



Vega String Quartet

photo provided

String Quartet To Perform March 15

Shell Point Retirement Community continues the Concerts & Conversations program with a performance by Vega String Quartet in the Grand Cypress Room at The Woodlands at Shell Point on Thursday, March 15 at 7 p.m.

As part of the program, there will be fellowship and a dessert reception with the performers following the concert. The event is open to the public.

The Vega String Quartet, a quartet-in-residence at Emory University, is cultivating a new generation of chamber music lovers through dynamic performances and innovative community engagement.

This ensemble has toured both nationally and internationally, delivering high profile performances throughout Asia, Europe and North America. Major projects include the complete cycle of Beethoven quartets; pairing Bach's complete works for solo violin, viola, and cello with the six Bartók quartets;

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Lions Club Shrimp Festival This Weekend On The Beach

The 60th annual Fort Myers Beach Lions Club Shrimp Festival, Estero Island's largest annual event, will take place on Saturday and Sunday, March 10 and 11 in downtown Fort Myers Beach.

The weekend kicks off with the Shrimp Run 5K at 9 a.m. on Saturday, presented by Cypress Lake High School Athletic Booster Club and Cypress Lake High School. The start and finish line will be at Doc Ford's Fort Myers Beach, and the race takes participants over Matanzas Pass Bridge twice. Runners and walkers are all welcome. For more information, contact event chair Lion Liam at liamcf@leeschools.net.

The two-mile long parade runs down Estero Boulevard, from the Beach Elementary School to Lynn Hall Memorial Park, which will serve as the festival grounds. Matanzas Pass Bridge will close at 9 a.m., so arrive early. Trophies will be awarded in 10 categories.

The Queens Pageant at Lynn Hall Memorial Park features girls ages 16 to 20 in competition to become this year's Shrimp Festival Queen. Each contestant receives a special gift. Trophies and/or prizes will be awarded to the winner of each of the following categories: Queen; first runner-up; second runner-up; Miss Personality;

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Fresh shrimp will be plentiful

photo courtesy www.fortmyersbeachshrimpfestival.com

Tale Of A Caged Wife At Theatre Conspiracy

by Di Saggau

Henrik Ibsen's 1879 classic play *A Doll's House* is about domestic revolution. It caused quite the stir when it first hit the stage. The play is being performed at Theatre Conspiracy through Sunday, March 11. If you know Ibsen's play, there will be no surprises for you.

Torvald Helmer (Brendon Powers) looks upon his wife Nora (Dena Galyean) as his adorable pet, his toy and his most cherished possession. He calls her his little skylark, little bluebird and little sparrow. He asks very little of her except to look pretty, admire him and be on call for his physical needs. They have been married nine years and have three children. Nora lives a caged life and the set beautifully depicts this with its floor-to-ceiling brass bars resembling a large bird cage.

Nora carries a sense of guilt and cor-



From left, Brendon Powers, Karen Goldberg and Dena Galyean

photo provided

ruption, and it is shown so well in her facial expressions. She forged a signature on a financial document to obtain a loan

when Torvald was sick years earlier. This is something that Torvald never would have thought her capable of doing. When

it becomes evident that Nils Krogstad (Patrick Day) plans to blackmail her with this information, she panics. Nora is desperate to hide this from her husband. She enlists the help of her platonic admirer Dr. Rank (James Robinson) to no avail. Her long-time friend Kristine Linde (Karen Goldberg) also tries to help.

The play is well cast. Powers and Galyean are the main focus, and both actors give superb performances. When the play first opened, Ibsen received moral condemnation for daring to turn a woman into a society-defying heroine. It's up to the audience members to decide whether the play is a feminist one or humanist. There is a film noir quality to the story. *A Doll's House* is presented in three acts and runs a good two and a half hours, with never a dull moment. The added touch of a certain song playing after the curtain call had me chuckling on my way out. A brilliant move. The play is directed by Anne Dodd.

Theatre Conspiracy performances are held at the Foulds Theatre at the Alliance for the Arts, located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For tickets, call 939-2787.*

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Henley Brothers Parade Float



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

This 1910 photo of Henley Brothers float evokes a time when parades were much more frequent in Fort Myers than they are today.

Almost any occasion or motive would do – Washington's Birthday, July Fourth, Armistice Day, the opening of a new school, a victory celebration, an all-purpose military parade, celebrity visits (e.g., Thomas A. Edison, William Jennings Bryan), the 19-teens Conquista de Florida, the herding of cattle south to Punta Rassa for shipment, and so many more.

And no matter the reason for the celebration, the red, white, and blue of the American flag always had a role, as is the case with

Henley's float.

Consequently, the ubiquitous flag theme makes it difficult to know the precise occasion that prompted photo-ops like this one.

William Preston "WP" Henley, pictured right in the photo, came to Fort Myers as a young man in the mid-1880s, seeking rest and recuperation from illness. His brother Joseph had moved to town in 1882.

Life in the little pioneer settlement improved his health, and WP made it his permanent home. He was a builder and contractor by trade.

The float's banner commemorates the year Henley Brothers was founded, 1885 – a significant year in local history, for in August, 45 "town fathers" voted to incorporate. The state legislature made that official the following March.

Other photographic evidence suggests that the girl standing on the float is one of Henley's two daughters, Sarah Grace. The other girl and the man are unidentified.

Note the upright flag at the center of the wagon float and the flag hat on the younger girl (left). It's likely that those streamers or ribbons are red, white and blue. Several very small flags on little sticks also decorate the float.

It is said that Henley helped to build the Edison Home on McGregor Boulevard. That would have been soon after his arrival in Fort Myers and when he was just over 20 years old.

In 1912, he was awarded the contract to build the town's very first publicly funded amenity: a recreation pier at the foot of Fowler Street.

The pier featured comfortable benches, plenty of shelter from downpours or sun, and convenient docking for boats.

The official opening for the town's first man-made tourist attraction took place on April 11, 1913, complete with a concert by the Fort Myers Military Band, of which Henley was a member.

He served as town councilman in 1896, also was a member of the Knights of Pythias from as early as 1900, and was later a member of the Elks (BPOE).

Henley eventually owned and developed a substantial number of properties in town, among them a large parcel encompassing the northwest corner of Hendry Street and Anderson Avenue, today's Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard.

Known as "Henley Corner" or the Henley business block, it contained several homes and an apartment building.

He built his own family home on Hendry a few lots south of Anderson. In the early pioneer days, Henley's was one of only two homes on that street.

He died on January 6, 1942.

Take a walk through downtown and imagine the fun and creativity that ruled in the parades of more than a century ago.

Then visit the following two research centers to learn more about business-sponsored floats in early Fort Myers.

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



In 1910, WP Henley (right) shows off the parade float sponsored by this building and contracting business. Other photographs suggest that the girl on the float is his daughter, Sarah Grace Henley (Moncrief). The other people are unidentified.

photo courtesy SWFL Florida Historical Society

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, *The Fort Myers Press*, *The News-Press* and *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl H. Grismer.*

Mound House Activities

Mound House and Newton Beach Park are offering weekly activities.

They include Beach Walk, a free exploration of the shoreline with a Mound House naturalist at Newton Beach Park on Tuesdays at 9 a.m.; Calusa Carvers, wood-carving demonstrations featuring several replica artifacts from the Calusa culture on Mound House grounds on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Mangroves By Kayak, a paddling eco-tour trip guided by Mound House environmental educator Dexter Norris on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.; Gardens Walking Tour, a guided walk through Mound

House gardens on Wednesdays at 10 a.m.; Sunset Kayak Tour, a paddling trip during the setting sun on Thursdays at 5 p.m.; Cool Calusa Tools, experience tools from the Calusa Indian era at Mound House on Thursdays at 10 a.m.; Exploring Archaeology, a viewing of artifacts and sorting through materials from the Calusa Indian Shell Mound at Mound House on Saturdays at 10 a.m.; and Family Fun Kayak Tour, a paddling excursion for parents and their children in Estero Bay on Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Newton Beach Park is located at 4650 Estero Boulevard on Fort Myers Beach. Mound House is located at 451 Connecticut Street on Fort Myers Beach. Visit www.moundhouse.org or call 765-0865 for more information.*

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THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

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Arts Impact To Be Discussed At Alliance

Lydia Black, executive director of Lee County Alliance for the Arts, will spark an insightful discussion on the impact of local arts and culture during the general membership meeting of the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce at the Crowne Plaza Fort Myers on Thursday, March 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

The nonprofit arts and culture industry generates \$140.1 million in annual economic activity in Lee County, supporting 3,875 full-time equivalent jobs and generating \$18.8 million in local and state government revenues, according to the Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 (AEP5) study. The study was spearheaded locally by the Alliance for the Arts, Lee County's local arts agency whose mission is to transform lives and improve community through the arts.

During the Chamber event, Black will lead the discussion on how local arts and cultural organizations impact the Southwest Florida community, highlighting key takeaways from the AEP5's comprehensive economic impact study of the nonprofit arts and culture industry.

A self-described "nonprofit junkie," Black believes the arts are essential to the quality of life and economic prosperity. Black earned a master's



Lydia Black

photo provided

degree in nonprofit management and undergraduate degrees in political science and communications. She is an active community volunteer, serves on the Community Concerts Board of Directors and is a proud member of Rotary Club of Fort Myers. She has been recognized as *Gulfshore Life's* 2016 Woman of the Year, *The News-Press's* 2008 Trailblazer of the Year and a *Gulfshore Business* 40 under 40 recipient in 2010.

The March luncheon is sponsored by Priority Marketing. The event's gold member spotlight is HBKS

Wealth Advisors, a financial planning and investment advisory firm. Other sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, contact Stephanie Davis at stephanie@fortmyers.org. Cost is \$25 for prepaid Chamber

members and \$35 for future members and members who pay at the door.

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

To learn more or to register for the event, visit www.fortmyers.org.✱

The World Of Tattoo Culture

Think ink! Tattoo Tales presents real-life tattoo stories from Southwest Florida locals ranging from age 20 to 60, including The Young Dead frontwoman and Love Your Rebellion founder Angela Page, at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Thursday, March 15 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Our growth and evolution as individuals and as a society hinge on learning from our experiences. Tattoo Tales is a night of stories about lessons learned the easy way and the adventurous way. In this edition of Southwest Florida Storytellers, audiences will be invited into the subcultural world of tattooing. Each storyteller will offer their own accounts of being a person with tattoos. Experience getting a tattoo without ever putting a needle to your skin.

Cost is \$15 per adult, \$10 for students.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street



Angela Page

photo by Jesi Cason

in the historic downtown Fort Myers River District. For tickets and more information, visit www.tickets.news-press.com.✱

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The former staff of *Melody Makers* magazine

photo provided

Fort Myers Film Festival To Host Florida Premiere

The Fort Myers Film Festival kicks off its 8th season on Wednesday, March 21 with the premiere showing of *Melody Makers*, a rock documentary that tells the story of the rise and fall of the world’s most influential music publication and uncovers an era of unprecedented

creative freedom. This will be the Florida premiere for the film, which has won awards at a dozen other festivals. The red carpet party rolls out at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 5:30 p.m. The film starts at 7 p.m. with afterparty on the stage to follow with stars and cast attending the Fort Myers Film Festival. Tickets are \$10 for the show and \$49 for the show and afterparty. Tickets are available at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall Box Office or by visiting www.bbmannpah.com/

performance.php?id=1015 At the heart of the opening night film’s story is Barrie Wentzell, chief contributing photographer of *Melody Maker Magazine* from 1965 to 1975, and his iconic photographic archive featuring prominent legendary musicians and musical groups that emerged during the birth of rock n’ roll including Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton, The Who, The Beatles, Elton John, Ian Anderson, The Animals, Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan, Pink Floyd and more. Select musicians and *Melody Maker* journalists, including Chris Welch, Chris Charlesworth, Richard Guardian, Alan Lewis, Mick Watts and Allan Jones, infuse the film with stories about a unique period when *Melody Maker Magazine*, founded in 1926 as a jazz musician’s trade paper, boldly became the first publication to cover popular music seriously in the early 1960s, setting the stage for publications like *Rolling Stone*.

Melody Maker captured the attention of the musicians, fans and the journalists who shared a common passion, the music. Bands were formed from the back page classified section, a pop culture phenomenon. This landmark documentary takes a fresh look at the changing landscape of music journalism that leads to the end of *Melody Maker Magazine*, and a style of music journalism that no longer exists today.

Melody Maker is the first independent film to be shown during the four-day festival from March 21 to 25. Tickets are \$10 per film. An all-access VIP pass to all events and parties is \$199 and is available at <https://fortmyersfilmfestival.ticketleap.com/vip2016/details>

Other events include: Party and gala at Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center – Friday, March 23: Friday night gala with drinks, mingling and musical entertainment with local and international filmmakers prior to the featured movie.


Mulletts & Mangroves II – History of Cayo Costa – Friday, March 23: Doors open at 7 p.m. The Friends of Cayo Costa and Barrier Island Park Society will present their new film at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates, 2350 McGregor Boulevard, at 7:45 p.m. Mullet & Mangroves II is the latest production of a two-part documentary and will view Cayo Costa Island through the eyes of pioneering fishing families and modern day children. The film will be preceded by a short historical film about the contributions of Tom Smoot to the Edison & Ford Winter Estates.

Local programming at the Alliance for the Arts on Saturday, March 24, and IMAG from March 23 to 25: Enjoy local programming from some of the top filmmakers in town as Fort Myers Film Festival keeps it local. Enjoy screenings and panel discussion at the Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers and IMAG, 2000 Cranford Avenue, Fort Myers.


Champagne & Dessert Awards Gala Dinner at the Broadway Palm, 1380 Colonial Boulevard, on Sunday, March 25: The gala is where the Fort Myers Film Festival will honor the winners with a showing of one award-winning film. Tickets are \$15 each. The official afterparty follows at the Twisted Vine in Fort Myers for song, dance and more libations.

The Fort Myers Film Festival supports Lee County Schools filmmakers, Raddatz Foundation and Golisano’s Children’s Hospital. Sponsors include *Florida Weekly*; Bennett’s Fresh Roast Coffee; Twisted Vine Bistro; J. Bert Davis MD, FACS, Facial Surgeon; La Trattoria de Napoli; Black Tie Tuxedos; Hampton Inn Suites; Best Western; Riverside Realty; Blu Sushi; Douglas E. Spiegel, PA; Capone’s Pizza; UBS Wealth Management; Kearns Restaurant Group; Mr. Tom’s Spirits; LYNQ; BLANC; and Susan Bennett Marketing & Media, L.C.✱

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Storybook Ball Benefit Deemed A Success

Everyone was dressed to the nines on February 17 for Ronald McDonald House Charities’ 24th annual Storybook Ball at Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs. Kathy Bridge-Liles, the night’s honoree, was recognized for her 27-year career at Lee Health and for leading a three-year journey to design Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida. More than 300 guests were in attendance to support RMHC Southwest Florida and enjoy the evening’s festivities, themed to Mary Poppins.

Participants were greeted by Mary Poppins herself with Bert at her side. Umbrellas hung from the ceiling, carousel horses were draped in daisies, an oversized teddy bear sat with his

friends on a park bench, while penguins were frolicking around a bistro table. Real life chimney sweeps took pictures near the chalkboard art that read Chim Chim Cheree against a London skyline backdrop.

NBC-2 News Today co-anchor Rachel Pierce emceed the black-tie event, which began with cocktails and a silent auction followed by a live auction conducted by Tommy Williams and dancing to the Robert Williamson Band. Guests were also treated with a decadent “spoonful of sugar,” compliments of Norman Love Confections.

All proceeds support Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida in its mission to create, find and support programs that directly impact the health and well-being of children and their families.

For information on sponsorship opportunities for 2019, contact Amy Blanco at 437-0202.✱

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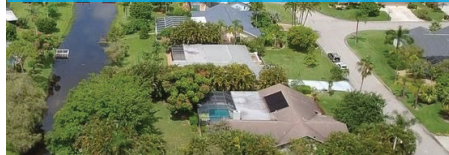
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Lori Jackson 239.633.4199

Fort Myers Art:

Anniversary For Dedication Of Park Sculpture



by Tom Hall

Fire Dance is the first commission awarded to an artist by the City of Fort Myers Public Art Committee. It was dedicated six years ago last week, on March 2, 2012.

The 25-foot tall sculpture is located

in a concrete circle at the eastern edge of Centennial Park West, near a playground and set of swings. Dupont red, the 25-foot-tall aluminum sculpture is a magnet that draws children, parents, park visitors and art lovers from far and wide. A medley of circles, spirals and counterbalances, *Fire Dance* represents sculptor David Black's idea of what jazz music might look like in 3D, proto-architectural form.

Black was chosen by the local public art committee from a field of 162 artists who responded to the city's RFQ, a national call to artists interested in submitting their qualifications and proposals. It is not the first time Black has won a competition for a public art commission. In fact, he's won more than 35 national and three international sculpture competitions, one in Nagano, Japan, a second in Berlin, Germany and the third in Canada.

"When designing a sculpture, you have to consider the site," Black observed. "Here, I wanted my piece to be taller than the surrounding palm trees. You must consider the elements as well. Because of Southwest Florida's intense sunlight, I've had Dupont add UV protection, like



Fire Dance sculpture in Centennial Park

sunscreens, to the paint to retard fading."

The sculpture is open so that people can walk through it and look up. "Inside the piece are four hidden spirals that create a story for your imagination," Black told the crowd who gathered for the March 2, 2012 dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony. "I like the idea of letting people walk around the sculpture and see it from underneath. I want them to enjoy the piece from every angle."

Toward that end, *Fire Dance* has been encircled by a sidewalk and landscaping, and is framed by park benches so that visitors to Centennial Park can freely interact with the sculpture from every conceivable vantage.

Fire Dance also reflects the park's energy and vitality during events. "My wife, Karlita, and I first visited Centennial Park at night. We walked right into a jazz festival. *Fire Dance* incorporates the sounds of the music and the noise of the crowd.

photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

Circles within circles; it's active, open, airy and rhythmic, just like jazz. And being originally from Gloucester [Massachusetts], I had to include some blades and sails in the design," Black explained, making reference to the sculpture's proximity to the banks of the Caloosahatchee.

"Imagination is always the fire; improv the heart," said the sculptor of his creation. "It is my hope that *Fire Dance* will lift each viewer's spirits and deepen their sense of community with Fort Myers by engendering a sense of civic pride."

Fire Dance is one of more than 45 artistic landmarks located in the downtown Fort Myers River District. For more information on *Fire Dance* and the rest of Fort Myers' public art collection, visit www.culturenow.org, the Public Art Archive and Art Southwest Florida.

Play Focuses On Church Basement Men

What happens when you let not one, but four roosters in a Norwegian Minnesota hen house? Well, you're about to find out when Broadway Palm Dinner

Theatre brings *Rise Up, O Men* to the Off-Broadway stage. The sixth helping from the Church Basement Ladies series, this brand new musical comedy features a handful of the men of East Cornucopia Lutheran Church.

The Church Basement Ladies is a series of six musical comedies inspired by Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Nelson's bestselling book, *Growing Up Lutheran*. *Rise Up, O Men* is the most recent installment in the series. It was developed by Greta Grosch (who also wrote the scripts for the second, third, fourth and fifth plays) with input from theater critic Graydon Royce. Composer and songwriter Dennis Curley wrote the music. Curley and Grosch provided the lyrics. Catchy in the ilk of *It's a Small World*, you'll be humming the songs from this musical as you leave the theater and on the drive all the way home.

In this episode, attention shifts to guys, who have a plethora of their own problems to resolve. There's Karin's husband, Elroy, a farmer by the name of Carl, a revered World War II vet named Arlo and, of course, the pastor, El Gunderson. As they discuss piles of scrap lumber, the benefits of weld versus solder, looming retirement, rival Protestant denominations and Pastor Gunderson's really bad jokes, the men folk unwittingly disrupt the ladies, who are hurrying to complete preparations for the church's 1964 centennial celebration. It's a recipe for hilarity that Broadway Palm serves up with relish and a side of panache.

This newest slant on a timeless and wildly popular theme of matriarchs and patriarchs colliding in the basement of America's favorite rural Norwegian Lutheran church runs from through April 29, with evening, twilight and matinee performances available Tuesday through Sundays.

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

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Children's Garden Fundraiser To Be Held At Park

The Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation is holding its annual Children's Garden fundraiser, Brick by Brick Picnic, at Lakes Regional Park on Sunday, March 18 from 4 to 7 p.m. This year's event celebrates the completion of Phase I, which is the ABC Garden.

The Bear Hill Bluegrass Band, specializing in bluegrass music with a little classic country mix, will entertain guests. Event sponsors include Denny's and Suncoast Beverage, who will be donating food and drink. The Zaniacs of Happy Dolphin Press will entertain children and Wheel Fun, one of the foundation's partners in the park, will provide a bounce house in the garden. Children also will get the opportunity to leave their hand prints on the wall. Parents and children are encouraged to indulge in unstructured playtime in the garden.

General Admission is \$25 for adults, \$10 for children age 5 to 12 and free for children younger than age 5. VIP admission is \$100 and includes an engraved brick. Food, beverages, entertainment and parking are included. Tickets are available online at www.lakespark.org

The fundraising auction features tickets to spring training games at JetBlue Stadium and Hammond Stadium, staycations donated by Marriott and Hampton Inn, an authentic Florida adventure experience by Everglades Day Safari and more.

This is the foundation's fifth annual spring fundraiser dedicated to financing the next phase of the Children's Garden at Lakes Park. The funding for Phase I was raised during a two-year period through events such as Scarecrows in the Park, auctions, general donations and brick sales.

Lakes Regional Park is a Lee County Parks & Recreation facility located in south Lee County at 7330 Gladiolus Drive in Fort Myers. Directions and park information are online at www.leeparks.org.✴

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The Zora String Quartet with Jiacheng Xiong and David Shifrin

photo provided

Bernstein Birthday Tour Comes To Davis Art Center

Celebrate the 100th birthday of inspiring musician and composer Leonard Bernstein with Happy Birthday, Bernstein at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Saturday, March 17. Cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m. followed by the performance at 8 p.m.

Experience Bernstein's music performed by Zora String Quartet, Jiacheng Xiong and David Shifrin from the Curtis Institute of Music. General admission tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 the day of the concert.

In 2018, Curtis on Tour celebrates the legacy of Curtis alumnus Leonard Bernstein by touring programs that feature Bernstein's music. In spring 2018, Curtis on Tour is offering a chamber ensemble including Curtis alumnus and renowned clarinetist David Shifrin, performing alongside Curtis students. The program will include Bernstein's lively and jazz-influenced Sonata for Clarinet and Piano, as well as other chamber music works for clarinet, strings and piano.

Leonard Bernstein was one of the world's greatest maestros and composers, but he was also

an educator, an activist and a humanitarian. Bernstein was a traditionalist who was never afraid to take risks. Best known for composing the original score to West Side Story, he was also known for his avant-garde takes on classical and chamber music. His pieces and performances have endured the test of time, making him one of the most important artists in modern music composition and conducting.

