Naples. During the live

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



Child Art Mentor Jolie Black with Steve and Lisa Singleton and 2018 Child Artists Steven and Matthew Singleton

off during the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest. The child artist program has raised more than \$1 million over the years, 100 percent of which benefits pediatric care at Golisano Children's Hospital. The art is traditionally donated back to the hospital, and all of the child artwork can be viewed on display there.

For the families of pediatric cancer patients, the initial cancer diagnosis brings about a whirlwind of change. The ability to access health care within Southwest Florida offers patients, parents and siblings a layer of stability, enabling them to remain in their homes, keeping families whole and support systems nearby.

'A child's cancer diagnosis is always a devastating shock to parents, and if a child has to be treated far from home, the family has to face separation or a move,

View Drive, lambofgodchurch.net, 267-3525. NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER Friday 6:30 and 7 p.m. 8505 Jenny Cae Lane, nbcministry@embargmail.com, facebook.com/nbcministry, 656-0416. **NEW COVENANT EYES** Monthly 9 a.m. 1900 Park Meadows Drive, newcovenanteyes.com, 220-8519. **NEW HOPE BAPTIST** Sunday 11 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 10, 985-8503. NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 10051 Plantation Road, www.newhopefortmyers.org, 274-1230. PEACE COMMUNITY Sunday 10:30 a.m. www. 17671 Pine Ridge Road, peacecommunitychurch.com, 267-7400 PEACE LUTHERAN Sunday 9:30 a.m. 15840 McGregor Boulevard, www.peaceftmyers.com, peace@ peaceftmvers.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**



Steven Singleton's artwork titled Golden King will also be featured at the live auction

which is difficult for the entire family," said Brooke Denson, co-chair and trustee, SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. "SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. is dedicated to helping Golisano Children's Hospital continue to fulfill this great need within the region, helping families take on cancer together through the provision of lifesaving care close to home.'

"If Matthew had to go to Tampa or Miami for treatment, we would have to move," said Matthew's mom, Lisa Singleton. "Golisano Children's Hospital has kept our family intact. Having this hospital nearby keeps life as normal as possible for Matthew and his brother."

SWFL Children's Charities, Inc., was the second largest donor to help build the new Golisano Children's Hospital, which opened last spring. It is the only children's hospital to serve the five-county region. Visit www.swflwinefest.org.☆

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.举

crow case of the Week: Ring-billed Gull



by Bob Petcher

Wing the difference between gulls, the ring-billed gull (*Larus delawarensis*) is the only species that has a dark ring on its bill. Simple as that. Compare it with the

Then describ-

laughing gull, herring gull and California gull.

The seabird is medium-sized, white colored on its head, body and tail and grayish on its wings. It also has yellow legs to match the color of its bill. Known as a social bird, this gull is said to be the most common of its species in the country. The scavenger can be found looking for food in parking lots, landfills, beaches or any place that may contain trash cans.

At CROW, an adult ring-billed gull was admitted after it was reportedly found standing in the road by Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers. According to the finder, it appeared to be dazed and very weak. It could barely walk and did not attempt to fly away when approached.

During its intake examination, the patient was treated for suspected brevetoxicosis, more commonly known as red-tide poisoning. While a blood test from an outside laboratory could confirm such diagnosis, CROW medical staff elected to go with suspicions since many other like cases were currently being treated. "We did not send out a sample for analysis in this case since its clinical signs were consistent with brevetoxicosis, the levels of brevetoxin in local waters are elevated, and we are treating several other patients in hospital right now for brevetoxicosis," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW veterinary intern.

During tests, veterinarians found the gull to have a very poor body condition score and to be dehydrated. It also showed signs of generalized weakness including bilateral wing droop and "hock-walking" when it attempts to stand.

"Body condition score is a way to visually assess the patient's overall condition by taking into account how much muscle and fat they have," Dr. Bast explained.

"The scoring system we use here in birds particularly focuses on assessing how much pectoral muscle mass is present over the keel bone, and it ranges from 1 to 5 with 1 being emaciated and 5 being over-conditioned. An ideal body condition score is 3 out of 5.

"In this case, the bird was showing clinical signs related to generalized weakness. We tend to see shorebirds and gulls affected by brevetoxicosis come in with generalized weakness, sometimes being unable to hold their wings against their body in a normal position, or not having the strength to stand. However, these clinical signs may also be seen with other scenarios."

The gull was given subcutaneous fluids – fluids into the space under the skin from where it can be slowly absorbed into the blood and body – and started on a re-feeding plan.

"Due to its debilitated state, we fed the bird a specially formulated diet for recovery



Patient #17-4114 received a clean bill of health and a clinic release for Christmas

called LaFeber's Piscivore Care for the first couple of days and gradually increased the amount of calories it received," said Dr. Bast. "Then, it was offered smelt – small whole fish – in increasing amounts so it could gradually put on weight without any negative effects. Due to its thin body condition when it came in, we were concerned it could develop re-feeding syndrome. This syndrome occurs when there is a sudden shift in metabolism, which can result in life-threatening electrolyte abnormalities. This patient did well with its feeding plan and did not get re-feeding syndrome."

After a week of recovery, the gull was moved to an outside enclosure for further rehabilitation on December 21. It took short flights at first and built enough endurance to take longer flights prior to release on Christmas Day.

photo by Brian Bohlman

"The gull was released along with two double crested cormorants also recovering from brevitoxicosis on Monday, December 25," said 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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Christmas Warm Up



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

A fter a few cold days, temperatures slowly rebounded and fishing kicked into high gear. Snook and trout were my target species this week and provided my clients with some great December action. Shiners reappeared on the causeway bridges, and it was basically business as usual chumming live baits and catching lots of fish. To have a week of 80 degree-plus temperatures is a real reminder why we enjoy December in southwest Florida.

Large mangrove creek mouths and the deeper

shorelines just inside that had a strong moving current and provided an often nonstop snook bite this week. Add a few scoops of live shiners to chum and not only snook but trout, grouper, jacks and mangrove snapper all quickly came to life. During the big morning low tides, these deeper shorelines were almost the only place to fish as many of my regular fishing spots were just not accessible.

Warming water temperatures was bad news for sheepshead anglers with most of these fish just disappearing, even from areas around the passes. We are still early for the sheepshead bite to kick into full swing with February and March being prime-time spawning months for the bigger fish. Small mangrove snapper moved into many of the places we target sheepshead and made it just about impossible to catch any other species as they are in such huge numbers.

Trout fishing in some of the more sheltered bays including McIntyre Creek and the Wulfert Keys area had some of the most nonstop trout action I have experienced so far this winter. Live shrimp on a popping cork rig caught as many trout as anglers could take. This crazy bite came in the sandy edges of the shallow bars during the low incoming tide. Once we found the depth these trout where hanging out in, we were able to catch them on almost every cast. Most of these fish are under the 15-inch minimum though a few were as large as 18 inches where caught. There is not a better way to keep a boat full of kids entertained than this action. Within an hour, we had a nice cooler full of trout.

With outstanding weather for Christmas week in the forecast, it's going to be a very busy week out on the water. I can't think of a better thing to do with out-of-town visitors than take them out on the water or to the beach and enjoy our Florida sunshine.

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.*



Kathy from Upstate Michigan escaped the snow and caught and released some snook with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided



American Black Nightshade

by Gerri Reaves

A (Solanum americanum) is one of only two nightshades native to Florida and is found throughout the state.

It is a member of the potato family, which includes many common foods, such as tomatoes, peppers, tomatillos and eggplant.

The beautiful iridescent purple-black fruit give the plant another common name, glossy American nightshade. It's also known as common black nightshade because it's so widespread in the U.S.

Open-branched with slender stems, it grows one to four feet tall.

The alternate leaves vary in shape, from lance-like to oval to triangular, and are bluntly or subtly lobed, if at all. The edges can be wavy or smooth.

Three to five drooping white flowers emerge in the leaf axils in an umbel cluster, meaning that the berry stems derive from a common center (think umbrella).

Each flower is about one-third of an inch across with five petals that arch away from prominent yellow anthers.

The unripe berries are green with white flecks and then ripen to a deep purple-black, each one containing 40 to 110 seeds. They measure about one-third of an inch in diameter.

The plant flowers and fruits throughout



American black nightshade's iridescent berries ripen from green with white specks to deep purple black

photos by Gerri Reaves

the year.

Fast-growing, albeit short-lived, it is easy to propagate with seeds or cuttings.

It's also adaptable to various habitats in the wild and in cultivation and is wildlife friendly. Rufino Osorio notes that 31 bird species and a dozen mammals are known to consume the fleshy fruit.

Also, the structure of the flowers, with the prominent central column of yellow anthers, make it particularly accessible to a variety of pollinators.

This adaptable species takes root almost anywhere. The fibrous root system and slender tap root can help to stabilize soil and prevent erosion.

For all its beauty, however, nightshade is usually considered a weed and/or toxic plant to avoid or eradicate.



The star-like flowers have curved-back petals and protruding stamens

The terms "deadly nightshade" and belladonna are alarming, but those terms refer to non-native climbing nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*), which is well known for its toxicity. (That species has red berries and bluish flowers, so it's easy to distinguish from Amercian black nightshade.)

For the safety of pets and children, consider removing all nightshade species from your yard. On the other hand, it's useful to know that nightshades are not equally toxic. In fact, scientists differ widely on just how toxic American black nightshade is. It has been cultivated as food in some parts of the world and is loaded with nutrients.

One generally agreed-upon fact is that the unripe berries are toxic, the ripe ones edible. Err on the side of caution and, if in any doubt, just don't sample the fruit.

External medicinal uses for this herb's leaves include easing pain, reducing inflammation and treating burns and ulcers. Leaf juice is used to treat ringworm, gou, and earaches.

Sources: American Black Nightshade by Rufino Osorio, Florida Wildflowers and Roadside Plants by C. Ritchie Bell and Bryan J. Taylor, The Guide to Florida Wildflowers by Walter Kingsley Taylor and National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida by Peter Alden et al., Wild Plants for Survival in South Florida by Julia F. Morton, www. eattheweeds.com, www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu, and www.wildsouthflorida.com.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.☆



Grouper Harvest Closures Begin January 1

Gag grouper will close to recreational harvest in Gulf state and federal waters on January 1. The same day, several species of grouper will also close to recreational and commercial harvest in Florida state waters of the Atlantic and all state waters off Monroe County. This seasonal closure includes gag, black, red, yellowmouth, and yellowfin grouper, scamp, red hind, rock hind, coney and graysby.

