



## A Gentle, Intelligent Play At New Phoenix

by Di Saggau

**T**he *Shadow Box* by Michael Christofer is about three families either visiting a hospice for the terminally ill, or already living in one. That sounds rather grim, but the play is not as much about death and dying as it is about self-realization. It asks, "Who are we?" "What does all this mean?" The focus is on three people who know they only have a short time to live. The more honest and open the characters can be, the more they can express their love for each other.

The play opens with Joe (Grant Cothren), a good family man with courage who tries to help his wife and son accept the fact that his time is limited. He is scared and angry and tired of dealing with people who try to deny what is happening to him. Maggie (Amy Genzlinger) is his heartbroken wife who finally accepts things, and their son Steve (Kagan Vann) has the best qualities of both parents.

The second group is an extended family of Brian (Jim Brock), a young man who uses words to deal with his situation. He's a failed writer and he's determined



Grant Cothren as Joe and Amy Genzlinger as Maggie photo provided

to live to the fullest until the last possible moment. He says, "I am as alive now as I have ever been." Mark (Justin Larche) is Brian's handsome lover and caretaker. When Brian's alcoholic, nymphomaniacal ex-wife Beverly (Joann Haley) arrives, things really get lively. She wants to reclaim Brian emotionally. After fighting

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Noah Waddell

photo provided

## Teenage Pianist Featured In Concert Series

**S**hell Point Retirement Community begins its 2019 Concert Series with a performance by pianist Noah Waddell in the Grand Cypress Room

at The Woodlands at Shell Point on Wednesday, May 29 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person.

Waddell, a young performer who gained national attention at just 14 years old, will perform an eclectic program including selections from classical composers. The 18-year-old has won numerous piano competitions including

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## Estates To Host National Public Gardens Week

**I**n partnership with the American Public Gardens Association (APGA), Edison and Ford Winter Estates is celebrating National Public Gardens Week from May 13 to 19. Special discounts and programs will be held throughout the week including free workshops and a plant sale on Saturday, May 18.

The week-long celebration was started to create awareness of public gardens, encourage community participation and promote sustainable practices. The site is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

On Monday, May 13, organizations across the country will decorate their sites with green lights to indicate participation in the event. Green lights will glow on palm trees and on a ficus tree at Edison Ford each night during the week.

Garden tours will be offered on Wednesday, May 15 and Friday, May 17 at 10:30 a.m. Visitors will receive \$10 off the regular tour price of \$40. The \$30 garden tour ticket is valid on these two dates only. The guided tour takes visitors on a journey around the 20-acre site and through some areas not typically included in tours. Visitors will also get to see the newly established Florida native garden and hundreds of species of plants and



National Public Gardens Week includes discounted garden tours, workshops and plant sale photo provided

trees from around the globe.

On Friday, May 17, families are invited to watch *Moana* under the stars at the banyan tree at 7:30 p.m. The movie is free and refreshments will be available for purchase. Visitors should bring a folding chair or blanket. Tours of the gardens, homes, museum and lab are not included. To give back to the community, Crawford Landscaping is sponsoring the movie and making it possible for Edison Ford to offer the free event.

On Saturday, May 18, there will be

several free lectures and workshops throughout the day. Starting at 9 a.m., Lee County Extension agent Stephen Brown will give a presentation on the proper use of fertilizers in Southwest Florida gardens. There will also be a hypertufa, a butterfly gardening talk and a rain barrel workshop demonstrating how to build and install a barrel where participants will learn about the value of capturing and using rain water. A limited number of rain barrels will be available for purchase. Local vendors will offer

products, such as compost and worm castings, and there will be an Ask the Expert table.

Saturday is the Grow Fort Myers plant sale including native and Florida friendly plants that thrive in Southwest Florida's environment. This event is geared toward local residents to give them the tools they need to have successful gardens with sustainable landscapes. The Edison Ford Garden Shoppe offers fruit and flowering trees, shrubs and many different types of flowers in every color of the rainbow. For anyone wishing to start a butterfly garden, a large assortment of both host and nectar plants will be available. Coupons will be handed out for discounts on Garden Shoppe purchases. Refreshments will also be available for purchase.

Edison Ford is one of many public gardens across the country participating in this national celebration. Visitors wishing to become a member of the estates can join this week and receive a free month (13 months for the cost of a 12-month membership). Current members can also renew their membership and get a free month. Membership offers many benefits, including unlimited visits, admission to reciprocal museums and gardens, and discounts on education programs and special events.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.edisonford.org](http://www.edisonford.org).✽



Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

# Oh, To Have A New School



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

This circa-1913 procession headed east on First Street is recognizing an important turning point in Fort Myers history. The momentous news? “WE HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL,” the sign reads.

But this historic photo presents a bit of a puzzle, for at that time, there was no high school building in Fort Myers or all of Lee County.

So why the march and the sign?

There had been high school graduates in Fort Myers for a decade, despite the absence of a building dedicated only to high school grades.

All grades had attended classes at Second and Jackson Streets, first in the wood-frame school constructed in the late 1880s, and since 1911, in the modern brick Andrew D. Gwynne Institute.

Reports in the *Fort Myers Press* about what was going on at the public school – be it programs, new teachers, visiting lecturers, graduation ceremonies, social outings, etc. – referred to “the high school” just as it did to the “second grade,” even though no high school existed, at least as we commonly think of it today.

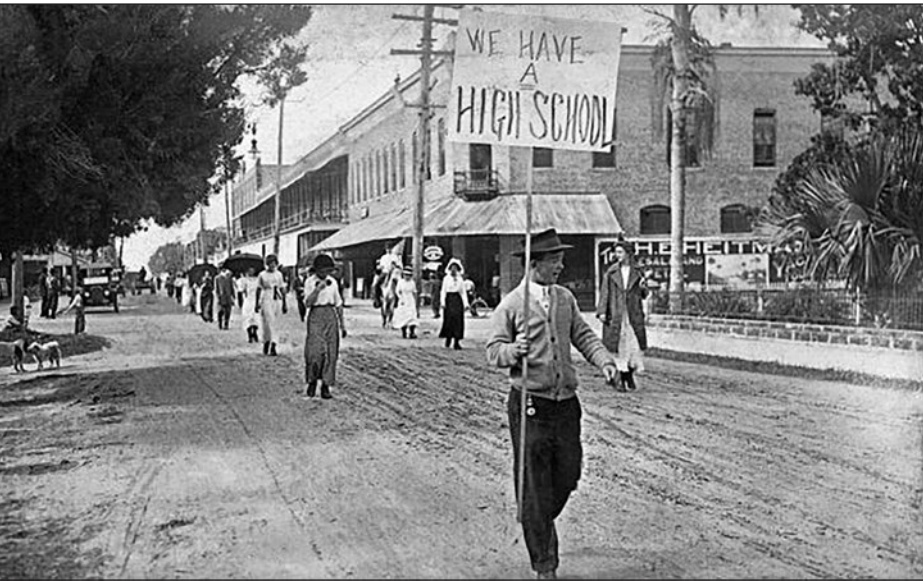
So why the proclamation in the streets?

Evidence suggests that the procession might have been prompted by the passing of the bond issue to fund the first building for high school students only.

In August 1913, a vote to approve a bond issue for the construction of a new high school was announced, and it passed weeks later.

At that time, public schools were entering a phase of persistent over-crowding.

The student population grew so much in the 19-teens that classes were held in various places around town – including the county barn at Courthouse .



Students proceed east on First Street circa 1913. In the center background stands the Heitman Building on the northwest corner at Jackson Street. Note the large Heitman grocery store sign on the side of the building. In the distance (left), wood-frame structures are visible where the Earnhardt Building would be constructed the following year.

photo courtesy Florida State Archives



The Heitman Building still stands on the corner of First and Jackson, but the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (right) is located where Harvie E. Heitman's home, surrounded by a fence, was in 1913.

photo by Gerri Reaves

In fact, the number of students tripled in eight years. When the Gwynne Institute had opened in fall 1911, it was already over-crowded.

Although the first officially recorded high school graduating class, in 1903, consisted of only three students, a decade later, a separate high school building was deemed essential.

(It should be noted that a precursor to the high school, the Lee County Normal School, which granted teaching certification, had begun in 1902.)

In fall 1914, the impressive three-story (plus basement) brick Gwynne High School opened at Second and Royal Palm. Like the Gwynne Institute built three years before, the new high school was named for benefactor Col. AD Gwynne.

For the first time, Fort Myers truly had a high school, both in concept and brick-and-mortar terms.

Two months after the high school opened, it obtained accreditation.

That school operated as a high school until the Lee County High School opened in 1921 on Royal Palm between Fowler and Thompson.

The Gwynne High School later became a junior-high school and later the Crescent Building, which housed businesses and offices.

The school was demolished in 1975.

Walk down First and Jackson and imagine high school students parading their support for the very first high school building in town.

Then visit the following two research centers to learn more about the schools that used to be a stone's throw from the main business district.

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](http://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](http://www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org).


Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, *The First 100 Years: Lee County Public Schools 1887 – 1987* by Donald O. Stone PhD And Beth W.

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

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**Reporters**  
Gerri Reaves, PhD  
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**Contributing Writers**

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Barbara Cacchione	Craig R. Hersch
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Mike Parsons

photo provided

## FGCU Professor Selected To Algae Task Force

Gov. Ron DeSantis recently named Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) marine science professor Mike Parsons to the Blue-Green Algae Task Force. Parsons is one of five researchers on the panel, joining scientists from the University of Florida, Florida International University, Florida Atlantic University and the Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce.

"I am honored to represent not only FGCU, but Southwest Florida in general, on the Blue-Green Algae Task Force," said Parsons, a professor at The Water School at FGCU and Vester Field Station director. "These blooms have been of great concern locally, and more action needs to be taken to manage these harmful algal-bloom events. I look forward to serving so that we can improve our response and management actions when these bloom events return."

During the recent announcement at the Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, DeSantis said, "This is something that as we're getting resources, financial resources to bear on the problem, and making good choices, we want to make sure those choices are informed by the best science and the best research available."

DeSantis originally called for the response team in an executive order he signed during a visit to FGCU's Vester Field Station on January 10. According to the order, the task force is "charged with focusing on expediting progress toward reducing the adverse impacts of blue-green algae blooms now and over the next five years."

"Clearly the governor appreciates the expertise FGCU brings to the critical water issues facing the state," said FGCU President Michael Martin. "Dr. Parsons represents that expertise at the highest possible level. We're proud he will participate on this task force and confident he will make significant contributions."

For more information about The Water School at FGCU, visit [www.fgcu.edu/thewaterschool](http://www.fgcu.edu/thewaterschool).

## Student Sought For Conservation Corps Program

The JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island is hiring one high school student for its annual Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) summer program. The student will assist with maintenance and administrative support.

The YCC program targets students age 15 through 18 to provide them with a valuable work-earn-learn experience. The eight-week program runs from June 10 through August 2. Maintenance duties will include facilities and trail maintenance and removal of invasive plants. This work will primarily be completed outdoors, with possible exposure to heat, humidity and insects. Administrative support duties may

include but not be limited to, answering phones, filing paperwork, organizing office supplies and entering data. The student will have the opportunity to attend educational field trips to local environmental venues. No prior work experience is required.

Deadline for applications is 4 p.m. Thursday, May 16. Late applications will not be accepted.

It is strongly recommended that any summer camps and family vacations be scheduled outside this eight week time frame. Reliable transportation is required. Sanibel toll is paid by the participant.

Compensation is \$9 per hour. Work hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a 30-minute lunch break. Bring your own lunch; refrigerator and microwave available.

Applications may be submitted by mail, fax to 472-4061 or email to [toni\\_westland@fws.gov](mailto:toni_westland@fws.gov).

## Teen Glow Party For End Of School Year Celebration

Students age 14 to 18 are invited to celebrate the end of the school year at Finally Summer Teen Glow Party at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Friday, May 24. Doors open at 7 p.m and the party goes on until 11 p.m.

Three teen disc jockeys from SBDAC's Art of DJing program – DJ Vivyd, DJ Aznoh, and DJ Monarc – will be spinning hits. There will be food, dancing and fun in a great environment.

Teens attending the party will need to provide a school ID in order to enter the party. No one over age 18 is allowed without a valid student ID. There is no re-entry into the event. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Every ticket purchased receives a 50-percent-off coupon for a two-hour Intro to DJ lesson, valued at \$100.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more

image provided

information and tickets, visit [www.sbdac.com/finally-summer-teen-glow-party](http://www.sbdac.com/finally-summer-teen-glow-party).

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Blooming orchids hang from trees throughout the site at Edison and Ford Winter Estates photo provided

## Moms Admitted Free At Estates On Mother’s Day

To celebrate Mother’s Day on Sunday, May 12, moms are invited to visit Edison and Ford Winter Estates for free. This is a great way for families to enjoy the day with their mothers or spouses. Free admission includes a self-guided audio tour of the homes, laboratory and

15,000-square-foot inventions museum. Trees and plants bloom throughout the year on the more than 20 acres of botanical gardens. The orange geiger tree, ginger plants, yellow African tulip tree, desert rose, and the Florida native Spanish bayonet are just some of the beautiful specimens that are currently blooming around the site. Highlights include the award-winning Moonlight Garden with sweetly-scented white flowers, and the pergola between Thomas Edison’s house and the guest house with lavender Queen’s wreath

blossoms dangling down. Orchids, Mina Edison’s favorite flower, are also blooming throughout the site. At the end of a tour, families can stop in the Ford Cottage Shoppe for some ice cream or a cool beverage to savor while enjoying a relaxing view of the river. The Museum Store and Edison Ford Shoppe at Bell Tower Shops offer many unique gift items, including books, T-shirts, artwork and Florida-inspired decorations. For the mom with a green thumb, the Garden Shoppe has many varieties of plants and trees, including orchids available for sale. The entire site is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., seven days a week. Edison and Ford Winter Estates is located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.edisonford.org](http://www.edisonford.org).

## Concert Group To Hold Five Rare Performances

World-renowned artists from throughout Europe, Russia, Siberia and Poland will travel to Fort Myers in 2020 to perform for the Fort Myers Community Concert Association in its 71st annual concert series. Tickets are now on sale for the five performances, which organizers say bring the best in classical opera, ballet and symphony performances to Southwest Florida. All performances will be held at the Barbara B. Mann Hall on the Florida SouthWestern State College campus in Fort Myers at 7:30 p.m.

“We anticipate that we’ll be sold out by the time the series begins in January,” said Community Concert Association President Mary Lee Mann. “Where else can you see not one, but five performances for what you would expect to pay for just one?” All five concerts are included in one ticket price, which ranges from \$165 for prime orchestra and mezzanine seats to \$155 for other orchestra and mezzanine seats, \$85 for lower balcony seating and just \$65 for upper balcony. Most mezzanine seating already is sold out, Mann said.

The concerts and dates are: The Wroclaw Philharmonic Orchestra on January 10, 2020. The Siberian State Symphony Orchestra on January 27, 2020. Teatro Lirico D’Europa performing Verdi’s *La Traviata* on February 3, 2020. Russian State Symphony Orchestra on February 10, 2020. Russian National Ballet on March 2, 2020. T Barbara B. Mann Hall is located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers. For tickets and membership information, visit [www.fortmyerscommunityconcerts.org](http://www.fortmyerscommunityconcerts.org) or call 693-4849. Tickets to individual performances are not available at this time.



Alec M. Suarez photo provided

Alec M. Suarez graduated May 3 from Florida State University with a bachelor of science degree in business, majoring in real estate and marketing. Suarez is the third generation to join the John Naumann & Associates family as a realtor with the LeAne Suarez Group, part of the Suarez Family of Companies, serving Sanibel and Captiva since 1995. Congratulations Alec! Your proud family, Ken, LeAne, Ashley, Austin and Gilda.

