



Image provided

Art Haus Weekend To Benefit SCCF

by Jeff Lysiak

A weekend-long series of special events, created to raise awareness and much needed funding to support clean water efforts, is coming to Southwest Florida from January 11 to 13. Hosted by Marvin and Helene Gralnick at their 10-acre estate, located at 10731 Bromley Lane in Fort Myers, the gathering is open

to the public.

According to event planners, Art Haus MARVIN will be “a celebration of life, love, family, friends, community and transformation.” Proceeds from this weekend of art, film, comedy, fashion and reflection will benefit water quality work conducted by the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF).

“I host intentional gatherings and retreats in Boulder, Colorado, primarily at Let it Be Light,” said Rio Gralnick, who is organizing the fundraiser. “I felt inspired to bring my healing modalities and collective of musicians back to the island where I

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Art Group Open House And Bazaar



Original works by association members will be for sale during the bazaar image provided

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA) Open House and Art Bazaar will take place simultaneously on Thursday, January 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The open house will be held inside the gallery. There will be a series of hands-on demonstrations by member artists, refreshments and the unveiling of

approximately 100 new mini masters. The demonstrations will include watercolor, alcohol ink on tile, batik, pastel, collage and oil painting, and are scheduled throughout the day. These demonstrations have become quite popular, and participants can create their own piece of art.

Art Bazaar will be held outside in the continued on page 4



Carla Cook

photos provided

Vocalist Joins Quintet For Jazzy Nights Concert

Dan Miller and Lew Del Gatto return for the Jazzy Nights series at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Friday, January 18. Cocktail hour starts at 7 p.m., while the performance



Dan Miller - Lew Del Gatto Quintet

begins at 8 p.m.

This season's performance will feature vocalist Carla Cook as well as Joe Delaney on piano, Don Mopsick on bass and Tony Vigilante on drums.

Cook is a jazz singer/songwriter who sings standards beautifully and is willing to put a jazz spin on songs not written by traditional jazz composers. Songs that, until you hear her sing them, you'd never imagine could be interpreted as jazz. This

native Detroit brings all her influences to bear within her repertoire. In her songbook, you'll find elements of R&B, European classical, Motown, blues and gospel.

Cook goes beyond the American Jazz standard repertoire. She reinterprets songs from the rock and R&B worlds, giving a jazz flavor to such pop classics as Simon & Garfunkel's *Scarborough Fair*, Marvin Gaye's *Inner City Blues*, Bobbie Gentry's

Ode to Billie Joe and Neil Young's *Heart of Gold*.

During her formative years, Cook privately studied voice, piano and string bass, the latter of which she played in her high school orchestra. By the mid '90s, however, she was singing on a full-time basis and had given up her day gigs. It was in 1998 that Cook signed with Maxjazz, a small independent jazz label based in

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Slow Traffic On Hendry



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

This circa-1906 photo taken on Hendry Street illustrates why the Stone Block Building was so known. JF Smith and physician Dr. Benjamin P. Matheson built the starkly no-frills building in 1905 on the southwest corner of First and Hendry.

It was officially named the Smith-Matheson Building, and if you could see the words on the catty-cornered parapet over the corner entrance (right center), you'd read "Smith and Mathison Building 1905." (Historical sources contain various spellings of Matheson.)

It was the third non-wood-frame structure downtown, built just after the second, the Bradford Hotel on the diagonal corner.

Dr. Matheson established his office on the second floor. That architectural style was altered a bit when Michigan millionaire Peter Tonnelier bought the Stone Block – and additional land – late in 1911.

From 1913 to 1915, he expanded and remodeled. He added a balcony to the second-floor hotel, the Leon. The creation of the patio behind the building followed – today's Patio de Leon, then called Tonnelier Court.

In the mid-1920s, George R. Sims redeveloped the Leon Building and patio, and it acquired the Mediterranean/Exotic-revivalist architectural style it sports today, with ornate balconies, arches, decorative columns, colorful medallions and exotic tiles.

The historic photo also gives a glimpse of downtown travel on the eve of the automobile age. People traveled on foot, bicycle, by wagon, boat, or (after 1904) train.

It would be another few years before wagons like the one in the photo all but disappeared from the streets and the automobile took over.

It would be even longer before those vehicles had a decent hard surface to roll upon. Note the unpaved street in the photo.



The Stone Block was built in 1905 on the southwest corner of First and Hendry. This view on Hendry was taken shortly after construction. photo courtesy SWFL Historical Society



A wide variety of businesses now occupy the former Stone Block, now named the Leon Building, and condos are on the second floor. The Mediterranean/Exotic Revivalist architectural style was a product of the 1920s. photo by Gerri Reaves

The shell-asphalt paving of the 19-teens were a great improvement, but the arrival of the rainy season deteriorated that sub-standard paving.

Not until the 1920s did truly modern streets prevail downtown, with classic brick streets. Those bricks were restored during the last decade's downtown redevelopment.

One other particularly noteworthy detail in the historic photo is the wood-frame structure on the far right, Blount's Store on the northwest corner at First Street.

That store was significant not only for being one of the town's first – established in the early 1870s by Jehu J. Blount – but for being the first, albeit unofficial, post office, which was simply a slot in the side of the building.

It was demolished when in 1914 Harvie E. Heitman built the Heitman-Evans Co., which still stands.

Today, the Stone Block is named the Leon Building. The ground floor contains a variety of shops and businesses, from restaurants and a gift shop to a cigar bar and pizza parlor. The former hotel is now condominiums.

Walk down to Hendry Street and ponder the transformations of one of downtown's oldest buildings.

Then visit the following two research centers to learn more about Stone Block history.

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

It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Call 939-4044 or visit www.swflhistoricalsociety.org for more information.



The Lee County Black History Society is located at 1936 Henderson Avenue, adjacent to the Williams Academy Museum at Roberto Clemente Park.


Hours for the volunteer non-profit organization are Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday by appointment only.


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

Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, *The Fort Myers Press*, and *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl H. Grismer.*

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THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

Read Us Online: www.IslandSunNews.com

Publisher
Lorin Arundel

Advertising
Bob Petcher

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

Reporters
Gerri Reaves, PhD
Jeff Lysiak

Contributing Writers

Jennifer Basey	Marion Hauser, MS, RD
Barbara Cacchione	Ross Hauser, MD
Kay Casperson	Craig R. Hersch
Suzy Cohen	Capt. Matt Mitchell
Linda Coin	Trinette Nelson
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Civil Rights Exhibit Comes To Sanibel

The Sanibel Community Association (SCA) and Circle of Community Leadership (CCL) has collaborated to bring the Civil Rights in the Sunshine State exhibit to The Community House. Produced by the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee, the exhibit is now on display and will remain on view through February 8 in the Great Hall.

Through pictures, narratives and videos, visitors can explore the significant contributions Floridians made to the state and national civil rights movement. The exhibit was developed in 2014 by the Museum of Florida History to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The exhibit explores the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Florida.

Two events will be open to the public during the exhibition. Donations are suggested.

On Wednesday, January 23, a presentation on the African Roots of Southern Cooking will be given by Dr. Martha Bireda, executive director of the Blanchard House Museum in Punta Gorda, along with Jarred Harris, resident chef of The Community House.

On Monday, February 4, Dr. Anthony Dixon, professor and university archivist Bethune-Cookman College and one of the most involved advisors on the initial development of the exhibit, will deliver a lecture on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement. He



will be joined by Rev. Dr. John Danner, pastor of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, who will speak about his experiences during the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. Dixon said he hopes the exhibit helps visitors "examine the overall struggle for civil rights in Florida."

Complementing the exhibit will be videos of numerous civil rights leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Patricia Stephens Due, Theodore Gibson and Reverend CK Steele. Civil rights activists from Tallahassee and other cities served as advisors on the exhibit, along with historians from Florida State University, the University of Florida, Florida A&M University and the Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network (FAAHPN).

Yvonne Hill of CCL encourages everyone to attend this exhibit and to experience the stories of the courageous Floridians who stood up to ensure equality. Teresa Riska-Hall, executive director of The Community House, said, "We have been trying to get a program like this for quite some time, so we are pleased that it is finally coming together."

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. For more information, call 472-2155.*

Tony Award Winner Opens At Lab Theater

The four-time Tony Award winner Hedwig and the Angry Inch by Stephen Trask and John Cameron Mitchell will open Tuesday, January 18 at The Laboratory Theater of Florida.

Hedwig, the East German rock icon was born in East Berlin only to fall in love with an American G.I. and flee to the West. Unfortunately, nothing worked out quite as it was supposed to and, years later, Hedwig is leading her rock band on a tour of the U.S., telling her life story through a series of concerts at Bilgewater Inn seafood restaurants. Her tour dates coincide with those of arena rock star Tommy Gnosis, a wide-eyed boy who once loved Hedwig – but then left with all her songs.

Director Paul Graffy said, "The search for one's identity is universal. We are all searching for that which makes us whole. Along with this search, the characters explore the delicate balance of the male and female personas that exist in each of us. Hedwig fuses the sexual ambiguity of the glam rock movement with the confrontational directness of the punk rock movement and a hailstorm of emotions ensues. The mirror has two faces, and only when we are able to recognize them, accept them and blend them, can we transcend."

"This sexy, surprising, touching, naughty over-the-top glam musical is called



PJ McCready as Hedwig

photo by Paula Sisk

the best new rock musical in a generation for a reason. The music is excellent, the characters beautifully flawed, the story groundbreaking and sensitive and funny; audiences will laugh and cry and go home humming the tunes," said artistic director Annette Trossbach.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch is generously sponsored by The Bireley Family Foundation.

Lab Theater is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information and performance dates, visit www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3377342 or call the box office at 218-0481. *

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The Woodwork

photo provided

Craft Beer And Music Festival Downtown

The 4th annual Taps & Tunes Craft Beer & Music Festival will return to downtown Fort Myers at Centennial Park East on Saturday, January 12 from 2 to 8 p.m.

Sample over 80 craft beers and purchase a variety of eats from local food trucks while enjoying music from Wilder Sons, The Woodwork and Supergold. The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is

hosting this event which will be held in downtown Fort Myers.

Cost is \$45 per person, which includes an unlimited tasting cup, which offers sampling of more than 80 craft beers from award-winning local breweries. General admission is \$5, which gets eventgoers access to purchasing tasting flights, food and drinks, and products from retail vendors. Tasting flights are available for just \$20, which includes five four-ounce craft beer pours of your choice.

Wilder Sons will headline the music lineup. The Naples, Florida four-piece act with a beachy alt-rock style recently signed to Legend Recordings and released a new

EP *In Between*. To learn more, visit www.wildersonsband.com.

The Woodwork, also from Naples, fuses indie rock with jazz and blues to create a unique and swinging sound. In 2018, the band was a featured act at Gasparilla Music Festival and recorded the follow-up to their first EP *Burning Bridges*. Visit thewoodworkmusic.com to learn more.

Supergold from Fort Lauderdale will open the festival with their classic rock infused indie sound. The up-and-comers are making waves on Florida's east coast after the release of their single *Money Lover*. They have a frenetic stage presence and Fleetwood Mac-style vocals. For more information about Supergold, visit www.supergoldfl.com.

The festival is sponsored by *The News-Press*, Suncoast Beverage, iHeart Media, Y100, Courtyard Marriott, City of Fort Myers, The Beaches of Fort Myers and Sanibel, Sanibel Captiva Bank and Advance Solar & Spa

Centennial Park East is located at 2221 Edwards Drive in Fort Myers. For tickets and more information, visit www.sbdac.com/taps-and-tunes-craft-beer-and-music-festival or call 333-1933.*

Tickets Available For Yachts Of Hope Fundraiser

Tickets are available for Yachts of Hope, a fundraiser for Hope Hospice at Gulf Harbor Yacht and Country Club, on Saturday, January 12 at 4:30 p.m.

The event features tours of luxury yachts up to 101 feet long, dockside cocktails and tastings from LYNQ, Keyline Bistro, Saboram Wow and The Timbers Restaurant, along with a gourmet dinner, live band and dancing. The evening will also include a once-in-a-lifetime travel experience auction with VIP trips to Sonoma wine country, Madrid, Tuscany and the 2019 U.S. Open Golf Tournament at Pebble Beach, as well as the opportunity to bid on a one-of-a-kind jewelry creation from Mark Loren Designs.

Yachts of Hope is hosted by Sandy Stilwell Youngquist, Sonya Sawyer, Lizbeth Benacquisto and Andie Vogt, joined by committee members Pam Cronin, Deanna Hansen, Cathy Snyder and Hope Healthcare President and CEO Samira K. Beckwith.

Underwriting Yachts of Hope for

\$1,500 includes two tickets and special recognition; individual tickets are available for \$500. Visit www.hopehcs.org/yachts to purchase tickets and preview auction items.

Yachts of Hope sponsors include Stilwell Enterprises and Restaurant Group, Youngquist Brothers, Chico's FAS, Inc., Mark Loren Designs, Marine Max, Cheney Brothers, Creighton Commercial Development, Cypress Cove at HealthPark Florida, Edison National Bank, Home-Tech, Kitson & Partners, William E. Cross Foundation, Inc., and Comcast. For more information, call 482-4673.*

From page 1

Open House

garden area where member artists will have a variety of original artwork for sale. The bazaar will include paintings in watercolor, oil, acrylic and multi-media as well as three-dimensional art, cards, jewelry and crafts.

Sales from Art Bazaar benefit the FMBAA student scholarship fund.

Additional events at the gallery include:

Having Fun with Watercolor by Cheryl Fausel – January 3 to 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; member cost \$190, non-member cost \$205.

Demonstration by Sally Cooper – January 13, 4 to 6 p.m.; \$10 fee.

Call to Artists: Over the Moon FMBAA Winter Juried Show – January 14 through February 7. This show is open to all artists who are members and non-members of FMBAA and members of ACSWF. Submissions due January 12 at FMBAA Gallery.

Gallery Talk, Reception and Awards Event – January 20, 1 p.m.; free admission.

If you are interested in learning to paint, several short workshops are offered at the Fort Myers Beach Art Association this season. Check the website at www.fortmyersbeachart.com to see all the artistic events happening this season.

The gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fort Myers Beach Art Association is located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard on Fort Myers Beach. For more information, email publicity chair Pam Flaherty at fmbaapublicity@gmail.com, call 463-3909, visit www.fortmyersbeachart.com or stop by the gallery.*

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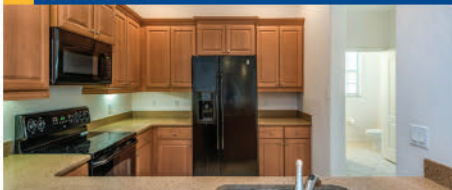
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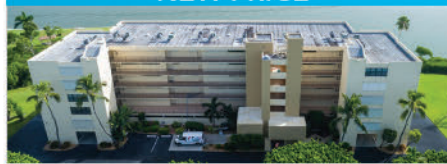
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Fort Myers Art:

Activists For Change Event To Honor Dr. King



by Tom Hall

The Alliance for the Arts and Dunbar Festival Committee are partnering to present From Podiums to Pulpits: Activists for Change on Saturday, January 12 in celebration of Martin Luther

King, Jr.'s passion for justice and equality. Highlighting various national and local civil rights activists throughout history who have worked for change, From Podiums to Pulpits features community performers and entertainers who will honor Dr. King's legacy through dance, music and verse.

Production participants include: The Soleeaters, dance troupe; violinist Luna Muni; Quality Life Center Performing Arts students; playwright/equity actor Derek Lively; equity actor Patricia Idlette; *The Community Press* co-founder Veronica Barber; Quality Life Center Performing Arts Director Keesha Allen; dancer and choreographer Bianca Russell; vocalist Shaunte Manuel; high school actor Rolf Julmissee; and director Sonya McCarter.

The program is part of The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Weekend, which runs from January 12 to 21 and aims to



Young performers at a previous celebration

photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

educate the public, inspire new leaders and form partnerships to better the community.