Drawing upon 90 years of artistry, the Curtis Institute of Music pairs tradition and innovation, educating exceptionally gifted young musicians as artist-citizens who engage a local and global community through music-making of the highest caliber.

Each year, 175 students come to Curtis drawn by a tuition-free, performance-inspired learning culture. In this intimate environment, they are nurtured by a celebrated faculty and inspired by the school's distinctive "learn by doing" approach, offering more than 200 concerts each year in Philadelphia, as well as performances around the world through Curtis on Tour.

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.curtis.edu/performances/curtis-on-tour/.

Dates Set For Songwriter Fest

The fifth annual Island Hopper Songwriter Fest will return to a number of tropical venues from September 21 to 30.

The festival enables participants a chance to hear popular songs they've heard on country radio performed by the actual songwriters.

"Island Hopper brings people closer to the music, giving visitors the chance to see and meet top songwriters in some of our destination's most spectacular island settings," said Tamara Pigott, executive director of the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau.

The festival kicks off on Captiva Island from September 21 through 23, then moves to historic downtown Fort Myers from September 24 through 27, and wraps up on Fort Myers Beach from September 28 through 30. The lineup of festival headliners and songwriters will be announced at a later date.

"We're already hard at work putting together the lineup for our fifth Island Hopper Songwriter Fest, and it's shaping up to be our best year yet," said Louis Kaplan, senior vice president of programming for iHeartMedia. "It's become one of the best festivals of its type in the country, so it's exciting to find artists reaching out to participate and guests returning to enjoy the music."

Yappy Hour Lucky Dog Night Set For This Friday

Bell Tower Shops is partnering with the Gulf Coast Humane Society (GCHS) to host a St. Patrick's Day-themed Yappy Hour block party fundraiser at the shop's center court on Friday, March 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Lucky Dog Night will feature vendors, a costume contest, live music, children's activities, food and drink.

Dress your pup in green and enter the costume contest for a \$5 donation to GCHS. Live music will be presented by Kraig Kenning. The benefit will also have a bounce house, a sidewalk chalk station and lawn games. Cru will be selling beer and wine for the evening, with all proceeds from beer purchases to be donated to GCHS. Omaha Steaks will offer \$2 hot dogs and \$1 water bottles with proceeds going to the Gulf Coast Humane Society.

As Merchant of the Month, Driftwood Blue will provide guests with a special offer.

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

Bell Tower Shops are located on the corner of U.S. 41 and Daniels Parkway in Fort Myers. To learn more about the event, visit www.thebelltowershops.com or www.facebook.com/BellTowerShops/.



A previous Yappy Hour setting

photo provided

SANIBEL Music FESTIVAL

Save March For Music **2018** CELEBRATING OUR 32nd YEAR
An Island Tradition

Concerts are held at the Sanibel Congregational U.C.C.

2050 Periwinkle Way • New Concert time at 7:30 p.m.



Jasper/Jupiter String Octet

Two outstanding award-winning string quartets join together to present octet repertoire for the first time at SMF.

Saturday, March 10 • \$50



Olga Kern & Vladik Kern, Piano

Critics have praised Cliburn Gold Medalist Olga for her "superhuman power, endurance, and incredible stage presence." She is joined by her gifted son who became a young Steinway Artist in 2016.

Tuesday, March 13 • \$50

Tickets available on-line at

www.sanibelmusicfestival.org

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

Tickets may be purchased at the church one-half hour prior to each concert.



Sanibel Music Festival is grateful for the support of
Lee County Tourist Development Council



Along The River

The Friends of **Lakes Regional Library** will welcome **author Suzi Weinert** to its meeting at the library this Friday, March 9 at 1 p.m. Weinert is the author of the **Garage Sale Mystery** series. Several Hallmark Movie Channel movies have been based on her work.

A book signing will follow the discussion. The program requires no registration and is free to the public. Lakes Regional Library is located at 15290 Bass Road in Fort Myers.

The **Alliance for the Arts' 32nd annual Juried All Florida show** will be on view from this Friday, March 9 to Thursday, March 29, including an opening reception on March 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. The exhibition features pieces created by artists working in a wide variety of media from all over the state of Florida.

This year's juror is Mark Ormond, curator for exhibitions from Ringling College of Art & Design. He has organized and coordinated over 300 exhibitions. From 531 entries, 50 artists and 57 pieces were selected by the juror.

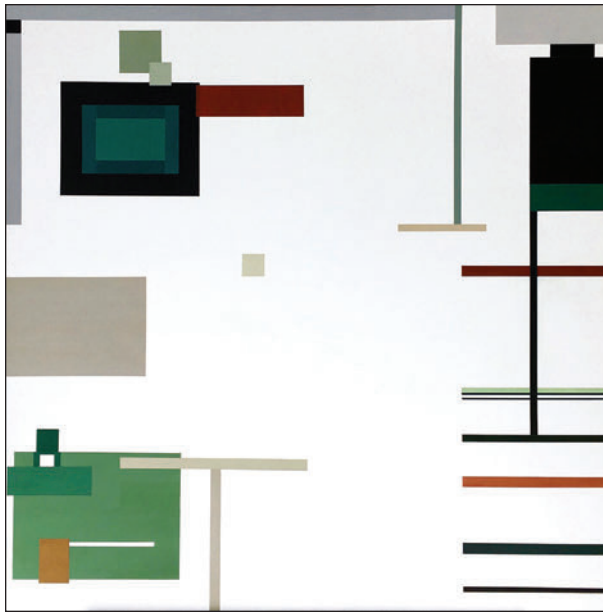
At the opening celebration, Ormond will be on hand to present awards including \$1,000 cash for Best In Show, a second place \$250 gift certificate for Golden Artists Colors, \$100 cash for third place and Jurors Choice Award(s) of Alliance for the Arts membership(s).

Meet and engage with exhibiting artists during a conversational tour through the gallery this Saturday, March 10 at 6 p.m. during SoCo Second Saturday.

Receptions and gallery talks are open to the public and do not require tickets or reservations. While the gallery admission is free, a \$5 suggested donation keeps Alliance programming affordable and accessible.

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

The Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc. will



Sculpture-Garden-Reductive II by Gay Germain is among the accepted artwork for the Alliance for the Arts' 32nd annual Juried All Florida show image provided

be hosting the **Rock Out Against Domestic Violence concert** at **Cape Coral Yacht Club**, featuring Razing Cape, this Friday, March 9 from 7 to 11 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc. (ACT), which operates a 22-bed safe shelter, as well as a number of safe, free and confidential services for survivors of abuse.

Tickets are \$8 pre-sale or \$10 at the door.

Cape Coral Yacht Club is located at 5819 Driftwood Parkway in Cape Coral. For more information or tickets, visit www.actabuse.com/event/rock-out-against-domestic-violence-concert-featuring-razing-cape.

Blessings in a Backpack of Southwest Florida is

partnering with Verandah golf community on its 10th annual **fundraising garage sale**, scheduled to be held at the **St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church** social center this Saturday, March 10 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church is located at 13031 Palm Beach Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, email Sharon Coburn at sharoncoburn@comcast.net or Edna Higgins at ednahiggins@live.com.

The **First Congregational Church** will hold its 7th annual **Classic Car Show** this Saturday, March 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch items will be offered for sale.

The show will feature approximately 70 classic cars, trophies, door prizes and 50/50 raffles. Registration will be day of the show, with car owners getting a free lunch.

The First Congregational Church is located at 312 Santa Barbara Boulevard in Cape Coral. For more information, call Rich at 652-0720.

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

Vendors will set up at various locations in the Royal Palms Square, offering their handmade and fine crafts during the event. The classic rock band MFYF will be playing at the Royal Palm Square during the event.

The SoCo Second Saturday Art Crawl is a rain or shine monthly event. The SoCo Cultural District location encompasses the block south of Colonial Boulevard, from the corner of McGregor Boulevard to Summerlin Road, to Royal Palm Square Boulevard and back to McGregor Boulevard.

For more information, visit www.socoswfl.com or call 590-8645.

The 7th annual **Fort Myers Kidney Walk** will be held at **Lakes Regional Park** this Sunday, March 11 at 10 a.m. Join kidney donors, recipients, caregivers

continued on page 17

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Fundraiser Set For Lab Theater's 10th Season

Fresh on the heels of a record-breaking season, The Laboratory Theater of Florida will announce the 2018-19 shows for its 10th season on Monday, March 12. The fundraising reception will start at 6 p.m., with free general admission open to the public beginning at 7:30 pm.

Due to Hurricane Irma, which necessitated the cancellation of the annual fundraiser in September, Lab Theater is combining its season announcement with its annual fundraiser. Funds raised during this event will go towards property improvements and renovations, most notably the cleanup and rehab of the new education building, functional air conditioning for the props and costumes building, restoration of the original hardwood floors and creation of an outdoor performance space.

Purchase of either a season pass or a snowbird pass will serve as admission to the fundraiser, which will feature entertainment, drinks and hors d'oeuvres as well as an advance opportunity to sponsor special show needs, underwrite the new Actor's Fund, or sponsor one of the regular season activities of your choice.

Lab Theater is located at 1634

Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers. Tickets are available to purchase on www.brownpapertickets.com or by calling the box office at 218-0481.*

Ronald McDonald House Benefit March 15

Twenty local "celebrity artists" are coming back for seconds as Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida hosts Eat. Clay. Love... Again at the Ronald McDonald House on March 15 at 5:30 p.m. The benefit will include hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, followed by an auction of painted serving platters and a family-style dinner under the stars prepared by Chef Brian Roland of CRAVE Culinaire.

Last year's fundraiser, Eat. Clay. Love, raised more than \$30,000 to help the charity keep families close. NBC2 anchor Rachel Pierce, Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson, Sandy Stilwell-Youngquist, Chris Spiro and Chef Shannon Yates will be back by popular demand. Newcomers to the table include Cindy McCurry-Ross, Debbie Toler, Andie Vogt and Dr. Larry Antonucci.

Tickets are \$150 per person. To view the celebrities' artwork, purchase tickets and gain more information, visit www.rmhcswfl.org or call Amy at 437-0202.*

Rising Stars Honored At Awards Function

Five students from Fort Myers Christian School (FMCS) were presented with 2017-18 Rising Stars awards for their academic achievement by Step Up for Students at St. Andrew Catholic School in Cape Coral recently. One FMCS faculty member will also be presented with a Rising Stars award.

The following six individuals from FMCS were presented with awards:
Myra Stewart – Exceptional Teacher Award

Gabriella Pereira (6th grade) – High Achieving Student Award

Jullien Zeferino (4th grade) – High Achieving Student Award

Andre Fernandes (4th grade) – Outstanding Student Character Award

Kaleb DeCastro (kindergarten) – Turnaround Student Award

Blake Dillion – Outstanding Student Character Award

“It is an honor to be recognized by Step Up for Students for the privilege I have in working closely with K-8 students in our school,” said Stewart, the learning resource program coordinator and teacher at FMCS. “I love seeing all students learn, but my heart is especially full when struggling students accomplish learning goals successfully.”

Teachers and students from schools that accept Step Up for Students scholarships were nominated for this statewide award recognition for their “exceptional work

throughout the school year.”

“Fort Myers Christian School is very excited for the individuals that (were) honored at the Step Up for Students ‘Rising Stars’ Awards for Lee County,” added Mel Mitchell, principal of Fort Myers Christian School. “This is a prestigious statewide award. Go Eagles!”

Step Up for Students provides scholarship opportunities to lower-income earning families through the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program. FMCS accepts families who apply for Step Up scholarships to make private school affordable for those who otherwise would not be able to attend.

Fort Myers Christian School is located at 1550 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information or to schedule a campus tour to speak with someone about scholarship opportunities, drop by the school or contact the school office at 939-4642 or info@fmcs-fl.org.

Audubon Program

The Audubon of Southwest Florida will hold a program entitled Sea Turtles of Sanibel and Captiva at the Southwest Florida Masonic Temple on Thursday, March 15 at 7 p.m.

The program, which is free and open to the public, will be presented by Kelly Sloan, coordinator of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Sea Turtle Program.

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



Taser training at a previous Respect for Law camp

photo provided

Respect For Law Camp Open For Enrollment

The Fort Myers Police Department will sponsor a Respect for Law camp, open to children ages 11 to 14, at Bishop Verot High School for four days and three nights from June 7 to the 10. Activities include SWAT Team and K-9 Unit demonstrations, emergency vehicle displays, law enforcement training and drills, dodge ball and agility trials.

Children will experience the challenges

and expectations that come with being a member of the law enforcement community in a fun and exciting camp atmosphere. An enrollment fee of \$125 includes food, lodging, shirts, hats, prizes and fun. Enroll by April 28 and receive an early registration discount of only \$110. Online registration is open, but participation is limited to the first 120 campers.

For camp registration, visit <http://campscui.active.com/orgs/FMPDYouthRelationsDivision?season=2374501>. For more information, contact Officer Athena Mitchell of the youth relations division at 321-7700 or amitchell@fmpolice.com.

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OBITUARY



MARIA DE LOURDES CARLSON

Maria De Lourdes Carlson, 72, passed away in the loving embrace of her family on February 22, 2018. She spent her last months surrounded by her family, friends and a vibrant community that loved her dearly. There was a celebration of Maria’s life on March 2 at Collective Church, 111 South Alabama Street in Deland, Florida.

Maria was born in Mexico City, Mexico on June 9, 1945 to her parents Mario Moguel and Dolores Coello Moguel. She had a degree in elementary

education, but passionately wanted to be a nun in the Roman Catholic faith. A vacation to Boston, Massachusetts changed her path forever when she met her future husband on a blind date. She remained devoutly Catholic and was forever a servant to her Lord and Savior. She married Roine Paige Carlson on November 8, 1969 and so began their adventurous journey that lasted 49 years, and allowed them to travel the world. They lived in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Missouri, Mexico City and Minnesota. They finally decided to call Fort Myers, Florida their forever home, until Maria and Roine moved to Deland to have family assist with Maria’s declining health.

Maria spent her working life teaching and volunteering as a social worker for the migrant community in South Florida, and as a translator for hospitals, within the judicial system, and in a college setting. She was passionate in every area of her life but especially when it came to her family. She always remained very connected to her family in Mexico, desiring nothing more than to be with her four grandchildren. She had collections of dolls, travel spoons, thimbles, Betty Boop, rosaries, watches, sunglasses... you name it, she collected it. She loved to dance, especially to the songs of her childhood and youth. She spent her last weeks dancing in her bed as best as she could, singing these songs that were the soundtrack to her life.

Maria was known to all who met her as a loving friend. She was wildly mischievous, smart, funny and caring.

She doted over her husband, children, grandchildren and their friends, as well as her pets, throughout her entire life. Her laugh and smile were infectious, and people couldn’t help but gravitate to her. She made friends everywhere she ever went. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Maria is survived by her husband,

Roine Paige Carlson of Fort Myers; her daughter, Natasha Watts (Mark) of Deland; son, Nathan Carlson (Kara) Bethlehem, New Hampshire; her four grandchildren, Baylor Watts, Grace Watts, Maya Watts and Nicholas Carlson; and her fur baby, Fluffy. She has too many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews to name, but all were loved.✧

Multi-Media Collaborations Return In March

ArtPoems, the collaborative multi-media poet and artist project of Southwest Florida, will celebrate its twelfth year at BIG ARTS Schein Hall on Wednesday, March 28. There will be a reception at 7 p.m. with a presentation to follow at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Ranging from Peace River to Sanibel, from Cape Coral to Fort Myers and Naples, the group of 12 artists and 12 poets has collaborated to produce poems inspired by artworks and artworks inspired by poems. Poets will perform their poems while the paired paintings, sculptures, photography and mixed media artwork are exhibited on stage and on the screen.

This year, artists include Paul Adamick, Honey Costa, Scott Guelcher, William Kramer, Claude Lyles, Lawrence Massing, Leslie Morrow, Barbara G. Mulford, Roy Rodriguez, Beverly That, Kenneth A. Vinton

and Buck Ward. Collaborating poets include Joyce Berrian Ferrari, Jamilla D. Brooks, Dan England, Christine Goodwin, Sandy Greco, Mary Beth Lundgren, Holly McEntyre, Gary McLouth, Marilyn Mecca, Joe Pacheco, Sid Simon and Lorraine Walker Williams.

BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. For more information, visit www.artpoems.org.✧

Pancake Breakfast

The Bayside Estates Men’s Club will host its monthly pancake breakfast in the recreation hall on Sunday, March 11 from 8 to 11 a.m. All are invited to attend.

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

Bayside Estates is located at 17601 San Carlos Boulevard. Signs are at both entrances.✧

Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

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

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC

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

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX

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

BETH SHILOH MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. 15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171.

BIBLESHARE

10 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Tuesday, 7050 Winkler Rd, Suite 121, www.simplysimpleworship.com, 437-8835.

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 16581 McGregor Boulevard, 267-3166.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH ORTHODOX

Friday 6:30 p.m. 5620 Winkler Road, chabadswf.org, 433-7708.

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE

Sunday 10 a.m. 10200 Cypress Cove Circle, revtedalhouse@aol.com, 850-3943.

CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Sunday 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. 13500 Freshman Lane, 768-2188.

CONGREGATIONAL

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

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

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

CYPRESS LAKE BAPTIST

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

CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN

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

CYPRESS LAKE UNITED METHODIST

Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 8570 Cypress Lake Drive, 482-1250.

FAITH FELLOWSHIP WORLD OUTREACH

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

FAITH UNITED METHODIST

Sunday 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. 15690 McGregor Boulevard, 482-2030.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Wednesday 12 noon Testimony Service, Sunday 10:30 a.m. 2390 West First Street, christiansciencefortmyers.net, christianscience.com.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. 13545 American Colony Boulevard, 936-2511.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. 2466 First Street, www.fumcftmyers.org, 332-1152.

FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 5916 Winkler Road, 437-4330.

FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST; Sunday 10 a.m., 8210 College Parkway, 482-3133.

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

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

JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC

Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday 8, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. 881 Nuna Avenue, 481-1143.

KINGDOM LIFE

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

LAMB OF GOD

Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m. 19691 Cypress

View Drive, lambofgodchurch.net, 267-3525.

NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER

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

NEW COVENANT EYES

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

NEW HOPE BAPTIST

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

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN

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

PEACE COMMUNITY

Sunday 10:30 a.m. [www.17671 Pine Ridge Road](http://www.17671PineRidgeRoad.com), peacecommunitychurch.com, 267-7400.

PEACE LUTHERAN

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

REDEEMER LUTHERAN

Sunday 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. 3950 Winkler Ext., 274-0143.

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER

Meditation classes. MeditationInFortMyers.org, 567-9739.

SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC

Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.; Saturday 3 and 5 p.m.; Sunday 7, 9 and 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m. 12171 Iona Road, 489-3973.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC

Monday through Thursday 6:45 a.m.; Friday 6:45 and 11 a.m.; Saturday 4 p.m.; Sunday 6:45, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 2157 Cleveland Avenue, 334-2161.

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

METROPOLITAN

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

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN

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

SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY

Sunday 9:30 a.m. 111 Evergreen Road, saintnicholasmonastery.org, 997-2847.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC

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

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST

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

TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE

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

TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

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

THE NEW CHURCH

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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

UNITY OF FORT MYERS

Sunday 10 a.m. 11120 Ranchette Road, unityoffortmyers.org, 278-1511.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH Sunday 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. 9065 Ligon Court, 481-2125.

WORD OF LIFE

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

ZION LUTHERAN

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



Nancy Randal captured the Florida Watercolor Society Award for *Up-Up and Away* photo provided

Beach Art Group Spring Show Winners

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA) recently presented awards for their Spring Juried Show entitled Permission to Play. Submitted paintings were judged by renowned artist Marie Natale. The awards ceremony was preceded by a gallery talk given by artist Maggie Rapp. Artwork in this exhibit is available for viewing and purchase until March 22.

Sue Pink captured first place and the Lucy B Campbell award for *Alphabet Heron*. Dannica Walker was awarded second place for *Dad*. Third place went to Maggie Rapp for *On the Windowsill*.

Merit Awards were presented to Michele Barron Buelow for *Beach*

Shadows and Lynne Wesolowski for *Drama Queens*. Honorable Mention awards went to Kathy Taylor for *Pink Ones* and Bob Mueller for *Morning Sail*. Special Awards were presented to Judi Miller for *Palmera de Cocos* (Lee Ackert Award) and Nancy Randal for *Up-Up and Away* (The Florida Watercolor Society Award).

The annual FMBAA Art Bazaar will be held at Santini Marina Plaza on Sunday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sales from paintings, three-dimensional art, cards, jewelry, crafts and more will benefit the FMBAA Student Scholarship Fund.

For more information, call 463-3909, email Pam Flaherty at fmbaapublicity@gmail.com or stop by the FMBAA gallery located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard on Fort Myers Beach. The gallery is open daily Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit www.fortmyersbeachart.com for updates.✱

Animal Shelter Fundraiser

The annual fundraiser for the Cape Coral Animal Shelter will be held at Wicked Dolphin Distillery on Saturday, March 10 from 7 to 11 p.m.

Boston Red Sox announcer Ted Fitzgeorge will be the master of ceremonies and the 1960s-themed event will be a night of costumes, cocktails, food, music, dancing, contests and auctions creating fun for all attendees. Attendees are encouraged to wear attire fitting the era to join the fun including photo opportunities with a Laugh-In Wall replica of the Rowan and Martin's television show. Tickets are \$75 and include an evening of hors d'oeuvres and desserts from well-known area restaurants, music, entertainment, cash bar, contest to win prizes, dancing, auctions and more.

Wicked Dolphin is the presenting sponsor. John Michaels Diamond & Jewelry will sponsor their annual champagne diamond drop and the recipient will win a 1 carat diamond at the end of the evening. Other sponsors include

Stephen Todd Interiors, Animal ER of SW Florida, Specialized Veterinary Services, Tow Boat US Cape Coral, Gavin's Ace Hardware, Jet's Pizza, Clear Pay Solutions, High Impact Designz, CapeStyle Magazine, Gator Press, ClearPay Financial Solutions, FOS Furniture, Publix, Intergraphic 2.0, City Subs and Morgan Stanley.

Ceno Grill, Big Blue Brewing, Gathers, Cork Soakers, Lobster Lady, Nevermind, Slate's, Woody's Surfside Island Rum & Grille, My Sweet Art, Zirlis Ice, Lady Cakes, Cannolis Italian Bakery & Market and Noela Chocolate & Confections will supply the food.

"Each year we have more to offer and enjoy, but the end result is to raise funds for the Cape Coral Animal Shelter in order to save more lives and give the city a service that is desperately needed. We are getting very close to breaking ground and every dollar raised is going into this effort," said Cape Coral Animal Shelter President and Wicked Dolphin Distillery owner JoAnn Elardo.