## U.S. Coast Guard Open House At Beach Station

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 91, Fort Myers Beach will be participating in the U.S. Coast Guard Station National Safe Boating Week kick-off Open House event at the Beach station on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. National Safe Boating Week runs from May 18 to 24 to promote and highlight the importance of practicing safe boating. “The Safe Boating Campaign reminds boaters of important safety practices such as taking a boating safety course, never boating under the influence and knowing navigational rules,” said Yvonne Pentz, communications director of the National Safe Boating Council. “Statistics from the U.S. Coast Guard tell the story that responsible boating can save lives.” The open house provides boaters with diverse tips and valuable information. Guests will tour several Coast Guard boats during the event. Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will be available to answer recreational boating safety questions. Participants will learn more about safe boating education, having the proper equipment on their vessel, marine safety and environmental protection concerns. Flotilla Commander Nick Kaveski continued on page 10

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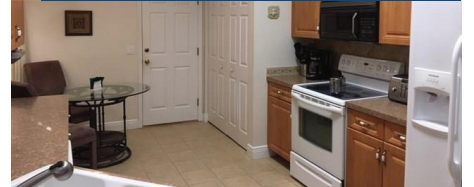
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Fort Myers Art:

# Winners Revealed For Beach Film Festival

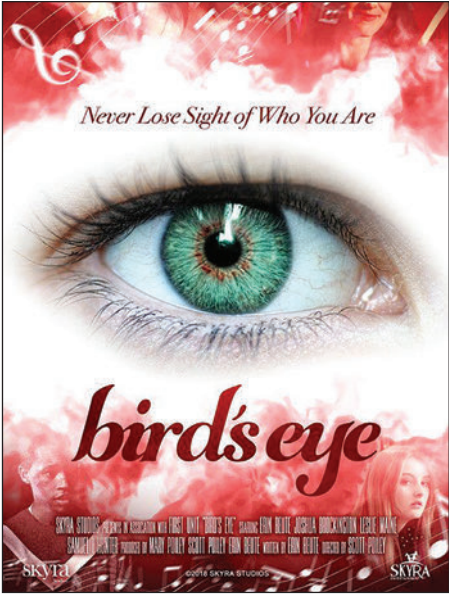


by Tom Hall  
The Fort Myers Beach International Film Festival announced its 2019 award winners during an awards ceremony held recently at Fish-Tale Waterfront Dining

on Estero Boulevard. Awards were given in the following 9 categories:  
Best International Short Film – *The Right Choice*. Set in the near future, a husband and wife visit The Arbitrio Clinic, a fertility clinic that specializes in designer babies. With the help of a qualified adviser, the couple must answer three seemingly harmless questions to create their perfect baby. *The Right Choice* explores how far parents are willing to go in order to ensure their children have the best start in life.  
Best Student Film – *Everything is Fine: A Panic Attack in D Major*. This musical comedy written and directed by Zack Morrison centers around a woman at the onset of her quarter-life crisis and her existential journey through the various stages of anxiety in song and dance.  
Best Florida Made Film – *Bird’s*



*Eye*. This spellbinding 13-minute drama tells the story of a rigid music professor who loses her sight only to find perfect clarity in an unexpected place – within the walls of an at-risk urban high school. Featuring original music and an inspiring story of darkest night giving light to a higher purpose that transcends boundary, disability and circumstance, *Bird’s Eye* illustrates the transformative power of music and the upper reaches of creativity that can be unleashed when self-absorbed egocentricity blindly pursuing perfection is replaced by the spirit of collaboration exerted by a group of diverse and damaged individuals striving to achieve a higher purpose.  
Best Short Documentary – *Blind*



*Vision*. In her hometown of Naples, Annalaura di Luggo worked with 20 blind people to explore their inner universe. Using her custom-built camera, she photographed their clouded, scarred and dysfunctional eyes. Then, the artist recorded and filmed encounters and interviews with her subjects. The film is striking and a deeply emotional portrayal of what it means to see with only tactile and auditory senses: the portrayal of an alternative vision.  
Best Short Film and People’s Choice Award – *The Statement*. *The Statement* is a psychological thriller in the tradition of *The Twilight Zone* and *Black Mirror*.  
Best Performance in a Short Film

images courtesy www.artswfl.com

– Todd Bruno for *Stratagem*. In this short, an ambitious woman sets a plan in motion to destroy her brother as she takes control of the family business but soon discovers he has a plan of his own.  
Best Feature – *Luke & Jo*. *Luke & Jo* is a feature film about two artists who collide at the lowest point in their lives during a winter film festival. As their bizarre and unexpected week unfolds, their lives become progressively intertwined – ultimately revealing the depth of their scars, their present fears and the meaning of trust.  
Best Performance in a Feature Film – Andi Morgenlander for *Luke & Jo*. Andi not only starred in *Luke & Jo*, she also co-wrote and executive produced the feature. Over the past 10 years, Andi has costume designed, produced and acted in a cosmic array of pieces ranging from one-act plays to independent feature films.  
Best Documentary – *Millennium after the Millennium*. *Millennium after the Millennium* is a new documentary focused on Chris Carter’s landmark television series *Millennium*. Set 20 years after the show ended, the filmmakers take a look back at what makes *Millennium* so enduring to fans and critics alike. The documentary delves into how *Millennium* came to be and explores its turbulent production history while finding hope for the future.  
*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.\**

## Donation To Help Open Masonry Academy

The School District of Lee County recently announces Island Coast High School will open the Brick and Block Masonry Academy in August when students start the 2019-20 school year. The academy will be the first of its kind in the district and offer students a needed skill in the construction industry.  
“As the School District of Lee County continues to prepare students for career and/or higher education, we are thrilled to announce a new career and technical education program set to launch at Island Coast High School this fall,” said Director of Adult & Career Education Rita Davis. “The Brick and Block Masonry academy will afford students the opportunity to learn work-ready skills for a rapidly growing industry while fulfilling their high school graduation requirements.”  
The Florida Concrete & Products Association (FC&PA) is donating \$19,000 to help open the academy. FC&PA members became interested in

supporting the district’s programs after the Lee BIA Build My Future event demonstrated the need and interest in construction industry academies.  
“The Florida Concrete & Products Association builds advocacy and legislative initiatives to promote the industry and held a clay shoot on March 29 to raise funds and awareness for the Lee County Schools Pre-Apprenticeship Programs,” said FC&PA Legislative Chairman Robert Marion. “The tournament was well attended and included a barbecue lunch, raffle prizes and an awards ceremony. Thank you to the sponsors and all that attended to make this event a success by raising \$19,000. We hope that not only does this greatly benefit the pre-apprenticeship program in Lee County but that we continue this event as a tradition in years to come.”  
Island Coast High School is currently planning the Brick and Block Masonry Academy and recruiting interested students to join. Students in the academy can earn the NCCER Masonry Level 1 certification.  
“Key community partners are working together to support this new academy,” Davis added. “We are especially grateful for the \$19,000

donation being made to the program by the Florida Concrete & Products Association. With the support of organizations such as FC&PA, the Lee Building Industry Association and the Florida Masonry Apprentice & Educational Foundation, we are truly helping to build a solid career foundation for our high school students.”\*\*

## Murder Mystery Comedy At Broadway Palm

As a special engagement, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre is dying to bring you *Murder On The 19th Hole* in the Royal Palm Dining Room now through June 2. This interactive, murder mystery comedy comes to theater by popular demand after last year’s sold-out run of *Murder In Paradise*.  
It’s 1976 and you’re invited to be a special guest at the 50th annual Celebration of Florida’s No. 1 Golfing Destination, Magnus Prime. You’ll be given a new identity when you arrive at this very prestigious celebration.

Throughout the evening, many curious events will occur, including (gasp!) a murder, and we need you to figure out “whodunit.” You can become part of the action or just sit back and enjoy the fun and delicious dinner, served to your table by the suspects, of course.  
Performances are Wednesday through Sunday evenings with the dinner and show beginning promptly at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$55 per person.  
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre is located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. Tickets can be reserved by calling 278-4422, visiting www.broadwaypalm.com or in person at the theater.\*  
From page 1  
**Pianist**  
his first international piano competition in 2014 that was held in Fort Collins, Colorado.  
The Woodlands at Shell Point is located at 14441 Woodsong Lane in Fort Myers. For more information or tickets, visit www.shellpoint.org/summer or call 454-2067. Tickets purchased online or by phone will be held for pick-up at will call on the night of the performance.\*





Garden at the Berne Davis Botanical Garden

photo provided

## Botanical Garden Tours

The Berne Davis Botanical Garden is open for Tuesday morning garden walks on May 14 and 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission and parking are both free; handicap parking is on Virginia Avenue; regular parking is on Larchmont Avenue, off of McGregor Avenue. The garden will be re-open in October.

The botanical garden is a project of the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council, whose headquarters are at the Virginia Avenue address. It is staffed by Garden Council volunteers who provide tours of

the garden. Those viewing the garden may also just walk the path and enjoy the gardens.

The garden is the home of the Lorelei statue that was recently part of the old Fort Myers Library as well as the Mina Edison Botanical Library. Many of the displays in the garden have been provided through the talents and contributions of the local garden clubs, plant societies, and other affiliates which comprise the Garden Council.

Berne Davis Botanical Garden is located at 2166 Virginia Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, contact the council at [fmlcgardencouncil@gmail.com](mailto:fmlcgardencouncil@gmail.com) or 332-4942.✱

## Mailbox Food Drive Collection This Saturday

The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will conduct the 27th annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive on Saturday, May 11. The nation's largest single-day food drive will involve the help of sponsors, volunteer organizations and U.S. Postal Service employees in 10,000 communities nationwide.

Making a donation is easy. Customers should leave their non-perishable food donations in a bag near their mailbox on Saturday, before their letter carrier arrives. Food collected during Saturday's drive will be delivered to local community churches, food banks and food pantries for distribution.

While all non-perishable donations are welcome, foods that are high in protein such as canned tuna, salmon, beans and peanut butter are most needed. Canned fruits and vegetables, whole grain, low sugar cereals, macaroni and cheese dinners and 100 percent fruit juice also top the list of most needed items.

What not to give:  
Rusty or unlabeled cans  
Glass containers  
Perishable items  
Homemade items  
Expired items  
Noncommercial canned or packaged items

Alcoholic beverages or mixes or soda  
Open or used items.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations

For more information, contact George Sciascia, the food drive coordinator, at [gsciascia@comcast.net](mailto:gsciascia@comcast.net) or call 218-1147.✱

## Famed Opera To Be Performed

Gioachino Rossini's most famous opera *Barber of Seville* will be performed at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at FSW on Saturday, May 11 at 7 p.m.

This fully-staged opera will be supported by the Gulf Coast Symphony. Tickets start at \$29.

*Barber of Seville* is a story of young love unfolding in Spain, with Count Almaviva striving to win the love of the beautiful Rosina. To rescue her from her awful guardian, the count enlists the help of the town's busy-body barber, Figaro, who mostly creates mayhem with his disguises and schemes. *The Barber of Seville* appeals to both opera newbies and aficionados. This fully staged production features an international cast of singers and renowned designers.

Figaro will be played by James Wright, while Rosina will be performed by Sarah Nordin and Count Almaviva by Victor Ryan Robertson.

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall is located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers. For tickets, call the box office at 481-4849, or visit [www.gulfcoastsymphony.org](http://www.gulfcoastsymphony.org).✱

## Police K9 To Get Body Armor



Balor sits in front of his K9 police vehicle

photo provided

Fort Myers Police Department's K9 Balor will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.

K9 Balor's vest is sponsored by Kimberly Shader of Orlando and will be embroidered with the sentiment "Born to Love - Trained to Serve - Loyal Always." Delivery is expected within eight to 10 weeks. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 3,300 protective vests in 50 states through private and corporate donations at a value of \$5.7 million dollars. The program is open to dogs actively employed in the U.S. with law enforcement or related

agencies who are certified and at least 20 months of age. New K9 graduates, as well as K9s with expired vests, are eligible to participate.

The donation to provide one protective vest for a law enforcement K9 is \$950. Each vest has a value between \$1,744 and \$2,283 and a five-year warranty, and an average weight of four to five pounds.

For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events and accepts tax-deductible donations of any denomination online at [www.vik9s.org](http://www.vik9s.org) or by mail to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718.✱

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SW Florida, Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel & Captiva Islands is All About Home

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### Captiva Villas

Listed at \$312,000



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SW Florida, Fort Myers Beach, Sanibel & Captiva Islands is All About Home

**Cathie Lewis, Realtor**

Phone: 239-745-7367

[Cathie@AllAboutHome.Life](mailto:Cathie@AllAboutHome.Life)  
Pfeifer Realty Group



### Fort Myers Beach

Listed at \$512,000



### Pinewood Condominium

Sold





## Along The River

**L**ee County Emergency Management (LCEM) will hold a **Hurricane Preparedness Seminar at The Community House** this Friday, May 10 at 11 a.m. The free seminar is open to the public and will include information on how to prepare families and homes for hurricane season, how to use new hurricane-related technology and how LCEM responds to hurricanes and other disasters.

Additional seminar dates and locations will be posted at [www.leeec.com](http://www.leeec.com); check the website to see if registration is necessary for individual events.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. To request an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or a reasonable modification to participate, contact Debbie Quimby, 533-0622, Florida Relay Service 711, or [dquimby@leegov.com](mailto:dquimby@leegov.com).

The Friends of **Lakes Regional Library** welcome author DL Havlin to speak at their meeting at the library this Friday, May 10 at 1 p.m.

Havlin, who has written several books, including *The Hangin' Oak* and *September on Echo Creek*, studies early Florida history and will speak about events from 1865 to 1913 that still affect us today.

A **book signing** will follow the program, which is free and open to the public. No registration is required.



Participants in the 2018 Lipman 5K Run for Backpacks

photo provided

Lakes Regional Library is located at 15290 Bass Road in Fort Myers.

The race is on to support Immokalee's children, and time is running out. The annual **Lipman 5K Run for Backpacks** is set for this Saturday, May 11 at **Immokalee High School**. Runners can sign up at [bit.ly/Lipman5K](http://bit.ly/Lipman5K). The event, that features a 5K, 1-mile walk and 1K Fun Run, will begin at 8 a.m. and raises money for the Lipman Family Farms Backpack Giveaway on August 3.

Now in its fifth year, the Lipman 5K Run for Backpacks is creating a

substantial community impact. Last year's event raised enough money to fill over 1,500 backpacks with school supplies and provide 200 bicycles, \$3,000 in clothing store gift cards and 100 children's haircuts at the Lipman Family Farms Backpack Giveaway. This year, the goal is to provide even more to the children in the Immokalee community.

Lipman Family Farms is giving shirts to every student in the elementary school that registers the most runners as part of the Spirit Shirt Challenge. The event will also include a ceremony to honor the work others are doing to promote education in the community. Golden Apple Award-winning teachers Jill Striz of Village Oaks Middle School and Philip Barton of Immokalee Middle School will each receive a Lipman Golden Tomato, a special award Lipman Family Farms hands out to recognize

educators who make a difference.

Businesses and community partners are encouraged to participate through event sponsorship. Numerous sponsorship opportunities are available by contacting [jaime.weisinger@lipmanfamilyfarms.com](mailto:jaime.weisinger@lipmanfamilyfarms.com).

Those who would like to donate rather than run can do so on the Lipman PayPal page at [bit.ly/LipmanDonate](http://bit.ly/LipmanDonate). All proceeds go to the backpack giveaway in August.

Immokalee High School is located at 701 Immokalee Drive in Immokalee. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/lipmanfamilyfarms](http://www.facebook.com/lipmanfamilyfarms) or call 657-4421.

**Fort Myers Bike Night** returns to **downtown Fort Myers** this Saturday, May 11 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Six Bends Harley Davidson and the River District Alliance invite you to enjoy the sights of hundreds of motorcycles displayed along the downtown streets while listening to live bands. Free to the public with many venues featuring specials.

For more information, visit [www.myriverdistrict.com/events/2019/fort-myers-bike-night222](http://www.myriverdistrict.com/events/2019/fort-myers-bike-night222) or [www.facebook.com/fortmyersbikenight](http://www.facebook.com/fortmyersbikenight).

**Peace Lutheran Church** will host a **lunch and learn program** this Thursday, May 16 at 11:30 a.m. The topic will be GSH Stem Cell Therapy.

Dr. Len Molczan of Regenerative Health Centers of Florida will present *How to Live Your Life Free of Pain and Discomfort*. Learn how stem cells heal and reduce suffering by creating cells that grow cartilage and other tissues in your body. This therapy is a possible alternative to joint replacement.

A light lunch will be provided.

Peace Lutheran Church is located at 15840 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. Call the church office at 437-2599 to register.✱

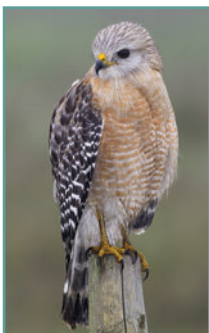
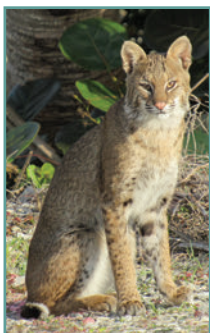
## Help SCCF Bring Back the Barn Owls

**Poisoned rats can kill the eagles, hawks, bobcats and owls that eat them.**

**Tell your pest control professional to NOT use these rat poisons:**

• **brodifacoum** • **bromailone** • **difenacoum** • **difethialone**

**Or consider not using any rat poisons at all. Instead, seal all entry points to your home.**



**SCCF 472-2329 • [www.SCCF.org](http://www.SCCF.org)**

## Coast Guard Auxiliary To Exhibit At Miracle Game

**U**.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 91, Fort Myers Beach will be exhibiting during a Fort Myers Miracle game at Hammond Stadium on Friday, May 17. The game versus the St. Lucie Mets begins at 6:30 p.m.

Join the Coast Guard Auxiliary for the beginning of National Safe Boating Week and celebrate Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day by learning about boating safety.

