



World-Class Chamber Music At Art Center

Chamber music enthusiasts have something wonderful to celebrate during the third concert in the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center Chamber Music Series. The renowned American String Quartet will be joined by guest cellist Andrés Díaz and perform live on Friday, February 21. Cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m. and the performance begins at 8 p.m.

The American String Quartet is internationally recognized as one of the world's finest quartets, having spent decades honing the luxurious sound for which they are famous. They will celebrate their 46th anniversary this year, and have performed in all 50 states and the most important concert halls worldwide.

The group's presentations of the complete quartets of Beethoven, Schubert, Schoenberg, Bartók and Mozart have won widespread critical acclaim, and their MusicMasters Complete Mozart String Quartets, performed on a matched quartet set of instruments by Stradivarius, are widely considered to have set the standard for this repertoire. Formed when its original members were students at The Juilliard School, the American String Quartet's career began with the group



Andrés Díaz photos by Peter Schaaf

winning both the Coleman Competition and the Naumburg Award in the same year. Resident quartet at the Aspen Music Festival since 1974 and at the Manhattan School of Music in New York since 1984, the foursome has also served as resident quartet at the Taos School of Music, the Peabody Conservatory and the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. The group is comprised of Peter Winograd on the violin, Laurie Carney on violin, Daniel Avshalomov on viola, and Wolfram Koessel



American String Quartet

on cello.

In 1986, special guest Andrés Díaz claimed first prize in the Naumburg International Cello Competition, and has been delighting audiences as well as critics with his intense and charismatic performances ever since.

Díaz is active with the Díaz String Trio, featuring violinist Andres Cardenes and violist Roberto Diaz. The trio has performed in the cities of Pittsburgh, Washington, Boston, Los Angeles and

Miami; at the Kuhmo Festival in Finland, the International Festival of St. Cyprien and the Casals Festival in France; and they have toured extensively in South America, Mexico and Canada.

Díaz is currently a professor at Southern Methodist University and holds the Koerner chair in Cello at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. He plays a 1698 Matteo Goffriller cello with a bow made by his

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The recipients of adaptive tricycles and their families at Sanibel Captiva Community Bank McGregor branch photo provided

Special Needs Children Receive Custom Tricycles

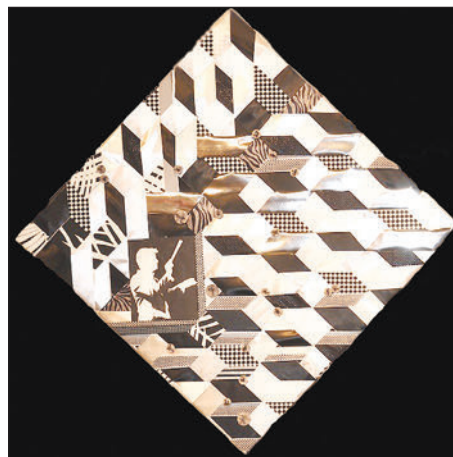
For the second time in two months, Robbie's Riders, Grampy's Charities and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank presented adaptive tricycles to Southwest Florida children. In December at the 3rd

Annual Grampy's Pro-Am golf tournament, three custom-made tricycles were presented to Southwest Florida children and more than \$100,000 was raised to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida.

The recipients were: Jason Cruz-Morales, a 5-year-old boy diagnosed with Downs Syndrome and leukemia; Kassandra Benavidez Arellano, a 2-year-old girl

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Two Weaving Workshops Offered



Black and White

images provided

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is offering an Amulet Bag Workshop and a Triaxial Weaving Workshop for all skill levels. Get all the tools and materials you need, plus create projects to take home. Classes will be held on Wednesdays, February 19 and February 26, respectively, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

From beginner to advanced weavers, all fiber workers are welcome to sign up. In addition, all materials will be provided, including yarn, natural materials and fabric. The workshops will allow attendees



Challenge Conformity

to create a project to take home.

Instructor Susan Hedge will teach you how to weave an amulet on a simple tapestry loom during the Amulet Bag Workshop. Select a sacred charm or stone to place in the amulet and choose to give as a gift or keep for remembering a special intention. Class cost is \$60.

Instructor Rose Young will help you create artwork with hand-painted and jacquard woven ribbons. You may also paint satin ribbons with acrylics then

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Pomp And Circumstance, 1947



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

Since it began in 1938, the Edison Festival and Pageant of Light has been Fort Myers's premier celebration. The cluster of events that honors Fort Myers's most famous citizen, inventor Thomas A. Edison, are always held around February 11, his birthday.

It originally took place over only two or three days, but this year's festivities take place over 15 days, culminating with the Grand Parade of Light on Saturday, February 15.

Today, the Edison Pageant of Light, a nonprofit organization, puts on the King and Queen's Ball (also called the Coronation Ball), the Thomas Alva Edison Birthday Party and the parade.

Since 1989, the Edison Festival of Light, Inc. has been responsible for the pageant's various public events, ranging from the Junior Parade (aka Baby Parade) to the Mutt Strutt and the 5K Run, just to name a few.

The festivities, involving the choosing and coronation of both the junior and adult Kings and Queens of the mythical kingdom of Edisonia, have always been heavy with pomp and circumstance – but the ceremony and elegance of 1947 stands out.

Why was 1947 so special?

First of all, the event was only the second one held after a five-year hiatus due to World War II and was still regaining momentum. Those unusual circumstances had made Jimmy Moore and Kathryn Miller (Geraci) (Palmer), crowned in 1941, the longest serving royalty of the mythical kingdom of Edisonia to date. They reigned for five years.

Secondly, 1947 was the centennial of the Edison's birth.

Add to that the fact that it was the last one that Mina Miller Edison attended, for she died in August of that year.

She arrived in time to crown the Junior King and Queen – Howard Daubman and Margie Jean Black – in a coronation at the Fort Myers Yacht Basin the day before the Coronation Ball for King and Queen Ted Evans and Esther Ann Reynolds (Yowell).



King Ted Evans and Queen Esther Ann Reynolds descend the throne to begin the dance

That coronation was the only one ever held in a wooden hangar at Buckingham Army Air Force Base, recently vacated after the war.

Also in attendance for the festivities was the Edisons' son Charles, who had been the former governor of New Jersey, the president of Edison Industries and the holder of several prominent U.S. governmental posts.

In the historical photo, Mrs. Edison is pictured at the coronation ball crowning King Ted Evans. In another photo, the royal couple descend from their thrones to begin the dance.

Twenty-five thousand people lined the streets to see the 1947 Grande Parade and continued on page 6



Mrs. Mina Miller Edison crowns 1947 King of Edisonia Ted Evans as Royal Chamberlain and Master of Ceremonies Sidney Davis looks on photos courtesy Florida State Archives



Ho-hum... the attendants to the 1947 Junior King and Queen of Edisonia, two-year-olds Howard Daubman and Margie Jean Black, seem less than impressed with the pomp and circumstance at the coronation

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THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

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Florida Premiere At LabTheater

The Florida premiere of Sarah Ruhl's *How to Transcend a Happy Marriage* opens Friday, February 21 at The Laboratory Theater of Florida. There will be an opening night reception with hors d'oeuvres by The Gathering Place starting at 7:15 p.m.

For teens, there will be a cast and crew meet and greet with pizza generously donated by Downtown House of Pizza on Saturday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m. It will be followed by a complimentary performance for the teenagers; reservations are required.

Set during an upscale dinner party, two couples decide to invite an unusual young polyamorous woman and her two companions to join them. What happens next pushes the boundaries of friendship, marriage and parenthood.

"Sarah Ruhl is a wonderful writer with an incredible imagination and with *How to Transcend a Happy Marriage*, she has given us a story that is both profoundly human and fantastically mythical and magical at the same time. I can't wait for the Southwest Florida audience to go on this journey with us," said Director Steven Ditmyer

Ditmyer is a New York director, international acting coach and Meisner Studio alum. As an actor, he has worked with the likes of Al Pacino, Arthur Miller, Tony Randall, Ron Rifkin, Sam Waterson and Dianne



Front row, Maddalyn Brown; middle row from left, Steven Coe, Annette Trossbach, Tamicka Armstrong; back row from left, TJ Albertson, Heather Johnson and Scott Davis

photo provided

Wiest. As a director, he has worked with Alec Baldwin, Charles Durning, Jack Klugman and many more. *How to Transcend a Happy Marriage* plays through March 14.

The Laboratory Theater of Florida is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers. Tickets are available at www.brownpapertickets.com or by calling the box office at 218-0481.

Pancake Day Fundraising Event

There will be a National Pancake Day Celebration Fundraising event at Arden Courts of Fort Myers on Tuesday, February 25 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. All proceeds from this fundraising event will benefit The Alvin Dubin Center Alzheimers Resource Center.

Admission for the pancake breakfast buffet will be \$10 per person, cash or check made payable to The Alvin Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle with one ticket costing \$1 or six for \$5 (cash only). There will also be door prizes throughout the event.

Tergo containers will be available to those who can only stop in for a moment.

Arden Courts of Fort Myers is located at 15950 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. To RSVP on or prior to February 24, call 454-1277 or email ftmyers@arden-courts.com.

Craft And White Elephant Sale

Palmetto Palms RV Resort is hosting a Craft and White Elephant Sale on Saturday, February 15 from 8 a.m. to noon. Coffee and donuts will be available. The public is invited.

Palmetto Palms RV Resort is located at 19681 Summerlin Road in Fort Myers. For more information, call Marge Gregg at 466-5331.



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Emcee, Judges Named For Project Refuge

NBC2 morning co-anchor Rachel Pierce will emcee Project Refuge: A Couture Fashion Show Using Trash at JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s Twist Tie Optional Luncheon at The Sanctuary Golf Club on Tuesday, March 10. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and tickets are \$100 per person.

The “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) is hosting the event, which is one highlight of the refuge’s 75th anniversary celebration this year.

An Emmy-nominated journalist, Pierce currently sits on the board of the Press Club of Southwest Florida. She has been working as a journalist for more than 16 years, five of those years at NBC2. Her other passion is art, which she studied in school and now also works at professionally.

The Project Refuge Committee has also announced its three judges for the competition among more than 25 designers. They are creating fashions from recycled and repurposed materials that would otherwise end up in the landfills or polluting land and waters. Judges include Loki Anthony, Merni Libonate and Robin Tauck.

Anthony, who grew up around Alva, Florida, has been expressing himself through art since he was 4 years old. By high school, his art evolved into fashion, and he began selling custom wearable art



Rachel Pierce photo provided

designs to classmates. Today, he operates his custom clothing line, Loki Designz, and has adopted the motto “Love Is Key” for his work. With a focus on nature, many of his designs feature leaves, feathers, or owls to symbolize what draws him into the natural beauty and intrigue of life. His work garners attention from Naples to New York City.

Captiva resident Libonate serves on the boards of the Captiva Civic Association and the Chapel by the Sea. Before retiring, she was an event coordinator specializing in the corporate sponsorships of professional sporting events such as Wimbledon, U.S. Open golf and tennis, and the Super Bowl. Libonate

also previously worked at NBC’s Today Show in New York City and represented philanthropists at the Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall and Salzburg Festival.

Tauck is a philanthropist and travel business leader committed to creating positive social, cultural and economic change and an advocate for the global travel industry’s positive economic impact and the potential of sustainable tourism. A U.S. commissioner to UNESCO, Tauck also serves on the advisory body to the U.S. State Department, the U.S. National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, and the World Travel & Tourism Council.

“We are excited to debut this fun and creative event to celebrate the refuge’s 75th anniversary and raise awareness about recycling and the threat of trash to

our wildlife, water quality and health,” said Birgie Miller, DDWS executive director. “All profits will directly benefit the refuge’s education and water-quality research programs.”

Sponsors for Project Refuge include: Champion Sponsor: Anonymous; Guardian Sponsor: Lee County Solid Waste, Jim and Dulce Doss, Jim and Patty Sprinkle; Protector Sponsors: Pfeiffer Realty Group, Bob and Kathy Weisemann; Defender Sponsors: Boomer Duvin and Family, Doug and Sherry Gentry, Mitchell’s Sand Castles and Sanibel Moorings.

For tickets, visit www.projectrefugedging.com. Contact Dot Voorhees at 472-1100 ext. 239 for information about sponsorships. For more information about the refuge’s 75th anniversary year happenings, visit www.ding75.org.

