



An Invisible BFF At Theatre Conspiracy

by Di Saggau

What's wrong with having an invisible six-foot white rabbit as your best friend? Absolutely nothing if you are Elwood P. Dowd, but terribly annoying if you are his sister Veta Louise. These are three of the main characters in *Harvey*, now showing at Theatre Conspiracy. Of course, we don't actually see Harvey, but we sometimes feel he's there and he is listed in the playbill.

Brendan Powers as the affable Elwood excels in his role. With his language, timing and delightful grin, we are won over with his character. When he introduces everyone to Harvey, it's easy to imagine him standing there. Doors open and close, and the few characters who actually see Harvey do an incredible job of pretending to see the giant bunny.

Then we have the wonderful Lauren Drexler as Veta, Elwood's social climbing sister who is trying to maneuver her daughter Myrtle Mae (Stela Ruiz) on a bit of social-climbing to find a suitable husband. Veta is embarrassed by Elwood's imaginary friend. So much so that she



Brendan Powers and Stephanie Davis in a scene from *Harvey*

photo provided

decides to have Elwood committed to a sanitarium. Here we meet Dr. Chumley (Scott Thomson), Dr. Sanderson (Rob Green), Nurse Kelly (Dena Galyean) and an orderly named Wilson (Jordan Wilson). Most of the action takes place within the mental facility.

There are some marvelous interactions between all the characters. At one point, Veta is so distraught, the psychiatrist thinks she's the one in need of being institutionalized. So, in goes Veta and out goes Elwood. Once the error is corrected, the hunt is on for Elwood.

The play by Mary Chase is an exceptionally complex piece of writing with serious themes told in a humorous manner. Some feel it's one of the most underestimated plays of the 20th century. It's a wise meditation about society's need to subdue individuals who don't conform to the majority and our inability to listen to our fellow human beings. There are lessons to be learned. Elwood may be different, but he is full of goodness and you quickly learn why he says, "I always have a fine time with whoever I'm with."

Pat Clopton as Mrs. Chauvenet and Stephanie Davis as Mrs. Chumley are a treat to watch at the start of the play. Stephen Hooper as Judge Omar Gaffney also adds to the production. Patrick Day as the taxi driver handles his brief role well. The play is told in three acts, which was the norm when it was written in 1944. It runs about two and a half hours and there's never a dull moment. Most will remember the 1950 film that starred James Stewart as Elwood. In my opinion, Powers plays the role every bit as beautifully as Stewart did.

Harvey is directed by Bill Taylor and it plays through August 25 at Theatre Conspiracy at the Alliance for the Arts, located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For tickets, visit www.artinlee.org/theatre or call the box office at 939-2787.✧



Monster by Reynier Ferrer images provided

Cuban American Artists Featured In New Exhibit

Motus en Tempus is the collective exhibition that will open in the main gallery at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Friday, September 6 from 6 to 10 p.m. In the Capital Gallery, the Through Their Eyes exhibition will feature 36 local artists capturing one another in portraits, ranging in a wide variety of styles.

Both exhibits will be on display through



The Northern Nights by Julio Figueroa Beltran

Thursday, September 26.

Motus en Tempus features the work of four Cuban Americans – Dayron Gonzalez, Julio Figueroa Beltran, Reynier Ferrer and Reynier Llanes – united by their culture and heritage, and the realities of immigration and assimilation into a new culture. These artists approach painting as their personal language. Their poetics have a deep relationship with the common personal stories of the past in Cuba, and the political and cultural connotations of all who have left their homeland. These artists show paintings of strong expressive character that denote beauty from an unorthodox perspective, inviting viewers



Grand Finale by Reynier Llanes

to meditate and reflect.

The creative legacy featured in Motus en Tempus is a statement of unification, evolution and fearless expression. The need to express comes from an emotional response to their realities. These are often portrayed in their works through human figures, animals, abstractions and distortions. Subjects include universal themes such as fantasy, spirituality, history, philosophy, humor, violence, social customs and nature. The strong use of metaphor lies in the core of



Travelers by Dayron Gonzalez

this exhibition as the most eminently unifying theme. Viewers can experience each artist's personal reflection depicted through their subjects and choice of medium. Their works showcase a variety of mediums including oil, watercolor, pastels, charcoal, coffee and bleach.

Artists in Through Their Eyes sought to capture the spirit of an individual, so that they may be seen through a creative lens as something transcendent. Portraiture has become an inclusive genre for a wide variety of media, from traditional painting

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Partying At The Civic Center



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

To relative newcomers and tourists, the Hall of Fifty States might look like just a neglected structure waiting for the wrecking ball. But historic photos like this illustrate why for years the hall's fate has been a priority for historic preservationists and ordinary locals. The hall, formerly known as the Civic Center, was an important venue in Fort Myers community life for decades. It was originally a second-floor auditorium on the 1927 Moorish-style Pleasure Pier that extended over the Caloosahatchee near Heitman Street.

By 1943, the pier had deteriorated and had to be demolished. The auditorium was moved to its current location and another one-story building was attached. The center opened in July of that year. During the war, it was a USO, among other things, and was the scene of almost ceaseless activity. After the war, the city's social life went into overdrive, as relief and exuberance swept the nation. Service men and women were home and ready to go on with normal life, and that included having fun. On January 1, 1946, it was announced that ownership of the Civic Center on Edwards Drive had transferred from federal to city hands. An impressive calendar of social and civic events were immediately planned, including dances, games, fashion shows, recreational sports and events like the one pictured in the circa-1948 photo. The exact occasion is not known. However, the women's long dresses and above-the-elbow gloves indicates that it was a rather special one. All the uniformed men in the photo served in World War II (WWII). Standing are Gus and Agnes Studstill; seated are, from left, Ruth and Bart Foley, Austin Evans, Harry Jennings and Bill Gill. After the war, the men shared other interests in addition to their military service,







Attendees of a circa-1948 dance at the Civic Center included (standing) Gus and Agnes Studstill and (seated, from left) Ruth and Bart Foley, Austin Evans, Harry Jennings and Bill Gill
photo courtesy American Legion Post 38



The center was renamed the Hall of Fifty States decades ago. It was originally part of the 1927 Pleasure Pier and now is the only remaining part of the Civic Center.
photo by Gerri Reaves

including performing. Foley, Evans and Jennings – Army-Air Force veterans – became very involved with community theater. Jennings, who was a bombardier during the war, served as director of the Fort Myers Little Theater from 1948 to 1953, some of that time as a co-director with his wife Anne. The Jennings both had training in theater and were well-regarded in that capacity. The couple moved from Fort Myers for a time, but upon his return, Harry was brought in as director once again. Studstill, a Navy veteran who had served in the South Pacific, was very active in local baseball postwar. Bill Gill and his orchestra played for numerous dances around town. The hall still stands across from the Fort Myers Yacht Basin on Edwards Drive. There's no doubt that since it was the venue for events like the one shown in the historic photo, its fortunes have sunk. A plaque on the façade commemorates the hall's renovation and subsequent grand opening in December 1981. The overhaul and new catering facilities equipped it to host banquets, parties, conferences and dances. In fact, it was still in use a bit after the turn of the current century. However, in 2007, the one-story section was demolished. The shuffleboard courts and gazebo on the east side of the hall were destroyed too. Now, the hall stands stripped of original light fixtures and even doors. The priceless wood dance floor is deserted and the stage empty. The building's fate remains in limbo. Walk to Edwards and Hendry to the site of many festivities and fun both during and after WWII. Then, visit the following research centers to learn more about downtown happenings during that era. 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 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 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. Visit the IMAG History & Science Center at 2000 Cranford Avenue or at www.theimag.org. Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, *The News-Press* and *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl S. Grismer.*

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Local Girl Scouts Launch New Badges

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida and Girl Scouts of the USA have revealed 42 exclusive new badges that allow girls to make their own choices about how they want to experience and influence the world.

The new badges and programming help prepare girls to address some of society's most pressing needs through hands-on learning and real-life problem-solving in cybersecurity, coding, space exploration and citizen science.

In addition, the outdoor high adventure badges allow girls to explore nature while experiencing challenging outdoor activities like climbing and trail adventures. These are the first Girl Scout badges that members can earn by choosing one of two self-directed paths.

"Girl Scout programming has long promoted independent decision making," said Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida CEO Mary Anne Servian.

"Our goal is to help girls develop agency, challenge themselves to move beyond their comfort zones and build confidence in their leadership abilities."

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida is holding information events throughout the area for girls and families to learn more about the program. Upcoming dates and locations include:

August 14 – Tanglewood Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.



New Girl Scout badges

photo provided

August 15 – Villas Elementary Library, 5 p.m.

August 16 – Gateway Elementary Multi-Purpose Room, 5:30 p.m.

August 19 – Six Mile Charter Academy Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 19 – North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 20 – Tropic Isles Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 21 – Hancock Creek Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 22 – Heights Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 23 – Three Oaks Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 23 – Bayshore Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 26 – Dr. Carrie D. Robinson Littleton Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

August 27 – Tice Elementary Multi-Purpose Room, 5:30 p.m.

August 28 – San Carlos Park Elementary Cafeteria, 6 p.m.

Call Out For Connections And Conversations

On Thursday, October 17, people from across Southwest Florida will take part in a single day of conversation about the community and their role in it during On the Table Southwest Florida. The Southwest Florida Community Foundation is putting a call out to residents to host gatherings in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties.

"This is a unique region-wide opportunity to connect in order to make

our communities stronger, safer and more equitable by hearing from each other," said Sarah Owen, president and CEO of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. "At each table's conversation, ideas will be shared, people will have formed connections and guests will have had a voice at the table. A post-survey will also be available to capture thoughts and insights."

On the Table gatherings can be mealtime conversations at any point during the day including coffee, breakfast, lunch, dinner and in-between. While 8 to 12 guests at each table has been found to be an ideal number for everyone to have a chance to speak and be heard, the number of guests a host wants to invite

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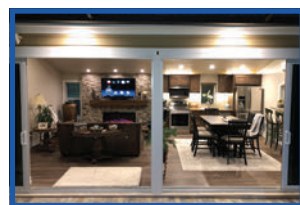
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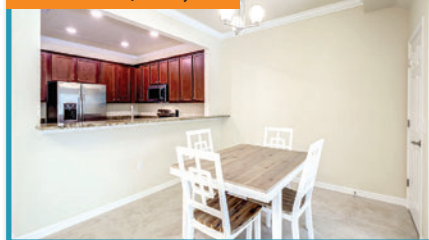
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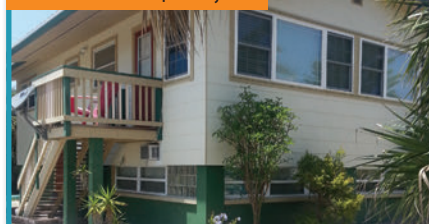
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Summer Sing To Celebrate Gilbert & Sullivan

The Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida will host a night of Gilbert & Sullivan frivolity at the 5th annual Summer Sing at the Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center on Tuesday, August 27. Festivities begin at 7 p.m. and all area singers age 15 and older are warmly invited to participate.

Summer Sing is free of charge and no audition is necessary. Audience members are welcome without charge, too.

To add to the entertainment, Louis Dall'Ava – a Gilbert & Sullivan expert and life-long member of the New York City Gilbert & Sullivan Society – will be on hand to demonstrate authentic Gilbert & Sullivan style and help the symphonic chorale re-create it. Summer Sing 2019 will feature a rehearsal and subsequent performance of the greatest hit choruses from Gilbert & Sullivan operettas, including choruses from Mikado, Pirates of Penzance, HMS Pinafore and the Gondoliers, led by conductor Trent R. Brown and accompanist Abbey Allison.

"The chorale is thrilled that Louis



Trent Brown

Dall'Ava was available to join us for this very special Gilbert & Sullivan Summer Sing. Anyone who participates as a singer or an audience member will not soon forget this experience," said Dr. Brown. "We are very grateful to the City of Fort Myers and the Sydney & Berne Davis Art Center for supporting this popular end-of-summer event in the River District hosted by the chorale."

Both of the Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida's community outreach events, Summer Sing and its Sing Out! SWFL Choral Festival in February are quickly becoming highly anticipated annual events for many area singers. Participant singers are asked to register online for free at www.symphonicchorale.org so adequate music and seating will be provided. Music can also be downloaded to your tablet from the Summer Sing page of the chorale's website.

The Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida is the area's only professional core community chorus. Area singers are also encouraged to audition for the Chorale to be part of its 2019-20 season.

The Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in Fort Myers. For more information on Summer Sing or the Chorale, call 560-5695.✴

Our email address is press@riverweekly.com

Submissions Needed For Publication



Annie Pritchard and Michelle Caraway

photo by Jesi Cason Photography

Love Your Rebellion's biannual literary arts zine is seeking submissions for *Issue 12*. Writers and artists are invited to submit works with the theme Choose Your Own Adventure. Submissions are open via Love Your Rebellion's website until Monday, September 23.

Love Your Rebellion's zine publishes original visual art, poetry and flash fiction and nonfiction. Artists and writers are tasked with creating works that reflect on journeys of self, self-realization and personal transformation for *Issue 12* submissions. Works by authors and artists from marginalized groups are encouraged. The works featured will be complemented with exercises that encourage introspection and empowerment created by the Love Your Rebellion zine staff.

Each zine features 12 pages of writing, art and exercises. The zine can be found in local businesses around Southwest Florida, like Remedies Parlor, Joe's Record

Exchange, DAAS Co-op Art Gallery & Gifts and Beach Records, as well as the Love Your Rebellion website.

Issue 12 will be released on Saturday, October 19 in celebration of the first annual Fort Myers Zine Fest and the grand opening of Love Your Rebellion's Zine Library. For more info on the zine release, visit www.loveyourrebellion.org/fort-myers-zine-fest/.

Love Your Rebellion founder Angela Page gathered a crew of helpers to make the zine in 2015. Since then, Page has been lucky enough to maintain a small group of individuals who continue to volunteer their time to make the zine possible. *Issue 12* staff features Southwest Florida artists Michelle Caraway and Annie Pritchard alongside Page.

For more information on Love Your Rebellion's zine and zine submissions, visit www.loveyourrebellion.org/zine-submissions.✴

Beach Tapa Hop

Hop aboard for the 17th annual Fort Myers Beach Tapa Hop social event on Thursday, September 19. Registration will begin at 3 p.m. at Fish-Tale Waterfront Dining. Trolleys will depart from Santini Marina Plaza located at 7205 Estero Boulevard taking "Hoppers" to seven local restaurants featuring appetizers, cash bars, raffle prizes and a grand prize.

Trolley captains will decorate their trolleys according to this year's theme, classic television shows. Raffle drawings

will take place throughout the evening with a grand prize awarded after everyone meets back up at South Beach Grille.

This year's participating restaurants are Fish-Tale Waterfront Dining, Pete's Time Out, The Salty Crab Bar & Grill, Junkanoo on the Beach, Doc Ford's, Bayfront Bistro and South Beach Grille.

There are also several sponsorship opportunities available. Cost for this annual party excursion is \$40. Limited tickets will open to the public on September 5. Call the Chamber office at 454-7500 or visit www.fortmyersbeach.org/events to reserve your spot.✴



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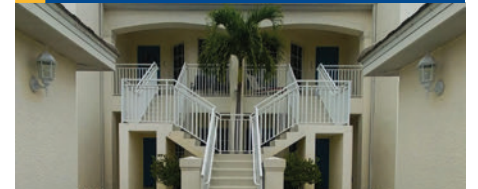
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Fort Myers Art:

Improv Returns To The Lab With Scared Scriptless



by Tom Hall
They are back and funnier than ever! Scared Scriptless Comedy Lab returns to the Laboratory Theater of Florida on Saturday, September 7 at 7 p.m. for a night of

hilarious antics, musical comedy and spot-on on-the-spot jokes, and they are bring Bradenton improv master Charles Patrick Gooch with them for this one performance. Every facet of the uproariously improvised show is based on audience suggestions. With years of experience performing, Scared Scriptless Comedy Lab delivers a side-splitting, one-of-a-kind show every time.