The celebration begins at 6 p.m. and will be held at Dunbar Community School, located at 1857 High Street in Fort Myers.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/dunbarfestivalcommitteeinc.

Estero Fine Art Show Takes Place This Weekend

The 22nd annual Estero Fine Art Show takes place on Saturday, January 5 and Sunday, January 6 at JetBlue Park on Daniels Parkway east of I-75. There is no admission charge, and parking is free and

ample.

A Sunshine Artist top 100 outdoor art festival, the Estero Fine Art Show features original paintings, drawings, pastels, photography, ceramics, clay, glass, sculpture, wood working and carvings, fiber art and art jewelry from the ateliers, studios and workshops of a select group of local and internationally acclaimed artists. All are present throughout the two-day show and eager to answer questions about their work and inspiration. Live art demonstrations afford numerous opportunities for patrons to see the various processes that the artists go through and techniques they employ to create high-quality artworks in their chosen medium.

Whether you have a serious interest in finding the perfect painting, photograph, sculpture or other artwork for your winter residence here in Southwest Florida or

your summer home someplace else, or you just enjoy browsing fine art under clear blue skies, the Estero Fine Art Show is for you.

Organizer Hot Works LLC goes out of its way to "create an atmosphere that enhances the artwork and creates a relaxing environment for art lovers." Hot Works also runs the award-winning Orchard Lake Fine Art Show in Michigan. In order to achieve a high-quality fine art and craft show, the Hot Works team travels continuously around the U.S. and Canada visiting art shows and recruiting the very best artists for Hot Works events.

Those artists who do apply for inclusion in the Estero festivals must submit three compelling images of their work along with one showing their booth presentation. Then, a group of art professionals (that includes gallery owners, directors and curators, and artists) reviews the application and images.

"We judge based on originality, technique and execution, quality and booth presentation," said show director Patty Norozny. Only the finest are admitted into the shows.

In order to encourage participating artists to bring their finest work to the shows, a second round of judging occurs on site on the first day of the show. The results are announced on Sunday, with the best artists in each category receiving ribbons, purchase awards and cash prizes. By pre-qualifying each one of the artists who come to this event and recognizing the best with ribbons and awards, Hot Works seeks "to help the general public with making their artwork purchase decisions by (giving them the knowledge) that they are purchasing quality work."

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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January 9th: Ask a Theologian; Questions on our Faith

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February 6th: Relativism: Non-Confrontation Gone Amok

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Ash Wed: March 6th: The Truth of Love Through the Truth of Suffering

March 13th: Jesus as Spouse, God as Father; You Are Who You Hang With

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Celebrate Fresh Indie Films At January's TGIM

Short Indie film-watching continues during TGIM (Thank God for Indie Movie Mondays) at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Monday, January 7. The house opens for cocktails at 6:30 p.m., and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Host Eric Raddatz and co-host Melissa Tschari DeHaven welcome judges Tyler Shore, April Florio and Tom Conwell. Get a look at how the Fort Myers Film Festival views submissions for independent films and participate in the selection process. Attendees can offer their interpretation and opinion after each film to help the judges make their final decisions.

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

The final TGIM prior to the film festival is February 4. Each indie film comes from a different writer and director.

The Fort Myers Film Festival's 9th annual festival will be held at the Barbara

B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, Alliance for the Arts, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Library and Imaginarium in April 2019. There will also be parties and dinners at Twisted Vine Bistro, Firestone and other select venues.

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

Writing Contest

The Gulf Coast Writers Association (GCWA) is accepting entries for its 2019 Writing Contest in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, or children's stories. The contest is open to members and the public. All entries must be in by January 31.

Winners will be announced at the GCWA meeting in April. Winning submissions will be posted on the GCWA website at www.gulfwriters.org. Entry fee is \$20/\$10/\$5 depending on how many submissions. For more information, guidelines and entry forms, visit www.gulfwriters.org.✧



Susanna Daniel photo provided

Famous Author Lecture Series Returns To Center

Participants can take part in a lunch and lecture with a bestselling writer at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center once a month between January and April during the Famous Author Lecture Series. This season features lectures from Neely Tucker, Margaret Bradham Thornton, Tim Dorsey and Susanna Daniel. Plus, for an additional fee, take part in writing workshops from Neely Tucker and



Margaret Bradham Thornton photo by Louise Field

Susanna Daniel. The 2019 Famous Author Lecture Series begins with Tucker on Monday, January 14 at noon. Tucker is a novelist, journalist and author based in Washington, DC. His memoir *Love in the Driest Season* was named one of the best 25 Books of 2004 by *Publisher's Weekly*, the American Bookseller's Association, the New York City Library and won numerous other awards. *Life After Death*, a story about his wife's seven-year odyssey to help convict her daughter's killer, was nominated by *The Washington Post* for the 2011 Pulitzer Prize. Tucker's writing workshop is at 3 p.m.



Neely Tucker photo courtesy Catfish Alley Shoot

and is titled *Building a Narrative: The (Invisible) Ties that Bind*. The entertaining, skill-developing workshop is for writers contemplating a narrative or already at work on one. The lessons apply for non-fiction or fiction. In this session, he draws on all these experiences to show how to break down your book into working sections, the narrative arcs you'll need to consider, and why not to worry when your first draft is terrible. On Monday, February 11 at noon, Thornton will visit for a lecture. She is the author of *Charleston* and the editor of *Tennessee Williams's Notebooks*, for which she received the Bronze ForeWord



Tim Dorsey photo provided

Magazine Book of the Year Award in autobiography/memoir and the C. Hugh Holman Prize for the best volume of southern literary scholarship published in 2006, given by the Society for the Study of Southern Literature. Dorsey will present on Monday, March 11 at noon. The American novelist is known for a series starring Serge A. Storms, a mentally disturbed vigilante anti-hero who rampages across Florida enforcing his own moral code against a variety of low-life criminals. On Monday, April 8 at noon, Daniel concludes the lecture series. Her debut novel *Stiltsville* was awarded the PEN/ continued on page 8

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Along The River

The inaugural **Fort Myers Seafood & Music Festival** will be held on the waterfront of the **River District** this weekend on Friday, January 4 from 4 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, January 5 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, January 6 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The new festival brings a unique blending of seafood, music, small marketplace of arts, crafts and select fine products. General admission is free. VIP tent admission is \$75, which includes an open bar with staff serving premium drinks. The location of the tent provides optimal viewing of the live music performances.

All food (available at additional cost) will be cooked on-site by local restaurants and food purveyors, incorporating fresh ingredients. Genres of music will vary from soul, rock, R&B, jazz, reggae and Caribbean.

For more information, to purchase VIP tickets and a full schedule of events, visit www.seafoodfestivals.com or call 941-487-8061

The River District Alliance will host **Art Walk** in **downtown Fort Myers** this Friday, January 4 from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, January 5 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fourteen galleries – such as Arts for ACT Gallery at 2265 First Street and Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center at 2301 First Street – invite visitors and residents to meet the artists and enjoy live art demonstrations and exhibitions along the river district.

For more information, visit www.fortmyersriverdistrictalliance.com.

Take a **nature walk** along clear paths with a bird patrol guide **at Lakes Regional Park** this Saturday, January 5 at 8 a.m. Wear comfortable shoes and dress to be outside. Bring water, sunscreen and binoculars.

This tour, which is free with paid parking, is provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation. Meet at Shelter A7. After entering the Lakes Park gate from Gladiolus Drive, turn right and drive to the end of the road, continuing

through the parking lot. Shelter A7 is located near the train station.

Lakes Regional Park is located at 7330 Gladiolus Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, call 533-7580 or 533-7576

Back by popular demand and for one day only is **Dwight Icenhower's Tribute to the King at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre** on Monday, January 7. The matinee concert begins with lunch at 11:30 a.m. and the concert at 1 p.m., while the evening concert begins with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and the concert at 7:30 p.m.

Icenhower is an award-winning Elvis Presley impersonator and considered one of the best Elvis tribute artists in the country. He has mastered the '50s, '60s and '70s eras of Elvis' career.

Concert tickets are \$75 including dinner or \$55 for the concert only and can be reserved by calling 278-4422, by visiting www.broadwaypalm.com or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

The Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Committee (WIB) will host its **January networking meeting** in the center court at Bell Tower Shops on Wednesday, January 9 from 4 to 6 p.m. The program will feature a demonstration on whole food, plant-based cooking from Mark Blust, vice president of marketing and operations for the Prawnbroker Restaurant Group and owner of Pretty Much a Vegan, based in Fort Myers.

Cost is \$10 for Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce (GFMCC) members and \$20 for future members. All business professionals are invited to

attend. The nonprofit spotlight is Lee Adolescent Mothers Program, and attendees are asked to bring a donation of either personal hygiene products, laundry detergent, dish soap, diapers, baby wipes, or toddler and infant socks.

Bell Tower Shops is located at 13499 South Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers. To register, call 332-2930 or visit www.fortmyers.org.*



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Sarasota Steel Pan Band • 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Caribbean	CeCe Tenace & Soul Kamotion • 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Blues • Soul • Roots	Billy Rice Band • 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Country Rock
The Shindigs • 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Beach Boys Tribute Band	JP Sears & The Red Hots • 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM Blues	U.S. Stones • 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Rolling Stones Tribute Band
	Rob Marley Tribute Band featuring Tyrod • 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Reggae	
	Caribbean Chillers • 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM Smokey Buffet Tribute Band	

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Calusa Blueway Speaker Series

Brian Wyllie will present **Building Your Own Wooden Kayak**, the second talk in a series of free Calusa Blueway-related programs at Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center on Tuesday, January 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Brian Wyllie is an avid paddler who has been building boats since he was a child. He will share his lifetime's worth of experience and methods for building wooden kayaks. There will be several finished Chesapeake Light Craft (CLC) kayaks on site with door prizes donated by CLC.

"I'm lucky enough to have a dad who builds wooden kayaks for his grandkids," said Calusa Blueway Coordinator Mike Hammond of Lee County Parks & Recreation. "They are great boats that get a lot of attention. We hope Brian's program inspires others to build their own beautiful boats and get the whole family out on the water."

Following Wyllie's Calusa Blueway Speaker Series presentation, there will be two more talks on tap. Connie Mier will present **Photography from a Canoe** on February 5, and Tommy Thompson and Peg Phillips will discuss **Paddling Florida Adventures** on March 6. All events begin at 6:30 p.m. at Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center.

For more information and directions to the program, contact Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center at 432-2154. Trail information is at www.calusablueway.

www.leeparks.org/blueway. Find Calusa Blueway on Facebook.

Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center is located at 16760 Bass Road in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.fortmyers-sanibel.com.*

From page 7

Lecture Series

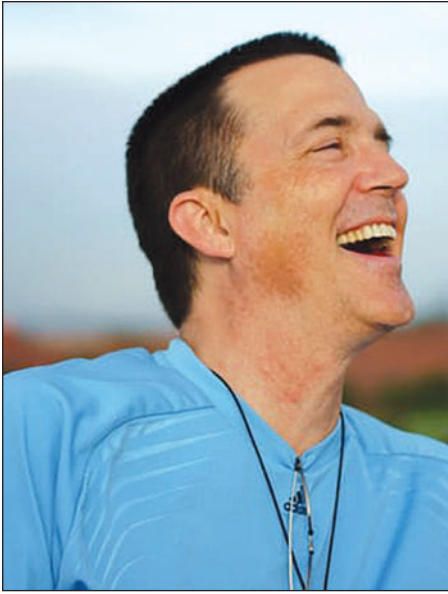
Bingham prize for best debut work published in 2010, and her second novel *Sea Creatures* was a Target Book Club Selection. She is a graduate of Columbia University and the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop, and was a Teaching-Writing Fellow at the Writers' Workshop and a Carl Djerassi Fiction Fellow at the UW Institute for Creative Writing.

In Daniel's workshop *Great Beginnings*, attendees will look at examples of powerful story beginnings and break down why they make an impact. Point of view, tone and imagery, setting and drive will be discussed — and then attendees each set out to craft a stunner of a story opening.

Each Famous Author Lecture Series is from noon to 2 p.m. and sponsored by Finemark Bank. Cost is \$40 per person or \$300 for tables of eight. Cost for the whole series is \$150 per person and \$1,200 for a table of eight. Each writing workshop costs \$50 per person.

For tickets, visit www.sbdac.com/special-events.

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



David Anderson

photos provided

Practice Yoga To Live Classical Music Saturdays

The Southwest Florida Symphony will offer a unique way to spend a Saturday morning – practicing yoga to live classical music. The symphony, along with SoniYoga Studio, will combine Eastern and Western art forms by offering 90-minute yoga sessions in the lobby at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at FSW during the Southwest Florida Symphony's dress rehearsals.

Symphonic Salutations Yoga Classes begin on Saturday, January 12 from 10



Soni Anderson

to 11:30 a.m. and are led by instructors David and Soni Anderson, owners of SoniYoga Studio in Downtown Fort Myers. Participants will be led through a beginner yoga flow, suitable for all ages and abilities, set to live symphonic music performed by Lee County's only professional orchestra.

Sessions are \$15 each, and space is limited. Participants are asked to bring their own mat, water and any props or blocks that they may wish to use.

To learn more about SoniYoga, visit www.soniyogaflorida.com.

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall is located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers. Make your reservation by calling the SWFLSO Box Office at 418-1500, or by visiting www.swflso.org.

Irish Rock Band To Return To Alliance

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers is bringing The Screaming Orphans back for an outdoor concert at the Alliance for the Arts on February 23. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. and the music kicks off with MacGilliossa at 6 p.m. The Screaming Orphans take the stage at 7:30 p.m.

Comprised of four sisters from Ireland, The Screaming Orphans are known for their high-energy music that blends pop rock with traditional Irish music. The concert benefits the Rotary Trust Club of Fort Myers.

Food trucks and a beverage station will be available. Blankets and lawn chairs are encouraged, but coolers will not be permitted.

Pre-sale tickets are \$25, while tickets purchased at the gate are \$35. Kids under age 12 are free with an adult.

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



The Screaming Orphans

photo provided

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GCL Founders Marco Cruz and Brian Franklin, jr.

photo provided

Art And Poetry Networking Event January 17

The next Art and Poetry Networking Event (APNE) at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center will be held on Thursday, January 17 at 8 p.m. Become a part of the Gulf Coast Leisure movement and meet like-minded individuals. General Admission is \$10 at the door.

APNE has brought together artists, musicians, writers and more from all over

Southwest Florida for more than five years. Each month, APNE features a different showcase of performers that wows audiences and displays the immense talent found locally. While its core following is the millennial market, the artistic events and community outreach touches all age groups from teens to baby boomers by creating a movement, culture and lifestyle with the productions and products.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. Visit www.facebook.com/pg/gulfcoastleisure for registration and more information.



From left, Becky Swift, Bonita Jordan, Tony Jordan, Sterling Jordan and Mandi Wray
photos provided

Family Receives Renovated Home Before Holidays

Just in time for the holidays, Lee BIA Builders Care and Lennar Homes came together to present life-changing home renovations to a Lehigh Acres family in need.

Tony and Bonita Jordan are the recipients of a remarkable gift – their home has been made more accessible in order to provide greater ease and comfort

in their efforts to care for their son. Sterling, 38, was born with Klinefelter syndrome, diagnosed with nephrogenic systemic fibrosis and end-stage renal disease. He is currently undergoing dialysis following kidney transplant operations and has 8 percent vision in only one eye. Sterling's father, Tony, 86, has a rare blood disorder, and his mother, Bonita, 71, has degenerative arthritis, making it difficult and painful to care for Sterling. Sterling has been unable to shower for years due to the inability to use the existing bathroom. As a result, Bonita has been sponge-bathing him, an undertaking



The newly renovated and accessible Jordan Family Home

that has become increasingly difficult as Bonita's arthritis worsens.