National Safe Boating Week runs from May 18 to 24. The safe boating campaign is a worldwide effort focused on responsible boating, encouraging boaters to always wear a life jacket while on the water. Statistics from the U.S. Coast Guard tell the story that responsible boating can save lives. The Coast Guard Auxiliary will provide fans with safe boating tips and valuable information and members will be available to answer recreational boating safety questions.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the

lead agency protecting America's seaward frontier in recreational boating safety with vessels and aircraft deployed across the U.S. to aid or save countless boaters every year.

Hammond Stadium at the CenturyLink Sports Complex is located at 14100 Six Mile Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.milb.com/fort-myers](http://www.milb.com/fort-myers) or [www.cgau.org](http://www.cgau.org).✱

## Local Student Participates At Symposium

**C**ape Coral native Bernard Bahnam recently participated in the 2019 Symposium for Scholarship and Creativity at the University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio.

Bahnam presented glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) research at the symposium, which provides undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to share their research, creativity and professional learning experiences.✱



## Millions Of Return Dollars Captured By Tax Volunteers

United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program has concluded its 2018 tax season with tremendous results. United Way's VITA volunteers assisted over 5,500 individuals and families who utilized the free service and received approximately \$7.4 million in tax refunds and saved \$1.6 million in tax preparation fees alone.

Low- to moderate-income households who earn \$66,000 or less had their federal tax returns prepared, e-filed and direct deposited for free by IRS certified volunteers who helped determine if clients were eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), education and/or childcare credits when they filed. This year, 187 volunteers were trained and certified in partnership with the IRS and assisted at over 31 locations, which included 11 United Way Houses and special events during the tax season.

United Ways' VITA program is not just a one-time transactional activity as this initiative aims to connect taxpayers to other asset building resources such as savings tools and financial education opportunities. This tax season saw a 16 percent increase in clients served over last year as the program was expanded to include the new drop-off service in Lehigh



VITA volunteers Virginia Fette and Jim Smith

and outreach to all ACT Shelters, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, Florida Southwestern College, several remote neighborhoods and a migrant worker camp.

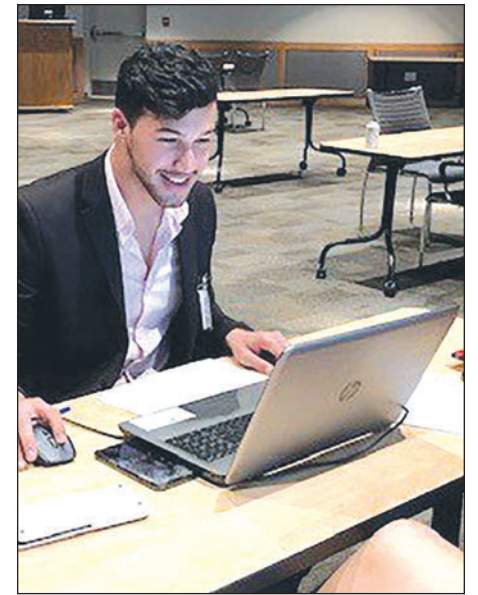
VITA clients have repeatedly expressed their appreciation of the VITA program and its volunteers. R. Hernandez said, "Offering people like ourselves the opportunity to have our taxes done by volunteers is priceless. I really don't know how we would do this without your help. Thank you so very much for offering this service." That sentiment was shared by L. Alexander who stated, "Your volunteers were so friendly, professional

photos provided

and efficient! I was so appreciative of their help. Thank you for all you do and for your impact on our community."

For those who still need to file a 2018 tax return, United Way has four year-round VITA sites located in Estero-San Carlos, LaBelle, Lehigh Acres and Fort Myers to help. All sites operate by appointment only, which can be made by calling 433-3900 or by visiting [www.unitedwaylee.org/freetaxprep](http://www.unitedwaylee.org/freetaxprep). For those who prefer to file on their own, they can do so free of charge at [www.myfreetaxes.com](http://www.myfreetaxes.com) if their income is under \$66,000.

United Way will be recruiting volunteers to serve as tax preparers, greeters and interpreters for the 2019 tax year over the next few months. Volunteers



VITA volunteer Chris Rivera

will complete free classroom and online tax preparation training and certification using the TaxSlayer software. To join the VITA team, visit [www.unitedwaylee.org/become-vita-volunteer](http://www.unitedwaylee.org/become-vita-volunteer).

In addition to raising funds for human service organizations in our community, United Way promotes partnerships and collaborations among agencies and initiatives, helping them to work together to focus on issues and solutions that continue to improve lives. United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee has raised and distributed over \$177 million since it was established in 1957. For more information, call 433-2000 or visit [www.unitedwaylee.org](http://www.unitedwaylee.org).

## Technology Awards Finalists

The Southwest Florida Regional Technology Partnership (SWFRTP) announced the finalists for the 11th annual Technology Awards. D & A Strategic Enterprise Solutions is the Welcome Sponsor, Bonita Print Shop is the Print Sponsor and ITVantage is the Dessert Sponsor.

The finalists for the Innovation Award given to a company that has invented or demonstrated an innovative and creative technology solution are Cigent Technologies, Vectra Digital and VeraData.

The finalists for the Transformation Award for a business highlighting the use of technology in government, nonprofit, or companies outside the technology sector to address a business or operational challenge are BMP Logic, Chico's FAS and NCH Healthcare System.

The finalists for the Woman in Technology Award which honors the accomplishments of a Southwest Florida woman in a technology role and her commitment to diversity in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields are Reema Bhatia, Stickboy Creative; Michelle Borders, Naples Network Services; and Priya Janardhanan, Chico's FAS.

The finalists for the Technology Student Award recognizing a high school or college student pursuing higher education or a career in technology are Klaudia Fisheku, Florida Gulf Coast University; Elisabet Ortiz, Cape Coral High School; and Sophia Vellizzi, Gulf Coast High School.

In addition, the Partnership Award, which honors a person who has made significant contribution to the SWFRTP will be presented at the dinner. The awards dinner will be held on May 16 at 6 p.m. at the Club at Grandezza in Estero. Ann E. Joyce, chief customer officer and EVP, technology, supply chain and field operations at Chico's FAS, will be the keynote speaker. The emcee of the event is Lindsey Sablan, news anchor, WINK-TV. Tickets are available online at [www.swfrtp.org](http://www.swfrtp.org) until May 12.

## Free Legal Advice At Edison Mall

Free legal consultations are available from Lee County Bar Association member attorneys at the Edison Mall on Saturday, May 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Law in the Mall event is marking its 25th year of public service as part of the bar's Law Week, an annual series of events designed to celebrate the role of law in American society.

Anyone can come and meet face-to-face with the attorneys, who'll provide answers and direction on situations that fall within their legal practice areas, including divorce, probate, criminal law, bankruptcy, real estate, foreclosure and more. No pre-qualification or pre-registration is necessary, though attendees should bring any paperwork related to their case.

Edison Mall is located at 4125 Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers. The event will be held between entrances F and G in front of Dillard's.

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Emily Mayo photos provided

# Local Girl Scouts Earn Top Honors

Three Girl Scouts from Fort Myers have earned Girl Scouting’s highest and most prestigious honor – the Gold Award. The award is available only to girls in grades 9 through 12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through remarkable projects that have sustainable impact in the community and beyond.

The awardees and their projects include Emily Mayo of South Fort Myers High School with Power to Pollinators;



Katie Poinsett

Samantha Romero of Bishop Verot High School with The Video Students’ Journey; and Katie Poinsett of Estero High School with Planting for Pollinators.

“Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award is truly a remarkable achievement, and these young women exemplify leadership in all its forms,” said Mary Anne Servian, chief executive officer of Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida. “They saw a need in their communities and around the world and took action. Their extraordinary dedication, perseverance and leadership is making the world a better place.”

Some universities and colleges offer scholarships unique to Gold Award Girl



Samantha Romero

Scouts, and girls who enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces may receive advanced rank in recognition of their achievements.

A total of 16 Gold Award Girl Scouts from the Gulfcoast Council will be honored at the 2019 Young Women of Distinction Ceremony in Punta Gorda on May 19. The annual ceremony celebrates the accomplishments of hundreds of Girl Scouts from across the area.

To learn more about the Girl Scout Gold Award, local award recipients and their projects, visit [www.gsgcf.org/girls/gold-award](http://www.gsgcf.org/girls/gold-award). For more information about Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, visit [www.gsgc.org](http://www.gsgc.org).

From page 4

# Coast Guard

said, “Throughout the day, there will be the instructional seminar Suddenly in Command to learn what to do in the event of a boating emergency and demonstrations of paddle boat safety. Coast Guard Station Fort Myers Beach has earned multiple Kimball Awards for performance excellence. This is an opportunity for residents to learn about the missions of the Coast Guard and boating safety. As an added attraction, ‘Coastie,’ a remote-controlled low endurance class cutter, will make an appearance. Free hot dogs and water will be served.”

For further information about this free event and other local Fort Myers Beach offered programs, contact the Flotilla 91, Public Affairs Officer at 690-6780.

Participating in open house are Lee County EMS, Safe Kids Southwest Florida, Lee County Sheriff Marine Unit, U.S. Coast Guard & Auxiliary Recruiters, Florida Dept Environmental Protection, Fort Myers Beach Fire Department Truck, Golisano Neonatal & Pediatric Hospital Ambulance and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is the lead agency protecting America’s seaward frontier in recreational boating safety with vessels and aircraft deployed across the U.S. to aid or save countless boaters every year.

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 91, Fort Myers Beach is located at 719 San Carlos Drive on San Carlos Island. For more information, visit [www.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org).

# Churches/Temples

**ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION**  
Service 9, and 11 a.m. Children’s RE, Adult Education Forum 10 a.m., [www.allfaiths-uc.org](http://www.allfaiths-uc.org), 2756 McGregor Boulevard, 226-0900.

**ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m., 10291 Bayshore Road, 599-4023.

**ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX**  
Sunday 9 and 10 a.m., [www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org](http://www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org), 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-2099.

**BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS**  
Friday Shabbat at 7 p.m. [www.batyam.org](http://www.batyam.org), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 579-0296.

**BETH YESHUA MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE**  
Saturday 11 a.m. 15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171.

**BIBLESHARE**  
10 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Tuesday, [www.simplysimpleworship.com](http://www.simplysimpleworship.com), 7050 Winkler Road, Suite 121, 437-8835.

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

**CHABAD LUBAVITCH ORTHODOX**  
Friday 6:30 p.m., [www.chabadswf.org](http://www.chabadswf.org), 5620 Winkler Road, 433-7708.

**CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE**  
Sunday 10 a.m., [www.revtedalhouse@aol.com](mailto:www.revtedalhouse@aol.com) 10200 Cypress Cove Circle, 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., [www.taecc.com](http://www.taecc.com), 1619 Llewellyn Drive, 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. [www.clpc.us](http://www.clpc.us), 8260 Cypress Lake Drive, 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., [www.christiansciencefortmyers.net](http://www.christiansciencefortmyers.net), [www.christianscience.com](http://www.christianscience.com). 2390 West First Street, 334-6801.

**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. [www.fumcftmyers.org](http://www.fumcftmyers.org), 2466 First Street, 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.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT MYERS**  
11 a.m. Sunday, [www.fpcfortmyers.org](http://www.fpcfortmyers.org), 2438 Second Street, 239-334-2261

**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., [www.lambofgodchurch.net](http://www.lambofgodchurch.net), 19691 Cypress View Drive, 267-3525.

**NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER**  
Friday 6:30 and 7 p.m. [nbcministry@embarqmail.com](mailto:nbcministry@embarqmail.com), [facebook.com/nbcministry](https://facebook.com/nbcministry), 8505 Jenny Cae Lane, 656-0416.

**NEW COVENANT EYES**  
Monthly 9 a.m., [www.newcovenanteyes.com](http://www.newcovenanteyes.com), 1900 Park Meadows Drive, 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., [www.newhopefortmyers.org](http://www.newhopefortmyers.org), 10051 Plantation Road, 274-1230.

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

**PEACE LUTHERAN**  
Sunday 8 and 10 a.m., [www.peaceftmyers.com](http://www.peaceftmyers.com), [peace@peaceftmyers.com](mailto:peace@peaceftmyers.com). 15840 McGregor Boulevard, 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.

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**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., [www.saintnicholasmonastery.org](http://www.saintnicholasmonastery.org), 111 Evergreen Road, 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.

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**TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE**  
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**TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)**  
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Sunday 11 a.m., [www.newchurchflorida.com](http://www.newchurchflorida.com), 10811 Sunset Plaza Circle #401, 481-5535.

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m., [www.uucfm.org](http://www.uucfm.org), 13411 Shire Lane, 561-2700.

**UNITY OF FORT MYERS**  
Sunday 10 a.m., [www.unityoffortmyers.org](http://www.unityoffortmyers.org), 11120 Ranchette Road, 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., [www.zionfm.org](http://www.zionfm.org), 7401 Winkler Road, 481-4040.✱



## CROW Case Of The Week:

## Red-Breasted Merganser



by Bob Petcher

The red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*) is a long-bodied, diving duck with an impressive crown that involves a punk-style shaggy crest of feathers up top. It tends to

swim with its head partially submerged to ready itself to dive after prey, which is usually small fish speared with its jagged bill.

Red-breasted mergansers can reside in both freshwater and saltwater wetlands. They fly south to the southern portion of the United States or Mexico for the winter months.

Interestingly, researchers say red-breasted mergansers require a daily intake of 15 to 20 fish for energy reasons. Studies reveal this would suggest nearly 300 underwater dives per day or a foraging period of four to five days.

Not only are red-breasted mergansers great aquatic divers, they are regarded as among the fastest flying ducks and can clock speeds close to 81 miles per hour.

At CROW, a red-breasted merganser was admitted through one of CROW's drop-off locations. No information was

provided about where the bird had been rescued. The merganser was very quiet upon admission and had a two centimeter wide by four centimeter long laceration on its neck. The wound was severely contaminated. Veterinarians flushed the wound and cleared necrotic (dead) tissue from the edges of the wound before suturing it closed.

It was unsure how the merganser was injured.

"This duck might have been injured by a predator or by a fishing hook," said Dr. Kyle Abbott, CROW Veterinary Intern. "The wound was contaminated with debris and had tissue changes consistent with being present for a few days. To treat this wound, the tissue was cleaned and then closed using sutures.

"The large amount of tissue missing on the neck meant that the rest of the neck skin would be tightened when the wound was closed. We had concerns for the patient's ability to swallow initially, but this was not a problem for the duck."

After two weeks in care, the patient was much brighter and faring better, however it has issues with its waterproofing which is vital for the success of this diving duck.

"Ducks and other birds use their feathers to form a waterproof barrier and keep them dry when in water. This process involves preening, where the birds align their feathers and apply oils to the feathers to form this barrier," said Dr. Abbott. "We did have to perform a second surgery to revise the closure line. The reason for this was that the feather follicles were not aligning and the duck



Patient #19-1264 is rehabbing and waterproofing after its injury on April 17

photo by Brian Bohlman

could not form a waterproof barrier despite appropriate preening behavior. The second surgery was to align these neck feathers better."

More time will be needed after this second surgery prior to the patient being released.

"It will take time before we know how the waterproofing is coming along, as there are still some feathers that need to regrow," added Dr. Abbott. "Once we have the patient's waterproofing appropriate to keep the duck dry when in the water, then release will be in a

place where mergansers have been recently spotted at that time. We cannot release this duck exactly where it came from because we did not receive that information on intake."

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](http://www.crowclinic.org).\*

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# The Tarpon Have Arrived



by Capt.  
Matt Mitchell

**T**arpon flooded into our waters this week in massive numbers both along the beaches and the bay. Seeing hundreds if not thousands of rolling

tarpon during a morning charter is an amazing sight. It gets everyone who sees them fired up. Nothing I can think of is as majestic as rolling happy tarpon. Watching these fish do their thing is nothing that can be described and has to be seen to be believed.

Once you have found these fish, it is often just as easy as returning to the same location day after day. But some days, these fish would eat bait and some days they just would not. If you're sitting in these rolling fish, getting a bite is out of your hands. As a guide, all you can do is put your clients on top of these fish. Beyond that, it's out of your hands.

This week's tarpon bites came on an assortment of baits including live crabs, pinfish, threadfins and cut baits. Beach fish seemed to prefer free-lined threadfins and crabs, while in the sound, the fish ate pinfish, crabs under floats along with cut baits. The day's

conditions dictated where you had the best chance of spotting fish. Each day this week was a little different.

When fishing tarpon out on the beach, it's often about covering lots of ground to find the fish. These fish seem to move around more than the bay fish though. Once you do locate them, they are usually in huge numbers. Beach fishing when the conditions are right can mean double digit hook-ups if you find that right pod of fish that's feeding. Some days, the right pod will eat bait after bait for as long as you can stay with them.

Bay fishing for tarpon is my personal favorite and usually my daily go-to. These tarpon return to the same places in the sound year after year and can be found some days busting the surface while feeding on baits. Fish in the bay seem to move slower and mill around more often giving anglers multiple shots. Cut bait in the bay is very productive along with live bait pitched to rolling fish.