Formerly Bonita City Improv, this troupe of talented performers offers a unique mixture of both short and long form improv, creating an entertaining evening of family-friendly laughter that is fast-paced, musical and completely improvised. While no two shows are the same, they are always packed with hysterically funny songs, sketches and jokes created instantaneously based on your suggestions. For the more adventurous, there are occasional opportunities to join the cast on stage.

Scared Scriptless is composed of Leigh Shein, Nick Hernandez, Kea McElfresh, Bill Owens, Andrew Florance and Steve Cobb.

Individual tickets are \$15 per person and are available online at www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com or by calling 218-0481. The past two performances have sold out, so get your tickets early.

Solo Show Of Jansen Work Opening In Paris

Fort Myers artist Marcus Jansen is opening a solo show of his work at the Danysz gallery in Paris on Saturday, September 7. Titled Stop, Look and Listen, the exhibition will run through October 12.



image courtesy www.artswfl.com

Funny Shorts LIVE! Returns To Center For Performing Arts

In September, the Center for Performing Arts Bonita Springs is bringing back *Funny Shorts LIVE!* – the wildly successful extension of the Stage It! 10-Minute Play Festival.

Now in its second year, the program is denoted by five high-quality comedic short plays from around the world. Each will be funny. Each will be short, with a run time of approximately 10 minutes. And, at least one will be written by a local playwright. From witches to driving instructors, from shoe closets to speed dating for robots, there is a variety of stories from gifted storytellers.

Funny Shorts LIVE! takes place at 7 p.m. on Friday, September 13 and 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 14 in the Moe Auditorium & Film Center at 10150 Bonita Beach Road in Bonita Springs. Tickets are \$20 (with 10 percent off for current CFABS members). For more information, call 495-8989.

Best of all, wearing your own funny shorts is completely optional. Encouraged, but optional.

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.**

New High School Presentation Set For Thursday

The School District of Lee County is inviting future students, their parents and the community to a presentation about the construction of East Zone High School MMM in the cafeteria of Varsity Lakes Middle School on Thursday, August 29 from 6 to 7 p.m. MMM is an official designation right now for the unnamed and yet-to-be-built high school in the Gateway community.

The meeting will feature a digital tour of the school, a short presentation from the builder and a chance to ask questions.

"I hope as many families as possible come see the vision we have for what is going to be an amazing high school," says MMM Principal Neketa Watson. "I look forward to meeting everyone and can't wait to share the incredible opportunities we have planned for students at the newest high school in Lee County."

Four new academic programs have just been added to the school:

Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Diploma Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

Dual Enrollment
 Advanced Placement

A Carpentry Academy is also being added to address the specific needs of the local construction industry. Previously it was announced High School MMM would offer academies in Cyber Security, Medical Assisting, Veterinary Assisting and Culinary.

High School MMM is to be built in the Gateway neighborhood of Fort Myers on Griffin Drive near State Road 82. Suffolk Construction will start work to build the campus this fall. Students will move into the buildings for the first day of school in August 2021.

Varsity Lakes Middle School is located at 801 Gunnery Road North in Lehigh Acres. For more information, contact Rob Spicker at 461-8420 or robs@leeschools.net.*

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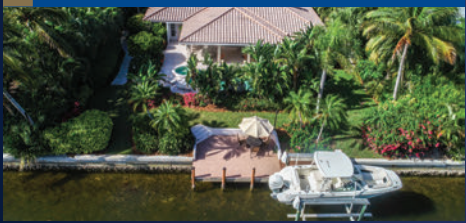
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Along The River

The 3rd annual **Summer Singer-Songwriter Competition** returns to the **Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center** this Friday, August 23. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., while the music starts at 8 p.m. Cost is \$5 to attend.

Experience an evening of original music from local and national competitors. See performers play for a chance to win a spot at the Island Hopper Songwriter Fest, plus bragging rights, prizes and a trophy.

Singer-songwriters have been invited to submit an original song to be considered for this year's competition. The most remarkable performances are pre-selected to play live at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center during the competition. A panel of judges selects a grand prize winner, who will receive a performance spot at the Island Hopper Songwriter Fest, plus a trophy and a prize donated by an area business.

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

Adults and youth ages 12 and older are invited to the **Alliance for the Arts for A Toast to Tenacity**, a free program this Sunday, August 25 from 5 to 7 p.m. This event celebrates the 99th anniversary of the success of women's suffrage – the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.



Millie Van Horn was the People's Choice Winner at the inaugural Summer Singer-Songwriter Competition photo provided

Presented by Vision 2020 in partnership with the Fort Myers Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Progressive Women of Southwest Florida, LLC and the Alliance for the Arts, A Toast to Tenacity will feature a short performance from The Agitators, a play by Mat Smart, about the lifelong friendship between suffragist Susan B. Anthony and abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

Highlights also include a spoken-word segment featuring local citizens as key figures in the suffrage movement. The audience will hear from such characters as Abigail Adams, who famously wrote to her husband, one of the white male property owners drafting the Declaration of Independence, "Remember the Ladies... or we will surely foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by laws in which we have no voice or representation." They include Sojourner Truth, who escaped slavery and spoke to hundreds of audiences about human rights, including women's right to vote, and Alice Paul, who organized the first women's march on Washington, DC in 1913 and, along with other human rights activists, was verbally and physically assaulted.

Also on the program are a voting

quiz with prizes and a grape juice toast, like the one that suffragists used to mark the passage of the 19th Amendment 99 years ago when Prohibition was in effect.

A wine and cheese reception will follow in the Alliance gallery.

Guests will include Fort Myers Mayor Randall P. Henderson; Peter Ndiang'ui, chair of the Mayor's Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee; Kathy Dupuy Bruno, president of the Fort Myers Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Karen Nathan and Alex Bremner, co-chairs of Progressive Women of Southwest Florida; Lee County Supervisor of Elections Tommy Doyle; Florida Rights Restoration board member Neil Volz; and local Vision 2020 delegates Madelon Stewart and Nori Ann Reed.

The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. Registration is required. To register, visit www.artinlee.org/event/tenacity.

Shell Point Retirement Community will conclude its 2019 Summer Concert Series with a performance by **pianist Pietro Iannotti** at 7 p.m. this Wednesday, August 28 in the Grand Cypress Room at The Woodlands at Shell Point, located at 14441 Woodsong Lane in Fort Myers. The concert is open to the public, with tickets available for \$21 online at www.shellpoint.org/concerts or by phone at 454-2067.

Since the age of 9, Salerno native Iannotti has been performing publicly in recitals and with orchestras in Italy and abroad, gaining acclaim from both audience and critics. He has participated and won numerous national and international competitions. Iannotti has also taught music students for more than 18 years, and currently teaches from his studio in Oslo, Norway.

Tickets purchased online or by phone will be held for pickup at will call on the night of the performance.✧



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From page 1 New Exhibit

to sculpture to photography. "Ever since the advent of artistic endeavor, portraiture has been vital to its evolution. The depiction of individuals was of great importance to posterity, especially early in human history before one had mirrors or reflective materials to see oneself accurately. Yet, the art of portraiture has evolved beyond a simple realistic depiction of a person, beyond religious iconography and beyond royal families.

In this exhibition, 36 local artists specializing in a wide variety of styles and media have captured one another in their own unique fashion. Each artist created a work of art featuring a randomly selected fellow artist in order to present their own inimitable perspective – through their eyes.

Both exhibitions are curated by Cesar Aguilera. General admission is a \$1 entry donation.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art



Cesar by Daniel Venditti image provided

Center is located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information, call 333-1933 or visit www.sbdac.com/motus-en-tempus.✧



Members of Cape Coral Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 33 with Cape Coral Mayor Joe Coviello, children shoppers with their families and Target employees

photo provided

Police Lodge Treats Students To Shopping Trip

Nearly 120 children were treated to a free back-to-school shopping trip courtesy of the Cape Coral Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 33. The event, held on August 2,

allowed officers to spend positive one-on-one time with Cape Coral children whose families are experiencing some financial struggles. This is the second annual back-to-school event hosted by the organization, which represents active and retired men and women of the Cape Coral Police Department. Last year's event helped 80 children in Cape Coral receive the school supplies they needed for the year.

For school children of all ages, the program provided participating students with \$200 to spend at Target. Students met police escorts at the store where they purchased supplies and other necessities, and then proceeded to a pizza party hosted by the organization at Il Primo Pizza & Wings. The program reinforces the ideas of sharing and giving, and promotes the idea that role models of all ages are crucial to the

development of our youth.

"We are grateful that Cape Coral FOP Lodge 33 was able to sponsor the shopping trip again this year," said Sergeant Paul Blanchard, president of Cape Coral FOP Lodge 33. "Supporting the children of our community is a top priority and coincides with our initiative to encourage positive relationships between residents and police officers."✱



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Tickets Available For Law And Order Ball

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers South will honor Lee County Law Enforcement heroes on Saturday, September 14 at Hertz Arena. The 2019 Law and Order Ball features cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, formal dinner, silent and live auctions, and entertainment.

Tickets are still available for the black-tie optional gala and may be purchased at www.lawandorderball.org or by calling 277-6295. Individual tickets are \$175 and a table for 10 is \$1,750. Those unable to attend can still participate by sponsoring an officer to attend the event, donating items for the silent and live action or “Packing a Paddy Wagon.”

A reimagined version of an officer vehicle, Pack the Paddy Wagon offers participants a fun and interactive way to support the Law and Order Ball by packing a cardboard police car full of goodies to be auctioned off at the event. Themes for the paddy wagons can range from A Night Out at the Movies, Tailgate Party, Sun N Fun or Barbeque Blitz. A prize will also be awarded for the most creative paddy wagon. Contents for the Paddy wagons should value a minimum of \$200, and will help generate funds for local charities and law enforcement youth

programs. Cardboard paddy wagon supplies provided.

The Law and Order Ball also recognizes Lee County law enforcement agencies: Cape Coral Police Department, Florida Gulf Coast University Police Department, Florida SouthWestern State College Police Department, Fort Myers Police Department, Lee County Port Authority Police, Lee County Sheriff's Office and Sanibel Police Department. One hero from among all participating agencies will be recognized during a presentation of the prestigious Officer of the Year award.

Creighton Construction and Development has returned for the sixth year as the presenting sponsor. Additional sponsors include: Bank of the Ozarks, Cape Coral Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, Edison National Bank, FineMark National Bank & Trust, Fort Myers Police Department, Gravina, Smith, Matte & Arnold Marketing and Public Relations, Geraghty, Dougherty & Stockman, PA, Henderson Franklin Attorneys at Law, Lee County Sheriff's Office, Mark Loren Designs, Millennium Physicians Group, Park Royal Hospital, Premium Deli Provisions, RapidPrint, Sam Galloway Ford, Suncoast Credit Union, Southwest Florida Public Service Academy, Wellpath, and WINK News.

For more information or to make a contribution, visit www.lawandorderball.org or contact Allie Andrews at allie@gsm.a.pro. For all other inquiries, call 277-6295.✪

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Set For New Library

The community is invited to attend an official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Lee County Public Library in Bonita Springs on Monday, August 26 at 10 a.m.

The new two-story library, a Lee Board of County Commissioners' facility, is about 31,000 square feet. Initial construction work began in January 2018. The \$14 million project was paid from existing library fund balances. The new library features more than 50 public-use computers, a large meeting room, dedicated programming areas for adults, teens and youth, as well as outdoor event spaces and a landscaped reading garden.

Tours of the new library facility will be available following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, which is expected to last about 20 minutes. Informational displays from several county departments, including parks and recreation, emergency management, and human and veteran services, will be set up. A “Grand Opening” community celebration will be held Saturday, September 14, at the new library. Details will be announced soon.

As the existing library transitions to the new building, services will be limited at its location at 26876 Pine Avenue.

Computer and printer access, new materials, items on hold and a selection of audiovisual materials will be available until the building closes permanently at 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 15.

The operating hours of the new library will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; the library will be closed Sundays.

Lee County opened another new library in North Fort Myers on August 5.

The Lee County Library System maintains 13 library branches of varying sizes, with robust collections and resources, to meet community needs; offers more than 1.7 million items for patrons to use or check out, and circulates more than 7.4 million items annually; provides a variety of programs for all ages and interests throughout Lee County; provides mobile and literacy services, including Bookmobile, Talking Books Library and Books-by-Mail; and provides meeting rooms, an online catalog and e-resources, as well as DVDs, music CDs and streaming movies and video. Each branch also provides internet access, including wireless access points.

Lee County Public Library in Bonita Springs is located at 10560 Reynolds Street in Bonita Springs. For branch locations and hours, visit www.leegov.com/library/branches.✪

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, 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, 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-2099.

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS Friday Shabbat at 7 p.m. 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, 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, 5620 Winkler Road, 433-7708.

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE Sunday 10 a.m., 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, 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, 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 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, 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, 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.fpcfmyers.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., [\[church.net\]\(http://church.net\), 19691 Cypress View Drive, 267-3525.](http://www.lambofgod</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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

NEW COVENANT EYES Monthly 9 a.m., 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, 10051 Plantation Road, 274-1230.

PEACE COMMUNITY Sunday 10:30 a.m. www.peacecommunitychurch.com, 17671 Pine Ridge Road, 267-7400.

PEACE LUTHERAN Sunday 8 and 10 a.m., www.peaceftmyers.com, 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.

SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER Meditation classes. www.MeditationInFortMyers.org, 567-9739.

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

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

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE METROPOLITAN Sunday 10 a.m., 3049 McGregor Boulevard,

344-0012. **SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN** Saturday 5:30 p.m.; Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m., 3595 Broadway, 939-1218.

SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY Sunday 9:30 a.m., 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.

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

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

TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE) Friday 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m., www.tjswfl.org, 14486 A&W Bulb Road, 433-0201.

THE FAITH CENTER Sunday 9 and 10:30 a.m., Thursday 7:15 p.m., 17650 South Tamiami Trail, Suite 212, 278-3638.

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

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

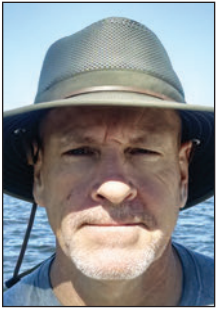
UNITY OF FORT MYERS Sunday 10 a.m., www.unityoffortmyers.org, 11120 Ranchette Road, 278-1511.

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, 7401 Winkler Road, 481-4040.✪

CROW Case Of The Week:

Loggerhead
Sea Turtle

by Bob Petcher

The loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) is regarded as the second largest sea turtle to the leatherback and the largest of the hard-shelled sea turtles. Adults average usually

between two to three feet long and weigh between 175 and 440 pounds.

Loggerhead sea turtles get their name due to their disproportionately large heads but can also be identified because its shell is heart-shaped. The endangered and carnivorous mammals can be found in subtropical and temperate coastal waters.

At CROW, a sub-adult loggerhead sea turtle was found floating and unable to dive near Redfish Pass at the north end of Captiva Island. Through the combined efforts of a charter boat captain, who first spotted the turtle in distress, and Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF)'s Coastal Wildlife team and Marine Lab scientists, the turtle was rescued and admitted to CROW for medical treatment. The turtle was bright and responsive, but had suffered a past boat strike that was partially healed. Shortly after intake, it was placed in

a shallow freshwater tank to monitor buoyancy issues.

After a few days, the turtle was eating very well, but the left rear of the turtle continued to prevent it from diving in the tank. The next step was to use an ultrasound to attempt to locate a potential air pocket, keeping it buoyant and removing the air pocket.

That process proved to be successful.

"Yes, the ultrasound was used to find air in the body cavity and direct the needle to remove the air," said Dr. Megan Cabot, CROW veterinary intern. "Approximately four liters of air were able to be removed."