By making the Jordan family home more accessible, and taking all their needs into account, Lee BIA Builders Care and Lennar have helped make a dream come true for the Jordan family. Improvements and modifications were made possible thanks to the generous contribution of Lennar Homes and a number of local partner suppliers and contractors. Some of the modifications made to the home included: updating the existing bathroom for handicap accessibility; accommodating wheelchair use throughout the home by

widening doorways and installing a small ramp at the front door; new flooring; interior paint; new exterior front door and kitchen side door and kitchen appliances, plus providing them with a Christmas tree just in time for Christmas.

Lee BIA Builders Care, community partners and volunteers worked tirelessly over the course of two weeks to complete this project for the Jordan family, and more than 200 volunteers and supporters came together on December 21 for a heartwarming unveiling event. Renovations were provided at no cost to continued on page 18

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.
- BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS**
Friday Shabbat at 7 p.m. 2050 Periwinkle Way, www.batyam.org 579-0296.
- 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, lambogodchurch.net, 267-3525.
- NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER**
Friday 6:30 and 7 p.m. 8505 Jenny Cae Lane, nbcmministry@embargmail.com, facebook.com/nbcmministry, 656-0416.
- NEW COVENANT EYES**
Monthly 9 a.m. 1900 Park Meadows Drive, newcovenanteyes.com, 220-8519.
- NEW HOPE BAPTIST**
Sunday 11 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 10, 985-8503.
- NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN**
Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 10051 Plantation Road, www.newhopefortmyers.org, 274-1230.
- PEACE COMMUNITY**
Sunday 10:30 a.m. www.17671 Pine Ridge Road, peacecommunitychurch.com, 267-7400.
- PEACE LUTHERAN**
Sunday 8 and 10 a.m. 15840 McGregor Boulevard, www.peaceftmyers.com, peace@peaceftmyers.com. 437-2599.
- REDEEMER LUTHERAN**
Sunday 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. 3950 Winkler Ext., 274-0143.
- RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
8, 9:45 and 11:30 a.m. 21580 River Ranch Road, 495-0400.
- SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER**
Meditation classes. MeditationInFortMyers.org, 567-9739.
- SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC**
Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.; Saturday 3 and 5 p.m.; Sunday 7, 9 and 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m. 12171 Iona Road, 489-3973.
- ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC**
Monday through Thursday 6:45 a.m.; Friday 6:45 and 11 a.m.; Saturday 4 p.m.; Sunday 6:45, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 2157 Cleveland Avenue, 334-2161.
- SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE**

- METROPOLITAN**
Sunday 10 a.m. 3049 McGregor Boulevard, 344-0012.
- SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN**
Saturday 5:30 p.m.; Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m. 3595 Broadway, 939-1218.
- SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY**
Sunday 9:30 a.m. 111 Evergreen Road, saintnicholasmonastery.org, 997-2847.
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC**
Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.; Saturday 4 p.m.; Sunday 9 and 11 a.m. 13031 Palm Beach Boulevard, 693-0818.
- SOUTHWEST BAPTIST**
Sunday 11 a.m.; Wednesday 6 p.m. 16940 McGregor Boulevard, 454-3336.
- TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE**
Friday Shabbat 7:30 p.m.; Torah Saturday 9 a.m.; Religious School Wednesday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. 16225 Winkler Road, templebethel.com, 433-0018.
- TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)**
Friday 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. tjswfl.org. 14486 A&W Bulb Road, 433-0201.
- THE NEW CHURCH**
Sunday 11 a.m. 10811 Sunset Plaza Circle #401, newchurchflorida.com. 481-5535.
- UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**
Sunday 10:30 a.m. 13411 Shire Lane, uucfm.org, 561-2700.
- UNITY OF FORT MYERS**
Sunday 10 a.m. 11120 Ranchette Road, unityoffortmyers.org, 278-1511.
- WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
Sunday 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. 9065 Ligon Court, 481-2125.
- WORD OF LIFE**
Sunday 10 a.m., Wednesday 7 p.m. 2120 Collier Avenue, 274-8881.
- ZION LUTHERAN**
Sunday 8, 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. 7401 Winkler Road, zionfm.org, 481-4040.*

CROW Case Of The Week:

Raccoon Kits



by Bob Petcher

Raccoon kits (*Procyon lotor*) are the young offspring of adult male raccoons, also known as boars, and adult female raccoons, also referred to as sows. Interestingly, a

group of raccoons is called a nursery.

The breeding season for raccoons begins in late winter, and sows typically give birth to between one and six baby kits sometime in April or May. These kits become independent roughly a year later but, prior to leaving their parents, they are usually very guarded by their mothers.

Unfortunately, separation between sow and kits does happen. As an example, when a female raccoon takes up residence in an attic or other human structure for its den site, it is sometimes trapped and removed by the home or building owner. Oftentimes, these unintentionally abandoned kits are found and brought to CROW.

Recently, two raccoon kits were admitted to CROW after being found in a similar situation previously described. These mammal babies require lots of care to be raised at CROW including bottle feeds if they are young enough

and help in learning vital skills needed for the wild through behavioral and environmental enrichment.

Dr. Robin Bast, CROW staff veterinarian, agreed the work load that raccoon kits bring to the clinic staff can be around-the-clock duty.

"Sometimes it can be, depending on how young they are," she said. "Kits require feeds every two and a half to three hours, which can be up to seven times a day. Feeds can start as early as 5 a.m. and go as late as midnight in newborns."

Then there is the teaching element for such youthful animals.

Although being raised by their natural mom is the best option," said Dr. Bast, "we do our best to provide enrichment options to encourage natural behaviors which will help them survive such as foraging for food, ability to find shelter, etcetera."

This learning process can go on for quite some time. It can take months before the kits are of an appropriate age and weight to be released.

"Kits are 16 weeks old when they are released, as long as they have proven they are able to forage for food on their own and exhibit other natural behaviors for their species," said Dr. Bast.

The two sibling kits at CROW are very young.

"These kits are still being weaned off formula and introduced to solid foods, and are being housed indoors," said Dr. Bast. "In a few weeks, they will be moved to an outdoor enclosure for



One of the two raccoon kit patients being cared for at CROW

photo by Brian Bohlman

the rest of their rehabilitation. They'll be here several more weeks until they reach release age.

Raising kits is something CROW medical staff members know all too well.

"Each year, we raise over 150 baby raccoons that have been orphaned or injured," said Dr. Bast.

CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.) is a non-profit wildlife hospital providing veterinary care for native and migratory wildlife from our local area. The hospital accepts patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mail donations to P.O. Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644 or visit www.crowclinic.org.

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Finally, A Warming Trend



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

A warming trend between Christmas and New Years was much welcomed after what so far has been a colder than usual start to our winter. What started out as a week with cold and windy mornings and super low tides rebounded to spring-like warm and humid conditions.

Shrimp fishing all week was great for catching lots of fish along with one or two big fish trip-makers each time out.

Sheepshead remained the go-to species with some days being much better than others. Along with keeper-sized sheepshead in the box, we caught lots of rat redfish, an occasional bigger redfish and black drum ranging in size from 14 to 24 inches.

Areas around the passes remain the best places to get on these sheepshead with the cleaner, clearer outgoing tide being the better bite. Water coming in from the gulf side is still really stirred up after some crazy windy days. It can look like milk during the incoming tide.

Mangrove fishing on the other hand has been the better bite during the incoming tide with creeks in the sound having the cleaner water.

As conditions continue to warm, it's now time to venture out and start looking for shiners again. Water temperatures are now approaching that magic 70-degree mark, and snook are getting active again. With very few bait fish yet to appear on the bridges or on the beaches, I think its going to require chumming out on the flats to catch pilchards.

On calmer days, tripletail fishing out on the beaches has been productive for those that are willing to put in the time and burn the fuel looking. With very few stone crab pots out on the gulf side, it's a matter of running until you find what depth these fish are hanging in. New regulations on tripletail this year: minimum size is now 18 inches, and you're allowed two per person. These tripletail are possibly the best eating fish in our waters.

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. ✨



Ray Bucaria from Lexington with a redfish caught and released with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided

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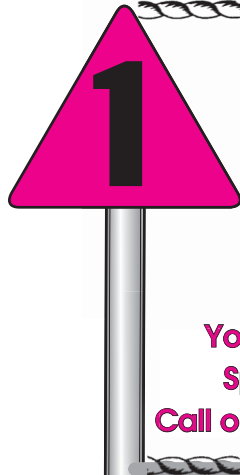
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Dave Doane

Silk Flower Sale At Hope Chest



Hope Healthcare CEO and President Samira K. Beckwith

photo provided

Hope Chest resale stores are offering a 30 percent discount off an exceptional variety of quality silk flowers from Monday, January 7 through Saturday, January 12.

Ideal for home decor and craft projects, the colorful flowers were donated by Silks by Mu, the upscale silk floral design store. No coupon is necessary for the sale.

Hope Chest resale stores feature an array of designer-brand clothing and accessories, home furnishings, antiques and unique collectibles.

Shoppers can now visit three Hope Chest locations. Hope Chest at the Crossings at 28520 Bonita Crossings Boulevard in Bonita Springs and the

North Fort Myers Hope Chest at 13821 North Cleveland Avenue in North Fort Myers. Both are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The newest Hope Chest, located at 14540 South Tamiami Trail in South Fort Myers, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Proceeds from Hope Chest benefit unfunded programs and services of Hope Healthcare, which provides exceptional care and support to individuals and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey.

For information about volunteer opportunities or donating items to Hope Chest resale stores, call 482-4673 or visit www.hopehcs.org.

Islands In The Sound Program

Dené Patterson of Randell Research Center will speak about Five Islands Never Flooded at a program at the Mound House on Tuesday, January 8. Refreshments will be available at 5:30 p.m., with the presentation at 6 p.m.



Dené Patterson

Patterson, a tour guide and educator

at Randell and a certified Florida Master Naturalist, is the author of *A Tour of the Islands of Pine Island Sound, Florida: Their Geology, Archaeology, and History*. The book is a closeup look at 24 of the approximately 85 islands, all in Pine Island Sound, part of the Greater Charlotte Harbor region. Each of the islands has a distinctive history, geology and archaeology. From that reserve of local history, Patterson will present five islands for her audience.

Cost is \$5 per person and free for Mound House members. A question-and-answer period and book signing will follow the program.

The Mound House is located at 451 Connecticut Street on Fort Myers Beach. Reservations are required. Call 765-0865.

Artist Named For Arts And Music Festival

Tim Parker has been named the poster artist of the Cape Coral Arts and Music Festival to be held on Saturday, January 12 and Sunday, January 13. The festival will take place on Cape Coral Parkway between Del Prado Boulevard and SE 10th Place, and north to SE 47th Terrace.

Parker, the owner of Art2D Gallery & Studio in Naples, concentrates on

abstract figurative art, animals, abstract landscapes, and non-objective paintings. His work, *Lift Off #2*, was selected from the competitive pool of exhibitors by the festival committee and is prominently featured on the event poster, which will be sold for \$20 at the festival and online at www.capecoralfestival.com or www.facebook.com/capecoralfestival.

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Cape Coral, the Cape Coral Arts and Music Festival is Southwest Florida's largest juried art show, featuring paintings, sculptures, mixed media, jewelry and more by over 300 artists and artisans from around the country.

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Plant Smart

Old-Fashioned Red Pentas

by Gerri Reaves

Old-fashioned red pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*) will provide nectar for butterflies and hummingbirds while adding vivid color to your yard.

Although the species is native to Africa, not Florida, even native-plant enthusiasts appreciate this fast-growing, wildlife-friendly, low-maintenance plant that has earned the title of Florida-friendly.

This member of the madder family is evergreen and related to the coffee and gardenia plants.

Penta refers to the five-petaled flowers and lanceolata refers to the lance-shaped leaves.

This sprawling herbaceous perennial takes the form of a shrub or subshrub. It grows up to four feet tall, with the bright flowers topping the stalks.

The star-like flowers inspire another name, Egyptian starcluster.

The dense flowerheads, or umbrels, are made up of numerous long-tubed flowers. Each has a tiny nectar cup beneath the five-petaled corolla.

The flowers bloom all year.

The opposite pointed leaves are deeply veined, fuzzy or rough, and up to six inches long.

The tiny seed capsules contain many seeds.

Pentas need full sun for maximum flowering but will tolerate some shade. They are not salt tolerant, have average water requirements, and will grow in most well-drained soils.

However, they have to be replanted every few years because they become leggy.

The flower is available in a range of colors, from lilac, purple and pink to rose and white. Dwarf varieties of only about a foot tall are available too.

They make pretty long-lasting cut flowers.



Old-fashioned red pentas attract butterflies and hummingbirds and bloom year-round

photo by Gerri Reaves

Remember, when creating a butterfly garden, include a variety of nectar plants to attract various species and plant flowers that bloom at different times so the butterflies always have a food source.

Include larval hosts as well and provide a shallow dish of clean water.

Most important: Be sure to purchase butterfly plants from a nursery that can insure that pesticides have not been used on the plants at any stage.

Avoid using pesticide anywhere near the butterfly garden.

Sources: *Florida Gardener's Guide* by Tom MacCubbin and Georgia B. Tasker; *Florida, Florida Landscape Plants* by John V. Watkins and Thomas J. Sheehan; *Gardening for Florida's Butterflies* by Pamela F. Traas; *Florida, My Eden* by Frederic B. Stresau; www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu; and www.floridata.com.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱

Project To Improve Gopher Tortoise Habitat

Gopher tortoises at a Conservation 20/20 preserve in northeast Lee County will have an easier time navigating their habitat early next year thanks to a project to cut back overgrown saw palmettos and thin out non-native plants.

Workers will reduce the density and height of saw palmettos and remove non-native plants from about 60 acres of the 243-acre Daniels Preserve at Spanish Creek in Alva. The reduction of vegetation will also reduce the risk of wildfires.

The project is funded through a \$14,500 competitive award from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which was accepted by the Lee Board of County Commissioners on December 4.

The gopher tortoise is a state-listed, threatened wildlife species whose population has declined in recent decades due to habitat loss from land development. Several Conservation 20/20 preserves in Lee County provide critical habitat for gopher tortoises to build their burrows and forage for food.

Daniels Preserve at Spanish Creek is located at 18500 Persimmon Ridge Road in Alva. The preserve is open daily during daylight hours. The marked hiking trail is expected to remain open to the public while the habitat improvement activities are underway. There is no cost for admission or parking.

For more information, visit www.conservation2020.org.✱

America's Boating Course

America's Boating Club and the San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron, a boating organization that serves South Fort Myers, Fort Myers Beach, Bonita Springs and Estero, will be offering America's Boating Course in the squadron classroom at 16048 San Carlos Boulevard on Saturday, January 12 and Saturday, January 19. The two-part class will be held from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Topics covered include hull design, docking, anchoring, and handling boating emergencies, reading channel markers and many other topics to make each boating experience safer and more enjoyable. Successful completion of this course entitles the boater to six months free membership in the United States Power Squadrons with the purchase of a 12-month membership. In addition, students who join the squadron will also be eligible for a free three-hour On The Water training session.

Cost of the course is \$60 with a \$30 cost for a second person sharing the instruction materials. Cost includes lunch after the second Saturday class.

This course is recognized by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. The State of Florida recently passed legislation requiring anyone born after January 1, 1988 to have passed a safe boating course and obtain a boating safety education ID card which is valid for

life, in order to operate a boat with more than 10 HP. Each student will receive a card/certificate from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission upon completion of the class.

Students can register online at www.scbps.com or call the squadron office 466-4040 and leave a message. The Course will also be held February 9 and 16 and March 9 and 16.✱

Deadline Nears For Photo Contest

The deadline for the 7th annual "Ding" Darling-Theodore Cross High School Photography Contest is January 15. It invites high school students in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades, and Hendry counties to compete for prizes that include a Canon digital SLR camera package, chartered class trips to the refuge, and copies of *Waterbirds: Portraits and Anecdotes from Birding Adventures* by contest namesake, the late Theodore Cross.

NPR's *All Things Considered* called Cross' collection of 179 images and countless anecdotes "spectacular." *The New York Times* described it as "part visual encyclopedia, part memoir."