State waters in the Atlantic are from shore out to 3 nautical miles. State waters off Monroe County extend to 3 nautical miles in the Atlantic and out to 9 nautical miles in the Gulf. Federal waters begin where state waters end and extend to 200 nautical miles.

For gag grouper, state waters off Franklin, Wakulla, Taylor and Jefferson counties will reopen to harvest April 1 through June 30 and Sept. 1 through December 31. All other Gulf state waters (except waters off Monroe County, which follows the Atlantic state season) and all Gulf federal waters will reopen June 1 through December 31.

Several species of grouper, including gag, will remain closed in Atlantic state waters and off Monroe County through April 30, reopening May 1. The harvest closure was established to ensure the long-term sustainability of Atlantic grouper species by protecting them during their spawning season. A similar closure will also occur in federal waters of the Atlantic.

Grouper information, including Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico grouper regulations, is available at www.myfwc. com/fishing. Select "Saltwater Fishing" then "Recreational Regulations" and "Groupers."

Gray Triggerfish Harvest Reopens On March 1

Recreational harvest of gray triggerfish will remain closed in gulf state and federal waters through February 28 and reopen March 1. The season will also close June 1 through July 31.

When the season reopens, the daily recreational bag limit will be one fish per person (lowered from two fish earlier this year), and the minimum size limit will be 15 inches fork length (increased from 14 inches fork length earlier this year). Similar changes were approved for Gulf federal waters.

These changes should help maintain fishing opportunities for gray triggerfish in state and federal waters for 2018 and the future.

For more information on gray triggerfish, visit MyFWC.com/ Fishing and click on Saltwater Fishing, Recreational Regulations and Triggerfish.**



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Public Input Sought For Agri-Eco Park

ee County officials will hold an informal open house to view 3D drawings of Joel Agri-Eco Park at the Bayshore Fire Protection and Rescue Service District on Wednesday, January 10 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Plans call for the proposed 30-acre park located off Joel Boulevard, about 1.5 miles south of Palm Beach Boulevard in eastern Lee County to embody two prevailing themes: agricultural and ecological. The agricultural component comprises demonstration plots where visitors will learn firsthand how to use agriculture in urban or suburban settings. Additionally, it contains an outdoor classroom and shade house. The ecological component comprises areas where visitors will learn about pine flatwoods, meadow and littoral ecosystems. Other proposed park amenities include multi-use and primitive trails, shaded picnic areas, restrooms and on-site parking. Bayshore Fire Protection and Rescue

Bayshore Fire Protection and Rescue Service District is located at 17350 Nalle Road in North Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.LeeParks.org or call 533-7275. To request aid or service to participate, contact Joan LaGuardia at 533-2314, Florida Relay Service 711, or jlaguardia@leegov.com.**

Lionfish Removal Incentive Program

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) gratefully acknowledged \$25,000 in charitable donations from six generous sponsors during a recent commission meeting. These funds will go to the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida and will be used as cash prizes for a new and novel lionfish removal incentive program, rewarding harvesters who find and remove lionfish previously tagged by FWC staff.

Lionfish are a nonnative invasive species that can reduce native fish populations and negatively affect the overall reef habitat.

This program will run from May 19 through September 3 and will coincide with the annual summer-long Lionfish Challenge, which rewards recreational and commercial lionfish harvesters with prizes for submitting their lionfish removal efforts.

"The FWC could not be more thankful and excited about the rallying efforts to draw attention to the important lionfish issue," said FWC Commissioner Bo Rivard. "The control of nonnative lionfish populations has always been a group effort, and what these companies and organizations came forward with to help encourage removals is simply outstanding."

The following companies and organizations made contributions at the December meeting: American Sportfishing Association; Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A.; Boat Owners Association of the United States; National Marine Manufacturers Association; Coastal Conservation Association Florida; and Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County, Inc.

The goal of the 2018 tagged-lionfish removal program is to increase statewide removal efforts by giving divers a greater incentive to harvest lionfish more often while in search of the valuable tagged fish. Additional non-cash prizes are also available for those who harvest and submit a tagged lionfish. The program also will provide FWC with valuable data on the movement of lionfish.

Approximately six to eight lionfish will be tagged at each of 50 randomly selected public artificial reef sites throughout the Atlantic and Gulf between the depths of 80 and 120 feet. Participants will have access to the reef locations at www.reefrangers. com.

Sportsman National Seminar Series To Begin

The Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series will open its 2018 tour with a return to Fort Myers at Florida Gulf Coast University's Cohen Center on Saturday, January 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The National Seminar Series is the nation's longest-running and most popular educational course on recreational marine fishing tactics and techniques. The tour is presented by Bass Pro Shops and hosted by George Poveromo, of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on the NBC Sports Network. The series will involve expert instruction

The series will involve expert instruction for anglers of all experience levels. Each presentation on the eight-city tour is geared to the how-tos and where-tos of catching saltwater fish in that region inshore, near shore and offshore. Courses at the Fort Myers event will focus on fishing local areas for redfish, snook and tarpon; new pass tactics for bigger snook; secrets of sight-fishing for cobia; wreck fishing; groupers and snappers; offshore trolling along Southwest Florida: and more.

trolling along Southwest Florida; and more. Teams of top local pros and nationallyrecognized saltwater angling authorities serve as the faculty at each seminar.

Participants at the Fort Myers seminar will also receive admission to an after party at the local Bass Pro Shop from 5 to 9 p.m. Here, anglers can mingle with Poveromo and select presenters, get personalized tips and tricks, and browse the latest products. Complimentary food, refreshments and live music will be provided. All attendees can bring one guest.

Cost is \$55 and covers five hours of instruction from the best in the business, a new course textbook, a one-year subscription to *Salt Water Sportsman* magazine and a considerable selection of gifts and gear.

There will also be door prizes with the grand prize being a Florida Keys fishing trip and the series' grand prize a new Mako Pro Skiff 17 CC boat.

The Florida Gulf Coast University's Cohen Center is located at 10501 FGCU Boulevard South. For more information or registration, call 800-448-7360 or visit www.nationalseminarseries.com.**

New Member On Symphony Board



Jovana Batkovic

photo provided

Jovana Batkovic has become the newest and youngest board member of the Southwest Florida Symphony, Lee County's only professional orchestra and one of the oldest on Florida's Gulf Coast.

Born in Sarajevo, Bosnia, Batkovic arrived in Cleveland in 1997 at the age of 17 after living as a post-Bosnian war refugee with her family in Germany for five years. She relocated to Florida five years ago. She and her partner, Greg Gebhard, opened their restaurant, Nice Guys Pizza, in Downtown Cape Coral; an area they feel has big potential for growth.

Being a member of the board for the symphony is something that Batkovic, 38, places great importance on. "There is a perception that in order to enjoy the symphony, you must be a certain age or social class. It is my hope that I can make it more accessible and less intimidating to younger generations. I was a singer in a post-punk band until 6 years ago, but I also happen to love attending symphony concerts. I am honored to do everything I can to help the Southwest Florida Symphony sustain and expand," said Batkovic.

Coming up on January 6, the symphony presents, Pianorama, conducted by famed Maestro Nir Kabaretti. This concert features the music of de Falla, Mozart and Tchaikovsky. Batkovic and Gebhard are hosting pre- and post-concert events at Nice Guys. Concertgoers can grab a bite to eat before the concert, then participate in an air-piano contest at Nice Guys after experiencing four acclaimed classical pianists performing "the real thing" at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. Tickets for the concert can be purchased at Nice Guys, by calling the box office at 418-1500, or by visiting the website, www.swflso.org. Those interested in competing in the air-piano competition can register to participate at Nice Guys. Contest winners will receive Nice Guys and Southwest Florida Symphony t-shirts in addition to a gift certificate to Nice Guys and vouchers to attend future Southwest Florida Symphony concerts.

Nice Guys Pizza is located at 1334 Cape Coral Parkway East in Cape Coral 🌣

Above Board Chamber Meeting Nears

A bove Board Chamber of Florida will present its next luncheon meetings topic Your Company's Advertising Strategy for 2018! at Hilton Naples on Monday, January 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and at Pelican Preserve Town Center on Thursday, January 11 at the same time. Each meeting will bring together panels of advertising executives who will help you decide if your company needs help with your advertising strategy or should you go at it alone. The panel will discuss tips on how to place your ad dollars in the right places.

The Fort Myers meeting will be emceed by Bill Barker, The West Florida Regional President of Gannett Company as well as publisher and president of the *Naples Daily News* and *The News-Press*, and feature a panel including Lisa O'Neil, marketing and brand development at Lee Health; Lynn Schneider, director of marketing & communications at Shell Point Retirement Community; Vicki Moreland, director of communications & marketing at Lee County Port Authority; and Joshua Savage, marketing account manager at CONRIC PR & Marketing.

The Naples meeting will be emceed

by Amy Oshier, news anchor for Naples Daily News, and feature a panel including Trish Leonard, owner/president of TLC Marketing & Creative Services; Dr. Jaclynn Faffer, president/CEO Jewish Family and Community Services of Southwest Florida; and LaShaun Collier, consultant at FSBDC at Florida Gulf Coast University Lutgert College of Business.

For Naples lunch, registration on or before January 2 will be \$25 for members, \$30 for guests. For Fort Myers lunch, registration on or before January 4 will be \$25 for members, \$30 for guests. Reservations are required at www. aboveboardchamber.com.

The Fort Myers meeting will be sponsored by Tri-Town Construction and Chapman Insurance Group. The Naples meeting will be sponsored by Brandie Dickerson at Tri-Town Construction and John Huttner at Hollinger Jobs.

Non-members are encouraged to attend two meetings, then consider joining to be part of the Above Board Chamber of Florida.

Hilton Naples is located at 5111 Tamiami Trail North in Naples. Pelican Preserve Town Center is located at 10561 Veneto Drive in Fort Myers. For more information on the event or on how to become a member of the Above Board Chamber, contact Jeanne Sweeney at 910-7426 or visit www. aboveboardchamber.com.**



DAILY CRAFTS & TANK TALKS



3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road
 Sanibel Island, Florida 33957
 (239) 395-2233

Open Daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. www.ShellMuseum.org



Bank Of The **Islands** Your Island Bank



Bank Promotion

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank has promoted Keegan Power to assistant manager at its McGregor branch. He will assist with daily operations and customer relationships, including business and consumer banking.

Power joined the bank in 2014 as a customer service representative and has six years of banking experience in Southwest Florida. A Fort Myers resident, Power is originally from Ontario, Canada and is an active member of the Fort Myers Skatium men's recreational hockey league.