Handbags Sought For Fundraiser

Handbags are being sought for Handbag Happy Hour, a fundraiser that will be held at The Standard Restaurant on Wednesday, March 25. Celebrity handbags and other items will be auctioned to benefit Valerie’s House and The Nature Park Environmental Education Foundation at The Shell Factory.

“We are so excited to bring this fabulous event back after a 13-year hiatus,” said Pam Cronin, event chair and owner of The Shell Factory and Nature Park. “We have several celebrity handbags already, and we hope to have 100 or more new or previously loved handbags from celebrities and local supporters.”

Cronin and her committee are currently soliciting new and gently loved handbags, pet items and men’s accessories.

Havana Nights is the theme for this year’s event with Flamenco dancers, bongo drummers and Cuban cigars setting the mood for the evening. Mojitos and Cuban appetizers are included in the ticket price of \$50 per person or \$800 for a reserved table of eight. Sponsorships also are available at \$1,000 to \$3,000.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.shellfactory.com

Downtown Diva Stephanie Davis and Wine Aficionado Gina Birch will share emcee duties for the live auction of a few select celebrity handbags. The majority of items will be offered in a silent auction.

Event sponsors are The Standard Restaurant, The Shell Factory and Nature Park, Florida Weekly and Susan Bennett Marketing & Media, L.C.

Donated items can be delivered to The Standard Restaurant at 1520 Broadway and at The Shell Factory at 16554 North Cleveland Avenue in North Fort Myers. Pick up of items also can be arranged by calling 410-1929.

All proceeds will benefit Valerie’s House, which helps grieving children heal after the loss of a parent or loved one, and The Nature Park Environmental Education Foundation, which provides transportation funding for Lee County school children to visit the park. Both organizations are not-for-profit and all donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

From page 1

Workshops

weave vertical, horizontal and 45-degree angles of ribbons on canvas or foam core board during the Triaxial Weaving Workshop. Class cost is \$50 plus a \$10 materials fee paid to the instructor.

Classes are limited to 12 people. Looms are loaned for the day or may be purchased.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information on the Amulet Bag Workshop, visit www.sbdac.com/weaving-amulet. For more information on the Triaxial Weaving Workshop, visit www.sbdac.com/weaving-triaxial.

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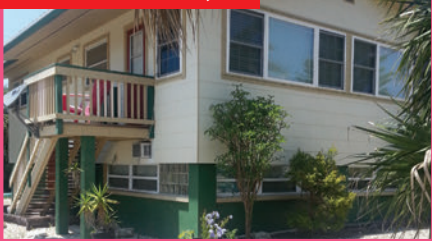
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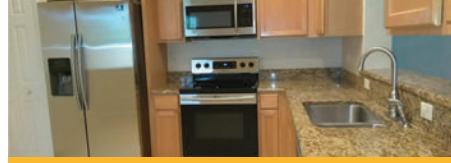
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Fort Myers Art:

Bonita Springs International Film Festival Set To Roll



by Tom Hall

The Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs (CFABS) introduced the inaugural Bonita Springs International Film Festival (BIFF) in February of 2015. It will return February 27 to March 1 with

more than 70 carefully curated narrative, documentary, animated and short films from around the world, complemented by a wide variety of workshops, demonstrations and question-and-answer sessions with filmmakers, writers, directors, producers and actors.

The unique and entertaining special events begin with Thursday's over-the-top Opening Night and culminates with a spectacular Awards Night and Filmmakers Party on Sunday evening. Each event is unique, featuring catered food, beverages, quality entertainment and, of course, ample opportunities for film lovers to mix and mingle with a coterie of filmmakers, directors, writers and actors, who similarly offer the chance to share ideas and explore future opportunities. Films are shown in both the 400-seat CFABS Hinman Auditorium and the renovated 200-seat



image courtesy www.artswfl.com

Moe Auditorium & Film Center.

Last year, BIFF accepted films in 12 categories including youth- and teen-produced films, animated films, shorts and Florida films, as well as standard fiction/narrative and documentary works, and awarded cash prizes ranging from \$250 to \$1,000.

The film festival is an expression of CFABS' longstanding appreciation of film as an art form. The Centers for the Arts launched their Film for Film Lovers series in 2008, offering one film per month for three months. Over time, Film for Film Lovers was expanded and now features films every Monday. The Foreign Film Series was launched in 2012, and added the impressive Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers in early 2015, with showings on the first Tuesday of each month. Today, thousands of Southwest Florida residents and visitors attend these screenings, so it was only logical to add a

multi-day film festival to the equation.

The mission of the Bonita Springs International Film Festival is to create experiences that bring people together to discover extraordinary films from around the world, recognizing that it is through the art of cinema that a community becomes more informed, aware and alive.

"The big point that ultimately surfaced in our discussions about having a film festival was that we, as an organization, are all about the arts, all the arts," said Susan Bridges, president of the Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs and co-chair for the festival. "So, we began looking at the idea that our Bonita Springs International Film Festival might see the majority of our films showcasing an artistic connection of some kind, beyond the fact that film is an art form in itself."

BIFF is so much more than just watching films. Festivalgoers are offered fascinating and rewarding experiences, right alongside the discovery of each film's unique details, inspiration, meaning and challenges.

CFABS has yet to release a schedule, so check back to www.artswfl.com for details as they emerge.

*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.**

Nature-Inspired Craft Event

Four Freedoms Park will host Backyard Nature, a learning event for children about nature through activities and crafts that they can use in their own backyard with family and friends, on Friday, March 27 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Children ages 4 to 7 will have fun making bug jars and bird feeders that they will take home to enhance their own backyard. There will also be an indoor scavenger hunt for critters and fun games. Drinks and snacks included. Parents are not required to stay. Cost is \$20 per child.

Pre-registration is preferred by Tuesday, March 24.

Four Freedoms Park is located at 4818 Tarpon Court in Cape Coral. For more information, call 574-0804.*

Pet-Themed Art Activity At Park

Four Freedoms Park will host Puppy Love, an event for children to be creative in their expression of joy for their furry friend, on Saturday, February 22 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Children ages 4 to 6 will have a chance to create a special treat jar and other puppy crafts as well as a "woof book" full of recipes to take home for further enjoyment. All supplies are included. Parents are not required to stay. Children must be self-sufficient in restroom care. Cost is \$15 per child.

Pre-registration is preferred by Wednesday, February 19.

Four Freedoms Park is located at 4818 Tarpon Court in Cape Coral. For more information, call 574-0804.*

Evening With The Red Sox Tickets

A limited number of single tickets are available for this year's 15th Annual Evening with the Red Sox at JetBlue Park on Monday, February 17 at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$150 each.

The evening will include an extended cocktail reception with complimentary heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine, autograph signings from Red Sox players, and silent and live auctions that will include exciting trips to major cities, sports memorabilia packages, theme park passes, golf outings and more. A raffle for a Red Sox fan experience with a trip for four to Boston will also be available. The package includes a two-night hotel stay and tickets for four to two games at Fenway Park including seats on the famed Green Monster, a private VIP tour of the ballpark and on-field access. Only 250 raffle tickets will be sold at \$50 each with all proceeds going to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lee County.

JetBlue Park is located at 11500 Fenway South Drive in Fort Myers.

For event tickets and raffle tickets, visit <https://bgclc.ejoinme.org/redsox>. For more information, to register, sponsor or donate to the event, visit www.loveleekids.org or contact Shannon Lane at 334-1886 or slane@bgclc.net.*

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From page 2

Historic Downtown

the newly crowned adult and junior royalty on their floats.

There's another thing that occurred during Mrs. Edison's last visit to Fort Myers that was of untold consequence. She gave the Edison's winter home, Seminole Lodge, as well as the laboratory and grounds, to the City of Fort Myers.

Stroll down First Street and imagine decades of parades and what the Edison celebration has meant to Fort Myers.

Then learn more about the history of the town's longest running celebration at the following research centers.

The Southwest Florida Historical 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.

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.

Sources: The Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society and *The News-Press*.*



From left, Marc Collins, Fran Fenning and Dwayne Bergmann photo provided

LARC To Host 1920s Mystery Fundraiser

LARC (Lee Association of Remarkable Citizens) will host a evening of food, fine wines, fun and intrigue at the historic riverfront home of Fran Fenning on Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. Guests will step back in time to the 1920s where an elaborate party is being hosted by the famous silent film

actor Eric Jewett. Thomas and Mina Edison, Henry and Clara Ford, Sidney and Berne Davis are all said to attend along with other famous residents of Southwest Florida of the era.

One of the famous guests has something to hide. Highly-trained improv actors will set the scene for the evening, and guests will have the next two hours to unravel the secret.

The event is co-chaired by philanthropist Marc Collins and Dwayne Bergmann, principal of Dwayne Bergmann Interiors. Fran Fenning is the honorary event chair.

Fenning's home, also known as the Jewett-Thompson house, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1926, during the land boom period, the home is one of the most elaborate constructed in Southwest Florida during that time. The home is an excellent example of Mediterranean Revival style and includes beautiful gardens.

Attendees are encouraged to dress to match the 1920s era.

"We are so grateful to Fran Fenning for opening her home for our fundraiser. It is a magnificent property," said Angela Katz, LARC development director. "Guests will have the opportunity to roam the three-plus acres, while partaking in the plot and proceeds from the event will benefit LARC's programs that empower individuals with disabilities to reach their full potential."

For ticket package or sponsorship information, visit www.larcleecounty.org, call Angela Katz at 334-6285 ext. 229 or email angelakatz@larcleecounty.org.✱

Radio Evangelist To Headline Benefit Dinner

Dr. Tony Evans, one of the country's most respected leaders in evangelical circles, who was named one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English-speaking world by Baylor University, will be the guest speaker at the 24th annual Benefit Dinner for Lifeline Family Center at on Thursday, March 12. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$90 each or \$560 for a table of eight. Sponsorships, which include a VIP reception with Dr. Evans, are available from \$1,000 to \$15,000.

The Breeze Newspapers and CTN10 Southwest Florida are the media sponsors for the event. Other major sponsors are Jerry and Delores Horne and Susan Bennett Marketing & Media, LC.

"We are very pleased that Dr. Evans will be coming to Southwest Florida to spread his message of the joy and healing qualities of faith," said Lifeline Family Center President and Founder Kathy Miller. "We can all benefit from his teachings, which are heard daily on radio stations throughout the world."

Dr. Evans is the founder and senior pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas, Texas, and president of The Urban Alternative, chaplain of the NBA's Dallas Mavericks and author of more than 100 books, booklets and Bible studies.

His radio broadcast *The Alternative*



Dr. Tony Evans photo provided

with Dr. Tony Evans can be heard on more than 1,200 United States outlets daily, including Moody Radio and in more than 130 countries.

He is the first African American to earn a doctorate of theology from Dallas Theological Seminary and has been named one of the 12 Most Effective Preachers in the English-speaking world by Baylor University.

Dr. Evans launched the Tony Evans Training Center in 2017, an online learning platform providing quality seminary-style courses for a fraction of the cost to any person in any place. His

continued on page 16

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Along The River

Edison Festival of Light activities continue this Saturday, February 15 with the Crafts on the River, the 5K Run and the Grand Parade.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., **Crafts on the River** will be held both Saturday and Sunday as **downtown Fort Myers** is filled with exhibitors displaying their handmade crafts during the two-day Edison Festival event.

The non-juried event is open to local and national artisans and crafters. Expect old, new and unique items that come from all over the world. You can purchase original designs by artists and talk with them about their work. A variety of mediums will be available including drawings, paintings, graphics, sculpture, crafts, jewelry, photography and edible art.

From 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., the **5K Run** will include more than 1,000 participants and thousands of spectators in downtown Fort Myers.

To register for this Fort Myers Track Club event, visit <https://register.chronotrack.com/r/51796>.

From 7 to 10 p.m., the **Grand Parade** is an annual extravaganza featuring national participants, local marching bands, floats, local government and law enforcement officials and clowns. The largest night parade in the southeast year after year is in celebration of the life and achievements of local winter resident, Thomas Edison. The event is free for spectators, but there are two ticketing



A previous Edison Festival of Light Grand Parade

photo courtesy www.edisonfestival.org

options open to attendees for reserved seats.

For more information, visit www.edisonfestival.org.