Digital image entries can be shot from any outdoor venue in the state of Florida. A writing component to the contest requires entrants grades 9 through 12 to submit a 100-word description of the "moment" captured and how it reflects what nature and wildlife mean to the photographer.

Entry rules and guidelines are listed below. Guidelines and prize information are also posted at www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/photo-contests. Call DDWS at 472-1100 ext. 4 for more information.

All entries and personal information must be submitted in digital format to the email address ddhsphotocontest@gmail.com. Submit your full name, high school, grade and an original photograph that you took of nature and/or wildlife in the open outdoors. Include a title for the photograph and a written description (minimum 100 words) of the "moment" captured and how it reflects what nature and wildlife mean to you. You and your entry must comply with the following requirements:

High school students attending schools in Lee, Collier, Hendry, Glades, and Charlotte (Florida) counties in grades nine through 12 may enter the contest.

Only digital images are accepted and may be taken with any camera, including smartphones.

Images must be submitted in jpeg format and must have a size of at least 2000 by 1500 pixels or resolution of 2 two megabytes.

The photograph must be taken of nature and/or wildlife in the open outdoors in the state of Florida, which may include parks, refuges, backyards, and other open spaces.

Panoramic photos are not allowed.

Filters, cropping, enhancements and borders are permitted. However, adding any elements not existing in the original

continued on page 19

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Builders Care Fundraiser Raises Over \$125,000

Lee BIA Builders Care recently hosted the Burly Wine Experience, a food and wine fundraiser that brought the building industry community together to raise money for three deserving needy families in Lee County. In all, \$50,000 was raised in donations and services valued over \$75,000 were donated from national homebuilder Lennar Homes.

As the nonprofit charitable arm of the Lee Building Industry Association (BIA), Builders Care provides emergency construction services at no cost to needy and deserving elderly and/or disabled homeowners' families, who cannot obtain repairs through traditional means.

Funds raised will grant life-changing projects for three local families, including a bathroom remodel and additional improvements to aid a couple in caring for their adult son, who was born with Klinefelter syndrome and diagnosed with nephrogenic systemic fibrosis at a young age; a new roof and other life-changing improvements for a 61-year-old currently undergoing chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer, and outfitting an accessible bathroom for a 93-year-old World War II veteran and his family. Lee BIA Builders Care was expected to complete two of these projects before the holidays, with the third slated to begin in January.

"The goal of the evening was to raise money to provide renovations such as handicap accessible bathrooms, wheelchair



Darlene and Gregg Truxton

photos provided

ramps and extensive roof repairs," said Becky Swift, executive director of Lee BIA Builders Care. "We vastly exceeded our fundraising goal and we are looking forward to improving the quality of life for the three families presented at the event. I am truly amazed to see members of our community step up and give back to those in need."

The event featured a four-course meal crafted by acclaimed executive chef Brian Roland, owner of Crave Culinaire and Venue Naples. The dinner included wine pairings from Napa Valley boutique winery, Burly Wine and a presentation by winery owner Hank McCrorie and his winemaker, Massimo Monticelli.

The Burly Wine Experience was sponsored by Investor's Security Trust, Land Solutions, Private Physicians of Southwest Florida, Storm Smart and Iberiabank.✱



From left, Holly Boldrin, Teri Hansen and Melissa Coffa



Mitch Schwenke and Jeanette Walsh



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Will Power

New Year's Tips For Your Estate Plan



by Craig R. Hersch, Florida Bar Board Certified Wills, Trusts & Estates Attorney; CPA

As we turn our calendars to 2019 tradition dictates that we make New Year's resolutions. What are yours this year? Is it to lose weight? Give up self-destructive vices such as smoking or drinking? Allow me to suggest seven estate planning to-dos that shouldn't be ignored:

7. Update Your Will

That will which sits in your safety deposit box – yeah, we know – the one that names your sister Nancy to act as the guardian for your children who are now in their 40s – desperately needs to be updated. Your family and financial circumstances have significantly changed since then – notwithstanding the fact that you no longer

reside in Michigan where it was drawn up.

6. Sign a New Durable Power of Attorney

This document needs updating just as much as your will does – and may be more important to you than your will! At least problems with your will don't affect you, after all, you'll be dead! You'll just leave a mess behind for your loved ones. But your durable power of attorney affects YOU! If you become incapacitated and don't have a valid durable power of attorney document that names someone who can write checks, pays bills and manage your financial and legal affairs, the alternative is a court ordered guardianship. That's no fun and can be insanely expensive.

5. Take a Look at your IRA and 401(k) Beneficiary Designations

It could be a real downer for your current spouse to discover that your former spouse is still named as the primary beneficiary on your IRA and 401(k) accounts. Another bummer is when your stockbroker switched firms and forgot to have you update the beneficiary documents. When that happens, the Custodial Agreement controls who gets the IRA or 401(k). Have you ever read your Custodial Agreement? It's the thin onion skin paper thingy that comes in the mail when you opened your account. The one you threw out along with the prospectus to all the mutual funds. What the Custodial Agreement may say is that your estate becomes the beneficiary if you don't name one. Federal tax law – our friends at the IRS – shout with glee when your estate becomes your beneficiary because upon your demise your entire account becomes immediately taxable as income.

4. Update Your Health Care Directives

Unless you wish to become the next Terri Schiavo, you should strongly consider signing a new living will and health care surrogate. You may remember the Dunedin, Florida woman who was on life support for 15 years. Schaivo's court case between her husband who insisted that she would have wanted to remove the food and water

tubes and her parents who argued she wasn't in a persistent vegetative state – resulted in a political and media circus involving the United States Congress and the Supreme Court. I don't know about you, but one of my lifetime goals does not include having my private health care matters being mentioned by our esteemed congressmen and senators preening for votes on national television.

3. Dust off your Life Insurance and Annuity Beneficiary Designations

For many of the same reasons I mention in #5, it's a good idea to dust off the beneficiary designations to your life insurance and annuities. If you have any chance of having a taxable estate for federal estate tax purposes, now may be a good time to investigate removing the life insurance from your taxable estate by using any number of strategies, including an irrevocable life insurance trust (ILIT). If you already have such a trust but don't have all your "Crummey notices" (the ones that made the contributions to the ILIT tax free) saved in one place, gather them together and give them to your estate attorney so that he/she will have copies in case they are ever needed. When might they be needed? Not until your death when your estate tax return is audited. By then, you obviously won't be around to tell everyone where they are. Save your friendly attorney (not to mention your family affected by the taxes that our friends at the IRS may impose when the Crummey letters can't be verified) from the stress and organize the file.

2. Make a Tangible Personal Property List

Believe it or not, it's usually not the money or real estate that the kids fight over. Those things can be divided up rather easily. It's the heirlooms that cause the most strife. Dad's baseball card collection. Mom's engagement ring. The painting on the wall. Creating a list of who is to get what can avoid some heated arguments in the stress of losing a parent.

1. Make General Lists

Do those important to you know where your financial accounts are located, how to log onto your accounts online or which bank branch your safety deposit box is located? All sorts of personal information might be very difficult to find in the event of your incapacity or death. Unless your son is Sherlock Holmes, it's a good idea to let them all know where these important documents and items can be found.

Just as most of us give up on our resolutions by January 2, do yourself (and your loved ones) a big favor. If you haven't taken care of these matters, try your best to do so. Unlike losing weight or getting more exercise, you can delegate most of these tasks among your advisors such as your friendly estate planning attorney, accountant and financial advisor.

Have a Happy and Healthy 2019!

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From page 1

Art Haus

grew up to bring awareness to the red tide/blue-green algae situation."

The first event of the weekend, Friday Night Live, will take place from 5 to 10 p.m. on Friday, January 11. It will feature a film screening by John Biffar of DreamTime entertainment, focused on some of Marvin Gralnick's artwork. A second film, *Troubled Seas*, will illustrate the deviation caused by red tide. Performances by comedienne Norma Miller, musicians Xeraphine Musica and Kat Eppe will follow, plus a special guest (TBA). Live art auctions will benefit SCCF and Sante. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served.

On Saturday, January 12 from 1 to 4 p.m., guests will be treated to a guided tour of the grounds, which includes a wetland nature preserve.

"Saturday Spectacular begins with an art walk through the on-site nature preserve and sculpture gardens," Rio Gralnick explained. Guests will be invited to explore the urban primalist's collection.

That same evening, beginning at 5 p.m., a special cacao ceremony will be held. "Celebrate life and fertility with Brittany Ansay," the Art Haus Marvin website reads, in part. "Experience an authentic cacao ceremony with Guatemalan cacao in support of our sister sanctuary in Atitlan."

Later, a couture fashion show – featuring a collaboration of work between several artists – will be brought to the runway starting at 6 p.m. Guests will sip cocktails and nibble on hors d'oeuvres while viewing the latest styles created by MariaPia Malerba, who previously worked with renowned fashion brands Dolce &

Gabbana and Versace. Another live auction will benefit SCCF.

To conclude the weekend on January 13, Sunday Sanctuary begins with Qigong from 1 to 3 p.m. Wind down and experience a truly transformative day of healing and rejuvenation with Waxela Sananda and Sarah Gralnick. Explore the art on display while receiving a healing session.

Then, from 3 to 5 p.m., a panel discussion on embracing the new culture will feature Jacob Goldman, Caitanya Estrella, Tiite Baquero, Steve Eisenstein and Rio Gralnick.

"Sunday features a day of truly 'next level' healing provided by Let It Be Light," noted Gralnick. "We have an awareness panel to discuss new developments within the community at Sante, our sister healing center in San Pedro, Guatemala. We will also develop strategies for the eradication of red tide and blue-green algae."

In addition, The Healing Sanctuary will be open all weekend. Guests may enjoy a massage, reiki or one of their truly amazing healing devices.

"Bob Rauschenberg spent much of his life on Captiva and found ways to bridge the philanthropy with the art community. Art Haus is on track to include a contemporary art museum on the island," added Gralnick. "It is my intention to create a place where art can be appreciated by all people visiting Sanibel and Captiva."

Admission to Friday Night Live is \$50 per person; Saturday Spectacular is \$60 per person; Sunday Sanctuary is \$30 per person. An all-access pass to attend three days of activities is \$100 per person (a \$40 savings). For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <https://artha.us>. splashthat.com.✱

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Book Review

The Children's Game



by Di Saggau

The *Children's Game* by Max Karpov is a geo-political thriller, both timely and insightful, involving a Russian cyberattack on America. The CIA has learned that the Kremlin is about to launch

a sophisticated propaganda operation to disrupt the U.S. and restore Russia to a great super power status. It's code-named *The Children's Game*, a chess strategy that results in a checkmate in four moves. The operation will hinge on a single, breaking news event in Eastern Europe. It was conceived by a Russian billionaire and former officer named Andrei Turov. For years, he has been developing the infrastructure for a new kind of warfare that exploits weaknesses in western democracies and manipulates public opinion.

Turov follows a quote from Solzhenitsyn, "Own only what you can always carry with you; know languages, know countries, know people. Let your memory be your travel bag." The U.S. has its own secret weapon in Christopher Niles, a former CIA intelligence officer who understands Turov. It's up to him and his team, a journalist half-brother, a special forces operative and a resourceful U.S. senator with deep roots in the intelligence community, to unravel Turov's plot and restore truth to a world spiraling into chaos.

This book grabbed me right away. Russia's up to something but we're not sure what. It's scary, a thriller that reads like non-fiction and includes facts about Putin's early political activities that some readers will find very interesting. There is a lot of research in the book. Regarding nuclear weapons, Russia and the U.S. make up less than 7 percent

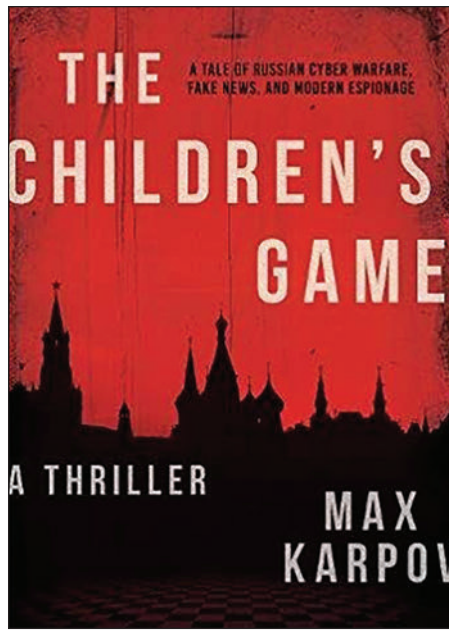


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of the world's population but control 93 percent of its nuclear weapons. Russia is more accomplished than the U.S. at the art of disinformation, winning at games we didn't even know were being played. The unwieldy size of Russia "gives them a perpetual inferiority complex. Eleven time zones, two hundred nationalities. Eleven percent of the world's land mass. But a population less than half the size of ours."

There are some very good twists in the story, and it's told from the perspective of Russia as well as the U.S. We see Russia's ambition to be a great power, its patriots as devoted to Russia as some of ours are to the U.S. Our president isn't named but he's referred to as "an accomplished business man, with an ability to make people feel important, or part of something important. But he wasn't comfortable with the intricacies of international political conflict."

The Children's Game is a well-written, fast-paced and timely thriller about information warfare between the USA and Russia. It makes you wonder how susceptible we are to a similar attack of fake news happening and running out of control.✱

available spaces, for people to take the trolley to the beach. Passengers also can connect to LeeTran's routes 50 or 130 from the Beach Park & Ride.

In addition, the free beach tram, LeeTram, will resume for season. Similar to last year, LeeTram will run from Bowditch Point Park to Matanzas Pass Preserve. The beach tram turns around near Matanzas Pass Preserve by looping around Bay Road, Oak Street, and School Street to return to the north end of Estero Island. The beach tram is estimated to run every 20 minutes, depending on traffic, seven days a week. Service starts 8 a.m. at Bowditch Park and ends 7:50 p.m. at Matanzas Pass Preserve.

Both the Beach Trolley and the Beach Park & Ride Trolley are 75 cents a ride, \$2 for an All-Day Pass or \$4 for a Three-Day Pass. The seasonal schedule runs through May 1.

For more information and schedules, visit www.rideleetrans.com. For questions, call LeeTran Customer Service at 533-8726 and press option 1, or email rideleetrans@leegov.com.✱

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSF

Dear Readers, Happy New Year! I am passing along this wonderful poem (again) with excellent New Year's Resolutions for parenting. These suggestions are worth considering.

Parental New Year's Resolutions

by Dr. Alex Thomas

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

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

I resolve that I will cut our junk food budget, including soda, by 25 percent.

I resolve to see to it that my child will complete all tasks that are started.

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

I resolve that no more than two

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LeeTran To Bump Service To Fort Myers Beach

Increased seasonal LeeTran service to Fort Myers Beach began January 3. The county's Fort Myers Beach Trolley service will begin its two seasonal routes:

Route 490, the Beach Park & Ride Trolley, has three trolleys that will travel between the Beach Park & Ride and Times Square until 10:23 p.m., seven days a week.

Route 410, the Beach Trolley, has three trolleys that travel between Bowditch Park and Lovers Key until approximately 10 p.m., seven days a week.

Route 490 will depart from LeeTran's newly constructed Beach Park & Ride, which opened last December. The new facility, located at 11101 Summerlin Square Drive on the corner of Pine Ridge Road and Summerlin Square Drive, provides free parking, with more than 125

EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

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THOMAS P. HALL
ROBIN C. TUTHILL, EDITOR

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Superior Interiors

Happy New Year



by Linda Coin

This year, instead of making that same old New Year's resolution of losing those 10 pounds or going to the health club three times a week, resolve to give your home a New Year's facelift.

These design tips should serve you well as you move towards an updated, fresh new look for your home.

Start a file of magazine pictures of rooms that you like. Even if you can't exactly pinpoint why you find a room setting so appealing, by reviewing your file, your decorator will be able to quickly understand the feel that you want for your home.

