

Vol. 19, No. 6

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers FEBRUARY 7, 2020

Mastersingers Free Concert At Festival Of Light

The Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers will present their first full chorus concert of 2020 as a sanctioned event of the Edison Festival of Light at St. Michael's Lutheran Church on Sunday, February 9 at 2 p.m. Artistic Director Shannon Arnold leads

Artistic Director Shannon Arnold leads the 80-voice chorus in another of the imaginative programs that, along with well-loved masterworks, have become the ensemble's trademark. This concert focuses on noteworthy inventions in history while the Mastersingers perform music written in the years those advances appeared. There is no admission charge as this concert is presented in partnership with St. Michael's Church for the benefit of the community.

"The importance of Thomas Edison as an inventor inspired this entire program. Life-altering inventions such as the airplane, the Internet and Edison's incandescent light bulb will be represented through music written at the time of these advancements," said Arnold. "Just as inventions have paved the course of history, choral literature has evolved in the same way. We're excited to portray the history of science and music through a choral time warp experience. We



The Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers

are also thrilled to be able to bring this type of event to our community and as a part of the Edison Festival of Light."

Selections run from Haydn and Beethoven to modern day composers Michael Dellaira and Abbie Betinis, with stops in between for Bruckner and Britten. The choral compositions are as diverse as the inventions being highlighted. Accompaniment for the program will be provided by the group's collaborative pianist, Janet Carter.

In addition to the adult chorus, winners of the 2019 DeMaster Scholarships – another of the Mastersingers' community outreach programs – will sing at the concert. The DeMaster Scholarship program is in its sixth year and is open to aspiring soloists from sixth through 12th grades. Each April, auditions are held, and scholarships for voice lessons are awarded. To date, the organization has distributed photo provided

nearly \$20,000 in scholarships through the program. The 2020 auditions will be held at St. Hilary's Episcopal Church in Fort Myers on Saturday, April 25. St. Michael's Lutheran Church is

St. Michael's Lutheran Church is located at 3595 Broadway in downtown Fort Myers. For more information on how to take part in the DeMaster auditions, Mastersingers' community programs, or the group's concert schedule, visit www. mastersingersfm.com.*



Puddles

Puddles Pity Party On Stage At Davis Art Center

The Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center will host Puddles Pity Party, the second Jazzy Nights Concert of the 2019-20 season on Saturday, February 8. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the concert begins at 8 p.m. photo by Emily Butler Photography

You may recognize Puddles Pity Party from his appearances on the current season of *America's Got Talent* and viral video collaborations with Postmodern Jukebox. The "Sad Clown with the Golden Voice" is here with his heartfelt anthems and a suitcase full of tissues. The show is peppered with a brilliant sense of the absurd, mixing lots of humor with the awkward, tender moments.

Puddles is wowing audiences at his continued on page 22

Art Under 20 Winners Awarded



Anna Fischler's painting was voted Best of Show

Ribbons and prize money were awarded at the 2020 Art Under 20 exhibit space at ArtFest Fort Myers last weekend. In the Chalk Block competition, four high school teams were honored with first, second and third places and the sponsor award by professional

photo by Bob Petcher

chalk street painting artists. Fort Myers High student Anna Fischler captured Best of Show with her painting and collected \$900 in prize money. There were five Fewster Family

Scholarships worth \$500 in prize money. continued on page 24

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now: Cracker Dinner' Forerunner Helped Found Research Center by Gerri Reaves, PhD

Southwest Florida Historical Society

Dresents

"OLD TIMERS NIGHT"

AT THE HALL OF 50 STATES 2254 Edwards Dr.

February 7th, 1986 - 7:30 P.M.

Donation \$5.00

Tickets may be purchased at

Lee County Alliance of the Arts 5111 McGregor Blvd.

A poster for the 1986 "Old Timers Night"

vening while Old Timers Spin Tales of Southwest Florida

photo courtesy Archives of

Southwest Florida Historical Society



istory lovers and old timers Lalike know that, come February, it's time for a major local-history event.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society's annual fundraiser, the Cracker Dinner, is

set for February 17 at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

Get ready to see old friends, compare stories and memories, and enjoy an engaging program, along with food, music, a silent auction and a raffle.

But even people who've attended the dinner many times might not realize that it had a forerunner whose purpose went beyond just celebrating history for one evening.

"Old Timers Night," which began 14 years before the first Cracker Dinner, helped to establish the society's first

permanent headquarters and research center. In February 1984, "Old Timers Night," or alternately "Old Times in Southwest Florida," debuted. It was held at the Hall of Fifty States on Edwards Drive and featured a panel of speakers who illuminated local history.

on Pageant of Ligh 2214 Bay St.

Donations and ticket sales were to go toward a specific purpose: the raising of \$20,000 to move and set up a 1920s bungalow on the grounds of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts at McGregor and Colonial Boulevards.

The house, located on Cottage Street in downtown and, most recently, used as



A ticket for the first "Old Timers Night" in 1984

photo courtesy Archives of Southwest Florida Historical Society

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In February 1992, the panel for "Old Times in Southwest Florida" on stage at the Hall of Fifty States included Tommy Pursley, Mae Ola Nickson (center), Jimmy P. Porter and Joan Pigott Porter (second from right) photo courtesy SWFL Historical Society

a law office, was to become the society's first permanent home since it had been founded in 1963.

The one-story, wood-frame cottage had been condemned prior to the construction of the Lee County Criminal Justice Čenter parking lot and was donated to the society by Harper Brothers, the contractors for the parking lot.

The Alliance had been established on its campus for only six years but had already become the place for arts and culture organizations to call home.

In June 1984, the historical society's project received a big boost when it received one of 16 Gannett Foundation grants: \$2,000 to set up a headquarters and research center that would be open to the public.

The next year, Old Timers ticket prices increased to a whopping 50 cents to \$4! The 1985 program featured Margaret Henderson Norris, daughter of Effie Winker McAdow and granddaughter of legendary pioneer Dr. William B. Winkler; Wilmer Menge, son of Capt. Conrad Menge, one of the founders of the famous Menge Brothers Steamboat Line; and Irma Lee Evans, former News-Press writer.

Fundraising evidently went well, for on May 3, 1985, a dedication ceremony for the society's archive and research center was held on the Alliance campus.

The old-timers night continued until at least 1992.

Not until February 1998 did the "Cracker Dinner" title appear. The name, by the way, in no way suggests the menu. "Old-fashioned country cooking" was part of the event from the beginning. The menu usually included swamp cabbage, fried chicken, green beans and other local favorites. For a few years, it took place at various locations but then settled in for a long run at the Riverside Community Center until several years ago. Then it transferred to the Broadway Palm and the menu took on a more contemporary mainstream flavor.

If you're new to the area, you might wonder, "why the name Cracker Dinner?" It derives from the term "Florida Cracker," an old-time Floridian.

Definitions of that term are numerous and some date clear back to Elizabethan England. And, both disparaging and complimentary definitions exist.

But suffice it to say that over the last two centuries in the southeastern U.S., the name became one of cultural pride to some settlers.

The most common meaning related to Florida, is that "cracker" refers to the sound that pioneer cattle drivers' whips made. Another is that it refers to a simple corn cracker, a staple for pioneer Floridians that was cooked on a shovel over a campfire think corn pone.

Find out more about pioneer Fort Myers by visit the Southwest Florida Historical Society at the research center established 35 years ago.

Don't forget to ask about Cracker Dinner tickets.

The dinner will feature ABC7 Morning News anchors Jennifer Stacy and Gregory continued on page 8



Shell Point Retirement Community continues its 2019-20 Fine and Performing Arts Series with a performance called Embraceable You: The Music of George Gershwin photo provided

Shell Point Series On The Music Of George Gershwin

hell Point Retirement Community's 2019-20 Fine and Performing Arts Series continues with a performance entitled Embraceable You: The Music of George Gershwin at The Village Church auditorium on The Island at Shell Point on Thursday, February 27 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40. Straight from the Broadway stage, Dean Balkwill and Lisa Ferguson Balkwill are triple threats brimming with charm and charisma, performing the music of George and Ira Gershwin – musical comedy at its finest. During the performance, guests will enjoy dance numbers, nostalgic ballads and romantic comedy, all backed by live musicians and set in the post-war Paris of 1948.

The Village Church is located at 15100 Shell Point Blvd. in Fort Myers. For more information or tickets, visit www.shellpoint.org/concerts or call 454-2067.*

Sherlock Holmes Mystery Comes To Alliance Theater

Theatre Conspiracy at the Alliance for the Arts presents the awardwinning Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery by Ken Ludwig and directed by Rachael Endrizzi from February 13 through 23. The production stars Rob Green, Thomas Marsh, Shelly Sanders, Jordan Wilson and Madelaine Weymouth. It is sponsored by Naomi Bloom and Ron Wallace.

Sherlock Holmes is on the case. The male heirs of the Baskerville line are being dispatched one by one. To find their ingenious killer, Holmes and Watson must brave the desolate moors before a family curse dooms its newest heir. Watch as our intrepid investigators try to escape a dizzying web of clues, silly accents, disguises and deceit as five actors deftly portray more than 40 characters without ever confusing one accent for another as they present this Arthur Conan Doyle work that you may think you know but have never seen like this.

Does a wild hellhound prowl the moors of Devonshire? Can our heroes discover the truth in time? Join the fun and see how elementary laughter can be.

Individual tickets are \$26, \$11 for students or \$22 for Alliance members. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.



Madelaine Weymouth and Rob Green photo provided

An audio described show is available on February 23. For theatregoers who are blind, or have moderate to severe vision loss, the Alliance will provide a specially trained describer who verbalizes what's happening on stage during pauses in dialogue. Reservation of headsets is required prior to the show by calling 939-2787.

Alliance for the Arts is located at at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. To purchase tickets or for more information, call the box office at 939-2787, visit the box office, or visit www. artinlee.org/theatre.the articles.com/theatre.the art





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Adam Diegel

photos provided

Symphony To Perform Concert Of Masterworks

The Southwest Florida Symphony continues its 59th season with Masterworks 3: A Night at the Opera Returns. The concert takes place at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall on Saturday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. The performance will be conducted by Music Director Nir Kabaretti and will feature



Leann Sandel-Pantaleo

mezzo-soprano vocalist Leann Sandel-Pantaleo, tenor vocalist Adam Diegel and soprano vocalist Caitlin Lynch. Kabaretti's popular pre-concert lecture takes place at 6:30 p.m.

Added at short notice, Lynch solves the medically induced "soprano drama" connected to this concert that will feature opera's greatest hits. Usually the complexities go seamlessly unseen by the audiences that enjoy these renowned performers who grace the symphony's stage. "Though we're truly disappointed that our original soprano isn't able to perform, we'll

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Caitlin Lynch

have the opportunity to discover another exceptional talent through this challenge," said Amy Ginsburg, the symphony's executive director.

In addition to breathtaking operatic performances by lauded vocalists and the orchestra, narration will be provided by Florida Weekly's highly popular columnist, Roger Williams. Between pieces, Williams will provide context to the audience for the arias being performed in his unique style of storytelling.

These lectures are offered in order to better educate audiences about the pieces being performed and often feature a guest artist question-andanswer session and demonstrations. Tickets are between \$15 and \$109 per person.

Masterworks 3: A Night at the Opera Returns features a program of opera arias, duets and orchestral pieces from the operas Carmen, Turnadot, La Forza del Destino, Tosca, Aida and more

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall is located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers. Tickets may be purchased online at www.swflso. org, by visiting the Southwest Florida Symphony Box Office located at 8290 College Parkway, Suite 103 in Fort Myers, by calling the Symphony Box Office at 418-1500 or at the door, one and a half hours prior to the concert. 尊

Make Wedding Appointments For Valentine's Day

ee Clerk Linda Doggett is accepting appointments for couples wishing to get married on the most romantic day of the year. The Clerk's office will be officiating weddings on Friday, February 14 at all three locations. "Valentine's Day is the most romantic

and popular day to get married," Doggett said. "To ensure all our couples spend their time pledging their love instead of waiting, we highly encourage them to schedule an appointment.

Clerk Doggett will officiate several of the weddings taking place at the Fort Myers office.

Prior to reserving their appointment, couples must purchase a marriage license for \$86 and a ceremony for \$30 by February 11. Florida residents may waive the mandatory three-day waiting period by completing a premarital course by a registered provider. Once complete, they must present their certificate of completion for a \$25 discount on their marriage license.

To schedule your ceremony at any of the three locations, call 533-5007. The Fort Myers office is the only location with a private wedding room. Ceremonies at the Cape Coral and Bonita Springs offices are held at the desk.

The Fort Myers office is located in the County Administration Building at 2115 Second Street. The Cape Coral office is located at 1039 SE 9th Place, 2nd Floor. The Bonita Springs office is located in the Tax Collector's office at 25987 South Tamiami Trail.

For more information about marriage licenses and ceremonies, visit www. leeclerk.org.炎

Comedy Group At Lab Theater

Cared Scriptless Comedy Lab returns to The Laboratory Theater of Florida for a Saturday, February 15 performance. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7 p.m. for a night of musical comedy, and on-the-spot jokes. With a history of sold-out performances Scared Scriptless will perform another

continued on page 6





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8701 ESTERO BLVD. #1007, FT. MYERS BEACH Weekly Rentals Welcome MLS 220003404 \$335,000 Tammy Workman 239.645.0750

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18931 BAY WOODS LAKE DR. #103, S. FT. MYERS • Overlooking Preserve \$220,000 MLS 219041381 Anita Mercer & Tina Tusack 239.910.5399





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13933 BENTLY CIR., FT. MYERS 3 BR, 3 BA, 2 CG, Lakefront MLS 219081392 \$279,900 Ron Cotorakas & Marc Wozny 239.560.1406



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13651 CHINA BERRY WAY, FT. MYERS • 3 BR, 2.2 BA, Lakefront \$619,000 MLS 220004870 Kelly Sackman, McMurray & Members 239.810.7388



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6 | THE RIVER - FEBRUARY 7, 2020

Fort Myers Art:

Choose Between Three Art Festivals This Weekend



by Tom Hall

There are three art festivals in Southwest Florida this weekend. Pick between Bonita Springs, Naples and North Fort Myers, or travel to all three cities for a festival trifecta.

The Bonita Springs National Art Festival returns on Saturday and Sunday, February 8 and 9 to picturesque Riverside Park and side streets in historic old Bonita Springs on Old 41 for the second of its three fine art festivals. Ranked No. 2 in the nation by Sunshine Artist Magazine, this festival stresses quality and originality, with the 211 artists juried into the show from across the United States, Canada and even Europe exhibiting and selling original paintings (in oil, acrylics and watercolors), drawings, pastels, photography, handcrafted jewelry, clay works and ceramics, glass art, metal and sculpture. Riverside Park is located at 10450 Revnolds Street or 27000 Old 41 Road in central Bonita Springs.