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.☆

Superior Interiors Storage Systems Promote Healthier Living



by Barb Cacchione

s you are gearing up to spend more time inside your home, this might be a good time to think about organization. It also might be a time to follow up on one of your New Year's resolutions.

"Getting organized" is said to be the second most possible vow made when the year turns to a new one. So, you can either complete the resolution you made or get a head start on next year's.

As a little more incentive, here's a list of some of the benefits you will gain from tackling that chore:

You will be able to relax more. I've read that we often waste two hours in a single day looking for something. Organization can help you find things faster.

You'll feel better about your home You'll be healthier by reducing stress.

You'll be a better role model for others.

You'll save money because many purchases actually never get used because they can't be found once they're brought home. You will buy items that you have place for.

Start with your bedroom. Shouldn't you have a closet that makes you feel better at the start and end of every day? Then look at your entry way - the one you use most often. How does that make you feel every time you use it? Then move on to your pantry, laundry, each bedroom, the garage, etc. View them each as an opportunity to make you feel better. A time to purge.

There are sources for help. Today, there are closet, shelving and storage systems that will fit anywhere in the



photo provided

home or office. And they don't have to be ordinary. There are inspirational designs for every room or space. The combinations are limitless, and there are extensive, stylish design options ranging from traditional to contemporary.

We use systems that provide us the ability to adapt to every need. The endless configuration options achieve multiple uses such as room dividers, a display system, shelving, storage or a fabulous walk-in closet. Whatever the space, we can create a personalized furniture system just for you.

Tight on space? Systems like these can help you transform any space into one that is not only functional, but looks great too. Whether it be a space to entertain the family, putting space under a staircase to good use, or a place for display, there is a system that will work.

While there are websites that can help you and there are some systems that can be designed and installed by the more accomplished do-it-yourselfers, you might find it advantageous to use a professional.

Before that decision, however, you'll need to give some thought to such factors as: Are there seasonal changes in the contents to be stored? Are there bulky items? For closets, do you want shoes on the floor or on shelves? Are you aiming to store smaller items like jewelry?

Then there are the measurements: Measure how much space your clothes take up now. Measure both the front and back dimensions of a closet. Be sure to account for the baseboard and any inside trim. Like the proverb says: Measure twice, cut once.

If you do work with a professional, be sure to have a clear understanding of such things as who will move the contents out of the space being re-done? Who will remove any current molding, baseboard, etc. and repair the damage? In other words, who will get it ready for the installation?

It may seem daunting, but remember those benefits. And you won't have to make getting organized one of your resolutions for the New Year.

Barb Cacchione is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at barb@ coindecden.com.☆

Public Relations Accreditation

isa Wilson, APR, of the Southwest Florida Chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) recently earned professional public relations accreditation and received the designation of Accredited in Public Relations (APR).

Wilson joins the more than 4,300 active public relations professionals worldwide who represent an elite group of skilled professionals committed to practicing with high ethical standards, including 33 currently in Southwest Florida.

Wilson has 17 years of public relations and marketing experience, including five at local advertising agencies. She currently is responsible for public relations and advertising at Edison & Ford Winter Estates. Originally from Pittsburgh, she earned a master of business administration from Point Park University and holds a certificate in social media marketing from Florida Gulf Coast University. She's involved in the community as the social media chair for FPRA's Southwest Florida chapter and as a volunteer for Haven on Earth Animal League, a Fort Myers cat rescue organization.

To earn public relations accreditation, candidates must pass an oral presentation and rigorous written

Officers Elected For CAI Group

he Southwest Florida Chapter of Community Associations Institute (CAI) announced its 2018 officers and board of directors at the chapter's annual meeting. Sarah Spector, Ésq. with Roetzel & Andres, will serve as president, while Scott P. Gregory with BB&T Insurance serving as past president. Gregory was also awarded Board Member of the Year for 2017.

Paul Feuer with Village Walk of Naples, Roy Hyman with KW Property Management, Judy Mahafey with Villa Palmeras and Bill White, the Professional Community Association Manager, will join the board. Board members continuing to serve through their terms include: Doug Ship with IRMS, Marie Martel with Alliant Management, Randy Resch, community volunteer, and Lee Dixon, CAM with Turtle Lake Golf Colony.

South Gulf Coast Chapter of CAI covers Collier, Lee and Charlotte

Gulf Coast Writers Contest

he Gulf Coast Writers Association is accepting submissions for its annual writing contest until January 31. The contest is open to members and the general public for fiction, nonfiction, poetry or children's story submissions.



Lisa Wilson

photo provided

examination administered by the Universal Accreditation Board (UAB). which is an alliance of eight national and statewide professional associations dedicated to furthering the field of public relations and the development of public relations professionals. FPRA is a member of the UAB.

Established in 1938, the Florida Public Relations Association is the oldest public relations organization in the United States. For more information, visit www.fpraswfl.org or Like Us on Facebook. 袋



Sarah Spector photo provided Counties with a membership of over 400.

For more information, visit www. caionline.org.举

The word count for fiction, nonfiction and children's stories is 1,500 words maximum. For poetry, there is a maximum of 40 lines.

All winning submissions will be published online and possibly in the Ft. Myers Magazine. The three top entries in each category will receive a cash reward. For specific guidelines, visit www. gulfwriters.org.☆

Child Charity Group Hosts Signature Vintner Dinner For Wine & Food Fest

WFL Children's Charities, Inc. recently hosted its Signature Vintner Dinner, honoring Barbara Banke of Jackson Family Wines as the Honored Signature Vintner of the 2018 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest. Erik Ackerman, vice president of The Spire Collection, represented Jackson Family Wines at the event, introducing a selection of wines from Jackson Family's portfolio of esteemed wineries to be paired with the culinary talents of Chef William Vasseur of Quail West Golf and Country Club. The two-day 2018 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest will take place March 2 and 3 at Quail West Golf and Country Club.³





From left, Erik Ackerman with Vicki and Richard Pitbladdo photos provided



From left, Sandy Stilwell-Youngquist, Brooke Denson and Maria Wiles



Brian and Sonya Sawyer





Jenn and Joe Pavich



From left, Bev and Art Cherry with Christin Collins



From left, Fred Hawkins, Patrick Denson, Dr. Michael Martin, Richard Pitbladdo, Sandy Stilwell-Youngquist and Tim Youngquist



From left, Pam and Chris Simoneau with David Collins and Dave Copham



From left, Doug Meurer and Gail Markham with Angela and Todd Gates



From left, Don Vogt, Richard Pitbladdo, Wayne Wiles and Erik Ackerman



From left, Jan-Erik Hustrulid, Kevin Shimp, Kathryn Kelly, Bryan Filson and Armando LLechu photos provided

New Officers And Board Members At Heights

The Heights Foundation and The Heights Center, non-profit organizations that work to build strong, self-sufficient families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood, recently announced new officers and welcomed four new members to their board of directors.

Jan-Erik Hustrulid, business development coordinator at Owen-Ames-Kimball Company, was reelected chair of the board. Kenny Brewer, manager, Non-Merchandise Procurement at Chico's FAS, Inc., was elected vice chair, and Susan Ryan, chief financial officer at Canterbury School, was reelected secretary/treasurer.

Four new members have been selected to serve on the board of directors. The new members are Jim Dwyer, vice president, strategic development, Interop Technologies; Bryan Filson, financial planner, CRPS with Mutual of Omaha; Armando Llechu, chief administrative officer for Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, and Kevin Shimp, president, Thomas Marine Construction.

Returning board members include Tracie Bagans, Cindie Barker, Richard Fain, John Grey, Luis Insignares, Li-Su H. Javedan, Teri Palmer, Richard Pitbladdo, Steven Sizemore and Terri Wade.



Jim Dwyer

"Serving on the board of thriving nonprofits like The Heights Foundation and the Heights Center requires dedication, time and a commitment to improving the community," said Heights Foundation President and CEO Kathryn Kelly. "We are grateful to our new, current and past board members for providing their time and talents to make a positive impact on the lives of families in Harlem Heights."

For more information about The Heights Foundation and The Heights Center visit www.heightsfoundation.org or call 482-7706.**

Financial Focus When Do You Need A Financial Advisor?

by Jennifer Basey



I you could accomplish all your financial goals just by putting your paycheck into the bank every couple of weeks, you wouldn't need the services of a financial advisor.

But life isn't that simple – and so, at some point, you may realize you need some professional assistance. But when?

Actually, you might benefit from the services of a financial advisor during many life events, including the following:

Starting your career – When you're starting out in your career, you may encounter several questions related to your benefits package. Should you contribute to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored plan? If so, how much, and where should you invest your money? Are the life and disability insurance policies offered by your employer sufficient for your needs? A financial advisor can help you answer these and other questions you may have.

Getting married – When you get married, you'll have to decide if, and how, you want to combine your finances. Also, you and your spouse may have different attitudes about investing and different tolerances for risk. A financial professional can help you find common ground.

you find common ground. Changing jobs – When you switch jobs, what should you do with your old employer's retirement plan? And how should you invest in the plan offered by your new employer? As was the case when you first began your career, you may find that a financial professional can help you make the right choices. Facing a layoff or buyout – You may never go through a layoff, or take a buyout offer from an employer – but if either of these events happen, you will face some financial decisions. And during such a potentially stressful period, you may be tempted to make some financial moves that won't be beneficial. A financial advisor can suggest some strategies that may help you keep your investment situation relatively intact until you land your next job.

Saving for college – If you have children whom you'd like to send to college someday, you'll probably want to start putting money away as early as possible. A financial professional can show you the various college-savings vehicles and help you choose the ones that are most appropriate for your needs.

Getting divorced – If you are fortunate, you won't ever experience a divorce, but, if it does happen, you'll want to get the professional assistance necessary to ensure fair outcomes for everyone. You'll obviously need to work with an attorney, but you may find that, in the area of investments, a financial advisor also can be useful.

Entering retirement – As you near retirement, your key questions will switch – but not entirely – from putting money in to taking money out. How much can you withdraw each year from your 401(k) and IRA without running the risk of outliving your resources? When should you start taking Social Security? If you were to work a couple of years longer than you had originally intended, how would it affect your withdrawal strategies? Again, a financial advisor can help you with these issues.

As you can see, most important life events will carry some financial concerns. But you don't have to face these challenges alone – and by getting the help you need, when you need it, you can ease the transition from one stage of life to another.