This process required CROW officials to employ an "all hands on deck" approach due to the turtle's size and being unable to use anesthesia.

"It takes five people to transport the turtle safely from the tank to the ultrasound in the clinic where a veterinary team of four stabilized it on the table for the procedure," said Dr. Cabot. "The procedure is relatively painless once we get passed the initial needle poke, and anesthesia in turtles is dangerous as they can stop breathing and stay asleep for an extended period of time – sometimes days! This turtle was very calm and cooperative throughout the entire procedure with no signs of distress."

The patient was then under observation.

"We are monitoring the turtle for a while because these air pockets sometimes refill over time and require more procedures while the source heals," said Dr. Cabot.

After a couple of more days in



Patient #19-3415 gets help in being transported

photo by Brian Bohlman

the clinic, the patient appeared to be improving.

"The turtle's floating has resolved for now and the patient is much more calm, comfortable and eating very well," relayed Dr. Cabot. "If the issue continues to be resolved and the turtle continues to do well, we may be able to clear for release."

The care for such a large animal required a combined effort before and after admittance.

"It takes a lot of folks working together to rehabilitate a turtle," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW staff veterinarian. "In this case, the concerned charter boat captain was able to assist SCCF staff in rescuing the turtle and get it to CROW for

treatment. Once it is cleared for release, we coordinate with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and make efforts to involve those who helped make the initial rescue possible. Collaboration is key to helping these species."

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

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Rainy Day Redfish Bite



by Capt.
Matt Mitchell

Rain and even more rain at basically any time made getting out fishing this week a crapshoot. On the days I did get out, we dodged the heavy stuff and experienced

some great fishing while enjoying cooler overcast conditions. On the mornings of stronger thunder storms and lightening, it just wasn't safe to even leave the dock. Going out and catching bait before having to cancel is frustrating, though being out in the lightening is just not a option.

During the trips I did get done this week, fishing was awesome with snook, trout and redfish being caught. Morning high incoming tide, west wind and rain-cooled stained water was the perfect set up to get in on some of the best redfish fishing I have been on in a long time. Catching a dozen or so redfish along with double hook-ups is as good as it gets.

Redfish from 20 to 30 inches were caught during the last few hours of the incoming tide and the first hour of the outgoing tide. The redfish action this week came on mangrove shorelines from St. James City to Regla Island as well as the Fosters Point area of North Captiva. After finding the windblown shorelines with moving tide, we targeted the points catching these fish both on live shiners

and tail-hooked pinfish. If I did not get a bite after five minutes, I'd bump a little further down the shoreline. Once I did find these fish, it was just a matter of landing that money cast under the trees. Tiny little overhanging mangrove points would sometimes be holding a half dozen or so redfish.

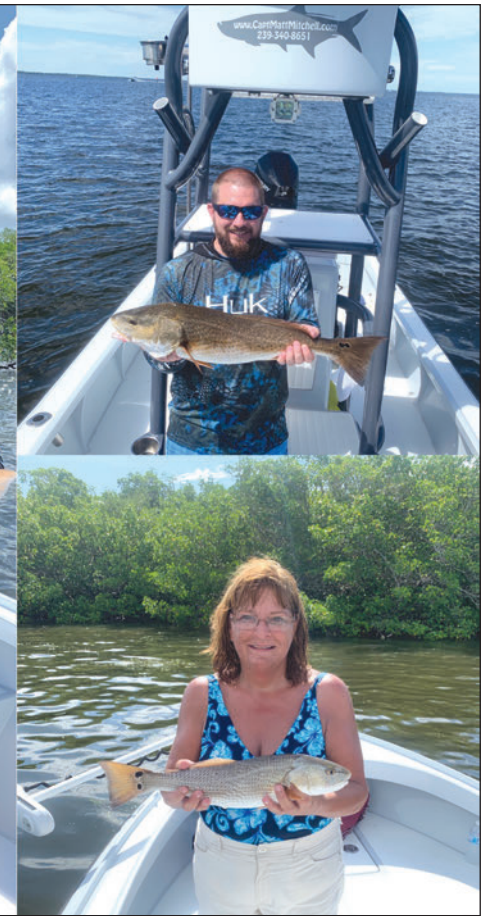
Trout fishing out on the flats from Chino to Red Light Shoal was a great way to get my guests quickly hooked up and catching fish. Feeding birds made finding action on the flats easy. Trout up to 22 inches were caught both under popping corks and while slowly retrieving free-lined live shiners. Along with the trout, we also caught mangrove snapper, mackerel, ladyfish and jacks. This crazy flats bite has to be partly due to the mass of baitfish we are seeing all through the area.

Deeper mangrove channels during the lower incoming tide held lots of juvenile snook with these fish coming at almost every cast at times. Bigger snook are still hanging out in and around the passes and have been feeding better on the outgoing tide, something that we will get in the mornings this next week. The mangrove bite for snook continues to be on shiners, while the better pass action is on grunts and pinfish fished with a sinker close to the bottom.

Rain-cooled waters have done wonders to keep good numbers of late summer tarpon around. Several times while catching trout out on the flats this week, we saw a few rolling tarpon. I've been getting a few reports from other guides that they are catching these tarpon on both live pinfish under a float and cut-bait fishing. If you plan on targeting these tarpon, pick a slick calm day and



Shawna and Chad from North Carolina got in on the hot redfish bite with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week
photos provided



check out all the usual places in the sound. Find the bait, and you will find the tarpon. Better yet, they generally feed much better now than they did pre-spawn in the spring.

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been

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

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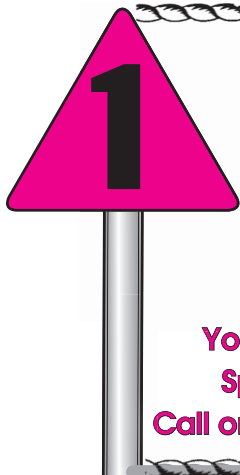
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Dave Doane

Plant Smart

Desert Or Eden?

by Gerri Reaves

Imagine you are a bird or butterfly looking for nourishment or a place to rest. And then take a look around your yard. Do you live in a food desert or an Eden, a dead zone or an oasis?

Many South Florida yards and commercial landscapes offer little support for wildlife. Such landscapes might look pretty and manicured by some standards. But their dependence on steady diet of lawn chemicals render them sterile, toxic, and expensive to maintain.

With a little effort, though, you can transform your yard into a blessing for native birds, butterflies and other pollinators.

Setting aside even a small plot for wildflowers – a miniature meadow – or planting several shrubs can go a long way in helping both resident and migrating wildlife survive.

Pictured are only three of the many native shrubs to choose from. All are easy to find at native nurseries and easy to maintain.

Wild coffee's (*Psychotria nervosa*) shiny bright red fruit is a significant food source for a variety of birds and other wildlife, including cardinals, mockingbirds, gray catbirds and various pollinators.

The white tubular flowers provide nectar plant for the atala, great southern white, Julia, Schaus' swallowtail and other butterflies.

This member of the madder family also provides good cover for birds amid its wrinkly grooved foliage.



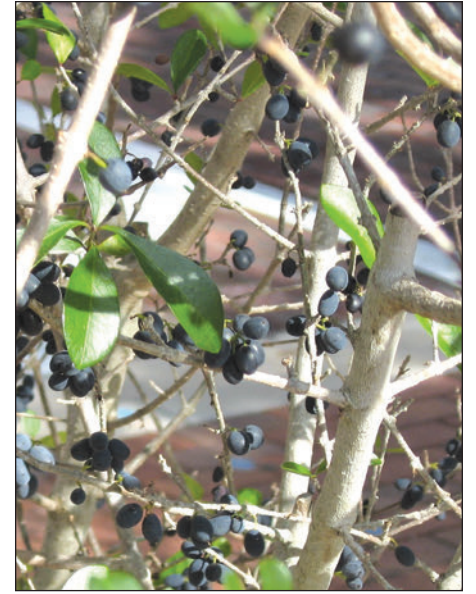
Wild coffee, American beautyberry and Florida privet are native low-maintenance shrubs that offer substantial benefit to birds, butterflies and other pollinators

Pest-resistant and adaptable, it will grow in shade or partial shade in a variety of well-drained soils.

American beautyberry's (*Callicarpa americana*) magenta bead-like clusters of fruit are eaten by more than 40 species of songbirds, including brown thrashers and eastern towhee, just to name two. Other wildlife such as squirrels and armadillos also feed on it.

The fruit persists for months on this member of the verbena family, a boon to migrating birds. The pink or lavender flowers attract butterflies and bees.

It prefers full sun, is drought tolerant, and needs some organic content to thrive.



Florida privet's (*Forestiera segregata*) purple-black olive-shaped fruit attracts birds such as warblers, bluebirds, cardinals, mockingbirds, gray catbirds, blue jays and vireos.

The greenish yellow flowers might be inconspicuous, but they do a conspicuously good job of attracting butterflies and other pollinators.

The twiggy foliage provides protective cover for birds.

This evergreen is salt- and drought-tolerant and pest-resistant.

It adapts to various conditions, but prefers full sun in a well-drained spot and some organic content in the soil.

Once you've invited birds, bees and butterflies to your yard, be sure you don't lure them to their deaths.

Buy plants from reputable sources that have not exposed them to pesticides and other chemicals.

Also avoid using any lawn chemicals, pesticides, or herbicides on the landscape.

If your landscape is devoid of birds and pollinators, consider this: A dead zone not only threatens the wellbeing of wildlife, it also is a health warning to South Floridians who share the environment with them.

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

Bay Scallop Season Opens In St. Joseph Bay

Recreational bay scallop season for Gulf County, which includes all of St. Joseph Bay, opened August 16 and will remain open through September 15. This region includes all state waters from the Mexico Beach Canal in Bay County to the westernmost point of St. Vincent Island in Franklin County.

Swimming, boating, fishing and scalloping in the restoration area marked with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) buoys south of Black's Island are prohibited during and after the scallop season.

Bag and vessel limits for 2019 throughout the entire bay scallop harvest zone are two gallons of whole bay scallops in the shell or one pint of bay scallop meat per person, with a maximum of 10 gallons of whole bay scallops in the shell or a half gallon bay scallop meat per vessel.

Scallops may be collected by hand or with a landing or dip net.

There is no commercial harvest allowed for bay scallops in Florida.

Direct and continuous transit of legally-harvested bay scallops is now allowed through closed areas. Boaters may not stop their vessels in waters that are closed to harvest and must proceed directly to the dock or ramp to land scallops in a closed area.

For more information on bay scallop regulations, visit www.myfwc.com/fishing and click on "Saltwater Fishing," "Recreational Regulations" and "Bay Scallops."

The FWC urges boaters to be safe when traveling to and from scalloping sites, and while scalloping. Wear a life jacket and do not drink and boat. When scalloping in open water, divers should stay within 300 feet of a properly displayed divers-down flag or device, and within 100 feet of a properly displayed divers-down flag or device if on a river, inlet or navigation channel. Boat operators traveling within 300 feet of a divers-down flag or device in open water or within 100 feet of one on a river, inlet or navigational channel must slow to idle speed. For more information, visit www.myfwc.com/boating/regulations and click on "Divers-down Warning Devices."

Don't forget to stow your trash securely on your vessel so it doesn't blow out.

You can also help FWC's scallop researchers by completing an online survey at www.svy.mk/bayscallops. You will be asked a series of simple questions about where you harvested scallops, how many you collected and how long it took to harvest them. Participants can email bayscallops@myfwc.com to ask questions or send additional information.

Learn more about long-term abundance trends in the open and closed scalloping areas by visiting www.myfwc.com/research and clicking on "Saltwater," "Bay Scallops" and "Bay Scallop Season and Abundance Survey."*

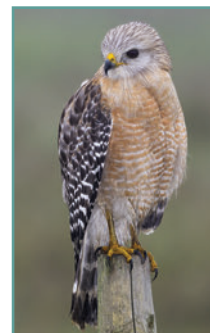
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County Approves Land Acquisition

On August 20, the Lee County Board of Commissioners voted in favor of supporting the acquisition of the 68-acre Wulfert Bayous parcel located on Sanibel Island. The “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) and the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge have been working with the county on the collaboration for more than a year to make the acquisition a reality.

Lee County’s Conservation 20/20 program will fund \$6.5 million of the total \$9.5 million cost to purchase the property. DDWS has raised the additional \$3 million through private donations. The refuge, for its part in the collaboration, will manage the property as part of its complex.

The city of Sanibel had already approved development of the land with up to 28 new homes. To preserve the tract from such development, DDWS, in February 2019, kicked off its public campaign to preserve the acreage.

Located along Wulfert Road and Sanibel-Captiva Road and adjacent to refuge boundaries, the property is home to a number of species that would be seriously threatened by development of the



The “Ding” Darling team celebrates victory on the steps of the old courthouse in downtown Fort Myers following the county commissioners’ unanimous vote in favor of supporting the Wulfert Bayous acquisition photo provided

habitat. The preserved acreage will also help protect water quality as a natural filter.

The community quickly stepped up to support the land’s preservation, meeting, by June 2019, the \$3 million private philanthropic goal needed to help make the purchase possible.

The conservation and planned restoration of the Wulfert Bayous property will forward the goals and objectives of the Gulf of Mexico and the Greater Everglades Ecosystem restoration plans. In addition to 16 acres of existing mangroves, Wulfert Bayous contains 15 acres of wetlands that

can be restored and enhanced to create a wading bird colony of roseate spoonbills, wood storks, white ibis, and other egrets and herons, while serving as a natural water filter.

“We were simply overjoyed to hear the commissioners’ decision,” said John McCabe, who led the Wulfert Bayous acquisition effort for DDWS. “Having partnered with the 20/20 program back in 2013 with the purchase of the Woodring Point property on Sanibel and again in 2017 for the 8.15-acre Wulfert parcel, we know what a win-win proposition this turns out to be for all parties concerned.”

As with the other two properties, the refuge will manage the Wulfert Bayous acreage in return for the county’s role in acquiring it.

Board of County Commissioners Acting Chair Brian Hamman commended DDWS, calling the action an “expansion of one of our most popular preserves.”

“The \$3 million you raised, that was money coming out of ordinary folks,” said Commissioner Frank Mann, District 5. “Thanks for all you’ve done for conservation.”

To donate or pledge funds to restore the Wulfert Bayous’ 68 acres, contact DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller at 472-1100 ext. 232 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

‘Ding’ Darling Day Headliners Announced

Everglades Burmese python hunter Dusty “Wildman” Crum and biologist Mike Kirkland will co-present a free program at the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge about their work to save Everglades’ wildlife from total devastation at the appetite of exotic Burmese pythons on “Ding” Darling Day on Sunday, October 20 at 11 a.m. The program will be held in the Visitor & Education Center Auditorium.

Crum has appeared in a number of television spots, including *The Today Show*, *Swamp Mysteries* on the History Channel and, most recently, on the *Discovery Channel’s* *Guardians of the Glades* series.

Kirkland manages the python elimination program for the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), which created it to try to remedy the Burmese python epidemic in the Florida Everglades. He manages a team of about 25 hunters while keeping abreast of scientific programs that work in cooperation toward solving the problem.

“We used to find birds, ducks, deer, rabbits, otters and raccoons,” said Crum, who largely hunts for snakes – while typically sporting bare feet – in the eastern Everglades. “Where I’ve been hunting, there are none of these animals left.”

Researchers believe the pythons have decimated their food supply of prey in the eastern Everglades and Miami-Dade County, said Kirkland. In response, he has expanded SFWMD’s python elimination program, deploying python hunters into Collier County, to where the snakes are moving to find more prey.

Note: There will be no live pythons presented as part of this program.



Dusty Crum and Mike Kirkland presented at the 2019 “Ding” Darling lecture series to full houses photo provided

During “Ding” Darling Day, the Refuge Nature Store will be selling an assortment of wallets, coin purses and other handmade gifts produced by Crum and his partner from the skins of pythons he has captured.