Wicked Dolphin Distillery is located at 131 SW 3rd Street in Cape Coral. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.capecoralanimalshelter.com/#party.✱



The Young Dead

Local Band To Hold EP Release Show March 17

The Young Dead will be having an EP release show at Howl Tattoo and Piercing on Saturday, March 17 beginning at 9 p.m. The cassette release of *Righteous Violence* is the band's first EP release, and the Young Dead have invited the Nervous Girls from Tampa and Snowmoon from Miami to join the St. Patrick's Day show.

Cost is \$5 at the door. You must be age 21 or older for admittance.

The Young Dead is a Southwest Florida-based punk/grunge band that was started by vocalist and rhythm guitar player

photo courtesy Jesi Cason Photography

Angela Page and bassist Kristian Delay. Formed in 2012, the Young Dead started to move in a heavier direction when they joined up with drummer Pete Flower and guitarist Collin Mannon. Both musicians have a background in metal, particularly Mannon, who has played in bands like I Touch Your Kids.

The Young Dead recorded *Righteous Violence* at Six Fingers Studios in Fort Myers and reached out to Austin-based engineers Matt Panera and Max Lorenzen for mixing and mastery. The EP was released on February 14 on Bandcamp, and will be available on cassette and other digital platforms this March.

Howl Tattoo and Piercing is located at 4160 Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.theyoungdead.com.✱



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Noted Author To Headline Dinner On March 22

What is the secret to a happy relationship? *New York Times* Best-Selling Author Dr. Gary Chapman will describe what it takes to have a successful love relationship when he speaks at the annual Benefit Dinner for Lifeline Family Center at McGregor Baptist Church on Thursday, March 22.

Millions of readers credit Chapman's best-selling book, *The 5 Love Languages: The Secret to Love That Lasts*, with saving their marriages and families by showing them simple and practical ways to communicate love.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$80 each or \$440 for a table of eight. Sponsorships, which include a VIP reception with Chapman, are available from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Tickets may be purchased at www.lifelinefamilycenter.org/event/benefit-dinner/ or by calling 242-7238.

Major sponsors for the event are Jerry and Dee Horne and Glenn and Ada Ann Healey. CTN10 General Manager Paul Lodato will be the master of ceremonies.

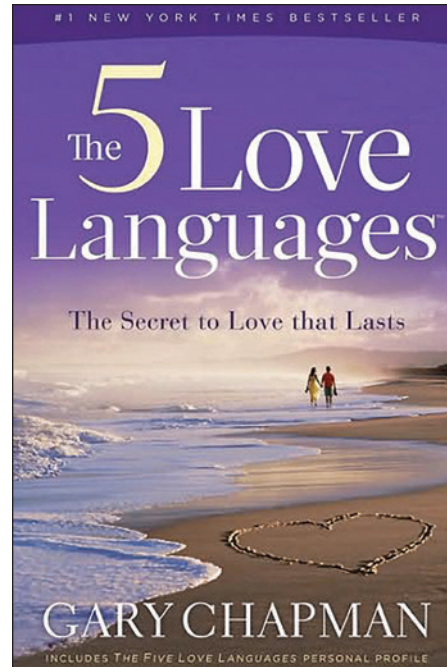
"We are very pleased Dr. Chapman will be coming to Southwest Florida to share his expertise in marriage and family counseling and help us improve or heal our most important



Dr. Gary Chapman photos provided

relationships," said Lifeline Family Center President and Founder Kathy Miller. "His message is sure to resonate with all who desire to communicate love in family relationships."

Lifeline Family Center provides a home in Cape Coral for homeless young women in crisis pregnancies to help them become self-supporting through education, job training, parenting classes, professional counseling and spiritual guidance. It is the only residential program in Lee



Five Love Languages book cover

County for homeless young women in crisis pregnancies who are not part of the foster care program.

Lifeline Family Center can serve up to 12 young women, ages 16 to 25, and up to 24 babies at a time in the residential program. More than 6,000 women have received assistance with material needs, such as diapers and formula, adoption counseling and resource referrals through Lifeline's Outreach Program and the 24/7 helpline, 772-HOPE. Lifeline's Outreach

provides free pregnancy tests, free ultrasounds by appointment, and does outreach to all areas of Lee County, including community centers and college campuses.

Katherina Ortiz, who graduated from the two-year residential program and now works at Lifeline in Outreach and Public Relations, also will speak at the benefit dinner on how her experience at Lifeline Family Center made a difference in her life and those of her children.

Dr. Chapman is the author of numerous other books, including *The Family You've Always Wanted*, *The Marriage You've Always Wanted*, *Desperate Marriages*, *God Speaks Your Love Language*, *How to Really Love Your Adult Child*, and *One More Try*. With Dr. Jennifer Thomas, he co-authored *When Sorry Isn't Enough*, which introduces readers to *The 5 Languages of Apology*.

Dr. Chapman speaks to thousands of couples nationwide through his weekend marriage conferences. He hosts a nationally syndicated radio program, *A Love Language Minute*, and a Saturday morning program, *Building Relationships with Dr. Gary Chapman*, both airing on more than 400 stations.

Dr. Chapman and his wife have two grown children and live in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where he is senior associate pastor of Calvary Baptist Church.*

Evidence Of 7,000-Year-Old Site In Gulf Found

Secretary of State Ken Detzner recently announced that archaeological investigations have determined the presence of a 7,000-year-old site in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Venice. The Manasota Key Offshore (MKO) archaeological site is unprecedented. It is located on the continental shelf in offshore waters, yet displays well preserved and very early materials.

"The Florida Department of State takes our responsibility for the preservation, respectful treatment and security of this rare and unique site very seriously," said Secretary Detzner. "Our dedicated team of underwater archaeologists have done an incredible job of documenting and researching the Manasota Key Offshore archaeological site, and I am extremely proud of their work. Our hope is that this discovery leads to more knowledge and a greater understanding of Florida's early peoples."

Out of respect for the individuals buried there and their living descendants, divers and other interested individuals are prohibited from disturbing the site. The site is protected under Florida law, and it is illegal to

excavate and/or remove any material or human remains from the site. Under Florida law, it is the state's responsibility to manage and protect the MKO archaeological site and ensure it is treated in a respectful manner.

Reports of the MKO archaeological site began in June 2016 when divers identified possible human skeletal material offshore near Venice. The find was reported to the Department's Division of Historical Resources (OHR), Bureau of Archeological Research (BAR), which has protective authority over human remains more than 75 years old. Since then, BAR has been investigating the offshore area and has now confirmed that a submerged prehistoric site, measuring roughly 0.75 acres, that existed along the shoreline of Venice Beach during the Early Archaic period, some 7,000 years ago.

Research indicates that during this time period, when sea levels were much lower, a small inland freshwater pond was present and ancestors of Florida's indigenous people interred their deceased there. As sea levels rose, the pond was covered by the Gulf of Mexico; despite the flooding, the peat bottom of the pond remained intact. Peat slows the process of organic decay, which allowed the site to stay well preserved.

The MKO archaeological site demonstrates that submerged offshore archaeological sites have survived

natural occurrences, such as erosion and hurricanes. As the State of Florida continues to document and research the site, we will gain a deeper understanding of Florida's early history and its inhabitants.

BAR has conducted geophysical survey work, sediment sampling and site testing that has helped identify the soil composition of the site and provided information on the past environment and nature of the cultural deposit. BAR is using this data to reconstruct the nature of the site when it was in use more than 7,000 years ago. BAR is currently developing a long-term management plan for the site. More details will be forthcoming.

The Department's Division of Historical Resources has been working closely with numerous partners throughout this process, in particular the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Florida Public Archeology Network, Florida Gulf Coast University, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Sarasota County, Manasota Key Homeowners Association, Florida Fish and Wildlife, and local dive shops and small businesses. The support of these key partners has been critical to the successful and safe study of the site.

Dr. Timothy Parsons, director of OHR, said, "The MKO archaeological site is a revelation for the world of archaeology. As important as the site is archaeologically, it is crucially

important that the site and the people buried there are treated with the utmost sensitivity and respect. The discovery and on-going efforts to research and preserve the MKO site would not have been possible without the support and commitment from the local community. Everyone from the dive shops to the nearby homeowners to the local organizations and county government played a critical role in this project."

Dr. Ryan Duggins, underwater archaeology supervisor for OHR, said, "Seeing a 7,000-year-old site that is so well preserved in the Gulf of Mexico is awe inspiring. We are truly humbled by this experience. It is important to remember that this is a burial site and must be treated with the utmost respect. We now know that this type of site exists on the continental shelf. This will forever change the way we approach offshore archaeology. As we continue to learn as much as possible from the site, we look forward to sharing that knowledge with the people of Florida."

Dr. Paul Backhouse, tribal historic preservation officer of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, said, "We are happy to be working, shoulder to shoulder, with the Bureau of Archaeological Research and the residents of Manisota Key to identify a preservation plan that will allow the ancestors to continue to rest peacefully and without human disturbance for the next 7,000 years."**

Easter Egg Hunts Begin March 10

Four Lee County Parks & Recreation sites will offer opportunities for children to put egg-hunting skills to the test in advance of Easter, which is April 1.

On Saturday, March 10, Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt from 10 a.m. to noon. Children age 12 and younger, their families and friends are invited to the egg hunt and visit from the Easter Bunny. Bring a camera; refreshments will be provided. The egg hunt starts at 10:35 a.m., immediately following the bunny's arrival. Participation is \$5 per child (cash only); adults can attend for free. For more information, call 432-2154.

On Saturday, March 24, the North Fort Myers Community Park annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Register online at www.leeparks.org by March 23. The event will feature an egg hunt for ages 10 and younger as well as crafts, prizes and a photo opportunity with the Easter Bunny. Cost is \$5 per child. Donations and volunteers are needed. For more information, call 533-7200.

On Saturday, March 31, Estero EGGStravaganza will begin at Estero Recreation Center at 8 a.m. Pre-registration is required and begins March 1. Call the recreation center at 498-0415 or visit www.leeparks.org. The egg hunt, crafts, refreshments and the opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny are for children age 12 and younger. The cost is \$5 per child.

Bring your camera. The egg hunts begin at 9:30 a.m. Children will be arranged in three groups: ages 3 and under; ages 4 to 7 and 8 to 12. Each age group has the chance to find a prize egg, which wins them an Easter basket full of goodies. Registration will not be accepted the day of the event. This is an outdoor event, weather permitting. For more information, call the Estero Recreation Center at 498-0415.

On March 31 Veterans Community Park annual Colored Coconut Hunt will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Colored coconuts and candy-filled eggs will be hidden in designated areas of the recreation center park grounds. Activities include the egg hunt, games and face painting. The hunt will be broken in to four different age groups with colored coconuts and eggs in each patch. Age groups are: 2 and younger; 3 to 5; 6 to 8; and 9 to 11. Prizes will be given for special eggs and different colored coconuts. The Easter Bunny will visit. Cost is \$5 per child. Advance registration is required and the event is limited to 125 participants. Arrive at 10 a.m. for check-in and the hunt will start at 10:30 a.m. Participants can register online at www.leeparks.org, at the Veterans Park Recreation Center or by calling 369-1521.

Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center is located at 16760 Bass Road in Fort Myers. North Fort Myers Community Park is located at 2000 North Recreation Park Way in North Fort Myers. Estero Recreation Center is located at 9200 Corkscrew Palms Boulevard in Estero. Veterans Community Park is located at 55 Homestead Road South in Lehigh Acres.✱

Heron's Glen Art Show And Sale On March 11

The 20th annual Heron's Glen Fine Art Show and Sale will be held in the ballroom at Heron's Glen Golf & Country Club on Sunday, March 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Watercolor, oils, acrylics, pencil, photography and several other mediums of artworks will be for sale. The Heron's Glen Artist Group is a not for profit organization located in the Heron's Glen Golf and Country Club community. Meet and purchase directly from the club's talented artists.

Heron's Glen Golf & Country Club is located at 2250 Del Vera in North Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.heronsglenartistgroup.org or call 731-6524.✱



Jellyfish by Carol Campbell

photo provided

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Densely packed flowerheads with long stamens give the blue clusters a soft fuzzy look

photos by Gerri Reaves

Irrepressible Blue Mistflower

Plant Smart

Blue mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*) is native to Florida and found throughout the state, indeed, in much of the eastern U.S. In the wild, it usually grows in moist areas along ponds or in wet meadows,



Blue mistflower loves to take up residence amid other plants, in this case cocoplum

ditches, woods, or marshes. Over-irrigated landscapes welcome it too. Other names for this member of the aster, or daisy, family include false or wild ageratum, pink eupatorium, hardy ageratum and blue boneset. This short-lived perennial easily self-propagates -- so well that some people consider it an invasive weed in some settings. It spreads via root-like underground stems called rhizomes, as well as by abundant seed dispersal. The one- to three-inch leaves are

opposite, oval or triangular, toothed, coarse, and hairy. The showy flowers bloom in dense flat clusters on branched stems at the top of the plant. Flowerheads hold up to 70 flowers. Colors range from soft blue to lavender to pink or violet – thus the term *coelestinum*, which means “sky blue.” The soft fuzzy appearance created by long stamens inspires the term mistflower. As is sometimes the case with asters, its flowers consist of only disk flowers and lack ray flowers, or petals. This fast grower reaches one to three feet tall and is especially pretty as a mass planting. It blooms all year, but more plentifully in summer and fall. It will grow in almost any soil but prefers rather rich soil and plenty of moisture. It blooms best in full sun but

will tolerate some shade. It is not salt tolerant. It’s perfect for a natural garden, providing nectar for native butterflies and skippers and attracting other pollinators. Propagate it with seeds or by division. The tiny black elongated seeds have white hairs on one end. In traditional medicine, it is used as a cold and cough treatment. Sources: *Gardening for Florida’s Butterflies* by Pamela F. Traas, *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, *Wildflowers of Florida Field Guide* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, www.floridata.com, www.fnps.org, www.plants.usda.gov, and www.regionalconservation.org. *Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.*✱



Burmese python captured in Southwest Florida with large prey

photos provided

Largest Python Predator-To-Prey Size Ratio Posted

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida documented a Burmese python eating a white-tailed deer that weighed more than the python itself. This is believed to be the largest predator/prey ratio ever documented for the Burmese python, and possibly for any species of python. The findings will be published in the March 2018 issue of *Herpetological Review*. “This observation is another important piece of evidence for the negative impact invasive Burmese pythons are having on native wildlife across the Greater Everglades Ecosystem” said Ian Bartoszek, Conservancy of Southwest Florida wildlife biologist. “Imagine the potential consequences to the state and federally protected Florida panther if Burmese pythons adversely affect the number of white-tailed deer, a panthers primary prey.” On April 7, 2015, Conservancy wildlife biologists and land managers



Conservancy of Southwest Florida conservation associate Monica Hendricks and 12-foot male Burmese python

from Collier-Seminole State Park discovered an 11-foot female Burmese python in the park that was visibly distended by a large food bulge. After capturing the snake and moving it to an open area, the snake began to regurgitate a young white-tailed deer. Once both animals could be weighed, the team noted the fawn’s mass was 15.88 kilograms (35 pounds), which was 111.1 percent the mass of the python at 14.29 kg (31.5 pounds). The find also questions if the Burmese python may be able to negatively impact the population of white-tailed deer by preying on young fawns before they are old enough to mate. Some studies suggest the Burmese python is responsible for a 90 percent decline in small mammal populations in the eastern Everglades. The Conservancy of Southwest Florida’s mission is to protect the region’s water, land wildlife and future. “Our research and removal efforts are driven by what the science shows us,” said Conservancy of Southwest Florida President and CEO Rob Moher. “We are learning valuable information that is helping us push back against this invasive species that is significantly and negatively impacting our native wildlife.”✱

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CROW Case Of The Week:

Sea Turtles



by Bob Petcher

Sea turtles (*superfamily Chelonioidae*) are prehistoric aquatic creatures that can be found in all warm and temperate waters throughout the world. These marine turtles migrate hundreds of miles between nesting and feeding grounds. There are seven species of these reptiles, but the most common found in local waters are loggerheads and green turtles.

At CROW, two sea turtles – one loggerhead and one green – were admitted to the hospital after both were found floating in the water. The green sea turtle was found unable to submerge at Stump Pass near Manasota Key. This condition, referred to as “bubble butt,” involved gas trapped in the patient’s coelom, or body cavity. Reports say the green turtle has an older fracture from a suspected boat strike that has healed over.

“Bubble butt syndrome” is the term used to describe abnormal floating related to a buoyancy issue in the turtle,” said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW veterinary intern. “The green sea turtle presented unable to dive because it had abnormal buoyancy, causing its hind end to float above the surface of the water.

“In the green’s case, the most likely cause is air trapped in the coelom due to trauma from boat strike. It could be free air that was trapped when the initial wound healed over, or it could be due to trauma to the lungs.”

The loggerhead patient was found just off the Sanibel Causeway. The approximately 160-pound turtle arrived with no obvious injuries, but was thin with



Patient #18-0371, a green turtle, after air was removed from its body cavity
photos by Brian Bohman

generalized weakness. Its shell was covered in heavy barnacles and algae.

“The loggerhead presented floating due to being in a debilitated state, not due to a buoyancy issue. It was thin, dehydrated and anemic,” said Dr. Bast. “This could be secondary to toxin exposure, such as brevetoxicosis, or it could also be due to loggerhead anemia syndrome. A specific cause of loggerhead anemia syndrome has not yet been identified, but possible underlying causes include parasite burden or spirorchids, toxins, or chronic infection. As part of its treatment, the loggerhead was given a deworming medication for any parasites, and is receiving regular iron injections in addition to its fluid therapy.”

Blood samples were taken from both sea turtles for brevetoxin testing. The loggerhead turtle was started on an aggressive fluid plan to rehydrate.

“The green sea turtle’s in-house bloodwork – complete blood count, packed cell volume and total solids – were all within normal limits. A blood sample



Patient #18-0372, a loggerhead, is still anemic and receiving iron injections regularly

was sent to an outside lab to test for any underlying brevetoxin exposure. This result is still pending,” said Dr. Bast. “In the loggerhead’s case, it received boluses of a colloid fluid called Hetastarch in order to treat its anemia. It also received crystalloid fluids supplemented with electrolytes the first few days in order to correct blood abnormalities including hypokalemia, low potassium levels.”

After just nine days at the clinic, both patients are improving.

“Both turtles have made progress since admission. The green sea turtle underwent a procedure called coelomocentesis, tapping free air from the body cavity, in an attempt to help correct the bubble butt. Approximately 560 (milliliters) of air was removed during the procedure. It also had temporary weights applied to its shell to help correct buoyancy issues, a common part of the treatment for bubble butt. Its back flippers are moving, but weaker than the front flippers,

continued on page 39

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A Challenging Yet Gratifying Week



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

So we thought we had dodged winter, then the first week of March starts off with two cold fronts bringing us wind and cold like we have not had to deal with since January. With the warmest February on record behind us, the jet stream has now dipped down lower as it usually does in March, bringing us a weather pattern that I'm sure will include more cold and windy days. With the crazy February heat wave, we went more than a month without a single weather-caused trip cancellation. Now only three days into March, we have already started rescheduling and juggling trips due to the bad weather. When Mother Nature is your boss, you just have to take the good with the bad.

This week's fishing brought some of the slower action I have dealt with in months, although we always ended up catching good fish. We avoided the passes all week to stay away from patchy red tide that would kill your live well full of bait, and then had constantly changing wind direction making us really work for every decent fish we caught. Days included going from spot to spot with only a few bites here and there, then as soon as it got right, we would catch all of our quality fish in basically one location and make the trip.

One such memorable day like that this week came after a few slow hours with only a handful of ladyfish and trout caught until we hit the lotto with three large snook, a big jack crevalle and a small tarpon all within 15 minutes at one place. This was a great way to finish out a trip but it's extremely frustrating when it



Mauri Sheer with a gator trout caught this week while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell photo provided

goes down like this as a guide. If I could only spread out those quality fish over the length of the charter it would be a great day. But you don't get to pick when it happens, and I will happily take em when they choose to feed. Every day this week, it took lots of patience and persistence to get the job done.

Most of my week's fishing was spent in the southern end of the sound on grass flats, oyster bars and deeper mangrove , basically doing whatever type of fishing it took to bend the rods. We would often

change up the target species when we struck out. We did manage to catch snook, big gator trout, ladyfish and an occasional redfish, even though the action at times was just slow. Every part of this week was just much more challenging than usual. When I reflect back at the week's fishing trips, we had some real quality fish including some of the largest trout I have caught in a while. But changing wind and conditions just never allowed the fish to get into any kind of pattern. Everyday was like starting from scratch when usually I can take clients to where I caught fish on the same set-up the day before and have success.

After fishing 'Ding' Darling with great results all winter long, the snook and trout fishing in these mangrove creeks totally grounded to a halt. I would guess this was due to slight effects of red tide pushing into the refuge and making the fish move out. For some reason, this almost guaranteed winter fishery simply quit. Even when I chummed live shiners, there was not a single blow-up by even a mangrove snapper, which have been in there by the thousands. I did see a few dead mullet on the bottom in some of my favorite 'Ding' Darling creek systems, but schools of happy mullet along with sheepshead swam by the boat in the clear water unaffected.

With a stronger secondary cold front forecast to come through later this week, the big cool-off will do wonders for the spawning sheepshead bite and also push lots of snook and trout back into the sheltered mangrove creek systems. Our winter fishery can be challenging and is all about adapting to what the day's conditions are. This year has proved an extreme February heat wave can move fish into an open water, spring-like pattern before pushing them back into the sheltered waters of winter as we get another major cool down. From tarpon fishing back to sheepshead fishing all in a week, welcome to March.

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.✱

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Tamiami Trail 90th Celebration



A historic photo showing officials after Tamiami Trail was completed

photo provided

The 90th anniversary of the opening of the Tamiami Trail and the 20th birthday of the Museum of the Everglades will be celebrated at the museum in Everglades City on April 28 at 10 a.m.

Festivities will include a parade, live music, food and fun as well as a walking tour of historic buildings and the "old timers" storytelling. This event is free and open to the public.

The Tamiami Trail (from Tampa to Miami) was a brilliant engineering feat, conquering the once impenetrable Everglades. It stands out as a picturesque link between the two coasts of Florida. Barron Gift Collier invested much of his personal wealth in building the Tamiami Trail, a gigantic project to link Florida's east and west coasts with a modern highway across the Everglades. The road was completed and opened to traffic on April 26,

1928.

Establishing a museum was the dream of the Everglades Women's Club, which eventually evolved into the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades, under the leadership of the late Pauline Reeves, for whom the museum's front gallery is named. The Museum of the Everglades was opened 20 years ago on the 70th anniversary of the Trail.

Officials will also be commemorating the 65th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Everglades City in 1953 and the 95th Anniversary of the establishment of Collier County in 1923.