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.☆

Real Estate Group To Meet

Southwest Florida's Real Estate Investment Society (REIS) will look at the latest tourism trends and promotional strategies and their importance to economic development at the group's luncheon meeting on Tuesday, January 9. Sponsored by GHD Services, the meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the Osprey Room at Pelican Preserve's Clubhouse

Tamara Pigott, executive director of Lee County's Visitor & Convention Bureau, will be the guest speaker. Tourism is a primary component of the region's economy and a major catalyst for population growth and real estate development. Director Pigott will be addressing the key issues now facing the industry, including crisis management strategies, international markets, eco-tourism, airline expansion and beach re-nourishment. Following the presentation, she will respond to questions of specific interest to the real estate and business community.

Admission is \$30 for members and \$40 for guests, which includes lunch. Reservations are required by Thursday, January 4 and may be made online at www.reis-swfl.org.

Pelican Preserve's Clubhouse is located at 9802 Pelican Preserve Boulevard in Fort Myers. For further program information, call Alexis Crespo at 504-7777.

Airport Reports November Traffic

Display the passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport in Fort Myers, an increase of 5.4 percent compared to November 2016. Year-to-date, passenger traffic is up 2.6 percent from the same period last year.

The traffic leader in November was Southwest with 147,420 passengers traveling to and from Fort Myers. Rounding out the top five airlines were Delta Air Lines (122,900), American (112,620), JetBlue (106,422) and Spirit

(81,373).

Southwest Florida International Airport had 6,983 aircraft operations, an increase of 3.5 percent compared to November 2016. Page Field saw 7,781 operations, a 25 percent decrease from November 2016. In addition, more than 2.9 million pounds of air freight moved through Southwest Florida International Airport in November 2017.

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

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

ear Readers. Happy New Year! I am passing along this wonderful poem (again) with excellent New Year's

Resolutions for parenting. These suggestions are worth considering.

Parental New Year's Resolutions by Dr. Alex Thomas

Well, it is time for Parental New Year's Resolutions. Pick any five from the suggestions below and, if you are still following them when the school year ends, you probably will see improvement in your child's school performance and/or behavior around the home as well as within your relationship.

I resolve to provide a regular daily or weekly chore for my child and will assure that it is completed on time.

I resolve that I will cut our junk food budget, including soda, by 25 percent. I resolve to see to it that my child will

complete all tasks that are started. I resolve that my child will not easily quit a team or club once it is joined, or quit music or other lessons once

started.

I resolve that no more than two

meals a week will be eaten in front of the television.

I resolve to allow my child the opportunity to deal with failure and frustration without interfering, providing support but not excuses.

I resolve that my child will spend no more than 20 hours a week watching television.

I resolve that my child will spend at least one half hour, at a designated spot and time, on homework or reading, every school night.

I resolve to see to it, by providing incentives if necessary, that my child reads independently, even if the reading includes comics, sports pages, or romance books.

I resolve to say at least two positive things to my child every day.

I resolve to make the opportunity, weekly, to spend at least a half hour with my child on some mutually needed activity (shopping, dishes, working on the car).

I resolve to lower my NQ (Nagging Quotient) and act instead of yak.

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.

Book Review The Lying Game

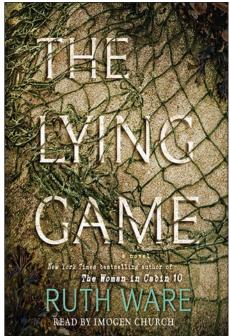


uth Ware's latest Suspense novel, The Lying Game, is about four old school friends bound together by a terrible secret that they have been carrying for years. The secret is

about to be revealed when three of them receive a text that simply reads, "I need you." The next morning the three head for the coastal village of Salten, where they were best friends 15 years earlier at a second-rate boarding school near the cliffs of the English Channel.

Fatima, Thea, Isa and Kate were inseparable and were also notorious for playing what they called the Lying Game, telling lies at every turn to both fellow boarders and faculty. Their school days ended in tragedy and scandal, and they were expelled. Now they are returning because a bone has been found in the marshes, and they know more about the body than they should.

In their younger days, the girls competed with each other by telling outrageous untruths. Now they may have to resort to lying in order to survive. All four need to get their stories straight before they say too much. Isa is



a 32-year-old lawyer and new mother. She appears to be the main character but all four of the girls play their part. They discover that their little game had consequences and, as they converge to present-day Salten, they realize their shared past was not as safely buried as they had once hoped.

The Lying Game is told in Ruth Ware's signature suspenseful style just like The Woman in Cabin 10. It's another unputdownable gripping thriller from an author called the Agatha Christie of our time.容

Trustees Named For Wine & Food Fest Fundraiser

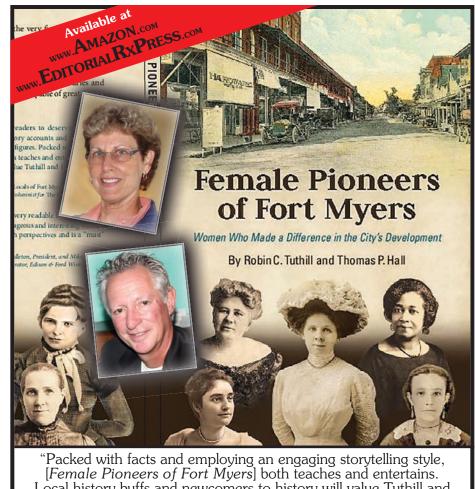
he 2017-18 trustees were recently named for the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest, the annual signature fundraising event for SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. Dedicated to supporting the organization's mission to advance pediatric health care and health sciences in Southwest Florida, the 2017-2018 trustees include Bev and Art Cherry, Christin and David Collins, Cheryl and Dave Copham, Brooke and Patrick Denson, Pat and Dave Gibbons, Elaine and Fred Hawkins, Julie and Skip Leonard, Vicki and Richard Pitbladdo, Kelly and Jason Stephens, Debbie and Bill Toler, Andie and Don Vogt, Maria and Wayne Wiles, and Sandy Stilwell-Youngquist and Tim Youngquist.

Trustees profoundly impact the lives and health of children within the region through their support. These individuals are responsible for supporting SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. and its annual signature event, the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest, in a number of ways, including through serving as vintner dinners hosts for the event, donating wine, serving on committees for various aspects of the two-day event as well as underwriting the cost of the event.

"Trustees are the driving force behind SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. and the continued success of the Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest," said Elaine Hawkins, trustee and president of the board of directors, SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. "Each year, these special individuals dedicate their time and talent to put on a spectacular fundraising event, sharing their passion for philanthropy as we work toward a common goal of enriching the future of health care for our community.

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 Road in Naples. One hundred percent of monies raised at the auction will benefit SWFL Children's Charities, Inc.'s local beneficiaries, including Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida SouthWestern State College, PACE Center for Girls of Lee County, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, SalusCare, Inc. and The Heights Foundation.

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



Local history buffs and newcomers to history will value Tuthill and Hall's research and appreciate the accessible format, too.

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

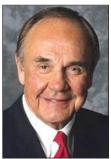
Oh My – The Sports World And Far Beyond Will Miss Dick Enberg



by Ed Frank

The word ego was abhorrent to the famed sports broadcaster Dick Enberg who died last week at the age of 82 of an apparent heart attack.

Kind, thoughtful and so very humble, Enberg proved to the world of sports that "nice guys" can finish first for indeed there has never been a sports personality more beloved, not only by his colleagues in the broadcasting booth, but by thousands of athletes on the field.



Football, basketball, baseball, golf, Wimbledon, Enberg covered them all with grace and passion, but never overshadowing the event himself. And, of course, his legendary phrase, "Oh my,"

Dick Enberg

symbolized the excitement he brought to every event he reported upon. His amazing career spanned more than 60 years on several networks and l

His amazing career spanned more than 60 years on several networks and local outlets. Not only was he a skilled and talented broadcaster, but he was also an award-winning writer.

Enberg got his start first in radio as an undergraduate at Central Michigan University where he interned on a local station. But it was at Indiana University (IU) where his career began to take hold and where he earned both masters and doctorate degrees in health sciences. He broadcast the first Little 500 at IU, the bicycle race popularized in the movie *Breaking Away*. He also was the play-by-play announcer for Indiana football and basketball games, and, in 1961, he called his first NCAA basketball tournament, the championship game between Cincinnati and Ohio State, which Cincinnati won.

His talents and wisdom reached far beyond broadcasting. He appeared in the movies *Heaven Can Wait* and *The Naked Gun*. He also hosted several sports game shows in Los Angeles, but broadcasting, particularly baseball, was always his first love.

Enberg's network broadcasting included calling eight Super Bowls, six NCAA basketball Final Fours, nine Rose Bowls, a World Series, 28 Wimbledon tennis tournaments, NBA basketball, three Olympics and seven Breeders Cup horse races – and much, much more.

A true gentleman who rose to the pinnacle of sports broadcasting, Dick Enberg will be missed, but never forgotten.

Twins Name New Fort Myers Miracle Manager

The Minnesota Twins have named Ramon Borrego as the new manager of their Class

SPORTS QUIZ

- 1. When was the last time before 2016 that the Chicago Cubs were 40 games above .500 during a season?
- 2. Name the last player 40 years old or older to have at least 108 RBIs in a season before Boston's David Ortiz had 127 RBIs in 2016.
- 3. Tennessee's Marcus Mariota, in 2015, tied a record by throwing four touchdown passes in his first NFL game. Who else did it?
- 4. Who was the first men's basketball player to win an NCAA title, an Olympic gold medal and an NBA championship?
- 5. In 2017, Nico Hischier was drafted No. 1 overall in the NHL Draft, the highest-drafted Swiss player in NHL history. Who had been the highest?
- 6. Who was the last U.S. wrestler to repeat as an Olympic champion?
- 7. Name the two golfers to win three different majors before the age of 24?

ANSWERS

1. It was 1945. 2. Dave Winfield had 108 RBIs for Toronto in 1992. 3. Minnesota's Fran Tarkenton, in 1961. 4. Clyde Lovellette, who completed the feat in 1954. 5. Nino Niederreiter was the fifth overall pick by the New York Islanders in the 2010 NHL Draft. 6. John Smith, in 1988 and 1992. 7. Jack Nicklaus and Jordan Spieth. A Advanced Fort Myers Miracle baseball team. Borrego is one of five new managers in the Twins farm system as the organization continues its overhaul under new baseball executives Derek Falvey and Thad Levine. Only one of six minor league managers was retained, Ray Smith at the rookie league club in Elizabethton.

Borrego has been in the Twins organization eight years and, since 2011, has managed the rookie Gulf Coast League Twins here in Fort Myers.