Involve your professional decorator at the very beginning of your project. Doing so will help you avoid the costly mistakes that many homeowners make. The most successful decorating projects are those where the decorator and homeowner are very candid with each other regarding tastes, priorities, budget, timing and goals.

Your first goal should be to settle on a design plan for your home to suit the way you and your family live. Analyze all the rooms of your home. Are some underutilized and some just exhausted from use? Maybe it's time to relocate some activity centers and redirect some traffic patterns.

Be realistic when determining the amount you plan to invest in the project. If you haven't redecorated in several years, you may need to acquaint yourself with today's pricing to determine your budget range. Your designer can help you do this.

Resist the urge to repaint your interior as the first step in your new look. There are a myriad of beautiful paint colors to compliment your final fabric selections but painting your walls first will severely limit your choices in fabric selections. Color schemes should flow smoothly from room to room, especially in the adjoining living areas. This means some detailed attention needs to be paid early to the long-range overall color plan.

Forget matching sets of furniture and mono-chromatic "safe" schemes. A far more interesting look is a room of complementing wood pieces and

companionable fabrics in exciting complementary colors.

Something slightly whimsical in every room will ensure that your rooms don't take their new look too seriously. Lamps, area rugs, candles and other accessories are all opportunities for a novel touch to keep rooms feeling light and welcoming. Use many different textures, materials and surfaces. Combinations of metals, woods, glass, woven reeds, fabrics, ceramics and stone will provide depth and interest to your decorative theme.

Insist upon good lighting. A well-planned room will have lighting at varying levels and intensities appropriate to the activity of the area. Close attention should be given especially to task lighting for activities such as reading, dining and cooking as well as desktop work.

This is one New Year's resolution that you and your family will be pleased you kept for years to come.

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

Storybook Ball Fundraiser

NBC-2 anchor Kellie Burns will be the honoree at the 25th annual Storybook Ball benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities Southwest Florida at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point on Saturday, February 23. A Mariachi band will entertain during cocktail hour and there will be a silent auction at 6 p.m. Dinner and dancing to Karibbean Groove will follow, along with a live auction.

Guests are asked to wear resort evening attire to the theme evening that will be an interpretation of Coco, a celebration of family, music and Mexican culture.

"We are delighted to be honoring Kellie at our Storybook Ball," said Laura Ragain, executive director. "Kellie has volunteered her time and talent hosting numerous events over the years and helping to raise millions of dollars for Southwest Florida charities. We want to recognize the positive impact her kindness and generosity have had on our community."

All proceeds support Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida.

Hyatt Regency Coconut Point is located at 5001 Coconut Road in Bonita Springs. For more information, visit www.rmhcswfl.org or call Amy Blanco at 437-0202.*

Financial Focus

What's Smarter – Paying Off Debts Or Investing?



by Jennifer Basey

It probably doesn't happen as much as you'd like, but you may occasionally have some extra disposable income. For example, perhaps you have recently received, or will soon receive, a year-end bonus. Or

maybe you will get a sizable tax refund in just a few months. Wherever this money comes from, you will want to put it to good use. Should you use the cash to pay down debts or should you invest it instead?

There's no simple answer, and everyone's situation is different, but here are a few suggestions for helping you make a good choice:

Evaluate your cash flow – If you already have enough cash to meet your daily living expenses, you might lean toward investing the money, but if you are just getting by, possibly due to heavy debt payments, then you might be better off using your newfound funds to reduce your debt load. Another way of possibly reducing your debt load is to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. Once you have such a fund, you could use it, instead of going into debt, to pay for unexpected costs, such as a new furnace or a major car repair.

Evaluate your debts – Some of your debts are actually more "expensive" to you than others. This expense level doesn't necessarily refer to the size of the debt, however. You might have a large mortgage, for instance, but because your interest payments are typically tax

deductible, your "after-tax" interest rate may be relatively modest. Therefore, you might consider using your excess cash for investments, rather than paying down your mortgage. But if you have consumer loans or credit cards that carry a high interest rate and whose interest payments are not deductible, you might be better off paying down this debt.

Evaluate your investment opportunities

– You may have heard that one season or another is a "better" time to invest – but there's really no strong evidence to support this claim. However, now that we are nearing the end of the calendar year, and only a few months away from the tax-filing deadline on April 15, you may want to take advantage of at least one time-related investment opportunity.

Specifically, you could use whatever extra money you have to fully fund your IRA, if you haven't done so already. For the 2018 tax year, you can contribute \$5,500 to a traditional or Roth IRA, or \$6,500 if you are age 50 or older. (Depending on your income, you may not be able to contribute the full amount to a Roth IRA.) You've got until the April 15 deadline to fully fund your IRA, but if you have the money sooner, why wait? The quicker it's in your account, the faster it can go to work for you.

One final suggestion: If you have a company match as part of your 401(k) or similar retirement plan at work, consider contributing enough to get your employer's full matching contribution before you pay down debts – don't leave this "free money" on the table.

Your year-end bonus, tax refund or other source of beyond-the-paycheck money can help you make progress toward your financial goals – so evaluate your situation and options carefully before making any moves. It will be time well spent.

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.*

From page 10

Renovated Home

the homeowners, thanks to a generous donation from Lennar.

"I really enjoy doing these projects every year. It's an incredible feeling to be able to provide the Jordan family these much-needed home renovations," said Ray Kershaw, vice president of construction at Lennar Homes Southwest Florida Division. "It's really something special to be able to partner up with Builders Care and have our associates, trade and business partners work together to provide this holiday gift to the Jordan family."

The much-needed home modifications provide significant benefits for Sterling through increased accessibility and privacy, and also bestow greater comfort for the entire Jordan family through their newly enhanced living conditions. The widening of Sterling's bedroom doorway better accommodates his wheelchair, nurses and emergency medical crews as needed, and the addition of a new ramp at the back door provides greater accessibility. A fresh coat of exterior paint and landscaping

improvements were also supplied.

"Our community came together in a big way to make the holidays much brighter for a local family in desperate need of these home improvements," said Becky Swift, executive director of Lee BIA Builders Care. "We are so thankful to our project partners for the selfless gift of their time, funds and materials to provide these truly life-altering improvements for the Jordan family."

Materials and services were donated by local partner suppliers and contractors, including: America's Best Carpentry, Blind Ambitions, Carrigan Brothers, Cemex Construction Materials, Danit Cleaning Services, Division 16, Elite Structural Services, Gouse's Fine Furniture, Kelly Air Systems, Kiyo's Concrete, Lee County Building Department, Liberty Aluminum, MHC, Mr. Foamy, Nilles Design, NOVA Engineering & Environmental, Pinnacle USA, Platinum Service Contracting, Raymond Building Supply, Rosen Materials, Sherwin-Williams, Southwest Disposal & Clean Up, Storm Smart, Sunny Grove Landscaping, United Site Services, Wayne Wiles Floor Coverings and West Coast Pressure Washing.*



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Advisor Gains Evaluation Award

Cindy Banyai, PhD, evaluation and design advisor to the Southwest Florida Community Foundation and principal of Banyai Evaluation & Consulting, was recently awarded the American Evaluation Association's (AEA) Advocacy and Use Evaluation Award.

The AEA recognized eight individuals and one team for their outstanding evaluation practice and dedication to both furthering the interest of the evaluation field and the association. The award winners were recognized at AEA's annual award luncheon held in November in Cleveland, Ohio.

"The acknowledgement from this award energizes me to continue banging the drum of sound evaluation practice in my community and work," Banyai said. "I am inspired to keep speaking truth to power and lifting up the marginalized through participatory practice, data-use and informed design in systems change."

Banyai has worked in the field of community development since 2000. In 2012, she joined a start-up nonprofit as its first executive director to develop the organization's infrastructure and practice to provide housing and services to homeless families. In 2010, Banyai founded and served as the principal consultant of Banyai Evaluation and Consulting, LLC. She worked with many clients around the world to better understand their effectiveness and impact, and to develop practices and processes that raise up the voice of those they wish to serve, paying particular attention to



Cindy Banyai photo provided
cultural nuance and language barriers.

In addition to her advisor position, she also teaches in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Florida Gulf Coast University. She received the Donald W. Littrell New Professional Award in 2015 from the Community Development Society for her work on regional initiatives at the Southwest Florida Community Foundation and for her commitment to community-based advocacy organizations such as BikeWalkLee. She is currently serving as the president of the Community Development Society and on the team of the collaborative, participatory and empowerment topical interest group organized by AEA.✱

Tax Collector To Chair Transition Committee

Florida Gov.-elect Ron DeSantis has turned to an experienced public servant to chair his Transition Advisory Committee on Government Operations. Lee County Tax Collector Larry Hart will head a group of nearly three dozen community and business leaders from across the state. They'll help ensure an efficient and responsible changeover as DeSantis prepares to take office on January 8.

"I'm humbled to be chosen to lead this knowledgeable and accomplished team as we see to it that the most critical functions of government continue to serve the citizens of Florida," Hart said. "As a fellow military veteran, I know Governor-elect DeSantis will stay focused when it comes to what matters most to people. I'm proud to have his back during this important time."

The committee Hart is chairing will also focus on finding ways to create an unburdensome regulatory environment and streamlining the process of doing business in Florida. Hart has spent the past six and a half years creating convenient, user-friendly ways for businesses and residents to access Tax Collector services.

"I'm looking forward to gaining valuable insight about the plans DeSantis and his team have for the state of Florida," Hart said. "I can take that



Larry Hart photo provided
knowledge back with me to Lee County as I continue to serve our community as tax collector."

The citizens of Lee County have twice elected Hart as tax collector following his appointment to the role by Gov. Rick Scott in 2012. Hart is an Air Force veteran, FBI National Academy graduate and former police chief of the City of Fort Myers. He served as president of the Florida Tax Collector's Association, developing strong working relationships with various state agencies.

Visit www.leetc.com to see Hart's full bio and www.desantistransition.com to see the full list of committee members.✱

From page 14

Photo Contest

scene will not be allowed. Judges, at their discretion, will disqualify any photos that appear to be manipulated beyond these guidelines.

Each participant may enter up to two photos but is eligible to win only one award.

Judging will be anonymous. Do not put your name or anything that will identify you on your photograph.

There are three judges: A refuge staff person, a professional photographer and a resident of the

five-county region.

Judging criteria include: technical excellence (sharpness, lighting, composition, exposure); creativity; explanation of photograph (minimum of 100 words).

All photos will become the property of the society. Photos may be used by the society in any way with appropriate credit.

After the images have been submitted electronically, they will be printed out for judging. The winners of the contest will have their images matted and displayed in the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center.✱



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Starting The New Year With Some Positive And Negative



by Ed Frank

Happy New Year to all our readers. We will start the New Year with two stories emanating here in Florida, one excitingly positive and the second of disappointment.

First to the positive: Returning to the glory days of Gator football, the University of Florida crushed No. 8 Michigan 41-15 in the Peach Bowl to finish the season at 10-3 after a 4-7 record in 2017. That's a dramatic turnaround in Dan Mullen's debut season as coach.

The very same day, the Florida basketball team thumped Butler 77-43, providing Gator fans two lopsided victories in a span of just a few hours. Five weeks ago, Butler had defeated Florida 61-54. It was a great day for Gator football and basketball.

And now to the negative: We've written in the past that Florida just doesn't support its two Major League baseball teams – the Miami Marlins and the Tampa Bay Rays. This past week, the crescendo appears to be building whether it's time to consider moving the Rays out of Florida.

It started with stinging comments from Ray's outfielder Tommy Pham. "Do I think something has to happen, whether it is a new ballpark or a new city? I think so," he said.

Pham played 12 years in the St. Louis Cardinals organization where the team

draws about 40,000 fans a game. He pointed out the Rays were 90-72 last season, competing in the tough American League Eastern Division, "and you don't have any fan support. That's a huge problem. It sucks going from playing in front of a great fan base to a team with really no fan base at all," he added.

Tampa Bay ranked 29th in attendance among the 30 Major League teams, with little more than 14,000 fans per game. Only the Marlins were worse at 10,013 fans.

Pham wasn't the first to speak out about possibly moving the Rays. Their former All-Star third-baseman, Evan Longoria, now with the San Francisco Giants, made similar comments last year.

Even noted basketball analyst Dick Vitale, a prominent Ray's season ticket holder, found it hard to disagree with Pham's comments. "No doubt his words are true and that makes it hurt even more," he said.

It didn't help the situation any when the Rays recently ended negotiations with Hillsborough County to build a new \$900 million stadium in a Tampa neighborhood when financing plans collapsed. The Rays have a lease to play in Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg until 2027.

Twins Add Power By Signing Nelson Cruz

The Minnesota Twins added significant power to their 2019 lineup last week when they signed slugger Nelson Cruz to a one-year deal for \$14.3 million.

No player has hit more homeruns over the past five seasons than the 38-year-old Cruz with 203 dingers. Despite his age, he has averaged playing in 153 games per season during that same period. At 38, Cruz is a year older than new Twins manager Rocco Baldelli, the youngest manager in Major League baseball.

Minnesota ranked 23d in the Majors last season with 166 home runs. In addition to Cruz, the Twins have signed CJ Cron (30 home runs last season) and Jonathan Schoop (21 dingers in 2018).✱

New Youth Basketball League Forming

The North Fort Myers Recreation Center has partnered with the Lee County Sheriff's Youth Activities League (SYAL) to offer a new youth basketball program at the center beginning in February. This league will be offered for ages 6 to 11.

Registration will begin Monday, January 7 and will run through February 25 at the center. Player evaluations will begin on February 26. Practices will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, and games will be played on Thursdays. The season runs through May 23.

Cost is \$40 per player to participate in this program and includes a game T-shirt. Payment must be made by check or money order made payable to SYAL. A \$10 individual facility membership is also required for this program. Registration forms are available at the North Fort Myers Recreation Center and online at www.leeparks.org.

The SYAL is looking for volunteer coaches. If you are interested in coaching or mentoring children, contact Tiffany Vance at 533-7200 or email tvance@leegov.com.

The North Fort Myers Recreation Center is located at 2000 North Recreation Park Way in North Fort Myers.✱

From page 1

Jazzy Nights

St. Louis that has a reputation for being singer-friendly.

In 1999, Cook recorded her debut album *It's All About Love*. The CD earned favorable reviews and received a Grammy nomination in the Best Jazz Vocal Performance category and was awarded the AFIM Indie Award for Best Jazz Vocal in 2000. In 2000, Cook recorded her second album, *Dem Bones*, and, in 2002, she recorded *Simply Natural*, both for Maxjazz. Her albums continue to receive critical acclaim.

Cook will be joined by the Dan Miller – Lew Del Gatto Quintet. Miller, New York City jazz trumpeter, built his

reputation touring and recording with Harry Connick, Jr., Wynton Marsalis, Maynard Ferguson and Woody Herman. Del Gatto, tenor saxophonist, spent 30 years as a member of the Saturday Night Live Band (1975 to 2006) and toured and recorded with Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin and the Tonight Show Orchestra.

General admission is \$40 in advance and \$45 the day of the performance. A table of four is \$220, and a table of eight is \$440.

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

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Name the two players in the 2017 major-league season who hit four home runs in a game.
2. In his 22-year major-league career, how many times did Hall of Famer Gaylord Perry pitch in the playoffs?
3. Name two of the three quarterbacks who hold Clemson's record for most career wins (32).
4. Who holds the record for most career triple-doubles in the NBA Finals?
5. Name the last coach before Washington's Barry Trotz in 2018 to not return to his NHL team the season after winning the Stanley Cup.
6. Which was the last team before Belgium in 2018 to overcome a two-goal deficit in a men's World Cup knockout match?
7. How long was boxer George Foreman's first world heavyweight championship reign?

ANSWERS

1. Cincinnati's Scooter Gennett and Arizona's J.D. Martinez. 2. Once, for San Francisco in 1971. 3. Rodney Williams (1985-88), Tajh Boyd (2010-13) and Deshaun Watson (2014-16). 4. LeBron James, with 10. 5. Detroit's Scotty Bowman, in 2002. 6. West Germany rallied to top England in 1970. 7. His first title reign lasted 646 days.