Saturday, February 8 is the date for



A previous Naples Artcrafters Fine Art & Craft Show

the Naples Artcrafters Fine Art & Craft Show. Naples Artcrafters is committed to promoting excellence in arts and crafts and to supporting established artists, craftspersons and students by providing a venue for the display and sale of their work in a beautiful setting. At this show, more than 90 artists will display a wide array of artistic genres, styles and media, including paintings in oils, acrylics, watercolors, drawings in pen and ink and pencil, pastels, scissors art, multi-media and collage, photography, ceramics and pottery,





photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

jewelry, metalsmithing, metal clays, lapidary, beading, sculptures, stained glass and fused glass, wood turning

Reading Festival Returns To Downtown Library

More than 20 acclaimed and bestselling authors are coming to Fort Myers to talk about their books and meet fans at the 21st annual Southwest Florida Reading Festival at Fort Myers Regional Library on Saturday, March 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Southwest Florida Reading Festival has a diverse line-up of nationally recognized authors for adults, teens and children. This free, fun event is loved by attendees who come back year after year. The fans attend to hear and meet bestselling authors, participate in contests and activities and find the latest and greatest in books, technology and accessories. In addition to author appearances and autographing sessions, there will be food truck vendors, storytelling programs, arts, crafts, youth writing and coloring contests and a free book for every child and teen.

"The festival invites popular authors to participate by sharing their real life experiences, thought processes and the evolution of their characters," said Lee County Library System Director Mindi Simon. "It is fascinating to hear the story behind the story."

In addition to the daylong community event, Lee County Library System hosts a number of preview events at library branches leading up to the festival. Among the activities offered this year are book signings at various branches by *New York Times* best-selling authors Mary HoneyB Morrison, Chris Pavone, Peggy Rowe and Lisa Unger in addition to a Local Author Day featuring numerous independent authors at the North Fort Myers Library on Saturday, February 29 from 1 to 3 p.m.

The highlight of the preview events will be An Evening with the Authors fundraiser on March 6 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Marina at Edison Ford, 2360 West First Street in Fort Myers. Attendees will and carving, and basket weaving. The show takes place in Cambier Park along 8th Street South, within view of the Band Shell and Cambier's Quilt, the first public art project at a municipal building under the City of Naples' public art ordinance.

This year, the Pine Island Art Association's 48th annual Art Show and Sale will be held on Saturday and Sunday, February 8 and 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. New this year, the event will be held at the North Fort Myers Recreation Center. It will feature the works of more than 100 artists, and will include more than 500 paintings in acrylic, oil, pastel, pen and ink, and watercolor, with an emphasis on Florida landscapes, seascapes, birds, fish and flowers – all ready to hang in your home.

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.

have the opportunity to meet and mingle with this year's festival authors while enjoying a buffet dinner overlooking the Caloosahatchee. Tickets can be purchased at www.readfest.org through Saturday, February 15.

The lineup of award-winning authors scheduled to attend the festival includes adult authors Jennifer Chiaverini, Lincoln Child, Michael Koryta and Erik Larson, as well as youth and teen authors Kate Messner and KA Holt.

"We are really honored to share these authors with the community and provide readers and fans the opportunity to meet the writers personally and learn more about their work," states festival organizer Melissa Baker. "This year, we have an incredibly diverse mix of writers. We are proud that our festival lineup reflects the diversity in our community."

The Southwest Florida Reading Festival is free and community-supported through donations, sponsorships and grants.

Fort Myers Regional Library is located at 2450 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information, the event schedule or to donate, visit www.readfest. org or call 533-4832.*

From page 4

Lab Theater

improvised show based on audience suggestions.

This troupe offers a unique mix of both short and long-form improv, creating an entertaining evening of family-friendly laughter that is fast-paced. While no two shows are the same, they are always packed with songs, sketches and jokes created instantaneously. For the more adventurous, there are occasional opportunities to join the cast on stage! Tickets are \$15 per person

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



From left, Coldin Belilies, Terry Sanders, Nathan Martinez and Nicholas Ortiz photo provided

Four Local Boxers Gain National Ranking

The Fort Myers Police Department's Police Athletic League (FMPD PAL) recently announced that four of its boxers have been ranked in the top ten of their weight classes by USA Boxing, the national governing body for Olympic-style amateur boxing.

The four members of the boxing academy include:

1. Terry Sanders, age 12, ranked #1 at

106 pounds 2. Nathan Martinez, age 14, ranked #9

at 114 pounds 3. Coldin Belilies, age 15, ranked #7 at 101 pounds

4. Nicholas Ortiz, age 13, ranked #5 at 90 pounds

"I would like to congratulate these athletes for their accomplishments and acknowledge the whole team for being great teammates and great leaders," said PAL Boxing Coach Jose Ojeda.

USA Boxing is based out of Colorado Springs, Colorado and overseen by the United States Olympic Committee and the International Boxing Association. The FMPD PAL organization is an important part of Chief Derrick Diggs' community engagement initiative to bring sports programs to young children and teenagers. The Team is now getting ready for Western Qualifiers at the USA Boxing National Tournament to be held in Reno, Nevada from March 21 to 28.[‡]

Beach Art Group Spring Juried Show, Workshops

The Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA) Spring Juried Art Show titled Defying the Ordinary opens Monday, February 10 and runs through March 6 at the group's gallery, located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard. The award winners of this show will be announced at the reception on Sunday, February 16, which will begin at 1 p.m. with a painting demostration by artist Joann Sanborn. These events are free and open to the public.

Jane Slivka, will offer a demo at the gallery on Sunday, February 9 from 4 to 6 p.m. The fee for this demo is \$10. Slivka is also offering an acrylic workshop Freedom of Acrylics on from February 10 through February 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Studio 2 will have a new show Deux Amies des Arts, which features combined works of Michele Barron Buelow and Helma Gansen on February 8 to 20. The group from San Miguels Allende Tour will be showing their work from February 22 to March 5. Member JoAnn LaPadula will then take over Studio 2 on March 7 to 19 for her solo show, followed by works of art from the FMBAA classes and workshops March 21 to April 2. After this show. the annual Student Show will take over the entire gallery.

Other workshops taking place are



A Fine Morning by Joann Sanborn

image provided

Having Fun with Watercolor on January 30, 31 and February 1 with Cheryl Fausel; Exploring Pastel on Friday and Saturday, February 14 and 15 with Michele Buelow; Stencil & Stamp Silk Scarves on Thursday, February 27 with Lynne Wesolowski; and Straw & Negative Watercolor Painting on March 12 with JoAnn LaPadula. So You Want to Try Acrylics workshops and Work in a Series workshops with Mimi Little will be held on March 13 and March 14, respectively. Lynne Wesolowski's Alcohol Inks workshop follows on March 27 and 28

For more information, visit www. fortmyersbeachart.com, e-mail FMBAA publicity chair Pam Flaherty at fmbaapublicity@gmail.com or stop by the gallery.‡

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Along The River

The River District Alliance will host **Art Walk** in **downtown Fort Myers** this Friday, February 7 from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, February 8 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fourteen galleries invite visitors and residents to meet the artists and enjoy live art demonstrations and exhibitions along the river district.

For more information, visit www. fortmyersriverdistrictalliance.com.

During Art Walk, the **Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center** will showcase two new art exhibitions with an **opening reception** during Art Walk this Friday, February 7 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Fort Myers High School will present the 2020 International Baccalaureate Senior Visual Arts Exhibition, showcasing the creativity of 48 students. Showing on the second floor in the Capital Gallery will be the most recent work of creative artist Mariapia Malerba, using a technique that is inspired by shodo; a Japanese word used for the art of calligraphy.

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

Arts for ACT Gallery will hold an opening reception for Rick Plummer in the main gallery and for The Heron's Glen Artist Group in the White Gallery this Friday, February 7 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Arts for ACT Gallery is located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.artsforactgallery.com.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates will host its annual winter Garden Festival this Saturday, February 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, February 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be more than 40 garden vendors from around the state. Growers will have unusual tropical plants and trees, as well as Florida natives for sale.



Register your dog for the Mutt Strutt

photo courtesy www.edisonfestival.org The festival will also feature food trucks and live music.

Parking and admission to the festival is free (tours of the homes, museum

and lab are not included). Edison and Ford Winter Estates is located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, call 334-7419 or visit www.edisonford.org.

Edison Festival of Lights activities begin this weekend with the 2020 Mutt Strutt and STEMtastic Day of Discovery on Saturday, and the Junior Fun Run and Junior Parade on Sunday.

From noon to 4 p.m., Mutt Strutt features dogs and owners in costumes or bling, with a few doggie floats mixed in, on Hendry Street between Edwards and Bay. The event is free and only requires a small registration fee for contest participating pups. Medals are awarded in several categories. Contest proceeds benefit the Gulf Coast Humane Society.

There will be a Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival happening at the same time.



From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., STEMtastic Day of Discovery will offer children and families a chance to experience science, technology, engineering, math and the arts at the Lee County Public Education Center. The event allows families the opportunity to participate in highprofile indoor and outdoor interactive areas featuring science, technology, engineering and math-related exhibits, games and presentations by a number of regional and national organizations. The event also highlights the artistic talents of many local area children through musical, acrobatic and theatrical performances on the community stage.

On Sunday, young runners turn out to show their determination and pride for the Junior Fun Run, open to children in fifth grade and younger, at First and Lee streets. There is a \$5 entry fee, which includes a T-shirt and ribbon for all children wishing to participate. Registration opens at 10:30 a.m. and the races begin at noon.

From 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Florida's largest youth parade showcases the creativity and talents of hundreds of Southwest Florida children and their families. More than 100 units including floats, marching bands, dancers, street performers, clowns and dignitaries parade their way around downtown Fort Myers.

For more information and registration forms for all four events, visit www.edisonfestival.org.**

Breakfast With Beautification

Keep Lee County Beautiful will hold its next Breakfast for Beautification networking event at the Emergent Technologies Institute (ETI) at Florida Gulf Coast University on Tuesday, February 18 from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

Dr. Jennifer Jones, director of the center for environmental and sustainability education within The FGCU Water School, will be the special guest speaker. She will be speaking on the importance of outdoor learning in Southwest Florida and the initiatives of the Water School. Dr. Jones' research and teaching interests focus on the relationships between people and nature, including political ecology, biodiversity conservation, global food sustainability and environmental governance. She currently serves on several commissions for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Local businesses, individuals, civic organizations, and community leaders interested in keeping Lee County a pristine place to live, work and play are invitedto attend. To register, visit www. tinyurl.com/qs35nz7 to reserve your spot.

Emergent Technologies Institute (ETI) at Florida Gulf Coast University is located at 16301 Innovation Lane in Fort Myers. For more information, contact Tisha at 334-3488 or tisha@ klcb.org.

Boating Safety Class By Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering the one day About Boating Safely class at the Pine Ridge Community Center on Saturday, February 15 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.. This beginner boating class will give the novice recreational boater the knowledge needed to obtain the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission safety certification. Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete the About Boating Safely class.

The presenters are trained professionals of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary who facilitate the sharing of experiences and relate the courseware. Gerald Durham, the Flotilla Commander of the Fort Myers Beach Flotilla 91 stated, "Education and awareness of boating hazards is the key to safe boating. Participants learn the importance of life jackets, reducing risks, being prepared and exercising good judgement. People are very busy today, and this one class can fit easily into most everyone's calendar. Unlike online classes, this program offers student interaction, shared perspectives and local area knowledge.

Cost is \$45 per person and includes study material. Advance registration is required.

Pine Ridge Community Center is located at 15608 Pine Ridge Road in Fort Myers. For more information or to register, call 690-6780 option 1 or visit www.aux91fmb.org/safeboating.**

From page 2 Historic Downtown

Parker and a program, "Did You Know?" by Fort Myers native and society board member Genevieve Bowen.

The society is an all-volunteer, nonprofit 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.

Follow up your history adventure by visiting two other local history archives.

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 nonprofit 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.

www.theimag.org. Sources: The Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, The News-Press, and www.npr.org.

Garden Party And Cocktail Class



Melissa Barlow of The Heights Foundation with kids from The Heights Center photo provided

Fundraiser For At-Risk Kids In Harlem Heights

he 12th annual Love Your Neighbor, an event featuring Norman Love Confections and Mark Loren Designs, will be held at the riverfront Gulf Harbour home of Clinton and Cynthia Winter on Tuesday, March

24 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. There will be live music, fine wine and spirits and an assortment of culinary creations from local restaurants and chefs. Live and silent auction items will be offered, and all proceeds will benefit educational programs for at-risk children in the Harlem Heights neighborhood.

More than \$300,000 was raised at last year's event. VIP upgrades and sponsorships that include the exclusive VIP pre-party at a luxury riverfront home on Longwater Chase Court are available.

Local philanthropists Gaye and Jim Pigott will be recognized at the event for their support of The Heights Foundation.

"We are happy to support the important work of The Heights Foundation," said Gaye Pigott. "The foundation is raising life-long learners, and the kids are flourishing in the programs at The Heights Center, GLAD Kids and The Heights Charter School. When kids are provided resources, including community support and a good education, they will thrive."

"Each (of our educational) program(s) is geared to meet the specific needs of children and young adults," said Kathryn Kelly, President and CEO of The Heights Foundation. "The Gulf Harbour community has been very supportive of the Heights Foundation, and we appreciate the Winters for opening their home for this important fundraiser."

Sponsors include Mark Loren Designs and Norman Love Confections. Kellie Burns will emcee the event.

Tickets are now on sale for \$200 each and space is limited. Upgrades and sponsorships that include an exclusive pre-event VIP party are also available. Purchase tickets at www. heightsfoundation.org/lyn or call Karen Lesza at 482-7706.

Interconnected Health Effects Of Red Tide

he impact of red tide on the convergence of people, animals and environment is the topic of the Scientists' Society of Southwest Florida meeting at Lexington Country Club on Wednesday, February 12. The evening starts at 5:15 with a social hour and cash bar, with dinner at 6 p.m. and program to follow.

Dr. Heather W. Barron, Hospital director/head veterinarian at CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife), will present the results of ongoing research into the area known as "One Health," which is an ongoing field of research focus at CROW on Sanibel. Cost is \$40 per person and reservations are required.