The Museum of the Everglades is located at 105 West Broadway in Everglades City. For more information, visit www.evergladesmuseum.org or email fme_98@hotmail.com.✱

From page 8

Along The River

and their families for this important National Kidney Foundation benefit. Onsite registration will take place at 8:30 a.m. Walkers, runners and even scooters are invited to take part in the three-mile, non-competitive walk.

Participants can take part as individuals or form teams with family, friends or colleagues. The fundraiser is free and open to the public, but donations are welcome. Refreshments will be served before the event. The event will also feature live music, awards for top fundraisers, special performances, health-focused education and other activities for the whole family including health-focused educational activities.

For more information, to register or to support a walk participant, visit www.kidney.org. For any questions, contact Savanna Lanza at slanza@kidneyfla.org or 407-894-7325.

The Southwest Florida Symphony's **Youth Orchestra spring concert**, aptly titled Spring Fling, will be held at the **Cypress Lake High School Center for the Arts Auditorium** this Sunday, March 11 at 2:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for

children and Discovery Club members.

The concert features the symphony's three primary orchestras: the Sinfonietta, Concert Orchestra and Youth Symphony. In addition, several chamber music ensembles will perform a range of music from the Baroque period to the 20th century.

Cypress Lake High School Center for the Arts is located at 6750 Panther Lane in Fort Myers.

The **Lee County Community Band** will present The Music is Something Grand, its fifth concert of the season, at **Cape Coral High School** this Sunday, March 11 at 3 p.m. The program is free (donations accepted) and open to the public.

The concert features the *A Night on Bald Mountain* by Moussorgsky; the *1812 Overture* by Tchaikowsky; and everyone's favorite Irish tune, *MacNamara's Band*. Under the baton of Richard Bradstreet, the band also will play Dixieland Festival, a tribute to Louis Armstrong; and two pieces by Leroy Anderson – *The Girl I Left Behind Me* and *The Typewriter*.

Cape Coral High School is located at 2300 Santa Barbara Boulevard in Cape Coral. For more information, call Norman Jones at 995-2097 or visit www.leecountyband.org.✱

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Shell Point president Martin Schappell leads Shell Point in celebrating 50 years
photos provided



Musical entertainment was provided by two-time Grammy Award-winning singer Sylvia McNair



Shell Point residents with Rita Southern, Springs assisted living director, standing, attended the annual celebration at Shell Point

Shell Point Commemorates 50 Years

Shell Point Retirement Community recently hosted its annual celebration which commemorated Shell Point's 50th year in operation as a leading independent retirement living community.

More than 1,200 residents gathered for the annual celebration to honor the nonprofit's half-century anniversary. During the program, Shell Point President Martin Schappell toasted the community's progress made over the past year and highlighted planned growth and development for the future.

"We are very proud of the legacy we have created and the many wonderful lifestyle enhancements that have been made to ensure Shell Point as a premier destination for senior living," said

Schappell. "Looking ahead, all plans for growth and development will strive to exceed the needs of our current residents as well as those who will join us in years to come. In doing so, we are confident we will also enjoy the continued success of Shell Point as a leader in the senior living industry."

Jeff Cory, executive director of The Legacy Foundation at Shell Point, had the honor of recognizing the inaugural members of the Legacy Society, as well as numerous key donors whose 2017

contributions positively impacted the Shell Point community and its residents.

Attendees listened to musical entertainment by two-time Grammy-award winner Sylvia McNair and pianist Kevin Cole, who is deemed the world's foremost interpreter of George Gershwin music. Handcrafted desserts by local chocolatier Norman Love Confections hit the sweet spot, thanks to sponsorship from FineMark National Bank & Trust.✧

Center Of Excellence Reaccreditation

Lee County Public Safety has successfully completed the intensive 20-step process to reaccredit as an Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE). The communication center is the 126th emergency dispatch center in the world to attain the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED) status as an ACE for its use of the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS). This distinction places Lee County Public Safety among the very highest-performing emergency dispatch agencies worldwide.

ACE inspires agencies to perform superior, up-to-date public care and to employ efficient use of resources when handling all emergency call situations. An accreditation lasts three years. In order to achieve reaccreditation, agencies must meet or exceed the same standards required in the initial accreditation, which requires participation from everyone in the department. Because ACE agencies abide by these standards and have fulfilled these requirements, callers can have peace of mind knowing their needs will always be appropriately addressed and that they will receive the help they need.

This is Lee County's fourth medical accreditation. It is also an ACE for its use of the Fire Priority Dispatch Protocols (FPDS).

Casey Allo, chief of Lee County's

Emergency Dispatch Center, said as an accredited agency, the center is able to help callers during their times of need. He said the staff continually strives to be at its best.

"With the compliance processes in place as an accredited agency, we are constantly reviewing the quality of service our team provides," he said. "We are able to provide timely feedback and ensure the best possible care is provided to patients until the first responders arrive on scene."

Just as it does for the initial accreditation, the IAED's Board of Accreditation reviews the center's application and documentation of the Twenty Points.

"There's a tremendous amount of work that goes into reaccrediting as an ACE," said IAED President Jerry Overton. "We're certainly proud of Lee County Public Safety's dedication to this process."

Lee County Manager Roger Desjarlais said he and his colleagues are pleased with this accomplishment. He said it's a reflection of every emergency dispatcher's efforts and character and their desire to provide the much-needed service of responding to callers' emergencies.

"We are very proud of the work our communications officers do each day, and this re-accreditation as an Accredited Center of Excellence demonstrates their commitment to providing the best service to our community," he said.

There are currently more than 180 centers throughout the world that have the Medical ACE distinction among

the 3,000 centers worldwide using the fire, police, medical and nurse triage protocols for safe and efficient response to the wide variety of emergency situations. In the state of Florida alone, 17 agencies have attained ACE status in using the MPDS. Another seven Florida emergency communication centers, including Lee County, are ACEs in the FPDS.✧

Volunteers Sought To Shape Today's Youth

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida is seeking volunteers to share personal and professional experiences with Junior Achievement students in Charlotte, Lee, and Collier counties as well as help them make the connection between what students are learning in school and what they will need to succeed in work and life. A wide variety of opportunities exist, from serving as a Junior Achievement mentor in the classroom, to lending a hand in a special event or fundraiser for Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida.

Seventy five percent of teachers and volunteers agree or strongly agree that Junior Achievement programs help students realize the importance of staying in school. Approaching its 100th anniversary, Junior Achievement empowers young people to own their economic success through volunteer-delivered programs focusing on entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and

work-readiness. More than 100 million students have participated in JA programs since the organization's inception in 1919.

Volunteering for Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida is easy and flexible, whether it's just for a one day JA program or an on-going weekly JA program. Volunteers are not required to have previous training. JA curriculum provides everything one needs to make participation interactive and engaging for students.

To volunteer or find out more information on Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida, visit www.JASWFL.org, call 225-2590 or email info@jaswfl.org.✧

Greeters Club Luncheon

The Greeters Club of Greater Fort Myers will be hosting a fashion show luncheon at the Crown Plaza Hotel on Thursday, March 15. Registration is from 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Club members will be modeling fresh and colorful Southwest Florida clothing. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch and an overview of the season's latest fashions. Find out more about joining this dynamic group of Lee County women.

Crown Plaza Hotel is located within the Bell Tower Shops at 13051 Bell Tower Drive in Fort Myers. Visit www.greetersfortmyers.com to make your luncheon reservation by including your name, email address and phone number. You will receive an email confirming your reservation.✧



Aysegul Timur

photos provided

UFF Adds Two Board Members

The Uncommon Friends Foundation (UFF) recently added two prominent community leaders to its board of directors.

Aysegul Timur, PhD, is senior vice president of academic affairs and dean of the Johnson School of Business at Hodges University. Her areas of expertise include business policy and organizational development, quality control, statistics for strategic planning, and health and international economics. In addition to her work at Hodges University, Dr. Timur is a management consultant, trainer, speaker, and volunteers with nonprofit and civic organizations such as Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida, NAF Academy,



Nirupa Netram

Gulf Coast Humane Society, Leadership Collier and Collier County Public Schools.

Nirupa Netram, JD, is the chief court operations officer for the Charlotte County Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller. She earned her Juris Doctor from Stetson University College of Law. She was admitted to The Florida Bar in 1998 and has been a Florida certified circuit civil mediator since 2014. In addition to the State of Florida, Netram is admitted to practice law in the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida and the United States Supreme Court. Professional memberships include The Florida Bar, Lee County Bar Association and Charlotte County Bar Association. She has volunteered with organizations, including Goodwill Industries and Habitat for Humanity.

For more information, visit www.uncommonfriends.org or call 337-9503.✱

Fort Myers Native Acquires Local Dental Practice

Dr. Richard Thibodeau, a native resident of Fort Myers, recently acquired the dental practice of Dr. Gary Swanson. A graduate of Bishop Verot High School, he achieved his undergraduate degree from the University of South Florida. He is a graduate of the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health and has been practicing dentistry in Southwest Florida for several years.

Dr. Thibodeau is licensed by the Florida Dental Board and maintains affiliations with the American Dental Association, Florida Dental Association, West Coast Dental Association and the Academy of General Dentistry.

Dr. Thibodeau's general dental practice includes crowns, bridges, implants, partials, dentures, fillings, and root canals. He is continuing with patients of Dr. Swanson and welcomes new patients. He and his wife, Jenna, have a young girl named Margot. Dr. Swanson retired after more than 35 years of practicing dentistry.



Dr. Richard Thibodeau

photo provided

Dr. Thibodeau's practice is located at 5285 Summerlin Road unit 402 in Fort Myers. Call 936-7077 for more information.✱

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LARC clients hold a welcome sign for Leadership NEXT program attendees photo provided

Leadership NEXT To Visit LARC

Leadership NEXT, a professional organization for advancing business leaders in Southwest Florida, brought to you by the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce, will host its next program at LARC on Tuesday, March 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. This program is perfectly timed as March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

The program will offer guests the opportunity to network and learn about LARC services, programs, economic impact and the importance and value LARC brings to the community. In addition, guests will tour the five-acre training campus and hear from Executive

Director Kevin Lewis, Development Director Angela Katz, Community Support Service Director Pamela Jenkins, along with board member Ian Keith and a LARC client.

LARC helps individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities live happier, fuller, more productive lives as independently as possible.

The March program sponsor is Island Mortgage of SWFL, Inc. Leadership NEXT is free to attend for members of the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce and \$10 for future members. Refreshments will be provided. All guests are encouraged to register in advance at www.fortmyers.org.

LARC is located at 2570 Hanson Street in Fort Myers. Follow Leadership NEXT on Facebook to learn more.✧

Dedication Ceremony At Serenity Cove



Part of the new art installation at Serenity Cove

Shell Point Retirement Community hosted a dedication ceremony on January 31 to celebrate the newly transformed outdoor area at Serenity Cove. More than 1,000 Shell Point residents attended the ceremony to celebrate the transformation of the large, man-made pond area behind the Resident Activity Center on The Island at Shell Point. Guests were treated to a country-style picnic in the now modern, tranquil and scenic place of reflection. Lunch included fried chicken with all the trimmings, and was served amid the sounds of bluegrass music.

The Serenity Cove beautification project was made possible by a generous gift from a Shell Point resident. The rejuvenation involved reconfiguring an existing island, installing surrounding seawalls and seat walls, and adding a water feature. The area now boasts wider walking bridges, shaded seating areas, enhanced landscaping, fresh turf and updated irrigation. A new viewing platform and trellis were also constructed on the east side of the lake to complete the transformation.

"To enhance the beauty of this scenic environment, an attractive art installation



Shell Point President Martin Schappell with resident Maggie Tribby, whose gift made the project possible photos provided

was installed," said Adam Hinds, senior director of project development. "The installation showcases three stainless steel roseate spoonbills gliding past the viewing platform and over the pond."

The tranquil space, equipped with plenty of shaded seating, is ideal for small gatherings or quiet contemplation.✧

Shell Factory To Host Hurricane Seminar

Robert Van Winkle, meteorologist at NBC-2, will be the lead speaker at a comprehensive hurricane seminar in the Dolphin Room at The Shell Factory on Friday, March 16 at 1:30 p.m. The program will feature Van Winkle and representatives of the Red Cross, Lee County Emergency Management, StormSmart and Fireservice.

The free program will provide an emphasis on what both yearlong and seasonal residents need to do prior to the hurricane season.

Van Winkle will be retiring soon from NBC-2 after 12 years at the station, serving most of the time as chief meteorologist. He correctly predicted the paths of hurricanes Charley, Wilma and Irma. He has over

three decades in weather reporting and has received numerous awards and recognition. Prior to coming to the Southwest Florida area, he reported the weather at a Charlottesville, Virginia station.

Participants will be offered free nature park passes for the family and door prizes. Several hurricane-related businesses will also have table displays that feature hurricane preparedness items. Pre-registration is not required.

Speakers will cover topics such as what a hurricane is, when to evacuate, flood damage and storm surge, shelters, how to prepare a hurricane kit, what happens after a hurricane, and insurance needs. Participants will be provided with a variety of printed materials that will be invaluable in preparing for a hurricane. Hurricane season is in effect from June 1 until November 30.

For more information, contact Chris Forbes at The Shell Factory at christine@shellfactory.com or 264-6364.✧

Summit On Fair Housing Nears

The Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers (HACFM), along with the Lee County Department of Human and Veteran Services, the City of Fort Myers and the City of Cape Coral, will host the Southwest Florida Annual Fair Housing Summit at the Dr. Carrie Robinson Community Center on Wednesday, April 11 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Guest speakers will include Michael Maurer, deputy chief of the Housing and Civil Enforcement Section of the Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice; Yohance Pettis, assistant United States attorney; and Aaron Levine and Henry Whitehead of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

The summit will feature information on the Fair Housing Act, Equal Credit

Opportunities Act, Religious land use, reasonable accommodations and modifications, animals, special parking requests, Civil Rights and Recourses available, a discussion of the differences between HUD and the Department of Justice, recent Department of Justice enforcement activities and more.

April is Fair Housing month and marks the anniversary of the passing of the Fair Housing Act in 1968. Fair Housing is intended to create equal housing opportunities for people living in the United States by administering laws that prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability and familial status.

The event is free and open to the public. To reserve a seat, contact Sherri Campanale, director of housing and maintenance operations, Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers at sherri@hacfm.org or 344-3247.

The Dr. Carrie Robinson Community Center is located at 2990 Edison Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.hacfm.org or call 344-3220.✧

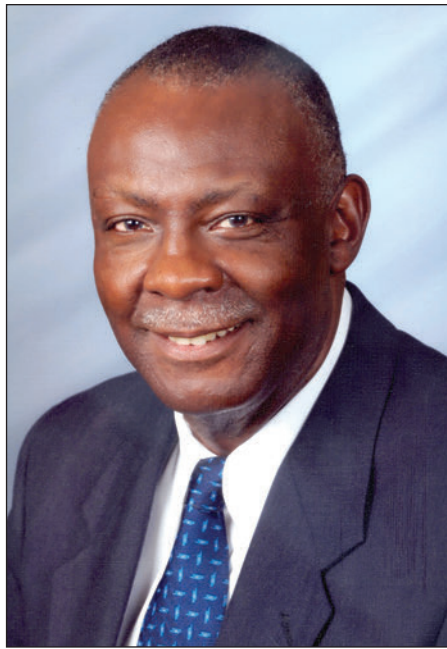
Tax Collector Strives To Create Convenience

Change is hard. Anyone who's had to try to figure out this year's federal tax changes understands that all too well. But in Lee County, the only changes for 2018 aren't in the tax code – they're in the ways taxes are becoming easier to pay. Lee County Tax Collector Larry Hart is committed to upgrading service to county residents – or as Hart calls them, his customers.

"We want to be able to provide the best public service that we possibly can, because we have a responsibility to them," Hart said. "We are the only place they can go. So, if we don't take our customers seriously, then they're going to be frustrated with us. We need to be able to provide service quickly."

The tax collector's services are detailed on www.leetc.com. Hart is proud of the website, and his office has worked to make it mobile-friendly and introduce new features like TagsToday, which injects convenience into the annual hassle of renewing vehicle registration. Customers who are within five days of a birthday or have an expired registration can use the website to renew and, rather than waiting for the renewal sticker to be mailed, pick it up at the nearest tax collector's office location – without waiting in line.

"They can walk in, they can pick it



Larry Hart

photo provided

up and they can walk out the door," said Hart, whose No. 1 goal is to make the tax collector's office as much of a resource to the citizens of Lee County as it can be.

"I've been totally blessed to have this opportunity to be voted in by the citizens. It's just a wonderful opportunity," Hart said. "We do our very best to get the citizens who utilize our services in and out, and provide that technology so they can do a lot of this stuff from home."*

Advisory Council Appointee

Karan S. Roach of LaBelle has been appointed to the advisory council for the Area Agency on Aging of Southwest Florida (AAASWFL). Roach is an 18-year Southwest Florida resident and a retired Hendry County Government employee.

Based in North Fort Myers, AAASWFL is a nonprofit organization committed to helping adults ages 60 and older and people with disabilities to live with independence and dignity in their own homes and communities. The agency is the state's designated Aging and Disability Resource Center for Southwest Florida. AAASWFL administers federal and state funding for elder and disability services, provides information and referrals through the Elder Helpline (866-413-5337), and provides direct services for seniors, including SHINE Medicare Counseling, health and wellness workshops and elder abuse prevention education.

Roach says she learned about the needs of seniors and people with disabilities while providing care to her 92-year old mother and her late husband of 33 years, Jim.

"So many of our seniors need community support," said Roach. "They need activities, attention, transportation, meals, companionship, and more. They need to be shown that their lives still matter."

In addition to her service with the AAASWFL advisory council, Roach is a 12-year member of the Kiwanis Club of LaBelle, acting as secretary for nine years.



Karan Roach

photo provided

She also serves on the board of directors of both the Hendry County Free Library in LaBelle and the Greater LaBelle Chamber of Commerce. She has volunteered for the Salvation Army, Hendry County Red Cross, Hendry County Republican Party and the Hendry County United Way. Roach is also a member of the Hendry County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). She attends Carlson Memorial United Methodist Church and is a Stephen Minister.

For more information about AAASWFL, visit www.aaaswfl.org or call the toll-free Helpline at 866-413-5337 (866-41-ELDER).*

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From left, Captain James Rankine, Jan Kerlin, Undersheriff Carmine Marceno and Mitch Cordova photos provided



From left, Lori Summers, Ed Fox Jr. and Ellie Fox



From left, Mike Smith, Jim Nolte and Laurel Smith



Bruce Stone and Eboni Martin

A Light To Remember

The Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center and Ellie Fox sponsored the 20th annual A Light to Remember at Bell Tower Shops. Luminaries were lit to honor or remember loved ones with Alzheimer's disease or related memory impairments.✧



Pastor Walter Still and Denise Makuch



Jeanette Coleman and Tracy Lima



From left, Amy Singer, Adrienne Gerard, Michele Wasserlauf and Stacey Kay



From left, Arya Carrandi, Jessica Carrandi, Doty St. Amand, Doug Waldorf and Mitch Cordova

FPRA Facebook Seminar

The Southwest Florida Chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) will hold a luncheon at The Edison Restaurant on Tuesday, March 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bryon McCartney, chief idea guy and managing partner with Be Brilliant Branding and Marketing, will present Facebook is Changing and So Should Your Ads.

McCartney's presentation will discuss the dramatic changes Facebook is making to the current news feed. During the program, McCartney will explain Facebook's recent changes and how they affect communication professionals' Facebook ad strategies. He will cover the importance of setting clear goals and realistic ad budgets, identifying your target audience and how to measure performance. Facebook is a crucial platform for getting in front of potential clients and customers. Professionals can no longer rely on organic reach, which means having a clear understanding of Facebook Ads is imperative to getting noticed on the platform.

The cost for attending the luncheon program is \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members and \$20 for students. Guests must RSVP online at www.fpraswfl.org.

The Edison Restaurant is located at 3583 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers.

For more information, visit www.fpraswfl.org or Like Us on Facebook.✧

Bank To Host Shred Event

Iberiabank will hold a community shred event at one of its Fort Myers branches on Saturday, March 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Residents and small business owners are invited to dispose of outdated bank statements, checks, contracts, junk mail and other documents in a safe and secure manner. Shredding services will be conducted by Shred-It, a global leader in secure document destruction services.

A \$3 per box voluntary donation will be

collected for Pink Heals Southwest Florida. This Fort Myers-based not-for-profit organization is dedicated to supporting women and their families battling all types of illness. Their signature pink fire truck helps raise awareness and donations throughout Southwest Florida and will be onsite during the shred event for photos.

The shred event will be held at Iberiabank branch located at 6651 Orion Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, call 225-4560.✧

Nomination Call For Tech Awards

The Southwest Florida Regional Technology Partnership (RTP) seeks nominations for the 10th annual Technology Awards. Award finalists will be revealed at an event on April 12, and awards will be presented at the 2018 annual awards meeting to be held at The Club at Grandezza in Estero on May 17.

Nominations are being accepted in the following categories: Innovation Award, recognizing technical achievement by a Southwest Florida technology company; Transformation Award, highlighting the use of technology in government, nonprofit, or companies outside the technology sector to address a business or operational challenge; and Technology Woman of the Year Award, which honors the accomplishments of a Southwest Florida woman in a technology role and her commitment to diversity in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Nominations can be submitted by email to awards@swfrtp.org and must include the following information: award category for the nomination, name of nominated company or individual and contact information for company or individual (email and phone). The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 9 at 5 p.m. Everyone accepting a nomination will be sent an application to complete. Awards event sponsorships are available for companies wanting their brand in front of the technology community.✧



Bob Adamaski

photos provided

Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Adds Four Members

The Fort Myers Metro-McGregor Kiwanis has added four new members to the club roster – Bob Adamaski, Susan Hornung, Linda Parrish and Kathy Willson. By adding the new members to the roster, the club is now ranked 13th in the Florida district in membership net growth out of 249 clubs.

Adamaski, a Fort Myers resident,



Susan Hornung

is an attorney that specializes in inheritance law with the firm Burandt, Adamski & Feichthaler, PL. Hornung, a Fort Myers resident, is recently retired from the American Library Association as an executive director of reference librarians and special libraries. Hornung lived in Chicago for the past seven years, and has moved to Fort Myers permanently after vacationing in the area for 40 years. Parrish, a Cape Coral resident since 1967, is a retired clinical care registered nurse. Willson has lived in Florida for 34 years, and works at Fidelity National Title.

Adamaski likes the hands-on



Linda Parrish and Kathy Willson

community service opportunities and enthusiasm the Metro-McGregor Kiwanis club offers to members. Hornung is happy to continue her love for literacy through Kiwanis programs. Parrish joined the club to continue her service to children in the community. Willson wants to make a difference in the lives of those the club touches.