The 7th annual **Taste of the Cape** will be held at **Tarpon Point Marina** on Sunday, February 16 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The community event will highlight some of the best restaurants in Cape Coral. There will be a juried arts and craft fair, live entertainment with a full symphony performance and a variety of craft beers, wine and a signature Wicked Dolphin rum drink.

General admission is \$5, VIP passes

are \$50, with food and drink prices ranging from \$3 to \$8. All of the net proceeds go directly to local student scholarships and music outreach programs in the community. If you are interested in participating, sponsoring or volunteering at next year's Taste of the Cape, call 549-6900.

The **Fort Myers Beach Art Association (FMBAA)** will hold a reception for its **Spring Juried Art Show**, titled *Defying the Ordinary*, on Sunday, February 16. The reception begins at 1 p.m. with a painting demonstration by artist Joann Sanborn. The award winners of this show, which opened February 10 and runs through March 6, will be announced at the reception.

The FMBAA gallery is located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard. For more information, visit www.fortmyersbeachart.com, e-mail FMBAA publicity chair Pam Flaherty at fmbaapublicity@gmail.com or stop by the gallery.

The **Southwest Florida Concert Band** will perform Sunday at the Movies concert at **South Fort Myers High School** on Sunday, February 16 at 2 p.m.

The 45-member community band will perform a concert of memorable movie melodies and also feature vocalist Karen Shafer. All concerts are free with donations accepted.

South Fort Myers High School is located at 14020 Plantation Road in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.swflconcertband.org.

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 guest speaker. She will be speaking on the importance of outdoor learning in Southwest Florida and the initiatives of the Water School.

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.

Storytelling Performance On Black History

Jim Gregory, storyteller and performing artist, will present his powerful first-person account of a young white man's activism in the 1960's Civil Rights Movement in the Cohen Center Ballroom at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) on Thursday, February 20. A reception will be held pn 6:30 p.m., while the performance will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m.



Jim Gregory

The *Hanging of Tom Brown: An Odyssey into the 1960's Civil Rights Movement* is free and open to the public.

Gregory was born into a white family that has lived in Tennessee since the 1800s. In 1958, fresh out of high school, returning from a brief vacation in Pensacola, he chose by chance to eat at a lunch counter just before a sit-in began. His resulting arrest as an accomplice to the demonstrators awakened him to

the injustice of the "separate but equal" race-relations policy.

During Gregory's first three years at Tennessee Wesleyan College, he was haunted by the lessons of his summer of 1958. Having spent most of his early life under the influence of his grandfather, a Methodist minister, he came to feel that he had to do something.

In his presentations and CD titled *The Hanging of Tom Brown*, Gregory tells the story of how converting an old school bus into an RV turned into a summer project to take used text books to Black schools in the south. His tiny crew grew into a band of eight idealistic young people. His story shows how their project grew into participation in "Freedom Summer" in Mississippi, how they came to the Selma-Montgomery March in Alabama, and how Gregory and his team paid a high price, sometimes in blood, with far-reaching effects on their lives and futures.

The event is sponsored by FGCU Department of Language and Literature, College of Arts and Sciences and the Seidler Foundation. To RSVP, visit jimgregory.eventbrite.com.

FGCU's Cohen Center Ballroom is located at 10501 FGCU Boulevard South in Fort Myers. For more information, contact Lori Cornelius at lcorneli@fgcu.edu, and Dr. Joel Ying ay jying@fgcu.edu.

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From left, Adele Smith, Freda Jones, Angela Schivinski and Jan Fifer photo provided

Special Equestrians Fundraiser

Special Equestrians’ 17th annual culinary extravaganza, Taste of Love will be held at The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon on Sunday, March 15 from 5 to 9 p.m. The event theme is Taste of Love Makes the Merry Go Around and will feature dishes from popular area restaurants and chefs, wine tasting, live and silent auctions.

Celebrity auctioneer Jay Severson and award-winning radio and television

personality Gina Birch will oversee the evening’s events. Nearly 500 guests attended the event in 2019, raising more than \$200,000 for the local nonprofit organization. Tickets are \$100 per person and may be purchased online at www.specialequestrians.net or by calling 851-7070 or emailing jtfifer@gmail.com.

All proceeds from Taste of Love will benefit Special Equestrians, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children and adults with disabilities by providing a structured therapeutic horseback riding and carriage driving program and other equine assisted activities. Special Equestrians has been awarded Premier Accredited Center status by PATH Intl. (Professional

Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship). Serving Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties, Special Equestrians is a United Way Partner Agency that has been serving Southwest Florida for more than 30 years.

Event Sponsors to date include: Wells Fargo, Garden Street Iron & Metal, Dr. John S. Fifer, Seminole Casino. Platinum Table Sponsors: Architectural Metals of SW Florida, Everglades Farm Equipment, Henderson Franklin, Lovelace Farms, MVP Realty/Lee and Marie Kitsberg, Sarlo Mowers, The Dorcey Law Firm, The LaPorta Family, USB The Maurillo Group and Waterside Aesthetic Dentistry. Gold Table Sponsors: Club Care, C-2-C Landscaping and Riverdale Dental Associates/Gateway Dental Suites. Silver Table Sponsor: Cummings Law. Bronze

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The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon is located at 2158 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. Additional sponsorship and underwriting opportunities are available at www.specialequestrians.net or by calling Freda Jones at 565-3792 or fli@rbcs.net or Jan Fifer at 851-7070 or jtfifer@gmail.com.✧

FSW Hosts Spring Open Houses

Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) will host its Spring 2020 Open Houses at all FSW locations February 24 through 26.

Prospective students, their families and the community are invited to attend to learn what makes FSW a perfect college choice. Faculty, staff and FSW students will be available to answer questions about academic programs, student support services, financial aid, study abroad, honors programs and campus life. Attendees will also receive a promo code to apply to FSW for free.

Spring 2020 Open Houses are scheduled February 24 through 26 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the following FSW locations:

Monday, February 24, FSW Charlotte Campus, 26300 Airport Road, Punta Gorda

Monday, February 24, FSW Hendry/Glades Curtis Center, 1092 East Cowboy Way, LaBelle

Tuesday, February 25, FSW Lee Campus, 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers

Wednesday, February 26, FSW Collier Campus, 7505 Grand Lely Drive, Naples

For more information or to register for an FSW Open House, visit www.fsw.edu/admissions/events.✧

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.flgoarch.org, 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-2099.

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS
Friday Shabbat at 7 p.m. www.batyam.org, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 579-0296.

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

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

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

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

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE
Sunday 10 a.m., www.revtedalhouse@aol.com 10200 Cypress Cove Circle, 850-3943.

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

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

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

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

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.christiansciencefortmyers.net, www.christianscience.com. 2390 West First Street, 334-6801.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 13545 American Colony Boulevard, 936-2511.

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

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

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT MYERS
11 a.m. Sunday, www.fpcfmyers.org, 2438 Second Street, 239-334-2261

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

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

KINGDOM LIFE
Sunday 10:30 a.m., 2154 McGregor

Boulevard, 218-8343.

LAMB OF GOD
Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m., www.lambofgodchurch.net, 19691 Cypress View Drive, 267-3525.

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

NEW COVENANT EYES
Monthly 9 a.m., www.newcovenanteyes.com, 1900 Park Meadows Drive, 220-8519.

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

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

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

PEACE LUTHERAN
Sunday 8 and 10 a.m., www.peaceftmyers.com, peace@peaceftmyers.com. 15840 McGregor Boulevard, 437-2599.

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

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
8, 9:45 and 11:30 a.m., 21580 River Ranch Road, 495-0400.

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

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

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

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CROW Case Of The Week:

Don't Feed The Pelicans



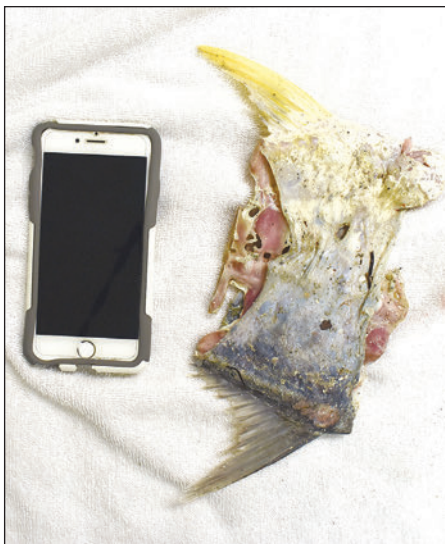
by Bob Petcher

Brown pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) can often be seen foraging for fish by plunging their oversized bills in shallow waters or looking for handouts around fishing piers and fishing boats.

Anglers should not give in to feeding these large seabirds. It is against the law.

At CROW, medical staff members have reported a startling hike in cases involving fish obstructions in pelicans within a year's time. These life-threatening blockages sometimes come with hook and monofilament line injuries.

"In 2019, we treated less than five pelicans in the entire year with large fish obstructing their throats. In just the first few weeks of this year, we have seen the same number of pelicans affected, which is an alarming increase," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW staff veterinarian. "Each year, we treat other seabird species for the same problem, but pelicans are the 'poster child' for this issue. In 2019, out of the 93 brown pelicans admitted, 40 percent of them had hook/line related injuries. In just the first few weeks of this year, we have already admitted 85 brown pelicans,



A large piece of cut fish that came from patient #20-369 as compared to a cell phone
photo by Brian Bohlman

35 percent of which had hook/line related injuries. Again, this is a marked increase in cases for a readily preventable problem."

Two pelicans were admitted on the same day last week.

A juvenile brown pelican was admitted from the Sanibel Fishing Pier after being rescued with a large object stuck in its throat as well as a fishing lure stuck in its leg. The pelican regurgitated the object, a large piece of cut fish, while being transported to CROW. When the pelican arrived, it was bright, alert, responsive and well hydrated. Veterinarians anesthetized the pelican and removed the lure by pushing the end of the hook through the

skin and cutting the barb off, then backing the rest of the hook out. The wounds were cleaned and will be monitored for infection.

Later that same day, a second pelican was admitted from the same spot with a very large fish stuck in its throat. Pelicans typically feed on small schools of fish that form near the surface of the water, including menhaden, mullet, anchovies, herring and sailfin mollies.

Unfortunately, the remains or carcasses of a fisherman's catch that are tossed in the water are often larger than a pelican's normal diet, and the larger bones and spines can puncture the bird's throat or digestive tract. When pelicans are fed near fishing docks, marinas or cleaning stations, they congregate in large numbers looking for an easy meal. This change in behavior of "begging" or "scavenging" for scraps rather than hunting their normal prey brings them to areas where they are more likely to become entangled in fishing line or be accidentally hooked by a fisherman.

"Pelicans can sustain severe, even life-threatening, injuries from ingesting abnormally large prey items – it's not always as simple as removing the fish. Damage to the GI tract or blockage of the airway can result in death. Not only is it harmful to these birds, but it is against state law to feed pelicans. It also teaches abnormal behavior, encouraging pelicans to approach humans for food and becoming a nuisance," said Dr. Bast.

Both pelicans are still in the clinic's intensive care unit.

"The first pelican is still in ICU. Due to the trauma to its esophagus, it took days

for this bird to be able to keep food down without regurgitating it. It is still receiving medications to treat the irritated GI tract, but should be able to move to an outdoor enclosure in the next few days," said Dr. Bast. "The second pelican also remains in ICU, being treated for an infected wound on its wing; this bird was "lucky" and did not require GI protectant medications since it has been able to keep food down on its own. It is our hope that both pelicans will 'graduate' to outdoor rehab enclosures within another five to seven days.

"If all continues to go well for the pelicans, we hope they will be released in the next couple weeks after finishing medications and passing release qualification testing in the outdoor enclosures."

Dr. Bast encourages anglers to visit www.mindyourline.org.

"We support responsible fishing practices which include disposing of fish carcasses in a lidded container, as well as disposing of fishing hooks and line in appropriate recycling containers," she said. "Please check out the Mind Your Line website for more information on responsible fishing practices."

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

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Switching It Up



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Many trips this week were about being able to find some place out of the wind to increase not only the comfort level of everyone on board but also catch a few fish. During several days the past week, we had little to no tide movement and finding any kind of action often took patience and persistence. While bouncing between several Ding Darling creeks, we not only managed to find a little tide movement on the tougher days but also some amazing redfish action at times.