Dr. Barron, DVM, joined CROW in 2011. She received residency training in zoologic and wild animal medicine and

was later on faculty at the University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine. She received further international experience as professor and department head of Clinical Medicine at St. Matthew's University, School of Veterinary Medicine in the Cayman Islands, where she was also the veterinarian for the Cayman Turtle Farm and Cayman Wildlife Rescue. She has published widely in her field, with numerous journal articles, textbooks and educational proceedings to her credit. She is a certified aquatic animal veterinarian, a board-certified avian specialist, and a licensed wildlife and sea turtle rehabilitator with over 25 years of experience in practicing and teaching special species medicine.

To reserve, mail check made out to SSSWFL to Scientists' Society of Southwest Florida, 2808 SW 45th

Street, Cape Coral, FL 33914. Lexington Country Club is located at 16257 Willowcrest Way in Fort Myers. For more information, email president@ science-swfl.org or visit www.scienceswfl.org.☆



Visitors tour the Moonlight Garden at Edison and Ford Winter Estates

n Leap Day, February 29, from 6 to 9 p.m., Edison and Ford Winter Estates will kick off its first Garden Party and Cocktail Chemistry Class. Partnering with Wicked Dolphin Rum Distillery and Elite Bartending School, attendees will receive a complimentary welcome cocktail, light hors d'oeuvres, a Moonlight Garden tour and entry to the new "Ford's Factory" art exhibit. Live music will be performed by David Rojas.

In the optional Cocktail Chemistry Class, attendees will learn the craft of creating delicious drinks. Cocktails will

be made using Wicked Dolphin rum and botanicals sourced from the Edison Ford gardens. Class sizes are limited; each participant will make two cocktails.

Tickets are \$30 for Edison Ford members, \$35 for non-members and \$40 on the day of the event. The Cocktail Chemistry Class is an additional \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information or tickets, visit www.edisonford.org or call 334-7419.举



Reservations Suggested www.iltesoro.net • 239-395-4022



The original Lee Memorial Hospital was built from lumber from the demolished courthouse photo provided

Little Known County Facts To Highlight Dinner

id you know that Lee County's first hospital was built in 1916 using lumber from the demolished courthouse? Or, did you know that Lee and Collier counties used to be part of Monroe County?

These and other little known facts about the early days of Lee County will

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.revtedalthouse@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

CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m. Jan 1 - Easter; 9 a.m. after Easter - Dec 31. www.crownoflifelutheran.com. 5820 Daniels be revealed at the annual Cracker Dinner at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre on Monday, February 17. Buffet dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7

Long-time resident Genevieve Bowen researched some of the area's oldest residents to obtain memoirs for the annual dinner, hosted by the Southwest Florida Historical Society.

Jennifer Stacey and Greg Parker of ABC-7 will be the storytellers for the evening, which brings together pioneers of Lee County along with newcomers who

Pkwy, 482-2315 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.christianscience fortmyers.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.fpcfortmyers.org, 2438 Second Street, 239-334-2261 IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION Saturday 5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Tuesday 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday 9:30 a.m., 9650 Gladiolus Drive, 454-4778. JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday 8, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., 881 Nuna Avenue, 481-1143 KINGDOM LIFE

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 2154 McGregor

are curious about the area's past.

The presentation will be accompanied by music performed by Barbara Peterson at the piano with vocals by Roger Peterson, John Goulet and Beverly Cox.

Tickets cost \$35 and are available at Barbee & Sons, 1936 Grace Avenue in Fort Myers; Sam Galloway Ford, 1800 Boy Scout Drive in Fort Myers; and the Southwest Florida Historical Society, at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers, which is on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. The Southwest Florida Historical Society hours are 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Checks may also be mailed to: Southwest Florida Historical Society, P.O. Box 1381, Fort Myers, FL, 33902.

Upcoming Pool Closures

he North Fort Myers Community Pool will be closed Tuesday, February 11 through Monday, February 17, for a warrantied maintenance project.

In addition, Lee County Parks & Recreation is reminding the public that all community pools will be closed Saturday, February 15 for annual staff training.

The locations closed are: San Carlos Community Pool, 8208

Sanibel Boulevard, Fort Myers Lehigh Community Pool, 1400 West Fifth Street, Lehigh Acres

Pine Island Community Pool, 5675

Boulevard, 218-8343. LAMB OF GOD

Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m., www. lambofgod church.net, 19691 Cypress View Drive, 267-3525

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.newhope fortmyers.org, 10051 Plantation Road, 274-1230

PEACE COMMUNITY

Sunday 10:30 a.m. www.peacecommunity church.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.MeditationInFort Myers.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, 489-397 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

Tickets can be picked up at the door the day of the event.

The annual Cracker Dinner is sponsored by Barbee & Sons, Sam Galloway Ford, George T. Mann General Contractor and Susan Bennett Marketing & Media, L.C.

Funds raised at the annual dinner will be used to support the mission of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, which is dedicated to preserving the history of our area by archiving donated historical documents, photos and maps and stimulating public interest and appreciation for local history

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre is located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard oin Fort Myers.举

Sesame Drive, Pine Island

North Fort Myers Community Pool (closed for maintenance project starting February 11), 5170 Orange Grove Boulevard, North Fort Myers

Signs have been posted at the sites to inform pool patrons of the one-day closing.

Lee County lifeguards are tested annually for their performance skills and abilities; this ensures guards meet Lee County's safety standards. Pools will reopen Tuesday, February 18, with normal operating hours. County pools are closed Sundays and Mondays except for summer.

For more information about all Lee County pools, visit www.leeparks.org or call 437-5759.举

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.saintnicholasmonast ery.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.袋

crow case of the week: Great Horned Owl



by Bob Petcher

The great horned owl is a nocturnal bird that dwells within woods that have fields or other open areas around. They are distinguishable by their long, earlike tufts, intimidating stare and deep hoot.

At CROW, a nestling great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*) was admitted to the clinic from Estero after it reportedly fell from its nest. Veterinarians examined the owl and did not find any signs of broken bones or apparent injury from the fall, but did note it to have an increased respiratory effort, likely from stress, being overheated or pain from soft tissue injuries. It was placed in an oxygen chamber to help it calm down and breathe easier. The search for the exact location of its nest began and was located three days later. However, the parents were not seen in the area and it was not able to be re-nested.

"Babies can fall from the nest and end up on the ground for several reasons – pushed out by a sibling, commonly referred to as 'siblicide,' being clumsy, or after stormy weather/high winds," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW staff veterinarian. "Often, the parents will continue to feed and protect the baby even if it is on the ground. If it is injured or orphaned, then it needs to be treated by certified wildlife



The two owlet patients are being raised together

rehabilitators."

Three days later, a second, slightly older, nestling great horned owl that fell from its nest was admitted to the clinic from Bokeelia. It was severely anemic and received a blood transfusion with blood donated from Mina, CROW's great horned owl animal ambassador.

"Our ambassador birds typically donate blood a few times per year – we are able to do this because birds regenerate blood cells faster than mammals do," said Dr. Bast. "The typical scenario is a hawk patient that needs a blood transfusion as part of treatment for rodenticide toxicity, and Talon, our red-tailed hawk, has donated blood to help. Another scenario photo by Brian Bohlman

is when a seabird suffering from red tide poisoning needs a blood transfusion, we can often take blood from another seabird patient that is healthy and close to release."

Both owlets are currently being housed and raised together. This will help them learn from each other as they grow and prevent them from becoming habituated to human care.

Breanna Frankel, CROW rehabilitation manager, said the birds are adjusting well.

"The first couple days they stayed on different sides of the enclosure, but gradually came together. They are regularly seen side by side, and they eat side by side as well," she said. "Their day begins

THE RIVER - FEBRUARY 7, 2020 11

around 7:30 (a.m.) when we gently wake them up and offer the first meal. They are left alone in the enclosure with enrichment, mirrors, stuffed animals, nature sounds and various food bits. A second meal is offered around 2 p.m. and a third around 8 or 9 p.m. The most important thing now is getting them to pick food up on their own. As they begin to eat on their own, we will only have to supply food twice a day, which limits our interaction even more."

Frankel stated that the owlets being raised together is very important in their rearing.

"They need to know that they are great horned owls, not humans, in order to survive in the wild. Any type of habituation can prevent a successful release when they are ready. Being raised "wild" with another owl and potentially having Mina foster them is how we prevent habituation. They will likely be at the clinic for the next couple months until they learn to fly and hunt on their own, at which time we will determine the best release plan. If the opportunity for cross-fostering with a wild nest arises, it would be a good option and might change our course of action. We do our very best to raise these babies to be successful and wild, but having owl parents is always the best choice, if possible." *CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation*

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.‡

Help SCCF Bring Back the Barn Owls

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

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

• brodifacoum • bromailone • difenacoum • difethialone

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









SCCF 472-2329 • www.SCCF.org

UDDERLY GREAT FOOD!



12 | THE RIVER - FEBRUARY 7, 2020 Sheepshead Smackdown



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

lients this week enjoyed the most consistent sheepshead fishing we have seen so far this winter. With water temperatures staying in the mid to low 60s, these fish fired up and are chewing. Many days we had our eight fish per angler limits as we headed to the fillet table. The average size on these fish also increased with most going over 14 inches along with several as large as 20 inches caught. Now that these sheepshead have finally

arrived in huge numbers, they are very accessible to all anglers with or without a boat. Some extremely productive sheepshead spots for shore-bound anglers include the Blind Pass Bridge and the Sanibel Pier. To catch these fish, it's as simple as dropping a chunk of shrimp on a jig head down a barnacle-encrusted piling.

I recently purchased some jigs designed specifically for sheepshead fishing. While searching the web for the usual jig heads I buy, I stumbled upon a new style of sheepshead jig. This jig is a painted egg-shaped lead with a flat bottom, making it sit flush on the bottom. It has two rings molded into the lead. One side is tied into the leader, and the other side holds a split ring and hook. The jig comes in a variety of weights and can be rigged with any size hook. A 1/0 needle point hook seems to be the perfect set-up. This jig has increased not only our hook-up percentage, but the majority of the fish we are catching are hooked in the corner of the mouth. This makes for both a solid hook set and easier hook removal. What makes this jig work so well is the chunk of shrimp sits above the lead, making the fish turn on their side to eat it.

If your looking to go home with a fresh fish dinner, it does not get much easier than now. With many of our other food fish species still closed to harvest, sheepshead are not only plentiful but delicious. Our winter sheepshead fishing will be on fire through the whole month of February.

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.⁴



Alex and Doug got their limit of big sheepshead with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week

photo provided





world Turtle Crisis Thwarting The Turtle Traffickers

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) weekly Speaker Series presented by LCEC continues on Monday, February 10 with The World Turtle Crisis and its Local Effects by Chris Lechowicz, director of habitat management and herpetologist for Sanibel Captiva

Conservation Foundation (SCCF). The southeastern region of the U.S. has the second highest diversity of turtle species in the world, next to Southeast Asia. Increasing human population mixed with high demand for turtles for food, traditional medicine and pets has created a high demand on these animals, especially in Asian markets. Several continents, including North America, are feeling the pressure on its native populations due to

Snook Reopens In Atlantic Waters

A s of Saturday, February 1, snook has reopened for recreational harvest in Florida's Atlantic coastal and inland waters (from the Miami-Dade/ Monroe county line north), including Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee River.

Snook are one of the many reasons Florida is the Fishing Capital of the World. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) encourages anglers to carefully handle and release snook they are not going to keep, which helps them survive after being released and helps ensure species' abundance for anglers today photo provided

illegal trafficking. This talk will discuss the problem and suggest some ways to help minimize these issues. The program will also be featuring live animal encounters of turtle species commonly affected by the wildlife trade.

Speaker Series programs begin at 4:15 p.m. in the CROW Visitor Education Center, located at 3883 Sanibel Captiva Road. They are approximately one hour in length. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for teens (age 13 to 17) and free for children age 12 and younger. Space is limited, so advanced registration is highly recommended.

CROW's 2020 Speaker Series presented by LCEC features weekly talks and runs through April 14. For a full schedule of talks, more information or to register in advance, visit www.crowclinic. org/articles/2020-speaker-seriespresented-by-lcec.**

and generations to come. To learn more about fish handling, visit www.myfwc. com/marine and click on "Recreational Regulations" and "Fish Handling."

Regulations" and "Fish Handling." The season will remain open through May 31.

Researchers ask anglers who harvest snook to save the remaining portion of their fish after it has been filleted and provide it to the FWC by dropping it off at a participating bait and tackle store. This program allows anglers to participate in the collection of data, such as the size, age, maturity and sex, of one of Florida's premier inshore fish. For a county-bycounty list of drop-off locations, go to www.myfwc.com/research and click on "Saltwater," "Snook" under the heading "Saltwater Fish," and "Snook Anglers Asked to Help with Research."



Seaside Goldenrod



Native seaside goldenrod is a must-include species for a butterfly garden

by Gerri Reaves

Many goldenrod species are native to Florida and several to only northern regions. Seaside goldenrod (Solidago

sempervirens) is common in this area and, in fact, is native to much of the eastern U.S. and Canada.

This perennial wildflower is a member of the aster family and is also called salt-marsh goldenrod.

The profuse bright yellow flowers make it a desirable ornamental for any landscape, particularly as a butterfly attractor. It's a major food source for migrating monarch butterflies and beneficial to pollinators, birds and other small wildlife.

It is also valuable in dune restoration and stabilization.

It can grow four to six feet tall and produces dense cylindrical spikes of flowers of about one-half inch across.

When examined close up, they resemble tiny daisies with seven to 11 ray flowers surrounding the disk.

The alternative linear leaves are fleshy and grow the length of the erect stem, photo by Gerri Reaves decreasing in length up the spike.

Leaves at the base of the plant are eight to 20 inches long and create a rosette effect.

It grows best in rather dry conditions and full sun. High salt tolerance makes it especially suitable for coastal gardens. It is also pest resistant and drought tolerant.

Older specimens form clumps with rhizomes and will sometimes reseed. Propagate it with seeds or by division.

The plant has an interesting connection to local history. Thomas A. Edison researched using its latex to manufacture natural rubber.

A note to allergy suffers: Blame ragweed, not goldenrod, for those sniffles.

Sources: A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants by Rufino Osorio, Gardening for Florida's Butterflies by Pamela F. Traas, National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida by Peter Alden et al., Native Florida Plants by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, Wildflowers of Florida by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, and www.usda.gov.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.