There is just something very satisfying about pitching a live bait out to a pod of tarpon and getting a bite. The flash on the strike as the float goes down is more of a rush than the fight. So far this tarpon season, we have more fish here and cleaner water than I have seen in almost a decade.

*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](mailto:captmattmitchell@aol.com).* \*\*



Chasing Poon hooked up while fishing the "Ding" Darling & Doc Ford's Tarpon Tournament  
photo provided

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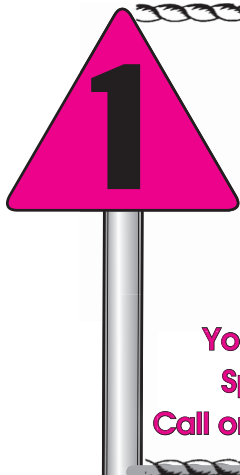
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The 10th annual BBQ, Bands & Brew drew thousands of guests

photos provided

## Festival Benefits Builders Care

Lee BIA Builders Care, the nonprofit charitable arm of the Lee Building Industry Association (BIA), netted a record \$90,000 at the recent 10th annual BBQ, Bands & Brew event at Centennial Park. Proceeds support Lee BIA Builders Care’s mission of providing emergency construction services at no cost to needy and deserving elderly and/or disabled homeowners, and their families, who cannot obtain repairs through traditional means.

“The turnout was incredible, and our talented musicians and chefs certainly put on an impressive show for everyone in attendance,” said Becky Swift, executive director of Lee BIA Builders Care. “BBQ,

Bands & Brew is our largest fundraiser of the year, and the support raised at this year’s event will go a long way toward helping us improve the homes and lives of deserving individuals right here in Southwest Florida.”

A panel of celebrity judges awarded Jonesez BBQ with the coveted title of “Best BBQ in Town” for the second consecutive year.

Additional category winners include:  
Best Chicken – Big Smoke BBQ  
Best Pork – Dave’s Bangin’ BBQ  
Best Ribs – Jonesez BBQ  
Best Side Dish – Dave’s Bangin’ BBQ  
Best Presentation – Big Smoke BBQ  
People’s Choice– Jonesez BBQ  
Best Dessert – Norman Love

Confections

Chasing Dallas, The Echo, Deb & The Dynamics and Bite the Bullet were this year’s featured entertainers.✱



Celebrity judges sample dishes to name the Best BBQ in Town



Jonesez BBQ won Best BBQ In Town, Best Ribs and People’s Choice



Big Smoke BBQ took home Best Chicken and Best Presentation

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Kiss-me-quick is a native wildflower of the purslane family

photo by Gerri Reaves

#### Plant Smart

## Kiss-Me-Quick

by Gerri Reaves

**N**ative kiss-me-quick (*Portulaca pilosa*) is a fast-growing low-maintenance succulent with pretty tiny flowers.

This member of the purslane family is widespread in Florida, growing in sandy habitats and disturbed areas. Another name is pink purslane.

Usually sprawling but sometimes upright, it reaches about six inches high, with creeping branched stems.

Succulents have fleshy stems designed to store water and waxy leaves to help retain moisture. Thus, they are suited to arid climates or drier landscapes and have high drought tolerance.

Aloe, kalanchoe and jade plant are common houseplants that are succulents.

This wildflower has dense tufts of white hairs in the leaf axils, where the leaves join the stem and around the small flowers at the stem ends.

The term *pilosa* means downy, or

having soft white hairs.

The leaves measure only a half-inch or less and are very narrow.

The flowers are only a quarter of an inch across, with five pink, rose, or purplish petals and numerous yellow stamens. These colors inspire another common name, rose moss.

The term *Portulaca*, Latin for little door or gate, refers to the lid on the inconspicuous capsule that contains tiny black seeds.

Like some other purslanes, kiss-me-quick is edible as a salad green or cooked vegetable. Exercise caution, however, for it has toxic levels of oxalic acid, a compound also found in high levels in spinach and arugula, interestingly enough.

This species works well in a wildflower or rock garden or as a groundcover or potted plant. Give it a sunny and sandy well-drained spot.

It has high drought tolerance and low salt tolerance and will grow in nutrient-poor soil.

Propagate it with seeds or cuttings.

Sources: *Complete Guide to Florida Wildflowers* and *Everglades Wildflowers* by Roger L. Hammer,

*Florida Wild Flowers and Roadside Plants* by C. Ritchie Bell and Bryan J. Taylor, *The Guide to Florida Wildflowers* by Walter Kingsley Taylor, *National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida* by Peter Alden et al., [www.regionalconservation.org](http://www.regionalconservation.org), and [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org).

*Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.*✱

## Evening Bird Walk At Bunche Beach

**E**xperience the beautiful birds of Bunche Beach with a bird patrol guide on Thursday, May 16 at 6 p.m.

Provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation, the beachfront walk is free with paid parking of \$2 per hour (tour is approximately two hours). Participants meet on the beach located in South Fort Myers, off Summerlin Road. Drive south on John Morris Road until it dead ends.

Bunche Beach is excellent for both migrant and resident waders and shorebirds working the mudflats at low tide due to the diversity of micro-invertebrates. Participants may also see waterfowl, raptors and warblers.

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

For more information, call 707-3015 or visit [www.birdpatrol.org](http://www.birdpatrol.org).✱

## Bird Count At Slough Preserve

**C**elebrate World Migratory Bird Day by participating in a bird count at Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve North on Saturday, May 11 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. The event is free and open to the public. This is a non-competitive event.

Participants will be guided by expert birders with the volunteer group called Lee County Bird Patrol to observe birds in multiple habitats, including pine flatwoods, cypress and freshwater wetlands. The approximately two-mile guided tour at this Conservation 20/20 preserve will be led on a mowed trail that is not ADA accessible.

"Although several migrating birds will already be headed north from South Florida by early May, there is still an opportunity to see some migratory bird species," said Charlie Ewell, Lee County Bird Patrol president. "There will also be plenty resident birds to see, so any bird observed will count."

Registration is required in advance. Call Conservation 20/20 coordinator Jason Boeckman at 204-1125. The meeting location for this special event is an access point that is not the main entrance to the preserve.

Suggested items to bring include water, hat, sunscreen, binoculars, camera, and a notebook and pen for recording bird observations. Participants should wear closed-toe shoes, not sandals.

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve

North is located at 7751 Penzance Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.Conservation2020.org](http://www.Conservation2020.org).✱

## Conservation Measures For Red Tide Fisheries

**T**he Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recently extended several fisheries management conservation measures for red drum, snook and spotted seatrout in areas of Southwest Florida impacted by a prolonged red tide that occurred from November 2017 through mid-February 2019.

The extension for red drum, snook and spotted seatrout will go into effect May 11 and will apply from the Pasco-Hernando county line south (including all waters of Tampa Bay) through Gordon Pass in Collier County. Previously approved catch-and-release measures, including no harvest of spotted seatrout over 20 inches, remain in effect through May 10.

Changes effective May 11:

Snook and red drum will remain catch-and-release only for an additional year through May 31, 2020.

Spotted seatrout will be catch-and-release only, including no commercial harvest through May 31, 2020.

The approved changes will give these important fisheries additional time to recover from red tide. Staff will continue monthly monitoring of local red drum, snook and spotted seatrout populations throughout the coming year to help determine whether these species are rebuilding under the temporary management measures.

Staff will also revisit the snook extension in early 2020 to determine if that species may be reopened to harvest earlier than May 31, 2020.

Staff has been working with partners including Coastal Conservation Association Florida, Duke Energy and Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium to raise and release red drum and snook into Southwest Florida waters to help address red tide impacts.

For more information, visit [www.myfwc.com/marine](http://www.myfwc.com/marine).✱

## Changes To Reef Fish Regulations

**T**he Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recently moved forward with several changes to reef fish regulations.

Starting July 1, the following changes will be in effect:

A restricted species endorsement and a federal permit to commercially harvest blueline tilefish will be required.

The minimum size limit for commercial harvest of almaco jack will be 20 inches fork length in Atlantic state waters,

There will no longer be a 12-inch commercial and recreational minimum size limit for blackfin, queen and silk snapper statewide.

For more information, visit [www.myfwc.com/marine](http://www.myfwc.com/marine).✱

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## Agency Collects Hardware At Image Awards

CONRIC PR & Marketing won an Image Award, an Award of Distinction and three Judges' Awards at the recent Florida Public Relations Association Southwest Florida Chapter's annual Local Image Awards ceremony at the historic Burroughs Home & Gardens in Fort Myers. CONRIC's Vice President of Marketing Jaimie Miller, APR was also named the chapter's Member of the Year.

"It takes a team, and together, we managed to take home five awards for three entries," said Connie Ramos-Williams, CONRIC president and chief marketing officer. "We're so proud to represent businesses and organizations that make such a tremendous impact on the community, and we're humbled to receive this recognition from our peers in the public relations industry and judges from outside the area. I'm excited to see what we can do to raise the bar even higher for our clients this year."

CONRIC won the Image Award and a Judges Award for its work on the City of Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department's GO Bond initiative. The firm designed a social media campaign targeting voters who ultimately passed the GO Bond measure, which included a tax increase, by a margin of 54-46 in favor. The money will go toward the



CONRIC team members pose with the firm's haul from the Local Image Awards. Pictured from left are April Bordeaux, Josh Milton, Chuck Myron, Jaimie Miller, Katherine Viloria-Menendez, Javier Fuller, Landen Drake, Joshua Savage and Linda Fiore. photo provided

construction of new parks throughout the city, which has less than half the existing park space of other cities with similar population density.

The work CONRIC did for Hope Clubhouse's Faces of Hope at Work initiative was a rousing success that earned an Award of Distinction and a Judges Award. CONRIC's public relations campaign blew past its goal of reaching 250,000 people via social media, with a reach of 911,000. The campaign also contributed to the record-breaking success of the Hope Clubhouse Annual Mental Health Luncheon,

which nearly tripled its fundraising goal and helped push attendance up by 22 percent.

The transformative work the CONRIC team did for Madisen's Match snagged a Judges Award. The firm's promotion of the multifaceted event led to a 400 percent increase in attendance at the 2018 Golisano Children's Hospital Pro Tennis Classic and a 65 percent increase at the 2018 VIP Gala & Auction, which resulted in a 100 percent increase in funds raised from the previous year, the most in the event's 10-year history.

Miller's vast contributions to the chapter led to her Member of the Year award and her selection as one of two recipients of scholarships to the state FPRA conference later this year. Miller serves as the Southwest Florida chapter's vice president of membership. A member since 2012, she's served as vice president of member relations, PR University program chair and newsletter chair. She was the chapter's 2015 Rising Star of the Year and continues work with Florida Gulf Coast University's public relations track and the school's student FPRA chapter.\*

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Will Power

# The Current Estate Tax Exemption Might Not Last Long



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

Clients seem complacent about the federal estate tax since President Trump's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 increased the exemption to \$11.4 million. A married couple, therefore, may shield as much as \$22.8 million from the estate tax.

A lot of clients are quoting *Mad Magazine's* Alfred E. Neuman, "What? Me worry?"

But don't get too complacent.

That 2017 law sunsets in 2025, and may, in fact, be overturned sooner depending upon the results of the next

general election.

If you read Bernie Sanders' proposed estate tax act bill, for example, the federal exemption would be lowered to \$3 million. Further, his act would limit lifetime transfers to only \$1 million before imposing gift tax. Under current law, you can consume your entire estate tax exemption during life as taxable gifts before having to pay gift or estate tax. Sanders' law would make it that much more difficult to minimize the estate tax by making lifetime transfers.

While no one knows whether Sanders or any other similarly minded Democratic hopeful will win in 2020, and we also have no idea whether a new tax law would be forthcoming given the makeup of the House and Senate. It's safe to say that there's a voting block interested in wealth redistribution.

The current federal estate tax was enacted, in part, during the beginnings of our country's industrial age to curb what was then viewed as economic inequality. Then-President Theodore Roosevelt (a Republican) was encouraged by wealthy families, the Carnegies among them, to enact the tax to curb the creation of an "elite, ruling class" made up of trust beneficiaries.

Sound familiar to today's headlines?

The thought that the pendulum may quickly swing towards a harsher estate tax isn't

outside of the realm of possibilities. Is there anything that you can do about that now?

The answer is "Yes!"

While the federal exemptions remain high, you might want to consider advanced estate planning techniques that consume your exemptions now, prior to any changes in the law. One of the most common objections to making these gifts now is that the transfers must largely be irrevocable, meaning that they cannot be undone, and that in many circumstances the transferor loses the ability to use and enjoy the assets during his lifetime.

But there are exceptions to all these rules. There are certain kinds of trusts that you could create where you retain certain income rights for your lifetime. Further, if you are married, you can create marital trusts for your spouse that consume your current exemptions. They would pass on to your children upon your spouse's passing, estate and gift tax free.

Until recently, one concern about using your exemptions before the law changed centered on whether the IRS would "claw back" the gifts at your death if they were made during a time that the lifetime exemption was higher, but at your death would have been taxable. Recent proposed Treasury Regulations issued by the IRS appear to put that concern behind us. The IRS has indicated that it does not view current law as allowing "claw backs," meaning that if you implement advanced estate planning techniques now, even if the exemptions should decrease, the IRS would not try to include those transfers in your estate upon your demise.

Lifetime transfers have a host of issues to consider, including whether you wish to retain the income or use of the assets transferred, who may serve as trustee, whether a technique would allow you to "leverage" your exemption, how your loved ones benefit and whether you could shield the trust assets for successive generations.

These are not issues that you should consider with someone who is not a wills, trusts or estates specialist. The Florida Bar deems board certified attorneys as specialists; no one else can use that title. In order to become board certified, an attorney must demonstrate special skills in the area of law, pass a test and take many hours of continuing, high level educational credits. A board certified attorney must become re-certified every five years.

Nevertheless, you have an opportunity now that may or may not be around much longer. If you have wealth above the \$3 to \$5 million range, it makes sense to visit your estate planning attorney sometime soon to consider your options.

©2019 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at [www.sbshlaw.com](http://www.sbshlaw.com).✴



Lee BIA Builders Care receives Senator's Pride of Florida Award photo by Damian Hanley

## Builders Care Earns Senator's Pride Award

Lee BIA Builders Care was honored with the prestigious Senator's Pride of Florida Award for the nonprofit organization's longstanding commitment to provide quality housing for elderly and disabled residents in Southwest Florida.

Florida Senators Lizbeth Benacquisto and Kathleen Passidomo joined Senate President Bill Galvano in presenting the award to Lee BIA Builders Care,

the nonprofit charitable arm of the Lee Building Industry Association (BIA).

Accepting the award were Lee BIA Builders Care Executive Director Becky Swift, Director of Client Services and Projects Mandi Wray, Board of Directors President Dan Beiter and Board of Directors Member Michael Reitmunn.

Lee BIA Builders Care's mission is to provide emergency construction services at no cost to needy and deserving elderly and/or disabled homeowners, and their families, who cannot obtain repairs through traditional means.

The senators commended the

nonprofit's history of helping local families in need, singling out a pair of projects completed just before the holidays: a roof replacement for a Fort Myers woman fighting breast cancer and a bathroom renovation and other home improvements for a Lehigh Acres family that faces debilitating medical conditions.

"Thanks to the generous support of our industry and corporate partners, we've been able to help more than 385 individuals and families in Lee County over the past 12 years," Swift said. "The Senator's Pride of Florida Award isn't just recognizing our organization, but also the hundreds of local businesses that have donated money and supplies, as well as thousands of volunteers who have helped build wheelchair ramps, install new roofs, remodel homes and complete other critical repairs that allow these deserving families to safely and comfortably live in their homes."✴

## Forum To Help Reduce Risks At Workplace

Safe workplaces cut costs and increase productivity. Local manufacturers who want to upgrade and maintain their safety protocols can hear from one of Florida's leading experts on occupational health and safety at CareerSource on Wednesday, May 15 from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

Brian L. Warrick, director of the

University of South Florida SafetyFlorida Consultation Program, will be the keynote speaker at the Southwest Regional Manufacturers Association roundtable discussion. The forum, called Beyond Compliance: Implementation of an Effective Safety Management System, will cover how to address safety concerns and occupational health and safety administration regulations. Warrick will share the insight he's gained from more than 30 years of leadership experience in environmental, occupational health and safety, including 20 years as a U.S. Air Force officer.

"The program our esteemed keynote speaker is in charge of serves thousands of companies across the state, reduces costs associated with injury, lowers workers' compensation premiums and increases productivity," SRMA Executive Director Neil Kagan said. "This is a tremendous opportunity to learn best practices that save lives and money."

Warrick also worked for two global infrastructure and environmental services firms, a major mining company and ITT Inc., a Fortune 500 manufacturing company. He holds a doctorate in organizational management from Walden University and a master's degree in environmental science. He's also a board certified safety professional and industrial hygienist.