The 31st annual eco-festival runs all day October 20 with free activities that include free admission to Wildlife Drive and refuge tram tours, live wildlife presentations, animal yoga, nature sketching, origami, archery clinics, hot dogs, a touch tank and butterfly house, face painting and kids’ nature crafts. Federal Duck Stamp and Junior Duck Stamp winner presentations, plus conservation art activities will take place throughout the day. Refuge officials estimate the value of free activities that day at \$75 for a family of four.

Recreation concession Tarpon Bay Explorers will offer free stand up paddleboarding clinics in the morning and all-day discounts on kayak tours



Dusty “Wildman” Crum in the field with a capture photo by Joey Waves

and boating excursions for “Ding” Day. Reservations for tours are recommended. Visit www.tarponbayexplorers.com for more information.

“Ding” Darling Day celebrates the birthday of the refuge’s namesake, father of the Federal Duck Stamp program and Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonist, Jay Norwood “Ding” Darling. It will be part of the pre-celebration for the refuge’s 75th anniversary in 2020.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) and Tarpon Bay Explorers co-sponsor “Ding” Darling Day with generous support from the local community and businesses.

Visit www.dingdarlingdays.com for a full schedule of the day’s events or call 472-1100 for more information.

Sponsors for the 2019 event include: Roseate Spoonbill Sponsors – Doc’s Ford Sanibel Rum Bar & Grille; Great

Egret Sponsors – Mitchell’s Sand Castles, Feather Jim and Patty Sprinkle; Great Blue Heron Sponsors – Bailey’s General Store, Mike and Terry Baldwin, Bank of the Islands, Casa Ybel Resort, The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry, *Island Sun/The River Weekly News*, Just Water, Rotary Club of Sanibel-Captiva, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club, Sanibel Moorings, *Sunny Day Guide*; Reddish Egret Sponsors – Realtor Sarah Ashton of RE/MAX of the Islands, The Gresham Family, Island Inn, Jensen’s on the Gulf and Marina & Cottages, Tiffani Kaliko and John Silvia, Dick and Emily Muench, Palm Printing, Stewart & Sons Insurance; Snowy Egret Sponsors – Ambu Yoga, Big Red Q Quickprint, Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership, John Brennan, Colony Inn, Panther Printing, *Santiva Chronicle*, George and Wendy Schnapp, Winston and Gretchen Spurgeon, Nancy Tome.*



Pamela Cox-Nulman photo provided

Doris Fleischman Award Honoree

Pamela Cox-Nulman, APR, CPRC, a longtime member of the Southwest Florida Chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA), was recently awarded one of the association's highest honors during its annual conference in Tampa.

Known as the "unsung" hero award, the Doris Fleischman Award honors the heretofore unrecognized "behind the scenes" contributions an individual

FPRA member has made to strengthen the association and the public relations profession.

Cox-Nulman, vice president of PR and marketing at Cox-Nulman Mediation Services, has been a member of the Southwest Florida Chapter since 2001 and is a past chapter president. She has also served the chapter as education chair and accreditation chair, as well as faculty liaison to the Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) student FPRA chapter. During her 34-year career in the public relations profession, Cox-Nulman worked in every possible PR sector including corporate, government, nonprofit and agency, as well as serving as a professor and mentor at FGCU for more than seven years.

This year, the Southwest Florida Chapter also established the Pam Nulman Soaring Eagle PR Award named after Cox-Nulman to recognize active FPRA FGCU student members who have demonstrated exceptional leadership ability, talent and passion for the public relations profession.

FPRA is dedicated to developing public relations practitioners who, through ethical and standardized practices, enhance the public relations profession in Florida. The organization's 15 professional and 12 student chapters provide professional development, networking and recognition opportunities for nearly 1,500 members across the state.

For more information, visit www.fpra.org.



Melody Desilets photos provided

Council Adds New Board Members

Two local community leaders have joined the board of directors for The Planned Giving Council of Lee County.

Melody Desilets is a member of the Lee Health Foundation team and serves as a senior director of development for Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. Prior to joining Lee Health Foundation, Desilets held positions



Kimberly Riching

at Shell Point Retirement Community and Walt Disney World Company. Her fundraising expertise includes cultivation of major and planned gifts, facilitation of capital campaigns, program development and strategic planning.

Kimberly Riching is the business development executive of Stroemer & Company, a full service accounting firm. Riching's sales experience exceeds 25 years and includes a variety of business segments.

The new members join current board members Erica Harp of Hughes Snell & Co, PA; Kelli King of IMAG History &

continued on page 16

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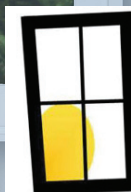
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Liability Protection Important For Retirees Too



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

Many of my clients who are retired tell me that they want to simplify things. Their children have grown; their careers have wound down. Now that they're living off retirement savings, many start to look for expenses that can be cut back. Since they have a fair amount of life savings and there are no more dependents, life insurance may not be as important as it once was. The thousands of dollars of annual premium payments may no longer be necessary or in the budget, so policies might be terminated or cashed in.

Professional and trade memberships aren't useful anymore, so they're discontinued. Business lunches aren't part of the daily routine. The country club membership up north isn't used much anymore, so it's discontinued in favor of the golf membership here in Florida.

Cars might be leased instead of bought. Eating out at restaurants might be curtailed. Some money magazines even suggest cutting back on your homeowner's liability, automobile and umbrella liability policies. But that would be a big mistake. Why?

The answer is simple. Because if you get into a car accident that is your fault, you might find yourself responsible for damages beyond the liability protection that you've cut back to under your car insurance policy. If the injured party sues you after the accident, and a judgment is entered against you, then the plaintiff could go after your life savings to make up the difference between what your automobile liability policy pays and the amount of the judgment.

Assume, for example, a terrible scenario where you are involved in an accident that severely injures someone – crippling them for life. The liability that you may be held responsible for could certainly be more than a \$250,000 limit one finds on many automobile insurance policies. Medical costs, lost wages, pain and suffering, the loss of the injured person's ability to enjoy life, among all of the other damages, could be in the millions.

The same holds true for your homeowner's liability insurance. If someone is injured on your property and you are deemed to have been somehow negligent, then you could find yourself at the wrong end of a judgment and have to pay damages over the amount that your homeowner's liability insurance policy covers. A pool, for example, is considered under the law to be an "attractive nuisance." If a neighborhood toddler should wander onto your property and drown in the pool, you may be held negligently liable even though the child was not invited onto your property.

So even if you are retired, you remain subject to many of the same risks and liabilities that everyone else must guard against. Nevertheless, I've heard all sorts of excuses why retirees shouldn't purchase maximum liability protection. But to counter those, all you have to do is turn on the television. How many personal injury attorney ads do you see? And each one essentially asks the viewer, "Isn't there anyone we can sue for you?"

Liability insurance is so important, not only for the amount of protection that it offers, but because it also pays for attorney fees to defend you in case you are simply accused of negligence. Even if it turns out that you are not negligent, the costs of defending a claim might take a big chunk out of your life savings if you don't have a policy that also serves to pay these expenses.

Then there's the mistake that some make with regard to their estate planning. Some wrongly assume that if they have placed all of their assets inside of a revocable living trust, then they've protected the trust assets from liability. This isn't the case. In almost all revocable trusts, the trust and its assets are legally yours, which means that you can do anything that you want with your trust assets. Because you have that much dominion and control over the assets, your judgment creditors can demand restitution from your trust assets.

So what should you do? The best practice is to increase the liability coverage on your home and car and then purchase, in addition to those policies, an "umbrella" policy. The umbrella policy covers liability up to its stated policy amount over and above the home and car policies.

A \$2 million umbrella policy might cost a couple thousand dollars annually (or perhaps even less), which is a great investment to protect you and your hard earned savings from the claims of a judgment creditor. Not only will this provide much needed coverage, it should also give you peace of mind.

If you value what you've worked so hard to accumulate over the course of your working career, consider making a visit to your liability insurance carrier to review whether your coverage adequately protects you.

©2019 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at www.sbshlaw.com.✴

Chapter Gains 18 Image Awards At Conference

The Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) recently honored the Southwest Florida Chapter with several awards at FPRA's 81st annual Conference held at the Tampa Marriott Water Street. Members from 15 chapters across the state of Florida and public relations professionals from around the country witnessed four days of professional development, networking and recognition from their peers.

The Golden Image Awards competition, celebrated during the conference, is conducted annually to recognize outstanding public relations programs in Florida, during the last year, and to encourage and promote the development of public relations professionalism. Winners demonstrate the very best examples of innovation, planning and design.

FPRA State President Gordon Paulus APR, CPRC presented eight member organizations from the Southwest Florida chapter with 18 awards in four divisions and 11 categories:

Division A: Public Relations Programs

Public Service Category

Awards of Distinction and a Judge's Award went to: Jennifer J. Edwards, Heather Doane, APR and Trish Robertson, APR, CPRC of the Collier County Supervisor of Elections for Millennial Votes Matter

as well as Albert Arguelles and Randy Mitchelson, APR of iPartner Media for Hashtag Southwest Florida Challenge – #SWFLchallenge

Award of Distinction went to CONRIC PR & Marketing for Faces of Hope at Work

Institutional Category

A Judges' Award went to Spiro & Associates for Eat.Clay.Love

Public Information Category

A Golden Image Award and a Judge's Award went to Lee Health Strategic Communications and Public Relations Department for the Lee Health Coconut Point Media Tour

Promotional/Marketing Category

An Award of Distinction went to Lee County Electric Cooperative for LCEC SmartHub

Integrated Marketing Category

An Award of Distinction went to Jennifer J. Edwards, Heather Doane, APR, Trish Robertson, APR, CPRC of the Collier County Supervisor of Elections for Collier Votes Local

Public Affairs Category

An Award of Distinction went to Priority Marketing and The School District of Lee County for the Change for Change Campaign

Division B: Printed Tools of Public Relations

A Golden Image Award and a Judge's Award went to Priority Marketing and The Guadalupe Center for the Guadalupe Center Video Brochure with Printed Insert

Division C: Digital Tools of Public Relations

Video: Institutional Category

A Judges' Award went to Priority Marketing and Conservancy of Southwest Florida for Conservancy of Southwest Florida's Magic Under the Mangroves, 2018 Fund-A-Need Video

Video: Promotional/Marketing Category

An Award of Distinction went to Priority Marketing for Priority Marketing: FAQ Fridays

Website Category

An Award of Distinction and a Judge's Award went to Spiro & Associates and LCEC Public Relations for the LCEC Website

Division D: Student Projects in Public Relations

Public Relations Campaign Category

Awards of Distinction and a Judge's Award went to Fabiana Solano for FGCU PAGES

FPRA SWFL was also the winner of the 2019 Chapter Challenge, which is given to the chapter that promotes annual conference and Golden Image Award the most through various communication outlets throughout the year, hosts a Local Image Award ceremony and participates in a membership renewal program.

An Award of Distinction is presented to entries that meet the standards of excellence set by a panel of judges, a Golden Image Award is presented to the top-scoring entry in each category if the entry meets predetermined criteria of excellence set by the judges, and a Judges' Award is presented by judges for an outstanding entry that achieves maximum results while using a minimum amount of money.

For more information, visit the Southwest Florida Chapter of FPRA website at www.fpraswfl.org.✴

From page 15

Board Members

Science Center; Amy Objartel of Hope Healthcare; and Dotty St. Amand of Lighthouse of Southwest Florida.

The board's leadership includes President Trevor Whitley, partner and financial advisor, Marquis Wealth Management Group; President of Programs Renee Porter-Medley, financial planner, Key Private Bank; Vice President of Membership Dr. Z. Allen Abbott, philanthropy specialist for community advancement, Cypress Cove at HealthPark; Treasurer Heather Chester, senior director of development, Florida SouthWestern State College; and Secretary Stephanie Ink-Edwards, director of development and community outreach, Community Cooperative.

The Planned Giving Council of Lee County provides programs presented by expert speakers, symposiums, networking and guidance to professionals involved in all aspects of charitable giving. Members are committed to better serving their donors and clients by helping them to make charitable gifts that are well planned both financially and philanthropically. The Planned Giving Council engages all constituents in the charitable gift planning process, including planned giving and major gifts professionals, nonprofit managers and trustees, financial and estate planners, trust managers and administrators. For more information, visit www.plannedgivinglee.org or call 850-0040.✴

Book Review

City Of Girls



by Di Saggau

City of Girls by Elizabeth Gilbert is a rollicking novel of glamour, sex and adventure, set in the 1940s New York theater world. I can't remember when I laughed out loud so many times while reading a book. The author has a delightful gift for wit and humor throughout. The book acts as a letter written by 89-year-old Vivian to Angela, explaining what her father was to her. To do this Vivian begins in the year 1940 when she was 19 years old and an idiot. Her words, not mine. I don't know how many have ever received a letter that is 466 pages long, but I would welcome one if it was as entertaining as this book. I devoured it in one day.

Vivian is kicked out of Vassar, and her affluent parents send her to New York to live with her Aunt Peg. Oh, to have an aunt like her. She owns a flamboyant theater company operating out of a run down gaudy playhouse called The Lily. The characters you'll meet in The Lily are charismatic and unconventional. In addition to Peg, there's Olive, the strict house manager, and Celia Ray, a gorgeous showgirl and close friend of Vivian. Then there's Billy Buell, Peg's handsome, estranged, talented husband, as well as famous actress Edna Parker Watson and her gorgeous, untalented husband Arthur, plus so many more.

One talent Vivian possesses is that of an excellent seamstress, so she quickly fits in turning thrift store clothing into beautiful gowns and costumes for the cast members. When Vivian arrives in New York, The Lily is producing mediocre plays for low income theater goers. Billy arrives on the scene and writes a new musical for them appropriately called *City of Girls*, with Edna as the headliner. The show becomes a huge success with flowing

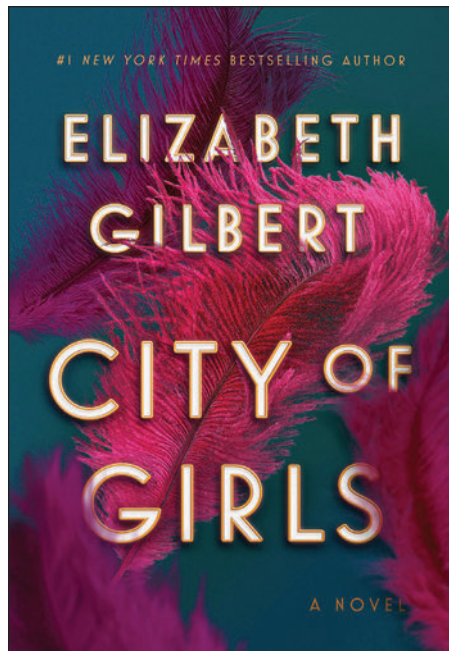


image provided

reviews from Walter Winchell and others.

Meanwhile Vivian is living the high life with an abundance of late night drinking, smoking and sex. Her many partners, and there are many, are just an excuse for a good time, until she meets Anthony, an arrogant, cocky young man who captures her heart. She is having the time of her life until she makes one terrible mistake and her world falls apart. Vivian's personal error results in professional scandal and turns her new world upside down in ways that will take her years to fully understand. Ultimately, it will lead her to a new kind of life and the freedom she craves. It will also lead to the love of her life.

As Vivian writes to Angela, she says, "At some point in a woman's life, she just gets tired of being ashamed all the time. After that, she is free to become whoever she truly is."

City of Girls is a love story like no other. Gilbert writes with a powerful wisdom about human desire and connection. *Entertainment Weekly* wrote, "...so smart and richly drawn that it does what all the best books do: it sweeps you up." Yes it does, and you'll enjoy the ride.✧

School Smart



by Shelley M. Gregg, NCSP

Dear Shelley, Both of my middle school aged kids want to participate in afterschool activities. I know it's important that they do something, but how

I can manage this? They would be in five activities each if I allowed it. I do not want to cut into other important school or family times just so they can be active constantly. What do you recommend?