Julie Nusbaum captured first place with Watching

Beach Art Group Show Fundraiser

ort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBÁA) recently presented awards for its current show Not the Status Quo. Members and non-members of the art association submitted paintings for the exhibit, which was judged by renowned artist Bonnie Broitzman. The awards ceremony was preceded by a gallery talk given by Artist/Professor Francesco Gillia. Fresh Catch Bistro sponsored this event and supplied refreshments for all those who attended. Artwork in this exhibit is available for viewing and purchase until February 6.

Prizes include:

1st place: Julie Nusbaum - Watching 2nd place: Dannica Walker – The Grinder

3rd place: Sue Pink – NY, NY

Camera

Club Winners

he Fort Myers Camera Club

recently presented awards to

winners of several categories.

Winners in the Camera Člub nature

Lee Ackert Award: Linda Robinson -

It's for the Birds

Śylvia Kasparies Award: Lynne

photos by Pam Flaherty



Sue Pink's third place art NY NY

Wesolowski - Serendipity Merit awards: Starlin Sherwood Rodeo Rider; Catherine Kendrick – Dancing in the Light Series III

Honorable mention awards - Marie Crist – Hidden Oasis; Michele Barron



Dannica Walker was awarded second Prize for The Grinder



The Lee Ackert Award was presented to Linda Robinson for Its for the Birds

Buelow - Stormy Sunrise For more information, contact FMBAA publicity chair Pam Flaherty at fmbaapublicity@gmail.com, visit www.

fortmyersbeachart.com, call 463-3909, or stop by the Fort Myers Beach Art Association gallery located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard.



From left, Gary Ingram, Tom Brott, Gene Hamm and Carol Heffernan

competition were Gary Ingram of Fort Myers, Tom Brott of Cape Coral, Gene Hamm of Fort Myers and Carol Heffernan of Estero.

Receiving honors for the Drips, Drops, Splashes category were Jim Heffernan of Estero, Evelyn Perez of Fort Myers and Karen Lund of Fort Myers. Evelyn Perez and Karen Lund were also



From left, Jim Heffernan, Evelyn Perez and Karen Lund

winners in the Creative category.

All photography enthusiasts are invited to attend a Fort Myers Camera Club meeting on Fridays through April 3. The meetings are held from 7 to 9 p.m. on the first and third Fridays at the Cypress Lake United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 8570 Cypress Lake Drive in Fort Myers.

Anyone interested in photography at any level is welcome. Mentor programs, outings, competitions and exhibitions as well as guest lecturers provide members with opportunities to improve their photography skills and make new friends. For more information, visit www. fortmyerscc.com.举

Benefit Auction Specialist Course To Be Taught

🔿 cott Robertson, CAI, BAS, a 25-plus year veteran auctioneer and principal of Scott Robertson Auctioneers, was recently chosen by the National Auctioneers Association (NAA) to teach the Benefit Auction Specialist (BAS) course in Las Vegas, Nevada. Founded in 1949, NAA is the world's largest professional association dedicated to auction professionals and represents the interests of thousands of auction professionals in the U.S., Canada and across the world.

The BAS designation means an auctioneer is trained to plan and conduct successful benefit auctions, and specializes in techniques to establish a successful and profitable benefit auction business. Robertson taught students how to identify current trends in fundraising auctions, aid clients in coordinating a well-planned auction, market the auction, and create a fun and exciting event that generates more revenue for clients and auction businesses.

Less than 2 percent of the auctioneers in the country have earned the BAS designation. The BAS instructors are considered among the best charity auctioneers in the country.

"The opportunity to learn from a high caliber instructor like Scott Robertson was my primary motivation for attending this class," said Rick Shaw, an experienced fundraising auctioneer from San Antonio, Texas. "Thanks to him my knowledge, skills and understanding regarding fundraising auctions has increased significantly.

Robertson works as a full-time fundraising auctioneer and consultant at Scott Robertson Auctioneers (SRA) along with International Champion auctioneer Sara Rose Bytner. Bytnar has also earned the BAS designation. An auctioneer since 1994, he has assisted thousands of



Scott Robertson photo provided

nonprofit organizations raise the funds needed to continue their good work.

The BAS designation helps professionals elevate their fundraising auction awareness and education, which helps us to be more successful for our clients," said Robertson. "Most people hire an auctioneer for their stage presence, but they find that the real value lies with the consulting before and after the event. A BAS is specifically trained to aid organizations in coordinating a well-planned, well-marketed auction and create a fun and exciting event that generates more revenue for the cause. We understand best practices, provide fresh ideas about how to entertain and energize audiences, and leave guests looking forward to the next event."

Scott Robertson Auctioneers is a fundraising auction company headquartered in Southwest Florida. To learn more about Scott Robertson Auctioneers, visit www.thevoe.com or call 246-2139.袋

Expres

Express kiosk

Commissioner **On Challenges** And Goals

rian Hamman, chairman of the Lee County Board of County Commissioners, will address the challenges and priorities facing Lee County government at the luncheon meeting of the Real Estate Investment Society (REIS) in the Osprey Room at Pelican Preserve's Clubhouse on Tuesday, February 11 at 11:45 a.m.

Commissioner Hamman's presentation will focus on the county's budget, coordination with municipal governments, infrastructure projects and the county's role in managing water resources. The commissioner is also expected to discuss growth management, impact fees and local legislative priorities in the current legislative session. Following the presentation, Commissioner Hamman will respond to questions of specific interest to the real estate investment and development industry.

Commissioner Hamman is also chairman of the Board of Port Commissioners, which governs the Lee County Port Authority. He represents Lee County Commission District 4, which includes North Fort Myers, northern Cape Coral and downtown Fort Myers. In the private sector,



Brian Hamman

photo provided

Hamman is a licensed realtor, former television announcer, financial advisor and market development specialist.

The meeting is sponsored by Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University. Cost is \$30 for members and \$40 for guests. It includes lunch. Reservations are required by February 6.

The Osprey Room at Pelican Preserve's Clubhouse is located at 9802 Pelican Preserve Boulevard in Fort Myers. To RSVP, visit www.reis-swfl. org.莽

Our email address is press@riverweekly.com



Kiosks For Vehicle Registration

ee County Tax Collector is introducing another quick and easy way to renew vehicle registrations. Digital self-service kiosks will allow vehicle owners to enter their information safely and securely to renew registrations quickly. Kiosks will be located in downtown Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Lehigh Acres service centers and will be available for use in February.

This keeps with Lee County Tax Collector Larry Hart's vision of improving customer service through technology, especially in one of the key service areas vehicle registration.

These kiosks are an innovative way to keep wait times short and allow for a quick and easy way to renew tags," Hart said.

In addition to the kiosks, Lee County residents can also renew their registration online using the TagsToday program or at any of the seven convenient Lee County Tax Collector service center locations.

For more information on the new kiosks, visit www.flmvexpress.com.炎

photo provided

16 THE RIVER - FEBRUARY 7, 2020

How To Design A Modern Kitchen



by Trinette Nelson The kitchen

is often considered the heart of the home, a place where families reunite at the end of the day to share a meal and where friends gather to socialize over a cup of coffee. Therefore,

your kitchen should be a comfortable, stylish and functional area that caters to its wide variety of uses.

Homeowners often choose a modern theme for their kitchens, as this design style usually involves desirable kitchen components, such as sleek furniture and a lot of open space. If you're working to create a modern kitchen, consider incorporating these design elements that work particularly well at establishing the chic and sophisticated look that the modern style embodies.

Metals are trending for modern kitchens. Everything from brushed aluminum, stainless steel and chrome to copper and nickel have taken center stage as materials for furniture and décor-like lighting fixtures and kitchen tables. Not only does metal create a sleek appearance, but a simple, minimalist vibe that goes hand in hand with a modern theme. The cool, gray metal hues also contribute to a neutral color scheme, which is another trending feature for modern kitchens. Consider adjoining areas to help you choose which type of metal works best in your space.

One aspect that most modern kitchens have in common is their emphasis on horizontal lines. For example, modern tables and chairs are often made up of long horizontal lines and defined edges. Keep this in mind as you work to select your furnishings and decor.

There are several materials and styles to choose from when it comes to selecting your modern kitchen table. While glass, metal and marble contribute a sleeker, more minimalist appearance, cherry veneers and rustic natural wood can also give off a contemporary vibe when the table is built with the modern style in mind. This means a great attention to straight lines and edges. Many also have a lacquered finished for that gleam and smoothness modern furnishings are known for.

Lighting plays a major role in the look and feel of any room, but it's particularly essential for your kitchen. You'll want enough light to make tasks like cooking safe, but you'll also need your fixtures to create the ambiance you want. The best way to achieve this versatility is by installing a dimmer, which enables you to adjust the amount of light based on what you're doing at the time.

Consider pendant lighting over your kitchen island or under-cabinet lighting for an ultramodern look. Chandeliers are another great option and can offer an artistic accent. Talk to your interior decorator about the fixtures you have in mind and work together to find one that suits your modernized space.

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

Alliant Team Sponsors New Habitat Home

Aliant Association Management is pleased to announce its partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties through the sponsorship of a new home this coming year.

As a home sponsor, Alliant Association Management and its partners will help Habitat offset the costs associated with building materials and will provide volunteer labor to construct the home. On December 21, 2019 volunteers from the business and their partners gathered to raise the walls of this new home.

The need for affordable housing is great. "More than 52,000 Lee County households pay over half their monthly income on rent," said Sara Jordan, Habitat's corporate impact officer. "These families are just one missed paycheck from bankruptcy or homelessness. Alliant Association Management, along with our other community partners, help us provide a path to affordable homeownership for hard working, local families."

Alliant Association Management is a long-time Habitat partner, serving as the community association manager for two Habitat for Humanity neighborhoods – Red Hibiscus in Bonita Springs and Majorca Palms in East Fort Myers – and plans to assume management of the nine other Lee County Habitat neighborhoods currently in development.

"As one of Southwest Florida's largest locally owned and operated association management companies, we're proud to support Habitat for Humanity's mission by helping families successfully manage their community associations," said Jonathan Busa, vice president of business development for Alliant. "Alliant is excited to be in this partnership with Habitat as they build and improve affordable homes."

Supporting partners of the project include: Crowther Roofing and Sheet Metal, Elias Brothers Group, Tri-City Pools, Simons Law Group, Liberty Aluminum, Personal Touch Landscaping, Envera Systems, McCleod Construction and Rapid Response Team.

During the 2019-20 fiscal year, Habitat will partner with 60 families to help them build or improve a place to call home. Future Habitat homebuyers pay \$1,700 in closing costs, volunteer 300 sweat equity hours, and attend 20-plus hours of homeownership classes, including budgeting and home maintenance. Habitat homes are sold to families with a zero or low interest mortgage and monthly payments set at no more than 30 percent of the homeowners' income, making homeownership an affordable reality.

For more information of to learn more about how local businesses can get involved with Habitat, contact Sara Jordan at saraj@habitat4humanity.org.‡



A rendering of the Intrepid Aircraft Maintenance facility

FAA Repair Station Plans At Local Airport

Intrepid Aerospace has entered into a lease agreement with the Lee County Port Authority for Intrepid Aircraft Maintenance, a maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility and paint hangar encompassing more than 340,000 square feet in a new building to be constructed at Skyplex.

The Intrepid Aircraft Maintenance MRO would be one of the largest in the state – with capacity for up to 11 commercial jets the size of Boeing's 737 series – and the paint hangar will be the state's only facility able to accommodate large, wide-body aircraft, including Boeing's 747 and 787.

The addition of a large-scale MRO at Southwest Florida International Airport will provide expanded services to all airlines, with 24/7 availability of certified technicians for troubleshooting, repairs, maintenance, aircraft and engine washing and heavy-maintenance service.

The dedicated paint hangar will allow airlines to have their large-body aircraft painted within the state of Florida rather than traveling to other states or countries, as is the current practice.

"This MRO will be a game changer for Southwest Florida International Airport," said Lee County Commission Chairman Brian Hamman, who also serves as chairman of the Board of Port Commissioners. "Once these services become available, both domestic and international airlines will have access to on-site maintenance professionals, and that changes how they schedule flights into our market."

Hamman added that the MRO is expected to generate several hundred highwage jobs in the first phase of operations. "Intrepid said they will need hundreds of heavy-maintenance professionals to work in Southwest Florida, along with aerospace engineers and a variety of other related professionals," he said, "with even more jobs in the future for additional phases. Our region is poised to become a magnet for the booming aerospace sector and all the ancillary services and businesses that support the industry."

With the MRO's projected capital investment of more than \$100 million and job generation of more than 500 high-paying jobs, Lee County Economic Development Office staff anticipate the economic impact of the Intrepid Aircraft Maintenance MRO will be game-changing for Lee County and Southwest Florida.

image provided

Intrepid Aerospace was formed in 2010 and provides FAA-certified repair and overhaul services at its current facility in Fort Myers, including structural and advanced composite components, hydraulic, pneumatic, electromechanical, engine mounts, windows and cabin modules.

An application for the Intrepid Aircraft Maintenance MRO has been submitted to the FAA, according to President and CEO Juan M. Mendez. "Southwest Florida International Airport is ready for its own MRO facility, and being near the Skyplex is the perfect location," said Mendez. "We have been envisioning this project for many years, understanding what the market demand is for MRO services and the potential for this airport to be a destination for airlines around the country and the world.

"We have been reaching out to educational providers throughout Southwest Florida to begin the work of establishing the training and curricula needed to ensure the workforce is ready to go when the facility opens in 2023," Mendez said.

Additional details about the project will be released as the company moves forward with the FAA certification process, securing airline contracts, and working with the Board of Port Commissioners and Lee County Port Authority executives to plan for its MRO operations. For more information, visit www.intrepidaerospace. com.

Gulf Coast Writers To Meet

Cover. If you want to sell books, you must have an eye-catching, attractive cover. It's the first thing readers see, and it must accurately portray what's inside.

The Gulf Coast Writers Association is hosting a special meeting at Zion Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 15 from 10 a.m. to noon. Ronnie Walter, artist, creative coach, teacher and author of over 20 books, will be sharing tips on how to make your book stand out and attract readers. First time guests are free.

Zion Lutheran Church is located at 7401 Winkler Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, call 770-906-7885 or visit www.gulfwriters.org.*

THESE MAN CAVES ARE VROOMING FIST





Phase 2 at Island Storage Suites is nearly sold out—so race over to claim one of the last available **BEFORE PRICES INCREASE IN PHASE 3!**

These secure, discreet, climate-controlled, garage-style storage suites allow you to keep, preserve and enjoy your most prized possessions—in surroundings you can personalize and outfit as THE ultimate man cave. They're perfect for:

- Toys like exotic & vintage automobiles
- Class-A recreational vehicles, boats & watercraft
- Sports memorabilia & other prized personal collections

Best of all, they give you your garage back! Get yours today before the price gets jacked!