Cost to attend the SRMA discussion is \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members.

CareerSource is located at 4150 Ford Street Extension in Fort Myers. For more information or to register, visit [www.srma.net](http://www.srma.net) and click on the events tab.✴



## Book Review

## Run Away



by Di Saggau

Harlan Coben is a master of domestic suspense and his latest novel *Run Away* proves it.

Simon Greene is a successful Wall Street moneyman who used to live a full, happy life.

That all changed when his daughter Paige quit college and turned against her family becoming a drug addict. His wife Ingrid tells Simon to let it go, but he can't. On a tip he goes to Central Park where he sees an almost unrecognizable Paige, singing for coins. He approaches her, but she ends up running off. Simon gets in a fist fight with the very man who turned her into a junkie, and it goes viral making Simon out to be the aggressor.

Now the story is off and running. Unfortunately Aaron, the junkie who Simon punched, ends up dead. That causes an investigation with Simon considered a suspect. While the police are doing their investigating, Simon and Ingrid focus on Paige and her whereabouts. They search for clues to Paige's location and end up finding themselves in a far more dangerous situation.

A Chicago private investigator, Elena Ramirez, is hired to find the missing adopted son of a wealthy man. There is also a strange pair named Ash and Dee Dee who are killing people on an involved hit-list. Dee Dee belongs to a religious commune in Maine that

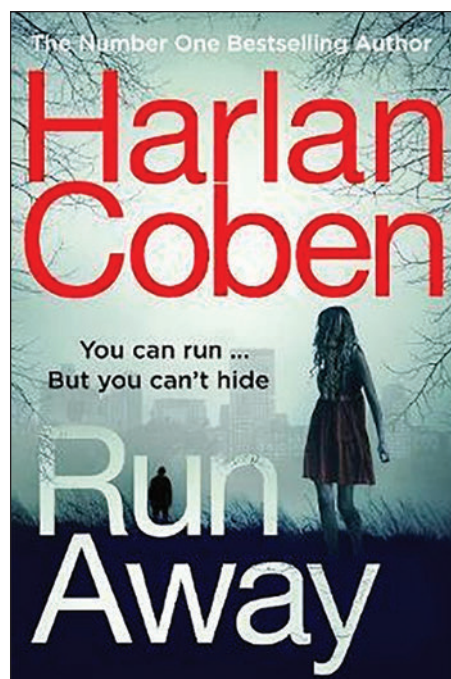


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demands undying loyalty. All of this mayhem is strangely connected.

Coben lives up to his reputation producing nonstop twists and turns, and he delivers again in *Run Away*. He brings his characters to life so the reader feels they know them. In the book nobody is perfect, everyone has their flaws but they are explored as real human beings. Every time you think you have things figured out, another plot thread surprises you. Coben takes his time showing how all the pieces fit together and there is a final twist that will catch most by surprise.

*Run Away* is everything you'd expect. Full of unexpected twists, this fast-paced novel is among the year's best.✱

subjects. Kids get the unique opportunity to interact with characters from their favorite programs in a fun learning environment. Children ages 2 to 10 can benefit immensely by using PBS kids.

ReadWriteThink is a terrific interactive phonics and reading site for K-12. This site is backed by the International Reading Association and NCTE. ReadWriteThink has resources for classrooms, professional development and for parents to use at home. ReadWriteThink offers 59 different student interactives ranging throughout the grades. Each interactive provides a grade suggested guide. These interactives cover various topics including alphabetic principle, poetry, writing tools, reading comprehension, character, plot, book covers, story outlines, graphing, thinking, processing, organizing, summarizing, and many others. ReadWriteThink also offers printouts, lesson plans and author calendar resources.

Softschools is a terrific site to help learners from Pre-K through middle school develop a strong reading sense. The site has grade specific tabs you can click on to customize your learning outcome. Softschools has quizzes, games, worksheets and flashcards designed to highlight specific topics within phonics and language arts. A few of these topics include grammar, spelling, reading comprehension, lowercase/upercase letters, abc order, beginning/middle/ending sounds, r-controlled words, digraphs, diphthongs, synonyms/antonyms, pronoun/noun, adjective/adverb, rhyming words, syllables and many more. The worksheets and quizzes can either be automatically generated or custom-made by the teacher.

Softschools also has a test prep section for third grade and up. Softschools is not just a fantastic phonics and language arts site. It is also excellent for many other subjects including math, science, social studies Spanish, handwriting and others.

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](mailto:smgreggs@gmail.com). Not all questions submitted can be addressed through this publication.✱

## Yoga On The Beach Saturdays

Local instructor Becky Lang will hold Yoga on the Beach sessions every Saturday morning in the month of June just north of the pier in front of the Edison Beach House. Classes will run from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Classes are a Level 1 yoga flow suitable for most people. Beginners are welcome. No pre-registration required, just bring a yoga mat or beach towel, sunscreen and water. Hourly parking is available nearby in the Times Square area.

Cost is a suggested class fee is \$10.

For more information, contact Becky Lang at 791-6538 or [beckylang@comcast.net](mailto:beckylang@comcast.net). For more information, visit [www.beckylang.com](http://www.beckylang.com).✱

## School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, I came across this very informative article by Derrick Meador, a superintendent of a school system in Oklahoma who has identified

several excellent websites for children and parents to use for study and review of academic skills. The interactive activities on these sites listed below focus primarily on reading skills and are for students from preschool to middle school, although one site provides activities through high school. These websites have been vetted, are safe and include appropriate academic standards and content. So as your children prepare for the many end-of-year tests and assessments, here are some (free) websites you can use to help your children review and practice their skills.



ICTgames is a fun phonics site that explores the reading process through the use of games. This site is geared toward prekindergarten (Pre-K) to second grade. ICTgames has around 35 games

covering various literacy topics. The topics included in these games are abc order, letter sounds, letter matching, cvc, sound blends, word building, spelling, sentence writing and several others. The games are centered around dinosaurs, planes, dragons, rockets and other age-appropriate subjects designed to engage students. ICTgames also has a math game component that is extremely helpful.

PBS Kids is an excellent site designed to promote phonics and reading in a fun interactive way. PBS Kids features all of the educational programs the television station PBS offers for kids. Each program has different types of engaging games and activities to help kids learn several skill sets. PBS Kids games and activities include many different alphabet learning tools addressing all learning aspects of the alphabetic principle such as alphabet order, letter names and sounds; initial, middle and ending sounds in words, and sound blending. PBS Kids has a reading, spelling and thinking component. Kids can have stories read to them while watching their favorite characters and seeing the words across the bottom of the screen. Kids can learn how to spell words with many games and songs specifically targeting spelling. PBS Kids has a printable section where kids can learn through coloring and following directions. PBS Kids also addresses math, science and other

## EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

How a Series of Early Fires Influenced the Town's Development

**THOMAS P. HALL**  
ROBIN C. TUTHILL, EDITOR

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## Financial Focus

## Extend Lifespan Of Retirement Accounts



by Jennifer Basey

**I**t's almost impossible to save too much for retirement. After all, you could spend two, or even three, decades as a retiree. And retirement is not cheap – even if you maintain a

relatively modest lifestyle, some of your expenses, especially those involving health care, may continue to rise over the years. Consequently, you will need several sources of reliable income – one of which might be a fixed annuity.

Fixed annuities are essentially contracts between investors and insurance companies. When you purchase a fixed annuity, the insurer will guarantee the principal and a minimum rate of interest. This means the money you invest in a fixed annuity is designed never to drop in value. (However, this guarantee is based on the claims-paying ability of the insurer that issues the annuity.)

You can structure a fixed annuity to pay you for a certain number of years or for your entire lifetime, which is the route many people choose. This is advantageous not only because of what it provides you – income for life – but because it also may allow you to take out less money each year from your other retirement accounts.

Here's some background: Once you turn age 70 ½, you are required to begin taking withdrawals from your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. (This requirement does not apply to Roth IRAs.) You must take out a minimum amount, based on your age and account balance, but you are free to exceed that amount each year. But the more you withdraw from these accounts, the faster they are likely to be depleted. So, when you reach retirement, it's a good idea to establish an appropriate annual withdrawal rate, based on your retirement plan balances, Social Security, lifestyle, longevity expectations and other factors. You may want to work with a financial professional to determine a withdrawal rate that's suitable for your needs.

If you can count on the income from a fixed annuity, you might be able to take out less each year from your traditional IRA and 401(k), giving these accounts more tax-deferred growth opportunities. Plus, if you don't withdraw all the money from these accounts during your lifetime, you can include the remainder in your estate plans.

A fixed annuity's potential to help you extend the lifespan of your IRA and 401(k) can clearly be of value to you. Still, a fixed annuity does carry some issues about which you should be aware, such as surrender charges for early withdrawals, along with other fees. Also, if you take withdrawals before you reach age 59 ½, you likely will face a 10 percent penalty. And annuities can have tax implications, so before you start taking withdrawals, you will want to consult your tax advisor.

Is a fixed annuity appropriate for you? There's really no one correct answer because everyone's situation is different. However, if you consistently max out your IRA and 401(k) contributions, and you still have money left to invest for retirement, you might want to think about an annuity. An income stream you can't outlive – and that may help you protect your other retirement accounts – is worth considering.

*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](mailto:jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com).✴*

## Homeless Coalition Awards Nonprofits

**T**he Lee County Homeless Coalition, an advocacy and education group made up of community and faith-based service providers, local businesses, people who are currently experiencing or have previously experienced homelessness and other advocates committed to ending homelessness, recently awarded its member agencies a total of \$50,000.

The coalition works with members to identify potential gaps within its local Continuum of Care. Coalition members recognize that provider agencies are stretched to capacity and working harder than ever to deliver effective services often with diminishing funding.

Homelessness is a complex issue that can overwhelm independent agencies that address specific issues. The Lee County Homeless Coalition supports all homeless service provider agencies in their efforts to make homelessness a rare, brief and one-time experience.

The following are the awarded amounts that total \$50,000: Abuse Counseling & Treatment (ACT), \$1,500; Affordable Homeownership Foundation, \$1,500; All Souls Episcopal Church, \$4,000; Children's Network of SWFL, \$5,000; Community Cooperative, \$5,000; Harry Chapin Food Bank, \$2,500; Lee County Housing Development Corporation, \$5,000; Lee Health, \$5,000; Midwest Food Bank, \$5,000; Our Mother's Home, \$2,500; Project Dentist Care, \$10,000; and The Salvation Army, \$3,000.✴

## Superior Interiors

## Fun Ways To Accent A Bedroom Wall



by Barb Cacchione

**Y**our bedroom should be your own personal cozy oasis. To achieve feelings of comfort and satisfaction, you can't only put effort into your furniture and the way you style your bed – you

also must think about the walls. Perhaps you don't want to clutter the space with too much decor, and that's fine. An accent wall can be the statement you need to achieve the look and feel you've always wanted.

While a classic option, painting a single wall in your bedroom isn't the only option for accenting. Here are a few other fun ones to consider:

A two-toned paint treatment can be impactful. Take a step away from the traditional painted accent wall and think about one that's two-toned instead, and choose colors that will flow with the rest of your bedroom or use this wall as a launching pad to restyle the entire room.

Using reclaimed wood throughout the house is a major trend at the moment, likely due to the ever-popular rustic modern theme. So why not use it in the bedroom? Peel-and-stick wood panels allow you to achieve a wood plank accent wall that can bring the cozy vibe with ease.

While chalkboard paint is a popular option in a kitchen or kid's room, there's

no reason you can't use it in your own room to create an accent wall. This is a fun way to add character to your room, allowing you to have a slick black moment or let your creative juices flow and switch things up from time to time. To avoid getting dust all over your living space, invest in chalkboard markers instead of traditional pieces of chalk for a mess-free project.

Over time, wallpaper has evolved into the broader classification of "wallcoverings." Many options are available to add a subtle or impactful statement. Today, even temporary wallpaper is available, and it comes in a variety of trendy colors and styles. Consider this option if you're looking for something that will last a while but doesn't necessarily have to be permanent.

If temporary isn't on your mind whatsoever, consider painting a mural in your bedroom. This is a playful and sophisticated option for bringing your style and creativity to life.

Whether you want to hang pictures of you and your significant other or display pieces of your own digital artwork or photography, putting a photo collage on display is a gorgeous option for an accent wall. Decide whether you'll match the frames or use different shapes, sizes and colors to display your pictures.

If you love these ideas but can't narrow it down to one, you may need some professional advice about which option would look best in your bedroom. A design professional can review different accent wall options and help you make your decision. With his or her insight, plus your own personal style and opinion, you can make the best accent wall selection.

*Barb Cacchione is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at [barb@coindceden.com](mailto:barb@coindceden.com).✴*

## Development Of Fishing Grant Program Ratified

**T**he Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Commissioners recently approved staff development of an R3 Fishing Grant program.

The FWC is striving to increase participation in freshwater and saltwater fishing through an effort known as R3 (Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation). Recruitment of new anglers, retention of active anglers and reactivation of lapsed anglers are important to the future of conservation funding. R3 programs are focused on increasing and diversifying the fishing participation rate of different age groups and backgrounds over the next 10 to 15 years. This rule amendment allows the FWC to offer grants to partners helping achieve participation goals, assisting with fisheries research and evaluating the effectiveness of R3 programs.

Funding derived from fishing and boating activities supports management programs tasked with ensuring

Florida continues to meet the needs of stakeholders with a vested interest in Florida's aquatic resources. Much of Florida's growth is in urban areas where people are less likely to have exposure to nature-based activities. Studies have shown there is a strong interest in fishing from adults and youth who have never fished, but there are barriers and uncertainty about where to begin. Research also indicates the key motivating factors for fishing are for consumption, appreciation of the outdoors and spending time with family and friends.

The intent of this grant program is to allow stakeholders the ability to partner with the FWC on facilitating R3 programs, expanding R3 reach and increasing the participation rate of under-represented fishing groups in the angling community. The FWC is committed to working with partners to find solutions that will overcome these barriers so future generations have the knowledge and skills to become safe, successful anglers with an appreciation for Florida's natural resources.

To view the R3 Fishing Action Plan, visit [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com) and click on the "Florida's R3 Fishing Action Plan" link in the center of the page.✴



## Nonnative Species Rules Now In Effect

New rules will help proactively protect Florida from invasive species becoming established in the state. The rules, which were approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) in February, went into effect May 2.

The new rules clarify rule language by defining key terms and add some high-risk nonnative animals to Florida's Prohibited Nonnative Species List. Using recent risk assessments and screenings, the FWC determined the following species present a high level of risk to the state and will therefore be added to Florida's Prohibited Nonnative Species List:

Mammals: meerkat/mongoose, raccoon dog, dhole, brushtail possum, flying fox.

Birds: red-whiskered bul-bul, dioch, Java sparrow, pink starling.

Reptiles: brown tree snake, yellow anaconda, Beni anaconda, DeSchaunsee's anaconda.

The rule changes include a 90-day grace period for people to come into compliance with the new rules, since prohibited species may only be possessed by permit for research or exhibition purposes. The grace period, which ends July 31, will allow commercial dealers who possess these species to sell their inventory, since commercial sales of these species are no longer allowed in Florida and people will no longer be permitted to acquire them as pets.

The new rules also include grandfathering language for people who possessed these species as pets prior to the rule changes. People who have any of these species in personal possession will have until July 31 to submit a permit application to the FWC, which will allow them to keep their pet for the rest of its life.

"Our native fish and wildlife are facing a serious threat posed by various invasive species found throughout the state," said Kipp Frohlich, director of the FWC's Division of Habitat and Species Conservation. "This new rule will help prevent those species on the prohibited list from becoming the next Burmese python."

The public can help the FWC control nonnative invasive wildlife by reporting sightings to the FWC's Exotic Species Hotline at 888-483-4681, online at [www.ivegot1.org](http://www.ivegot1.org) or by using the free smartphone app IVEGOT1.

If you currently possess one of the newly listed prohibited species and do not wish to obtain a grandfathered pet permit, don't let it loose. Be a responsible pet owner and never release exotic animals into the Florida ecosystem. It is illegal and can be harmful to native wildlife. The FWC's Exotic Pet Amnesty Program helps prevent nonnative animals from being released into the wild by providing exotic pet owners who can no longer keep their pets with a legal and responsible alternative to releasing them. People may surrender their exotic pets at Exotic Pet Amnesty Day events or year-round by calling the FWC's Exotic Species Hotline at 888-483-4681. All exotic pets, including ones held illegally, are accepted without penalty and placed with pre-approved adopters.

Learn more about the program at [www.myfwc.com/nonnatives](http://www.myfwc.com/nonnatives) under the "Exotic Pet Amnesty Program" tab. For more information about nonnative species in Florida, visit [www.myfwc.com/nonnatives](http://www.myfwc.com/nonnatives).\*

## Gulf Amberjack, Gray Triggerfish Season Closures

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recently approved early season closures for recreationally-caught greater amberjack and gray triggerfish in Gulf state waters. The action is consistent with recent federal actions.