Celia,

The vast array of extracurricular activities offered to school-age children can be a headache for kids and parents both, and they also can help kids develop

talents and passions and learn how to push themselves. We want our children to be well-rounded and accomplished but we don't want to run them or ourselves ragged or turn them into stressed-out automatons.

Afterschool activities have also become a way to supplant the unsupervised "free time" that parents are no longer comfortable allowing our children to have. There is now a consensus that children should have the opportunity to experiment with a variety of activities in well-delineated blocks, in other words after-school activities or as if is often called "structured free time."

Generally speaking, kids tend to do really well when they have structure, and part of that structure is having an after-school schedule. Educational and learning specialist Ruth Lee also extols some well-known benefits of getting kids together outside of the classroom for more activities, especially the physical kind. "It gives kids social interactions," she said, at the same time helping them "get out some of their energy so they can settle

and go back to their work" after school. This is particularly important, she notes, as schools are cutting back on recess more and more.

"For older kids, after-school activities can be very important as protection against more dangerous activities," said clinical psychologist Dr. Mary Rooney, particularly if parents are busy at work or with other children. "Once kids get into middle school and high school," she says, "the hour or two after school is the highest risk time for dangerous behaviors like substance abuse, because it's the largest chunk of time when kids are unmonitored."

And, of course, more recreational activities outside of school, whether its sports, dance, theater or science, give kids another arena to demonstrate competence and mastery, which is important for their self-esteem and identity development, especially for kids who might be struggling in school.

Dr. Susan Newman, social psychologist, warns of the consequences of overscheduling. She says that that mastery might suffer. "If you are spreading yourself too thin, you're not going to be able to focus and get really good at one thing."

"A lot of people see a list of all the great things that are being offered, and they sign up for everything and then they realize it's so unrealistic with their time constraints and all the schoolwork that they have."

So how many activities are too many? Dr. Jerry Bubrick said, "it's too much when afterschool activities start interfering with a child's life," and he has a pretty simple formula for how much is too much. "Can

you still do your homework? Can you still get 8-plus hours of sleep each night? Can you still be a part of your family? Can you still hang out with your friends? If the answer is 'no' to one or more of these, then it's too much."

Back to School – What's a parent to do? Experts say that each child is unique and depends on the individual child. Some kids respond better to different kinds of structure. One kid who is highly scheduled might do very well and another might need to dial it back. It is important to recognize your child's strengths, weaknesses and limitations when making these decisions.

Parents shouldn't forget that children can also benefit from self-directed activities, albeit in structured blocks of time.

"Sometimes there's not enough emphasis put on the importance of independent work time," Neuman said, "and giving kids the time and the place to think for themselves, be creative and access their own internal resources."

"Most children find their level and their interest if they have the time to do it," Newman said. "My advice to parents is always to understand your child and see what limits he or she has or doesn't have."

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

EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

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

THOMAS P. HALL

ROBIN C. TUTHILL, EDITOR

"More than a meticulously researched chronicle of the disasters that shaped Fort Myers, this book details the historical moment of each blaze, creating a rich portrait of a community forged and tempered by fire. A must-read for anyone interested in area history, with riches for newcomers and experts alike." - Amy Bennett Williams

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Financial Focus

Opportunities When Preparing For College Costs



by Jennifer Basey

Now that summer is winding down, it will soon be “back-to-school” time. When children are young, your logistics for the new academic year may involve little more than a trip to

buy school supplies. But if you’d like to send your kids (or grandkids) to college someday, you need to plan far ahead to meet the financial demands. And, as part of your planning, you also need to be on the lookout for all opportunities to help pay those sizable college bills.

Specifically, you’ll need to be ready to take action in these areas:

Financial aid – You should start thinking about financial aid at least a year before your child heads off to college. For example, you can begin submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on October 1 for the 2020-21 academic year. And if the past is any guide, you’ll always need to remember that October 1 date for the next school year. The FAFSA helps colleges and the U.S. Department of Education evaluate your financial need and determine how much financial support your child requires. And since a lot of financial aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, it’s a good idea to submit your forms as soon as possible once the application period opens.

Scholarships – Colleges and universities offer their own scholarships, but you’re not limited to them. In fact, you might be surprised at the number

and variety of college scholarships available to your child or grandchild – but to find them, you may need to do some digging. Find out what’s offered from foundations, religious, ethnic or community organizations, local businesses and civic groups. Also, ask the high school guidance office for information. Your own employer might even offer small scholarships. You can find more information on scholarships on the U.S. Department of Education’s website.

College-specific investments – You might also want to consider an investment designed to help you save for college. You have several options available, each with different contribution limits, rules and tax treatments, so you’ll want to consult with a financial professional to choose an investment that’s appropriate for your situation.

Community colleges – Not every bachelor’s degree needs to begin and end at an expensive four-year college or university. Many students now fulfill some of their “general” education requirements at affordable community colleges before transferring to a four-year school – often saving tens of thousands of dollars in the process.

Paying for college is challenging. After all, for the 2018-19 academic year, the average annual cost (tuition, fees, and room and board) was \$21,370 for in-state students at public four-year colleges or universities; for four-year private schools, the corresponding expense was \$48,510, according to the College Board. And college costs will likely continue to rise over the next several years. But, as we’ve seen, by being proactive and having a plan in place, you can go a long way toward coping with these expenses and helping your loved ones enjoy the benefits of higher education.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor. Jennifer Basey is a financial advisor in Fort Myers. She can be reached at jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com.✱

Superior Interiors

Desiring A Farmhouse Look Without The Farm



by Barb Cacchione

Modern farmhouse style is very trendy right now. This theme turns a house into a home, filling the atmosphere with cozy, charming vibes. It’s the perfect mixture of

sophisticated and laid back, both of which can impress your guests and make them feel comfortable enough to cuddle up on the couch. There’s a fine line between achieving farmhouse chic and creating classic country, however. The main difference between the two tends to be the use of accessories – country relies on accent pieces, while farmhouse is more minimalistic.

If you’re struggling to create that modern rustic look and you need a little advice, search no further. Here are a few ways to achieve the look without the need for a full out barn in the backyard.

Incorporate iron accents – From the doorknobs and drawer handles to the picture frames on the entryway walls, iron makes the perfect subtle hint at farmhouse decor. Place wrought iron throughout your home to complete this look.

Utilize vintage furniture and accessories – Modern style tends to follow what’s current in the industry, but farmhouse takes a step back and focuses more on vintage furniture and accent pieces. This doesn’t mean you should fill your entire home with sofas and chairs from the flea market. A few staple pieces will stick out and emphasize the farmhouse look you’re

trying to achieve. This may be easier to do with accessories. Vintage lamps, old-fashioned bookends and architectural hardware can complete the look if executed correctly.

Expose wooden ceiling beams – Give your home a natural touch that also focuses on architectural detail by placing exposed beams in the living room or another space that’s often frequented by family and guests. This design element can take your home from one level to the next and can be exactly what you’re missing if you feel as though your home still needs a touch of rustic.

Invest in an apron sink – Deep sinks are both extremely useful and aesthetically pleasing when it comes to farmhouse style. With the right wrought iron faucet, this piece will make the biggest statement in your home.

Take advantage of neutral colors – Neutral colors will help you create that calm and cozy vibe you’re going for. Most modern farmhouses are full of a mixture of cream, beige, silver, sage and gray, and some take the risk of adding one bold hue to the mix to spice things up. Navy blue is popular, but deep red can also make a statement.

Don’t forget about the shiplap – A neutral color scheme paired with shiplap can bring the theme together. Can you call a home farmhouse rustic without using shiplap? Reclaimed wood interior is a popular element in this style for its beauty, but also for its functionality. Shiplap is a beautiful material that has a variety of appealing uses in a home. In addition to general aesthetic applications, it can be used to counteract awkward spatial relationships. For example, in a space with low ceiling height, shiplap boards installed vertically on a wall will draw the eye upward, giving the illusion of a higher ceiling. Similarly, shiplap can be mounted horizontally to visually widen a space.

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

Report Illegal Saw Palmetto Berry Harvests

With saw palmetto berry season coming into full swing, neighbors of Lee County Conservation 20/20 preserves and members of the public are asked to be on the lookout for individuals illegally harvesting berries from preserves. If you observe what you believe may be an illegal berry harvest, call the Lee County Sheriff’s Office non-emergency line at 477-1000 or the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission information and tip hotline at 1-888-404-FWCC.

Berry pickers typically arrive in trucks that park along the edges of these conservation areas or cut fences to drive in, dispersing with buckets and bags to quickly harvest as many berries as possible.

Florida law requires individuals to obtain a permit to harvest the berries of this native plant from public lands, although

Lee County parks and Conservation 20/20 preserves are always closed to berry harvesting.

Saw palmetto berries are a critical food source for a variety of wildlife species, including black bear, white-tailed deer and the state-threatened gopher tortoise. Berries that are harvested legally with a permit are primarily used as an ingredient in herbal-medicinal products.

Harvesting saw palmetto berries without a permit is a crime. Rangers with Lee County Parks & Recreation and deputies from the Lee County Sheriff’s Office will issue citations or arrest individuals caught illegally picking berries. In past years, citations have been issued to individuals illegally picking berries at preserves in east Lee County, as well as in North Fort Myers, Cape Coral and on Pine Island. Berries that are seized are redistributed onto the lands from which they are harvested.

When calling to report an illegal berry harvest, be prepared to report the location and provide a description of the individuals and their vehicles, if possible. Do not confront or directly engage with any berry pickers.✱

From page 3

Conversations

is up to them and can include family, friends, colleagues and neighbors and more. Gatherings can be co-hosted with local churches, businesses or non-profits, and everyone is encouraged to bring their friends or network peers.

“Research has proven that when people share a desire to come together, collaborate more, become more civically involved and more committed to our community, everyone gains,” said Marc Collins, a Lee County resident who has signed on to host a meal on October 17. “I am proud to be joining this first On the Table in Southwest Florida to inspire connection and action from others and drive progress across our region.”

Those registered to host gatherings will be provided with tools and resources online and invitation template forms to track RSVPs. The launch team at Southwest Florida Community Foundation will also be holding host training sessions and supplying host kits before the October event date.

“While we know that there’s no quick

fix to the issues facing our region, progress will result from residents and organizations making connection and working to make contributions that help unite the place we call home,” said Owen. “Our stories and lived experiences matter – and when we come together as a community to learn from and with each other, we have the power to impact both neighborhoods and lives. That’s what On the Table is all about.”

In 2014, residents in Chicago began an annual forum designed to elevate civic conversation, foster new relationships and inspire collaborative action across the region. Since then, On the Table has been started in over 30 communities across the country which has brought thousands of people together who have gathered around tables in homes, community centers, schools, libraries and other spaces to discuss issues they believe are important to their own and their communities’ future.

To sign up to be a host, to attend a table gathering, or more information or to register to be a host, visit www.floridacomunity.com/on-the-table, email ott@floridacomunity.com or call 274-5900.✱

FSW Trustees Appointed By Governor

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis announced the appointment of David Ciccarello and the reappointment of Jonathan Martin and Danny Nix to serve on Florida SouthWestern State College's (FSW) Board of Trustees. All appointments are four-year terms.

"We welcome Mr. Ciccarello to the FSW family," said Dr. Jeff Allbritten, FSW president. "His local knowledge and community connections will be an immediate asset to Florida SouthWestern State College. We have already heard many great responses to his appointment from the community. We are also thankful for the reappointments of trustees Danny Nix and Jonathan Martin and their continued leadership of the FSW Board of Trustees."

Ciccarello is a civil attorney and shareholder at Wilbur Smith Attorneys at Law in Fort Myers. Dedicated to serving clients in all areas of civil law, his primary focus is business law and real estate. He has served as a member and chairman of the grievances committee for the Florida Bar, 20th Judicial Circuit and volunteers his professional services to those in need, earning him the Florida Rural Legal



David Ciccarello photos provided

Services Pro Bono Recognition Award. He earned his bachelor's degree from Florida State University and his juris doctor from Stetson University College of Law.

Martin is a trial attorney at Parvey & Frankel Attorneys, PA. After gaining extensive trial experience as an assistant state attorney, he began representing the injured. He handles wrongful death, nursing home abuse, auto accidents, premises and product liability cases. He is an active member of the Southwest Florida community where he has served on and advised



Jonathan Martin

many boards. While a student at Fort Myers High School, Martin dual-enrolled at then Edison Community College. He earned his bachelor's degree from Stetson University and his juris doctor from Liberty University School of Law in Virginia.

Nix is a real estate broker/owner and commercial realtor. He strives to recruit and integrate companies and the people of those businesses into the area by finding them the best location at the highest use and value. He also works to build leaders in the employees of his companies, training them to



Danny Nix

excel in residential and commercial real estate, property management and building personal wealth. Nix's 19-year background in evaluating and managing underperforming commercial operations, prior to real estate, provides a platform of experience and leadership to be a valuable team member of Leadership Florida. Nix has a bachelor's degree in marketing management from Western Governors University, and he volunteers with the Rotary, Crossroads Hope Academy and Deep Creek Community Church.✱

Horticulture Facility Faces Litigation

Lee County recently filed a lawsuit in the 20th Judicial Circuit Court, asking a judge to force MW Horticulture to alleviate the noxious and hazardous conditions that nearby residents and businesses of the company's North Fort Myers site have had to endure the last 20 months. These conditions have included continuous smoke emissions from numerous fires, encroachment on private properties and the county's right-of-way, and obstruction of a storm-water drainage system.

Specifically, the Lee Board of County Commissioners authorized the Lee County Attorney's Office to file an emergency lawsuit to bring MW Horticulture into compliance with regulations in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

"The county's litigation with MW Horticulture is a last resort to alleviate the safety issues that the property presents to the community," Lee County Attorney Richard Wesch said. "MW Horticulture was fully compensated at its North Fort Myers site by the county's debris contractor for post-Hurricane Irma debris. The present situation is the result of the fact that MW Horticulture continued to take in debris once it reached capacity and refused to expend the costs associated with removal of the materials from the property."

Here is some background on this long-standing issue:

Lee County contracted with Crowder Gulf and other vendors to remove and properly dispose of horticultural debris after Hurricane Irma. Crowder Gulf paid MW Horticulture a total of \$479,315 to take in mulched horticulture debris from Lee County at its North Fort Myers and South Fort Myers locations after Irma.

Only 12 percent of the County's

continued on page 21

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Frankly Speaking



by Howard Prager

Baseball is heating up with some crazy games, records being set, dramatic comebacks, and more.

The Brewers and Nationals, both trying to stay in their respective division

aces and atop the wild card races, played an epic game last Saturday, 14 innings. Both teams were on their final relievers after having scored 29 runs on 38 hits. Nineteen pitchers were used (plus one as a pinch hitter because the Nationals were out of position players.) The Brewers hit seven dingers, a team record. More importantly, they stayed hot on the heels of the Cards and Cubs, who once again are going through their streak of not being able to win on the road. What does this mean to them if the Cubs make it to the postseason? And with so many close national league teams in the wild card hunt, the wild card will truly be a wild race to the finish.

Speaking of hot on the heels, Houston was heavily favored to win the AL West. Not so fast, as Oakland won three of four in Oakland to come to within 6.5 games back. They still have five more head-to-head games. Anything is possible.

In perhaps a preview of this year's playoffs, the Braves and Dodgers recently played with the Braves taking the series from the Dodgers, whose 24 home runs in six games last week was a Major League Baseball (MLB) record. Dodgers southpaw Julio Urias was suspended 20 games under MLB's domestic violence policy. He had a 2.52 ERA and 1.09 WHIP. Don't know how this will affect the Dodgers down the stretch.