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Hodges University Employee of the Year
Maria Vacca and Hodges President Dr Meyer
photos provided

University Names Annual Awardees

Hodges University, through its faculty and staff, recently selected the Employee of the Year and Professor of the Year winners. For 2018, the winners are Maria Vacca and Professor Andrea Fortin.

“What makes this so meaningful is that they are nominated by their peers,” said Dr. John Meyer, president of Hodges University. “We are fortunate to have so many dedicated and enthusiastic professionals at Hodges to serve our students.”

Law Firm Names Stockholder

Attorney Richard Akin has been elected as a stockholder of the law firm of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, PA. Akin joined the firm in 2012 and is a member of the tort and insurance litigation division.

Akin concentrates his litigation practice representing local municipalities, businesses, insurance companies and individuals in civil, employment and tort claims, including constitutional claims, premises liability, product liability and motor vehicle accidents. He also represents businesses and individuals in administrative litigation, including licensing and permitting matters.

Akin also represents many Florida school boards (before both administrative and civil courts) in tort and special education matters under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act, and representation in connection with Constitutional matters under the 1st, 4th



Hodges University Professor of the Year
Andrea Fortin and Hodges President Dr Meyer

Vacca is the executive assistant to the dean of the school of health sciences. She joined the university in 2011. Fortin joined the university in 2012 and is an associate professor in the school of liberal arts.

“Maria was instrumental in helping us earn the first workplace Blue Zones certification in higher education for our campuses in Naples and Fort Myers,” said Dr. Meyer. “And Professor Fortin has been an important part of helping us transition to monthly class starts and developing our new associate in science degree in professional communication to address soft skill gaps in the workforce.”

For more information about Hodges University, visit www.hodges.edu.



Richard Akin
photo provided

Akin received his undergraduate and law degree from Florida State University. For more information, visit www.henlaw.com.

Hotline For Drug Addiction

Narconon reminds families that abuse of heroin and opioid drugs has become a national health crisis. Learn to recognize the signs of heroin abuse and get your loved ones help if they

are at risk.

Visit www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/naloxone-availability.html to learn about the overdose reversing drug known as naloxone and find out its availability in your state.

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call 888-824-1621 and ask about free screenings or referrals.

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Team Passarella & Associates took first place for the second straight year photos provided

Charity Clay Shoot Raises \$34,000

Lee BIA Builders Care, the nonprofit charitable arm of the Lee Building Industry Association (BIA), recently raised more than \$34,000 during its second annual Charity Clay Shoot on at Bermont Shooting Club in Punta Gorda. Funds raised will support Lee BIA Builders Care efforts to provide emergency construction services at no cost to needy and deserving elderly and/or disabled homeowners as well as their families, who cannot obtain repairs through traditional means.

“Our second annual Charity Clay Shoot was a great success, and we’re so thankful to all that came out to support Builders Care and its efforts to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need,” said Becky Swift, executive director of Lee BIA Builders Care. “Funds raised during this event will play a crucial role in helping fulfill a continued need within the community as we work together to provide critical housing repairs to disadvantaged homeowners and their families.”

The tournament brought 164 participants out to contend in a



PJ Anzalone and Charles Thornton of Ferguson Enterprises

16-station course with optional Judge and Turkey Shoot Out competitions. Following the tournament, teams enjoyed a barbecue luncheon catered by Jonezes BBQ with live music performed by The Electric Mud, an awards ceremony to name the top individuals and teams, and prize drawings to win a variety of top items, including a Benelli Montefeltro shotgun.

Passarella & Associates with Mike Myers, Matt Brosious, Scott Bland



Ves Swift was the Turkey Shoot Winner



Justin Walsh was Judge Shoot Out Winner



Clay Shoot participants Butch Felts, Mike Dannenhauer and Bob Marion make their way out to the course

and Todd Nadeau captured first place. Top Individual Shooter was John Stinauer of 2nd Century Plumbing. Top Female Shooter was Caryn Jeannin of Ferguson Enterprises. Turkey Shoot Out Winner was Ves Swift of the City of Cape Coral Building Department. Judge Shoot Out Winner was Justin Walsh of Gulfpoint Construction

The Charity Clay Shoot was presented by Land Solutions, Inc. Other event sponsors included Barraco & Associates as the beverage sponsor, Stock Development as the lunch sponsor and Storm Smart as the shoot out sponsor. Big shot sponsors included Babcock Ranch/Kitson & Partners, Better Buildings, Inc., DEC Contracting Group, Everglades Equipment Group, Ferguson Enterprises, HONC Industries and Wilbur Smith Attorneys at Law. Additional supporting sponsors included Aqua Systems and Fort Myers Brewing Company.✪



Randy Thibaut and William Rollins, Jr. of Land Solutions



From left, Rob Ogden, Tom Ogden, Jeff Richards and Bobby Vetri



Sam Galloway, Jr. and Tracey Galloway
photos provided

Christmas Carol Sing Benefits Soup Kitchen

Residents who attended the Christmas Carol Sing at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Myers Tuesday contributed plenty of food and funds to help The Soup Kitchen of Community Cooperative feed the hungry in Southwest Florida.

In excess of 1,200 pounds of non-perishable food along with generous financial contributions were collected at the 28th annual Christmas Carol Sing, which was sponsored and organized by the Galloway Family of Dealerships. The contributions will help support families in need during the holidays, according to event organizers.

"It is so gratifying to see our community coming together to help those less fortunate, especially during these economic times. The need has



From left, Bill Filiowich, Beth Filiowich and Rev. Roger Peterson

never been greater," said event founder Sam Galloway, Jr.

About 1,200 people attended the three performances, which featured a sing-a-long with the First Presbyterian Church Choir, special guest soloists and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The Galloway Family of Dealerships will next sponsor Mrs. Edison's Hymn Sing at First Presbyterian Church on February 5. Both events benefit The Soup Kitchen of Community Cooperative, which was founded by First Presbyterian Church of Fort Myers along with other churches in 1984.

The Christmas Carol Sing and Mrs. Edison's Hymn Sing are major sources of support for Community Cooperative, which works to end hunger and homelessness in Lee County.

For more information about Community Cooperative, call 332-SOUP or visit www.communitycooperative.com. For more information about First Presbyterian Church, call 334-2261 or visit www.fpcforymiers.org.



Renae Kosecki and Louisa Wile



Rev. Dr. Paul DeJong and Sam Galloway, Jr.



Sam Galloway III and Jennifer Galloway



From left, Will Galloway, Robert Galloway and Olivia Galloway



From left, Jerry Cundiff, Bill and Doris Gilliland, Michael and Shirley Berry



From left, Evan Dougherty, Katherine Dougherty and Thomas Dougherty

Doctor and Dietician

Do Talk To Strangers



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

The world sometimes feels like it is spiraling out of control. People are stressed. The pace of life is phrenetic. Could showing kindness improve our stress levels? A study by Yale and UCLA researchers suggests that giving to others with random acts of kindness may indeed reduce our own stress and improve our mental health. One of the beatitudes of the Bible is, "It is more blessed to give than receive." This means that the giver is happier than the getter. Many of you are extremely generous people – we know because we have witnessed your generosity! Giving to others enlarges our hearts. When we sacrificially give of our finances and/or our time, we take the focus off ourselves and put it on others. As in the 1940s movie *It's a Wonderful Life*, sometimes we have no idea the effect we have had on someone's life, even by doing something small. Performing small kindness gestures every day helps others and gives great joy to the giver. Who doesn't love it when someone you don't even know says or does something kind for you? Give a hug, a smile, say a few encouraging words, hold the door open for someone, help someone with a task, or ask someone if he or she needs help. Be a person who goes about life finding ways to encourage someone else. Not only will helping others buffer

the negative effects of our own stress, but it will improve our overall well-being and improve our own emotional and mental health. This study reported that those who reported lower than usual helping behaviors also reported lower positive emotion and higher negative emotion in response to high daily stress. So we encourage you to talk to strangers. Give a kind word. Be a light!

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.✴

Self-Management Program On Chronic Disease

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

The free workshop is 2-1/2 hours long once a week for six weeks. It will be offered on:

Thursdays beginning January 10 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Campo Felice, 2500 Edwards Drive, in downtown Fort Myers.

Tuesdays beginning January 15 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Cape Coral Public Library, 921 SW 39th Terrace, in Cape Coral

The program is designed for people age 18 or older with chronic health conditions to help them learn ways to better manage their chronic conditions and the symptoms that often accompany chronic health conditions.

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

dearRPharmacist

Fantastic Ways To Use Lemon Essential Oil



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: Lemon essential oil is in my refrigerator or purse at all times. It is just great to have around the house for various uses. I sprinkle it in water for an uplifting lemon zing flavor, and I put a few drops on top of the wet clothes in my dryer to make the clothes fresh.

If you have a test to study for, or a blog to write, you can simply diffuse it next to you and take note how it stimulates your brain to think faster and with more clarity. Lemon makes you more alert.

What's most fascinating is that there are studies proving how it can spur lymphatic drainage, which is very important if you have the flu. Look at these four important findings next.

1. Alleviate nausea – In studies, lemon essential oil proved to effectively ease nausea, when inhaled. A 2014 double blind study revealed that when feeling nauseous, if pregnant women inhaled lemon essential oil, they immediately felt some relief from nausea.
2. Freshens Breath – Lemon essential oil, especially when combined with two other oils, tea tree oil and peppermint, was able to significantly reduce bad breath. You can put a drop onto your toothbrush or you can put it in salt water and gargle with it.
3. Promotes Weight Loss – A recent animal study found that when mice were supplied with polyphenols from lemon essential oil, they were able to drastically reduce abdominal fat, reduce

elevated blood sugar and reverse insulin resistance. Furthermore, a 2013 study found that lemon essential oil, when combined with grapefruit, increased fat-burning potential.

4. Fights Cancer – Scientists have only begun to unearth the many cancer-fighting powers of lemon and other citrus essential oils including grapefruit and orange oil. For example, a 2010 study found that lemon essential oil can stop cervical cancer cells from growing and induce apoptosis (cell death) in surrounding cells.

The terpenes activate olfactory receptors which then trigger a signal to your immune system, to prompt the attack and destruction of certain cancer cells. It's rather sophisticated, if you think about it, considering this effect comes from a lip-smacking fruit.

Lemon essential oil is one of the most potent and most affordable essential oils on the market today. Certainly, if lemon is not your cup of tea (and yes you can put it into tea), then try another citrus-based oil such as wild orange, tangerine, clementine or grapefruit.

Here are eight fantastic ways to use lemon essential oil:

1. A drop in ice water or tea
2. In a spray bottle with water and/or other oils to freshen the laundry in your dryer
3. In your cleanser, just add a few drops
4. A few drops in lotion to your abdomen
5. Sniff it straight out of the bottle
6. Diffuse it in your room
7. A few drops to your shower floor, then get in
8. Soak your dirty dishes in hot sudsy water with a few drops of lemon oil

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.✴

Beautifulife:

Sparkle



by Kay Casperson

I love this word, because it means so much more than to just shimmer and shine. This is what I believe we should all strive to do when we walk into a room, do a presentation, meet new people, show up for work, basically everywhere we go. Now, you may say, ok great, sounds good, but what do you mean by sparkle?

I mean, let's really start to pay attention to how we present ourselves, how we dress, how we smile, how we greet people, how we communicate, how we come across every day to everyone. It's not just about the sparkle

in your eyes, but the tone of your voice, the extra big smile on your face, the warm and inviting hug, and that little bit of extra effort to make people feel good that makes your sparkle.

You should make an effort to light up a room when you walk into it and really let people know you are there. You should go the extra mile in making people feel good about who they are and comfortable with where they want to be. Why not be the light that someone needs to really make their day, or how about being the reason that someone smiled today and felt loved and appreciated?

I am a big believer in not just showing up, but always going places knowing that when you walk in that room, you will sparkle and shine like a bright, happy star, full of positive energy and lots of love to spread around the room.

Just recently, a gal who worked for me years ago spent some time with my daughters, and I overheard her talking

to them about how she met me. She explained to them that she attended several events that I spoke at across the country. She was so impressed with how I would do a presentation and walk through a crowd no matter how big or how many people were there to say hello, and have genuine conversations with as many of them as possible, making everyone feel amazing along the way. This really touched my heart because I had never really thought about how others pay attention to how we interact with people, and you may not even realize that people are watching and noticing.

Not everyone is blessed with a natural ability to reach out to people so you may need to work a bit harder to bring out your sparkle. Let me share a few suggestions: keep a big, genuine smile on your face; give lots of good hugs; make it a point to greet someone and genuinely converse for even just a few moments; keep your energy positive by doing your

affirmations daily, and stay away from negative people; go the extra mile to do something nice for someone.

No matter how you get your sparkle on, I encourage you to make this new year an amazing one by paying more attention to the things that really matter. Regardless of who you are spending your time with, I hope you will give them a reason to notice something a little bit different so they say to themselves, "Wow... I feel better just by being in your presence."

Happy New Year and may you continue to sparkle and shine bright, living your most balanced and beautiful life!

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.✴

PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Lizzy And Claus

Hello, my name is Lizzy. I am a 2-year-old female domestic shorthair who is a shy gal that needs a bit of coaxing to come out of my shell. Once I do, my motor starts going and I quickly become your best friend. I love to watch the world around me and am quite fascinated by the other felines and their antics. I have quite beautiful markings and will make a great addition to any family.



Lizzy ID# A7755965

My adoption fee is \$50.

Don't let this big guy's size fool you. I am a big ole' teddy bear. My name is Claus, a 4-year-old male pitbull who thinks I'm a lap dog and will do everything I can to attempt to get all 60 pounds into your lap! I love to cuddle up and put my head against your chest to snuggle. I came to LCDAS

showing signs of fear, but quickly came out of my shell when I was given some affection, which has quickly become my absolute favorite thing.

My adoption fee is \$50.

All adoption fees include: Spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, flea treatment, deworming, heartworm test for dogs six months or older, feline aids and leukemia test for cats, a Lee County license for pets three months or older, microchip pet ID, and a 10-day health guarantee. The total adoption package is valued at more than \$500.

The shelter is open to the public Monday through Saturday at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For information, visit www.leegov.com/animalservices or call 533-7387.✱



Claus ID# A763171

Haven on Earth Animal League

Lily And Sylvia

Hi, I'm Lily! I'm a beautiful 2-year-old female tabby with a white bib. I have been fully vetted and brought up to date on all vaccines. My adoption fee is \$100. Come see me at Petco in Gulf Coast Town Center.

Hello, I'm Sylvia. Aren't I just adorable? I'm only 6 months old and a very sweet little girl. I'm currently staying with a foster family and would really like a home to call my own! My adoption fee is \$100 which includes vaccines and spaying.

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



Lily



Sylvia

PAWS Of Sanibel

Brava And Lucy

Two very unusual and beautiful sisters are up for adoption. One is tortoiseshell cat with white or calico features, while the other is a dilute tortoiseshell.