The deeper water in the bends of these crystal clear creeks would hold lots of redfish between 16 to 24 inches. Catching redfish after redfish between a few stops of not even a bite was just what was needed. Like any fishing trip, some days it took just one hot spot to make the whole day successful. During slightly calmer days, we had a few charters that we found good action out on the flats including St. James hump, Red Light Shoal and Picnic Island. Shrimp under a popping cork caught a wide variety of fish from trout and ladyfish to Spanish mackerel and even a few pompano. Finding diving pelicans often gave up the location of these feeding fish. The roller coaster of water temperature we call winter in Florida means being able to switch up the target species. Once our water rose back into the low 70s finding sheephead got tough and redfish filled in the void. After the weekend cold-front water temperatures dropped, it was back to sheephead fishing. Some of the largest redfish all week came while targeting sheephead post-cold front in the passes. With a week of warmer temperatures on the way, I can't wait to switch it up and start catching shiners again to target snook. As our water creeps back into the low 70s, this snook bite will fire off. This will be a much awaited change after what has been over two weeks of shrimp fishing. 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.✱



Nick Little with one of many Ding Darling redfish caught this week with Capt. Matt Mitchell photo provided

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Dave Doane



Native cutleaf eveningprimrose opens at day's end and wilts by mid-morning

photo by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart

Cutleaf Eveningprimrose

by Gerri Reaves

Cutleaf eveningprimrose (*Oenothera laciniata*) is common along roadsides and in fields and disturbed areas.

It is one of several members of the evening primrose family that are native to Florida.

As the common name implies, the flowers open late in the day and languish in the morning.

Pale yellow and up to an inch and a half across, they are borne singly and have four heart-shaped delicate petals that might be red or pinkish.

They bloom year-round and attract native bees, butterflies and moths, and the seeds are eaten by various birds.

The term *laciniata*, which means deeply cut, slashed, or divided into narrow segments, refers to the irregular leaf shapes.

The narrow alternate leaves measure about two inches long and have whitish midveins.

Toothed, roundly lobed, or wavy, they have an almost lacy look.

This wildflower is usually considered a weed. It grows up to two feet tall and takes an erect or prostrate form.

The stems, which branch at the base, arise from a taproot and vary from green to reddish.

When the curved pod dries, it opens to spread the seeds, which readily self-sow, so the plant is useful as a groundcover.

It prefers dry conditions, grows in full sun to partial shade and is somewhat salt tolerant.

Both seeds and leaves have been used by Cherokee Indians for medicinal purposes.

Propagate this plant with seeds or by root division.

Sources: *National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida* by Peter Alden et al., *Weeds of South Florida ID Guide* by George Rogers, *Weeds of the Southern United States* by James F. Miller et al., *Wildflowers of Florida* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, www.fnps.org, and www.wildflower.org.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱

The Story Of Ospreys

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) weekly Speaker Series continues on Tuesday, February 18 with The Story of Ospreys by Claudia Burns, volunteer for International Osprey Foundation. Speaker Series programs begin at 4:15pm in the CROW Visitor Education Center, located at 3883 Sanibel Captiva Road, and are approximately one hour in length.

Ospreys are large brown and white raptors who breed in Southwest Florida from December through April and can be seen diving for live fish in shallow waters throughout the area. Because they build their nests right out in the open, their behavior is easy to observe, but not always easy to understand. This presentation uses photos, videos and recorded vocalizations to explain osprey behavior.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for teens (Age 13 to 17) and free for children age 12 and younger. Space is



An osprey takes flight photo provided

limited, so advanced registration is highly recommended.

CROW's 2020 Speaker Series presented by Lee County Electric Cooperative (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-series-presented-by-lcec.✱

Audubon Program On Climate Change

Ariel Hoover, the chairperson of the Lee County chapter of Climate Reality Leadership Corps, will present Florida, Our Eden, Threatened by Climate Change at The Collaboratory on Thursday, February 20 at 7 p.m. The free February program of Audubon of Southwest Florida is open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Hoover will explore the latest information on how climate change threatens Florida's and the world's iconic birds and wildlife, the economy, water and food supply, and health.

Climate change has been charged with putting Australia in the grips of a nationwide bushfire emergency. The Audubon chapter is asking for donations to help Australian wildlife, and when the fires have cleared, help restore their lost forests. The chapter will match any donations received at this program and send them to the World Wildlife Fund, www.wwf.org.au/get-involved/bushfire-emergency#gs.v76h40.

The Collaboratory is located at 2031 Jackson Street in downtown Fort Myers.

For more information, email audubon.southwest.florida@gmail.com. Audubon of Southwest Florida is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization.✱

Morning Bird Walk At Bunche Beach

Experience the beautiful birds of Bunche Beach with a bird patrol guide on Saturday, February 22 at 8 a.m.

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

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

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

For more information, call 707-3015 or visit www.birdpatrol.org.✱

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Take Strides For Education 5K Walk/Run Benefit

The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools recently held its 9th annual Strides for Education 5K Run. The event, hosted at Florida SouthWestern State College's Lee Campus, raised money for The foundation's Take Stock in Children program.

More than 1,200 business leaders, community partners, teachers and local runners participated in the race this year. Over \$43,000 was raised, breaking all previous records. All proceeds will go towards college tuition scholarships for students who graduate from The Take Stock in Children Program.

Schools and businesses throughout Lee County were challenged to create the largest team by creating a friendly competition. This year's winners are as follows:

School Challenge: Team Heights (Heights Elementary)

Corporate Challenge: Edison National Bank/Bank of the Islands

Community Partner: Miles in Memory of Erik Babatz

"The Strides for Education 5k has truly become a community event raising funds to help some very deserving students attain a college education," said Marshall T. Bower, president and CEO



Superintendent for The School District of Lee County Gregory K. Adkins photos provided

of The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools. "Students, mentors, business leaders and educators enjoy the beautiful outdoors at FSW state college's campus, and the community as a whole is the winner!"

Take Stock in Children was established in 1995 as a statewide scholarship program that provides a unique opportunity for deserving low-income youth to escape the cycle of poverty through education. The Foundation for



Participants in the Take Strides for Education 5k Walk/Run

Lee County Public Schools administers the program here in Lee County. Students enter the program in sixth or ninth grade and commit to remaining crime- and drug-free, maintaining a 2.5 GPA or higher, and meeting with a mentor regularly. Upon high school graduation, having kept this commitment, students are awarded a four-year college tuition scholarship.

This event wouldn't be possible without the generous support of our sponsors: Title Sponsor: Suncoast Credit Union; Major Sponsors: Florida SouthWestern

State College, Jason's Deli, Lee Health, The News-Press Media Group, Pool Pros, Inc.; Gold Sponsors: B&I Contractors, Inc., Edison National Bank/Bank of the Islands, Hodges University, LCEC, McGriff Insurance Services, Waste Pro; Silver Sponsors: First Horizon Bank, Il Primo Pizza & Wings, Marshall T. Bower, Esq., Rasmussen College, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank; Bronze Sponsors: Florida Title One, LLC, i9 Sports, Staywell Health Plans, A Wellcare Company, Seed & Bean Market, Sallee Promotions, Inc.*



From left, Sandy Stilwell Youngquist, Dave Copham, Harley Aveiro, Brooke Denson and Paul Hobbs photo provided

Final Kickoff Social Before Wine & Food Fest

SWFL Children's Charities, Inc. recently hosted its final social leading up to the 2020 Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest. Bringing together trustees, sponsors and supporters, the cocktail reception was hosted by trustees Susan and Jeff Lagarce at their home in Miromar Lakes and included the 2020 Signature Vintner, Paul Hobbs of Paul Hobbs Winery. Event chairs Brooke Denson and Sandy Stilwell Youngquist kicked off the evening with a preview of the 2020 Child Artist and demonstrations from Florida SouthWestern State College of Nursing students of their new training ambulance and equipment funded by SWFL Children's Charities. Christine

O'Neal, the mother of 2020 Child Artist, 1-year-old Ellie, shared the story of her daughter's unexpected early birth and journey with Golisano Children's Hospital with the attendees. Hobbs shared the history of how he started at a young age with his father growing grapes, having been awarded six 100-point wines since 2002 and operating seven wineries in four continents including North and South America, Africa and Europe.

Celebrating its 12th year, the two-day Southwest Florida Wine & Food Fest will feature Chef Vintner Dinners on Friday, February 21, creatively hosted in private luxury venues across the region, and the Grand Tasting and Live Auction on Saturday, February 22 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa in Bonita Springs. Guests will experience artful cuisine created by celebrated chefs and expertly paired with vintners from some of the finest and most exclusive wineries.*

Hope Parkinson Half Marathon Fundraiser

The 2nd annual Lazy Flamingo Half Marathon, 2-Person Relay and half-mile Fun Walk will be held on Sunday, March 1. The half marathon begins at the Lazy Flamingo in Fort Myers at 6:30 a.m., while the walk starts at 7 a.m.

All proceeds will benefit Hope Parkinson Program and Kimmie's Recovery Zone in Lee County.

The 13.1-mile course takes runners along McGregor Boulevard, through historic downtown Fort Myers, before returning along the same route to finish at the Lazy Flamingo.

All runners and volunteers are invited to attend the post-race party hosted by the Lazy Flamingo and Michelob Ultra, along with race sponsors including Sysco, NBC2, Leslie Ellis, Key West Express, First Watch, The Bagel Factory, Starbucks Coffee and Hoka One One.

For more race information along with links for registration, sponsoring and volunteering, visit www.ftmyerstrackclub.com on the calendar page.

The Hope Parkinson Program works closely with like-minded community organizations to provide a network of resources and education for people affected by Parkinson's disease and related movement disorders. After launching in 2009, the Hope Parkinson Program has enabled more than 3,000 people in Lee County to experience

the fullness of life through knowledge, movement and fellowship. As a community service provided by Hope Healthcare, the program is offered at no charge to participants and care partners. For more information, call 985-7727 or visit www.hopeparkinson.org.*

Bling & Bags Bingo Fundraiser

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Southwest Florida is holding its 4th annual Bling & Bags Bingo fundraiser at the Crowne Plaza Fort Myers at Bell Tower Shops on Wednesday, April 8 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

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

The participation of local business sponsors is crucial to the success of the event. Sponsors will reach an audience of 300 professional and executive-level women from Lee County with an average age of 35 to 50, household decision-makers and influencers. The larger your sponsor commitment, the more opportunity to put your products and services in front of this desirable audience. Sponsor levels range from \$500 to \$5000. For details, contact Lisa Rizzio at 939-2808 or lrizzio@cac-swfl.org.*

Awards Gala For Advertising Industry

The advertising industry's largest awards competition shines a light on the best advertising creative of 2019 in Southwest Florida with a gala event at the Holiday Inn Fort Myers Airport-Town Center on Saturday, February 29 at 6 p.m.

The American Advertising Federation-Southwest Florida chapter will be hosting, Mad Men & Women – Legends of Advertising as it honors the region's top agencies, advertisers, producers and independent professionals and salutes the original "Mad Woman," Southwest Florida's own Myra Janco Daniels.

Conducted annually by the AAF, more than 40,000 entries are submitted each year nationwide. The local ad club phase is the first of the three-tier, national competition. Concurrently, across the country, local entrants vie to win ADDY Awards recognition as the very best in their markets.

At the second tier, local ADDY winners compete against winners from other local clubs in one of 15 district competitions. District ADDY winners are then forwarded to the third tier, the national stage of the American Advertising Awards. Entry in your local ad club competition is the first step toward winning a national ADDY.

Daniels is a former advertising executive, having founded and run several ad agencies over the course of a lengthy and golden career. She was the first woman to hold the title of executive



Myra Janco Daniels photo provided

vice president at Chicago's oldest ad agency, Roche, Rickerd, Henri, Hurst, Inc., in 1965. That's where she met her future husband, and the inspiration for television's Don Draper of *Mad Men* fame, Draper Daniels. She has won countless awards and honors, built the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts, founded the Latchkey League and currently chairs community projects, helps organizations improve and speaks at events all over the world.

Daniels will be honored at the gala with the inaugural Myra Janco Daniels, Best of Show Award.

Tickets for the gala are \$95 or \$50 for students. Visit www.swfladdys.com to purchase tickets. Table sponsorships are also available. For sponsorship information, contact Stephen Blancett at 404-4804 or email sgb@pulse.tech.

League Of Women Voters To Meet

Clara Anne Graham, president of the League of Women Voters of Lee County, is inviting league members and the public to learn about and discuss affordable housing issues and solutions in Lee County at The Collaboratory on Saturday, March 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. The event is free.