Speaking of records, Aristedes Aquino, Reds rookie, has homered 11 times in the past 17 games, another MLB record. He joins Frank Robinson as the only player

in modern baseball to homer 10 times in 11 games. Yes indeed, the ball is flying out this year and maybe the Reds will be in the wild card hunt. They certainly have the Cubs number at the Great American Ballpark.

Closer to home the Tampa Bay Rays finally scored after being held scoreless 30 straight innings (not an MLB record) with a walk-off with two outs in the 13th inning. Rays pitchers did set a franchise-record 24 strikeouts without a walk, a new MLB record. Further north, Yankees second baseman Gleyber Torres at 22 is the youngest player in MLB history to have seven multi-homer games in a season. And we still have six weeks to go. The Tribe has lost four of the last five after getting oh-so-close to the Twins in the AL Central.

Balls flying out of parks at a record pace, many records being set, and it's not even the end of August, with what seemed to be impossible to catch races at the all-star break now tightening up.

Baseball is getting interesting, which is what makes it so much fun to watch. But the feel good story of the week comes from Japan and the summer Koshien high school baseball tournament. At the top of the 7th inning with Hanasaki trailing Akashi, 3-2, Kenshin Sugawara was at bat. A loss in this game eliminates them from the tournament. The second pitch hit him squarely in the left shoulder. He then talks to the umpire, and said it was his fault for leaning into the pitch. He would have been the tying run on base if he accepted the hit by pitch. What was he thinking? Honesty, integrity and the truth. The pitch was ruled a ball, and Sugarawa bowed to the umpire, pitcher and opposing team dugout. The next pitch? Out of the park, a home run tying the game. The video of his sportsmanship has gone viral with over four million views. More importantly, integrity rules, and maybe this young man can provide the learning needed for all athletes.

One last thing... Last week, I talked about the Field of Dreams game next year with the Yankees facing the White Sox. You have until the end of August to get your suggestions in as to who should come

out of the cornfields if they could. My money's on Babe Ruth and Shoeless Joe Jackson.

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.✱

Deadline Approaching For Captiva Triathlon

The annual Galloway Captiva Triathlon will be held at South Seas Island Resort with a sprint-race on Saturday, September 7 and the Splash n' Dash Kids Series event on Sunday, September 8.

The family-friendly fitness weekend involves more than 850 adults and 225 child competitors. The adult sprint-race includes a quarter-mile swim, 10-mile bike ride and a 3.1-mile run. Elite

amateur athletes who posted qualifying times at a USAT sanctioned event will be sent off first in their own wave. The Splash n' Dash Kids Series features children ages 6 to 8 competing in a 100-yard swim and half-mile run; ages 9 to 10 completing a 100-yard swim and one-mile run; and ages 11 to 13 facing a 200-yard swim and a one-mile run.

A portion of the proceeds raised will go towards supporting Community Cooperative's Growing Healthy Kids Programs, providing emergency food for more than 6,000 local children and their families each school year with Mobile Food Pantries. The program helps reduce child hunger and improves health and academic outcomes while providing support for Lee County children and families in need.

Registration closes Sunday, September 1. For more information or to register, visit www.captivatri.org or on Facebook and Instagram under Captiva Tri.

South Seas Island Resort is located at 5400 Plantation Road on Captiva.✱

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Since records started being kept in 1988, which major-league batter holds the mark for most pitches faced in one at-bat?
2. Name the last National League team before the 2018 Arizona Diamondbacks to win at least nine consecutive series to start a season.
3. How many times have the New England Patriots won 13 or more games in a season, and how many of those times was the head coach Bill Belichick?
4. Wofford College's Fletcher Magee became the all-time leader in career 3-pointers made (509) for Division I men's basketball in the 2018-19 season. Who had held the mark?
5. Who was the last NHL player before Tampa Bay's Nikita Kucherov in the 2018-19 campaign to have at least 128 points for the season?
6. Who was the first Major League Soccer goaltender to reach 200 career wins?
7. Name the last horse to win the Preakness and Belmont Triple Crown races after not winning the Kentucky Derby.

ANSWERS

1. San Francisco's Brandon Belt faced 21 pitches in an at-bat in 2018. 2. The 1907 Chicago Cubs. 3. Seven times, with all of them being under head coach Bill Belichick. 4. Oakland's Travis Bader, with 504 (2010-14). 5. Pittsburgh's Mario Lemeroux tallied 161 points in the 1995-96 season. 6. Nick Rimmoldo of Real Salt Lake, in 2018. 7. Aleet Alex, in 2005.



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Media Officer Earns Full Ride To Conference

WGCU Major Gifts Officer Jennifer Denike recently returned from the 2019 Public Media Development & Marketing Conference (PMDMC) in Dallas. She was one of six public media development officers nationally to receive a full scholarship to the event from the Public Radio Association of Development Officers.

The PMDMC is public media's largest conference devoted to issues surrounding revenue generation, marketing and management.

The conference featured the first program by the Public Media Women in Leadership, which addressed strength and resiliency, developing an inclusive corporate culture, and women as role models for leadership and development. This segment of the PMDMC conference was titled Brave Talk.

"The whole event was inspiring, and in particular, the Brave Talk program," Denike said. "I learned quite a bit and was grateful for the opportunity to network with my peers. I was excited by the collaboration between rural and city



Jennifer Denike photo provided

stations in shaping future fundraising, development and membership strategies."

Greater Public, an organization that supports public media stations' fundraising efforts, was the host for the conference, held July 10 to 12.

Denike joined WGCU in November 2017.*

Golf Tournament Supports Heights Foundation

The Heights Foundation 4th annual benefit golf tournament, Swing Fore The Kids, will take place on Friday, September 27 at Heritage Palms Golf and Country Club. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. Presented by Five County Insurance, the event will include a boxed lunch, a shotgun start at 1 p.m., dinner, auction and awards at 6 p.m.

Proceeds support The Heights Center's programs that work to build strong, self-sufficient families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood of Fort Myers. Last year's tournament raised \$26,500.

"The poverty rate for children in Harlem Heights is more than twice the county average," said Jim Sanger,

chief operating officer of The Heights Foundation. "This tournament will help support programs at The Heights Center including School Success and our enriching summer camp."

Tournament registration is now available. A foursome is \$600 and two golfers are \$300. Sponsorships that include golf packages and recognition are available. Sponsors include Entech, Baja Electric, Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, Capital Bank Foundation, and Clinger, Sizemore and Associates.

Sponsorship deadline is September 13 and golfer registration deadline is September 20.

Heritage Palms Golf and Country Club is located at 10420 Washingtonia Palm Way in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.heightsfoundation.org/golf or contact Jim Sanger by calling 482-7706 or emailing jim@heightsfoundation.org.*

From page 19

Horticulture

debris was sent to MW Horticulture's North Fort Myers site and 15 percent was sent to MW Horticulture's South Fort Myers site.

The sheer volume of debris presently on the North Fort Myers site indicate that only a small fraction of the debris came from Lee County.

At some point, MW Horticulture began using a residential parcel on its North Fort Myers location for debris storage in violation of county regulations. After discovering the debris storage, Lee County informed MW Horticulture the debris must be removed at the end of the state of local emergency.

No grinding or mulching was ever authorized at this location due to its proximity to nearby residential homes and businesses.

In September 2017, Lee County staff informed MW Horticulture that the residential parcel must be cleared of debris 30 days after the end of the state of local emergency.

The state of local emergency ended on June 18, 2018, or 14 months ago. The large horticultural debris piles have caught fire numerous times, threatening the neighborhood.

The Bayshore Fire Department has been involved since early 2018 related to the safety issues at the North Fort Myers site.

County officials began the code enforcement process in May 2018 to encourage removal of the large debris piles on the property that pose a fire risk to the public. MW requested, and was granted, multiple extensions from the hearing examiner through July 5 to clean up its property and remove the fire hazard. To date, the piles still exist and continue to smolder.*

Chapter President Of The Year

Lisa Murray, APR, CPRC was recently honored by the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) as its 2019 Chapter President of the Year by FPRA president Gordon Paulus, APR, CPRC during award ceremonies at FPRA'S 81st annual conference in Tampa. Murray was chosen for this award for her strategic leadership and dedication to the local chapter and the public relations profession.

"Words that come to mind for this year's Chapter President of the Year recipient are strategic, a non-quitter, an ally, smart, impressive, engaging, kind, reliable and fun," said Paulus, who went on to highlight her many accomplishments over the last year, including restructuring the board to focus efforts on membership value and professional development, pursuing personal contributions to developing a relationship with the FGCU student chapter and helping fellow members during times of personal crisis.

In addition to the President of the Year designation, Murray was also presented with the President's Award for Image Awards and the President's Award for Accreditation and Certification.

Murray is the senior manager of Integrated Marketing Communications at Interop Technologies, where she is responsible for strategic planning and management of brand, public relations and marketing initiatives regionally and internationally. She has more than 12



Lisa Murray photo provided

years of experience in public relations and marketing, in both agency and in-house settings and holds a bachelor of science degree in communications from East Carolina University. In addition to serving as the current Southwest Florida Chapter president, she has served on its board of directors and leadership teams for five consecutive years and was honored by the chapter as their 2018 Chapter Member of the Year and 2017 Rising Star. She has also received several Image and Golden Image awards from FPRA for her work in public relations.

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

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From left, Alyssa Lemay, FMBAA President Tom Flaherty and Mary Geib. Lemay presented a \$2,100 check to Flaherty and the art association. photos by by Liliانا Taub

Beach Art Group Benefits From Bingo Night

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA) recently sent out thanks to the Nauti Parrot Dock Bar for benefitting the Beach art group through the restaurant's Drag Queen Bingo nights in July. Bingo nights at the Nauti Parrot Dock Bar on Fort Myers Beach support different local nonprofits each month. The \$2,100 donation will help FMBAA continue its mission to showcase fine art on the island, provide art classes and to award scholarships for local students pursuing an arts education after high school.✧



The festivities brought many smiles to the faces of the members



Alyssa Lemay congratulates Chris Kernan who won the watercolor created by past president Gretchen Johnson



The Fort Myers Beach Art Association had a rather large table



From left, Ann Dunlap, Karen Kenney, Tom Flaherty, Lisa Grinter and other patrons were all smiles at the Fort Myers Beach Art Association table



Lisa Grinter, FMBAA Past President, won a lovely candle lantern



Pam Flaherty, who handles publicity for the Fort Myers Beach Art Association, won the \$100 prize



Tom Flaherty, FMBAA President who won a bluetooth speaker, is congratulated by Alyssa Lemay



From left, Cinda Buchter, Julie Ferguson and Tom Hayden

photos provided

New United Way House Opens In Cape Coral

United Way had an amazing turnout at the recent United Way House ribbon-cutting ceremony in Cape Coral. United Way Houses provide space for agencies to reach clients who may not be able to access services outside of their neighborhood or near their work.

Agencies that will be hosted in the Cape Coral House include: SalusCare, Cape Coral Caring Center, Goodwill Job Links Service, Hope Clubhouse, Multiple Sclerosis Center of Southwest Florida, The Salvation Army, Lee County Legal Aid Society and Literacy Council Gulf Coast. There will be more to come, including Dress For Success Southwest Florida in the new year.

Jeannine Joy, the president and CEO of United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee, was on hand to speak and provide words of wisdom to the crowd. "The Cape Coral United Way House will bring much needed services to the people of Cape Coral. We are thrilled to have SalusCare as the host agency and a total of nine United Way Partners providing services from the location."

The United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee has raised and distributed over \$177 million since its establishment in 1957.

All money raised in the United Way campaign stays in the local community to help support the local human service network. United Way partner agencies and initiatives include: The Alvin A Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center, Partners for Breast Cancer Care, Harry Chapin Food Bank, the Boys and Girls Clubs, and United Way 211, to mention a few. These agencies serve a diverse range of



Ribbon-cutting ceremony

needs in the community such as nurturing children and youth, strengthening families and meeting critical needs like helping the elderly and disabled live independently, and empowering communities by bringing health and human services to neighborhoods.

In addition to raising funds for human service organizations in the community, the United Way promotes partnerships and collaborations among agencies and initiatives, helping them to work together focusing on issues and solutions that continue to improve lives.

The United Way House is located at 1105 Cultural Park Boulevard in Cape Coral. To reach the United Way House coordinator, call 433-7559. People in need of information and referral assistance to health and human services should contact United Way 211. Simply dial 211, 433-3900, or www.unitedwaylee.org.



James Wineinger and Linda Doggett

Beautifulife:

Down Under

by Kay Casperson



This summer, we brought our girls to Australia to see where their Dad grew up, meet some family and explore the country. The experience opened their eyes to how beautiful Australia is

and how similar, yet different, the people, culture, food and environment are to ours.

I had been to Australia a few times already, but this trip was a special time to share with our girls and to see the excitement in their faces with every new experience. They are now old enough to be able to treasure these memories for a lifetime.

Although it is an extremely hot summer here in Florida, it is winter in Australia. The temperatures were cooler, but they changed pretty dramatically as we went to the different parts of the country, similar to here, and it was actually a nice break from the heat.



Kay Casperson snuggling with a koala bear

photo provided

We started our trip in Sydney, which reminded us of the bay of San Francisco. We climbed the Sydney Harbor Bridge, which is one of the longest steel arch bridges in the world, saw *Madame Butterfly* at the Sydney Opera House, and went to the beautiful Taronga

Zoo, which holds 2,600 animals with spectacular views of the harbor. Another highlight while we were there was taking a harbor cruise to see the lovely little towns that surround the water, and visiting a street market to see the art and creations of the locals.

The next stop was Queensland, which reminded us very much of Florida. We stayed in Port Douglas, which is surrounded by the Daintree Rainforest, the oldest tropical lowland rainforest in the world. It is also home to the Great Barrier Reef, which is the largest living thing on earth and visible from outer space. There is no other place in the world where two natural world heritage sites meet, and the beauty is hard to capture in photos and videos. To top it off, we were able to go behind the scenes at a wildlife habitat to see how they rescue and rehabilitate their wildlife, similar to how our dedicated volunteers and staff at CROW do it here on our beautiful islands. This experience was a treat as we also got to snuggle with koalas and play with the kangaroos, which of course, the girls wanted to bring home!

Our final stop was to Melbourne, where my husband grew up. This was a special time for him to show his daughters where he lived, went to school and played sports. They were also able to meet relatives that they had never met, and learned so much

more about his history and life. We went to an Aussie Rules football game at the beautiful Marvel Stadium and explored some beautiful scenic drives and beaches. Melbourne is famous for its cute laneways in the city, beautiful harbor, beaches, cafes and coffee shops, so we had plenty to do and see while enjoying a relaxing time and some cooler weather.

The travel time on both ends was about 35 hours, and the jet lag was a bit harder for us as adults than our kids. The overall experience is hard to beat when you can go to another country, speak the language and feel so much at home from start to finish, not to mention take back beautiful memories that will last a lifetime.

Thanks for letting me share this family trip with you and I hope you are enjoying the rest of your beautiful summertime.

My affirmation for you this week is; "I will open my eyes and heart to new experiences and will cherish the moments and memories that will last a lifetime."

Kay Casperson is a beauty and lifestyle expert, founder and CEO of Beautifulife by Kay Casperson. She owns resort spas on Sanibel and Captiva islands and manufactures beauty and lifestyle products sold across the country. To stay inspired, visit www.kaycasperson.com or follow on social media @kaycasperson.

Hope Healthcare Names Sponsors For Fundraiser

Hope Healthcare has announced additional sponsors for Shine, its inaugural signature benefit for Hope Kids Care.

In addition to Title “Starlight” sponsor Babcock Ranch, sponsors for the October event include: “Sparkle” sponsor Millennium Physician Group; “Bright” sponsor Gunterberg Charitable Foundation; “Twinkle” sponsor Priority Marketing; “Glitter” sponsors Brown & Brown/Florida Blue, DeAngelis Diamond, Lee County Sheriff’s Office and GrayRobinson; and “Glimmer” sponsors LSI Companies, IberiaBank, OFDC Commercial Interiors, Seed & Bean Market, Strayhorn & Persons, Studio+ and Tri-City Electrical Contractors.