Greater amberjack closed May 3 to recreational harvest in Gulf state waters and will remain closed in both Gulf state and federal waters through July 31, reopening for the fall August 1 through October 31 season.

Gray triggerfish will close to recreational harvest May 11 in Gulf state and federal waters and will remain closed until the federal season reopens.

For more on these changes, visit [www.myfwc.com/commission](http://www.myfwc.com/commission) and click on "Commission Meetings," followed by the May 1-2, Tallahassee "Agenda" link.\*

## Redevelopment Agency Hires Manager

Frank Amati has joined the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) as community redevelopment manager. He will prepare, plan, develop reports, complete projects and programs related to Fort Myers' redevelopment areas.

Amati had been employed by the City of Fort Myers Community Development Department (CDD) as a real estate specialist since 2013 and was promoted to the CRA, as both are departments of the city.

As part of his duties with the city, Amati managed all the city's real estate assets, negotiated acquisitions and dispositions of properties. He carried out city goals and objectives for adopted development plans that included strategic purchases to further economic growth. He also worked on major roadway projects as well as planning projects for building included on the historic registry.

Amati holds a bachelor of arts degree in business administration and management from California University of Pennsylvania. He holds certifications as an accredited commercial manager (ACoM) with the Institute of Real Estate Management and as a real estate sales



Frank Amati photo provided

agent through the State of Florida.

Memberships include the National Association of Realtors, Royal Palm Coast Realtor Association, Community of Realtor Excellence (CORE) and the International Right of Way Association.

Amati is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and has resided in Fort Myers for over 10 years with his wife Kelly and their two children, Enzo and Nora.\*

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Frankly Speaking



by Howard Prager  
Three topics this week that are top of mind and the common theme among them: Character.

1) NFL Draft – There are many ways to look at the recent draft, which allows for

fans of all teams to get excited about the future. Locally, Tampa Bay seems to have strengthened their defense greatly which was porous last year, and their picks ranked almost in the Top 10 (11th) of draft selections according to *The Athletic*. Did it make sense for Kyler Murray to be No. 1 and how will that bode for the Arizona Cardinals next year? Dane Brugler’s NFL Draft Class Power Rankings ranks Arizona the 3rd best draft and the Redskins 1st with their selection of Dwayne Haskins, who believes he was the best QB out there. The Redskins tried that a few years ago with Heisman winner Robert Griffin

III who had a tremendous rookie season and then fizzled out. We’ll see if this year’s Heisman winner Murray or Haskins can live up to predictions and bring success to either Arizona or Washington, who both have been out of the playoffs the last three years, or if the now defensively strong Bucs can make their first playoff visit since 2005.

One other thought on the draft, which could probably take several columns. There were two eagle scouts chosen. Teams often espouse their character, and if you want real character, drafting a player who proved himself off the field in scouting is a great way to go. David Montgomery, the first pick of the Chicago Bears, is a running back from Iowa State who helped the Cyclones win the 2017 Liberty Bowl. Analysts spoke highly of Montgomery’s vision and leadership on the field. He hails from Cincinnati, and left Iowa State after his junior year. The Indianapolis Colts chose Stanford linebacker Bobby Okereke, an eagle scout from Santa Ana, California. He did two internships in college, one with former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, helping with a program for underprivileged children. In 2014, he

received the Watkins Award as the nation’s top African-American high school player for academic and athletic excellence. Let’s wish all of these players great success on and off the field.

2) *Time Magazine* 100 Most Influential People – Three athletes were singled out among the 100 most influential people according to *Time Magazine* this year: basketball icon LeBron James, soccer (footballer) star Mohamed Salah and Tiger Woods. In the brief write-ups for each of them (written by non-athletes Warren Buffet for LeBron, John Oliver for Mohamed and Justin Timberlake for Tiger), they talk about the type of human beings they are and the character and leadership they display. LeBron and Mohamed are touted as role models for their communities; Tiger is touted as a great dad. To this writer, it is rewarding to see top players in sports who are also outstanding people. Many athletes have foundations and do charitable work and are good role models, such as Chicago Cubs first baseman Anthony Rizzo, whose family foundation supports cancer research after he personally overcame Hodgkin’s lymphoma. Rizzo is a proud alum and active supporter of the students

at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School. Character does count!  
3) Kentucky Derby – Speaking of character, what a mess we had with the Kentucky Derby this year, and I’m not just talking about the muddy course conditions. I was sorry to see Maximum Security disqualified. The two parts to the rule of the Jockey Club at Churchill Downs are: 1) Did he definitely interfere? The horse did impede other horses (but not Country House); and 2) Did it affect the outcome of the race? In this case, because it affected War of Wills the most who came in seventh and was not in the running, it did not affect the outcome. According to a close horseracing friend, the Kentucky Derby is always a tough race with 20 horses and tight turns. Some fans are going to be happy with the large payout from Country House, but I don’t believe he deserved to win in this fashion. We’ll see if the horseracing world makes any changes.  
*Howard Prager is the son-in-law of longtime columnist Ed Frank. Prager is a sports enthusiast from the Chicago area who also writes and blogs about leadership. Email comments or questions to [press@islandsunnews.com](mailto:press@islandsunnews.com).*✴

United Way Benefits From Fishing Tourney

The 23rd annual LCEC United Way Fishing Tournament reeled in more than \$53,000 for the United Way.  
The catch-and-release tournament at D&D Bait and Tackle on Matlacha featured 85 boats and 251 anglers. An impressive 32 grand slams were measured. In total, 57 snook, 50 redfish, 49 trout and 53 snapper were measured on the official tournament weigh-in boards. Along with a great day of friendly fishing, the tournament included a raffle drawing with over 250 prizes given away in addition to 46 silent auction items.  
LCEC employee volunteers cooked a delicious feast for both the captains’ meeting and the tournament, and were

on hand to do everything from selling raffle tickets to serving food to selling apparel.  
Special thanks go out to sponsors, participants, volunteers and planning committee members for making this year’s tournament a huge success. Visit the LCEC United Way Fishing Tournament Facebook page or contact [fish@lcec.net](mailto:fish@lcec.net) for photos and information on next year’s tournament.✴

Florida Sox Qualify For World Series In Destin

Florida Sox 11U Travel Baseball Team will be in attendance this year at the prestige USSSA AA World Series Tournament in Destin, Florida. The USSSA AA World Series allows players to showcase their ability on the baseball field against teams from

around the country. But, before the players hit the diamond – they need support from their community.  
The Florida Sox will be hosting Sunday fundraisers at local hot spots including:  
Jason’s Deli on Reflection Parkway on May 19 from 4 to 8 p.m.  
3 Peppers Burrito on Daniels Parkway on May 26, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Artichoke & Company Spaghetti Dinner on June 2, from 4 to 7 p.m.  
The Florida Sox would appreciate any donation from the community in efforts to send every team member to a once in a lifetime tournament. This young team has proven to be champions on and off the field. Accumulating countless wins in area tournaments two to three times a month, these boys keep up their grades in school and demonstrate respect and good sportsmanship on and off the field.✴

Spring Run Golf Club is located at 9501 Spring Run Boulevard in Bonita Springs. For more information, visit [www.fortmyersbeach.org/events/swing-into-summer](http://www.fortmyersbeach.org/events/swing-into-summer). For questions, call 454-7500 or email [events@fmbchamber.com](mailto:events@fmbchamber.com).✴  
From page 1  
New Phoenix  
with Mark, she finally realizes Mark is good for Brian. This is one of Haley’s finest performances.  
The third scenario focuses on Felicity (Mary Ellen Dowling), a bitter, senile old woman in great pain who is desperately trying to hang on. Her daughter Agnes (Sharon Isern) suffers greatly caring for her mother because most of the time Felicity asks about her other daughter who died years before. Agnes resurrects her dead sister to show love for her mother, and it is touching to watch.

The three situations are interwoven in different ways in a brightly lit set. James Robinson’s direction places the emphasis on life in all of its richness. All the actors do an exceptional job jointly sharing time and space. Their stories show us how they are united by death. It’s something everyone will deal with at some time. Brian describes his feelings best when he says, “I am dying, but I’m still alive.” During the show all three are interviewed by an unseen interviewer (Jennifer Grant) who pulls confessions out of them that appear later in the scenes.  
*The Shadow Box* is not depressing because it focuses on life rather than death, and there is even some humor in the telling. I highly recommend seeing this show. My friend said it was the best she’s seen in a long time, and I second that. *The Shadow Box* plays through May 19 at New Phoenix Theatre, located at 13211 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For tickets, call 284-5214.✴

Beach Chamber Golf Tournament

The Fort Myers Beach Chamber’s Swing into Summer Golf Tournament will be held at Spring Run Golf Club on Friday, June 7. Registration is set to begin at 7:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 8 a.m.  
This event is open to the public. Cost for a team of four is \$350 or \$100 per individual. Cost includes a round of 18 holes and a barbecue-style lunch, as well as opportunities to win raffle prizes, giveaways and \$10 mulligans purchases.  
Trophies will be awarded for first-second- and third-place winners, and for the individual who is closest to the pin and longest drive.  
There are an array of sponsorship opportunities available for this event.

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 2017, Washington’s Max Scherzer became the 10th pitcher with at least three Cy Young Awards. Name two of the four pitchers to win more than three.
2. The Seattle Mariners played their first major-league season in 1977. In what year did they record their first winning season?
3. Name the last time before 2017-18 that the Army football team had back-to-back undefeated seasons at home.
4. Tim Duncan retired in 2016 as one of three players to be named college basketball player of the year, NBA Rookie of the Year and MVP of both the All-Star Game and the NBA Finals. Name one of the other two.
5. Which of these franchises was the first to win a Stanley Cup -- the Boston Bruins or the Chicago Blackhawks?
6. Name the last country before Russia in 2018 to host the men’s World Cup soccer event and score at least eight goals in the first two games.
7. Who was the first woman to earn the chess title of grandmaster in tournament play?

ANSWERS

1. Roger Clemens (seven Cy Youngs), Randy Johnson (five), Steve Carlton (four) and Greg Maddux (four). 2. It was 1991, when the Mariners were 83-79. 3. It was 1984-85. 4. Larry Bird and Michael Jordan. 5. The Bruins won a Stanley Cup in 1929, five seasons before the Blackhawks did it. 6. Italy, in 1934. 7. Susan Polgar, in 1991.



## Marketing Firm Earns Honors At Image Awards

Priority Marketing was honored by the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) Southwest Florida Chapter for outstanding public relations programs, winning a total of six awards at the local chapter's 2019 Image Awards.

The marketing firm earned three awards for its execution of a compelling three-minute Fund-A-Need video for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida's 2018 Magic Under the Mangroves event. The video not only earned a coveted Image Award, the highest honor in its category, and Judges' Award, presented to entries that achieve maximum results with minimum money, but the compelling plea for support of the Conservancy's internship program also earned the prestigious Grand Image Award, which is presented to the best Image Award entry in its division.

Priority Marketing teamed with the Conservancy to create a powerful script, direct the filming and oversee the editing process of the video, also initiating a grand reveal in partnership with Harmon's Audio Visual, in which a curtain drop onstage revealed Conservancy interns who then circulated the audience to shake hands with donors before the video began playing. The video inspired a record-breaking \$1.5 million in donations during the Fund-A-Need portion of the Magic Under the Mangroves event.

The agency also earned an Award



Priority Marketing team members show the rewards from the Local Image Awards. Pictured from left are Melissa Coffa, Olivia Orth, Teri Hansen and Holly Boldrin. photo provided

of Distinction and Judges' Award for its execution of a public information campaign for The School District of Lee County, designed to educate voters about a half-cent sales tax increase to fund school construction, renovation, maintenance and other capital costs. The firm helped the school district develop and execute a multi-platform public information campaign, Change for Change: It's About Kids, Not Numbers, which educated voters, employees and parents through an education toolkit, a budget handout, PowerPoint template, website, social media pages, FAQ flyers, an electronic newsletter,

videos, factsheets, media relations and community outreach efforts. The referendum was approved in November by 52 percent of Lee County voters.

Priority Marketing also earned an Award of Distinction for a video brochure and printed insert developed for Guadalupe Center. To help engage donors in a fundraising campaign, the agency crafted an eight-page case for support that used creative copywriting and eye-catching graphics to demonstrate the need for private support. The firm conceptualized, scripted and coordinated poignant and touching videos that played on a screen

module inside an innovative trifold video brochure provided to potential donors. Within one month, Guadalupe Center had received major gifts and pledges from 29 donors, exceeding its fundraising objective by 140 percent.

The Florida Public Relations Association's Southwest Florida Chapter presents the annual Image Awards to recognize measurable excellence among Southwest Florida public relations professionals. Priority Marketing has won more than 100 Image Awards since the inception of the program in 1986.✱

## Scallop Seasons Scheduled

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recently set bay scallop regional seasons for 2020 and beyond.

FWC approved allowing direct transit of legally harvested bay scallops through closed areas starting in the 2019 season.

Approved seasons for 2020 and beyond (including bag limit changes during June in parts of Taylor and all of Dixie counties) are as follows:

Gulf through northwestern Taylor County and Levy, Citrus and Hernando counties will be open July 1 through September 24 each year.

The 2020 season for Gulf County will likely be modified by executive order in early 2020 after the FWC has the opportunity to evaluate ongoing scallop restoration efforts and the recovery of St. Joseph Bay scallop populations.

The remaining portion of Taylor County and all of Dixie County will open season June 15 through Labor Day each year.

Bag/vessel limit from June 15 to 30 lowered to one gallon whole/one cup shucked per person or five gallons whole/two pints shucked per vessel, whichever is less.

Beginning July 1, the regular bag/vessel limit applies.

The 2020 season for Pasco County opens the third Friday in July and continues for 10 days each year.

This season structure allows FWC to balance stakeholder desires and community

needs with the sustainability of local scallop populations

For more information, visit [www.myfwc.com/marine](http://www.myfwc.com/marine) by clicking on "Recreational Regulations" and "Bay Scallops," under the "Crabs, Shrimp and Shellfish" tab.✱

## Spanish Mackerel Fishery Changes

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recently approved changes to the management of commercially harvested Spanish mackerel in Atlantic waters. These changes will reduce confusion and concern about the fishery by aligning some regulations in state and federal waters while continuing to provide opportunities in state waters when federal waters are closed.

Approved changes include re-establishing in-season vessel limit reductions for commercial Spanish mackerel harvest so that if the federal vessel limit is reduced to 1,500 pounds or 500 pounds, the state vessel limit will automatically be reduced, and to clean up of regulatory language.

The FWC also chose to continue maintaining different weekday and weekend vessel limits starting December 1, and to keep state waters open with a 500-pound vessel limit if federal waters close.

For effective dates, visit [www.myfwc.com/marine](http://www.myfwc.com/marine) and click on "Commercial Regulations" and "Mackerel, Spanish."✱

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Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics  
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Fort Myers, FL 33908





From left, Renée Gaddis, Pason Gaddis, Sandy Stillwell-Youngquist, Tim Youngquist, Julie Griffin, Cheryl Copham and Dave Copham photos provided

Laureate Society Kickoff Event

Junior Achievement (JA) of Southwest Florida board members, sponsors and Business Hall of Fame Laureates came together for

the kickoff of the Junior Achievement Laureate Society, which was created to continue to celebrate the accomplishments and community contributions of JA Laureates from Lee and Collier counties while harnessing the group's ideas and experiences to empower the next generation of



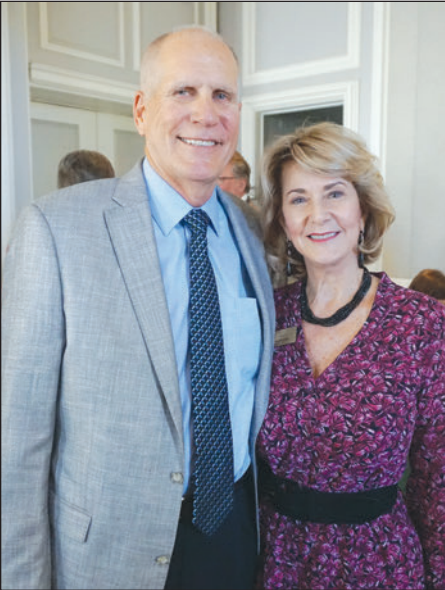
From left, Charles Idelson, Gary Trippe, Tom Uhler and Scott Fischer

leaders. The Business Hall of Fame Laureate awards recognize outstanding entrepreneurs who have enthusiastic vision, act with integrity and serve as role models for youth to succeed in a global economy. The event's guest

speaker was Jack E. Kosakowski, president and CEO of Junior Achievement USA, which is celebrating 100 years serving students around the world. Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida is celebrating 25 years of inspiring local students.✱



Michael Wynn and Curt Todd



Doug Meurer and Gail Markham



From left, Monica DiBella, Gay Rebel Thompson, Diana Willis and Mark Loren



From left, Adria Starkey, Jerry Starkey and Wilma Boyd



From left, Tony Lapi with Julie and Gary Griffin



# Walk For Hope Draws Supporters



Emma and Jodi Hoines photos provided



Gislaine C. Dhaiti and Helen Belisle Regional Park and raised nearly \$10,000 for Hope Parkinson Program. Several Walk 4 Hope trailblazers undertook additional fundraising efforts



From left, Michelle Martin, Cathy McPeak, Jack Field, Barbara Field and Brittany Pabon for Hope's annual event that was sponsored by Millennium Physician Group and Personal Training by Jeri Ann and supported by Florida Neurology Group and Neurology Specialists. Throughout the year, the program improves the quality of life for individuals with Parkinson's and their care partners with educational events, exercise and movement classes, creative activities and social opportunities.✪



From left, Tom and Debbie Stracha with Jaimee, Craig, Eiselee and Jude Thompson



Sandy and Frank Kerr



Walk 4 Hope trailblazers at the starting line



dearRPharmacist

# Albuterol Helps Kids Undergoing Tonsillectomies



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

**Dear Readers:** If your child has to undergo a tonsillectomy, there is important research newly published in *JAMA Pediatrics* that I'd like to share with you today.