The League of Women Voters (LWV) has the conviction that every person and family should have decent, safe and affordable housing. The LWV supports policies and programs to provide a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family, to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

Affordable housing is a concern for many Lee County families. In Lee County, households struggle to meet basic needs with 42 percent of Lee County's 261,735 households living paycheck to paycheck and having no resources for emergencies, according

to the United Way ALICE Report. The Florida Kids Count 2019 Florida Child Well-being Index shows Florida as 37th of 50 states and Lee County as 42nd of 67 Florida counties.

Community and government speakers will discuss Lee County residents' housing needs and resources available including Sadowski Funds.

In 1992, the Sadowski Act created a dedicated source of revenue for housing from documentary stamp taxes in Florida. One of the 2020 League of Women Voters of Florida Legislative Priorities is to mandate the use of all funds from the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund to be used solely for affordable housing.

Resources for additional information include: Sadowski Housing Coalition at www.sadowskicoalition.org; and Florida Housing Coalition at www.flhousing.org.

The Collaboratory is located at 2031 Jackson Street in Fort Myers. To reserve a spot, email reservations@lwvlee.org with name, address and phone number; call 278-1032; or visit www.eventbrite.com/e/affordable-housing-and-the-sadowski-act-a-lwv-educational-program-tickets-86596547605.

Bank Official Elected To PACE Center Board

Amy McQuagge, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank's vice president and director of marketing, has been elected to PACE Center for Girls of Lee County's board of directors.

McQuagge joined the bank in 2018 as the organization's first in-house marketing director and is responsible for providing direction, guidance and leadership of the bank's marketing and community outreach efforts. Prior to joining the bank, she was the senior marketing and event manager for the Lee County Economic Development Office. A lifelong Lee County resident, McQuagge holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Florida Southern College.

Since 2007, PACE Center for Girls of Lee County has been providing girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy. The gender-specific, strength-based program is one of 22 centers throughout Florida, and is known nationally as a best practices model for diverting girls from the juvenile justice system. PACE is a registered not-for-profit organization that relies on the support of



Amy McQuagge photo provided

individuals, businesses, civic/community organizations and churches in Lee County in order to serve girls and their families. For more information on Pace Center for Girls, Lee County, call 425-2366 or visit www.pacecenter.org/locations/lee.

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank has two locations on Sanibel and five locations in Fort Myers. To learn more, visit www.sancapbank.com.

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Seated, from left, Mary Gentile, Bill Morris, Lori Moore and Alexis Crespo. Standing, from left, Michael Lehnert, BJ Brundage, Justin Thibaut, Bev Larson, Molly Scott and Josh Philpott. photo provided

REIS New Officers And Board Members

The Real Estate Investment Society (REIS) has announced the election of officers and the Board of Governors to lead the organization during 2020. They are President Mary Gentile, CSM, CRX of LandQwest Property Management; Vice President Bill Morris, PE of Morris-Depew Associates; Treasurer Kent Poli of Busey Bank; and Secretary Lori Moore of Roetzel & Andress.

The Board of Governors includes: BJ Brundage of DeAngelis Diamond;

Gordon Glover of Suffolk; Michael Lehnert of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt; Donald Miller, PSM of Maser Consulting; Josh Philpott, AICP of Stantec; Molly Scott of Chris-Tel Construction; and Justin Thibaut CCIM, of LSI Companies. The immediate past president, Alexis Crespo, AICP of Waldrop Engineering, also joins the board.

The Real Estate Investment Society is an independent organization, dedicated to assisting members in the effective utilization of real estate through networking, education, public service and a common voice on pertinent issues. For more information on membership and meeting programs, visit www.reis-swfl.org.✱

programs and fair and impartial policing training," said Chief Diggs. "Our dedication and commitment to the safety and well-being of the citizens of Fort Myers will continue to be our number one priority."

Reports that provide both summary and detailed information are issued semi-annually and annually by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). For more information, visit www.fdle.state.fl.us/fsac/ucr-reports.aspx.✱

Republican Women To Meet

The Lee Republican Women Federated will hold a luncheon meeting at Pinchers – The Marina at Edison Ford on Monday, March 9. A social begins at 11:15 a.m., with lunch and program to follow.

The March program will be a County Commissioner Candidate Forum. Cost is \$22 to attend.

Pinchers – The Marina at Edison Ford is located at 2360 West First Street in Fort Myers. For reservations, call or text Ashley Winstel at 602-708-8663, email acwinstel@gmail.com or visit www.leerepublicanwomen.com/productcategory/register before March 5 at noon.✱

Superior Interiors

Create Your Poolside Paradise



by Jeanie Tinch

Season is here, and it's time to start thinking about how you're going to create your poolside paradise. Work with your decorator to complete these five steps for a flawless poolside outdoor living arrangement and, before you know it, you'll be well on your way to establishing an oasis that will make your home the envy of the neighborhood.

Establish a primary purpose for your space. What is your outdoor gathering area used for most? Do you like to invite friends over for cookouts, or do you prefer to reserve the space for quiet weekend afternoons with your spouse or the kids? This will determine everything from the furniture you need to how you should arrange your pieces and accessories.

Think about how you plan on using your space to create a few layout options. For example, if you plan to host larger gatherings by the pool this season, you may want to spruce up your patio area with a couple of sofas, a coffee table, armchairs and ottomans for extra seating. However, this may be overboard if you plan to use the area for only you and your family members. Whatever your specific needs are, there are unique and stylish outdoor furniture options to enhance the space you have in mind.

After you've determined how many people will regularly be using your outdoor living space, solidify your effective layout by deciding on a focal point. This will serve as the heart of your space and the rest of your furnishings and decor should be layered off this area. For example, if you've recently invested in a new barbecue and plan on using it frequently for cookouts, your dining table should be the focal point. Table options might include a smaller, round wicker table to large, rectangular wood products that seat six or more people. Then select accents and accessories that coordinate with your table's color scheme and style.

Another popular focal point is the fireplace. This would call for more focus on a conversation-based seating arrangement, with your table, chairs and sofa surrounding your fireplace. If you have a fire pit, make sure that it's set up far enough away from the pool that you're able to place seating around all sides. Other ideas may include forgoing a coffee table and decorating with nesting tables instead, as your fire pit or fireplace will take center stage where your coffee table normally would.

While a poolside gathering area has the potential to be a relaxing environment, it may also mean wet bathing suits and energetic children

running around. Your furniture and setup should cater to this. Look for water and weatherproof sofas, chairs and tables to ensure your investments last for years. Don't forget to include cushioned furnishings that reflect the style you've accomplished indoors.

Leave plenty of walking room in high-traffic areas so that no one is at risk of tripping. If there are spots that get slippery, consider looking for a stylish outdoor area rug that's durable and cleanable. If you have a diving board or your kids simply love to show off their cannonball skills, a charming fence that surrounds your gathering area might create cozy boundaries. Do consider how much room is needed between your setup and the pool to ensure you and your guests don't get splashed.

Nothing creates a brighter, more lively living area than a garden full of colorful flowers. If you don't have space in your outdoor gathering area for a garden, hang potted arrangements of your favorite flowers from your fence, porch, or lanai for a charming, whimsical appearance. Similarly, if your dining table is the focal point of your living space, create a head-turning centerpiece with a vase of tulips, sunflowers, or orchids. Consider drawing the eye upward with a floor plant in between your sofa and armchair. This is an easy way to add splashes of color to the area.

Choosing your outdoor furniture is only half the fun while decorating your gathering space. Accents and accessories can make your living area come to life and your larger furnishings pop. You may want something simple like a colorful umbrella that coordinates with your surrounding color scheme or a cozy outdoor reclining chair that you can dry off on under the sun after a dip in the pool. Don't forget about lighting, as this sets the mood and ambiance. Outdoor furnishings now mimic their indoor counterparts, with elegant lighting fixtures, luxurious lounge chairs and stylish ottomans to complete your poolside paradise.

Jeanie Tinch is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at jeanie@coindceden.com.✱

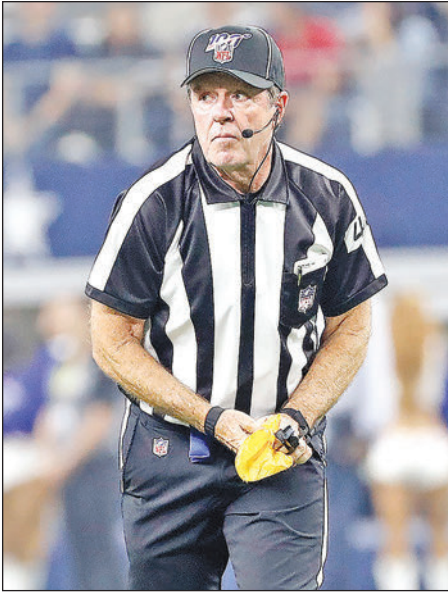
From page 7

Radio Evangelist

goal is to increase Bible literacy not only among lay people but also among those Christian leaders who cannot afford nor find the time for formal ongoing education.

Lifeline Family Center provides a home in Cape Coral for homeless young women in crisis pregnancies to help them become self-supporting through education, job training, parenting classes, professional counseling and spiritual guidance. It is the only residential program in Lee County for homeless young women in crisis pregnancies who are not part of the foster care program.

McGregor Baptist Church is located at 3750 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information of tickets, visit www.benefitdinnerlfc.org or call 242-7238.✱



J. Jeffrey Rice photo provided

Fort Myers Attorney Retires As NFL Referee

Fort Myers attorney J. Jeffrey Rice, who has been moonlighting as an NFL referee for 25 years, hung up his whistle for the final time after Sunday's Pro Bowl.

Rice, a former managing partner of Goldstein, Buckley, Cechman, Rice & Purtz, PA, retired as a game umpire after calling Sunday's Pro Bowl at Camping World Stadium in Orlando.

Rice began officiating high school football games in 1973, just a year after graduating from Northwestern University. After earning a juris doctorate from Case Western Reserve University in 1975, Rice was admitted to the Florida Bar and continued officiating on the weekends in Southwest Florida through the South Gulf Football Officials Association. He steadily built a reputation as a premier official and worked his way up to college games, then NFL Europe games, before being hired by the NFL in 1995.

Rice's role on the field has been an umpire, which includes monitoring the line of scrimmage for illegal blocking or holding calls and false starts, as well as marking off penalty yardage

and counting the number of offensive players on the field.

Over the past 25 years, Rice has officiated more than 400 NFL games and been granted 24 postseason assignments, including four Super Bowls and four Pro Bowls. Postseason officiating crews are considered the league's top game officials. Rice is one of only 105 officials to work a Super Bowl game, and one of just 16 who have worked three or more Super Bowls, including two of the closest championship games in NFL history:

Super Bowl XXXV (2001 – alternate official): Baltimore Ravens 34, New York Giants 7

Super Bowl XXXVI (2002 – umpire): New England Patriots 20, St. Louis Rams 17

Super Bowl XXXVIII (2004 – umpire): New England Patriots 32, Carolina Panthers 29

Super Bowl 50 (2016 – umpire): Denver Broncos 24, Carolina Panthers 10

As an NFL official with 25 years of experience, Rice is recognized on a plaque displayed in a special exhibit at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. Rice's father, Bob Rice, worked for 19 years as an NFL official, including two Super Bowls.

At his day job, Rice also is at the top of his game, having been named to Florida's prestigious Super Lawyers list for 14 consecutive years. To earn the annual honor, candidates are measured against 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement, a rigorous and methodical process to determine Super Lawyers that represent the top 5 percent of legal professionals in each state.

Rice, who often makes himself available as a guest speaker for local organizations, emphasizes his practice on commercial law, construction law, construction lien cases and real estate closings for clients. He is a member of the Lee County Bar Association and Florida Bar, and licensed to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida and 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. Rice has been honored by Martindale-Hubbell as a top-rated lawyer in business and corporate law, and has been included in the peer-reviewed legal publication *Best Lawyers*.✱

From page 1

Custom Tricycles

diagnosed with Right Erb's Palsy; and Kyleon Belgrove, a 27-month-old boy with developmental delay. They all received custom tricycles that will assist with general strengthening, new proprioceptive sensory input and improved reciprocal coordination of the legs. They can now participate in activities with their families and peers, and enjoy the normal childhood experience of riding a bike.