Hosted by event chairs State Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto and attorney Jenna Persons, the Shine event will be held at the historic Edison & Ford Winter Estates on Friday, October 11 at 5:30 p.m. The elegant evening includes cocktails, dinner, music, entertainment and a “Fund-A-Need” live auction to benefit Hope Kids Care.

A service of Hope Healthcare, Hope Kids Care provides care to families in need, offering one-on-one children’s counseling including art and music therapy, and Rainbow Trails bereavement camp; medical care including palliative and respite care; and support including caregiver education, social services, volunteer support and Hopeful Wishes to meet other



Shine Event Co-Chairs Jenna Persons and Lizbeth Benacquisto photo provided family needs.

Tickets and additional sponsorship opportunities for the Shine event are available. To learn more about how to give hope and help kids, call 482-4672 or visit www.donate.hopehcs.org/shinesponsors. To reserve your tickets to attend Shine, visit www.donate.hopehcs.org/shine.

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.

Doctor and Dietician

Discipline And Intentionality



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

A friend recently asked me, “How do you have time to do all that you have to do?” My answer is discipline and intentionality. You want to run a 5K but have never run a block. Will watching YouTube videos make it happen? Obviously not. You must start with goals, then formulate plans.

What do you want to accomplish each day? What is important to you? My daily goals are morning quiet time, daily exercise, healthy eating, sleep eight hours, read, be joyful, strengthen relationships and have a balanced work-life load. In order to accomplish these things, I must plan out my days, weeks and even months. For some, that may seem too structured. However,

whatever it is that you value, you will spend time doing.

We made our home what we call a “human interaction zone” – thus, we removed TV! That act alone will give you a lot more time. In 2017, the average American spent four hours daily watching TV. According to a Neilson report, U.S. adults are now watching five hours and four minutes of TV per day. The average child watches about 30 hours of TV weekly, or more than four hours daily.

Excessive television viewing and phone/tablet use is correlated with obesity, increased risk of type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure. It diverts attention from making real relationships with family and friends, as well as exposes us to a lot of negativity and violence, which can lead to increased anxiety and depression, all of which are on the rise.

Write out your daily plans on whatever calendar you use. Then, commit to doing them. Find an accountability partner. It takes anywhere from 21 to 66 days to form a habit. You can do it. Be intentional. It will do your body good!

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.

dearRPharmacist

Seven Natural Remedies To Treat Psoriasis



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: Many people take “biologic” drugs that have anti-inflammatory actions on the body and reduce the symptoms of autoimmune conditions like ankylosing

spondylitis, Crohn’s disease, psoriasis, lupus and rheumatoid arthritis.

A few names of these biologic drugs include Remicade, Humira or Enbrel. These work well for those people who have an over-active immune system. If I could think of one negative, it would be that they don’t cure or eliminate the root cause of the self-attack.

Just three weeks ago, a study published in *JAMA Cardiology* found that using some of these medications could have a beneficial impact on the cardiovascular system. This makes sense to me because, after all, the drugs are reducing inflammation chemicals in the body, including those that would hurt the heart.

But due to side effects of biologic drugs, not everyone can take them. Some people cannot afford them. While my suggestions below are not nearly as strong as biologic medications, they might prove to be useful as adjunctive therapy. These remedies also do not suppress immunity. While these are certainly good ideas, I want you to ask your doctor if these are right for you before self-treating:

Fish Oil – Fish oil has consistently been shown to support skin health.

Studies have shown that taking fish oil seems to help with itching, redness and the size of the skin lesions. The reason this supplement may work for some people is because there might be a glitch in your fatty acid metabolism. Omega-3 supplements improve redness, thickness and scaling.

GLA – If your body is deficient in an enzyme that converts dietary fats into compounds that are required for healthy skin, then GLA could help. If you have more cis-linoleic acid and less of the desired gamma linoleic acid or GLA, you could have more flare ups.

Sulfur or Kampuku – Sulfur can be purchased as a soap, and it’s drying. It will ‘pull’ dirt from skin cells, and unclog the pores so it’s fabulous for acne. Sulfur is not sulfa.

My next best secret is the Kampuku Beauty Bar by Dr. Ohhira brand. It contains a blend of skin-loving probiotics to help restore healthy microflora to your skin cells. This is instantly soothing and will strengthen your skin’s natural barrier.

Apple Cider Vinegar or Tea Tree Oil – A fungi called malassezia may be involved in seborrheic dermatitis, psoriasis and eczema, and it’s hard to destroy this invader. You could try a diluted application of tea tree essential oil. You could also do a 50/50 mix of apple cider vinegar (ACV) with water. Both of these have some evidence behind them.

Boswellia – This herb is a strong anti-inflammatory and sometimes taken internally for rheumatoid arthritis, asthma and osteoarthritis. It is available in topical form and studies prove it can help reduce itching, redness and scaling. For more information on topical boswellia, write me at scriptessentials@gmail.com.

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.

Alzheimer’s Awareness Night

The Alzheimer’s Association is hosting a Lee Corporate Kickoff event to raise awareness for the Alzheimer’s disease at Joe’s Crab Shack on Thursday, August 22 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

The Lee Corporate Kickoff event, which is a lead-up to the Walk to End Alzheimer’s in Fort Myers this fall, is being organized by Jill Waruszewski, committee chair for the Alzheimer’s Association and marketing director for Signature Healthcare at College Park in Fort Myers. The goal is to educate local businesses and other community organizations on the Alzheimer’s Association’s mission, programs and research initiatives, all while encouraging people to register a team for Walk to End Alzheimer’s in Fort Myers and support the cause.

“This event is a great way to raise awareness and share with the community how our free resources, educational programs and support services can

help families and individuals touched by Alzheimer’s and why participating in Walk to End Alzheimer’s is so important,” said Kathy Heldman, walk manager for Walk to End Alzheimer’s in Fort Myers. “We’re grateful for Jill’s efforts to spread the word across Lee County and hope this encourages others to come out and walk (at Centennial Park) on October 26. We’d love to have local businesses and organizations become a part of the fight to end Alzheimer’s; more participants bring additional funds to help Lee County families with this devastating disease.”

Alzheimer’s disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. There are more than 5.8 million Americans living with the disease, including more than 560,000 Floridians.

Additionally, more than 16 million Americans provide unpaid care for those struggling with the disease.

Joe’s Crab Shack is located at 2024 West First Street in downtown Fort Myers. To learn more about this event or the Fort Myers’ Walk to End Alzheimer’s, contact Kathy Heldman at kaheldman@alz.org.

PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Haven on Earth Animal League

Patches And Esther



Patches



Esther

Hi, I'm Patches. I'm about 1 ½ years old, which is still very young in kitty years. I had a litter of kittens, and they've all found homes, so now I'm looking for a home of my own. I love attention and can't wait to snuggle with someone. My adoption fee is \$100, which includes spaying and vaccinations.

Hello, I'm Esther. I was rescued with my kittens and now I'm looking for a forever home. I'm only 1 year old and very affectionate. Look how pretty I am. I'm spayed and up-to-date on vaccinations. My adoption fee is \$100.

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

PAWS Of Sanibel

Sweetie Pie

PAWS has a beautiful young mother cat up for adoption. Her name is Sweetie Pie and she is approximately one year old. She has had all her shots, was combo-tested negative, wormed, treated for fleas and had spay surgery.

All of her kittens have been adopted and now she is wandering around wondering where everyone went. If you would like to meet Sweetie Pie, call Pam at PAWS, 472-4823.✱



Sweetie Pie

Out Here With Animals Event On Saturday

Fort Myers Tractor Supply Company will host animal adoptions, a pet supplies drive and more during their annual Out Here with Animals celebration – a monthlong event that recognizes pets, animals and the people who care for them.

On Saturday, August 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Fort Myers community is invited to visit the store to support local pet adoption groups by helping find a great home for animals in need. Participating local organizations that will be on site include South West Florida Horse Rescue. In addition to the adoptions, customers will have the opportunity to enjoy K-9 unit demonstration and vaccinations.

As part of the pet-centric happenings, animal lovers will have the opportunity to engage with team members about pet and animal care while supporting local rescue groups that are looking to find a safe home for animals in need.

"Tractor Supply celebrates pets and animals of all shapes and sizes year-round, and with our annual Out Here with Animals event, we get to spotlight our customers, their pets and the local rescue groups that play an integral role in the Fort Myers community," said JP Petrone, manager of the Fort Myers Tractor Supply. "Our team looks forward to this event every year, and we can't wait to welcome our loyal customers and their pets and animals into the Fort Myers store for pet treat tastings, giveaways and more."

Customers can also support the local animal shelter community by participating in pet supplies

drive. Happening all month long as part of Out Here with Animals, the tractor supply company is accepting new sealed food, toys, cleaning supplies and other essential pet accessories such as beds, scratching posts, leashes and bowls to be donated to Fort Myers rescues and shelters.

Along with events that celebrate and support Fort Myers pets, Out Here with Animals will feature a sale on premium products for pets, small animals and livestock, including items necessary for their health, care, growth and containment. Through Sunday, August 25, customers can purchase deals on premium brands like Blue Buffalo, Purina Feed, 4health, Hill's Science Diet and more.

Fort Myers Tractor Supply Company is located at 2395 South Olga Road in Fort Myers. Contact the store at 690-3002 for more information or details about participating in the pet adoption.

For expert advice on raising pets and other animals, visit www.tractorsupply.com/knowhow.✱



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 Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy	936-3239
Young Artists Awards	574-9321

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

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

AREA ATTRACTIONS

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

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

PUZZLES

Answers on page 29

Super Crossword

SHOW HONOR

- ACROSS**
- 1 Inflate
7 Cattle pen
13 Sucks up
20 Ida of old Hollywood
21 Excite
22 Graduation document
23 Verdi opera set in Cyprus
24 Carrot, tater or cuke
25 Barn bash
26 "Spread the news!"
29 Sore, as muscles
30 Mermaid setting
31 Dernier — (newest fashion)
32 Mauna — (Hawaiian peak)
35 Mom's mate
38 Give relief of
40 "Hip, hip, hooray!"
45 "— From Muskogee" (country hit)
47 Tons of, informally
50 Down a meal
51 Author Nin
52 1975 Joni Mitchell hit
55 Feed voraciously
- 57 Conan O'—
58 Rialto glower
59 Itinerary specification
61 Piqued state
62 Totally fill
65 Santa — (some winds)
67 Warm up
69 USN jr. officer
70 Country that one's forebears are from
74 Unwell
76 "Farewell!"
77 City near Grenoble
78 Enjoys anew, as a book
81 Wine valley in California
83 Sonic the Hedgehog's creator
85 Pouchlike parts
87 Lower leg bone
88 Refrigerator part for
90 1953 Bing Crosby film
94 Metropolis in Japan
95 Find a sum
96 Lucky number
97 Actress Liu
- 98 Title dance in a 1962 novelty song
102 River in Germany
104 Blue Jays, on sports tickers
105 Grammy-winning Brian
106 Kauai wreath
107 Peak periods
110 "Yeah, right!"
112 Prize won by the ends of 26-, 40-, 52-, 70-, 90- and 98-Across
- 120 Its capital is Kingston
123 Quite polite
124 "Damien: —" (1978 sequel)
125 Structure near a tonsil
126 Voting item
127 Thread puller
128 1949 Tony winner Fabray
129 Derisive smiles
130 Sergeant Bilko and others
- DOWN**
- 1 Ink spot
2 Mandolin kin
3 German auto
4 "One of Ours" writer
5 Loosen, as a skate
6 Place to play snooker
7 Guinea pig
8 Cookies since 1912
9 Knavish one
10 Toddler
11 "Yeah, right!"
12 Roué's look
13 Hang on (to)
14 Having artificial body parts
15 Hurried
16 It made the Cutlass
17 Joey, e.g., informally
18 German auto
19 SFPD part
27 Common disinfectant
28 "Power" rapper
32 Heard of
33 Inception
34 Good traits
35 Pundit Lou
36 Film director — Kurosawa
37 Yamaha or Casio product
39 Princely school
- 41 Witch's spell
42 Sortie, e.g.
43 Witch
44 Slaughter in the outfield
46 "There wasn't a dry — the house"
48 Take a vow
49 Not in any key
53 Ratify
54 Market researcher
55 Old numbing liquid
56 Zora — Hurston
60 PIN taker
63 Rib
64 Aspartate, for one
66 Young pigs
68 Toadlike, in a way
71 Gift stick-on
72 Aunt's spouse, in Soissons
73 Actor Sam of "Backtrack"
74 Earned pay
75 Cartoonist Gary
79 Style for the Bee Gees
80 Lustful deity
82 Queries
84 Actor Alan of "The Aviator"
- 86 Golfer Ballesteros
89 Margarine square
91 Billfold items, briefly
92 Make hazy
93 In single file
95 Gal pal, in Grenoble
99 Bring to light
100 Like "Carrie" in 2013
101 Modest
103 Juicing gizmo
108 Norman Vincent —
109 Tijuana Mr.
111 12-year-old, say
112 Glazier's unit
113 Large brawl
114 Rubber duck locales
115 Where shahs ruled
116 New York ball team
117 "... — in my cap ..."
118 Vex
119 Goes totally kaput
120 "Brady Bunch" sister
121 Toothpaste box abbr.
122 Pawns, e.g.

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20							21							22						
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105					106					107	108	109		110			111			
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120	121	122						123						124						
125								126						127						
128								129						130						

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 ABC daytime offering, with "The"
5 Sand hill
9 Letterman's network
12 Con
13 Egg
14 "The Greatest"
15 Proper subject?
16 Obtains
17 Play on words
18 Oklahoma city
19 Felon's flight
20 Dweeb
21 Individual
23 Green, in a sense
25 Pesky pin-cered insect
28 Worldwide
32 Dentist's directive
33 Presses
34 Giggly sound
36 Outstanding, as debt
37 Tin Man's need
38 Sun. dis-course
39 Distort
42 "— been had!"
44 Doctrines
48 Expert
49 "Yeah, right"
50 Speed along
- 51 Anger
52 Grand
53 Birthright bar-terer
54 Blazed a trail
55 Teen hangout
56 "Yesterday," "Today" or "Tomorrow"
- 7 Eggnog sprin-ling
8 Ambulance org.
9 Mob boss
10 Unclear image
11 Go down
20 Ticket-holders' win-nings
22 Japanese-Americans
24 "Crazy" singer Patsy
25 Small sala-mander
26 Beer cousin
27 Fish eggs
- 29 Feathery wrap
30 Blackbird
31 "Acid"
35 Biblical prophet
36 Handy
39 Cry like a banshee
40 Farm fraction
41 Clarinetist's need
43 String instru-ment
45 Mediocre
46 Complain
47 Overconfident
49 \$ dispenser
- DOWN**
- 1 Barn-roof decoration
2 Aware of
3 Needle case
4 Look, but don't buy
5 Fairway bend
6 Eye layer

MAGIC MAZE

●

STARRY WORDS

HEMJHLETCZXDUSQ
NHLRJORG EVRATSE
CZCAXAVTRAHPNTL
JHERTDCPOASYDRW
VTRSASUBPNIDRAL
KIPELTRATSFRATG
EUCBRASEHCRATSZ
XWUAATTRTNPSATSER
POTSM DALRUTSURJ
ISGEDORBAOSUCYX
WUTSQMKPONCMLKJ

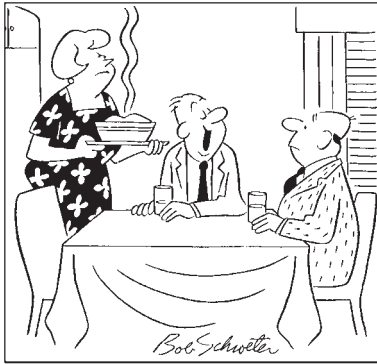
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

Cornstarch
Custard
Loadstar
Mustard

Restart
Starboard
Starches
Stardom

Stare
Starfish
Stark
Startle

Startup
Superstar
Upstart



"Don't let my wife's cooking scare you,
Ed — we live across the street from a

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!