The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club is looking for more service-minded individuals and business professionals who would like to make a direct

impact on the community through volunteering. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in Fort Myers. For details on joining the Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club, call membership chair Stewart Ross at 507-304-1624. Interested individuals or businesses can also email stewart.ross@mnsu.edu. The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club can be found on Facebook or online at www.metro-mcgregor.com.✱

Bonsai Society Meeting

The Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida, Inc. will hold its next meeting at the Berne Davis Botanical Garden on Saturday, March 17 at 9 a.m.

Martha Goff will conduct a workshop on gardenias. The cost to participate is \$20 and includes materials. Coffee will be provided. Admission and parking are free.

Berne Davis Botanical Garden is located at 2166 Virginia Avenue in Fort Myers.✱

Attorney General Candidates To Attend Forum

Lee Republican Women Federated will hold a panel discussion luncheon with all four Republican candidates for Florida Attorney General at Pinchers at The Marina at Edison Ford on Monday, March 12 from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The forum, which will be moderated by Fort Myers attorney Jenna Persons, will involve Attorney General Jay Fant, Ashley Moody, Ross Spano and Frank H. White. Cost to attend the luncheon is \$22.

Lee Republican Women Federated commits to advancing the participation of local Republican women in all areas of the

political system by encouraging, educating and empowering women to strengthen the Republican Party.

For more information or to register for luncheon, visit www.leerepublicanwomen.com. Pinchers at The Marina at Edison Ford is located at 2360 West First Street in downtown Fort Myers.✱

MOAA Meeting

Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello will be the featured speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the Calusa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America in the Caloosa Club at the Cape Royal Golf Club on Saturday, March 10 at 10 a.m.

All current, former and retired military officers and spouses are invited to attend. Cost for the breakfast is \$12, payable at the door (cash only). For reservations, contact Dixie Buick at 945-5030 or via email at calusamoaa@yahoo.com.

MOAA is a national organization of military officers that supports the interests of military members of all ranks – past, present and future. Regular membership is open to all current and former officers, and associate membership is available to all who support our armed forces.

Cape Royal Golf Club is located at 11460 Royal Tee Circle in Cape Coral. For more information, call Calusa Chapter President Gary Peppers at 573-6690.✱

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Mets Boss Says Florida Football Great Will Play In Major Leagues



by Ed Frank

“I think he will play in the Major Leagues.” These were the recent words of Sandy Alderson, the general manager of the New York Mets. And do you know who he was referring to? Yes, none other than Tim Tebow, the former Florida football great, who, at 30 years old, is attempting the rare move from professional football to Major League Baseball. And what appeared as a publicity stunt 17 months ago when this venture began is now viewed as a more legitimate maneuver for Tebow, a former Heisman Trophy winner. “He’s a tremendous representative of this organization,” said Alderson. “He was phenomenal for Minor League Baseball.”

As a rookie last season, Tebow advanced from Class A to Class A Advanced and could possibly start the 2018 season at Double A Binghamton, just two steps below the Majors.

Tebow was invited to the Met’s Major League Spring Training Camp in Port St. Lucie this year. In his firstgame, he struck out three times against three-time Cy Young Award winner Max Scherez of the Washington Nationals.

In his next at bat, however, he laced a single off highly-touted prospect Erick Fedde. “I feel a lot more adjusted to the game. I have a much different approach and swing, so I can be a lot more patient seeing pitches,” the outfielder said.

Tebow devoted the better part of the past year revamping his swing into a shorter, compact approach. That still doesn’t mean he can’t “clang” baseballs off outfield fences as he frequently displays in batting practice.

Whether these changes will provide improved statistics will be determined as the 2018 season unfolds. He hit just .226 last year at the two levels of Class A ball.

Are Tebow’s chances of reaching the Majors still a long shot? Probably so. But you’ve got to give the guy credit for pursuing a dream few would ever pursue.

At 30 years old, the window opening to the Majors is narrow, just as it would be for any baseball player that age.

We should know relatively soon whether Alderson’s prediction that the former Gator icon “will play in the Major Leagues.”

A Vanishing Breed

If you follow baseball, you probably know that the hallmark of a solid starting pitcher is the ability to throw 200 innings of baseball in any given season.

But is it a thing of the past with the specialties of relief pitchers and the concern over arm injuries to starters making millions of dollars a year. Just 20 years ago, there were 56 starters who threw 200 innings or more, led by former Boston Red Sox Curt Schilling’s 268. By 2008, the number was down to 34, and last season there were only 15, headed by Boston’s Chris Sale, who tossed 214 innings. It’s a change in the new age of baseball.

Spring Training Home Baseball Schedules

Minnesota Twins – Hammond Stadium
Saturday, March 10 – Boston; 1:05 p.m.
Tuesday, March 13 – Baltimore; 1:05 p.m.
Wednesday, March 14 – Boston; 1:05 p.m.
Friday, March 16 – Tampa Bay; 1:05 p.m.
Boston Red Sox – JetBlue Park
Thursday, March 8 – Tampa Bay; 1:05 p.m.
Sunday, March 11 – Baltimore; 1:05 p.m.
Thursday, March 15 – Toronto; 1:05 p.m.
Friday, March 16 – Minnesota; 6:05 p.m.*

FGCU To Host Birding Seminar

The fourth annual Southwest Florida Birding Seminar will be held at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) and local birding hot spots on Friday, March 16 and Saturday, March 17. The annual event explores the science and value of birds in Southwest Florida and beyond. It welcomes birders of all levels and anyone interested in learning more about birds.

Activities on March 16 are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and include field trips to:

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve – Participants will join a guide for a sunrise bird-watching tour along the elevated boardwalk at this popular wetland preserve in Fort Myers.

San Carlos Bay – Participants will join a Lee County Bird Patrol guide to explore the natural beach habitat at Bunche Beach, a Conservation 20/20 preserve that is critical to the survival of many shorebird species.

Photographing Birds instructional workshop at Harns Marsh in Lehigh Acres – Participants will learn beginners’ tips for photographing birds, including scouting for birds, anticipating behavior and recommended camera angles to tell a unique story through images.

Activities on March 17 are from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at FGCU and include presentations from expert speakers. Topics will included rare birds, bird migration in Southwest Florida, and tips for local birding adventures. Among the list of speakers are Yve Morrell, a Naples-based birder who

completed an American Bird Association big year competition in 2017, and Tyler Beck, a biologist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission focused on conservation efforts to protect the federally endangered Everglades snail kite.

Registration is \$35 for both days, which includes a catered lunch on Saturday. To register, visit www.2018birdingseminar.eventbrite.com.

The seminar is sponsored by UF/IFAS Lee County Extension and Conservation 20/20.

FGCU is located at 10501 FGCU Boulevard South in Fort Myers. For more information, contact Jason Boeckman, Conservation 20/20 Coordinator, at jboeckman@leegov.com, or 204-1125.*

Estero High Hires Football Coach

Estero High School has named Brad Vojcak as the new head football coach for the Wildcats.

Coach Vojcak is a teacher at Estero and previously worked as an assistant coach for the football team.

Vojcak grew up in Glenview, Illinois and graduated from Glenbrook South High School where he played football and baseball. He attended Carroll University in Waukesha, Wisconsin, where he played football.

Vojcak began coaching at Glenbrook High School and was a graduate assistant coach at Eastern Michigan University. He also has coached football at Palatine High School in Palatine, Illinois and at Ave Maria University.*

SPORTS QUIZ

1. The Baltimore Orioles had only 19 stolen bases during the 2016 season. Name the last time a major-league team had fewer stolen bases for a season.
2. Kendrys Morales set a Royals team mark in 2015 for most total bases in one game (15). Who had held the record?
3. When was the last time before 2016 that the NFL had two games end in a tie in the same season?
4. How many consecutive years has the Kansas men’s basketball team won its opening game in the NCAA Tournament?
5. When was the last time before the 2016-17 NHL season (Toronto Maple Leafs) that three rookies each reached 60 points for the same team?
6. When Josef Newgarden (26 years old) won the 2017 IndyCar series championship, he was the youngest to do so since who?
7. When was the last time before 2017 that tennis star Venus Williams reached the semifinals of three majors in the same year?

ANSWERS

1. The Detroit Tigers stole only 17 bases in 1972. 2. George Brett had 14 total bases in a game in 1979. 3. It was 1997. 4. Eleven consecutive years entering 2018. 5. It was the 1980-81 Quebec Nordiques (Peter Stastny, Anton Stastny and Dale Hunter). 6. Sam Hornish Jr. was 23 when he won the title in 2002. 7. It was 2002.

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FGCU Honors Alumni At Homecoming

For a school that's barely 20, Florida Gulf Coast University has solidified some notable traditions. One is the annual celebration of distinguished FGCU graduates at its homecoming. Six alumni were added to the roll of honorees on February 16.

"Tonight, we honor a select group of FGCU graduates who have distinguished themselves in their careers, in their personal lives and their communities," said Jesse Bouchard, chair of the FGCU Alumni Association, at the event. "Since these awards began, the Alumni of Distinction and Soaring Eagles have demonstrated the far-reaching impact of FGCU in the community."

The most prestigious honor is the Alumni of Distinction Award. It celebrates alumni who have upheld the tradition of excellence through their personal accomplishment, professional achievement or humanitarian service.

"It is my great honor to recognize our 2018 Alumni of Distinction awardee – Michael Wynn," Bouchard said.

Wynn is board chairman and president of Sunshine Ace Hardware, one of the largest family-owned home improvement and outdoor recreation retailers in Southwest Florida. He is also a member of numerous boards of directors, including the Miami Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Wynn earned his executive master of business administration degree from FGCU in 2005.

"Michael's resume speaks volumes," said Kimberly Wallace, director of alumni relations at FGCU. "But what struck me most about him is the support from not only his family, but his employees. They all rallied together, got his application through with the required recommendation letters and were here to support him when he won. Not many employees do that, and I think that says a lot about him."

The Alumni of Distinction Award is the most recent accolade for Wynn. He was a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2014 and has also received the Hardware Industry's Top Gun Award presented by the National Retail Hardware Association.



From left, Florida Gulf Coast University Director of Alumni Relations Kimberly Wallace, alumnus Michael Wynn and President Mike Martin at the Alumni Association Awards

photo by James Grecco of FGCU

"I will forever be grateful for the education FGCU gave me," Wynn said. "It's really been a key element in the growth our company has experienced. So much of what I have learned I've been able to leverage in making our company a continued success."

In addition to the Alumni of Distinction Award, each college at FGCU presented a Soaring Eagles Award to a deserving graduate. The recognition goes to alumni who have earned their degrees from FGCU within the last decade, have dedicated time and resources to their communities and to FGCU, and are considered rising stars in their professions.

The winners of the 2018 Soaring Eagles Awards include:

Stefan Wynn, a 2009 legal studies graduate from the College of Arts & Sciences, is the town manager of Albion, Indiana, where he is responsible for 77 full-time employees and manages a \$4 million annual budget. He oversees the town's police, fire, streets, parks & recreation, water and wastewater utility, planning, zoning and personnel management departments. Wynn is also a founding member of the Culver Beard Club, which is a nonprofit organization providing assistance to children and residents in the community.

Kimberly Zambito earned her bachelor's in resort, hospitality and tourism management in 2007 and

completed the College of Education's master of education in educational leadership in 2013. Zambito is the current and founding principal of Collier Charter Academy. She previously worked as a kindergarten teacher, lead teacher, dean of curriculum and instruction, and assistant principal at Bonita Springs Charter School.

Logan Wallick received an undergraduate management degree in 2009 and an masters in business administration in 2010 from Lutgert College of Business. Wallick is Suffolk Construction's southeast region people

and culture manager, responsible for talent acquisition, employee relations, benefits and learning, and development within human resources. He is also the president of the Society for Human Resources Management.

David Brown received a master's of social work from Marieb College of Health & Human Services in 2012. Brown is the president and co-founder of the Family Initiative, a local nonprofit serving children ages 5 to 16 who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. He created the Family Initiative with co-founder Anjali Van Drie after recognizing a gap in social services available to children on the autism spectrum.

Erik Mead graduated from the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering with a bachelor's in environmental science in 2015. Mead is the assistant project engineer for Hole Montes, Inc., a civil engineering firm specializing in land development/site engineering, master planning and subdivision design, among other specialties. He is responsible for the design of wastewater treatment facilities, collection systems including lift stations, water treatment facilities, transmission systems and pump stations in Southwest Florida.

"We're in the business of recognizing graduates who are doing outstanding work within our community and giving back to the university. This ceremony is our opportunity to say, 'Thank you'," Wallace said.

For more information about the FGCU Alumni Association, visit www.alumni.fgcu.edu.✱

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ArtFest Presents \$8,600 In Cash To Students

ArtFest Fort Myers awarded \$8,600 in prizes to Lee County high school students at the Art Under 20 Award Reception, held at Florida Southwestern State College (FSW) on February 20.

At the 2018 Art Under 20, sponsored by Suncoast Credit Union, local high school students representing 15 Lee County high schools entered 340 pieces of artwork. The student art was exhibited at the fine art festival the first weekend in February and was previewed by thousands of festival patrons. Art Under 20 judges Cheryl Fausel and David Meo selected the winners. Alaina Streblow, Suncoast Credit Union community relations specialist, presented the award checks to the winning students at FSW.

Awards were given in the categories of digital, drawing, photography, painting, three-dimensional and mixed media. The cash award levels were \$900 for Best of Show, \$400 for First Place, \$200 for Second Place, \$100 for Third Place and \$50 for Honorable Mention. Festival attendees voted for the People's Choice winner, resulting in a \$300 cash award. Through the generosity of the Fewster family, two Fewster Family Scholarship Awards were awarded for \$500 each. The Ikki Matsumoto Award was \$500. New this season, local ceramic artist Ellie Stephens funded three Ellie's Mermaid Awards totaling \$600.

The following are the categories and winners:

Photography – 1. Christiana Nelson, North Fort Myers High; 2. Anthony Cira, Mariner High; 3. Allison Pfeiffer, Mariner High

Painting – 1. Carla Youbi, Riverdale High; 2.



Alaina Streblow and Abby Knittel photo provided
Hannah Gatof, Cypress Lake High; 3. Nina Hood, Oasis Charter High

Drawing – 1. Rachael Dean, Fort Myers High; 2. Isreal Flores, Riverdale High; 3. Shekinah Moreno,

Mariner High

Three-dimensional – 1. Abby Knittel, Mariner High; 2. Savannah Moyer, North Fort Myers High; 3. Tia Cooper, Riverdale High

Mixed media – 1. Amanda Oleksa, Fort Myers High; 2. Caleb Stephens, Island Coast High; 3. Gabriella Hesse, Fort Myers High

Digital – 1. Shenley Williams, Oasis Charter High; 2. Sarah King, Cypress Lake High; 3. Colby Christopher, North Fort Myers High

Best of Show – Luis Sanchez, Cypress Lake High

People's Choice – Margret Wojciehowski, North Fort Myers High

Fewster Family Scholarship Award – 1. Jessica Xia, Canterbury; 2. Gillian Kreis, North Fort Myers High School

Ikki Marsumoto Award – Emma Wigington, Cypress Lake High School

Ellie's Mermaid Award – 1. Sephora Augustin, Fort Myers High; 2. Ana Torres, Estero High; 3. Gonzalo Aguirre, Riverdale High

Honorable Mentions – Madelyn Kellum, Estero High; Gema Martinez, Estero High; Yuhan Burgess, Cypress Lake High; Rebecca Brownlie, North Fort High; Ryan Scharlau, Canterbury; Donovan Souppa, North Fort Myers High; Anna Serra, Cypress Lake High; Brianne Anderson, Estero High; Colene Sayers, North Fort Myers High; Nicole Holdgrafer, Bishop Verot High; Beatriz Garcia, Mariner High; Emily McCallion, Fort Myers High; Esmeralda Flores, Cypress Lake High; Hannah Fiorell, Cypress Lake High; Merari Salinas, Cypress Lake High; Isabella Marsh, Island Coast High; Francisco Mayorga, Lehigh High; Georgia Balkun, North Fort Myers High; Alessandra DeMarco, Estero High; and Sebastian Percivall, Mariner High✱

Financial Focus How Can Women Make Financial Progress



by Jennifer Basey

On March 8, we observed International Women's Day. This year's theme is Press for Progress, and events around the world will celebrate women's advancements in the political, social and cultural arenas. But right here in the United States, women still face barriers to their financial progress. If you're a woman, you need to recognize these challenges – and respond to them.

So, what are the key obstacles to financial security for a woman? Probably the first thing that comes to mind is the gender wage gap: Women generally earn around 80 cents for every dollar men earn, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

But women also face other threats to their financial security. For one thing, they are far more likely than men to take time away from the workforce to raise a family – and time away means smaller Social Security payments and significantly lower balances in 401(k) plans and other retirement accounts. And women's roles as caretakers don't end when their children are grown – in fact, women are

twice as likely as their male siblings to end up caring for an elderly parent, according to a Princeton University study.

What, then, can you do to help ensure a comfortable retirement and achieve your other financial goals? Here are a few suggestions:

Take full advantage of your employer's retirement plan. If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar retirement plan, take full advantage of it. Invest as much as you can afford each year, and every time you get a raise, increase your contributions. At the very least, put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered.

Invest for the long term. Some evidence shows that women may be more conservative investors than men. But if you want to reach your long-term goals, you will need to consider some growth-oriented investments in your portfolio, factoring in your risk tolerance and time horizon. You may want to consult with a financial professional about the best way to invest for the long term.

Maximize your Social Security. If your spouse is the higher earner, you may want to consider how you can use this disparity to your advantage when you collect Social Security. Specifically, you may be eligible for Social Security benefits based on your spouse's earnings and Social Security record. You'll want to consult your tax advisor before making any moves.

Protect yourself from long-term care costs. More than two-thirds of nursing home residents are women, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. And the median rate nationwide for a private room in a nursing home is over \$97,000 per year, according to the

Genworth 2017 Cost of Care Survey. Medicare generally pays very little for long-term care, so if you ever need these services, you'll have to find other ways to pay for them. A financial professional can suggest some ideas.

As a woman, you face special financial challenges, and striving to overcome them

will be a lifelong activity. But it's worth the effort.

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.✱

Superior Interiors Shopping For New Wood Furniture?



by Barb Cacchione

There are many things to think about prior to beginning your buying adventure. What's the size of the piece? How do you plan to use it? What type of wood, color and finish do you prefer?

Here are a few important facts about good quality wood furniture.

Furniture can be made of hard wood, maple ash, oak, walnut – or soft wood like pine. Trees that lose their leaves fall into the hard wood category. Trees that retain their leaves are soft woods. For example, because of the soft nature of the wood, a desk made of pine might not be the perfect choice for your new home office, unless you use a protective desk top.

Furniture can also be either solid wood, laminate or veneer. Laminate is a layer of wood or other product that is applied over a wood frame. Veneer is composed of layers of wood applied again and again over a wood frame. Veneers offer a variety of patterns to the wood, which tend to make the furniture more exciting.

Things to look for in well-constructed furniture:

1. Check out the drawers. Are they smooth to the touch on all sides? If the drawer is rough, chances are the quality might not be what you had in mind.
2. How are the corners of the piece joined? Dovetail joints are common in quality construction, but must be done in all four corners.
3. Corner blocking should include double dowels, which have been screwed and glued into place.

Granted, you have a lot to think about when looking for quality wood furniture for your home. But when you make the right quality selection, you will have a piece that will be perfect for your room, and will last a lifetime.

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

Book Review

The Twelve-Mile Straight



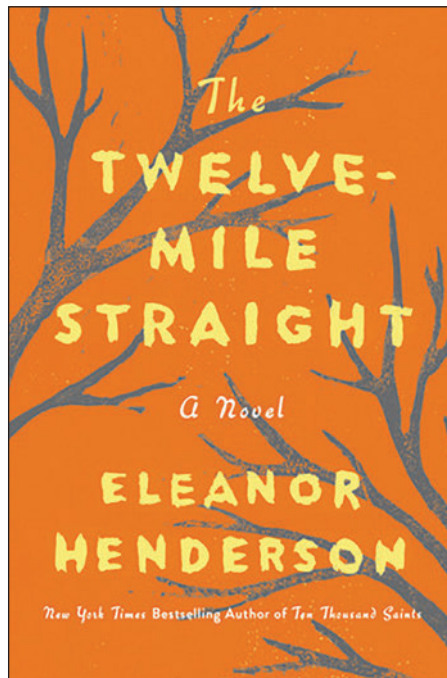
by Di Saggau

Eleanor Henderson's latest novel *The Twelve-Mile Straight* deals with a grim investigation in rural Georgia in 1930. In a house full of secrets, two babies are born to Elma Jesup.

Winnafred is light-skinned and Wilson is dark. Elma is a white sharecropper's daughter. A field hand, Genus Jackson, is accused of raping Elma and lynched. This is strong reading but anyone who likes a challenge will relish this gifted writer's ambitious novel. Set in the Deep South during the Depression, the book delves into questions of race, class and gender. We suspect that Genus is innocent, and he is.

Elma wants something finer in life and succumbs to the advances of Freddie Wilson, grandson to the man who runs the town. She gets pregnant and when her babies are born she claims Freddie fathered one child and Genus the other. From there the plot hustles forward until all of the secrets of the Jesup household are revealed.

Nan, a young, mute, black housekeeper is as close to Elma as a sister. Together they raise the children, and it soon becomes clear that the ties that bind everyone together are



more intricate than anyone could have imagined. As the truth starts to be revealed, a web of lies start to collapse around the family, destabilizing their precarious world and forcing all to reckon with the painful truth.

The babies are treated as a miracle by some townsfolk and a sin by others. They also attract the attention of a polio-stricken researcher who studies sickle cell disease and the members of a chain gang who are paving the little back road on which Elma's family lives.

The Twelve-Mile Straight is an American epic that combines the intimacy of a family drama with the staggering presence of a great Southern saga. ✨

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, My fourth-grade daughter is stressed out. She's struggling a bit in math but she is a good student. She's too young to have such stress. What

can I do?

Kirsten, North Fort Myers

Kirsten,

Unfortunately stressed out kids are all too common these days, and childhood is fleeting. Elementary school may present challenges, and if your child is struggling with learning or has attention issues, school may be especially stressful. There are ways to help, and here are some suggestions for you.

Help her figure out how she's feeling:

Kids who struggle with learning and attention might not be aware that they're feeling stress. A good way to get conversation flowing is by talking with her when you are doing a routine activity. Keep your questions low-key and mention that you've noticed something has been bothering her. Help her put a name on what it might be. "Are you feeling scared

about reading out loud in Ms. Smith's class?" Simply talking about feelings can be a relief.

Teach her to chunk:

A whole page of word problems or a five-paragraph essay can seem overwhelming. Teach her to make the task more manageable by breaking it into "chunks," perhaps groups of three questions, for example. By breaking larger tasks into smaller pieces, the task becomes more manageable. You may want to include a break time between chunks and make sure to praise her for completing each chunk of work.