Everblades Closing Out 2017 in First Place

The Florida Everblades hockey team entered the final week of 2017 in first place in the ECHL South Division with a 20-4-1-2 record, three points ahead of second-place South Carolina. The Everblades are home at Germain Arena tomorrow, Saturday, at 7 p.m. against Orlando and again next Wednesday against Orlando.

Founder's Cup Draws 220 Golfers, Raises \$125,000

The 26th annual Founder's Cup Golf Tournament presented by the Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) Foundation raised a total of \$125,000 to help advance the university's mission at Quail Creek Golf Club in Naples on December 14.

The tournament drew 220 golfers in 55 teams with the support of Tournament Chair Joe Gammons and Travus Pope.

"Despite being delayed two months by Hurricane Irma, the tournament was a huge success," said Chris Simoneau, vice president for advancement and executive director of the FGCU Foundation. "Our supporters continue to turn out each year to make this event deeply meaningful and a lot of fun at the same time."

Since it began, the Founder's Cup has been one of FGCU's proudest traditions, raising more than \$1.7 million for programs that support academic excellence, scholarships, student success, intercollegiate athletics and FGCU's community and regional impact. These were the five initiatives around which the university conducted its \$100 million capital campaign this year, concluding with \$127 million raised.

Grand sponsors for this year's tournament were FGCU parent Louis Pelliccioni Jr. and alumnus Brice L. Pelliccioni, 2013, from Pelliccioni Financial Consulting Group of Wells Fargo Advisors.

"Florida Gulf Coast University means so much to our family," Brice Pelliccioni said. "As a graduate and season ticket holder, I attend games with my father, who coached at West Virginia University. We are honored to sponsor the Founder's Cup, which benefits student success, and we look forward to making it an annual commitment for years to come." The FGCU Foundation supports the university's educational mission by securing and administering gifts on its behalf, managing its endowment and allocating funds that advance student achievement and enhance academic programs. For more information, call 590-1067 or visit fgcu.edu/foundation.**

Two-Day Safe Boating Course

Peace River Sail and Power Squadron will present America's Boating Course at the Punta Gorda Boat Club on Saturday, January 27 at 8:30 a.m. The second class will be held on Saturday, February 10 at the same time.

The two sessions will cover boating law, safety equipment, safe boating practices, navigation, boating emergencies, personal watercraft, charts, GPS, trailering, and much more. Attendees will receive the America's Boating Course manual, and after passing an exam, a completion certificate. The class is approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the Florida Boater Safety Education ID Card, required for anyone born after January 1, 1988 who operates a motorboat with 10 horsepower or more in Florida waters. The course is also approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and the U.S. Coast Guard.

The \$65 fee (for the first person, \$25 for second sharing materials) covers the cost of the manual. For more information or to reserve your space, call 941-637-0766 or email puntagordaboating@gmail. com. Registration deadline for this class is Wednesday January 24.

Peace Řiver Sail & Power Squadron is a safe boating advisory to the Punta Gorda Boaters' Alliance. The Punta Gorda Boat Club is located at 802 Retta Esplanade in Punta Gorda.

Celebrating 10 Years April 2018



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Southwest Florida golfers came together during the 14th annual Shell Point Open Charity Golf Tournament to raise \$67,000 for the future Arts Center at Shell Point photos provided

Golf Tournament Brings In Over \$67,000 For New Arts Center At Shell Point

Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Myers recently hosted its 14th annual Shell Point Open Charity Golf Tournament, raising more than \$67,000 to benefit the future Arts Center at Shell Point.

Presented by The Legacy Foundation at Shell Point, the annual event brought 144 Southwest Florida golfers together for a four-person, scramble-style tournament on Shell Point's championship 18-hole course. Golfers began the day with breakfast at The Breezeway before hitting the greens. They concluded the competition with a luncheon at the Banyan Grill, which also included the opportunity to win prize drawings and giveaways.

Wright Construction Group served as title sponsor of the charity tournament, along with premier sponsor DeAngelis Diamond and signature sponsor FineMark National Bank & Trust.

Open to the public, the Club at Shell Point course is located at 17500 On Par Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.shellpointgolf.com.☆



Signature sponsor FineMark National Bank & Trust donated \$5,000 in support of the future Arts Center at Shell Point



Title sponsor Wright Construction donated \$15,000 in support of the future Arts Center at Shell Point



During the tournament, premier sponsor DeAngelis Diamond presented a \$10,000 check for the community's future arts center



More than 140 golfers teed off during the 14th annual Shell Point Open Charity Golf Tournament

Wildlife Society Awards Grants



From front, Wendy Kindig with recipients Linda Grant, Barbara Lisson, Susie Hassett, Heidi Brennan, Sheryl Terepka, Melanie Villa and Sara Hallas photos provided

N December 18, "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) awarded \$7,303 in grants to conservation education-related

FSW Foundation Director Named

Victoria Stephan has been named the director of development for Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) Foundation. In this role, she will work with major donors and establish additional endowed scholarships to benefit FSW students.

Stephan has 30 years of non-profit leadership and development experience in Southwest Florida. Prior to joining FSW, she was the CEO of Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida. She has also served as CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida. She earned her bachelor of arts degree from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia.

Stephan has served on boards of several professional organizations, including director and past president of The Rotary Club of Fort Myers; director of the Fort Myers Community Concert Association; alumna class president for Agnes Community College; and past president of the Junior League of Fort Myers. She has also served on the FSW Foundation Board.

Stephan has also been recognized with several awards, including the Rotary District Governor's Gold Award for Presidential Leadership; *Florida Weekly* 2009 Power Woman Award; Junior Achievement USA Summit Awards for Excellence in Management; and *Gulfshore Business* 2012 Awards as one of the decade's "40 All-Stars."

The Florida SouthWestern State College Foundation currently has professionally managed endowments and other funds approaching \$45 million



"Ding" Darling Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland presents a grant check for \$995.18 to The Sanibel School teacher Anne Franke, Principal Chuck Vilardi and the fifthgrade class

projects at eight different schools in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties for the 2017-18 school year.

Teachers submitted grant applications to the DDWS Environmental Education Committee by November 30; the deadline was extended this year because of Hurricane Irma. The committee chose awards based on need and relevance to conservation.

Schools to which DDWS awarded grants this year include Lehigh Elementary for its Learning Gardens Outdoor Classroom project, The Sanibel School for its Sanibel School Recycling Team project, Neil Armstrong Elementary in Port Charlotte for its Hydroponic Community Garden project, Colonial Elementary in Fort Myers for its Increasing Nature Awareness through Experience project, Patriot Elementary in Cape Coral for its Heroes of the Environment project, Immokalee Middle School for its All Creatures Great & Small project, Challenger Middle in Cape Coral for its Wild about Wetlands project, and Robinson

FGCU Exhibit To Begin Thursday

The world of underground art and writing goes mainstream this January. In Rape Culture: Zines & Artists' Books, the FGCU Library Archives and Special Collections showcases zines and artists' books about rape culture, featuring works from 1970 through today. The provocative and moving exhibit runs from Thursday, January 4 to April 18 with an opening reception on January 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Rape Culture: Zines & Artists' Books features zines and artists' books from 1970 to present that address the pervasive issue of rape and sexual assault. The works exhibited provide a candid and inclusive view of how rape has permeated contemporary culture. According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), someone in America is raped every 98 seconds. Rape culture is the language, laws and prevailing social attitudes that normalize these disturbingly frequent acts of violence.

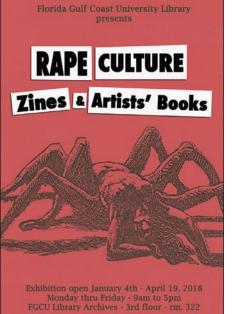
Żines and artists' books are a platform for personal expression created without censorship or outside influence. Zines, derived from "magazines," are alternative publications constructed using inexpensive, easily accessible materials. Zines, as a genre, have historically been used by political, social and counterculture movements to easily and inexpensively proliferate information. Zines are often created in a cooperative, utilizing multiple mediums of expression from poets, essayists and visual artists. An artist's book is a medium of expression that employs the structure of a book as inspiration while Littleton Elementary in Fort Myers for its Naturally Good Readers project.

"This is the 12th year the society has awarded these conservation teacher grants. The past four years we opened eligibility to a five-county area," said Wendy Kindig, education committee chair. "To date, we have awarded more than \$75,000 in teacher grants. We were impressed by the wide variety of projects our teachers and their students imagined this year. The society is pleased to help the future of conservation stewards in this important way."

Grant recipients report back on their projects to the society and refuge, sending pictures and often thank-you notes from the students, upon project completion in June 2018.

In 2018, DDWS will again be awarding up to \$10,000 in teacher conservation grants for schools in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties. The grants are funded by monies received from the DDWS Conservation Education Endowment Fund earmarked specifically for education by the late Kip Koss, grandson of Jay N. "Ding" Darling.

For information on next year's grants, contact Conservation Educator Sara Hallas at 472-1100 ext. 236 or Kindig at wendykindig@aol.com, or visit dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/teacher-grants. Anyone interested in supporting conservation education at "Ding" Darling can visit www. dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Sarah Lathrop at sarah@dingdarlingsociety.org.**



Opening Reception January 25th, 5:30 to 7:30

image provided

challenging the conventional contents of a printed volume. In sharp contrast to zines, artists' books are produced in limited numbers and are classified as works of art typically produced by a single creator. The exhibition utilizes both mediums to confront the prevalence of sexual harassment, misconduct and violence in our culture and prompts the viewer to reflect on one's own attitudes and conduct that may perpetuate its normalization.

FGCU Library Archives is located in Room 322 at 10501 FGCU Boulevard South in Fort Myers. For more info, contact Melissa Minds VandeBurgt at 590-7658 or Kaleena Rivera at 590-7506.**



Victoria Stephan

photo provided

that allow it to support the work of the college. The foundation provides nearly \$2 million annually in student scholarships and investments in programs, technology and facilities to benefit the nearly 22,000 students the college serves each year. To underwrite and expand the mission of the college, the FSW Foundation continues to attract contributions from individuals, organizations, businesses and private foundations. As a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt organization with 50 years of successful operating experience, the FSW Foundation offers the opportunity to establish endowed funds which ensure the impact of a donor's contribution lives on in perpetuity. For more information, visit www.fsw.edu/foundation, email: foundation@fsw.edu or call 489-9201.芬

Beautifulife: Let It Go



By Kay Casperson

s we end this year and enter into a new one, I thought it would be a good time to talk about some of the things that you may just want to leave behind. I like to suggest that you take a walk

on the beach, find a quiet spot and dig a hole in the sand where you can bury little thoughts of things that you want to leave behind before the new year begins. This could be done with a shell or a rock or any item as a symbol of the thought. I am a big believer that if you speak out your thought and then put it in the hole to be buried, it brings more of a lasting impact and significance.