10950 OLD SOUTH WAY, FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33908

Book Review Evvie Drake Starts Over



by Di Saggau

vvie Drake Starts Over is ∎ a debut novel that grabs you right away. In the first few sentences, we learn that Evvie has packed her suitcase and has a stash of cash in her glove compartment. She

is about to leave her husband Tim, whom she's been with "half her life." She says to herself, "Go now, or you'll never go. Then the phone rings and she is told that Tim is dead, killed in a car accident.

Evvie, who didn't want to get married, is now a widow and faces the question: "How can I grieve for Tim when I didn't like him." She becomes obsessed with not missing the doctor she married. We learn throughout snippets in the book that Tim was manipulative and mean to Evvie. He often told her she was overly dramatic and even threw a wine glass at her feet. The setting is a sleepy seaside town in Maine. Evvie remains house-bound for nearly a year after her husband's death. Meanwhile in New York, a former major-league pitcher, Dean Tenney, a childhood friend of Evvie's best friend Andy, arrives in Maine for a few months. He's struggling with the "yips." He can't throw a strike

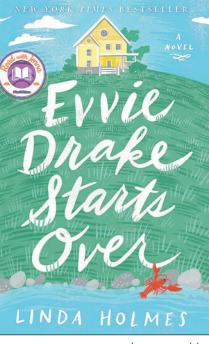
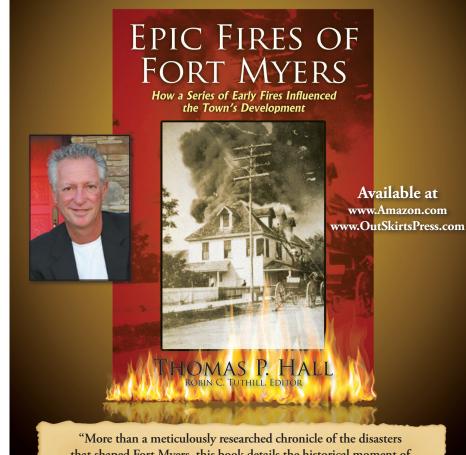


image provided

anymore and he can't figure out why. Dean moves into an apartment in Evvie's house, and they strike a deal. Dean isn't to ask about her late husband and she isn't to ask about his baseball career. Evvie and Dean are mourning for different reasons. The two soon become friends, and then it turns into something more than that. Evvie Drake Starts Over is about two people whose lives have changed abruptly and how they forge ahead. It's a warm and lovely romance that will keep your interest.🌣



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

School Smart



reading. How can I work with her at home to help her with this concept?

ear

Shelley,

My

Lilla T, Fort Myers

Lilla,

Identifying the main idea and supporting details is an important part of reading comprehension. The main idea of a piece of writing is the central point the author tries to make; this can be an opinion, argument, or a general idea and sometimes a very difficult concept for kids to grasp. Sometimes it's the vocabulary associated with the main idea that is problematic. Here is an exercise using very simple language for you and your daughter to use.

Choose some books to read together... maybe one per day for the next week. Make sure that your daughter takes part in the selection process of these books so he that she has some interest in them. Before you read the story aloud, tell your daughter that you and she will both be discussing the main idea of the story after you read it. Explain that the main idea of a story is what the story is mostly about, not

Winner of Choral Composition Announced

aroline Mallonee recently won the second annual Sanibel-Captiva Trust Prize in Choral Composition with her work Songs of Crystal, according to the Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers. Mallonee's work was chosen from nearly 70 entries from across the United States. The winning composition will share the program at the Mastersingers' April 3 and 5 concerts, Celebrating Beethoven, along with two works by Beethoven, Mass in C and Coriolan Overture op. 62.

We are so delighted to perform Caroline Mallonee's work," said Shannon Arnold, artistic director of the Mastersingers. "This competition is a wonderful opportunity for our singers and our audiences to hear the work of living composers." Arnold explains what makes the winning work so effective: "Mallonee's writing here is very inventive, repeating text often but layering and altering slightly each time to keep the listener engaged. I think the piece is an excellent complement to the classical works of Beethoven.

Mallonee is a full-time composer living in Buffalo, New York, where she is the composer-in-residence for the Buffalo Chamber Players. She took up the piano and violin at age 5 and studied at the Peabody Conservatory, Preparatory Department in Baltimore. It was there that just a fact or two from the story. Most kids understand what 'mostly' about means.

After reading the story, have her answer the question, What was the story mostly about? If she answers by stating a less important fact or concept, ask her again to answer what the story was mostly about. You could ask her, "Is that what the whole story was mostly about, or is it just a fact we learned from the story?" Discuss why the answer is either what the story is mostly about or only a fact. Practicing this daily for about a week will allow her to practice this skill to a mastery level.

After she understands this concept of mostly about or the main idea, let her know that most of the time, but not always, the main idea is stated in a topic sentence. This sentence is usually near the beginning and sets up what the rest of the writing will be about. Then tell her about the supporting ideas and details that she will see. Supporting details are sentences that support the main idea. These sentences have information that helps explain and prove the author's point.

Here's a good website to use for practicing this concept: www.brainpop. com/english/studyandreadingskills/ mainidea.

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

she first began to compose. "I wrote music at Peabody Prep and then at the Walden School (a summer program for young musicians). I first composed choral music at age 14 and won a Christmas Carol contest sponsored by A Prairie Home Companion with a holiday piece that I wrote."

The title for the winning composition came about when the Vocalis Chamber Choir commissioned Mallonee to write a piece for their 15th anniversary. "The traditional gift for a 15th anniversary is crystal," said Mallonee, "and so for this commission I sought poems with that idea in mind. I found four poems by Sara Teasdale that spoke to that idea and created a set that explores each of the four seasons.

Anthony Contino, president of the Mastersingers, explains the purpose of the composer competition. "We've always prided ourselves on the fact that our ensembles perform the historically great choral masterworks and the pieces being written today that will be the masterworks of tomorrow. The purpose of this competition is to promote and recognize the composers creating those new masterworks. We are fortunate that the Sanibel-Captiva Trust Company and their vice-president, Steve Greenstein, have made this initiative possible through their very generous support and encouragement.

Tickets to hear Caroline Mallonee's piece along with the Beethoven masterworks are \$25 for adults, \$15 for students and are available online at www. mastersingersfm.com.☆



From left, Jim Aubuchon, Cindy Cross, Gary Aubuchon, Jeff Miloff, Dan Beiter and Michael Reitmann photo provided

Lee BIA Builders **Care Receives** A Donation

ee BIA Builders Care, the nonprofit charitable arm of the Lee Building Industry Association (BIA), has received a \$12,500 donation from Aubuchon Team of Companies.

Funds will support Builders Care in its mission to provide emergency construction services at no cost to needy and deserving elderly and/or disabled homeowners, and their families, who cannot obtain repairs through traditional means.

"This generous contribution from Aubuchon Team of Companies will truly impact the lives of the homeowners and families we serve," said Becky Swift, executive director of Lee BIA Builders Care. "We are continually grateful for their partnership as we work together to change lives, one project at a time.

The impactful donation is a result of funds raised through Aubuchon Team of Companies' annual fundraising event, Helping Hands for the Holidays. To date, Aubuchon Team of Companies has donated more than \$128,500 to Lee BIA Builders Care through this annual fundraiser, fueling Lee BIA Builder Care's efforts to support local homeowners and their families.莽

Marketing Firm Adds Digital Coordinator

Tuliana Metzner has been named digital marketing coordinator at CONRIC PR & Marketing, president and chief marketing officer Connie Ramos-Williams recently announced.

"Juliana's leadership, knowledge and experience in digital marketing are standout qualities that we welcome to our team as we build on our reputation as an industry leader," Ramos-Williams said. "We will continue to invest in the expansion of our internal digital marketing team in 2020 in order to address the growing online branding, marketing and advertising needs of our loyal customer base."

Metzner will develop and implement strategic digital marketing plans that focus on key initiatives that include brand reputation management, audience reach, engagement and lead generation. Measurable digital marketing campaigns will involve website landing pages, blogs, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube, Google, Yelp and other popular platforms. She will work directly with CONRIC clients and team members to manage accounts and projects.

"I like to work in an environment where I can continue to learn and grow," Metzner said. "After a few years working at other agencies. I decided to



Juliana Metzner

photo provided

join CONRIC because of its reputation, family-like environment, large team of professionals and opportunities available to enhance my career. I am excited to work with the agency's clients and team."

Metzner received a bachelor of arts degree in communication from Florida Gulf Coast University and a master of arts in communication from Southern New Hampshire University. She currently serves as the digital newsletter chair for the Florida Public Relations Association Southwest Florida Chapter and does volunteer work for the MS Center of Southwest Florida.☆



Sanibel FlyFishers Present The 2nd Annual Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T)

A Fundraiser for the SFF/FGCU Water School Scholarship Fund & Captains for Clean Water

Tickets: \$30

(Includes a meal selection and soft drink)

Beer and Wine available for Purchase

Raffles & Silent Auction

- Fly Fishing Equipment
- Artwork

Boat Excursions

- Guided trips
- Meal Packages
- And More!

Tickets available online @ flyfilmtour.com and at Norm Zeigler's Fly Shop and Whitney's Bait & Tackle on Sanibel

The SECURE Act Does Away With Stretch IRA



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

For those of you counting on your beneficiaries stretching out the distributions from the IRAs they inherit from you, think again. The SECURE Act was passed into law on December 19, 2019, eliminating this popular estate planning strategy for most beneficiaries.

My law partner, Michael Hill, and I recently returned from the premier national estate planning conference conducted by the University of Miami Law School. It's akin to taking a full year of high-level tax and estate planning courses in just one week. There we learned the ins and outs of this new law from leading

academics and experts.

In order to understand how the SECURE Act affects anyone who inherits an IRA, 401(k) or other qualified retirement account, you must first understand how the law used to work. Under the old law, anyone inheriting a retirement account (I'll call them collectively IRAs from now on) could stretch the distributions from the account over the course of their lifetime under an IRS actuary table.

By only taking the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), the rest of the IRA continues to grow tax deferred, and income taxes were minimized.

The SECURE Act eliminates, for most IRA beneficiaries, the ability to stretch the distributions of the inherited IRA over the course of their lifetimes. Instead, beneficiaries must withdraw the entire balance by December 31 of the 10th anniversary date of the death of the account owner.

This is best illustrated by examples. Suppose that dad dies on July 1, 2020 naming son, age 50, as the beneficiary to his IRA. On January 1, 2021 the IRA is worth \$600,000. Under the old law, son must take an RMD of \$17,543. This is based on a factor of 34.2 which represents the number of years (son's life expectancy under IRS tables) that son would have had to withdraw the entire IRA balance.

Under the new law, let's assume the same facts. Son must withdraw the entire balance of dad's IRA on or before December 31, 2030. Instead of 34 years, son now has 10 years to withdraw the entire IRA balance. Instead of an annual distribution,



From left, Ron Hamel, Randy Lopez, Bev Larson, Mary Gentile and Dr. Shelton Weeks photo provided

Real Estate Society Awards Scholarships

A ccording to the Real Estate Investment Society (REIS), Paul Sands Memorial – REIS scholarships went to Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) students Luca DiSano, Randy Lopez and Sawyer Sutter. The scholarships each provide \$2,500 toward tuition and books.

These outstanding scholars also receive honorary membership in REIS

for one year and may attend meetings on a complimentary basis. "We welcome outstanding scholars to join us, to learn about the area's commercial real estate industry and develop relationships with members of the business community," explained REIS President Mary Gentile.

"The REIS scholarship programs represent our commitment to our professions and our community. We support student interest in business by providing financial assistance for their higher education and welcoming them to participate in our meetings and educational programs. Our goal is to promote the professionalism of our future business leaders and thereby the however, son can choose to wait until that last day to withdraw the entire account balance.

The SECURE Act therefore reduces the opportunity for tax deferred growth (in my example 24 years worth), increases income taxes on the beneficiaries since the larger distributions will push the beneficiary into a higher income tax bracket, and likely result in less money being distributed overall out of the account. The government gets more while the beneficiaries get less.

But all is not lost under the SECURE Act. What you don't want to do is mindlessly fill in your beneficiary forms. The best course of action is to visit with a qualified estate planning attorney who understands not only the nuances of the SECURE Act, but of income taxation of trusts.

Consider, for example, a Retirement Plan Trust. Recall that if son inherits a \$600,000 IRA and withdraws approximately \$100,000 annually until the account is exhausted and assume that son is not only in a high federal income tax bracket but also pays state income taxes. In Minnesota, for example, the highest marginal state income tax rate is 9.85 percent. The combined federal and state income tax rate may be as high as 46.85 percent.

How can one potentially use a trust to reduce these taxes? There's something known as a see-through accumulation trust that can be named as the beneficiary to the IRA. There's five requirements to qualify the beneficiary of the trust as the beneficiary of the IRA, but so long as those requirements are met then the IRA will have the 10-year distribution rule under the SECURE Act.

In my example, assume that the trustee of a Florida Retirement See-Through Accumulation Trust withdraws \$100,000 but instead of distributing it out to son, he accumulates it for 2021. Because Florida has no state income tax, the trustee pays the federal tax of approximately \$35,300. If, instead, that same amount was distributed to son, he would have paid combined state and federal taxes of \$46,850. The trustee distributes the principal of the trust the next year, with no more taxes due as it is a principal distribution.

While my example is theoretical and we will have to wait to see how the state departments of revenue react, I believe that my theory is arguable.

There are many other strategies one might consider under the SECURE Act to maximize the inheritance for your family and achieve your goals. In fact, I've created a webinar discussing the SECURE Act in full as well as strategies that you can implement. To access the webinar, visit www.sbshlaw.com/secureact.

In the next few weeks, I'm going to discuss other strategies that were discussed at the conference. There's a lot to consider.

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economic vitality of our community." DiSano is a freshman, majoring

DiSano is a freshman, majoring in marketing with a minor in real estate and plans to pursue a career in commercial real estate. Lopez is a senior majoring in finance, studying for a real estate license and becoming a Certified Global Business Professional (CGBP). He will be in the first FGCU class graduating with an international business concentration under the management degree. Sutter is a sophomore, majoring in business with a focus on real estate. He is a member of FGCU's Business and Entrepreneurship Club at FGCU.