Manner	SELTY	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Dirty	UPRIME	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Contempt	THREAD	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Trial	LOARDE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

TODAY'S WORD

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

SUDOKU

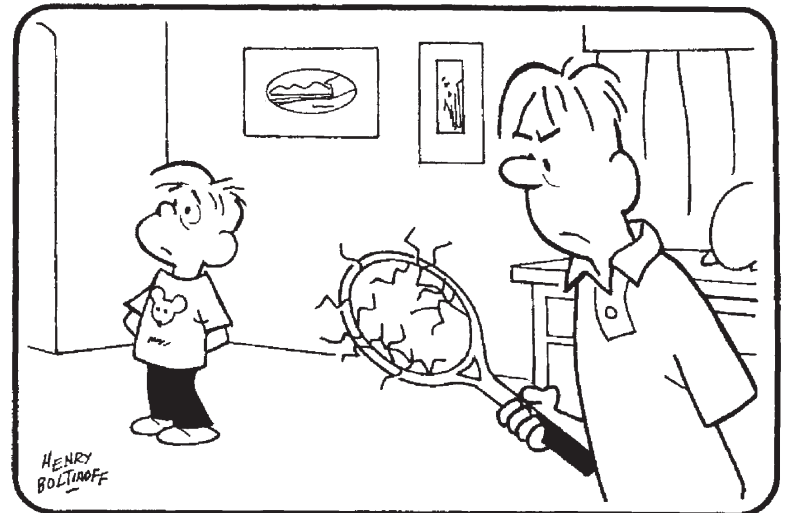
To play Sudoku:

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.

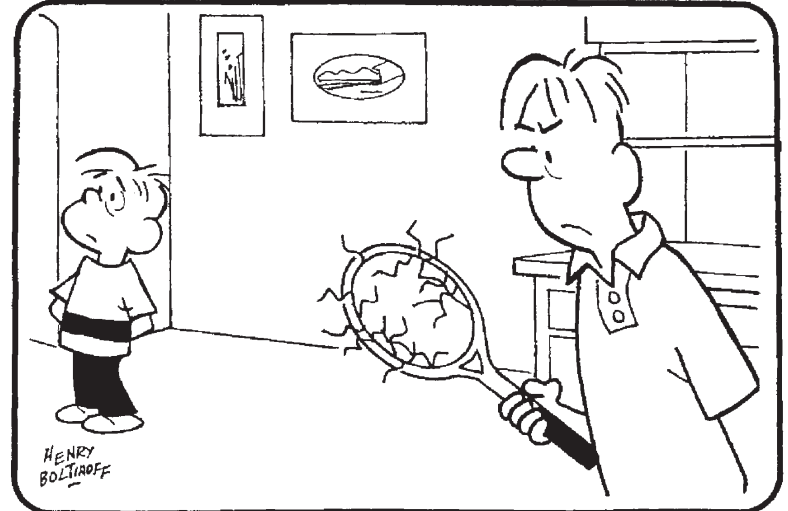
answer on page 29

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Boy's shirt is different. 2. Pictures are rearranged. 3. Button added to man's shirt. 4. Window replaces curtains. 5. Picture on table is missing. 6. Boy is closer to doorway.



Herb and Butter Roasted Spiny Lobster with Citrus and Olives

2 (6-8 ounce) spiny lobster tails, removed from the shell
1 orange or grapefruit, peeled and segmented
4 bamboo skewers (6 inches)
1 tablespoon fresh herb mix, chopped fine (thyme, rosemary, parsley)
Olive oil for cooking
1 tablespoon unsalted butter
1 cup microgreens or arugula
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
12 Spanish Queen and/or Kalamata olives, pitted
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

Cut the lobster tails in half, lengthwise. Preheat a medium-sized sauté pan over medium-high heat. Season the lobster tail meat with salt, pepper, and fresh chopped herbs. Add 1 tablespoon of olive oil and butter to the preheated pan. Carefully add the seasoned lobster to the hot pan. Cook the lobster tails for 2 to 4 minutes while turning them until just



Herb and Butter Roasted Spiny Lobster with Citrus and Olives

cooked. Make sure not to overcook the lobster. Remove the lobster skewers from the pan and let them cool slightly. Insert the bamboo skewers into the middle

of each of the halved lobster tails. In a small bowl, combine the microgreens or arugula with the lemon juice. Season the greens lightly with salt and pepper and

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida
toss to coat. To plate the dish, put a bed of the greens on a small platter. Arrange the lobster skewers, citrus segments, and olives. Serve immediately.*

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My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 26, 2019

Aries (March 21 to April 19) Despite your Aries penchant for wanting to tackle a problem head-on, you might want to take a little more time to see how a current situation develops. It could surprise you.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Taking on the role of peacemaker in a disruptive environment is a challenge. But you can do it. Just continue to have the same faith in yourself that so many others have in you.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Although your work schedule keeps you busy, you should make time to start preparing for that important upcoming family event you'll want to celebrate in a special way.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Home is where the Moon Child wants to be early in the week. But by week's end, a chance to travel raises her or his excitement level, and that of the lucky person who gets to go along.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Be careful not to be a copycat when dealing with someone who uses unfair or even unkind methods to reach a goal. As always, do the right thing the right way, and you'll win in the end.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) An offer could have many good things attached to it that are not apparent at first glance, including a chance to move into another career area. You might want to check out its possibilities.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) With responsibilities surging both in the workplace and in the home, it's important to prioritize how you deal with them. Be patient. Pressures will begin to ease starting early next week.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) A positive reaction to a suggestion could indicate that you're on track for getting your message to the right people. Devote the weekend to catching up with the special people in your life.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) A new attitude from those in charge could make things difficult for you unless you can accept the changes without feeling as if you're being pressured into doing so.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Family matters once again dominate much of the week. But don't neglect your workplace duties while you deal with

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7. "Zit" 8. Green 9. A French unit
of length used to size watches, buttons
and hats 10. Earl Grey

Help Protect Endangered Sea Turtles

It's sea turtle nesting season in Florida, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is sharing guidelines on how people can make a difference for these endangered marine reptiles.

As hatchlings begin to appear on beaches throughout the state, remember that it is important to keep your distance from them and their nests. Never handle hatchlings crawling toward the water. Any interference or disturbance, such as getting too close or taking flash photos, increases the chances the hatchlings will get confused, go in the wrong direction and not reach the ocean quickly. That makes them vulnerable to dehydration, exhaustion and predators. As with all wildlife, watching from a distance is best.

"We know that sea turtle hatchlings are cute and understand that it might seem tempting to touch them," said FWC sea turtle biologist Robbin Trindell, "but people often don't realize the impact their actions can have. What may seem like a harmless selfie with a hatchling



A sea turtle moves across the sand

photo provided

could prove deadly to that turtle. If sea turtle hatchlings are removed from their nests before they are ready, they are less likely to survive."

There are many ways one can make a difference for Florida's sea turtles:

It's a sea turtle night, turn off the

light – After sundown, turn off any lights not necessary for human safety. Use long wavelength amber LED lamps for lights that must stay lit and shield lights, so they are not visible from the beach. Remember to close shades or curtains.

No flash photos, please – On the

beach at night, don't take flash photos or use bright cellphones or flashlights. This can cause turtles to become disoriented and crawl away from the ocean, putting them at risk.

Sea turtles are protected and must be respected – Stay back and give sea turtles space if you see one on the beach at night. Don't touch a nesting turtle because it may leave the beach without nesting if disturbed. Remember, it is illegal to harm or disturb nesting sea turtles, their nests, eggs or hatchlings.

Clear the way at the end of the day – Beach furniture, canopies, boats and toys left behind on the sand can become obstacles that block nesting and hatchling turtles. Fill in any holes dug in the sand.

Before taking any action, report sea turtles that are sick, injured, entangled or otherwise in danger to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 1-888-404-3922, #FWC or *FWC on a cellphone or text Tip@MyFWC.com.

Sea turtle nesting season continues through October. Learn more about Florida's sea turtles at www.myfwc.com/seaturtle.

Show your support for sea turtle conservation with a specialty license plate or sea turtle decal.✧

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8/16 ✧ 8/30

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Millions Awarded For Hurricane Irma Expenses

FEMA has approved \$3,193,581 for the State of Florida to help the City of Fort Myers defray the costs of responding to Hurricane Irma under FEMA’s Public Assistance (PA) Program. FEMA funds will reimburse the city for the cost of overtime worked by police, firefighters and other city employees to open and staff an emergency operations center, assist with the evacuation of residents, conduct search and rescue, clear debris from roadways, make emergency repairs to damaged city property and maintain generators in addition to their regular duties. Contractors also provided services during the period between September 4 and October 3, 2017.

Funding for this Public Assistance (PA) project is authorized under Sections 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Act for Florida to cover Hurricane Irma-related expenses, reimbursing eligible applicants for the cost of debris removal; life-saving emergency protective measures; and the repair, replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged facilities like buildings, roads and utilities.

FEMA’s Public Assistance grant program is an essential source of funding for communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency. The Florida Division of Emergency Management works with FEMA during all phases of the PA program and conducts final reviews of FEMA-approved projects.

Applicants work directly with FEMA to develop project worksheets and scopes of work. Following approvals by FEMA and the Florida Division of Emergency Management, FEMA obligates funding for the project.

FEMA’s Public Assistance program provides grants to state, tribal and local governments, as well as certain types of private non-profit organizations including some houses of worship, so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies.

The federal share for PA projects is not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost.

The state determines how the non-federal share of the cost of a project (up to 25 percent) is split with the sub-recipients like local and county governments.*

Stay Away From The Big Green Transformers

They are big, green and sit in residential neighborhoods. These big green boxes are called pad-mounted transformers and caution must be used around them.

What are pad-mounted transformers? They work in the same capacity as the transformers (gray cans) on the top of electric poles do. In essence, they convert higher-voltage electricity to a lower voltage

so that it is safe and useful for your home. The only difference is that pad-mounted transformers work with underground power lines while transformers on the pole work directly with the overhead electric lines.

How can I stay safe around pad-mounted transformers? Locked and marked as dangerous, these big green boxes should never be used as benches, nor should kids play on or near them. Landscaping should not be planted around these boxes as power linemen may need to access them safely and easily, and any roots could interfere with underground wires. Never, ever dig anywhere near a pad-mounted transformer. It is just as important for people to be safe around underground power lines and pad-mounted transformers as it is to be safe around overhead power lines.

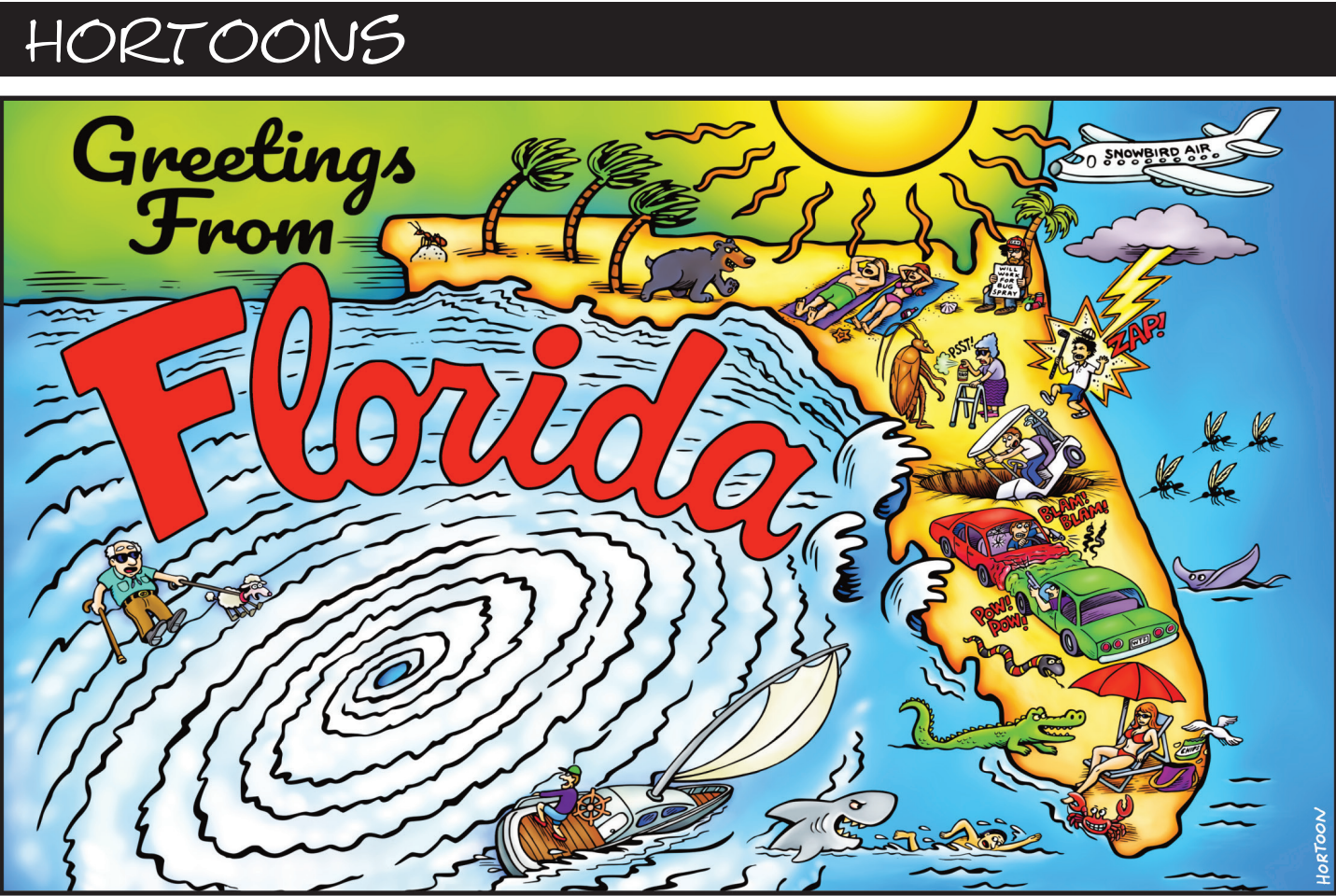
For more ways to stay safe around electricity, visit www.lcec.net.*

Know The Signs Of Drug Abuse

Narconon reminds families that the country is facing the largest manmade health crisis in history. Drugs are a problem nationwide and it’s more important than ever to know the signs and symptoms of drug abuse.

To learn more about how to spot signs of drug abuse and how to help your loved one, visit <https://www.narconon-suncoast.org/drug-abuse/>.

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call for a no cost screening or referral: 1-877-841-5509.*



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Sunset Cove	Fort Myers	2001	5,472	\$1,949,000	\$1,875,000	36
Villas In Paradise	Fort Myers Beach	2007	2,961	\$1,850,000	\$1,745,200	39
Edgewater	Fort Myers	1996	3,208	\$1,175,000	\$1,100,000	21
Metes And Bounds	Sanibel	1987	2,240	\$1,095,000	\$900,000	587
Little Hickory Shores	Bonita Springs	1980	2,000	\$995,000	\$930,000	97
Del Sega	Sanibel	1976	1,937	\$899,000	\$860,000	8
Alva	Alva	2004	4,421	\$849,500	\$999,215	104
Bonita Lakes	Bonita Springs	2016	3,906	\$799,000	\$787,000	4
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1985	1,908	\$699,900	\$600,000	330
Monteverdi	Fort Myers	2006	2,974	\$699,900	\$650,000	190



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