Robbie's Riders provides special adaptive bicycles and tricycles to children with disabilities, according to their individual capacities and needs. The

charity works to donate special needs cycles as quickly as they can raise funds to purchase them. Working with Claire Le Boulange, a pediatric physical therapist with Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida who donates her services to assist, each child is evaluated and fitted for his or her own special adaptive cycle.

Grampy's Charities raises funds and support for children's organizations by partnering with comfort- and research-based charities to make a difference in the lives of children who need it most. An all-volunteer organization with no paid staff, they have donated more than \$3 million to children's charities over more than 25 years. For more information, visit www.grampyscharities.org.✱



Sarah Smarsh photo provided

Planned Parenthood Choice Affair

Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida (PPSWCF) will hold its 2020 Lee County Choice Affair on Friday, February 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Crowne Plaza Bell Tower Shops in Fort Myers.

The luncheon and conversation will feature journalist Sarah Smarsh, author of the critically acclaimed *New York Times* bestseller *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth*. She speaks frequently on socioeconomic class, politics, rural issues and the news media. A finalist for the National Book Award, Smarsh's book examines the economic inequality through her upbringing among the working poor on a Kansas farm. *Heartland* was named best book of 2018 by NPR, *The New York Post*, BuzzFeed, Shelf Awareness, *Bustle* and *Publishers Weekly* and listed as one of Barack Obama's favorite books of 2019.

Smarsh has written about public policy for the *Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Texas Observer*, *Pacific Standard*, *Economic Hardship Reporting Project* and many other publications. A recent Joan Shorenstein Fellow at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and a former professor of nonfiction writing, she is a frequent speaker on economic inequality and media narratives relating this topic.

"We are so excited to have someone with Sarah's experience and insight joining us for our 2020 Lee County Choice Affair," said Elaine Schaeffer, member of the event committee. "Economic inequality is all around us. Sarah's journey speaks to the circumstances facing tens of thousands of girls growing up poor in 'flyover states.'" It exposes a county that is failing its children, especially women and girls. Everyone will take something valuable away from Sarah's presentation."

In January, PPSWCF began seeing patients at their new state-of-the-art 4,817-square-foot facility at 6418

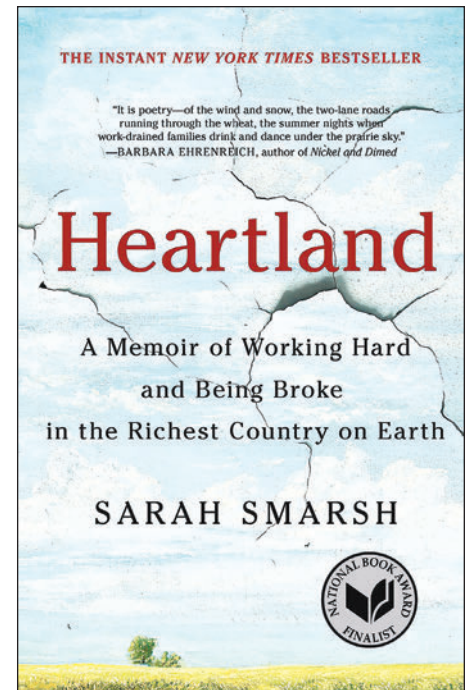


image provided

Commerce Park Drive in South Fort Myers. The new facility was made possible by PPSWCF donors and supporters.

Sponsorships are available from \$150 to \$1,200, and individual tickets are \$85 per person. For sponsorships, tickets or more information, visit www.leelunch.ppswcf.org or contact Rene Givens at 687-2910 or rene.givens@ppswcf.org.

Planned Parenthood is open Monday through Saturday and accepts appointments and walk-in patients. For more information, visit www.plannedparenthood.org or call 481-9999.✱

Clerk Of Court Free Seminars

The Lee County Clerk of Courts is offering a free seminar at three local libraries from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Registration is not required, but seating is on a first come basis.

February 24 – Cape Coral Public Library, 921 SW 39th Terrace

March 25 – North Fort Myers Public Library, 2001 North Tamiami Trail

May 6 – Lakes Regional Library, 15290 Bass Road, Fort Myers

Learn how to search and view Lee County's civil and criminal court documents and public records for free online at www.leeclerk.org. View mortgages, property deeds and marriage licenses. Learn how to pay traffic tickets online; access the county's financial and audit reports; locate where you can participate in foreclosure and tax deed auctions; postpone jury duty; and report suspected guardianship fraud. Learn the techniques used to uncover criminal records, property history

Searching public records can assist with investigating landlords and tenants, businesses and medical providers. Learn how to register for the free Property Fraud Alert feature and how to redact your private information from public records in accordance with state law.

For more information, email Rita Miller at rmiller@leeclerk.org.✱

Book Review

The First Conspiracy



by Di Saggau

When I read about *The First Conspiracy*, *The Secret Plot to Kill George Washington*, I was surprised to see that one of the authors was Brad Metzler, who is known for

his political thrillers. For this historical novel, he has teamed up with Josh Mensch, an American history writer and documentary television producer. It tells the story behind a previously untold piece of American history that not only tells us about George Washington's character, but also about the origins of America's counterintelligence movement that led to the modern day CIA.

It all begins in a city jail where three prisoners are whispering to one another. In 1776, Washington had a group of Life Guards, which would be known today as Secret Service. William Tryon, the governor of New York, knows all of the wealthy and powerful Loyalist families in the New York region, and there are many because prominent families with deep royal ties live in and around the city. He hatches a plan to assassinate Washington. By promising generous gifts of cash and

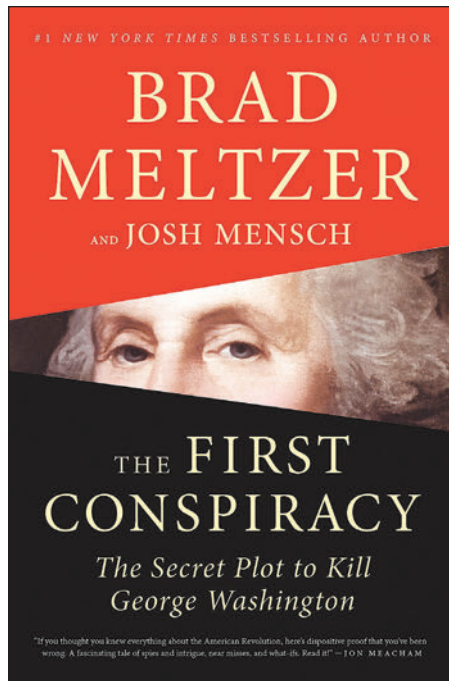


image provided

land, many jumped aboard and joined this treasonous plot. It shows how close America was to losing the Revolutionary War and how hard the battle was for Washington.

In 1776, New York City had a population of about 25,000 making it the second largest city in the colony after Philadelphia. Washington, while not perfect, had character and an unimpeachable code of personal honor. He valued integrity, duty and trust. One could only imagine how he felt

when it was discovered that one of his favorite guards, Thomas Hickey, was in on the plot. Others close to him were also involved, including his personal housemaid. When Hickey was courtmartialed, the entire army was ordered to watch as he was hanged.

The First Conspiracy is a historical page-turner. Of course, we know Washington survived, but it's still a breathless tale. I came away from reading this book with a new respect for Washington, a man who would become our first president.✪

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSF

Dear Shelley, My daughter is in kindergarten and doesn't seem interested in reading. I want to help her at home, but we don't have much time

together in the evening and I don't want to have to fight with her to get her to read. What can I do to help her and make our time working on reading fun?

Henry G, Cape Coral

Henry,

You have asked a great question. So many parents want to help their children in becoming strong readers but are not sure how to go about the process. Children mature at different rates, as do their reading skills, which typically emerge between the ages of 4 and 7. I'd like to recommend two strategies that you could use to encourage your daughter's interest in reading.

The first thing you can do is to become a role model for her. Let her see you

reading books, magazines, newspapers or even e-reader devices. Tell her how enjoyable it is to read. Another easy to implement and highly successful technique to use with pre-readers is called dialogic reading. This is simply interactive shared picture book reading practice. During the shared reading practice, the adult and the child switch roles so that the child learns to become the storyteller with the assistance of the adult, who then becomes the engaged listener and questioner. In other words, you and your daughter take turns "reading" the pictures to each other. Questions to ask during this process should be simply the five whys: the who, what, when, where and why of the story. This simple technique develops so many important pre-reading skills including communication and language competencies, and it's a great way to spend valuable time with your child.

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.✪

EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

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



THOMAS P. HALL
ROBIN C. TUTHILL, EDITOR

Available at
www.Amazon.com
www.OutSkirtsPress.com

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

Grant For Flood Resiliency Projects

Lee County has been awarded \$7.1 million through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's Rebuild Florida Infrastructure Repair Program for flood resiliency spending. This grant will allow Lee County to step up the pace of drainage improvements in the Mullock Creek basin.

The Lee Board of County Commissioners directed county staff to apply for the grant in October 2019.

In the last several years, the Board of County Commissioners has set policies and directed major investments in the millions of dollars for both water quality and flood resiliency efforts. This is a next step in the flood resiliency efforts that began in 2016 with a study in North Fort Myers and continued through the rain events surrounding Hurricane Irma.

In March 2018, the board directed a three-phase, comprehensive plan for both short-term and long-term flood resiliency efforts that included a \$1.9 million Southern Lee County Flood Protection Study, sediment removal in Ten Mile Canal, canal and ditch cleaning in areas such as Island Park and the Villas, administration of East Mulloch Water Control District projects, a maintenance agreement with the South Florida Water Management District for 13 rivers and

creeks, and a \$3 million capital investment budgeted in 2018 for flood mitigation projects.

Congress allocated HUD Community Development Block Grant funds to Florida for post-Irma Disaster Relief, including funds for repair of infrastructure. Lee County's Department of Natural Resources will manage the project. All work will be done in the San Carlos Park area generally east of U.S. 41 and between Alico Road and San Carlos Boulevard.

The county applied for Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds to remove debris, conduct drainage repair and replace sidewalks in qualifying areas of the San Carlos Park community and East Mulloch drainage system.

The resiliency and mitigation efforts include cooperative agreements that will help the county be more prepared for future weather events.

For example, in October 2018, commissioners approved a cooperative agreement to allow the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to assume the responsibility of maintaining 13 waterways, including removal of vegetation, debris or other types of obstructions. This will help the county and district join forces on flood-mitigation efforts. The agreement elevates the district's activities here to provide improved flood control. Lee County will coordinate with the district to establish priorities and a plan for maintenance.

For more information, visit www.leegov.com/flooding.✪



From left, Hannah Frigo, John Agnew, Suzanne Boy, Vanessa Betz and John Potanovic
photo provided

Proactive Workplace Solutions Seminar

Boy Agnew Potanovic welcomed more than 200 attendees to its inaugural Proactive Workplace Solutions seminar at The Club at Grandezza. Attendees learned important information regarding

new cases and regulations impacting the workplace, heard tips on how to prevent employee issues from becoming lawsuits, and received example policies to incorporate into their employee handbooks. The all-day seminar was capped off by a lively cocktail hour in celebration of the firm's first anniversary.

During the seminar:

Attorneys John Agnew and Suzanne Boy provided an update on important

employment legislation and case law from 2019 and on the horizon for 2020.

Attorney John Potanovic highlighted seven common HR law misconceptions, often repeated and perhaps accepted as true, to set the record straight.

Vicki Sproat was joined by Boy to identify key policy updates for every workplace, while discussing how human

resources policies and practices impact workplace investigations.

Former defense attorneys Cora Molloy and Angeli Murthy, who now represent plaintiffs at Morgan & Morgan, used their unique perspectives to address real-world scenarios that resulted in costly employment litigation, and offered up their top tips on how employers can avoid similar issues.✱

University Adds Board Member

Hodges University recently announced that Tiffany Esposito has joined as a trustee.

"We are pleased to have Tiffany join our board of trustees. She brings exceptional business acumen and understands the workforce needs of our region," said Dr. John Meyer, president of Hodges University.

Esposito is the president and CEO of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce and leads the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the South Lee EDC. She is a Lee County native and a proud graduate of Florida Gulf Coast University, where she received an undergraduate degree in communications, and a master's degree in business administration.