Three Oaks Extension Project Public Meeting

The Lee County Department of Transportation (DOT) will hold a public meeting on the Three Oaks Parkway Extension Design Project at Riverside Church on Monday, February 10 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The Three Oaks Parkway Extension Design Project is underway. The county divided it into two phases. The Phase 1 Segment begins north of Alico Road from the Fiddlesticks Canal to the vicinity of Indian Pony Drive (there will not be a connection to Indian Pony Drive). The Phase 2 Segment is from the vicinity of Indian Pony Drive to the Daniels Parkway intersection and includes improvements on Daniels Parkway.

The meeting is an opportunity for the public to review and comment on

Kent Poli and Bev Larson, chairs of the REIS scholarship committee, said the Paul Sands Memorial – REIS Scholarship is an endowed FGCU scholarship program, funded by REIS Scholarship Foundation, a not-forprofit, registered 501(c)3 corporation. Continuing contributions from REIS and the annual Paul Sands Memorial Slaw Dog Invitational Golf Tournament have increased and sustained the fund.

For more information and on contributing to the REIS scholarship program, visit www.reis-swfl.org or call Larson at 281-1290 or Poli at 689-7174.⁴

the status of the project. The meeting is an open house format, and the public is welcome to drop-in at any time. There will be no formal presentation. Lee County DOT staff and project representatives will be available to respond to questions.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Lee County will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities in its services, programs, or activities. To request an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or a reasonable modification to participate, contact Joan LaGuardia at 533-2314, Florida Relay Service 711, or jlaguardia@ leegov.com. Accommodation will be provided at no cost to the requestor. Requests should be made at least five business days in advance.

Riverside Church is located at 8660 Daniels Parkway in Fort Myers. For more information, contact DOT Project Manager Vince Miller at 533-8577 or vmiller@leegov.com.*

Frankly Speaking



by Howard Prager uper win! The Kansas City Chiefs had to overcome a fourth quarter, double-digit deficit

youth in 1971 while competing in the

punt, pass and kick competition. And

San Francisco was a most appropriate

opponent. Reid's first coaching job was at

Andy truly puts others before himself,"

San Francisco State, where he also sold

hot dogs to raise money for the former

said Jason Licht, his former VP of player

personnel in Philadelphia who is current

general manager of Tampa Bay. "He's

been wanting to win this for everybody

else before he wants to win it for himself,

and he's an unbelievable leader because of

that. He's one of those leaders that when

blame, and when things are going good he

gives credit to all the great work everyone

else did. And that's why everybody loves

playing for him, and goes the extra mile

Like many other great leaders, two

empowerment. "The entire league wanted

Andy to win because of how he treats and leads his men," according to Dave Merritt, his defensive backs coach. In practice, his

quarterback and receivers are permitted

to close their eyes as they work on some

creative pitching and catching. Mahomes

says the everyday fun sanctioned by Reid,

"keeps us loose and ready to go on game

on record saying he wants to spend his

one of the brilliant offensive minds of his

entire career in Kansas City. "Reid is

generation, or of any generation, and

vet his belief in freedom of expression

works on the defensive side of the ball,

meetings, 'Let your personality show,'

says Britt Reid, his father's linebackers

got to be you.

coach. "I think that's important. You can't

be someone you're not. If you want to play

this game to the best of your ability, you've

According to ESPN, Reid still works

standards, and expects his assistants and

front-office people to keep up. Licht said

But Reid's intense devotion to the details

of the game has never affected who he is

as a person. He can be stern with players

and staffers when necessary, but Licht

a week in Philly, and it's obvious that

Reid slept in that office three or four nights

absurdly long hours, even by NFL

too." "He tells them all the time in team

days." No wonder that Mahomes is already

keys for Andy as a coach is trust and

things aren't going well he takes all the

Division II program.

for him.

to secure a win, this time by scoring a Super Bowl recordtying 21 straight 4th quarter points

after what had been a lackluster game on their part. QB Patrick Mahomes was the MVP, and that was just for playing a superb 4th quarter. Can you imagine what it would have been if he was hot the whole game, or even just the entire second half? Mahomes' ability caused the win, but others including a defense that shut the 49ers down, came through with clutch plays. The 49ers also fell apart at the most inopportune time, giving the Chiefs their first Super Bowl win in 50 years.

There are some great stories about the 24-year-old Mahomes as a person. For example, he is always surrounded by well-wishers, autograph seekers and picture takers. He was out at a pizza place in KC with his girlfriend one night and no one bothered him. Afterwards, he stood up and said, "Thank you for giving me space tonight. I'm paying for everyone's meals.' That's class. He also prays before each game. What does he pray for? That no one gets injured. How often do you hear that?

Coach Andy Reid is also classy, winning his first Super Bowl ever in 21 years. Prior to Sunday, Sporting News had ranked him as the top coach in all sports without a championship. He came up just short in Super Bowl XXXIX as coach of the Eagles, who lost to the Patriots 24-21

"Nobody deserves this trophy more than Andy Reid," Chiefs owner Clark Hunt, son of Lamar, told the crowd and the Fox TV audience during the postgame ceremony." We got that ring for Big Red," Travis Kelce said. "He acts like a father figure to everyone in the building, and you appreciate that. ... We're married together forever now."

Reid's football journey started as a

SPORTS QUIZ

- 1. Who was the last Oakland A's player before Khris Davis in 2018 to lead the American League in home runs for a season?
- 2. How many times has a Tampa Bay Rays pitcher won 20-plus games in a season?
- 3. Who scored the first rushing touchdown in Super Bowl history?
- 4. Name the last Division II men's college basketball player to be selected in the NBA Draft.
- 5. Which player won the most Stanley Cups without ever playing for the Montreal Canadiens?
- 6. In 2019, the U.S. women's national soccer team set a record for biggest margin of victory in a World Cup game (13 goals). Which country had held the mark?
- 7. Of WBC heavyweight boxing champion Deontay Wilder's 43 pro bouts, how many have ended with Wilder recording a knockout?

ANSWERS

eight Stanley Cups, four with Detroit and four with Toronto, between 1950 and 1967. 6. Germany won a World Cup match by 11 goals in 2007. 7. Wilder has recorded 41 knockouts on his way to a 42-0-1 1967. 4. Robert Whaley of Walsh University was selected with the 51st pick in 2005. 5. Red Kelly won 1. Mark McGwire hit 52 homers to lead the A.L. in 1996. 2. Twice – David Price won 20 in 2012, and Blake Snell won 21 in 2018. 3. Green Bay's Jim Taylor, in the second quarter of Super Bowl I in 5018. described him as a coach with "a relaxed California swag and chill way about him.'

"Who couldn't feel good about an NFL head coach who still occasionally drives the Ford Model A his father bought after the war for \$25? And besides, we all needed a story like this at the end of a heartbreaking week in sports. Andy Reid personally knew Kobe Bryant, another tough guy with Philly roots, and would talk about him here and there at the Eagles' facility. He would just say of Kobe, 'That's a good dude, man.' Licht recalls. People who know Andy know that's high praise for him.'

Reid will surely be handing out credit to everyone who has helped him in his eight college and pro jobs. And Super Bowl LIV will forever have Andy's imprint all over it.

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.芬

Red Sox Spring Training Tickets Still Available

imited tickets are still available for all of the Boston Red Sox 2020 Spring Training season games excluding the match against the New York Yankees.

Fans can purchase tickets for most home games at JetBlue Park online at

THE RIVER - FEBRUARY 7, 2020 21

redsox.com, by calling 1-877-733-7699 or visiting the JetBlue Park Box Office Monday thru Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Hearing impaired fans may call the Red Sox TTY line at 617-226-6644.

JetBlue Park season ticket holders will once again receive preferred ticket pricing when compared to single game ticket prices. Those interested in purchasing season tickets can call 226-4700 or visit the ticket office in person for more information.

Starting February 21, the team will play a total of 18 home games, including 17 Grapefruit League games and the traditional college game against the Northeastern University Huskies.

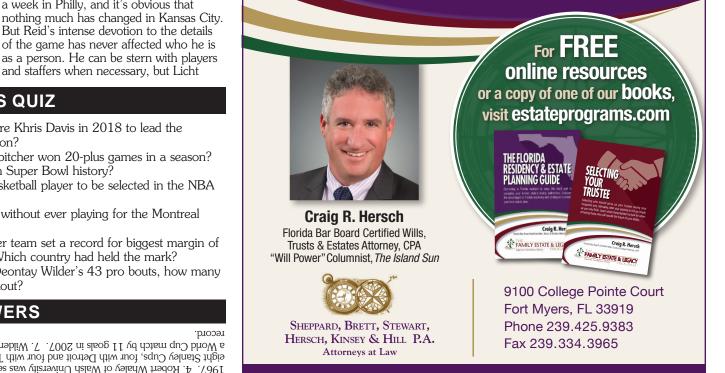
Pitchers and catchers hold their first workout on Wednesday, February 12. The first full squad workout will take place Monday, February 17. Workouts are free and open to the public.

The club will once again hold an Open House at JetBlue Park on Saturday, February 15 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The free event, open to the public, welcomes fans to walk around the park and the grounds while enjoying concessions and entertainment on Fenway South Drive.

The Red Sox' equipment truck will depart from Fenway Park on Monday, February 3. Truck Day is presented by JetBlue.

The 2020 season is the Red Sox' ninth at JetBlue Park at Fenway South. The 2020 Red Sox Spring Training schedule is attached and subject to change.☆

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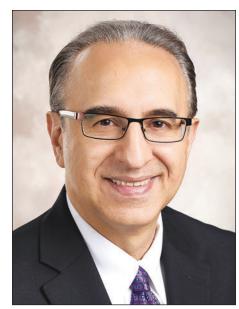
Lee Health Promotion

ee Health has promoted K Alex Daneshmand, DO, MBA, FAAP, to chief quality and patient safety officer. In this role, Daneshmand will be responsible for quality and safety across Lee Health, including national hospital grading, hospital accreditations, conformance risk assessments and process improvement throughout the health system. He will also oversee infection prevention and continue leading Lee Health's safety program.

Dr. Daneshmand's experience leading quality and safety programs within Lee Health makes him an excellent fit for this high-profile, high-impact position. "Nothing is more important than the safety of our patients, and we're excited to continue building and improving to ensure we provide the best experience to those we serve," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, Lee Health president and chief executive officer.

Before this promotion, Daneshmand served as vice president for quality and safety for the health system, where he provided leadership to improve quality and safety across Lee Health in collaboration with physicians and staff. In the past year, Lee Health's adult, acute care hospitals have earned two straight "A" report cards from the Leapfrog Group and have consistently increased their Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) star ratings.

Daneshmand joined Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida in 2007 as a physician in the pediatric intensive care unit. During his tenure with the hospital, he also served as founder and medical director of the pediatric procedural sedation center, on the oversight system medical staff quality services committee and as chairman of the pediatric medical



Dr. Alex Daneshmand photo provided

staff quality committee. Daneshmand assumed the role of medical director of quality and safety at Golisano Children's Hospital in August 2015 and served as acute care medical officer for the facility until 2018.

Before joining Golisano Children's Hospital, Daneshmand served as director of pediatric intensive care quality utilization, co-medical director of the pediatric intensive care unit and pediatric intensive care assistant professor at UF Health at Shands Children's Hospital in Gainesville.

Daneshmand earned his medical degree at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale. He completed a pediatric residency at Michigan State University and Sparrow Hospital in East Lansing, Michigan, as well as a pediatric intensive care fellowship at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Daneshmand also earned a master of business administration degree at Hough Graduate School of Business at the University of Florida.

University **Hires Director** Of Nursing

r. Barbara Ward has joined Hodges University as the school of health sciences nursing program director. Her responsibilities include overseeing and continuing to grow the university's bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program, which is accredited by ACEN.

Dr. Ward brings over 30 years of professional nursing experience. In her career, she has served in many academic roles, including faculty, clinical coordinator, associate degree nursing program director and nurse administrator of an associate and baccalaureate degree program.

Dr. Ward earned a master of science in nursing from Grand Canyon University and a doctor of nursing practice from Grand Canyon University college of nursing and health care. She is board certified as a registered nurse in the states of Florida and Washington, and formerly certified as an adult critical care registered



Dr. Barbara Ward

nurse. She also holds a certified nurse educator certification from the National League for Nursing. Dr. Ward is active in several professional nursing organizations at national, state and local levels.

Talking To A Child About Death

he death of basketball icon, Kobe Bryant and eight others in a helicopter crash, may bring up difficult questions from children about death. Valerie's House, the first and only organization in Southwest Florida focused solely on helping children grieve, is offering tips on the best ways to approach a conversation about grief and loss with a child

'It is normal for humans to grieve the loss of a celebrity or athlete such as Bryant," said Valerie's House Program Director Amy Strom LCSW-QS, MSSA, MEd. "Children and adults often create connections with celebrities by idolizing them or viewing them as mentors."

Strom suggests having an open conversation with a child, while keeping in mind their developmental stage and level of understanding. Strom says experiencing feelings of grief after a connection is lost is normal, even if the grief is related to a person you never met. She's provided the following suggestions for talking to a child about death. Identify a child's level of

understanding: Ask the child what they understand about death or grief.

A younger child may not understand the permanence of death.

Be sure to let them know they can speak openly with you, and you're there to answer their questions the best you can.

Use language and content that is appropriate for your child.

Validate their feelings, without

Estate Planning Workshop

Norida Bar Board Certified Wills, Trusts and Estates Attorneys Craig R. Hersch and Michael B. Hill, partners at Sheppard, Brett, Stewart, Hersch, Kinsey & Hill, PA, will provide important insights regarding estate planning opportunities during their free Estate Planning Workshop at the Naples Daily News community meeting room on Tuesday, February 11 from 2 to 4 p.m. Attendees will receive a free book entitled Florida Residency & Estate Planning Guide written by Craig R. Hersch.

Florida residency, new tax laws and many other factors affect one's estate planning documents. During the free workshop, Hersch and Hill will discuss effective estate planning techniques. Topics of discussion include:

How Florida residency affects your estate plan (even if your northern attorney told you it's ok) includes:

How your revocable trust may not avoid probate.

Why you should update your power of attorney, health care surrogate, living will and other ancillary documents.

How recent tax law changes affect your estate plan.

How to keep your legal documents Florida compliant, up-to-date and available at all times.

The Naples Daily News community meeting room is located at 1100 Immokalee Road in Naples. To reserve



Amy Strom

invoking anxiety or fear:

Acknowledge that whatever they are feeling is okay, whether it be sadness or worry or shock.

Oftentimes knowledge is power. The more knowledge you provide, the less your child will "fill in the blanks" with their imagination.

If a child expresses fear of losing someone close to them, reassure them that mom or dad take safety precautions or maintain a healthy lifestyle, such as buckling up when traveling or eating healthy and exercising.