Help her prepare for new things:

If your child is going to start a new activity, such as a music or gymnastic class, visit ahead of time. Let her meet her teacher and see the new setting. Ask the teacher to describe what she'll do the first day of class and answer any questions. If the new activity seems familiar, your child won't feel nearly as much anxiety about participating.

Celebrate victories:

Most kids feel some stress when facing a new challenge but they eventually dive in because past success gives them confidence. Watch for opportunities to praise accomplishments, even very simple things. Knowing what success feels like may help her feel less overwhelmed and panicked when facing bigger challenges.

Make sure you have rituals and structure at home:

Coming home to an organized place and structure that stay the same can give your child security after a busy day at school and afterschool activities. When possible, stick to a routine. Maybe it's an afternoon snack, a walk with the dog and then homework. Create some structure for weekends as well. Too much time without a schedule can make kids uncomfortable.

Release energy with physical movement:

Stress can build up very easily. Give your child plenty of opportunities to release some of the pressure. Make exercise a part of everyday life for her and the whole family.

Find balance with afterschool activities: Afterschool activities give fun and structure to the afternoons and free time, but don't go overboard or you'll make

your child's stress worse. Choose activities carefully, and do your best to leave some days open.

Set clear and reasonable expectations:

You may simply want her to do the best she can on reading tests. You child may think she must get an 'A' on every test. Tell her specifically what you expect and that will lessen her stress.

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. ✨

FSW To Hold Information Sessions

Florida SouthWestern State College's (FSW) Respiratory Care and Cardiovascular Technology programs will hold a series of joint informational sessions this spring. Sessions will be held in Building A, Room 214 at the FSW Thomas Edison campus from noon to 2 p.m.

The public is welcomed to attend any of the following information sessions: Monday, March 19; Monday, April 2; Monday, April 16; Wednesday, May 9; and Wednesday, May 23

FSW's Respiratory Care program is accredited by The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). The program is designed to offer students the opportunity to obtain an associate in science degree in respiratory care. Upon completion of the program, students will be registry-eligible respiratory therapists and will take the National Board for Respiratory Care Examinations. Respiratory therapists are employed in acute care hospital settings, skilled nursing centers, rehabilitation, neo-natal intensive care and home care environments.

FSW Thomas Edison campus is located at 8099 College Parkway in Fort Myers.

Respiratory care program applications can be found at www.fsw.edu/academics/programs/asrespiratorycare and are due May 31. ✨

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Female Pioneers of Fort Myers

Women Who Made a Difference in the City's Development

By Robin C. Tuthill and Thomas P. Hall

“Packed with facts and employing an engaging storytelling style, [Female Pioneers of Fort Myers] both teaches and entertains. Local history buffs and newcomers to history will value Tuthill and Hall's research and appreciate the accessible format, too.”

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

Canterbury Student To Perform Solo

Christian Miller, a 10th grade student at Canterbury School in Fort Myers, will perform with the Gulf Coast Symphony and Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers at their Bernstein at 100 concert at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at FSW on Sunday, March 11 at 7 p.m. This performance is part of a world-wide celebration of the 100th birthday of Leonard Bernstein that includes centennial events around the world.

Miller is the featured soloist in Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. The program also includes the overture from *Candide* and *Make Our Garden Grow* from the same production, a choral suite from *West Side Story*, the overture to *Wonderful Town*, three dance episodes from *On The Town*, and the Symphonic Suite from *On the Waterfront*.

Chichester Psalms was commissioned for the 1965 Southern Cathedrals Festival at Chichester Cathedral by the cathedral's organist, John Birch, and the Dean, Walter Hussey. The world premiere took place in the Philharmonic Hall in New York on July 15, 1965 with Bernstein conducting. A performance followed in the Chichester Festival on July 31, 1965 conducted by John Birch. *Chichester Psalms* was Bernstein's first composition after his 1963 Third Symphony (Kaddish). They are his two most overtly Jewish works. While both works have a chorus singing texts in Hebrew, the Kaddish Symphony has been described as a work often at the edge of despair, while *Chichester Psalms* is affirmative and at times serene.

Miller has been singing and acting since 5th grade. Throughout middle



Christian Miller photo provided

school and high school, he has been heavily involved in the arts. He began in 5th grade playing Charlie in *Willy Wonka the Musical* and discovered a love of performing. He went to All-State Chorus his 7th and 8th grade year, and had the privilege of performing a solo at the state performance his 7th grade year. He performed as Tom Of Warwick in the Broadway travelling production of *Camelot* and portrayed Ralphie in *A Christmas Story: The Musical* in 2017 at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. He joined the Mastersingers City of Palms Youth Choir in 2016, and is the proud recipient of the Ruth Ann DeMaster scholarship. In 2017, he won in two categories for the Young Artists Awards for classical voice and for contemporary voice/musical theater.

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall is located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers. Tickets start at \$29 and may be purchased online at www.gulfcoastsymphony.org or by calling the Barbara B. Mann box office at 481-4849.✧

School District To Hold Teacher Recruitment Fair

The School District of Lee County is hosting its annual Teacher Recruitment Fair at the Lee County Public Education Center on Saturday, April 14 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

The local school district is currently hiring to fill a range of teaching positions for the 2018-19 school year, including elementary, middle and high school teachers, special education, science and mathematics teachers, and reading and language arts teachers.

Applicants must hold at least a bachelor's degree and be certified to teach in Florida, or have a direct path to certification. All candidates must pre-register online by April 6 at www.leeschools.net/teacher-recruitment-fair. Eligible applicants will receive a formal invitation by email no later than April 10.

Interviews will be conducted during the Teacher Recruitment Fair, so attendees are encouraged to dress professionally and bring multiple copies of an updated resumé. Hiring managers will only be screening candidates for full-time teaching positions, not support staff or administration positions.

"Every public school in Lee County will have at least one representative present at the Teacher Recruitment Fair, so we encourage applicants to conduct some general research prior to the event," said Chief Human Resource Officer Angela Pruitt. "It's best to know in advance what are your preferred schools, disciplines and locations so you can maximize your time at the fair."

Career opportunities are updated regularly on the district's website; a complete listing can be found at www.leeschools.net/careers.

The School District of Lee County offers a competitive and comprehensive compensation plan for its employees, and provides teachers with access to support and resources that promote success. The starting compensation package of \$52,984 encompasses salary, medical coverage and life insurance, pension and investment plan contributions, and social security and Medicare employer contributions. Additional benefits and earning opportunities are also available via advanced degree supplements, summer school, athletic coaching and more. Upon hire, a personal benefits selection process will be made available to eligible employees.

Lee County Public Education Center is located at 2855 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, email careers@leeschools.net or call 337-8640.✧

FSW Career Fairs Open To Public

The local community is invited to upcoming Career Fairs at Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) locations, including one at Thomas Edison (Lee) campus in Building U, Room 102 on Wednesday, March 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The other FSW Career Fairs will be held during the same time period on Monday, March 19 at the Collier Campus in Building J, Room 103/104 and on Wednesday, March 21 at the Charlotte Campus outside of Buc Store.

Students and members of the community are encouraged to bring their resumes, transcripts, or work portfolios to show prospective employers on the spot. They should dress professionally and be prepared for a formal interview. Dozens of local companies and businesses are slated to appear.

"Many of our graduates are seeking local employment in a variety of fields,

and the college offers tools and resources to help them reach that next step," said Mark Bukowski, FSW dean of students. "As a service to the community, we've also decided to open our Career Fairs to the public."

FSW's Career Coach program is a free resource for both students and the community. Anyone living in Southwest Florida can use it to take a personal career assessment, browse current job openings on Indeed.com, or build a resume from scratch. Students can also explore what degree programs would help them reach their desired career. Visit www.FSW.edu/careercoach for more information.

The Office of Student Engagement will be hosting workshops for current students on writing resumes and cover letters, interviewing techniques, and dressing for success before the fairs begin.

FSW Thomas Edison (Lee) campus is located at 8099 College Parkway in Fort Myers, while the Collier Campus is located at 7505 Grand Lely Drive in Naples and the Charlotte Campus at 26300 Airport Road in Punta Gorda.✧

SCHOOL ACHEIVEMENTS

Phi Kappa Phi Inductees

Four local residents were recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all-academic disciplines.

Jonathan Assis of Cape Coral, Rebecca Bridge of Fort Myers, Angelica DeMartino of Fort Myers and Susan Stahnke of North Fort Myers were all initiated at Nova Southeastern University.

These residents are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate

students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.✧

Students Named To Dean's List

Eleven local students were named to the fall 2017 Dean's List at Tallahassee Community College. They are: Barrett D Leake of Fort Myers; Bianca Rosangel Mejia of Fort Myers; Hannah Lynn James of Fort Myers; Jordin Ciera Safly of Fort Myers; Lonise Merilus of Fort Myers; Melissa Menard of Fort Myers; Nicole Elizabeth Swope of Fort Myers; Raymond Francis Williamson of Cape Coral; Sydney Morgan Hulme of Fort Myers; Tatianna Alexis Gonzalez of North Fort Myers; and Tisha Exantus of Fort Myers.✧

From page 1

Shrimp Festival

Miss Congeniality (voted on by participants); and Miss Photogenic (judged on official photos).

The park is also the site of the festival grounds, open on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 100 vendors will be on site, including the Beach Lions Shrimp Boil booth serving shrimp provided by local shrimp boats until supplies run out.

The 4th annual Shrimp Festival Shrimp Eating Championship will be held in the park on Sunday at 1

p.m. The contest will feature up to 10 sponsored contestants who will compete to eat as many pounds of cooked and peeled Fort Myers Beach pink shrimp within five minutes.

The Fort Myers Beach Shrimp Festival raises tens of thousands of dollars for charities who help with local eye surgeries, scholarships for area students, Florida Lions Eye Bank, Southeastern Guide Dogs, large print books for the local library, little league and youth soccer, Beach Elementary School and Cypress Lakes High School student needs.

For more information, visit www.fortmyersbeachshrimpfestival.com.✧

Lee Health Officers Elected

Lee Health recently announced the newly elected officers of its board of directors for 2018.

Stephen R. Brown, MD, was unanimously elected to serve as board chairman for 2018. He was first elected to the board in 2008, and serves as the board's liaison to Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, the quality and safety committee, lean transformation (process improvement) and behavioral health. Dr. Brown is a retired radiologist who served as mayor of Sanibel in 2002-03 and nine years on the Sanibel City Council. He is a member of the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club and serves on the boards of Sanibel Community Housing Resource and Sanibel Captiva Charitable Foundation of the Islands.

Donna Clarke will continue to serve as vice chairman. She is a former Florida State representative and has served as an adjunct professor with State College of Florida. Previously she has owned and operated an environmental consulting firm. Clarke earned a master's degree in industrial management from Georgia Institute of Technology. She currently is co-president of the Fort Myers Kiwanis Club and has served as vice chair of the STARS Advisory Board. She has also volunteered as a math tutor at the Pace



Dr. Stephen Brown photo provided
Center for Girls of Lee County.

David F. Collins will continue to serve as treasurer. He has been a mortgage banker for over 20 years and has served as a board member for PACE Center for Girls of Lee County, and as treasurer for the PACE Capital Campaign. Collins has also taken part in the executive leadership team for American Heart Association Heart Walk and was an AHA Red Tie Society Member.

Therese Everly will continue to serve as board secretary. She is a registered

respiratory therapist and licensed Florida realtor who also serves on the board of Human Trafficking Awareness Partnership Inc., advisory board for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. Everly has served as a member of the City of Cape Coral Financial Advisory Board and is a former adjunct professor at Florida Southwestern State College. She has 26 years of health care and management experience accompanied by a degree in health care administration.

"We appreciate the officers' level of involvement, and we are thankful to have such an accomplished group working to further our commitment to provide the highest quality care," said Lee Health President and CEO Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA.

In addition to the officers, other board members include: Sanford Cohen, MD; Diane Champion; Jessica Carter Peer; Chris Hansen; Nancy McGovern, RN, MSM; and Stephanie Meyer, BSN, RN.

The Lee Health Board of Directors consists of 10 officials, from five districts, who are elected by the people of Lee County in staggered four-year terms. The board holds regularly scheduled public meetings to set goals and objectives and to hear recommendations from the health system's administrative and medical staffs. The public is encouraged to attend.*

Campus Walk To Fight Suicide

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) will host its fourth annual Out of the Darkness Campus Walk, part of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's signature student fundraising series, on Tuesday, March 20. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Student Plaza on the FGCU campus.

The Campus Walk, which is held throughout the country, is designed to engage youth and young adults in the fight to prevent suicide, the second leading cause of death among people ages 18 to 24, the leading cause of death among college students aged 25 to 34 and the third leading cause of death for ages 10 to 24.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in this country. It touches millions of lives – people of all ages, ethnicities, and backgrounds – but the research is clear: suicide is preventable, and the more people who stand up for suicide prevention and mental health, the more lives we can save.

"FGCU students, faculty, staff and community members walk to raise awareness about this important health issue. We hope that by walking, we save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide," said Dr. Julie Rego, director of outreach and prevention for counseling and psychological services

continued on page 32

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Fundraiser Nets More Than \$275,000 For Valerie’s House Permanent Home



From left, Susan Battaglia, Marc Collins, Jane Lane and Mary Love

Supporters of Valerie’s House tore down the walls of grief and built up the walls of love at a unique fundraiser hosted by Norman and Mary Love on February 22. More than \$275,000 was raised through a series of unique opportunities to give at the new temporary home of Valerie’s House, which just opened at 1762 Fowler Street in downtown Fort Myers.

“We wanted to do something to help Valerie’s House, which helps children who have lost a parent or guardian by providing a safe place for them to express their feelings and restore their sense of well-being,” said Norman and Mary Love.

Valerie’s House has helped 350 children and their families since its founding in 2016 by Angela Melvin, whose

own mother was killed in a car accident in 1987. The nonprofit organization uses art and music to help children identify, express and process their grief.

During the evening, guests had the opportunity to:

View masks created by grieving children to express their feelings. The masks are part of their therapy at Valerie’s House;

Sign and/or leave inspirational messages on a canvas called the Wall of Love that will hang in the new home of Valerie’s House;

Participate in a raffle for a one-of-a-kind piece of jewelry designed and donated by Mark Loren Designs.

Guests had appetizers donated by area restaurants and spirits donated by Sandy Stilwell and Southern Wine & Spirits while

photos provided



From left, Valerie’s kids, Stori McDougall, Alexa Bustamante, Nikko Bustamante and Shea Sehrman

viewing artwork created by the children of Valerie’s House. Food was donated and prepared by chefs Ben Voisin and Fabrice Deletrain of Gather, Todd Johnson of Rumrunners, Bob Boye of Cru, Jay Johnson of Bubba’s Roadhouse & Saloon, and Norman Love Confections.

Other sponsors included Friendly Faces, Planned Perfection and Susan Bennett Marketing & Media, LC.

For more information about Valerie’s House or to register a family for programs, visit www.valereshouseswfl.org/contact-us, call 478-6734 or email angela@valereshouseswfl.org. Valerie’s House is fully supported through community donations that can be made online at www.valereshouseswfl.org or by mail to Valerie’s House, Inc., P.O. Box 1955, Fort Myers, FL 33902.*



JoAnn Catti and Joe Catt



From left, Christina Prendiville, Scott Atwood, Kristalyn Loson and Joy Gugliuzza



Linda and John Uhler



Debra and Larry Hobbs



Ellen and John Sheppard



Angela Melvin and Scott Sherman



Sandy Stilwell Youngquist and Tim Youngquist



Norman and Mary Love

Beautifulife:

The Entrepreneur

by Kay Casperson



I am an entrepreneur who loves all of the challenges and rewards that come with having the passion for going for what is in your heart regardless of the consequences. I also know that many of you have the

same spirit of risk and reward as I do and understand exactly what I am talking about in terms of putting it all on the line.

An entrepreneur is an individual who will strive to make things happen because of a drive and ambition in their hearts that does not allow them to stop until they have reached the goal. In many cases, the next goal is right around the corner, and the wheels continue to turn without a real stopping point.

The most significant lesson that an entrepreneur has to learn is how to balance the constant desire to get things done and to reach the goal, along with the essential aspects of life like family, friends, wellness and spirituality. Finding this balance is an important step to living your most beautiful life.

I have compiled a list of attributes that contribute to the makeup of these unique individuals who have a passion for helping to build our communities, society and world:

Vision – entrepreneurs have an idea that is clear to them and is a path that will lead to continued success regardless of the obstacles they come across.

Determination – knowing that there will be setbacks and bridges to cross as well as brick walls that you cannot break through,

an entrepreneur will not give up or give in and will continue to find a way to keep moving forward towards success.

Focus – while it is easy to get sidetracked with ideas and input from others, these individuals will continue to have a laser focus on what it will take to make things happen and to keep things rolling in the right direction.

Integrity – staying true to who you are and what you stand for is a vital part of being an entrepreneur. Speaking the truth and knowing the truth is equally as important.

Wisdom – these individuals dig deep into their souls to pull out the knowledge to make all the difference in the world in fulfilling their dreams and the dreams of others.

Confidence – I do not know an entrepreneur who lacks the confidence in knowing that what they are representing is the best thing ever and will for sure meet the needs of many individuals.

Entrepreneurs have a special place in our world because they create jobs for people, they empower individuals and help to fulfill the dreams and needs of others by providing an opportunity that they might not have had without the unwavering spirit of an entrepreneur. Today and every day, we should celebrate entrepreneurs who put it all out there to make the world a better place for all of us.

My affirmation for you this week is:

"I am thankful for the entrepreneurs who risk all to bring their visions to life to fulfill their dreams, and the dreams of many individuals around the world."

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 manufactures beauty and lifestyle products sold across the country. To stay inspired, visit www.kaycasperson.com or follow on social media @kaycasperson.

Children's Center Fundraiser

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Southwest Florida is holding its 2nd annual Bling & Bags Bingo fundraiser at The Landings Yacht Golf & Tennis Club on Wednesday, April 11 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The night's special caller will be Lee County Tax Collector Larry Hart, who also serves on CAC's board.

Tickets are \$50 and include 16 bingo game cards for a chance to win fine jewelry and designer handbags, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auction items and lavish raffle baskets. Tickets must be purchased in advance by visiting www.eventbrite.com.

Florida Blue is the major sponsor. Other sponsors include Platinum Sponsors – B&I Contractors and Florida Skin Center; Gold Sponsors – Island Mortgage of SWFL, Investors Security Trust, Thompson Family Law, Fort Myers Kiwanis Gateway to the Islands and Metro-McGregor Kiwanis; and Silver Sponsors – Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt, Island Mortgage of SWFL, FineMark Bank,

FGCU's Marieb College of Health & Human Services, Edison National Bank, Mutual Trust Advisory Group, CRS Technology Consultants and Liz Paul Re/Max Realty. To become a sponsor call Lisa at 939-2808.

The Landings Yacht Golf & Tennis Club is located at 4420 Flagship Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, call 939-2808 or visit www.cac-swfl.org.

From page 1

String Quartet

and developing a series of Jazz Meets Classics programs, bringing two popular genres together.

The Vega String Quartet has also won numerous international awards, including an award from the Bordeaux String Quartet Competition, as well as top prizes from the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition and the National Society of Arts and Letters String Quartet Competition.

The Woodlands at Shell Point is located at 15101 Shell Point Boulevard in Fort Myers. Tickets are \$25 and available online at www.shellpoint.org/ concerts or by phone at 454-2067.



Carl Antisell

photos provided



Drew Bergman

Speakers To Share Mental Health Stories

As part of the National Speakers' Series, Lee Health is pleased to present Breaking the Silence – an evening of education about mental health which features two young adult speakers who will share their own first-hand experiences.

The free talk is open to the public and will be held at the First Christian Church on Monday, March 12 at 6 p.m.

Carl Antisell began using alcohol at a young age as a way to mask the shame and pain he felt as a result of his ongoing battle with anxiety and depression.

Drew Bergman's early teenage years were filled with tremendous sadness resulting from a severe case of depression.

Learn how to bring their lessons into your own life and leave with a greater understanding of signs, symptoms and how to seek help for mental health issues.

First Christian Church is located at 2061 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. RSVP for tickets to MindingYourMind@LeeHealth.org. Seating is limited and reservations are required. For more information or questions, call 424-3234.

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dearRPharmacist

Weird Hidden Causes For Heart Attacks



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: The beating sound of your heart is caused by the valves, they open and close routinely, and in a specific rhythm. Google is developing algorithms that can predict a heart attack by looking in your

eye! This, according to research published in *Nature Biomedical Engineering*.

Most heart attacks happen on a Monday. Not to be scrooge, but December 25, Christmas Day is the most common day of the year for heart attacks.

In an average day, your heart pumps about 2,000 gallons of blood around. Compare that to a 6-person hot tub that holds about 450 gallons of water. The fairy wasp has the tiniest heart on record, whereas blue whales have the largest one, about 5 feet long.

I received two questions today. The first came from Tom who lives in Oklahoma, and he asked me if antibiotics could impact his heart. Since antibiotics are drug muggers of almost all vitamins and minerals, the answer is "Yes." You need nutrients to keep your heart beating properly, because they catalyze the electric system.

Tom took Clarithromycin, as part of triple therapy for his ulcer. Clarithromycin is a popular anti-bacterial sold worldwide. The United States FDA has known about heart problems with this drug, and has been warning doctors not to prescribe it to folks with known heart disease for approximately 12 years. More data

was released recently that confirms that people who took the antibiotic years ago (for even two weeks) might have a higher risk of dying from heart disease years later. It doesn't matter what condition you take the drug for, whether it's for ulcers, sinus infections or wounds, it can still impact the cardiovascular system and FYI, it's not alone. Many antibiotics impact your heart.

So if your doctor prescribes the medication Clarithromycin (brand is Biaxin) and you already have heart disease or hypertension, I'd remind doc of your condition in light of the recent studies. Don't trust them to know everything. If you've had a heart attack or have heart failure, it's not out of line to ask for a different antibiotic. This reminder (about your medical history) becomes particularly important if you go to a walk-in clinic instead of your regular physician.

My second question came from Brad in Florida regarding his pacemaker. He asked if it can be hacked. Yes, theoretically. Never say never.

Unscrupulous creeps could hack a pacemaker and reprogram it causing it to do erratic pulsing, deliver potentially fatal shocks or stop it altogether by draining the battery. In order to do this, a hacker would need to know the brand name of your implanted device and its radio frequency. Then, we need an unethical person to reprogram that specific proprietary device, and he'd have to get in close range to tinker with the software. Sounds like a movie plot! So breathe easy because the odds are low that anyone would hack your pacemaker. Adverse events are more likely to occur with some MP3 headphones, metal detectors, certain cellphones or MRI diagnostic scanners. But for sure, don't worry about hackers.

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.✱

Night For Life Fundraiser Nears

The 11th annual Night For Life fundraiser, sponsored by the Organ Transplant Recipients of Southwest Florida, Inc., will be held at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre on Monday, April 2 from 5 to 9 p.m.