Years ago, tonsillectomies were performed due to recurrent infections, but today, the reason for this surgery is more likely to treat obstructive sleep problems that cause coughing, shortness of breath, wheezing and bronchospasm.

In adults, breathing difficulties occur during sleep and are quite uncomfortable and scary. The symptoms of sleep-disordered breathing (SDB) range from loud snoring, to complete blockage of the breathing airways (during sleep) termed sleep apnea, or obstructive sleep apnea.

In children, tonsillectomies are common surgical procedures and not considered high risk. Unfortunately, half of the children experience a problem during or right after the procedure that has to do with their lungs, ability to breathe with comfort and other symptoms.

For example, tonsillectomies can frequently cause problems ranging from coughing, bronchospasm, laryngospasm and airway obstruction to oxygen reductions in the blood, coughing and stridor, the term for wheezing which occurs due to a blocked windpipe or larynx. These symptoms are extremely frightening for both the child and the doctor, not to mention the parents if they are present during an episode.

My hope today is that my information allows your child to get

through the procedures without these terrifying problems.

Researchers conducted a study to see if they could help kids and get to the bottom of all of this. So they gave half the study participants two puffs of a popular asthma drug called albuterol sulfate (aka salbutamol sulfate). The other half received a placebo, meaning a non-medicinal inhalation. The experts wanted to see if the asthma drug could serve as a pre-treatment drug to lower the risk of children experiencing peri-operative breathing difficulties during their tonsillectomy.

Sure enough, it helped, with just two actuations of albuterol administered via inhalation and taken shortly before anesthesia (and before the surgical procedure) could help reduce the risk of these adverse events that surround tonsillectomies. The placebo group experienced a lot of breathing problems, and almost half of those kids had an issue. In the albuterol-treated group, only 28 percent of kids had an issue. This is quite significant. The researchers concluded, "Premedication with albuterol should be considered for children undergoing tonsillectomy."

If you are the parent of a child that requires a tonsillectomy, be sure to tell your doctor about this research, don't assume they know it because it just got published literally days ago.

It also begs the question if albuterol (which is cheap and easy to get by prescription) could be helpful for other people with breathing difficulties, such as apnea. The answer is no. There isn't any clinical evidence to support the use of this asthma drug for apnea, or loud snoring, and in fact, albuterol is stimulating, and it may interfere with restful sleep. Albuterol is a quick-relief inhaler designed primarily for asthma as a rescue aid. It's not an apnea drug. If you have apnea, use a CPAP device.

*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](http://www.SuzyCohen.com).*✱

# Recruitment Open Houses At Hope Healthcare

Hope Healthcare is hosting a series of Recruitment Open House events this month for full- and part-time positions in Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Hendry and Glades counties.

Open houses are scheduled Saturday, May 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Tuesday, May 21 from 2 to 7 p.m. at Hope's HealthPark location at 9470 HealthPark Circle in Fort Myers.

Applicants are asked to visit [www.hopehcs.org/careers](http://www.hopehcs.org/careers) to complete an online application, then call 322-5320 to reserve an interview appointment.

Qualified candidates will receive a job offer immediately. This opportunity is available to all open career listings

at Hope. No resume is required if the online application is submitted. Walk-ins may be scheduled for interviews on a future date.

In addition to competitive salaries, Hope provides a comprehensive benefits package including educational assistance, generous paid time off and a choice of three medical plans.

Hope Healthcare is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Should you need assistance or an accommodation in using the online application system, call the Human Resources Department at 322-5320.

Hope Healthcare, which includes Hope Hospice and Hope Kids Care programs, is a not-for-profit health care organization dedicated to providing care and comfort to every individual and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey.

For more information, call 482-4673 or visit [www.hopehcs.org](http://www.hopehcs.org).✱

Doctor and Dietician

# Cinnamon



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

Cinnamon is a versatile and well-known spice used in a variety of foods from sweet desserts, cinnamon rolls and fruit smoothies to delicious savory dishes. We use it to prepare meals like butternut squash soup, chicken with dates and olives, or roasted pork tenderloin with apples. Cinnamon is also touted as having healing properties. The bark of the cinnamon tree has been used medicinally around the world in the form of supplements, teas and essential oils.

There have been numerous studies regarding the benefits of cinnamon for health issues, with many interesting possibilities. Some studies in both humans and animals have shown cinnamon in helping to lower blood sugar and improve insulin resistance,

key factors in health conditions like metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes. Research has also found that cinnamon has a strong antioxidant effect and helps fight bacteria and fungus. Some studies have even shown promising benefits of cinnamon in the prevention of cancer and cutting the risk of heart disease. Although there is evidence that cinnamon is a fighter of systemic inflammation, and it has demonstrated possibilities of reducing various age-related diseases, there are many other factors that need to be considered for properly identifying a person's risk of developing, as well as treating, such diseases.

The common cinnamon found in most grocery store aisles is cassia cinnamon which should not be used regularly in very high doses. If you want the health benefits of cinnamon, Ceylon "true" cinnamon is the way to go. Look for it in spice shops and health food stores. Adding true cinnamon to your diet can be a delicious way to boost numerous health factors. If you are thinking about adding it in larger doses as a supplement, discuss the ideal sources and amounts, as well as potential benefits and interactions, with your doctor.

*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](mailto:info@caringmedical.com).*✱

Beautifulife:

# Celebrate Moms



by Kay Casperson

This week we are celebrating moms and letting all mothers know how important they are and how much they are loved. This is an easy thing for me to write about as I know firsthand

how much a mother does and how much she gives of herself to her children for their wellbeing.

My Mom is looking down from Heaven and celebrating with me the good times and the challenging times of parenting. I now understand and appreciate more of the things she did and find myself looking back at my childhood while raising my own children.

A mother wears many hats daily, from being the cook, house organizer, laundry attendant, interior decorator, recreation director, teacher, nurse, coach, cheerleader, chauffeur, negotiator, referee, psychologist, spiritual leader, prayer warrior and anything else it takes! These many things are what a mother does, without anyone teaching her how to do it as there is not a class called Motherhood. She does all this without a blink of an

eye, and her annual salary for this is... drum roll please... lots of love, hugs and kisses! Money could not buy the feeling a mother gets when her kids are happy, healthy and thriving, and her household is peaceful and filled with love.

Another thing I have learned as a mom is that you would sacrifice anything to put your children first. Whether that means your career, your dreams, your hobbies and even sometimes your own sense of wellbeing. I know how easy it is to put your kids first and forget about how important it is for you to take care of yourself and when that happens, life can tend to be off balance. To be the best mom ever, you have to learn how to balance all the things that motherhood brings while taking the much needed time to care for yourself.

The best thing we can do for moms everywhere is to let them know that we appreciate all the things they do as a mom and to give them an extra hug and some love this week as we dig deeper to understand the sacrifice that these lovely ladies have made for us and for others.

Here are a few ideas for you to celebrate moms:

Send your mom or a mom you know a cute e-card or a special note.

Give a mom some flowers or a little gift like a candle or some products to pamper her.

Cook a mom something special or invite her to a coffee, lunch or dinner.

Give the moms you know an extra



# PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

## Lee County Domestic Animal Services

### Evie And Zena

Hello, my name is Evie. I am a 3-year-old female Maine coon mix whose fur is as soft as silk. As you can see, I am very fond of my 'castle' and would prefer to be the queen of it and my home. I will let you carry me around like a baby, and I absolutely love attention from people – other four-legged creatures... not so much. But, with a beauty like me, who needs anyone else?

My adoption fee is \$25.

Hi, I'm Zena. I am a 4-year-old female pit bull who is a slim-built gal that has a zest for life. I love to play with her toys. In fact, I will almost always greet you with one in my mouth and be ready to go outside and play. The smile on my face shows what a playful spirit I have and how much fun any lucky family that adopts me will have when they take me



Evie ID# A775182

home. I am super-smart and will do the commands that the trainer and volunteers have taught me for you (if you have a treat of course). Stop by today so I can show off my skills for you.

My adoption fee is \$30, and you can get a feline friend at no addition charge.

For the month of May, fees will be only \$25 with an approved application and owners of the newly adopted pets will receive two free box-seat tickets to any 2019 Miracle home game. The adoption package includes spay or neuter, microchip, up-to-date vaccinations, county license and a 10-day health guarantee. This is a \$500 package. Volunteers and staff are waiting to introduce families to their new, furry friends.

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 Lee County Domestic Animal Services at [www.leegov.com/animalservices](http://www.leegov.com/animalservices) or call 533-7387.\*



Zena ID# A772782

## Haven on Earth Animal League

### Chester And Dallas



Chester

Hi, I'm Chester and I'm a sweet, quiet guy. I'm very good with other cats and only about 3 years old. I'm looking for a home to call my own. Come see me at Petco in Gulf Coast Town Center. I'm up-to-date on vaccines, neutered and have a microchip. My adoption fee

is \$100.

Hello, I'm Dallas. I'm only 3 months old and I'm looking for someone to love me forever. I'm a cute little black-and-white boy and I look like I'm wearing a hat. I'm neutered and

up-to-date on vaccinations. I'm currently staying at Petsmart on Six Mile Cypress. Come see me and take me home. My adoption fee is \$125.

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](mailto:haveneearthanimalleague@yahoo.com).\*



Dallas

## PAWS Of Sanibel

### Puff

PAWS is assisting a Sanibel resident in trying to find a good home for this 5- to 6-year-old, beautiful, black, medium hair, spayed female kitty. She has a personality to match her looks. She is very sweet-tempered. Consider adopting Puff, since her people are moving in with family for a while and some members are allergic to cats and also have asthma. Call Pam at 472-4823 to inquire or meet this lovely young lady.\*



Puff



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 Harmonica Band	610-653-7940
Fort Myers Symphon 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](mailto:press@riverweekly.com)



PUZZLES

Answers on page 29

Super Crossword

10 CELEBRITIES  
TURNING 90

- ACROSS**

1 Back in time

4 Papas

8 Ordinarily

15 "All By Myself" singer [1]

19 Neighbor of Thailand

21 "Fire and Ice" singer Pat

22 Carpal or tarsal lead-in

23 Common wrapped sushi item

24 Anna who won Best Actress for "The Rose Tattoo"

25 Old Russian ruler

26 "Bedazzled" co-star [2]

28 "Little House on the Prairie" co-star [3]

30 Stately tree

31 Dying rebuke from Caesar

32 Year, in Portuguese

33 — Mae (loan offerer)

35 Olympic figure-skating gold medalist of 2002 [4]

40 Road goop
- 41 2002-09 "American Idol" judge [5]

44 "Inception" director Christopher

45 Peace Nobel

46 Rod on a car

48 Makes another proposal

50 Nine-sided shape

52 Periods of note

55 Driver's license fig., e.g.

56 Crater part

59 Toronto loc.

60 Conk

61 Like many survey questions

63 Party server

64 Folk rocker DiFranco

65 Restrained

68 Chuckle gleefully

70 Plops (down)

71 Laura of "ER"

72 Got too big for

74 Church parts

75 Head, in Metz

76 In some way

78 Bruce Springsteen hit of 1985
- 81 "Just — suspected"

82 151, to Cato

83 "Skyfall" star Daniel

85 Suffix with dull

86 Top-secret govt. org.

87 Tax form fig.

88 Tumults

90 "Auld Lang —"

91 Large game bass

93 Sports centers

95 Tests for coll. seniors

97 Boot out

98 "The Way — Flesh"

101 [7]

104 — loss

105 [6]

106 Roping tools

108 Without end, to poets

109 Shreds

111 I, in Berlin

112 [8]

115 [9]

121 Dell

123 Yellowish pink color

125 Wee babies

126 Early garden

127 Came into

128 Steer a ship

129 [10]

130 Ones sowing

131 Yale students

132 P followers
- DOWN**

1 See 119-Down

2 France, once

3 All: Prefix

4 "Explorer" of cartoons

5 Building brick

6 Arty dabblers

7 Levy on a food preserver

8 Mil. interceptor

9 Chart for mariners

10 Severe chest pain

11 Acrimony, to Brits

12 Provo's state

13 Pop singer Del Rey

14 Iroquois tribe members

15 CPR pro

16 Hawk again

17 Napoli's land

18 [1]

20 Luhrmann who directed 2013's "The Great Gatsby"

27 [2]

29 [3]

34 — Angeles

35 Misses, in Mexico

36 Isolation

37 Heroic dog of old TV
- 38 "Bingo!"

39 [4]

42 Oahu garland

43 [5]

47 Ones putting up buildings

49 Apropos of

51 Suffix with human

53 Pale silvery color

54 Sounding like an angry bull

56 Pastry with dried grapes

57 Cross each other

58 Annual international beauty pageant

62 Rich rock

66 Once called

67 "... — thousand times ..."

69 Lead-in to light or night

70 Tanning lotion abbr.

73 Golden State sch.

74 "Christina's World" painter [6]

76 Ye — shoppe

77 Grammy winner for "Criminal" [7]

79 Ability to interest lots of people

80 Food scrap

82 "Smooth" guitarist [8]

84 1990 Cyrano de Bergerac portrayer [9]

89 Maple fluid

92 Climbing vine

93 Jolson and Pacino

94 Stabbed

96 Stephen, French-style

98 "Gladiator" was his last film [10]

99 False front

100 Singer Simpson

102 Maiden in "The Raven"

103 Pencil top

107 Fills up

110 2009 horror film sequel

113 Maui goose

114 Poet Allen

116 Sac fly stats

117 Boxer, e.g.

118 Baghdad site

119 With 1-Down, play intermission

120 Functions

122 Stop

124 Mag VIPs

King Crossword

- ACROSS**

1 Gaucho's weapon

5 Big Apple abbr.

8 Silenced "Hey!"

12 "Once — a Mattress"

13 Debtor's letters

14 Duel tool

15 Delphinium

17 Rotate

18 Dismal

19 Snow White's pals

21 Put on the line

24 Everything

25 Pop flavor

28 Frogs' hang-out

30 Make up your mind

33 Kinsman, for short

34 Drops from the payroll

35 Letter after 31-Down

36 Moment

37 From the start

38 Read cursorily

39 Barbie's companion

41 Teensy bit

43 Go directly downhill

46 Pacific porch

50 Desirous look

51 Rash
- 54 Sandwich treat

55 Sphere

56 Reclined

57 Marries

58 Bill

59 Pronto, in the ER

8 Corolla component

9 Morgan of "Super Size Me"

10 Lowly laborer

11 Sawbucks

16 Half a Vail pair

20 Bankrolls

22 Rotate

23 "M\*A\*S\*H" locale

25 Letterman's network

26 Raw rock

27 Big name in U.S. aircraft

29 Mr. Gingrich

31 Letter before 35-Across

32 Allen or Conway

34 Enthusiasts

38 T-shirt sizes

40 Continental money

42 Timeworn

43 Decelerate

44 Wrap in a waxy cloth

45 Attempt

47 Tidy

48 One side of the Urals

49 "— It Romantic?"