For more resources about children's grief or to refer a child who may be grieving, visit www.valerieshouseswfl.org or call 204-5804.*

a seat, sign up at www.sbshlaw.com/ workshops or call 603-7034.公

From page 1

Puddles Pity Party

ongoing residency at Caesars Palace, and he tours extensively in the U.S. at legendary venues like the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, The Vic in Chicago and the Troubadour in Los Angeles. He has also performed many times in the United Kingdom at Soho Theatre London and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Other worldwide festival appearances include the Adelaide Fringe Festival, Perth Fringe World, Melbourne International Comedy Fest, Just for Laughs Montreal, Belgium's Gent Festival, Festival Supreme, Bumbershoot Festival, Moontower Comedy Festival and Bethlehem's MusikFest.

A few of the VIP Puddles Pity Party Experience packages are still available and include early entry to the show (5:30 p.m.), a soulful serenade from Puddles. a pre-show Puddles Cuddle and Photo Op, an exclusive VIP3er Souvenir and fast friendships with your fellow P3ers.

Tickets are \$45 in advance or \$50 the day of show. VIP tickets are \$120 in advance.

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

Beautifulife: Habits



by Kay Casperson

he interesting thing to understand about habits is that they are not so easy to create, and

also hard to break. Have you heard of the 21/90 rule that says that it usually takes at least 21

days in a row of doing something or not doing something to either make or break a habit? It also claims that when you are successful at that, you will need to continue for another 90 days on the same path to secure the pattern.

It sounds easy enough, I know, but in reality, it is not so easy. The habits we need to break are usually ones that we have enjoyed for a very long time, whether it be the food and drinks we indulge in, or the routines we experience daily. Likewise, habits that we want to create and have been dreaming about have been pushed aside for quite some time now.

I believe that if we can master the art of making and breaking the habits in our lives that either keep us growing in the right direction, or hold us back from where we want to be, we can be that much closer to having the beautiful life that we deserve and have worked so hard to have.

Here are my suggestions for making it happen:

Make a list of a few things you want to change - start with the important ones first.

Recognize the cause of the habit - is it fear, anxiety, or boredom?

Start small by tackling one thing at a time - don't overwhelm yourself, take small steps.

Change your routine or your environment – this will make a significant

impact on the goal. Reward yourself along the way with positive affirmations – stay encouraged to

the end. Replace a habit with something new –

you will need to fill the void. Surround yourself with people who want you to be better - the best cheerleaders.

Everyone is different, and some people can create or break habits in their lives in a matter of just a few days. Others need more time to create a routine and to stick with it. No matter how much time it takes, I encourage you to choose the first steps in moving towards breaking free from the feelings of not being able to control something or to not being able to make something happen for yourself that you have wanted to do for so long.

We all have the power within us to move in a new direction if we look within, speak the words to encourage ourselves and believe that it can happen.

My affirmation for you this week is: "I am focusing on the things that I will add or delete from my routine to move

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

Primary Care Hires Doctor

Matthew L. Young has joined Physicians' Primary Care of Southwest Florida as a family medicine physician.

Dr. Young, who lives on Sanibel, earned his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Western University of Health Science in Pomona, California, followed by residency at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC) in southern California. He has several years of experience as a family medicine physician in California at Riverside Medical Clinic and Molina Healthcare, where he was lead physician of two clinics. He is board certified in Family Medicine.

Dr. Young will see patients at the Fort Myers Family Medicine office at 7381 College Parkway in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.ppcswfl.com.

Chronic **Disease Program**

ee Health's Lee Health Solutions, in partnership with local agencies and supported in part initially by a grant from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, is offering a free six-week program titled It's All About You – a research-based chronic disease selfmanagement program originally developed at Stanford University.

The program is designed for people age 18 years or older with chronic health conditions to help them learn ways to



Dr. Matthew L. Young

better manage their chronic conditions and the symptoms that often accompany chronic health conditions.

Workshops will be offered on:

Tuesdays beginning February 18 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at Campo Felice, 2500 Edwards Drive, Fort Myers.

Fridays beginning February 21 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Chapel by the Sea, 100 Chapel Street, Fort Myers Beach.

Fridays beginning February 21 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Healthy

For more information or to register, call

JOIN US FOR A FUN, INTERACTIVE TALK

ARTHRITIS CHRONIC PAIN NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

Alzheimer's Center Scholarships

he Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center is accepting scholarship applications from local Lee County high school seniors for its 2020 Scholarship Award Program. The Alvin A, Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center offers scholarships to collegebound students who have had personal experiences with someone suffering from Alzheimer's disease or related disorders.

Seniors from local high schools are invited to submit applications for \$1,000 scholarships. Each applicant is asked to write a narrative about his/her positive experience with a family member or

HOME

friend who is affected by Alzheimer's disease or dementia. A panel of advisory council members of the Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center will review the applications, focusing on the narrative as well as the student's volunteer experience and future goals.

Completed applications, including letters of recommendation, must be postmarked by March 31, 2020. Recipients will be announced in May The center has awarded over \$30,000 in scholarships. To obtain an application, visit www.alzheimersswfl.org.

The Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center, a local United Way partner agency, provides informational, educational and supportive assistance to individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and their caregivers in Lee and Hendry counties. For more information, call 437-3007.举

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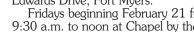


The Community House THE FOUNDER'S ROOM



RSVP Izzy Ehelebe at 239-303-4069 or Ehelebei@caringmedical.com

Sponsored by Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics in Fort Myers. Learn more at: CaringMedical.com



Life Center Coconut Point, 23450 Via Coconut Point, Estero.

343-9264.举



questions about YOUR own medical case!

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 6

5:30-7:30PM

Ross Hauser, MD and Marion Hauser, MS, RD, CEO are the owners of Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics, dedicated to helping people avoid unnecessary joint surgeries and find curative treatments to complex chronic pain conditions. They are authors of over 30 medical research articles and 9 books, including their best known book Prolo Your Pain Away!

The Flu Versus Coronavirus



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: There's a virus that has become a growing threat to people of all ages. The Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency in the United States in

responding to coronavirus. The facts are as follows:

1. Starting February 2, all passengers coming in to the U.S. who have been in Hubei province in China during the prior two weeks will be potentially quarantined for 14 days. This region of China is where Wuhan is located, and that is the epicenter of the outbreak.

2. There is an entire region in China that is in complete lockdown, and they've quarantined more than 50 million people to contain the outbreak.

3. The World Health Organization (WHO) has deemed the virus a "global health emergency," further advising Americans not to travel to China. So far, only a handful of Americans have caught it, and one man has already been successfully treated. His case study and treatment protocol was just published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*. 4. There is human to human

transmission.

The coronavirus, known in shorthand as 2019-nCoV is a very odd bug! Researchers are desperately trying to understand its genomic sequence so that treatment can be hastened. It is weirdly possible that a person became infected by consuming a bat, or a snake that had eaten a bat. This is theorized because the coronavirus shares 96.2 percent of its DNA sequence with a bat. And in some open food markets, wild animals are actually sold as food.

People with a cold or flu commonly use analgesics, fever reducers, cough syrup and decongestants or antihistamines.

Symptoms of 2019-nCoV are similar to the flu, or to the common cold, so you might expect a fever, shortness of breath, weakness, coughing and asthmalike symptoms. Pneumonia is the most dangerous complication. More and more people will be walking around the U.S. with disposable face masks and, whether or not that's for the 2019-nCoV or for the flu, it doesn't matter. They're either just protecting themselves, or being polite to others.

At this time, I think the risk of contracting coronavirus in the United States or Canada is quite small. If you travel via plane or cruise ships then, of course, your risk goes up for this as well as the flu. As for the flu vaccine, it may be appropriate for protection against certain strains of influenza, however it was not 'built' to protect against 2019-nCoV.

Some of the following holistic remedies may be helpful during cough/ cold season; however these are not useful to treat coronavirus. You must seek medical attention if you have a serious respiratory illness:

Matcha Tea Elderberry Astragalus Ginger Garlic Mullein root Eucalyptus essential oil I have a much more thorough version of this article that I can email to you if you're interested. I'll add you to my online database when you sign up for my free newsletter at www.suzycohen.com. *This information is not intended to*

Laughing Is Good For Your Health



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

A s you know, we run Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics in Fort Myers and Oak Park, Illinois. We see patients with all sorts of painful conditions, some of them life-threatening, as well as significantly life-altering. Thus, you can imagine the emotional and spiritual pain that many of these people are going through. As the song says, "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

We find that having a positive outlook in life, feeling gratitude for our blessings and even our pains, as well as laughing a lot not only makes living a lot more fun, but is also better for our health.

The benefits of a regular chuckle, chortle, or giggle are many. A good ol' belly laugh relieves physical tension and stress and leaves your muscles relaxed for 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.*

up to 45 minutes after you stop laughing, which in turn my reduce heart disease risk, help control blood pressure and improve breathing.

Laughter can decrease stress hormones and increase immune cells that produce infection-fighting antibodies, thus improving your overall immune function and ability to fight disease.

Laughing actually works our abdominal muscles. Haven't you experienced sore tummy muscles from laughing so hard!? See, exactly! When we laugh, the muscles in our abdomens contract, similar to performing sit-ups. Adding laughter to your ab workouts can definitely make it much more fun.

And while your at it, did you know that laughter also gets your heart pumping, strengthening your heart muscles and reducing your cardiac risk, especially for those whose physical abilities are limited.

Laughing triggers the happy hormones (aka endorphins). These are the body's natural pain killers. Laughing releases endorphins which may indeed help ease chronic pain and give you that good all over feeling. And you know, if the laughing does not fully get rid of your pain, we have many other options to help you with that – including prolotherapy.

Smile! View life with a positive outlook! And live a longer healthier life.

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.☆

From page 1 Art Under 20

They went to: Cypress Lake High's Isabella Venafro and Kaitlyn Logue, East Lee High's Robert Swanson, North Fort Myers High's Michelle Glarum and Riverdale High's Rose Prindle. The Matsumoto Award and \$500 went to Jade Gaston of North Fort Myers High. Morgan Rosellini of Canterbury High took home the the People's Choice award and \$300.

Blue, red and yellow ribbons and prize money were distributed in seven art categories. The following were the winners in each category:

in each category: Recycle – 1. Cece Reusser (\$500) Cypress Lake High; 2. Aleena Pagan (\$300) Cypress Lake High; and 3. Amanda Kiang (\$200) Cypress Lake H

Amanda Kiang (\$200) Cypress Lake High Mixed Media – 1. Julia Dry (\$400)
Cypress Lake High; 2. Karen Barreto
(\$200) Cape Coral High; 3. Jenny Doan
(\$100) Ida Baker High

Digital – 1. Hank Yang (\$400) Cape Coral High; 2. Trinity Sullivan (\$200) Cape Coral High; 3. Melainey Logue (\$100) Cypress Lake High

Photography – 1. Lauren Ratz (\$400) Fort Myers High; 2. Alexander Paul (\$200) Fort Myers High; 3. Madison Reynolds (\$100) Fort Myers High



Hish school students drawing on tar paper during Chalk Block

Three-Dimensional – 1. Maya Lana-Fernandez (\$400) North Fort Myers High; 2. Caleb Demers (\$200) Cypress Lake High 3. Maknsi Schomer (\$100) North Fort Myers High

Painting – 1. Esmeralda Flores (\$400) Cypress Lake High; 2. Sara Morejon (\$200) Canterbury High; 3. Bryce Sweely (\$100) Lehigh Senior High photo by Bob Petcher

Drawing – 1. Maya Dudley (\$400) Bonita Springs High; 2. Allysen Corporan (\$200) North Fort Myers High; 3. Elisa Williams (\$100) Cypress Lake High There were also 20 students earning

50 each for honorable mentions: Patrick Walker of North Fort Myers High, Lucia Buergo of Lehigh Senior High, Bianca Falcon of North Fort Myers High, Annie Vardanyan of Cypress Lake High, Nicholas O'Leary of Mariner High, Averi Roes-Kern of Cypress Lake High, Gabrielle Morris of Cypress Lake High, Julio Gonzalez-Batista of North Fort Myers High, Kate Bloom of Fort Myers High, Tate Williams of North Fort Myers High, Tate Williams of North Fort Myers High, Katheryn Wienert of North Fort Myers High, Joshua Benzon of Canterbury High, Lillian Harris of Canterbury High, Rebekah Winborn of Fort Myers High, Rebekah Winborn of Fort Myers High, Faith Eberz of North Fort Myers High, Ryley Saeger of Bonita Springs High, Carly Enmon of North Fort Myers High, Ornella Guidi of North Fort Myers High, Vi Gallagher of Mariner High and Sergio Hernandez of Fort Myers High.

The Chalk Block competition, which usually pits four high school team members against their peers drawing with chalk on street pavement, was moved indoors due to inclement weather. The artist teams drew on blocks of tar paper on the second floor of the Art of the Olympians Museum and Gallery.

Cape Coral High School team No. 1 captured first place, while North Fort Myers High team No. 4 placed second and Cypress Lake High team No. 6 took third place. The Sunny and Sparkle Award (Lee Health and Golisano Children's Hospital sponsor award) was awarded to Bonita Springs High team No. 2.35

PETS OF THE WEEK photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services Kisa And Pogo



Kisa ID# A512761

f you have never been fortunate enough to have a calico cat as part of your family, you Lare missing out. A calico cat's behavior is rumored to have more attitude than cats of other colors. Some pet owners affectionately refer to these behavior characteristics as "cattitude." My name is Miss Kisa. I am an 8-year-old female domestic medium hair who just has a fiery personality that volunteers find simply charming. I will definitely keep you on your toes. And with my stunning good looks, I absolutely pull it off. My adoption fee is \$25, and you can adopt

me and get a feline friend at no additional charge.

Do you like big dog personalities but can only have a medium sized dog? Then I will be a perfect match. My anme is Pogp. I am a 7-yearold male American staffordshire mix who has the personality of a big dog (don't tell me I'm not, I



Pogo ID# A805185

think I am) all packaged into my medium-sized body. I get my name from the pogo-like bounce I have when I want to go for a walk. I also like to 'talk' to let you know when I need something. There is no need to wonder with this guy.

My adoption fee is \$25.

Lee County Animal Services kicks off "Give Love" promotion with adoption discounts. Take a departure from the traditional roses and chocolates and "Give Love" this year by adopting a furry Valentine from Lee County Animal Services. From February 1 through February 29, all adoptions of adult dogs and cats will be just \$25 with an approved adoption application.