Esposito also earned the Certified Chamber Executive designation, the Institute for Organizational Management designation from the United States



Tiffany Esposito photo provided

Chamber of Commerce and in the Accreditation in Public Relations (APR) designation from the Public Relations Society of America.✱

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

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Advanced Estate Planning With Grantor Trusts



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

Most everyone is familiar with a revocable living trust. This estate planning vehicle allows you to transfer your assets to the trust, retain control over the assets and avoid a probate process at your death. The trust rather easily transfers the assets without the need for court action to your beneficiaries.

Because the trust is revocable, you can freely change the trust terms, including who would act as your trustee if you should become incapacitated or die, as well as who the trust beneficiaries will be and in what amounts and percentages.

Revocable trusts therefore are grantor trusts for income tax purposes. In other words, the Revocable Trust uses your social security number as its tax identification number. It doesn't file any separate tax returns during your lifetime. Your revocable trust is effectively you. It is just another form of ownership.

Consequently, when you die, the assets titled in the trust are included in your estate for federal estate tax purposes. Remember that unlike the income tax, which is a tax on your "income statement," the estate tax is a tax on your wealth. It's a "balance sheet" tax.

But grantor trusts can be so much more than revocable trusts. They can be used to save both income taxes and estate taxes. But to do so requires a complete understanding of how the counterintuitive interaction of income and the estate tax laws create planning opportunities.

The opportunities arise not from the use of revocable trusts, but from irrevocable trusts.

Once you create an irrevocable trust, you can't change it. With an irrevocable trust, we can create a trust that for estate tax purposes removes the assets from your estate, but for income tax purposes the income and capital gains are taxed to you.

Using the tax law, we can manipulate outcomes to both eliminate capital gains taxes and remove assets from our estate for estate tax purposes. Most of us are familiar with how income taxes work. Estate taxes, however, are not a tax on our income, rather they are a tax on our balance sheet.

One strategy to accomplish this goal is to use a technique known as a "sale to an intentionally defective grantor trust" (an "IDGT").

Under the tax code, if you create a trust and you retain certain rights, then for income tax purposes, the trust is still deemed to be you. But for estate tax purposes, completed

transfers to this type of irrevocable trust can exclude the transferred assets from your estate.

A "swap power" right, for example, is a right that will result in an irrevocable trust being taxed to you as the grantor for income tax purposes despite the trust assets being excluded from your estate for estate tax purposes. As it sounds, a swap power is one where, as grantor, you have the right to substitute assets of the trust, so long as the swap is of equal value, and no beneficiary income rights are compromised.

To illustrate, assume that Grantor (G) creates an irrevocable trust naming his spouse (W) as trustee and his child (A) as beneficiary for A's life and at A's death the trust terminates to B. G retains the right to substitute assets of equal value. This is known as IDGT.

G then transfers stock to the IDGT valued at \$1 million but assume G's tax cost basis in this stock is only \$100,000. If G were to sell the assets, G would realize a \$900,000 capital gain and pay a large capital gains tax of approximately \$214,200. Let's also assume that the stock is appreciating at 10 percent per year.

When G transfers the \$1 million of stock, the IDGT writes a promissory note back to G for \$1 million. G effectively "sold" the stock to the IDGT. Because the IDGT is considered a grantor trust for income tax purposes (because of the swap power makes it a grantor trust for income tax purposes), no capital gain is realized. G does not pay capital gain tax.

Several years later, the stock value grows to \$1.5 million. G then uses his swap power to take the stock back, substituting cash into the IDGT for the stock. Why does G do this? Because if G owns the stock when he dies, his estate gets a step-up in tax cost basis.

Assume that G dies and the stock is still worth \$1.5 million. G's estate is now free to sell the stock for \$1.5 million and not realize any capital gains tax.

The IDGT, however, owns \$1.5 million of cash but also still owes G's estate the \$1 million promissory note. The IDGT pays back the promissory note leaving it with \$500,000 of cash. The result is the elimination of capital gain on the stock, and \$500,000 is distributed to the IDGT beneficiary tax free.

I simplified this illustration to make it understandable. I didn't point out, for example, that another benefit to this strategy is that with the promissory note G can continue indirectly receiving income from an asset that he irrevocably gave away. Yet, at the end of the day he did get the asset (stock) back, eliminated the capital gain, enjoyed indirect income from it, and transferred \$500,000 tax free to his heirs.

Usually, if G retains the right to income then the asset is included in his estate for estate tax purposes. This strategy circumvented that rule.

Beware, as there are many nuances to the proper creation of an IDGT, as well as the structure of the sale and swap transaction. Failure to fully understand the nuances in the tax law could result in the strategy's failure.

Nevertheless, you can see how the tax code might be used to achieve estate planning goals. In future columns, I'll explore additional estate planning grantor trust strategies.

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AAUW Luncheon

On Saturday, February 15, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold its monthly luncheon in the Helm Club at the Landings Yacht, Golf and Tennis Club from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Guest speaker Allyson Rae, chief meteorologist for NBC2 will be talking about weather in Florida. A Pittsburgh native, she graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a degree in meteorology. She also holds the Certified Broadcast Meteorologist Seal from the American Meteorology Society.

Along with providing a venue for women to further their education and learn

about local issues, AAUW is dedicated to supporting the education of young women in the area. Several scholarships are provided to promising students. The organization also actively supports STEM projects in the hope of encouraging girls to enter the fields of science and mathematics.

AAUW invites new women to join the organization. Members include women who have had careers in many fields and women who are actively working in the Fort Myers area.

The Landings Yacht, Golf and Tennis Club is located at 4420 Flagship Drive in Fort Myers. For more information or to RSVP, email aauwleecounty@gmail.com or visit www.fmlc-fl.aauw.net.✴

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Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



Sports shorts, records, starts, milestones, many happy returns and saving a life.

So much has happened in the world of sports while the nation (and world) were transfixed around

the Super Bowl. It was a great game and comeback for the Chiefs. But what else is happening in the world of sports?

Since No. 1 draft pick Zion Williamson started playing for the Pelicans on January 22 after his pre-season injury, he's averaging nearly 20 points in 26 minutes per game with 7.5 rebounds. He definitely is the lift NOLA needs and he's just getting started. An ankle injury sidelined him for a game last weekend, but especially if he drops a little weight, he will be a force in the league for a long time.

The return of Bobby Knight. On the other extreme, Bob Knight, age 79 returned to IU Assembly Hall for the first time since he was fired 20 years ago to raucous applause and the 40th reunion of his 1980 NCAA Championship team. A loudmouth and not the nicest of people, there's no doubting his tremendous coaching ability and all that he brought to Indiana basketball. I'm glad he had the chance to return.

An NCAA consecutive record was tied in Kansas, as Bill Self got his 700th victory last weekend. Kansas, currently ranked 3rd at 20-3 has now had 31 consecutive seasons with 20 or more victories. Self is only 57, so chances are he could reach 1,000 victories in about a decade if he continues to coach and KU continues to win nearly 30 games a year as they have been doing. We'll see what the tournament brings.

Continued outpouring of love for the late Kobe Bryant. Shaq was shopping in Best Buy and a fan came over to express condolences over the loss of Kobe and Shaq's sister, who passed away from cancer last October. The fans continued shopping for a new laptop when Shaq came up to him and said, "I like y'all, so get the nicest one in here and I'll pay for

it." I've always said it never hurts to go out of your way to be nice. What a great thing for Shaq to do.

Nick Taylor, a golfer ranked 229th in the world, built a five-stroke lead through nine holes at Pebble Beach, watched it dwindle to two and then chipped in for birdie on the par-4 15th hole. Taylor, 31, a native of Winnipeg, became the first Canadian to capture the Crosby Clambake and halted a streak of American winners that started in 2005 – the year Mickelson won wire-to-wire.

Speaking of surprises, 21-year-old American Sofia Kenin won her first Grand Slam, the Australian Open. Kenin had never gone past the fourth round of a slam before and is the youngest player to win a grand slam since Serena Williams in 2002. Her victory means that eight of the past 12 Grand Slam winners have been first-timers. Kenin is a full-time Floridian whose parents came from Moscow a few months after she was born.

And the good news story of the week is how fast actions saved a life on the court. A freshman girls high school basketball coach, Bob Zaranek, suddenly collapsed, hitting the court face-first. He was clinically dead. The athletic trainer along with a recently retired nurse went into action. "We started looking for a sign of life, a pulse," Collin Karcher, the athletic trainer said. "Once you don't have a pulse, emergency action goes into place." The most crucial action was having an AED. A cardiac nurse in the crowd offered to help with CPR. Once the AED was operating, it instructed what needed to be done. The AED delivered a shock, then CPR resumed. "It's not like a movie where they kind of jump up," Karcher said. Maybe five to 10 compressions in, Bob started to take breaths on his own. He then slowly came back to life. He started breathing again and had a good pulse. "I can't say we were all ready for this to happen, but we were prepared mentally. One of the biggest lessons learned was the need for the AED. Without it, Zaranek might not have survived," said the nurse, Kathy Richards. "If you don't have that electric shock from the AED, compressions are just to deliver oxygen to the brain," Karcher said. "You're doing the heart's job, but that doesn't restart the system. The heart runs on electrical impulse and whether you have a dysfunctional rhythm or you have no rhythm at all, that

electrical shock can restart it or stabilize it." Zaranek had a stent inserted and is attending cardiac rehab. He understands how vital the AED was to his survival and hopes to find a way to help raise awareness that every school in the state of Michigan needs to have one in its gym. Most of all, Zaranek is grateful. "They were all there for me."

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.

Red Sox To Host Spring Training Open House

The Boston Red Sox Spring Training Open House will be held at JetBlue Park on Saturday, February 15 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The day's family friendly activities will include inflatables on the field, player autographs, photos with the World Series trophy, a scavenger hunt, discounted concessions, face-painting and magicians, self-guided tours of the park and more.

Guided public tours will be conducted daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the hour on non-game days. Tickets are \$10 per person, children 12 and under are free. Tickets go on sale the day of the tour at 10 a.m. at the box office and are

available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

VIP pregame tours are also available on game days for \$40 per person and \$15 for children 12 and under. Reservations must be made in advance and require a ticket to that day's game.

JetBlue Park is located at 11500 Fenway South Drive in Fort Myers.✱

Complimentary Baseball Tickets For Local Heroes

In conjunction with the Hats Off to Heroes program presented by John Hancock, the Boston Red Sox will offer complimentary tickets to the opening game of its Spring Training season against the Northeastern University Huskies on Friday, February 21 at 1:05 p.m. This is the third consecutive year that the team has offered free tickets.

All first responders, active and retired military in Southwest Florida including police, sheriff, emergency medical service, fire personnel and military will receive two free tickets with proper identification. The complimentary tickets will be available for pick up at the JetBlue Park box office from February 3 through 20, on a first-come basis, while supplies last. JetBlue Park box office hours are Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

JetBlue Park is located at 11500 Fenway South Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, call 226-4783 or email jbpevents@redsox.com.✱

SPORTS QUIZ

1. When was the last time the Pittsburgh Pirates won 100 or more games in a season?
2. The 1933 New York Yankees had nine future Hall of Famers on their roster. Name four of them.
3. Which two college football teams hold the record for most points (70) scored in a bowl game?
4. Who is the Portland Trail Blazers' all-time leader in career blocked shots?
5. Goalie Jordan Binnington set a St. Louis Blues franchise rookie record with 24 victories in the 2018-19 season. Who had held the mark?
6. When Germany was split into two countries that competed separately in the Olympics (1968-88), which one captured the most medals?
7. Name the last Australian female golfer before Hannah Green in 2019 (Women's PGA Championship) to win an LPGA major.

ANSWERS

1. It was 1909, when they went 110-42. 2. Earle Combs, Bill Dickey, Lou Gehrig, Lefty Gomez, Tony Lazzeri, Herb Pennock, Red Ruffing, Babe Ruth and Joe Sewell. 3. Army (2018) and West Virginia (2012). 4. Mitchal Thompson, with 768 blocked shots (1978-86). 5. Jake Allen had 22 wins as a rookie in the 2014-15 season. 6. East Germany won 519 total medals; West Germany 243. 7. Karrie Webb, in 2006.

Is your Estate Plan providing you COMFORT, CONFIDENCE & CLARITY?