Tickets are \$35 per person and include a buffet dinner, program, entertainment, and silent and Chinese auctions. Entertainment includes rock and roll band Electric Lipstick. Doors open at 5 p.m. Auctions will be from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and the dinner buffet will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

This event raises money for the Fletcher Trust Fund, which was established in 2004 to assist transplant recipients and those awaiting transplants in Southwest Florida. It supports the group's purpose to provide a place for the sharing of medical experiences among members,

to provide public information and education on matters relating to organ transplantation and organ donation, and to provide "support" activities for transplant candidates, recipients, donors and families.

An average of 20 people die each day in the U.S. due to a lack of available organs and tissue donors. If you are interested in finding out more about registering to be an organ donor, visit www.donateliflorida.org/register.

For tickets, call David Weinstein 560-3401. To become a sponsor of the event or if you are interested in donating auction items, call 247-3073. For more information about Organ Transplant Recipients of Southwest Florida, Inc., contact otrofsfwf@gmail.com.

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre is located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information on the event, visit www.organsupport.org or the Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/pages/Organ-Transplant-Recipients-of-SW-Florida-Inc/456165927762457.✱

Doctor and Dietician

Stroke, Dementia And Diet Drinks



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

Diets high in sugar intake have long been associated with diabetes and cerebrovascular disease, both of which increase the risk of stroke and dementia. Many turn to diet drinks in an effort to decrease sugar and calorie intake. Is it better to exchange sugar-sweetened beverages with artificially-sweetened beverages?

A study in the journal, *Stroke* concluded that it is not! The study examined research from the 1998-2001 portion of the Framingham Heart Study Offspring cohort, which began in 1971 with 5,124 volunteers. The participants of the study responded to a questionnaire which gathered information regarding the consumption of fruit juice, noncarbonated sugar-sweetened fruit drinks, and artificially

sweetened soft drinks. The researchers then compared the beverage consumption to a 10-year risk of stroke and dementia. The conclusion? Artificially-sweetened soft drink consumption was associated with a higher risk of both stroke and dementia. When diabetes was identified, the association between artificially-sweetened beverage intake and dementia and stroke risk was even higher. This may be because diabetics consume more diet beverages than non-diabetics. Nonetheless, even those without diabetes, had a higher risk of stroke and dementia. Also, participants with hypertension who consumed artificially sweetened drinks had an elevated risk of stroke and dementia.

It is not unusual for individuals to consume artificially-sweetened beverages in an attempt to improve their diet or because they have diabetes. Unfortunately, this study and other large health studies, such as The Nurse's Health Study, show that the diabetes and cerebrovascular risk actually increase with their consumption.

Simply put, diet soda is simply not a healthy choice. Stick to purified water. And if you crave the fizz, try sparkling water. There are many flavors available for variety. Or, you can make your own fresh, fun combinations like pineapple basil or cucumber mint. Cheers!

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.✱

Guardian Ad Litem Fundraiser

The Guardian ad Litem Foundation (GALF), 20th Judicial Circuit, Inc. is gearing up for its annual fundraiser, called Viva La Derby, at the Colonial Country Club on Saturday, May 5.

The benefit, now in its fourth year, will feature guests competing in the Hat and Bow Tie contests. Viva La Derby is scheduled to coincide with the actual Kentucky Derby on May 5 and will broadcast the live Run for the Roses. The fundraiser will also feature a live and silent auction, games and contests, and culinary creations from the Colonial Country Club.

The foundation raises funds through grants, donations and fundraising events. Viva La Derby and the SuperHero Bash are two such events.

GALF is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit working in partnership with the Guardian ad Litem Program, 20th Judicial Circuit, and raises funds to support the work of the program.

The program's mission is simply, I am For the Child. This declaration invokes a commitment to stand with children in the dependency court system, who through no fault of theirs, have been removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect, or abandonment.

Colonial Country Club is located at 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers. Full event details are available at www.voicesforkids.org.✱

From page 29

Campus Walk

(CAPS) at FGCU. "If you've lost someone to suicide, or you or someone you know suffers from a mental health condition like depression or anxiety, please join us for the Out of the Darkness Campus Walk at FGCU to fight suicide."

Participants can register online at www.afsp.org/fgcu. Event sponsors are needed.

Walk donations will be accepted until June 30. There are three different registration types: walker (individual, team or captain); volunteer (to volunteer at the walk); and virtual walker (if unable to attend but still want to donate or spread the word). Funds raised support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and its bold goal to reduce the annual suicide rate

in the United States 20 percent by 2025 through research, education, advocacy and support.

In the last 10 years, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) has grown from a grassroots network of researchers and volunteers into a national movement of chapters in every state. AFSP is also the largest private funder of suicide prevention research. The infrastructure that has been built to deliver evidence-based programs to local communities across the country has impacted millions of people. AFSP is consistently ranked one of the best charities for mental health and is powered by everyday heroes like you.

FGCU is located at 10501 FGCU Boulevard South in Fort Myers. For more information on sponsorship and the event, contact Dr. Julie Rego at jreg@fgcu.edu.✱

PETS OF THE WEEK

Haven on Earth Animal League

Blueberry And Taters

Hi there! I'm Blueberry. I am a beautiful 1-year-old Russian blue kitty with bright green eyes. I am a very shy little girl and really need to be in a quiet home with someone that will give me time to adjust. I am currently staying with a foster mom. I am spayed and up to date on all vaccines. My adoption fee is \$75.



Blueberry photos provided

Hello, my name is Taters. I am a very pretty Calico girl. I'm only 6-months old. I am very shy and really need to be in a quiet home with someone that will give me time to adjust. I am currently staying with a foster mom. I am spayed and up to date on all vaccines. My adoption fee is \$75.



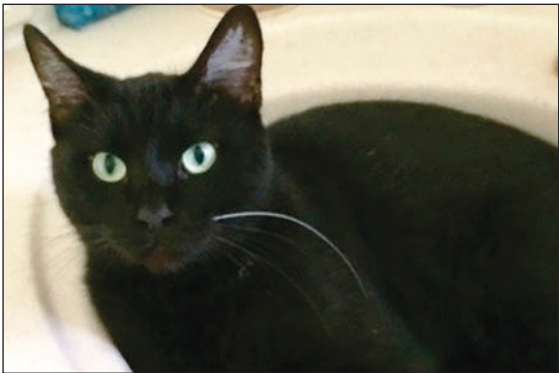
Taters

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

PAWS Of Sanibel

Bella Luna

Hello, my name is Bella Luna. I'm about 18 months old. I have been Vet checked, combo tested, spayed, wormed and had all my immunizations. I'm a Hemingway Kitty and have extra toes on both of my front feet. I love to play, and especially like to play fetch. You throw the ball, and I'll bring it back to you to throw again. If you can give me a forever home, call Pam at PAWS at 472-4823.✱



Bella Luna

photo provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Reese And Ingrid

Lee County is rolling out the red carpet for celebrity pets during the month of March. Some famous felines and canines have taken up residence at the Lee County Domestic Animal Services shelter. Spin the lucky wheel for a chance at a reduction in your adoption fee from \$5 to \$25. With the 90th Academy Awards ceremony set for the first weekend in March, pets at the shelter that are up for adoption will have names of the stars such as Ingrid Bergman, Marlon Brando and Jack Nicholson to name a few.



Reese ID# A727382

photos provided

Hi, I'm Ingrid Bergman. I am a 2-year-old female pit bull who is playing the celebrity canine role as you can see. If my 1,000-watt smile doesn't pull you in, my personality certainly will. I am a charmer right from the start. I am willing to dress up and just waiting for my dream part – the new addition to the perfect family.



Ingrid ID# A729746

My adoption fee is \$50, but spin the wheel for a \$5 to \$25 discount.

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

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

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

The adoption package is valued at \$500.✱

Hello, my name is Reese Witherspoon. I am a 4-year-old female pit bull who has really blossomed since I came to the shelter. Much like my namesake, I have gained confidence like Elle Woods in Legally Blonde and am beginning to know I can walk the red carpet with the best of them. My beautiful blonde coat is starting to gain its original shine as well. I am a gentle girl that had a rough start and now deserve my very own 'Oscar' in the form of a new family.

My adoption fee is \$50, but spin the wheel for a \$5 to \$25 discount.



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

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

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
American Legion Post #38	239-332-1853
Angel Flight	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center	731-3535
American Business Women Association	357-6755
Audubon of SWFL	339-8046
Audubon Society	472-3156
Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR	482-1366
Caloosahatchee Folk Society	321-4620
Cape Chorale Barbershop Chorus	1-855-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club	542-9153
duPont Company Retirees	454-1083
Edison Porcelain Artists	415-2484
Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter	239-267-1990
FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Confederacy	728-3743
Friendship Force Of SW FL	561-9164
Garden Club of Cape Coral	239-257-2654
Horticulture and Tea Society	472-8334
Horticultural Society	472-6940
Lee County Genealogical Society	549-9625
Lee Trust for Historic Preservation	939-7278
NARFE(National Active & Retired Federal Employees	482-6713
Navy Seabees Veterans of America	731-1901
Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL	667-1354
Sons of Confederate Veterans	332-2408
Southwest Florida Fencing Academy	939-1338
Southwest Florida Music Association	561-2118
Kiwanis Fort Myers Beach	765-4254 or 454-8090
Kiwanis Fort Myers Edison	694-1056
Kiwanis Fort Myers South	691-1405
Gateway to the Islands	218-5768
Iona-McGregor	482-0869
Lions Club Fort Myers Beach	463-9738
Lions Club Fort Myers High Noon	466-4228
Lions Club Estero/South Fort Myers	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County	768-0417
Organ Transplant Recipients of SW Florida	247-3073
POLO Club of Lee County	477-4906
Rotary Club of Fort Myers	332-8158
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline (24 hour)	211 or 433-3900

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

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

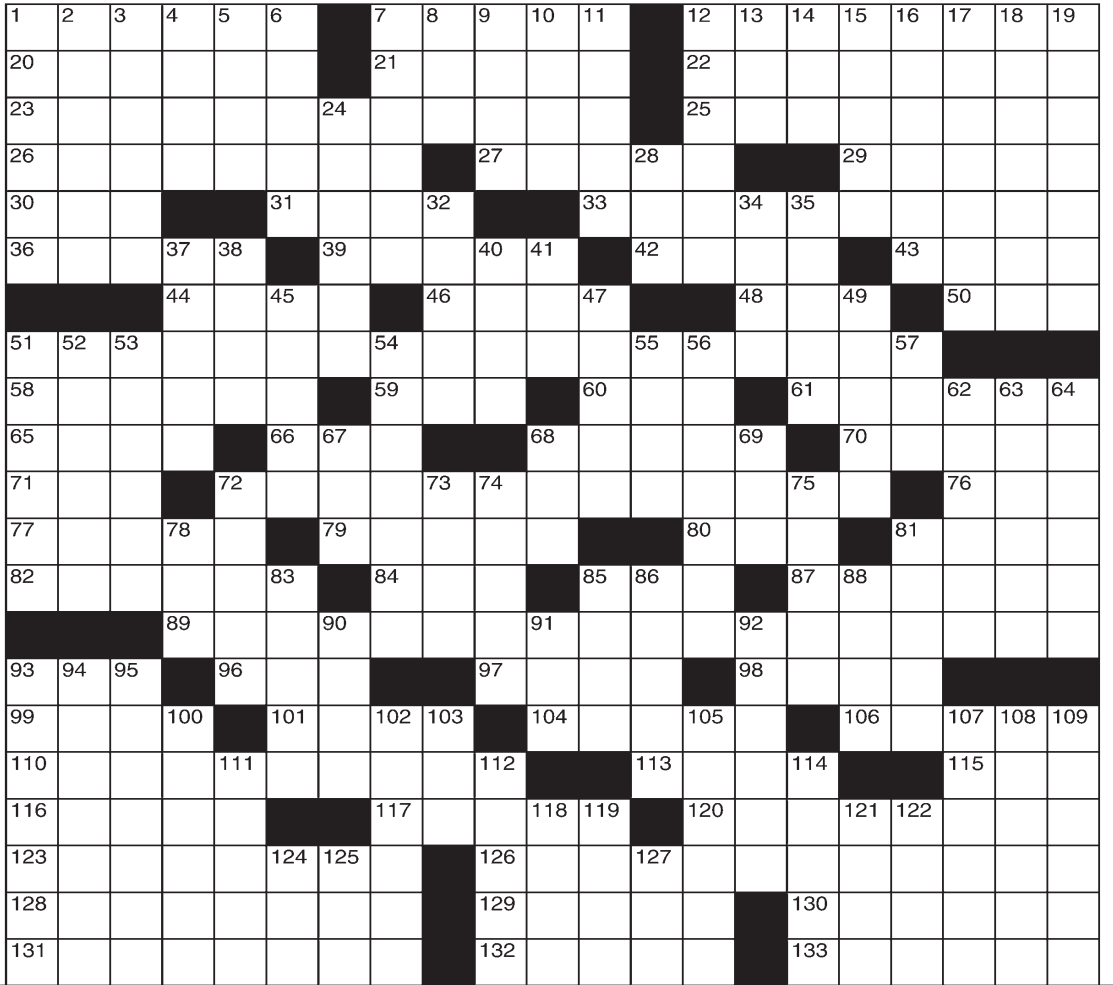
PUZZLES

Answers on page 37

Super Crossword

IN HONOR OF LEAP YEAR

- ACROSS
- 1 Spanish squiggles
- 7 Blue Ribbon brewer
- 12 Places for military craft
- 20 Declare the truth of
- 21 — Brothers ("That Lady" R&B group)
- 22 Most rare
- 23 Elicit the stamp "NSF"
- 25 Pause with uncertainty
- 26 Web site facilitating job-hunting
- 27 In — (prebirth)
- 29 Credit card come-on
- 30 Bit of work
- 31 Little mistake
- 33 Chinese appetizer
- 36 Premolars, e.g.
- 39 Splendor
- 42 "Allow — introduce myself"
- 43 Mall come-on
- 44 Austrian "a"
- 46 Nation due south of Iran
- 48 Maritime plea
- 50 Put a flaw in
- 51 Hell-bent
- 58 Got the soap out of
- 59 Slalom turn
- 60 "— won't!" (firm refusal)
- 61 Gave the slip
- 65 "That's —!" ("False!")
- 66 Its cap. is Boise
- 68 French subway
- 70 Beethoven's "Für —"
- 71 Drill sgt., e.g.
- 72 Sky's high arch, figuratively
- 76 Abbr. on a rap sheet
- 77 "Inferno" author
- 79 Milo of movies
- 80 Hector
- 81 Skated
- 82 Nuts
- 84 "Whether — nobler ..."
- 85 Beatty of movies
- 87 In-house
- 89 Start following a trend
- 93 Acct. amount
- 96 — Paulo, Brazil
- 97 Spanish coin
- 98 Starting from
- 99 List abbr.
- 101 Lands in the ocean, to Henri
- 104 Leave the house
- 106 Sky twinklers
- 110 Go by plane
- 113 Bronze coin in Harry Potter books
- 115 — chi
- 116 Stupefy
- 117 Angel player Della
- 120 Transverse rail support
- 123 Courage
- 126 Track-and-field event
- 128 Tangles
- 129 Come next
- 130 Irish city near Killarney
- 131 Scares
- 132 — Park, Colorado
- 133 Indian lutes
- DOWN
- 1 iPad Air, e.g.
- 2 Côte d'— (country in Afrique)
- 3 Cocktail bar
- 4 Flashy hoops shot
- 5 Latin "Lo!"
- 6 Tool-holding buildings
- 7 Lawn lunch
- 8 Oak wood
- 9 Sky color, in Cannes
- 10 Religious branch
- 11 Rug rats
- 12 No longer sailing
- 13 See
- 13-Down
- 14 Univ. dorm monitors
- 15 BYOB part
- 16 Cast list
- 17 Froth made by waves
- 18 Ward of Miss Havisham
- 19 Pittsburgh footballer
- 24 Quinn who played Annie
- 28 Tachometer abbr.
- 32 Walks laboriously
- 34 "Who's there?" response
- 35 Nary a soul
- 37 Uptight
- 38 Animal skin
- 40 City of Iowa
- 41 Tit for —
- 45 Gymnast Comaneci
- 47 Cherry with the 1989 hit "Buffalo Stance"
- 49 Number of deadly sins
- 51 Chastain of soccer
- 52 Tin Man's container
- 53 Coalitions
- 54 Gives a hand at a card table
- 55 Mechanical learning
- 56 Carmen of "That Night in Rio"
- 57 East Indian lentil stew
- 62 Scripted lines
- 63 Inuit or Yupik language
- 64 Benumb
- 67 Tag team, e.g.
- 68 Deg. for a painter
- 69 Female cells
- 72 Hot planet
- 73 With 13-Down, it's risky to skate on
- 74 Opposite of east, in Spain
- 75 "By gar!"
- 78 Trump — Mahal
- 81 Elevator part
- 83 Send via PC
- 85 Stepson in "I, Claudius"
- 86 Thing read on a Kindle
- 88 Low cards
- 90 — sci
- 91 "O" in a letter, maybe
- 92 Essence
- 93 Isn't naughty
- 94 Super-insect of 1960s TV
- 95 City near Anaheim
- 100 More slothful
- 102 Means of exit
- 103 That lady
- 105 Mothers' brothers
- 107 Head Hun
- 108 Luise of "The Good Earth"
- 109 Long fights
- 111 Lavish meal
- 112 Giggly laugh
- 114 Wrongful acts, in law
- 118 Phoenix hoopsters
- 119 Once, old-style
- 121 Goa dress
- 122 Some jazz singing
- 124 Org. for pucksters
- 125 Mid grade?
- 127 Fitting



King Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 "If I may interrupt, ..."
- 5 Pen filler
- 8 Otherwise
- 12 African gully
- 13 Born
- 14 Sweetie
- 15 "Metamorphoses" poet
- 16 Make less intense
- 18 Disappointment
- 20 Shampoo directive
- 21 Author Buscaglia
- 22 Cravat
- 23 Fireplace minutia
- 26 Square dance party
- 30 — constrictor
- 31 Prompt
- 32 Court
- 33 Overwhelm
- 36 Archipelago components
- 38 Suitable
- 39 Modern-day evidence
- 40 Frighten
- 43 Dusk
- 47 Prison security measure
- 49 Pelvic bones
- 50 Baseball's Hersher
- 51 Varnish ingredient
- 52 Breaks a Commandment
- 53 Simple
- 54 Coloring agent
- 55 Slam-dance
- 9 Ponce de —
- 10 Cutting tools
- 11 Sea flyer
- 17 Great Lake
- 19 "— the ram-parts ..."
- 22 Pirouette pivot
- 23 Recede
- 24 Cattle call?
- 25 Satchel
- 26 Attila, e.g.
- 27 Hooter
- 28 Trouble
- 29 Ph. bk. data
- 31 100 lbs. Ogden
- 34 In an ominous way
- 35 Newspaper pg.
- 36 Hostel
- 37 Cruel treatment
- 39 Conical-cap wearer
- 40 — gin fizz
- 41 Cat of "Iron Chef America"
- 42 High cards
- 43 Vacillate
- 44 Hodgepodge
- 45 Victories
- 46 Doggerelist
- 48 Antiquated
- DOWN
- 1 MPs' quarry
- 2 Own
- 3 Tend manuscripts
- 4 Center
- 5 Halved
- 6 Night light?
- 7 Barbie's companion
- 8 Formed a vortex

MAGIC MAZE ● FOUND IN A SAFE

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

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

- Bonds
Cash
Coins
Contracts
- Deeds
Diamonds
Jewelry
Keys
- Licenses
Passports
Policies
SS cards
- Titles
Valuables
Will



"Not only is the magic gone from our marriage,
but so is my _____!"

answer on page 37

SCRAMBLERS

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

Despise
AHOTEL _ _ _ _ _
Display
UNFLAT _ _ _ _
Beyond
TEDIOUS _ _ _ _
Fiend
TUBER _ _ _ _

TODAY'S WORD

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

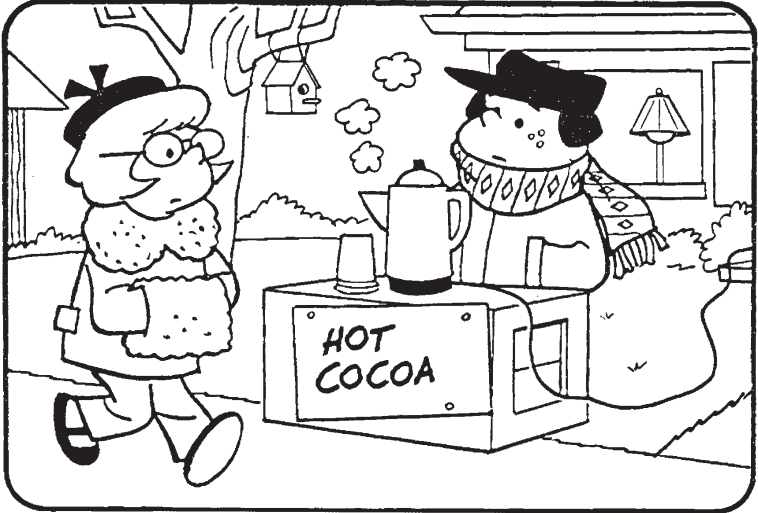
SUDOKU

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

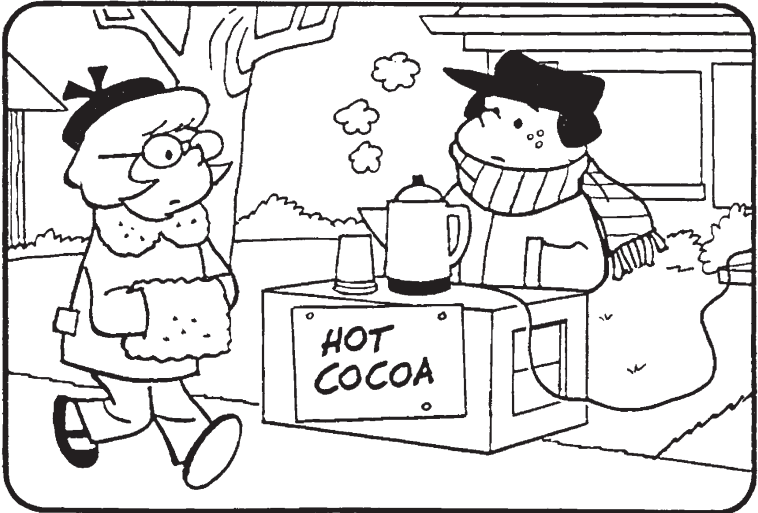
answer on page 37

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Sign is different. 2. Birdhouse is missing. 3. Pot is different. 4. Scarf is smaller. 5. Scarf is different. 6. Lamp is missing.