These photos do not do them justice, as they are much more adorable in person. Adopt one, or keep them together and adopt both. They are four and five months old. They come with complete vet check-up, all shots, tests, wormed, treated with flea preventative and spayed. Call Pam at PAWS at 472-4823 to adopt one or both.✱

Sonny And Cher

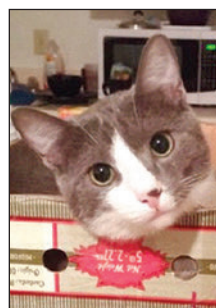
This is Sonny and Cher. Some of you may remember them. Three years ago, four kitties, the momma and three kittens were trapped between the Sunset Beach Resort and Lantana condominium on West Gulf Drive. All were adopted (Lana, Tanner, Sonny and Cher) to lovely people. However, Sonny and Cher's mom has reached a time in her life when she feels she must move in with family over on Pine Island. Unfortunately, in addition to her granddaughter being allergic, her son operates a business out of his home that is directly on Pine Island Road and the doors are always opening and closing, so it's not safe for kitties. These are very special kitties, and need to be together forever. Call Pam at 472-4823 if you can give these sweethearts a new home.✱



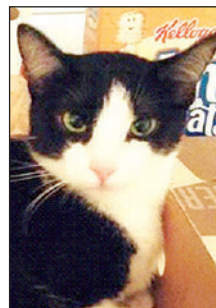
Brava



Lucy



Sonny



Cher

THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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

ARTS

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

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

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 Coral 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
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 29

Super Crossword

QUITE A
COMPLEMENT

- ACROSS
- 1 Like whisked eggs

7 11th U.S. president

11 Two — kind

14 OshKosh — (clothing brand)

19 Rio Grande city

20 Turn about an axis

21 Hoop part

22 Supply (with)

23 Reach

24 Back in the day

26 Gird one's —

27 Elena Kagan and others

30 Govt. ecology org.

31 Biblical verb ending

32 Suffix with front or cloth

33 — hall (U. hangout)

34 Limbo and others

44 Vast quantity

45 Motel cousin

46 "Alley- —" (1960 #1 hit)

47 "So it is!"

48 Euterpe and others

56 Cleveland NBAer

57 Actor Sacha Baron —

58 Post-it initialism

59 Up until now

60 Prior to, in poetry

62 Parisian pal

63 Italy's loc.

64 Way of carrying oneself

66 Wooded region in France

68 Kitchen and others

73 Still a bit firm, as cooked pasta

75 Russian city or region

76 Barrett of Pink Floyd

77 ThinkPad maker, once

80 Spy novelist John le —

81 "Boy, — ever!"

82 Inits. on a battleship

83 Delhi's home

85 Noted time

86 Shortstop and others

92 Tire trappers

94 Wall-to-wall, e.g.

95 Water in une fontaine

96 With 61-Down, request

97 "Eroica" and others

104 Sleep cycle

105 Lead-in to natal

106 Texter's "Holy moly!"

107 33rd U.S. pres.

110 Fact about 27-, 34-, 48-, 68-, 86- and 97-Across

118 Out in front

119 Cocky

120 New Zealand indigenes

121 "The Trial" novelist Franz

122 Onetime GI

123 White cheese

124 Bewitched

125 Fidgety

126 Prefix with thermal

DOWN

1 Oh-so-bored

2 Scarf down

3 Sketcher's tablet

4 Put a rip in

5 Pop singer Brickell

6 Nitrogen or carbon, e.g.

7 Intimidates, with "out"

8 Margarine

9 Maui feast

10 Deborah of old films

11 Mouth pain relief brand

12 Solve

13 Singer Tori

14 Ism

15 Dumplings in an Italian restaurant

16 Dog of comics

17 Phoenix NBA team

18 "— a Rebel" (1962 hit)

25 Bic Clic —

28 Summer, in France

29 Overused theme

35 Arthur with a racket

36 Gas in glass

37 103, to Nero

38 Mag for an entrepreneur

39 It's stranded in cells

40 "Help!" from a helmsman

41 City north of San Diego

42 Hear (of)

43 Flood control structure

48 Longtime record label

49 — Kippur

50 Very inferior

51 Valuable

52 Lamb-in-pita treat

53 Geologist Sir Charles —

54 Bistro list

55 Chronicle

61 See 96-Across

63 Pro trained in trauma

64 Callas of opera

65 Cola cubes

66 Large chasm

67 Angling need

69 Atop, in verse

70 Certain ground-floor apartment

71 Tyro PC gamer, say

72 Petro-Canada rival

73 Sour in taste

74 Actor Lash of Westerns

78 Post office container

79 Mothers

81 TV host Ellen

82 "—, and away!"

83 Possible reply to "Who's there?"

84 Shoe brand

87 Scent

88 Toyota Sequoia, e.g.

89 ESPN anchor Bob

90 Flee quickly

91 He played Andy Torres on "Cougar Town"

93 Spells, as of luck

98 Prime period

99 Not far from

100 Fly alone

101 Age-old flu-fighting drink

102 Yoga chants

103 Iranian city

108 Quick cuts

109 Seed coating

110 More — likely

111 Test by lifting

112 Sitar player Shankar

113 Pride parade initialism

114 — Lee (food brand)

115 Camelot wife

116 Big admirers

117 Comic Dunn

118 Alias abbr.

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10		11	12	13		14	15	16	17	18
19							20					21				22				
23							24					25				26				
27							28									29				
30					31						32					33				
		34	35	36				37	38	39				40				41	42	43
				44				45					46				47			
48	49	50					51	52				53	54				55		56	
57							58					59					60	61		
62							63				64	65				66	67			
			68	69	70					71					72					
73	74							75					76					77	78	79
80								81					82				83	84		
85							86	87	88				89	90			91			
92							93		94				95				96			
97							98									101	102			
								99	100							101	102			

King Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Lather

5 Diner order, for short

8 Unwanted email

12 On

13 Always, in verse

14 Patriot Nathan

15 Irrational suspiciousness

17 Artillery

18 Follow relentlessly

19 1984 Tom Hanks movie

21 Flightless bird

22 Knoll

23 Energy

26 North Pole staffer

28 Surveys

31 Leading man?

33 A mere hand-ful

35 Cry

36 Sweat outlets

38 Sweet potato

40 Meadow

41 Commotions

43 Actor Diesel

45 Walk like a duck

47 Bursts forth

51 Satanic

52 Pet bird, often

54 Got up

55 — -de-France

56 Sea flier

57 Basin accessory

58 Help

59 White-glove detection

7 Garbage

8 Not deep

9 Like some lines

10 Charitable donations

11 Netting

16 City in Alaska

20 4-Down, e.g.

23 Tase

24 Altar affirmative

25 Eden

27 "30 Rock" cast member

29 Shelter

30 Hot tub

32 Busybody

34 Fluctuated

37 Scale member

39 Actress Sorvino

42 Old photo tint

44 Microwaved, slangily

45 Existed

46 Acknowledge

48 Lima's land

49 Sawbucks

50 Undo a dele

53 — Baba

DOWN

1 Enervates

2 Western state

3 Nickelodeon's "Explorer"

4 Card symbol

5 Grendel's slayer

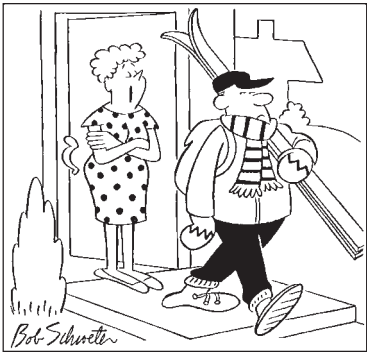
6 Island souvenir

MAGIC MAZE ● — ACTION

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

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

- Affirmative
- Braking
- Capillary
- Civil
- Course of Delayed
- Evasive Group
- Legal Lever
- Man of Mob
- Piano Plan of Police



"Got your ski mask, gloves, goggles ...
_____ medicine ... ?"

answer on page 31

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!

Cruel
FAULTHE _____

Area
ANGER _____

Ensemble
SOCHUR _____

Undertaking
NURVETE _____

TODAY'S WORD

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

SUDOKU

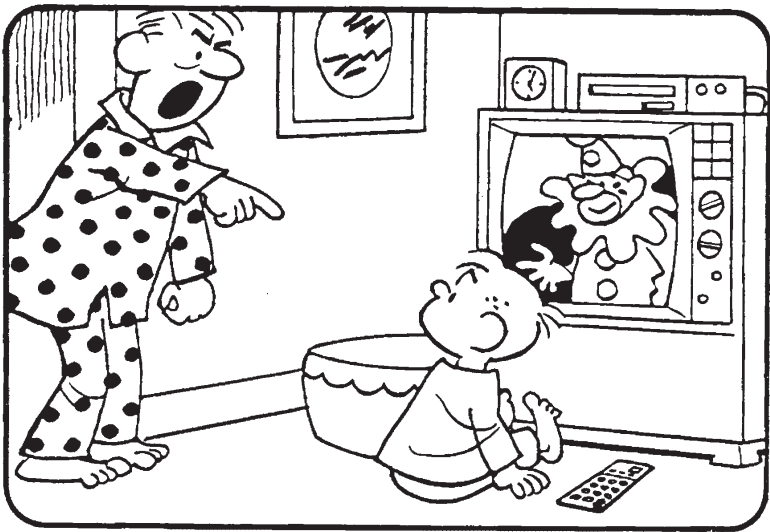
To play Sudoku:

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

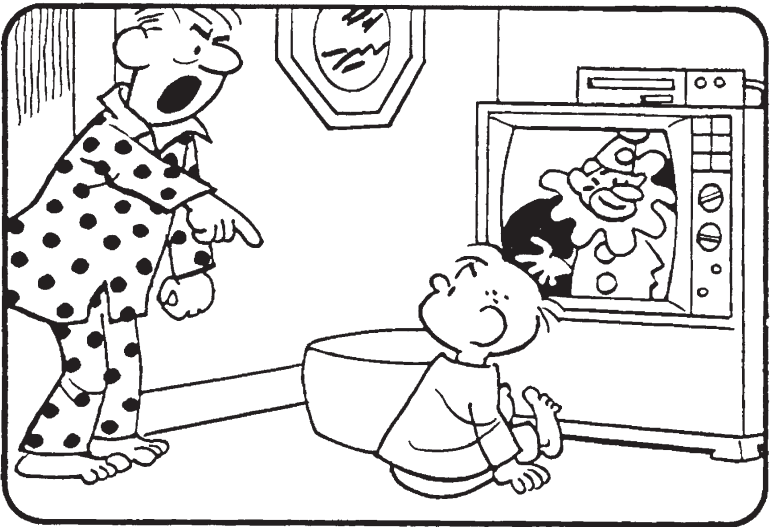
answer on page 29

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Arm is missing. 2. Frame is different. 3. Hassock scallop is missing. 4. Clock is missing. 5. Clown is missing. 6. Remote control is missing.



Rock Shrimp Succotash with Jalapeno Hoe Cakes

Rock Shrimp Succotash

1 pound peeled rock shrimp
1 large tomato, diced
1 ear sweet corn, cut off the cob
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon finely chopped garlic
1 tablespoon seafood seasoning
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1/2 cup scallions, chopped
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

Heat the olive oil in a heavy skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Saute corn, tomatoes, garlic, and scallions for 2 minutes, then garlic and sauté 1 to 2 minutes until golden. Season shrimp with seafood seasoning and add to succotash. Cook for 2-3 minutes or until cooked through. Spoon over Jalapeño Hoe Cakes and sprinkle with scallions.

Jalapeño Hoe Cakes

2 cups self-rising cornmeal
2 tablespoons sugar
2 cups milk
2 large eggs



Rock Shrimp Succotash with Jalapeno Hoe Cakes

1/3 cup Jalapeño peppers, seeded and chopped

Butter or corn oil for frying

In a large bowl, mix together cornmeal, sugar and salt. In a separate bowl, beat the

eggs and milk until well blended. Add the wet mixture into the dry ingredients and stir until just mixed and moistened. Let the batter set for 10 or 15 minutes. Add oil to just cover bottom of skillet then heat over

medium-high heat. Pour 1/4 cup of batter for each hoe cake into skillet. Cook 3 or 4 minutes until tops are full of air holes; flip cake and cook until golden brown. Serve warm with the succotash.*

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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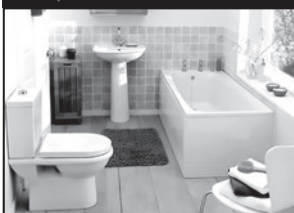
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WEEKLY NEWS



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WEEKLY NEWS


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The Island Sun and The River Weekly News are community newspapers,
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December 14, 2018

Place Classified







FRIDAY
Cloudy
High: 66 Low: 57




SATURDAY
Sunny
High: 70 Low: 61




SUNDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 72 Low: 63




MONDAY
Sunny
High: 70 Low: 61



TUESDAY
Sunny
High: 66 Low: 57



WEDNESDAY
Sunny
High: 62 Low: 53



THURSDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 65 Low: 56

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	2:07 pm	6:19 am	11:10 pm	4:32 pm	Fri	1:12 pm	6:21 am	10:15 pm	4:34 pm	Fri	12:34 pm	6:07 am	11:32 pm	5:49 pm	Fri	12:46 am	9:35 am	4:17 pm	7:48 pm
Sat	2:42 pm	6:55 am	11:45 pm	5:07 pm	Sat	1:47 pm	6:57 am	10:50 pm	5:09 pm	Sat	1:06 pm	6:48 am	11:58 pm	6:24 pm	Sat	1:20 am	10:11 am	4:52 pm	8:23 pm
Sun	3:08 pm	7:28 am	None	5:44 pm	Sun	2:13 pm	7:30 am	11:26 pm	5:46 pm	Sun	1:41 pm	7:28 am	None	6:56 pm	Sun	1:55 am	10:44 am	5:18 pm	9:00 pm
Mon	12:21 am	8:00 am	3:30 pm	6:25 pm	Mon	2:35 pm	8:02 am	None	6:27 pm	Mon	12:20 am	8:07 am	2:22 pm	7:27 pm	Mon	2:31 am	11:16 am	5:40 pm	9:41 pm
Tue	12:58 am	8:32 am	3:50 pm	7:11 pm	Tue	12:03 am	8:34 am	2:55 pm	7:13 pm	Tue	12:41 am	8:43 am	3:06 pm	8:00 pm	Tue	3:08 am	11:48 am	6:00 pm	10:27 pm
Wed	1:39 am	9:05 am	4:13 pm	8:04 pm	Wed	12:44 am	9:07 am	3:18 pm	8:06 pm	Wed	1:09 am	9:16 am	3:48 pm	8:39 pm	Wed	3:49 am	12:21 pm	6:23 pm	11:20 pm
Thu	2:22 am	9:38 am	4:39 pm	9:04 pm	Thu	1:27 am	9:40 am	3:44 pm	9:06 pm	Thu	1:47 am	9:45 am	4:26 pm	9:22 pm	Thu	4:32 am	12:54 pm	6:49 pm	None

PUZZLE ANSWERS

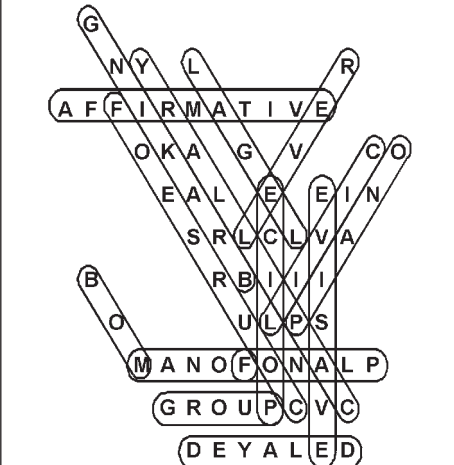
SUPER CROSSWORD

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KING CROSSWORD

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MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars ★★★★★
FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 2019

Aries (March 21 to April 19) It's a good time to take a much-needed break from your recent hectic schedule and spend some time in quieter surroundings. Important news could arrive early next week.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) The Taurean traits of reliability and thoroughness could be well-tested when decision-makers consider your proposals and/or requests. Be prepared to answer some probing questions.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) A sudden attack of boredom leaves you with some tasks undone. It's OK to take a short respite. But get back to work by week's end so that you have time for other projects.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Avoid prejudging a situation just because it looks bad. Facts could emerge that would make your position uncomfortable, to say the least. A relative has interesting news to share with you.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) This is a good time to begin reassessing some of your recent decisions about your long-range goals to see if they still have merit. Spend more time with loved ones this weekend.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) An unsettled situation at home or on the job early in the week could drain your energy levels, making it difficult to get your work done on schedule. But things improve by midweek.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) A temporary setback could give you time to go over your plans to find weaknesses you might have overlooked before. A romantic getaway with that special person is favored

this weekend.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Professional and personal situations benefit once you set a positive tone in getting things off to a good start. Honest dialogue smoothes over any occasional display of balkiness.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) A problem with workplace colleagues or family members seems to defy even your sage counsel. But be patient. Your words eventually will lead to a resolution.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Don't just wait out that unexpected and unexplained delay in your career move. You could gain added respect if you ask why it happened and what you can do to move things along.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) Although your workplace strategies usually are accepted, you could be challenged by someone who isn't so favorably impressed. Be prepared to defend your positions.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Your friendship circle expands, with new people coming into your life at this time. Welcome them warmly. But don't neglect those cherished longtime personal relationships.