52 Historic period

53 Recede

DOWN

- 1 Socket insert
- 2 October stone
- 3 Traditional tales
- 4 Turkey's capital
- 5 Pinch
- 6 Second person
- 7 Cottage

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		
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106					107			108				109			110					
111				112		113	114					115				116	117	118	119	120
121			122		123						124		125							
126					127								128							
129					130								131					132		

**MAGIC MAZE** ● **CANADIAN CITIES AND TOWNS**

WM J Q H E Y R A G L A C A B

Y V T U Q O L I E W I G W W D

B Y W E T M R P R A A I P A M

X K I B S O I E F D N H B T Y

W A U E T N O S V D Q I S T O

M K F C N T H I S U F D G O B

Z X I I N R N O T N O M D E W

U V W O L E R S J Q O C N L R

J H R F (S A S K A T O O N) D C

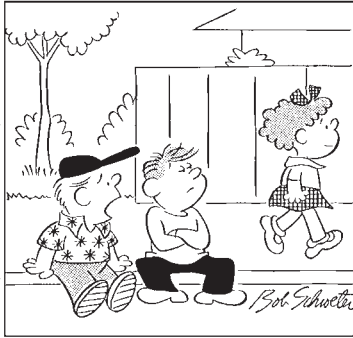
N O D N O L H A Y W S V T A S

T Q P N L K I H F E C B Z Y V

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

Calgary	Montreal	Regina	Victoria
Edmonton	Oshawa	Saskatoon	Windsor
Halifax	Ottawa	St. John's	Winnipeg
London	Quebec	Vancouver	





"All I know about \_\_\_\_\_  
is there has to be some."

answer on page 30

## 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!

Crush  
**PALMTRE** \_\_\_\_\_

Retract  
**INWERD** \_\_\_\_\_

Assist  
**VERSE** \_\_\_\_\_

Serfdom  
**BEANDOG** \_\_\_\_\_

**TODAY'S WORD**

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

## SUDOKU

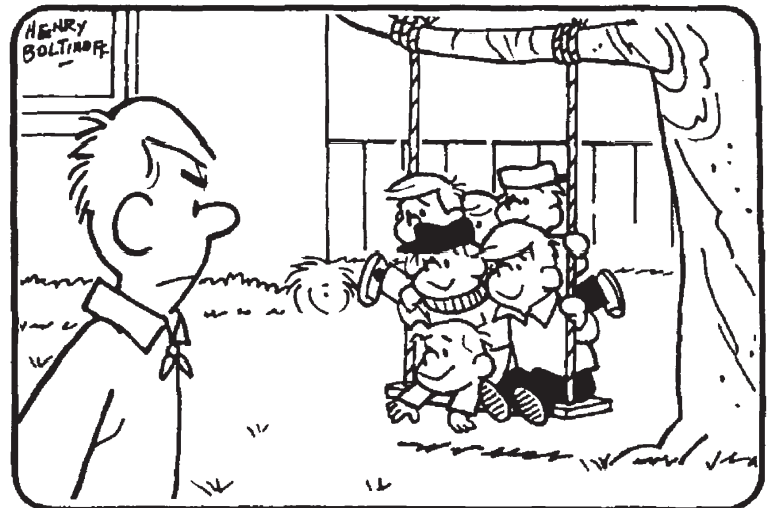
**To play Sudoku:**

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

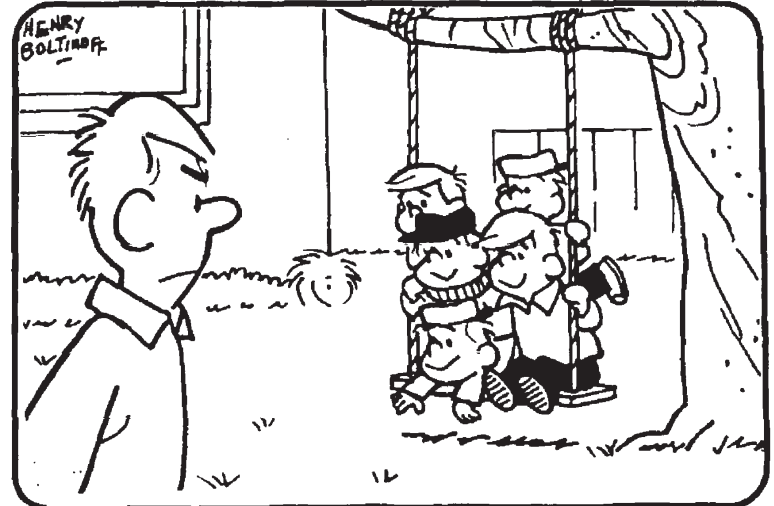
answer on page 29

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



**FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS**



Differences: 1. Man's collar is different. 2. Window is larger. 3. One boy is missing. 4. Leg on the left is missing. 5. Boy on the bottom has a hat. 6. Part of fence is missing.



### Watermelon Pizza

Watermelon

Vanilla flavored yogurt or other flavor, as desired

Assorted fruit, ex: blueberries, strawberries, peaches, oranges and mango

Honey

Coconut, shredded

Granola, optional

Fresh mint, optional

Wash all produce. Carefully slice watermelon into one inch rounds. For each watermelon round, top with 2-3 tablespoons of vanilla yogurt, spreading evenly over the red part like pizza sauce. Top each pizza with assorted berries or sliced fruit as desired. Sprinkle with shredded coconut, granola and fresh mint. Drizzle with Honey. Slice into pizza slices and enjoy.✱



Watermelon Pizza

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida



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May 3, 2019 **Place Classified**

Island Sun THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

PDF PDF PDF

**My Stars ★★★★★**  
FOR WEEK OF MAY 13, 2019

**Aries** (March 21 to April 19) This is a good week to look at healing bruised feelings and re-establishing weakened relationships. It's also a good week to start new projects and make new job-linked contacts.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) Music and art dominate the week, giving the sensual Bovine a lot to appreciate. On the practical side, deal firmly, but fairly, with those who might try to undermine your work efforts.

**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) Good feelings continue to flow from your recent efforts to reconnect with family and friends. But be ready to defuse a dispute before it can disrupt all that peace and harmony.

**Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) A practical view of a romanticized situation could help to clarify some of its more confusing aspects before you make a decision that could be tough to undo later on.

**Leo** (July 23 to August 22) Pay more attention to what a recent spate of workplace criticism might say about your performance and not what you think it implies about you personally. Some flexibility might be called for.

**Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) With new information, and new promises of support (not to mention growing self-confidence), this could be a good time to restart a project you couldn't quite handle before.

**Libra** (September 23 to October 22) Before you decide to close down a problem-loaded project and make a fresh start with someone else, try once more to reach a compromise with your balky partner. He or she might surprise you.

**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) While you continue earning points for your sharp negotiating skills, be alert for an attempt to undercut your efforts. You'll need to provide solid facts and figures to stay in the game.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) A minor health problem might cause you to ease up on your usually busy schedule. But you'll soon be back in the saddle and ready to pick up the reins and charge ahead.

**CLEAR YOUR GEAR**  
IT CATCHES MORE THAN FISH



1. None
2. Crater Lake, at 1,949 feet
3. Water, yeast, hops and grain
4. The Battle of the Somme
5. Marvin Gaye
6. Sholz Brewery
7. 1867
8. *In Old California*
9. A tribe or a trip
10. HyperText Transfer Protocol.



# Apply For Gator Hunt Permits

Since 1988, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and its predecessor, the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, have offered hunters the opportunity to take part in their annual statewide recreational alligator harvest, which always runs August 15 to November 1. Alligators are a conservation success story in Florida. The state's alligator population is estimated at 1.3 million alligators of every size and has been stable for many years.

"Before you apply for alligator hunt permits, be sure to coordinate with everyone you plan to hunt with, regarding where you want to hunt and which harvest weeks work best with everyone's schedule,"

said Steve Stiegler, FWC's alligator program hunt coordinator. "The application process is a random drawing, so the more choices you make, the better your chances of getting drawn. You also can increase your odds of being drawn by choosing more areas during the fourth harvest week. However, you shouldn't apply for any areas you feel are too far away or during weeks you're unable to hunt."

And if you're still undecided on where to hunt, check out harvest data from past seasons at [www.myfwc.com/alligator](http://www.myfwc.com/alligator) under "Statewide Alligator Harvest Program."

The application period for the phase I random drawing begins May 17 at 10 a.m. and runs through May 27. More than 6,000 alligator harvest permits will be available.

Hunters may submit their application for a permit that allows the harvest of two

alligators on a designated harvest unit or county. Applicants must be at least age 18 by August 15 and have a valid credit or debit card to apply.

Applications can be submitted at any county tax collector's office, license agent (most retail outlets that sell hunting and fishing supplies) and at [www.gooutdoorsflorida.com](http://www.gooutdoorsflorida.com). Applicants must provide their credit card information when they apply. If changes to hunt choices or credit card information are needed, applicants can make updates until the application period closes.

The alligator trapping license/harvest permit and two hide validation CITES tags cost \$272 for Florida residents, \$22 for those with a Florida Resident Persons with Disabilities Hunting and Fishing License, and \$1,022 for nonresidents. Cost for applicants who already have an alligator

trapping license is \$62.

Any permits remaining after the first phase will be offered during the phase II application period May 31 to June 10. Those who were awarded a permit in phase I may not apply during phase II. Remaining permits will be available in phase III to anyone who did not draw a permit in either of the first two phases, and they may be applied for June 14 to 24.

If any permits remain after phase III, there will be a fourth-phase issuance period beginning at 10 a.m. on June 27 until all permits are sold. Anyone may apply during phase IV, even if they were awarded a permit in one of the earlier phases. Hunters who get to purchase additional permits will be charged \$62, regardless of residency or disability.

Within three days of an application period closing, applicants can expect to

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5/3 ★ 5/10

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1. Trample; 2. Rewind;  
3. Serve; 4. Bondage  
*Today's Word*  
**WOMEN**

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see an authorization hold on their credit card, verifying there is a sufficient balance to cover the cost of the permit. However, this does not mean they were awarded a permit. Once the credit card authorization process is complete, the lottery drawing will be held. All successful applicants will be charged, while those who were unsuccessful will have the authorization hold lifted from their credit cards.

Successful applicants should expect to receive their alligator trapping license/harvest permit and two CITES alligator tags in the mail within six weeks of payment. Alligator trapping licenses are nontransferable. All sales are final, and no refunds will be made.

For more information on alligator hunting or the application process, see the "Guide to Alligator Hunting in Florida" by going to [www.myfwc.com/hunting](http://www.myfwc.com/hunting) and then "By Species."✪

From page 24

## Beautifulife

special hug this week.

Buy a gift certificate to get a special treat like a facial or massage.

However you are celebrating moms this week, make sure that you take some extra time to be thankful for all the amazing things they do to make the world a better place for all of us.

My affirmation for you is:

"I am taking some time this week to celebrate moms and to realize just how much of a gift they are to our lives and our future."

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](http://www.kaycasperson.com) or follow on social media @kaycasperson.✪

## Financial Aid Tip

Taking more classes each semester may help you cut the cost of college, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA). That's important if you'll need student loans to help pay for your education.

A full-time load for undergraduate students is usually 12 credit hours per semester. Associate's degrees usually

require 60 credit hours to finish, bachelor's degrees 120 hours. At 12 hours each semester, you'll need five semesters to finish an associate's degree and 10 semesters to finish a bachelor's degree.

But if you take 15 hours per semester, you'll finish an associate's degree in four semesters and a bachelor's degree in eight semesters. Most colleges won't charge you any more for 15 hours than they do for 12 hours. That might save you thousands of dollars in tuition and fees.

When you're planning your schedule, think about taking that extra class each semester. The sooner you earn your degree, the sooner you can start job hunting.

KHEAA provides information about financial aid and financial literacy at no cost to students and parents. KHEAA also helps colleges manage their student loan default rates and verify information submitted on

the FAFSA. For more information about those services, visit [www.kheaa.com](http://www.kheaa.com).✪

## Coral Disease Along Florida Reef

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recently hosted a panel of experts to discuss the multi-year stony coral tissue loss disease along the Florida Reef Tract.

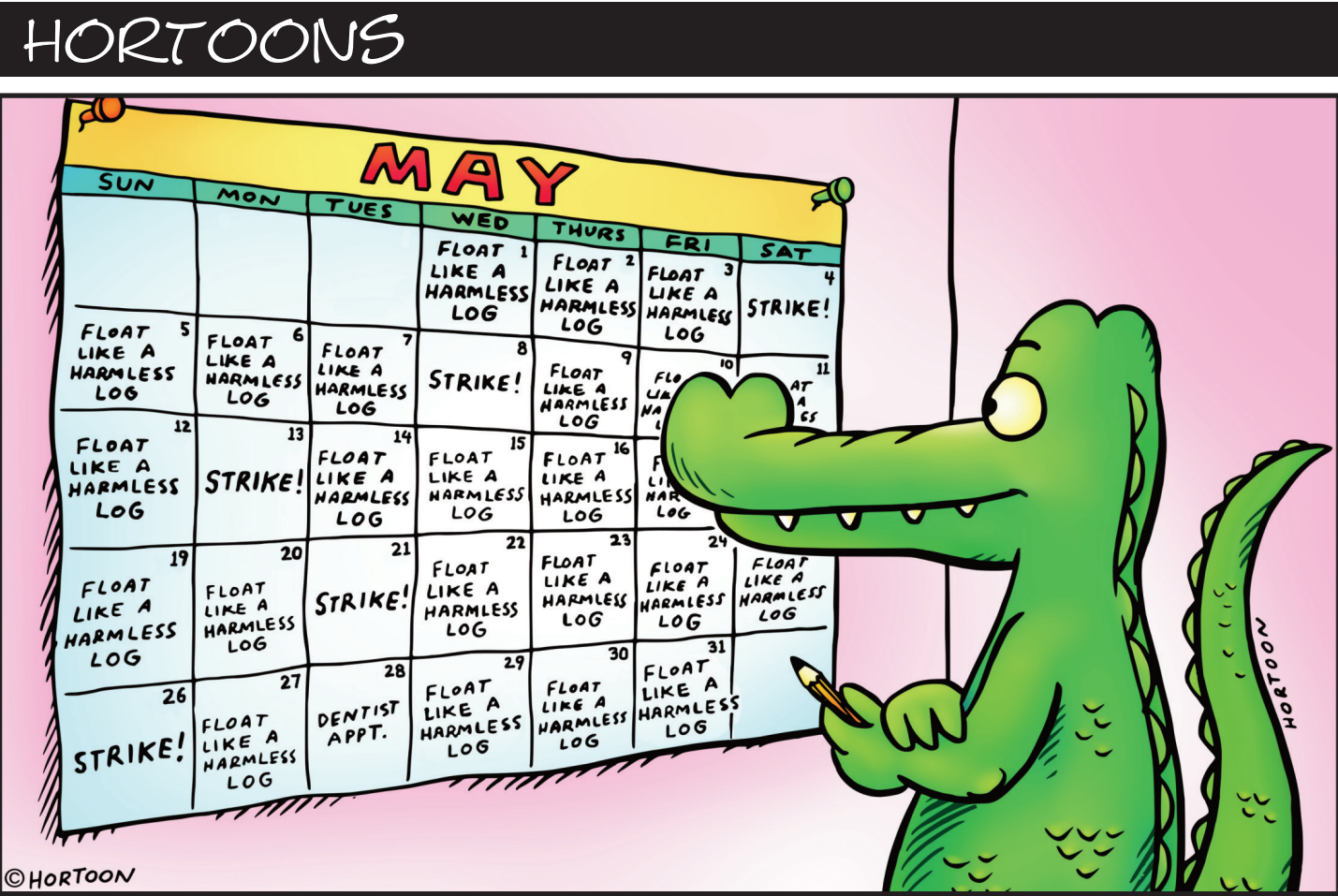
"We are truly humbled by the work being done here. It takes your breath away to see the pace at which the disease is moving down Florida's Reef Tract," said Robert Spottswood, FWC chairman. "But thanks to the partnership of those here today, we are just in the nick of time to combat this complex issue. All of us need to be thankful for these unprecedented, collaborative efforts."

Panel guests included representatives from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, The Florida Aquarium, Mote Marine Laboratory, Coral Restoration Foundation and Smithsonian Marine Station Fort Pierce.

This outbreak is unique due to its large geographic range, duration and the number of species affected, but the response is unprecedented as well.

Florida's Reef Tract is one of the largest reef systems in the world with 45 coral species. Florida's corals are among the most biodiverse ecosystems on earth and provide habitats for fish and invertebrates. They also provide coastal protection from storms and have pharmaceutical benefits. Their economic impact in Florida is more than \$7 billion annually.

For the presentation and summary memo, visit [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com).✪



## Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Bonita Beach	Bonita Springs	2002	4,303	\$3,999,000	\$3,600,000	11
Punta Robalo Unrecorded Subdivision	Captiva	1999	3,630	\$3,495,000	\$2,865,000	7
Gulf Heights	Fort Myers Beach	2006	2,580	\$1,995,000	\$1,900,000	244
Carolands	Bonita Springs	2014	4,500	\$1,899,000	\$1,850,000	1
Bay Creek	Bonita Springs	2005	4,978	\$1,699,999	\$1,645,000	118
Creekside	Bonita Springs	2002	4,422	\$1,649,900	\$1,530,000	203
St. Charles Harbour	Fort Myers	1998	8,003	\$1,595,000	\$1,550,000	45
Oak Knoll At Bonita Bay	Bonita Springs	1993	3,491	\$1,425,000	\$1,150,000	275
Mcphie Park	Fort Myers Beach	1977	1,592	\$1,395,000	\$1,327,500	21
Orchid Ridge	Estero	2006	3,638	\$1,275,000	\$1,220,000	124





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