You don't need to live near the beach to do this exercise. Thoughts can be buried in the snow, in a pile of rocks, in a lake, in the dirt or even by throwing them into a bonfire. The point is that you are taking the time to come up with things that might have affected your life this year in terms of pain, suffering, heartache, setbacks, worry, fear or anything that might hold you back from having the best year ahead

If there were people in your life that disappointed you – let it go. If you were unsuccessful in reaching a

goal – let it go.

If you had a health setback that put you behind - let it go.

If you didn't find your true love this year – let it go.

If you were not able to accomplish a certain task – let it go.

The best way to move on and continue growing in the right direction is to let things go that might be a burden in order to focus on all the beautiful new things to come. The hardest part of this whole letting go thing is to learn how to really do it and to not just say "I'm letting go" but to truly let it go for good and move on without another thought about it. Sometimes, this is easier said than done, but the examples I gave above might help you to come up with some of your own ideas as to how to make that happen.

My hope is that you find your own way to make sure that you are ending this year in a very productive way by only taking with you the good things that came into your life. Leave behind the things that will slow you down from stepping into a brand new year of living your most balanced and beautiful life ever.

My affirmation for you this week is: "I will take the time to confront the circumstances in my life that do not serve me in a positive way for my future and will let them all go in order to freely move on.' Happy New Year!

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.举

Behavioral Health Topic Discussed

ne of the most important issues our community is facing today – be-havioral health – will be the topic of a community-wide dialogue on the Fort Myers campus of Florida Southwestern State College on Tuesday, January 9 from 7:30 to 10 a.m.

Hosted by Healthy Lee, the free event will feature special guest speakers and facilitated conversations on the challenges and opportunities to create a healthy community. It is open to the public.

The morning's activities will begin with a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m., general session at 8 a.m. and breakout sessions from 9 to 10 a.m. will be held on the following topics: children's behavioral health, adult/senior behavioral health, substance abuse, dementia, depression and anxiety in the workplace.

Christin Collins and Debbie Toler are co-chairs for the event. Collins says: "Many of our societal challenges stem from mental or behavioral health disorders and, if detected early, could be supported and avoided. It is time to shed light on this paramount issue, and create much needed change by engaging in meaningful dialog about the current state of behavioral health in Lee County, and shaping the future, together as a community. There are major issues to discuss, including access and availability to care, and funding – a major barrier to care. Florida is the second least funded state in the nation when it comes to Medicare and Medicaid funding for mental and behavioral health services.



photo provided Of which, Lee County is the least funded

county in the state of Florida.

Robert Roose, MD, MPH, FASAM, vice president of Mercy Behavioral Health Care in Massachusetts, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Roose oversees Providence Behavioral Health Hospital (PBHH) and leads the behavioral health service lines, which include psychiatric and addiction and recovery services

To join the conversation, RSVP by Friday, January 5, to: communityconversations@healthylee.com. Florida Southwestern State College is located at 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers. The event will be held in room U-102.袋

OH NO! NOT JOINT REPLACEMENT SURGERY!

Yoga Class

eginning January 8, Lee Health's Wellness Centers will offer Yoga at HealthPark Medical Center. This one-hour class will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. in the atrium on the fourth floor.

Yoga is a great form of mind and body exercise because it can be modified," said Sarah Mitchell, certified health & wellness coach and health & wellness coordinator at the Lee Health Wellness Centers. "The classes at HealthPark Medical Center are a basic flow class, so they are great for participants of all levels - from the beginner to those who are more advanced.

There is a \$5 fee for each class, and participants should bring their own mats.

HealthPark Medical Center is located at 9981 South HealthPark Drive in Fort Myers.🕸

Wellness Workshops

ee Health's Wellness Center - Cape Coral is hosting monthly Brain Booster workshops beginning Tuesday, January 9 and subsequently meeting on the second Monday of the month from noon to 1 p.m.

Brain Booster workshops help people of all ages learn more, retain information and maintain mental health.

In addition to the monthly program at the Wellness Center - Cape Coral, Sarah Mitchell, certified health and wellness coach and coordinator, will be offering the Brain Booster workshop at North Fort Myers Recreation Center on January 9, February 6, March 6 and April 3 at 10 a.m. as well as at Healthy Life Center at Coconut Point on January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16 and May 21 at 10 a.m

North Fort Myers Recreation Center is located at 2000 North Recreation Park Way in North Fort Myers. Healthy Life Center is located at 23190 Fashion Drive suite 105 in Estero.

There is a \$5 fee per Brain Booster workshop. For more information, call 424-3231.芬

Vision Loss Expo

hose experiencing vision loss should join the Southwest Florida Council of the Blind (SWFCB) for its Living the Good Life with Vision Loss expo at the Downtown Regional Library on Saturday, January 13 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The expo offers hands-on experience with tips, tricks, techniques and technologies shared by SWFCB members. Meet with agencies that serve those with vision loss and apply for their services.

SWFCB is a community of those navigating through vision loss and sharing experiences.

Downtown Regional Library is located at 2450 First Street in Fort Myers. Use the Lee Street entrance to access library meeting rooms A to D.袋

239.303.4069 🖪 👪 CaringMedical.com We are an out-of-network provider.

Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics 9738 Commerce Center Ct. Fort Myers, FL 33908

SEE A PROLOTHERAPIST.



PLATELET RICH PLASMA

IT'S TIME TO

STEM CELL THERAPY PROLOTHERAPY

Six Best Foods To Eat If You Have Arthritis



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Pear Readers: If you have arthritis, you know what to expect every day when you get up in the morning, trying to find a comfortable way to sit, grocery shopping where it's one painful step in

front of the other, difficulty buttoning your shirt. But wouldn't it be nice to be flexible around the holidays? I don't mean in terms of parties, events and trips. I mean with your joints.

Eating certain foods reduces inflammation and pain. But first, here are three food groups you should avoid, since these harm your brain, joints and cartilage:

Anything with artificial colors, flavors or sweeteners

GMO foods because they are so "hardy" they pierce the gut, leaching toxins into your body and poisoning your bloodstream.

Pesticides (organic is better, especially if you have a PON1 gene SNP)

Now, let's look at five of the best foods to include in your diet if you have arthritis pain:

1. Organic ginger: Ginger is highly anti-inflammatory. Researchers found that ginger relieves pain in patients with osteoarthritis, helping 63 percent of participants. Another study found that ginger can block the manufacture of inflammatory cytokines in the body. Make tea or grate into meals.

2. Tart cherries: Like blueberries, cherries are rich in a compound called anthocyanin, which gives cherries their

deep blue-red hue. A 2013 study found that patients who drink tart cherry juice found they improved levels of pain and stiffness from arthritis. It's known to help with gouty arthritis too.

3. Garlic: Garlic is good for so many health-promoting effects in the body. It's cancer preventative and a potent antiinflammatory food. In one study of 1,082 twins, researchers found that those who ate the most garlic experienced the least symptoms from osteoarthritis.

4. Fennel: Fennel has long been used as medicine in ancient Rome and Greece. Fennel is a delicious way to spice up a salad, by making your salad virtually cancer-preventative and helping to drastically reduce inflammation in the joints and tissues.

5. Beet Greens: Dark, leafy greens like beet greens are full of phytonutrients, vitamins and minerals that reduce inflammation all over the body. Beet greens (not beets) are extremely high in vitamin K, another potent antiinflammatory. Two cups of these will have about 4,700 mg of potassium which can help regulate blood pressure. Sauté these with garlic in some grass fed butter. They wilt within a minute.

6. Spinach: A recent 2017 study showed how kaempferol (which is found in spinach) reduces inflammation and prevents the progression of osteoarthritis, the wear-and-tear type of arthritis. Kaempferol also decreases the effects of inflammatory cytokines associated with rheumatoid arthritis, the autoimmune form that affects bone marrow.

If you want to be more flexible, now and into the new year, think clean, green, organic, non-nitrate, natural foods as best you can. It may sound difficult if not stifling, but if you set your mind to it, you'll notice changes within a month.

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.

Injury Prevention Coalition Honors Local Leaders

ach year, the Lee County Injury Prevention Coalition presents awards to people and organizations in the community who exhibit excellence in promoting health and safety. The awards were presented at a recent banquet held at the Cape Coral Yacht Club and honored the following people and groups:

Keri Kratofil, Walgreens pharmacist, was named Lee County Injury Prevention Volunteer of the Year for her work with fall prevention.

Deborah Comella, executive director of the Lee County Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida, was named Lee County Injury Prevention Professional of the Year for her efforts with the #REFUSE campaign, the Drug House Odyssey Prevention Program and the Students Against Destructive Decisions clubs. She also brought the Hazelden-Betty Ford Heroin Opiate Prevention program to Lee County.

The School District of Lee County School Resource Officer group was named Lee County Injury Prevention Organization/Agency of the Year. The officers provide protection, but also deliver prevention education in the schools, including Gang Awareness Training Education (GATE), which covers alcohol, drugs, bullying, decision-making, guns, anger management and other topics.

Associates & Bruce L. Scheiner was named the Lee County Injury Prevention Program/Outreach Effort of the Year for its support of the airing of the "Roundabout" public service announcement.

Ann Pierce-Gardener received the Lee County Injury Prevention Lifetime Achievement Award for her participation with the Southwest Florida Watershed Council, Taking it to the Streets Lee County Committee, BikeWalkLee, the City of Fort Myers Bike Pedestrian Advisory Board, Lee County Community Sustainability Advisory Committee, the Metropolitan Planning Organization's Citizen's Advisory Committee and Healthy Lee.

Doctor and Dietician Ketogenic Diet



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

The ketogenic diet is one diet most of us have heard thrown around lately. It's not actually a new diet, but was started in the 1920s by Russel Wiler of the Mayo Clinic as a treatment for epilepsy. Recent studies, including one from the Buck Institute for Research on Aging, continue to show that the ketogenic diet helps with epilepsy. Other studies have shown benefits in Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, obesity, diabetes, cancer, autism and neurodegenerative disorders. A ketogenic diet has also been associated with longevity.

The ketogenic diet is a very low carbohydrate diet that is also high in fat content. The drastic reduction in carbohydrate intake changes the way energy is used by the body and puts it into a metabolic state called ketosis. Your

Diabetes Prevention Program

ee Health will hold a free program to inform about a variety of tools that have been proven to prevent or delay the onset of Type 2 diabetes at Cape Coral Hospital, beginning on Monday, January 8 from 5 to 6 p.m.