Born This Week: You love to search for knowledge and share it with others. You would make an especially fine teacher.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was way back in the 17th century when noted Scottish scholar Patrick Young made the following sage observation: "The trouble with weather forecasting is that it's right too often for us to ignore it and wrong too often for us to rely on it."

• As 2018 winds down, you might want to keep this crime fact in mind: Those who

study such things say that New Year's Day is the No. 1 holiday for car theft. Perhaps they're making up for Christmas Day, which is typically the holiday with the fewest auto thefts.

• I bet you didn't know there's a word specifically used to refer to the space between your eyebrows. Yep: It's called the "ophryon."

• Fans of old Westerns have doubtless seen depictions of Native Americans scalping their enemies. Most probably don't realize, though, that the brutal practice didn't originate with the Indians. When the Dutch and English settlers were trying to clear out the natives, they were paid a bounty for each scalp they brought back. The Native Americans adopted the practice only after the Europeans' arrival on the continent.

• If you're a runner – and a compulsive counter – you might already be aware of the fact that the average person's feet hit the ground approximately 800 times per mile when running.

• The food eaten by a typical American travels between 1,500 and 2,500 miles from the farm where it was grown to the plate where it's consumed.

• Paleontologists claim that Neanderthals used toothpicks. How can they tell, you might well ask? It seems that toothpick use leaves distinctive grooves on teeth.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"We should not be simply fighting evil in the name of good, but struggling against the certainties of people who claim always to know where good and evil are to be found."
– Tzvetan Todorov

TRIVIA TEST

- Ballet:** What is the name of the young girl who stars in *The Nutcracker*?
- Television:** Which actor played the dad in the sitcom *Eight Is Enough*?
- Government:** According to the Constitution, what is the minimum age of a member of the U.S. Senate?
- Music:** What is the nickname of country music singer Hank Williams Jr.?
- Food & Drink:** Where did gumbo originate in the United States?
- Movies:** Which 1990s film had the tagline, "A little pig goes a long way"?
- U.S. Presidents:** Which president is honored in the Wrestling Hall of Fame?
- Literature:** What was the nickname of the deadly flu that wiped out most human beings in Stephen King's *The Stand*?
- U.S. States:** Where is Fort Knox located?
- Measurements:** What does the Brannock Device measure?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

- Clara 2. Dick Van Patten 3. 30 4. Bocephus 5. Louisiana 6. "Babe" 7. Abraham Lincoln 8. Captain Trips 9. Kentucky 10. Shoe size.

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

REAL ESTATE

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BROKER**
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4/29 ★ TFN

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OFFICE SPACE IN DESIRABLE TREE TOPS CENTER

1101 Periwinkle Way. Conveniently located very close to causeway! Approx. 700 sq. ft. w/reception area and 1/2 bath. Call Mike at 970-476-9204 or email pazzos@vail.net
11/30 ★ TFN

COMMERCIAL UNIT FOR RENT

East End of Sanibel in Punta Ybel Plaza. Perfect for Office or Small Retail. Call Dee at 472-0121, leave a message.
7/13 ★ TFN

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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1/4 ★ TFN



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www.cottages-to-castles.com
1/26 ★ TFN

SEASONAL RENTAL

SANIBEL – SEASONAL RENTAL AVAILABLE FEBRUARY & APRIL, 2019

Canal front home 3 bedrooms, 2 bath pool home in Shell Harbor close access to the beach and causeway on the East End of Sanibel. Perfect location – \$7,500 per month. VIP Realty Group Inc. Call or text Rose at 239-851-5188.
12/21 ★ TFN

SANIBEL BEACH COTTAGE NEW FEB. 2019 AVAILABILITY!

Old Florida charm, all new updates! Private lane, short walk to beach, 2BR/1.5BA, sleeps 6. Fully equipped, separate exercise room, laundry, wooded backyard w/privacy fence. Beach chairs, umbrellas, wagons, towels provided, plus 2 bikes! Pets w/approval. Some 2 wk. availability. Contact Chris: 314-406-7058 cgbeckner@yahoo.com for pictures/price.
1/4 ★ 1/18

ANNUAL RENTAL

ANNUAL RENTAL ON SANIBEL

2 bdrm / 1 bath, East End. 1/2 of Duplex, piling home. Walk to beach. Washer & Dryer in unit, Private sundeck. Includes yard service & pest control. No Smoking / No pets. \$1,750. Call Bob 410-913-2234.
10/19 ★ TFN

ANNUAL RENTAL

ANNUAL RENTAL

SANIBEL
Waterfront – 3/2+ den, dock, Direct access. \$2,950/mo. Gorgeous, Custom home.
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Gulf Beach Properties, Inc.
11/30 ★ TFN

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2/1 on Main Street \$1,800
2/2 on Sandpebble \$2,000
Dogs okay.
Call or text Bridgit @ 239.728.1920
11/9 ★ TFN

SANIBEL – DUNES ANNUAL RENTAL

3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Pool and tennis courts. Close to beach. \$2,500 monthly or \$3,750 seasonally. VIP Realty Group Inc. Call or text Rose at 239-851-5188.
12/21 ★ TFN

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Dock Lighting, affordable LED conversion. FPE panel replacement, Landscape Lighting. Generator Sizing, etc, etc, etc. Call or text Roger 239-707-7203 State License #13002788
4/20 ★ TFN

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HELP WANTED

OCCASIONAL CLEANING HELP NEEDED

Small Inn seeking help with cleaning services. No experience required. Average 4 to 6 days per month. Variable days of the week. Hours vary between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Start at \$15. per hour. Sanibel resident preferred. Contact Darwin at 239-472-9088.
12/21 ★ TFN

JERRY'S FOODS SERVERS & BARISTAS

Part Time Evening And Weekend Front End Associates Needed. Looking for energetic, personable, and fun individuals, with open availability Monday through Sunday. If interested call and ask for John, Norm Sarah 472-9300. 1700 Periwinkle Way
5/6 ★ TFN

MOMENTS IN TIME

• On Jan. 13, 1128, Pope Honorius II sanctions the military order known as the Knights Templar, founded in 1118, declaring it to be an army of God. The Templars protected Christian pilgrims during the Crusades, military expeditions aimed at defeating Muslims in the Holy Land.

• On Jan. 9, 1768, Englishman Philip Astley stages the first modern circus in London. The former cavalry sergeant major found that if he galloped in a tight circle, centrifugal force allowed him to perform seemingly impossible feats on a horse's back.

• On Jan. 11, 1908, U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt declares the massive 800,000-acre area of the Grand Canyon in northwestern Arizona a national monument to ensure that it would remain as it was. Congress, however, would not officially outlaw private development in the Grand Canyon until 1919.

• On Jan. 8, 1946, Elvis Presley's mother took him to the Tupelo Hardware Store and bought a birthday gift that would change history: a \$6.95 guitar. Legend says Presley had really wanted a rifle or a bicycle.

• On Jan. 10, 1967, President Lyndon Johnson asks for enactment of a six percent surcharge on personal and corporate income taxes to help support the Vietnam War. The proposal, approved by Congress in March 1967, backfired with an American public tiring of the controversial war.

• On Jan. 12, 1984, the use of modern construction techniques to restore the Great Pyramids in Egypt is abandoned in favor of methods used by the ancient Egyptians. Restorers stopped using mortar and adopted the system of interlocking blocks practiced by the original pyramid builders.

• On Jan. 7, 1999, the Senate begins the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton based on 11 grounds, including perjury, obstruction of justice, witness-tampering, lying under oath and abuse of power.

Shore Fishing:



Don't Harm The Fish by Capt. Matt Mitchell

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

Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it.

The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.

If you want a picture with the fish, support it as you lift it out of the water – and do it quickly.

Before releasing, revive the fish while holding it in the water; moving it slowly back and forth so water goes over its gills. The fish will let you know when it's ready to swim off.

Florida just recently changed the regulations on fishing from shore. Florida residents as well as out of state visitors need a fishing license to fish from shore.

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

Adopt A Pet, This New Year

Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) invites you to make Skip the Jog and Walk a Dog your New Year's resolution this year. Include pets as a part of your New Year's plan and consider that a new pet can help you achieve many of the most popular goals set each year.

The adoption fee for all dogs over age 6 months will be just \$25 through January 31 to assist potential pet owners in finding a new exercise partner and best friend.

There are many ways pets can improve your life:

Getting fit/losing weight and being healthy – a pet is a great way to be more active, whether playing games or going for a walk.

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

Enjoy life more – with all the benefits of pet adoption, this one is a no-brainer.

Helping others – by adopting, you will not just be helping, you will be saving a life. Most pet owners report that they actually benefit more from the relationship than their pet.

The adoption fee includes spay or neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, deworming, flea treatment, heartworm test for dogs 6 months and older, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, Lee County pet license for pets three months and older, microchip ID, and a 10-day health guarantee. The adoption package is a \$500 value.

For more information, visit www.leelostpets.com or call 533-7387. You may also submit an adoption application

online. Adoption hours are 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday at LCDAS, located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers.*

Five Star Schools In Lee County

Eighteen schools in the School District of Lee County are being recognized with the Five Star School Award for the 2017-18 school year by the Florida Department of Education. The award is bestowed upon schools that are committed to incorporating family and community members into the school environment to enhance student learning.

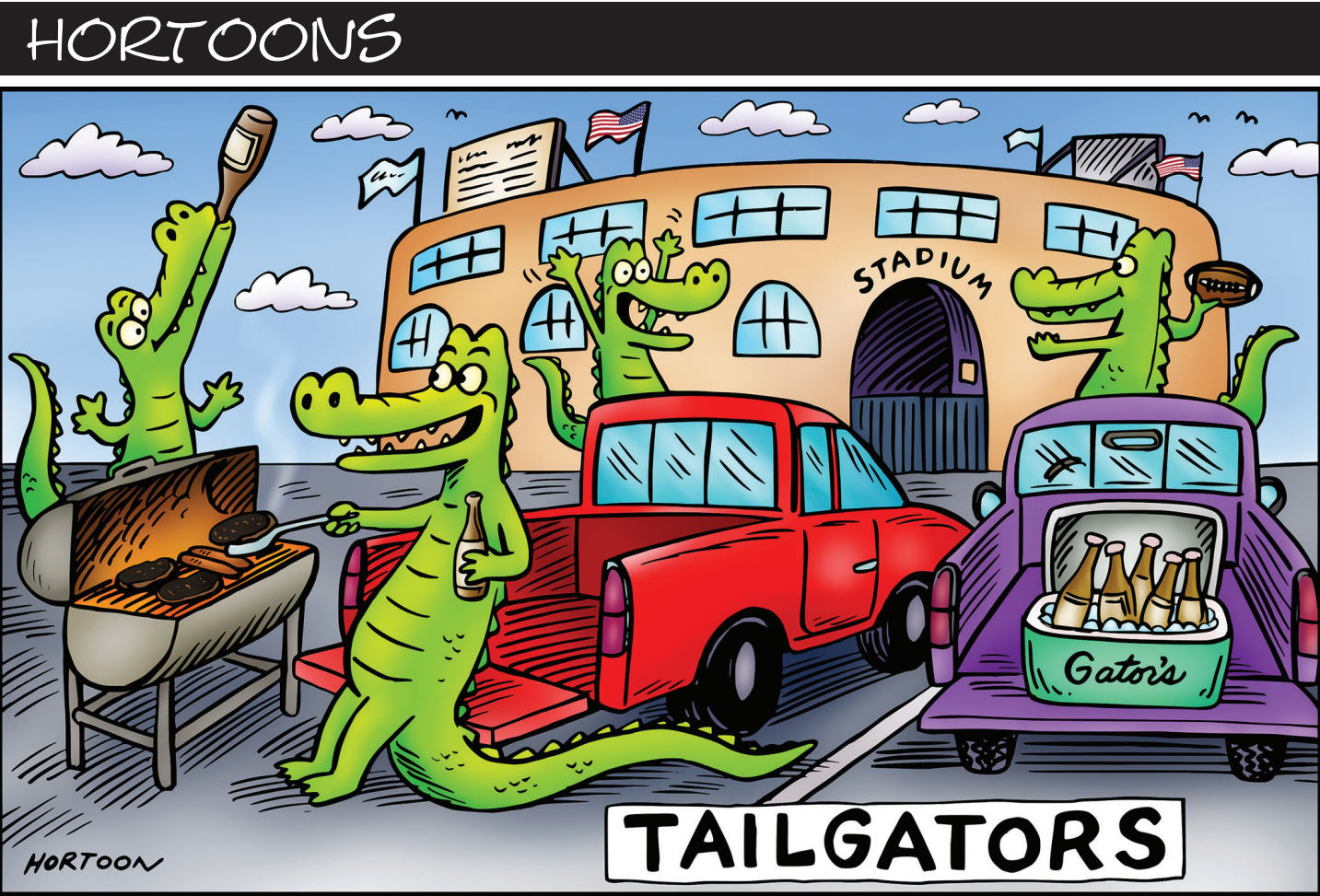
“One of the best ways to ensure student success is to have parents actively involved in their children’s school and education,” said Superintendent Dr. Greg

Adkins. “For our district to be a success, we need the community engaged and supportive of our efforts. These Five Star Schools are some of the best examples of how we do both.”

The Lee County Schools honored for their exemplary community involvement are Bayshore Elementary School, Franklin Park Elementary School, G. Weaver Hipps Elementary School, Hancock Creek Elementary School, J. Colin English Elementary School, Lehigh Elementary School, Pelican Elementary School, San Carlos Park Elementary School, Tanglewood Elementary School, Three Oaks Elementary School, Villas Elementary School, Caloosa Middle School, Lehigh Acres Middle School, North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts, Three Oaks Middle School, Veterans Park Academy for the Arts, Cypress Lake High School, and Ida S. Baker High School.

To earn Five Star School recognition, a school must show that it has achieved all of the benchmarks and criteria in five categories – Community/Business Partnerships, Family Involvement, Volunteerism, Student Community Service and School Advisory Council. Schools must also earn a grade of “C” or higher or a school improvement rating of “Maintaining” or “Commendable” for the year being recognized.

“It is an honor to recognize these schools with the Five Star School Award,” said Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart. “As a former teacher and principal, I have seen firsthand the positive impact family and community involvement can have on the lives of students. When school leaders and educators engage the community, the result is higher academic achievement and more students prepared for future success.”*



SCRAMBLERS

- 1. Hateful; 2. Range;
- 3. Chorus; 4. Venture

Today's Word
HANGOVER

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Siena	Bonita Springs	2012	4,028	\$1,479,000	\$1,355,000	228
Venetian Gardens	Fort Myers Beach	2002	1,562	\$1,379,000	\$1,245,000	59
Laurel Ridge	Bonita Springs	1992	3,044	\$949,000	\$925,000	8
Alva	Alva	1957	2,372	\$898,000	\$850,000	609
Dunes At Sanibel Island	Sanibel	1983	1,725	\$875,000	\$830,000	23
Dunes At Sanibel Island	Sanibel	1986	2,257	\$799,000	\$787,000	196
Carillon Woods	Fort Myers	2014	2,938	\$749,900	\$717,500	6
Gulf Shores	Sanibel	1977	1,896	\$729,000	\$675,000	144
Pine Island	Bokeelia	2004	2,040	\$699,900	\$675,000	50
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2018	2,657	\$650,000	\$575,000	36



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