Zucchini and Parmesan Skillet Cake

- 1 pound zucchini
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh basil, chopped
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Very thinly slice zucchini crosswise with a mandoline or other manual slicer. Heat 1 tablespoon butter in a 12-inch nonstick skillet over moderately high heat until foam subsides, then sauté zucchini and garlic, stirring, until zucchini is just beginning to soften, about 8 minutes. Transfer to a bowl and cool 10 minutes. Add basil and salt and pepper to taste. Melt remaining tablespoon butter in an 8-inch nonstick skillet and remove from heat. Arrange one fourth of zucchini mixture in a layer in skillet and sprinkle with one fourth of parmesan. Repeat layering 3 times. Cook skillet cake over moderate heat until bottom of cake is well browned, 5 to 7 minutes. Slide cake onto a large paper plate, then place skillet over cake and, holding plate firmly, invert cake back into skillet. Cook cake, shaking skillet frequently to prevent sticking, until underside is browned, 4 to 5 minutes more. Slide cake onto a platter. Cut like a pizza.*



Zucchini and Parmesan Skillet Cake

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

 FRIDAY Sunny High: 61 Low: 55	 SATURDAY Sunny High: 66 Low: 60	 SUNDAY Sunny High: 70 Low: 64	 MONDAY Partly Cloudy High: 68 Low: 62	 TUESDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 69 Low: 63	 WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 72 Low: 66	 THURSDAY Sunny High: 74 Low: 68
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Redfish Pass Tides					Point Ybel Tides					Punta Rassa Tides					Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	5:36 pm	12:48 am	None	None	Fri	4:41 pm	12:50 am	None	None	Fri	7:09 am	12:56 am	5:56 pm	9:58 am	Fri	7:46 pm	4:04 am	None	None
Sat	6:47 pm	2:06 am	None	None	Sat	5:52 pm	2:08 am	None	None	Sat	7:27 pm	2:08 am	None	None	Sat	8:57 pm	5:22 am	None	None
Sun	12:49 pm	4:14 am	9:15 pm	2:51 pm	Sun	11:54 am	4:16 am	8:20 pm	2:53 pm	Sun	1:01 pm	4:07 am	9:35 pm	3:48 pm	Sun	2:59 pm	7:30 am	11:25 pm	6:07 pm
Mon	1:07 pm	5:09 am	10:30 pm	4:21 pm	Mon	12:12 pm	5:11 am	9:35 pm	4:23 pm	Mon	12:20 pm	5:01 am	10:40 pm	4:44 pm	Mon	3:17 pm	8:25 am	None	7:37 pm
Tue	1:26 pm	5:54 am	11:29 pm	5:18 pm	Tue	12:31 pm	5:56 am	10:34 pm	5:20 pm	Tue	12:29 pm	5:49 am	11:35 pm	5:35 pm	Tue	12:40 am	9:10 am	3:36 pm	8:34 pm
Wed	1:41 pm	6:30 am	None	6:01 pm	Wed	12:46 pm	6:32 am	11:21 pm	6:03 pm	Wed	12:52 pm	6:30 am	None	6:20 pm	Wed	1:39 am	9:46 am	3:51 pm	9:17 pm
Thu	12:16 am	7:01 am	1:54 pm	6:39 pm	Thu	12:59 pm	7:03 am	None	6:41 pm	Thu	12:16 am	7:05 am	1:18 pm	7:01 pm	Thu	2:26 am	10:17 am	4:04 pm	9:55 pm

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harrychapinfoodbank.org

THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

Harry Chapin Food Bank
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

PUZZLE ANSWERS

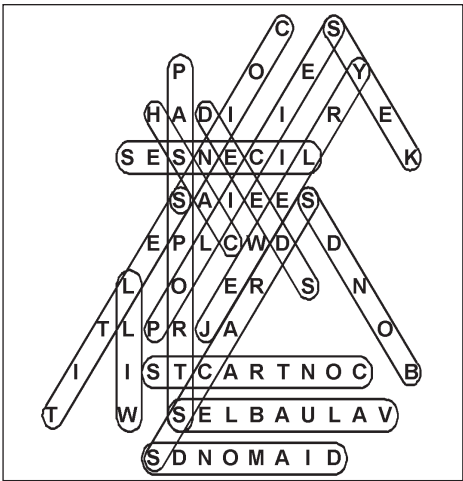
SUPER CROSSWORD

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

KING CROSSWORD

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

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF MARCH 12, 2018

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You could have some problems with doubters who don't share your enthusiasm for that new project you're supporting. But use the facts to win them over to your side.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Someone is impressed by how you managed to get your case to the right people, despite attempts to keep you on the outside looking in. Expect to hear more about this.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Good for you -- your gift for seeing both sides of a dispute helps cool down a potentially explosive workplace situation. Some family-related tensions also begin to ease.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your determination to prove yourself is put to the test by midweek. Counting all the positive factors you have going for you will help you get over your self-doubt. Good luck.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Several co-workers are still determined to resist coming over to your side. But don't let that stop you from presenting your proposal to the people who count. Stay the course.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You might prefer to be taken on faith and not have to prove yourself. But the truth is, you need to offer more facts if you hope to persuade people to accept what you say.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A family situation takes an unwelcome turn. While others might be looking around for answers, you'll soon sort it all out logically, and the matter will be resolved.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Someone might try to create doubt about your reliability for his or her own agenda. But your reputation and your colleagues' long-standing faith in you saves the day.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) An unexpected change of plans forces you to come up with an alternative by the end of the week. Look for colleagues to offer valuable suggestions.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Nothing upsets the Goat as much as broken promises. But before you vent your anger, consider that this could ultimately prove to be a blessing in disguise.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An old workplace problem you thought you had solved for good resurfaces. But this time, co-workers will take a more active role in helping you deal with it.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Be careful not to be misled by a negative reaction to one of your more important projects. If you believe in it, then it has worth and is, therefore, worth staying with.

BORN THIS WEEK: Everyone appreciates your gift for finding beauty, even where it seems least likely to exist.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On March 17, 1762, in New York City, the first parade honoring the Catholic feast day of St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, is held by Irish soldiers serving in the British army.

• On March 16, 1802, the United States Military Academy -- the first military school in the United States, also known as West Point -- is founded by Congress. West Point was the site of a Revolutionary-era fort that Patriot General Benedict Arnold agreed to surrender to the British in exchange for 6,000 pounds. However, the plot was uncovered and Arnold fled to the British for protection.

• On March 12, 1903, the New York Highlanders join baseball's American League, changing its name to the New York Yankees in 1913.

• On March 18, 1942, the War Relocation Authority is created to "Take all people of Japanese descent into custody," as well as some Germans and Italians, and put them in internment camps. One Japanese American, Gordon Hirabayashi, fought internment all the way to the Supreme Court, which ruled against him.

• On March 14, 1950, the FBI institutes the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list in an effort to publicize particularly dangerous fugitives. Only eight women have appeared on the Most Wanted list.

• On March 13, 1965, Eric Clapton leaves the Yardbirds. The English guitarist, singer and songwriter was enough of a purist to quit when the band drifted from the blues toward experimental pop with its 1965 hit "For Your Love."

• On March 15, 1970, Boston Bruin Bobby Orr becomes the first defenseman in NHL history to score 100 points in a season. Orr was a young phenomenon,

signed by the Boston Bruins to a "C" form at the age of 12. His contract included \$900 worth of stucco for his family's home and a secondhand car.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was Danish scholar and critic Georg Brandes who made the following sage observation: "Poor is the power of the lead that becomes bullets compared to the power of the hot metal that becomes types."

• You doubtless know who Thomas Edison was -- the American inventor of such things as the light bulb, the phonograph and the motion-picture camera. You never learned that he was blind, though, did you? Of course you didn't -- he wasn't blind. However, even though he could see, historians say that when he was reading, he preferred Braille to printed text.

• Have you ever heard of a lipogram? It's a work of writing that deliberately leaves out one or more letters of the alphabet. For instance, in 1939 a man named Ernest Vincent Wright published a 50,000-word novel titled "Gadsby," in which the letter e was not used once -- the longest lipogram in English.

• Those who study such things say that the trunk of an African elephant has more than 60,000 muscles.

• You might be surprised to learn that the White House had a telephone installed before indoor plumbing was.

• I have some bad news for lovers of the snooze button: Experts say that you're better off not using it. Researchers have found that the last few minutes of sleep are more beneficial if they're uninterrupted, so it's better to go ahead and set your alarm for 10 minutes later to begin with.

• A study of prison inmates' medical files revealed this interesting tidbit: The higher the levels of testosterone in a male inmate, the younger that inmate was when he was first arrested.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"I learned compassion from being discriminated against. Everything bad that's ever happened to me has taught me compassion." -- Ellen DeGeneres

SCRAMBLERS

1. Loathe; 2. Flaunt; 3. Outside; 4. Brute

Today's Word
HUSBAND

TRIVIA TEST

- Literature:** What American poet wrote the line, "My candle burns at both ends; it will not last the night"?
- Math:** The Roman numerals MCDXIV are equal to what Arabic number?
- Money:** Which U.S. president's image appears on the \$50 bill?
- Measurements:** What does a "candela" measure?
- Movies:** What was the original name of Disney's Mickey Mouse?
- History:** What war is the Battle of Leipzig associated with?
- General Knowledge:** What is the birthstone associated with March?
- Geography:** What is the most populous city in the world?
- Nobel Prizes:** Who was the first American to win a Nobel Prize?
- U.S. Presidents:** Which president had a yacht titled the "Honey Fitz"?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Edna St. Vincent Millay 2. 1,414 3. Ulysses Grant 4. Luminous intensity 5. Mortimer Mouse 6. The Napoleonic Wars 7. Aquamarine 8. Shanghai 9. Theodore Roosevelt (Peace) 10. John Kennedy

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ CLASSIFIED ★ CLASSIFIED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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4/29 ★ TFN

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SIMCOE ON SANIBEL in the Village Shops has enjoyed the ambiance of his studio and gallery together with living quarters for some time until Pennsylvania and New England came calling.

Now this complementary arrangement of business (by appointment) and Island condo living can be yours for \$419,000.

For more details – carol@simcoegallery.com, 2340 Periwinkle Way, R-1

3/9 ★ TFN

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WONDERFUL RENTAL IN POPULAR LOCATION ON SANIBEL



2 Rooms, Bathroom, Approx. 1,000 sq. feet. This was Molnar Electric's old office. Call Judy at 239-851-4073.

8/5 ★ TFN

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Periwinkle office for lease or sublet! 700 Sq Ft, centrally located w/private bath. Bright and airy. Awesome built-in storage. \$730/mo.

Contact Jason at 616.951.2166

2/23 ★ 3/30

VACATION RENTAL



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Unique Vacation Rentals

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Local: (239) 472-6385

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Fax: (239) 472-5858

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1/26 ★ TFN

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1/4 ★ TFN

ANNUAL RENTAL

ANNUAL RENTAL

SANIBEL

Waterfront Home: This peaceful location is true Island Living. Looking over the water with boat dock/lift, access to Bay & Gulf. This beautiful 3 bedroom/2 bath plus den, piling home is offered UF @ \$3,100/mo.

Please call for details



472-6747

Gulf Beach Properties, Inc.

Helping People Become Islanders for over 35 years!
The Island Experience!

2/23 ★ TFN

To advertise in the *Island Sun* and *The River Weekly News*
Call 395-1213

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Residential-Commercial-New Construction \$120 Window Cleaning. Inside And Out. Single Home Or 10% Off. First Time New. Customers/Free Estimates. JC 407-902-7845-jccpcleaning@aol.com

11/17 ★ TFN

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6/7 ★ TFN

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Exterior & Interior Cleaning. Tire Dressing. No job too big or too small.

I come to your Home, Condo, or Hotel.

Reasonable Rates.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Call Bryan 239-284-3639.

9/29 ★ TFN

HELP WANTED

JERRY'S FOODS SERVERS & BARISTAS

Part Time Evening And Weekend Front End Associates Needed. Looking for energetic, personable, and fun individuals, with open availability Monday through Sunday.

If interested call and ask for John, Norm Sarah 472-9300.

1700 Periwinkle Way

5/6 ★ TFN

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Live on the Island and looking for PT work 2 nights and 1 day per week. Flexible schedule. Call 472-1682.

3/9 ★ TFN

EXPERIENCED RETAIL SALES

Seeking 2 experienced retail sales associates on Sanibel for a gift shop and a Ladies Boutique.

Full time positions. Tolls paid.

Call Amy 239-565-9495 Leave message.

3/9 ★ 3/23

PART TIME POSITION FOR A EXPERIENCED BOOKKEEPER

Sanibel. Tolls paid.

Call Amy 239-565-9495.

Leave message.

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Good running car. Good condition.

A/C, Good tires, Automatic, 4DR

\$2,495 or best offer. 239-478-7700

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ANTIQUE & CLASSIC 78 CADILLAC ELDORADO BIARRITZ

63,000 original miles.

Excellent condition.

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2014 VW BEETLE – TURBO LIKE NEW!

Red with red/black interior.

Only 19,000 MILES.

\$18,550

239-395-3719 or 920-203-7137

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HYUNDAI SONATA 2013 GLS LOW MILEAGE (32,500)

4 Door Sedan.

Excellent Condition.

Asking \$8,699.

Call 239-898-4173.

3/9 ★ 3/9

BOATS - CANOES - KAYAKS

DOCKAGE

Hourly, Daily, Weekly and Monthly.

Captiva Island 472-5800

1/4 ★ TFN

FOR SALE

PORSCHE FS MOUNTAIN BICYCLE

Rare excellent condition.

\$1,250.

Call 239-224-9884

3/2 ★ 3/9

GARAGE SALES

HUGE ANNUAL PRESCHOOL YARD SALE!

March 10, from 7 to 11 a.m.

350 Casa Ybel Road, Sanibel.

Children's Education Center of the Islands!

No early birds please. 472-4538.

3/2 ★ 3/9

ESTATE SALE

MARCH 10th and 11th, 9AM-4PM

9209 KINCAID COURT - CORNER OF

SAN-CAP AND KINCAID - SANIBEL

LAZY BOY SECTIONAL, BEDROOM SET,

LAMPS, TABLES, BOOKCASE, WALL/

TV UNIT BEACH/SHELL DECOR, SHELL

DESIGNS, XMAS DECOR, TOOLS,

FISHING GEAR/TACKLE LINENS,

TOWELS, DISHES,

SMALL APPLIANCES, PICTURES.

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

RAIN OR SHINE

3/9 ★ 3/9

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Living room, dining room and lanai furniture; electronics; home accessories; and more. March 17th from 9AM to 2PM - 1649 Sand Castle Road, Sanibel.

3/9 ★ 3/16

PSA

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

ADDICTION SCREENINGS

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family.

http://www.narconon-suncoast.org

Call today for free screenings or referrals.

877-841-5509

3/2 ★ TFN

Students Donate To Ronald McDonald House

It started with a phone call and a very generous lesson plan. Cape Elementary School first-grade teacher Theresa Betz contacted Ronald McDonald House Charities to partner with her class for a special community project called 100 Ways to Care and Share. Over a period of 100 days, students were encouraged to bring in a variety of household items often found on the charities' wish list.

"I thought it would be a great opportunity for the children of Cape Elementary to serve our community with pride," said Betz.

For ideas on how to help Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, contact Amy Blanco at 437-0202 or visit www.rmhcswfl.org.

Keeping Fido Safe Around Electricity

According to the American Pet Products Association (APPA), 68 percent of households equaling about 85 million families, own pets in the United States. That is a lot of furry family members that need protection from the dangers of electricity. Below are some tips to keep Fido and friends safe:

Hide cables and cords: Keep all electrical cords hidden from sight of pets. Curious little critters have a tendency to nibble on and bat at cables which makes electrical cords the number one electrical danger for pets. Playing with or chewing on cords can lead to shock, burns and, in some cases, fire. Pets can also become entangled in wires. If Fido won't leave your electrical cords alone, consider pet-proofing them with plastic piping or rub on a deterrent such as lemon juice, hot sauce or vinegar.

Use caution with hot items: Heat producing elements such as portable heaters, hair straighteners or curling irons must be powered off when they

are not being used. A cold critter could mistake these types of appliances for a warm place to curl up and nap.

Water and electricity do not mix: Pet owners know that their furry loved ones are both curious and clumsy at times. Never leave electrical appliances such as radios or hair dryers near sinks or tubs. If Fido knocks an electric appliance into water, it could result in electric shock and even death for your furry family member.

Plug in fully: When plugging in electrical items, make sure the plug is completely inserted. Partially exposed prongs could be touched by a wet nose or tongue, resulting in electric shock.

Protecting precious furry friends is a priority to any pet owner, but accidents can and do happen. In the event that your furry family member has had an

electric shock, immediately move them away from electrical source by using a non-conductive item such as a pillow or wooden broom handle. Once Fido is safe from the source of electricity, wrap them in a blanket and rush them to the vet.

From page 15

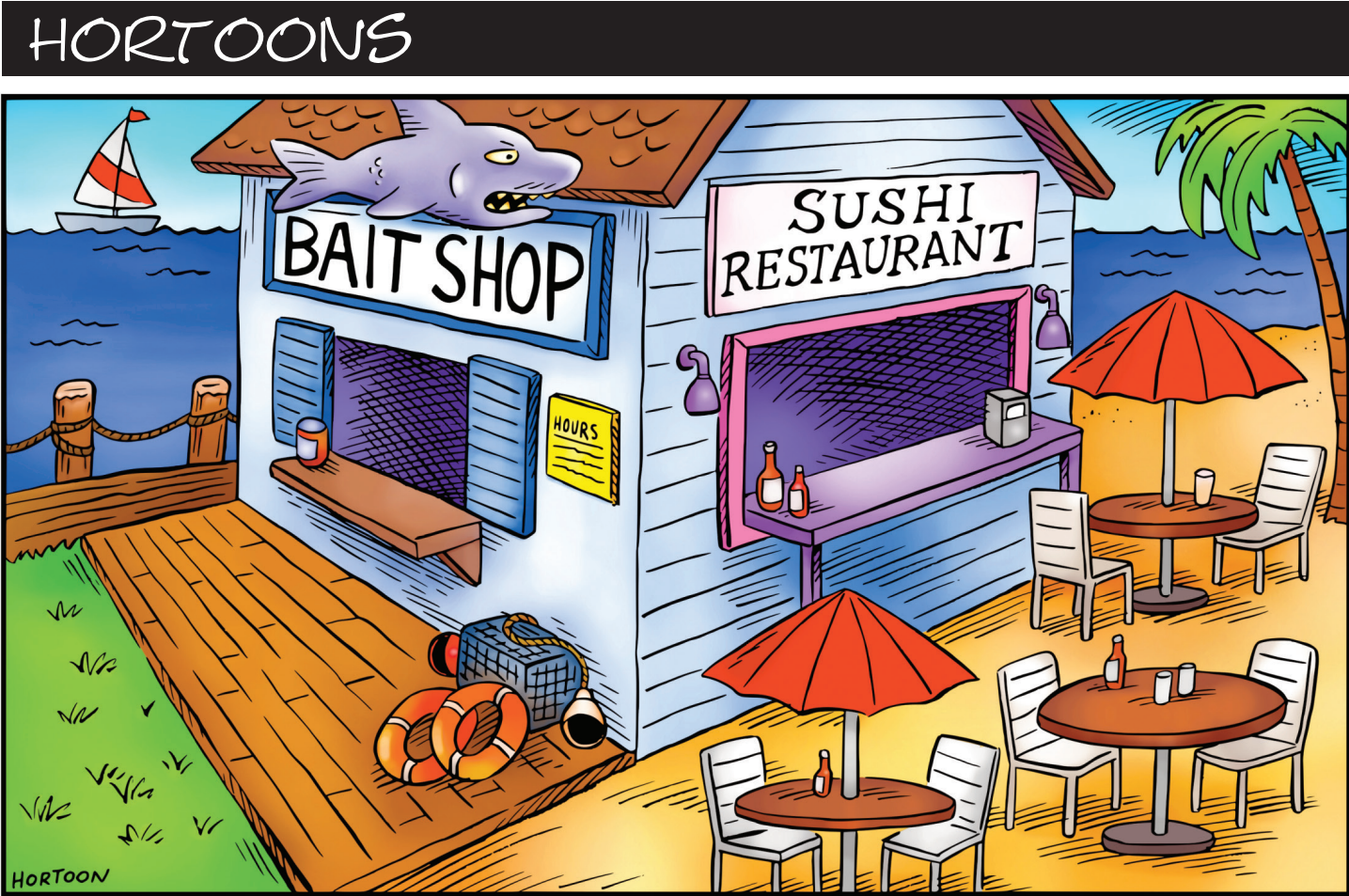
Sea Turtles

which may be secondary to spinal damage sustained from the boat strike," said Dr. Bast. "A CT scan will be performed to further assess the extent of spinal damage, as well as any damage to her lungs which could be resulting in on-going air-trapping. Further testing will determine a prognosis for release.

"The loggerhead is swimming strongly; eating squid and fish like


a champ, and is no longer requiring IV fluid therapy since its electrolyte imbalances have been corrected. It is still anemic and is receiving iron injections regularly, and blood iron levels are being checked routinely to monitor progress. The turtle will not be released until the anemia improves markedly – at a minimum several weeks – but the prognosis based on clinical improvement so far is good."

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.



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Bonita Beach	Bonita Springs	2002	4,470	\$5,200,000	\$4,850,000	34
Fa Lanes Bayview	Captiva	2002	3,635	\$2,799,000	\$2,250,000	64
Frowes Subd	Captiva	1948	3,585	\$1,800,000	\$1,884,500	0
Kinzie Island	Sanibel	1990	4,801	\$1,789,000	\$1,700,000	25
Victoria Cove Of Sanibel	Sanibel	1990	3,319	\$1,779,000	\$1,459,500	0
Jose's Hideaway	Captiva	1984	1,748	\$1,499,000	\$900,000	212
Fairview Isles	Fort Myers Beach	1980	2,456	\$1,495,000	\$1,355,000	35
Metes And Bounds	Captiva	1984	2,333	\$1,495,000	\$1,475,000	68
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2005	3,875	\$1,300,000	\$1,140,000	33
Sanibel Estates	Sanibel	1984	2,640	\$1,295,000	\$1,186,810	92

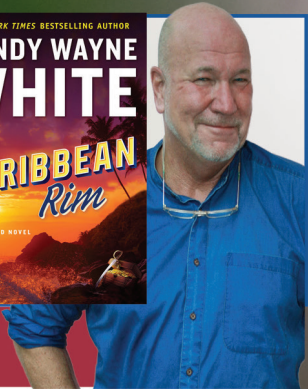
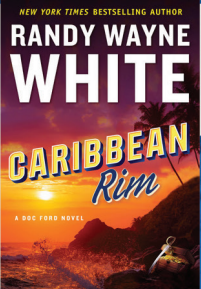


BOOK SIGNING EVENTS!

SANIBEL ISLAND:
MARCH 11TH & 12TH 12-3PM

CAPTIVA ISLAND:
MARCH 26TH 12-3PM

MEET THE AUTHOR!



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