The Diabetes Prevention Program is designed to help make modest lifestyle changes and cut the risk of Type 2 diabetes by more than half. There will be weekly meetings for the first six months, then meetings once or twice a month for the second six months. It is part of the National Diabetes

Program For Chronic Disease

ee Health's Lee Health Solutions, in partnership with many local community agencies and supported in part initially by a grant from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, is offering It's All About You – a research-based Chronic Disease Self-Management program developed by Dr. Kate Lorig of Stanford University – at three different locations in January.

The program is designed for people age 18 or older with chronic health conditions to help them learn ways to better manage their chronic body then becomes better at burning fat as energy, reducing glucose levels and improving insulin resistance. The body's metabolism shifts from carbohydrates and towards fat and ketones. This increase in ketones is what helps to decrease epileptic seizures.

There are several different varieties of ketogenic diets, but they generally contain about 60 to 75 percent fat, 20 to 35 percent protein and 5 to 20 percent carbs versus the standard American diet of 35 percent fat, 15 percent protein and 50 percent carbohydrates. Carbohydrates like grains, legumes, potatoes and most fruits are avoided on the ketogenic diet, with the majority of included foods being meat, eggs, nuts and seeds, healthy oils, avocado, high fat dairy and non-starchy vegetables.

The ketogenic diet is an effective way to lose weight if calories are watched. Vitamin and mineral supplementation may also be needed, such as vitamin D, calcium, fiber and iron. Some people may experience nausea, constipation, hypoglycemia and lack of energy. Overall, in addition to the benefit of loss of excess fat, the ketogenic diet appears to provide many healthy metabolic, neurologic and insulin-related benefits.

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.☆

Prevention Program, led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Information presented in the workshop can help you become empowered to prevent Type 2 Diabetes. Learn about the benefits of physical activity, managing symptoms of stress, making smarter decisions related to healthy eating and tips to stay motivated. Participants will receive a participant guide to use as an ongoing reference tool once the classes are completed.

Classes will be held on the first floor, meeting room A, of Cape Coral Hospital at 636 Del Prado Boulevard.

Seating is limited and registration is required. Call 424-3127 for more information.*

conditions and the symptoms that often accompany chronic health conditions.

The free workshops are 2.5 hours once a week for six weeks. They will be held at:

Faith Lutheran Church, 705 Leeland Heights Boulevard, in East Lehigh Acres on Mondays beginning January 8 from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Cape Coral Lee County Public Library, 921 Southwest 39th Terrace, in Cape Coral on Tuesdays beginning January 9 from 9:30 a.m. to noon

Alva United Methodist Church,

21440 Pearl Street, in Alva on Wednesdays beginning January 17 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information or to register, call 343-9264.茶

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Seared Grouper with Snap Beans and Three Pepper Relish

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

pan. Add the diced peppers and garlic to the pan. Cook peppers and garlic until just crisp tender, 3 to 5 minutes. Season the pepper mixture to

taste with salt and pepper and remove from the pan. Using the same pan, add the soy sauce and reduce by half. Once the soy sauce is reduced by half, remove it from the heat and set aside. Pre heat a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Add 1 tablespoon of oil to the preheated

pan. Lightly season each grouper fillet with

salt and pepper. Carefully add the fillets to the

side or until fish is just barely done all the way

through. Remove fillets from pan and let them

rest. Add the blanched snap beans to the pan

preheated pan. Cook fillets for 3 minutes on each

used for the fillets. Cook snap beans until hot and

To plate up dish, add an even amount of snap beans to each plate. Place a grouper fillet over the

snap beans. Garnish the top of each fillet with the

pepper relish sauté. Drizzle each plate with the

reduced soy sauce. Garnish each plate with the

lightly browned. Season the snap beans to taste

with salt and pepper.

chopped parsley.☆

Fresh Florida.

Seared Grouper with Snap Beans and Three Pepper Relish

- 4 six-ounce grouper fillets
- 1 pound snap beans, snapped at the end that was attached to the vine and blanched
- 3 bell peppers (red, yellow and green), diced small
- 2 cloves fresh garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 cup low-sodium soy sauce
- Olive oil for cooking
- Sea salt to taste
- Fresh ground pepper to taste

Pre heat a small sauté pan over medium-high

heat. Add 1 teaspoon of oil to the pre heated



Emergency.			911
Lee County Sheriff's Office			477-1200
Florida Marine Patrol			
Florida Highway Detrol			070 7400
Florida Highway Patrol			278-7100
Poison Control		1-800	-282-3171
HealthPark Medical Center	1	1-800-	936-5321
Ft. Myers Chamber of Commerce			332-3624
Foundation for Quality Childcare			
			423-2003
Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce			454-7500
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akes Regional Library			533-4000
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Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall			481-4849
BIG ARTS			395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre			278-4422
			270-4422
Cultural Park Theatre			772-5862
Edison Festival of Light			334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade			332-4488
Florida West Arts			0/8-1/27
			000 0505
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers			200-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony			489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres			481-8059
Naples Philharmonic		220	9-597-1111
Naples Philharmonic			172 6960
			+12-0002
SW Florida Symphony			418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy			936-3239
Young Artists Awards			
			014 0021
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS American Legion Post #38			000 4050
American Legion Post #38		239	-332-1853
Angel Flight	1-8	877-4A	N-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center			731-3535
American Business Women Association			257 6755
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Audubon of SWFL			339-8046
Audubon Society			472-3156
Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR			482-1366
Caloosahatchee Folk Society			321-4620
Cape Chorale Barbershop Chorus		1 0 5 5	425 2624
		1-000	-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club			542-9153
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DuPont Company Retirees			454-1083
Edison Porcelain Artists			454-1083 415-2484
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Edison Porcelain Artists Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter	 		415-2484
Edison Porcelain Artists Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Con	federa	239 acv	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743
Edison Porcelain Artists Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Con	federa	239 acv	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743
Edison Porcelain Artists Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Cont Friendship Force Of SW FL	federa	239 acy	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743 561-9164
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Edison Porcelain Artists. Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Conf Friendship Force Of SW FL Garden Club of Cape Coral Horticulture and Tea Society Horticultural Society	federa	239 acy	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743 561-9164 -257-2654 472-8334 472-6940
Edison Porcelain Artists. Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Conf Friendship Force Of SW FL Garden Club of Cape Coral Horticulture and Tea Society Horticultural Society	federa	239 acy	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743 561-9164 -257-2654 472-8334 472-6940
Edison Porcelain Artists. Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Cont Friendship Force Of SW FL Garden Club of Cape Coral Horticulture and Tea Society Horticultural Society	federa	239 acy	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743 561-9164 -257-2654 472-8334 472-6940 549-9625
Edison Porcelain Artists. Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Coni Friendship Force Of SW FL Garden Club of Cape Coral Horticulture and Tea Society Horticultural Society Lee County Genealogical Society Lee Trust for Historic Preservation	federa	239 acy 239	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743 561-9164 -257-2654 472-8334 472-6940 549-9625 939-7278
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Edison Porcelain Artists. Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Conf Friendship Force Of SW FL Garden Club of Cape Coral Horticulture and Tea Society Horticultural Society Lee County Genealogical Society Lee Trust for Historic Preservation NARFE (National Active & Retired Federal Employees Navy Seabees Veterans of America Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL Sons of Confederate Veterans. Southwest Florida Fencing Academy.	federa	.239 acy .239	415-2484 -267-1990 728-3743 561-9164 472-8334 472-6940 549-9625 939-7278 482-6713 731-1901 667-1354 332-2408 939-1338
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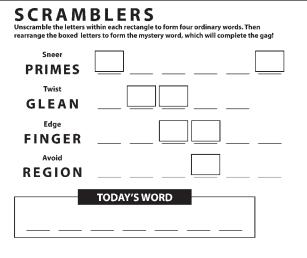
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answer on page 29

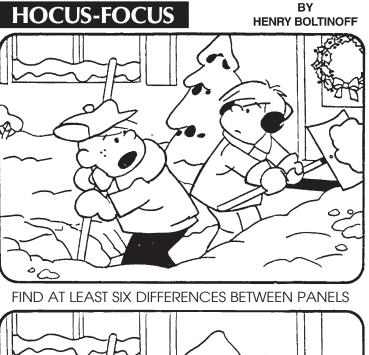


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SUDOKU

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





Differences: 1. Ear flap is moved. 2. Collar is smaller. 3. Tree is smaller. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Wreath is missing. 6. Shovefful of snow is smaller.

National Strategy For Conserving Fish And Wildlife

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) in July endorsed an ambitious national strategy, presented by The Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources, to conserve fish and wildlife, keep thousands of U.S. species from becoming endangered, and leave a legacy of healthy wildlife populations for future generations.

The Recovering America's Wildlife Act, introduced on December 14 by U.S. Reps. Jeff Fortenberry, R-NE, and Debbie Dingell, D-MI, would implement recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Panel, a coalition of business, energy and conservation leaders assembled by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The Blue Ribbon Panel emphasized both the environmental and economic benefits of creating a long-term dedicated funding source to conserve the nation's fish and wildlife.

"Currently there are major gaps in funding to sustain fish and wildlife species and keep them off the emergency list of endangered species," said FWC Chairman Bo Rivard. "These species are important to our nation's heritage and at the heart of how people connect to nature through activities such as boating, bird-watching, camping, fishing, hiking and biking."

The Blue Ribbon Panel recommended dedicating \$1.3 billion annually in existing revenue from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters to provide funding to state fish and wildlife agencies to more fully implement well-established and widely supported state wildlife action plans. Under the act, Florida potentially could receive about \$50 million a year to conserve and protect Florida's most vulnerable species and their habitats through Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative and State Wildlife Action Plan.

"For decades, wildlife conservation in the U.S. has largely depended on the unique and highly successful system where hunters and anglers willingly provide most of the funding for wildlife conservation work," said FWC Executive Director Eric Sutton. "But we need to do more, and the Recovering America's Wildlife Act would provide a sustainable, solution-based answer to funding conservation of fish and wildlife

s," species."

The FWC resolution requests support from Florida's Congressional Delegation for the legislation implementing the Blue Ribbon Panel's recommendations. The resolution also calls for support from Florida's conservation community and other state fish and wildlife agencies.