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

Haven on Earth Animal League

Eve Ti There! My name is Eve -- perfect for Christmas Eve and New Year's LEve. I'm only about two or three years old, so I'm still young and playful. I've had a rough life so I'm looking for someone to love me forever. I was found in a garden center, trying to protect my five kittens. I was emaciated, full of tapeworms and missing fur. Luckily, someone from Haven on Earth Animal League took me in and fostered me. I'm all better now and ready to spend my life being pampered, as I should be. I am very affectionate and like to cuddle in bed or on the sofa with my human. I get along with other cats, and I even like the dogs in the house - but don't tell anyone. If you want to meet me, call Aviva (my foster mom) at 204-6849 or email Haven on Earth Animal League at havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo. com.

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





Emergency	
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	
Poison Control	-800-282-3171
Ft. Myers Chamber of Commerce	332-3624
Foundation for Quality Childcare	425-2685
Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce	
Lakes Regional Library	533-4000
Lee County Chamber of Commerce	931-0931
Post Office	338-3500
ARTS	
Alliance for the Arts Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio	939-2787
Art League Of Fort Myers.	
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall	481-4849
BIG ARTSBroadway Palm Dinner Theatre	
Cultural Park Theatre	
Edison Festival of Light.	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade	
Ford Myers Harmonica Band	610-653-7940
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	
Naples Philharmonic.	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony	
Theatre Conspiracy	
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
American Legion Post #38 . Angel Flight	239-332-1853
Animal Refuge Center	731-3535
American Business Women Association	357-6755
Audubon of SWFLhttps://www.au Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR	/ubonswfl.org
Caloosahatchee Folk Society	
Cape Chorale Barbershop Chorus1.	-855-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club	542-9153
	404-1003
Edison Porcelain Artists	415-2484
Edison Porcelain Artists Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter	415-2484 239-267-1990
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but what I really need is a new

Answer on page 31

SCREENING

Tops

RE-SCREEN

\$55.00 | \$35.00

CLEANING SERVICES

∣ Sides

2 year warranty

The Screen Machine

239-898-3528

Licensed and insured

SPECIA

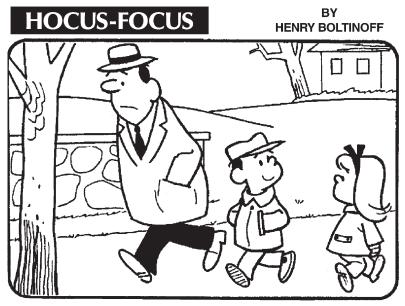
10

SCRAMBLERS Inscramble 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! Singed ARCHERD Capture PARENT lanite LINKED Rant READIT **TODAY'S WORD**

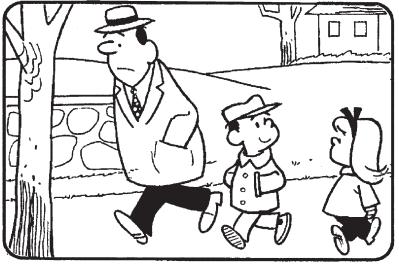
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SUDOKU

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



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



4. Pants are different. 5. Jacket is different. 6. Tree is moved. Differences: 1. He is different, 2, Wall is shorter, 3, Belt is missing.

239-219-6188

Rick Sanford



Residential & Commercial Construction Clean Up Interior Windows Home Watch

> Jennifer Watson (239) 810-6293 brightntidy@gmail.com Licensed & Insured

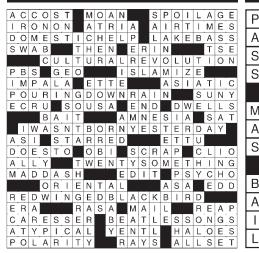


28 THE RIVER - FEBRUARY 7, 2020

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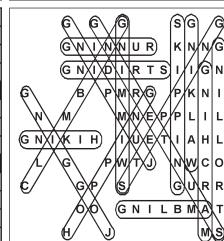
PUZZLE ANSWERS

SUPER CROSSWORD



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TRIVIA TEST

- 1. **Measurements**: How many inches are in a mile?
- 2. **Astronomy**: What does the acronym SETI mean to the scientific community?
- 3. **Language**: What does the Latin prefix "sub-" mean in English?
- 4. **U.S. Presidents**: Who was the only president to serve two nonconsecutive terms?
- 5. **Literature**: Which 20thcentury movie star penned the autobiography *Me: Stories of My Life*?
- 6. **History**: What was the first National Monument proclaimed in the United States?
- 7. **Geography**: Where is the island of Luzon located?
- 8. **Movies**: Which sci-fi movie has the tagline, "Reality is a thing of the past"?
- 9. **General Knowledge**: What was the name of the United States' first nuclear-powered submarine?
- 10. **Games**: What are the four railroad properties in Monopoly?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

 Ga3,360 inches 2. Search for extratemestrial intelligence 3. Below or insufficient 4. Grover Cleveland 5. Katharine Hepburn 6. Devils Tower, 1906 7. The Philippines 8. The Matrix 9. The USS Nautilus 10. Pennsylvania, Short Line, Reading and B&O

My Stars *******

Aries (March 21 to April 19) You need to be certain that all the right conditions are in place before you take that first step. It can't hurt to listen to good advice from those who have your best interests at heart.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Be careful not to get involved in other people's disputes unless you know the facts behind the disagreements. That's the best way to be assured of making wise and honest decisions.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) You still need to be careful about how you're going to spend those energy reserves you finally got around to restoring. Best advice: Avoid overdoing it. Let things take their course.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Your aspect continues to favor travel – alone or with that special person. So if you've been putting off making those getaway plans, it's still a good time to get started on them.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Those so-called golden opportunities that continue to dazzle the Lion still need to be carefully checked out. Be suspicious about anything that looks like the "perfect" prospect.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) Changes at the workplace could make it more difficult to do things the way you prefer. But the wise Virgo who shows some flexibility could find it paying off in a big way.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) You might want to check out the

explanation you were given for a sudden shift in your duties. There's a possibility that you haven't been told all the facts that you deserve to know.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Having confidence in your abilities is important, especially when you could be facing a new challenge, whether it's in the workplace or in a personal relationship. Good luck.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) A new work-related opportunity might not be all that it seems. Before making any decisions, you might want to check with others who have had some experience in that area.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) A situation involving someone close could benefit from your timely intervention. Avoid being judgmental. There'll be plenty of time later for those "little talks" you like to have.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) Travel could be a surprise element in that new project. Be prepared for other previously undisclosed aspects that also might come to light as you proceed with the work.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Try to balance your work-related responsibilities with the time you're spending on your recently revived social life. An old friend might be planning to return after a long absence.

Born This Week: Your sensitivity makes you aware of the needs of others. Have you considered a career as a counselor?

MOMENTS IN TIME

• On Feb. 16, 1878, supported by

Western mining interests and farmers, the Bland-Allison Act, which provided for a return to the minting of silver coins, becomes law. It required the U.S. Treasury to resume purchasing silver and minting silver dollars as legal tender.

• On Feb. 13, 1915, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) is founded to "assure that music creators are fairly compensated for the public performance of their works, and that their rights are properly protected."

• On Feb. 10, 1957, Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of the best-selling *Little House* series of children's novels, dies at age 90 in Missouri. In 1932, Wilder, then in her 60s, published her first novel, *Little House in the Big Woods*.

• On Feb. 15, 1961, the entire 18-member U.S. figure skating team is killed in a plane crash in Belgium. The team was on its way to the 1961 World Figure Skating Championships in Prague. U.S. women's figure skating champion Laurence Owen, 16, was featured on the Feb. 13, 1961, cover of Sports Illustrated.

• On Feb. 12, 1972, the release of American POWs begins in Hanoi as part of the Paris peace settlement. The first 20 of 591 U.S. POWs arrived to a hero's welcome at Travis AFB in California.

• On Feb. 14, 1989, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini calls on Muslims to kill Salman Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*, and his publishers. Booksellers the world over refused to sell the novel for fear of retribution. Many who did sell it were bombed.



Citrus and Herb Roasted Chicken

- 1 (4-6 pound) whole Chicken
- 2 Key Limes
- 2 Lemons (one zested, one halved)
- 3-4 sprigs fresh rosemary
- 3-4 sprigs fresh thyme
- 4-5 cloves fresh garlic, smashed
- $1/_2$ stick unsalted butter, softened Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste
- Brine
- 1 Orange, halved
- 2 Key limes, halved
- 1/2 cup natural sugar
- 1 Lemon, halved
- 1 cup sea salt

2 gallons warm water (or enough to fully cover chicken) Prepare brine by combining all brine ingredients and stirring until salt and sugar are dissolved. Allow to cool to room temperature before placing in refrigerator for 12 to 24 hours.

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Remove chicken from brine, pat dry and place in large roasting pan. Combine softened butter, zest of 1 lemon, salt and pepper; stir to combine and rub onto skin of chicken. Place Key Lime



Citrus and Herb Roasted Chicken

halves, lemon halves, fresh herbs, and garlic inside of chicken and secure with butchers' twine. Season chicken with salt and pepper, place in oven and roast for 30 minutes. Reduce temperature to 375 degrees and continue photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

to roast for 30-45 more minutes, or until thermometer reads 160 degrees. Remove from oven and allow to rest for 15 minutes before serving.☆

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From page 28 Moments In Time

• On Feb. 11, 1990, in a major upset, Buster Douglas defeats Mike Tyson, the undisputed world heavyweight champion, in 10 rounds at a boxing match in Tokyo. The loss was the beginning of a long, downward spiral for Tyson, which included jail time and license revocation in Nevada.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was famed cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead who made the following sage observation: "One of the oldest human needs is having someone to wonder where you are when you don't come home at night." • It's been estimated that a million

pigeons live in New York City.
When pop star Christina Aguilera

• When pop star Christina Aguiera is on tour, she insists on having a police escort. She hates to be stuck in traffic.

• Next time you're heading to Illinois, you can stop off in Metropolis and visit the self-declared birthplace of Superman. In honor of their hometown superhero, the citizens erected a 15-foot bronze statue of him on Main Street.

• It was Abraham Lincoln who signed into law the legislation that created the Secret Service. That very night, he was assassinated.

• Those who study such things say that on the 13th of every month, triskaidekaphobia causes a loss of \$83 million to American business due to absenteeism from work and other disruptions.

• In the United States, more babies are born on Oct. 5 than on any other day of the year. If you do the math, you'll find that New Year's Eve is 9 months and 5 days before that.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Show me a hero, and I will write you a tragedy." – F. Scott Fitzgerald

Responsibility Prevents Manatee Deaths

nce again, last year was the worst year on record for manatee mortality from watercraft strikes, as has been the case each year since 2016. The sharp increase in watercraft mortality has coincided with the U.S. Department of Interior's decision to downlist the manatee from endangered to threatened status, raising the question of whether there is an



erroneous perception that the species is now recovered. Over the same time period, greater development and human population growth in Florida's coastal regions has resulted in more boats on the water, as well as habitat fragmentation. Manatees must now traverse more populated areas to reach feeding and breeding grounds and warm-water refuge sites. As manatee habitat has declined and human habitat has expanded into once-wild areas, there is an inevitable increase in interspecies interaction.

Eco-tourism has also rapidly grown. Well-meaning manatee lovers are jeopardizing the animals' safety through unintentional harassment and failure to practice passive observation. There are dozens of incidents daily of people posting pictures to social media of themselves chasing down manatees, petting manatees, floating kayaks on top of manatees, swimming between mothers and calves, feeding manatees and giving them water. One swimmer was so close to a manatee that the animal could not swim without bumping into her or other tourists. The swimmer misinterpreted the manatee's attempts to navigate around her as "hugging. Manatees becoming acclimated to human presence can be disastrous, as it makes them more likely to approach and be struck by watercraft.

Florida's cherished natural resources are being loved to death. Plastic bags and debris clog waterways and clutter

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SCRAMBLERS

1. Charred; 2. Entrap; 3. Kindle; 4. Tirade *Today's Word* **KITCHEN** once-hidden springs. And the state's beloved marine mammal has suffered. Harassment in springs separates mothers and calves, and drives manatees out of their sanctuaries into boat traffic or into cooler waters where they can suffer cold stress, which can also be fatal.

At Save the Manatee Club, we are often asked, "what can we as citizens do?" Responsible boaters, kayakers, eco-tourists and other recreational users are the best advocates for educating friends, family and others on the water about respectful manatee practices. They are also the key to finding injured, orphaned, or harassed manatees in time to rescue and rehabilitate them. Thanks to responsible recreators, there has also been an increase in manatee rescues.

For information on reporting injured or sick manatees as well as manatee protection tips, visit www.

HORTOONS

savethemanatee.org/tips. And if you see an injured, dead, tagged, or orphaned manatee, or if you see a manatee being harassed, call 1-888-404-3922, email or text Tip@myfwc.com, or use VHF Channel 16 on your marine radio.**

Give Love Promo With Adoption Discounts

Take a departure from the traditional roses and chocolates and "Give Love" this year by adopting a furry valentine from Lee County Domestic Animal Services.

From February 1 through 29, all adoptions of adult dogs and cats will be just \$25 with an approved adoption application. The reduced adoption fee includes the complete package of services: sterilization; age-appropriate vaccinations; county license; microchip ID; de-worming; flea treatment; a heartworm test for dogs; feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats; and a 10-day health guarantee. The adoption package is valued at more than \$500.

The staff and volunteers at LCDAS are waiting to help you find your perfect Valentine match. Make plans to visit from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday at the shelter located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers.

All pets available for adoption are featured online at www.leelostpets. com. Adoption applications may be submitted online or in person. For more information, call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS). If you are inquiring about a pet seen online, have the animal ID number ready for faster assistance.



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2014	3,725	\$1,849,000	\$1,550,000	99
Westlake Court	Estero	2020	2,837	\$1,638,861	\$1,638,861	0
Westlake Court	Estero	2020	2,837	\$1,606,285	\$1,606,285	0
Laguna Shores	Fort Myers Beach	1973	2,588	\$1,299,000	\$1,200,000	30
Tahitian Shores	Fort Myers	1975	4,027	\$1,195,000	\$1,075,000	63
Jonathan Harbour	Fort Myers	2002	4,300	\$1,149,900	\$1,025,000	189
Jonathan Harbour	Fort Myers	2004	2,826	\$1,099,000	\$1,000,000	71
Laguna Shores	Fort Myers Beach	1972	2,420	\$1,050,000	\$1,019,000	7
Del Sega	Sanibel	1958	1,700	\$989,000	\$905,000	11
Edgewater	Fort Myers	1998	2,746	\$949,900	\$900,000	48

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate



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