The Alliance for America's Fish & Wildlife (alliance), a coalition of the partners supporting this initiative, is using the theme "Our Nature. Our Nation. Our Future." to summarize the seriousness of what is at stake. The alliance is actively working to inform the public about the importance of securing the fish and wildlife conservation funding proposed in the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. According to the alliance, the act's benefits include:

Funding conservation of over 12,000 species of fish and wildlife and their habitats across the U.S.

Supporting the outdoor recreational economy, which generates 7.6 million U.S. jobs and over \$124 billion in tax revenue. In Florida, the combined economic impact of fishing, wildlife viewing, boating, hunting and the seafood industry is about \$42.8 billion and over 347,000 jobs.

Helping families get back to nature and away from cellphones and

computer screens. Children now spend an average of 50 hours a week on their electronic devices.

The FWC's Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative, which develops Florida's State Wildlife Action Plan, is the wellestablished, state-based framework for implementing the Restoring America's Wildlife Act in Florida and delivering on the commitment to conserve and restore Florida's fish and wildlife resources.

For more information, visit www. ournatureusa.com.^{XX}

Alliance Storytellers

A liance for the Arts presents The Elephant: Stories You'll Never Forget on Wednesday, January 31 at 7 p.m. The event features 10 area storytellers who recount a variety of narratives from personal tales to folktales. This storytelling showcase is produced by Storytellers of the Round Table.

Tickets to this event are \$15 for Alliance members and \$20 for nonmembers. For more information about this event or to purchase tickets, visit www. ArtInLee.org/Elephant or call 939-2787.*

THE RIVER - DECEMBER 29, 2017 28



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My Stars ★★★★ FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2018

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's a good time for reunions with those very special people from your past. You could be pleasantly surprised by what comes to light during one of these get-togethers.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The new year gets off to an encouraging start for the Bold Bovine who takes that demanding workplace challenge by the horns and steers it in the right direction.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The clever Gemini will be quick to spot the telltale signs of workplace changes that could open up new opportunities for the right person. (And that's you, isn't it?)

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The Moon Child's post-holiday letdown soon lifts as you begin to get back into your comfortable routine. Someone from your past extends a surprise bid to reconnect.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You've been the ultimate social Lion over the holidays. Now it's time to relax and recharge your energy so you can be at your best when you pounce on that new project

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A relationship could be moving in a direction you might not want to follow. Step back for a better overview of the situation. You might be surprised at what you see

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Emotions rule at the start of the week, affecting your perception about a decision. Best advice: Avoid commitments until that good Libran sense kicks back in.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A longtime friendship could take a romantic turn early in the new year. While this pleases your passionate side, your logical self might want to go slow.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Someone might make a surprising disclosure about a trusted friend or workplace colleague. Stay cool and reserve judgment until you get more facts.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You might think you've found what you've been looking for. But appearances can be deceiving. Don't act on your discovery until you know more about it

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February

18) You're no doubt anxious for that confusing situation to be cleared up. But don't press for a quick resolution or you might overlook some vital facts.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Now that your holiday distractions are easing, you need to apply yourself to getting those unfinished tasks done so you can begin a new project with a clean slate.

BORN THIS WEEK: People respect both your wisdom and your deep sense of loyalty and compassion.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On Jan. 1. 1863, a farmer named Daniel Freeman submits the first claim under the new Homestead Act for a property in Nebraska. The act legalized the long-standing practice of squatting on the vast federal landholdings in the West.

• On Jan. 2, 1811, Timothy Pickering, a Federalist from Massachusetts, becomes the first senator to be censured. Pickering was accused of violating congressional law by publicly revealing secret documents communicated by the president to the Senate.

• On Jan. 3, 1990, Panama's Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega surrenders to U.S. military troops to face charges of drug trafficking. In 1992, the former dictator was convicted of drug trafficking, money laundering and racketeering, and sentenced to 40 years in prison.

• On Jan. 4, 1974, President Richard Nixon refuses to hand over tape recordings and documents that had been subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee. Nixon would resign from office in disgrace eight months later.

• On Jan. 5, 1643, in the first record of a legal divorce in the American colonies, Anne Clarke of the Massachusetts Bay Colony is granted a divorce after being deserted by her husband. Denis Clarke.

• On Jan. 6, 1925, at New York's Madison Square Garden, Finnish longdistance runner Paavo Nurmi makes his first American appearance. He would run a total of 55 races before returning home, losing only his last race, a half-mile sprint. Some newspapers speculated that Nurmi

had lost only out of politeness to his hosts.
On Jan. 7, 1947, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" becomes the No. 1 song on the U.S. pop charts. The story of Rudolph began in 1939, when retailer

Montgomery Ward created a holiday book to give away to children. Johnny Marks later used the story to write the song, which sold more than 2 million units in its first year alone.

MAGIC MAZE

LAST DAY OF THE YEAR

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was 20th-century American professor and noted author Isaac Asimov who made the following sage observation: "A poor idea well-written is more likely to be accepted than a good idea poorly written.

• According to a Scandinavian tradition, Christmas gifts aren't delivered by Santa Claus or Saint Nicholas -- a little gnome called Julenisse puts gifts under the tree. And instead of cookies and milk, children put out a bowl of porridge for him.

It's commonly believed that

misery sometimes can beget genius -- the stereotype of the tortured artist is ubiquitous. However, recent research suggests that there's not as much truth to the trope as many think. According to a study titled "Death, Bereavement and Creativity," recently published in the journal Management Science, works created by painters during the year following a loved one's death were worth about $3\overline{5}$ percent less that other works by the same artist. Those paintings also are significantly less likely to be included in the collection of a major museum.

• Those who enjoy making calculations have determined that Santa would have to visit nearly 900 homes every second to finish all his deliveries on Christmas Eve.

• The first time a news event was shown in a motion-picture film reel was in 1896, and the subject was the coronation of Russian Czar Nicholas II.

• Like many of us, those in the Netherlands celebrate Christmas on Dec. 25. However, the children there eagerly await the arrival of "Sinterklaas" on Dec. 5, when children receive their presents. The name Santa Claus supposedly derived from older Dutch "Sinte Klaas."

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"We have to face the fact that either all of us are going to die together or we are going to learn to live together, and if we are to live together we have to talk. -- Eleanor Roosevelt

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SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Simper; 2. Angle; 3. Fringe; 4. Ignore

Today's Word

SNORING

TRIVIA TEST

- 1. Money: What was the common currency in Portugal prior to the euro?
- 2. Movies: What 1990s horror movie featured Henry Winkler as the principal of Woodsboro High School?
- 3. Theater: What musical included the characters of Maria Rainer and Captain Georg von Trapp? 4. **Anatomy:** What are the names
- of the arteries that supply blood to the head and neck?
- 5. Measurements: What does an isobar represent on a map?
- 6. Language: What word represents the letter R in the NATO Phonetic Alphabet?
- 7. **Geography:** What is the significance of the 38th parallel north?
- 8. Famous Quotes: What 20thcentury politician once said, "Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not his own facts"?
- 9. General Knowledge: Where does the Oberammagau passion play take place every 10 years?
- 10. Astronomy: What is the only constellation of the Zodiac representing an inanimate object?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

9. Germany 10. Libra (the scales) Korea. 8. Daniel Patrick Moynihan border between North and South pressure 6. Romeo 7. It torms the 1. Escudo 2. "Scream" 3. "The Sound of Music" 4. Carotid 5. Atmospheric



 $\star \star \star$ www.islandsunnews.com PLACE CLASSIFIED $\star \star \star$

PETS OF THE WEEK



Moe photos provided Haven on Earth Animal League MOW AND LIV

Hi there! I'm Moe – short for Maureen. I am a very sweet girl just waiting for someone to take me home. I just have one request: I'm not real crazy about other cats, so I want to be your one and only. I'm 2 years old, up to date on all vaccines and spayed. Just look at my beautiful green eyes and pink nose – don't you want to kiss me on the head? I'm currently residing at PetSmart on Six Mile Cypress Parkway. My adoption fee is \$75.

Hello, my name is Lily! I am a beautiful black and white spayed female with piercing bright blue eyes. I'm 8 years old and I need a new home right away. My owners are moving, and they can't take me, so I'm going to be homeless. I'm up to date on vaccines. My adoption fee is \$75.

We are being cared for by



Lily

Haven on Earth Animal League. For more information, call Diane at 860-833-4472 or email havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo. com.🌣

Resolve To Be Fitter With Dog Adoption

People make millions of New Year's resolutions each January. Officials at Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) invite you to Skip the Jog and Walk a Dog as part of yours. Make pets a part of your New Year's plan and consider that a new pet can help you achieve many of the most popular goals set each year.

The adoption fee for dogs over 30 pounds will be just \$25 through January 30 to assist potential pet owners in finding a new exercise partner and best

A Visit With Santa



The Calendar Girls with Santa and a member of the Lake Lawn community photo provided

he Calendar Girls and Santa paid a visit to the Lake Lawn community in Fort Myers before the holidays.

For more information, visit www.calendargirlsflorida.com.

friend.

There are many ways pets can improve your life:

Getting Fit/Losing Weight and being Healthy – A pet is a great way to be more active, whether playing games or going for a walk.

Reduce Stress – there is no better stress reducer than the companionship of a devoted pet. Research has shown that contact with animals has many health benefits.

Enjoy Life More – With all the benefits of pet adoption, this one is a no-brainer.

Helping Others – By adopting, you will not just be helping, you will be saving a life. Most pet owners report that they actually benefit more from the relationship than their pet. The adoption fee includes spay or neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, de-worming, flea treatment, heartworm test for dogs six months and older, feline aids and leukemia test for cats, Lee County pet license for pets three months and older, microchip ID, and a 10-day health guarantee. The adoption package is a \$500 value.

For more information about LCDAS' pets for adoption, visit www. LeeLostPets.com or call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS). You may also submit an adoption application online. Adoption hours are 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday at LCDAS, located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers.**

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Barefoot Beach	Bonita Springs	1991	4,152	\$5,995,000	\$5,950,000	132
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2005	4,312	\$1,499,000	\$1,375,000	140
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2013	2,564	\$899,000	\$875,000	16
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1970	1,901	\$869,000	\$804,000	280
Grande Estates	Estero	2006	3,490	\$789,000	\$735,000	406
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2014	2,323	\$749,900	\$725,000	63
Burnt Store Marina	Punta Gorda	2001	2,844	\$699,950	\$660,000	48
Longlake	Bonita Springs	1995	2,779	\$699,000	\$690,000	29
Belle Lago	Estero	2005	3,346	\$675,900	\$666,000	41
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2007	3,195	\$675,000	\$650,000	127

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate



AWARD WINNING

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