Craig R. Hersch

Florida Bar Board Certified Wills, Trusts & Estates Attorney, CPA
"Will Power" Columnist, *The Island Sun*



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From left, Becky Lucas, Austin Power and Ann Petterson-Power photos provided

Social Held For New Community

Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties recently brought together more than 85 donors

and supporters to unveil the many amenities planned for Habitat's future Heritage Heights community in Fort Myers.

Habitat for Humanity hosted the social event January 21 at its McGregor ReStore, where attendees enjoyed



Stephanie Underwood and Cindy Roberts

food, conversation and a presentation about Heritage Heights and its special amenities, which will include a neighborhood park, playground, basketball court and more. Plans for the neighborhood include 150 homes over 20 acres, with the development



Dennis Rehak and Genie Rehak

emphasizing quality, affordable homeownership for families in the Fort Myers area.

Since 1982, more than 1,600 Lee and Hendry families in need of a hand up have partnered with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve their home.✱



From left, Lesley Hill, John Hill and Vince Modarelli



From left, Liz Aurensan, Pam Edwards, John Ammons and Krista Anderson



From left, Ginny Dickinson, Cindy Roberts, Becky Antonucci, Alexandra Bremner and Lisa Ballantine with Eunice Bremner, front



From left, Chris Fowler, Mollie Wise, Tammy Moran, Jennifer Richards and Tony Lesneski

Lee Health Adds Officer

Lisa Wagamon has joined Lee Health as vice president for business development and contracting. In this position, she will oversee negotiations and relationship management with commercial payers and managed care plans.



Lisa Wagamon

Wagamon will manage negotiations for fee-for-service and all commercial payer arrangements for Medicare Advantage, Medicaid managed care and Commercial Accountable Care payment arrangements. The scope of negotiations will encompass acute care, skilled care, ambulatory care and ancillary services. She will also oversee payer contract implementation, credentialing of participating physicians and facilities, including management of existing employer service contracts and work closely with the physician relations and community affairs teams on business development.

"We're thrilled to add Lisa to our team in this crucial role," said John Chomeau, Lee Health chief population health officer. "Her extensive knowledge and experience in negotiating hospital system contracts, supporting payer value-based strategies and leading change in health care reimbursement will place Lee Health in an ideal position to successfully partner with payers in providing cost-effective, high-quality care for our patients."

Wagamon previously held positions with managed care organizations for 22 years, negotiating contracts for commercial, Medicare and Medicaid lines of business. She most recently served as system vice president of Managed Care for SSM Health's ministries in Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Oklahoma.

Before SSM, Wagamon was with Gateway Health Plan, a Medicaid managed care organization in Pittsburgh, where she led a team of contract negotiators and physician representatives introducing value-based contracting to physicians and facilities. She also worked for Anthem Healthcare and United Health Group in multiple states, negotiating complex health system contracts for multiple lines of business representing physical, behavioral and long-term health services for millions of members.✱

Diabetes Program

Have you been told that you have Prediabetes? Would you like to learn about a variety of tools that have been proven to prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes?

Lee Health will hold a free program designed to help make modest lifestyle changes and cut your risk of Type 2 Diabetes by more than half at the Healthy Life Center – Lee Health Coconut Point on Mondays, beginning on February 17 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. This year-long program with weekly meetings for the first six months, then once or twice a month

for the second six months, is part of the National Diabetes Prevention Program, led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Information presented in the workshop can help participants become empowered to prevent type 2 diabetes. Learn about the benefits of physical activity; manage symptoms of stress, make smarter decisions related to healthy eating, and tips to stay motivated. Participants will receive a participant guide to use as an ongoing reference tool once the classes are completed.

The Healthy Life Center – Lee Health Coconut Point is located at 23450 Via Coconut Point in Estero. Seating is limited and registration is required. Call 468-0051 for more information.✱

Free Autism Screening

Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, will offer a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for toddlers 18 months to age 5 on the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile at Cape Christian Fellowship on Friday, February 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It is estimated that one in every 59 children is diagnosed with some form of autism spectrum disorder, making it more common than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes and pediatric AIDS combined.

Medical consultants for the project stress that an early diagnosis can make a vast difference for toddlers and their families. They say early intensive behavioral intervention can make an immense difference not just in the development of the child, but in their families as well.

The ASD screening is conducted by the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. The screenings are administered by an advanced practice registered nurse, who has extensive training and experience in typical child development and developmental disorders. A physician referral is not required.

Cape Christian Fellowship is located at 2110 Chiquita Boulevard South in Cape Coral. To schedule a screening, please call 343-6838.✱

From page 1

Chamber Music

father, Manuel Díaz.

This concert is sponsored by Barbara Garrison and Nicholas Winograd.

The Chamber Series is part of the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center's yearly music programming. Each season, the chamber concerts bring exquisite classical music to Southwest Florida. The 2020 Chamber Series has expanded to five concerts in the series. American Virtuosi will perform in March, with the Art of Listening with pianist Javor Bracic in April.

Tickets are \$40 in advance or \$45 at the door.

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

Bar Association On The Impact Of Hemp

The Lee County Bar Association will present an open-to-the-public luncheon on Hemp: The legal and economic ramifications at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Friday, February 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cost is \$25 to the public and free for members of the Lee County Bar Association. Reservations are required and space is limited. To register and buy tickets, go to www.leebar.org.

Holly Bell, the director of cannabis for Florida's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, will lead a panel of experts discussing the economic, agricultural, retail and health impacts of hemp. The other panelists include Cole Peacock, Chris Marrie, Scheril Murray Powell, Esq and Michelle Suarez, Esq. The sponsor for the luncheon is Michael F. Hornung.

How hemp is grown, sold and regulated and how attorneys, judges and other stakeholders come to grips with it puts the product in the hot-button category as 2020 rolls into a crucial election year.

"You are going to see a lot of people try to be an early entrant into the market,"



Holly Bell

LCBA President Matt Roepstorff said. "You will see a lot of hemp CBD sales at specialty shops, holistic shops, gas stations, general retailers."

Hemp could prove to be a valuable crop for Florida farmers, struggling from losses of their citrus crop due to greening and canker and tomato crop losses because of the hot market for the vegetable in Mexico. Hemp provides an economic solution that could be worth billions. The plant is known to grow well in the Florida panhandle, but seed testing continues in southwest and south Florida to determine how well it will grow in this region.

Hemp has thousands of uses, but the money is in CBD, which stands for Cannabidiol and is a compound extracted from the hemp plant. CBD is known to promote health and is showing up more frequently in a variety of retail stores. Hemp is often confused with the marijuana plant and THC.

Testing and regulatory monitoring will be essential as the demand for the product grows. State reports indicate there could be as many as 8,000 applicants for state-approved cultivation permits, with about 3,000 farm operations qualifying.

"We haven't seen this type of excitement in agriculture in decades," Fried said in an interview. "Hemp is going to be a tremendous marketplace for Florida – \$20 billion to \$30 billion."

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in Fort Myers. For more information or to become a sponsor, contact Lee County Bar Association executive director Lauren Baugh at 334-0047.✱

YOUR NEUROLOGICAL SYMPTOMS MAY HAVE A STRUCTURAL CAUSE!

- Balance problems
- Blurred vision
- Dizziness / vertigo
- Fainting / drop attacks
- Swallowing or speaking difficulties
- Tinnitus or hearing problems
- Torticollis / cervical dystonia
- And many more!

The Hauser Neck Center at Caring Medical Florida specializes in unique, dynamic diagnostic tests that find what traditional MRI scans can miss, and Comprehensive H3 Prolotherapy to treat the underlying structural cause of chronic neck pain, migraines, and neurological symptoms.

Learn more at **CaringMedical.com** and contact our team to review your case!



Ross Hauser, MD

Hauser Neck Center
Caring Medical Florida
9738 Commerce Center Ct.
Fort Myers, FL 33908
(239) 308-4725
DrHauser@CaringMedical.com



HELPING THE WORLD SEE CERVICAL INSTABILITY WITH 2020 VISION!

Doctor and Dietician

February: It's All About Love



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

February is the month of love, a time for remembering Valentine's Day and remembering love. We think of Valentine's Day as a day of roses, chocolates, cards and lovely dinners shared with those we love. But we all know that love is far more than just celebrating one day per year and sending those types of gifts. Each morning, we like to listen to the *Daily Hope*, an inspirational message by Pastor Rick Warren. He is currently doing a series on love. He shared the other day that learning to love God and love others is our highest goal and purpose here on earth. It's not about gaining "stuff" or "fame" but sharing true relationships with people. We could not agree more.

One of the things that we love about Southwest Florida is the wide array of opportunities available to connect with other people. We would venture to say

that some of our most fulfilling times have been those shared with our "tribe" where we made a meal together or just hung out or watched a sunset or took a bike ride. Spending time together feeds the "love tank!"

The act of loving actually improves your heart health as well. People who spend time with those they love will see a lowering of blood pressure, as well as an improvement in heart rate variability – a strong predictor of overall health – because seeing those you love can actually make your heart go pitter patter, not just releasing happy hormones such as dopamine, adrenaline and norepinephrine, but making your heart beat stronger and faster.

Did you know that love-inspired activities also strengthen your overall wellness and improve your longevity? Hugs and warm embraces, for example, release oxytocin, a feel-good hormone, which has the power to reduce stress hormones and lower blood pressure. Laughing, smiling and positive attitudes improve one's outlook on life and protect against cardiovascular disease. Feeling joy, happiness, enthusiasm and contentment all improve by having love in your life.

Let's get out there and share some love – not just to those close to you, but with new people too. Give a smile or a hug today!

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.✱

administrative officer of Lee Physician Group, Home Health and Physician Services. "Southwest Florida's roads and businesses are very crowded this time of year, and we discounted Lee TeleHealth to encourage more people to utilize the service, helping them get better and back to their daily routines sooner."

Patients using the telehealth service can seek treatment and receive a prescription for a variety of conditions, including: cold and flu; sinus infections; rashes; pink eye; headaches; urinary tract infections; allergies; cough; and sprains and strains

Every visit is encrypted to protect private information, and patients can expect the same level of care they would receive in a traditional doctor's office. For current Lee Health patients, telehealth visits are added to their health record to ensure continuity of care.

Lee TeleHealth can be accessed in the following convenient ways:

- From the Lee Health Mobile App
- From the MyChart App
- Downloading the "Lee TeleHealth" app on your smartphone or tablet
- Visiting www.leetelehealth.org from a computer.✱

Lee TeleHealth Discounts In February

To coincide with Leap Year, Lee Health has discounted the price of Lee TeleHealth to \$29 for the month of February, a discount of \$20 off the regular price. Lee TeleHealth is a convenient alternative to visiting the emergency department or a walk-in clinic when suffering from an illness or injury that is nonlife-threatening.

Lee Telehealth allows patients to book a visit with a physician or advanced provider from the comfort of their home or office, without battling traffic or sitting in a waiting room. The service is available 24/7, and patients interact with the doctor or advanced provider by utilizing the camera and microphone on their phone, tablet or computer. The provider also has the ability to call in a prescription or make a referral, if necessary.

"Lee TeleHealth is a great option to save time and money when suffering from a wide array of common illnesses or injuries," said Kris Fay, chief

dearRPharmacist

Five Natural Strategies For Uterine Fibroids



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: Uterine fibroids are benign cysts that can grow inside or outside of a woman's womb, termed the uterus. There are many articles that address a pre-menopausal woman's risk of fibroids, but not as many for post-menopausal women. Hysterectomy does not have to be your future. Living with the bloat doesn't have to be your future either!

Most women can live their whole life with little fibroids and not experience any problems, and maybe not even realize they even have them. But fibroids can grow rapidly and cause a lot of lower pelvic pain, even radiating into the groin or leg. When large enough, the abdomen will swell or bloat causing you to want to wear stretchy pants, and possibly have to empty your bladder more frequently. Constipation is pretty common with fibroids.

In some cases, if the fibroid is large enough, it may actually cause tremendous discomfort and difficulty walking, sleeping or bending. In an older woman, I think it's the pain that drives a woman into the OB/GYN office, to find out what's going on. Contrarily, a woman who is younger and still cycling may have symptoms such as heavy bleeding, subsequent anemia, fatigue, infertility and, of course, pain including dysorgasmia.

I'd like to offer you some natural strategies to help you try to shrink these, because so often the first thing offered is surgery. While that may be necessary in some cases, I'm a holistic-thinking pharmacist, and I believe there

are life-changing natural strategies that are worth a try. Talk to your physician about the following ideas. In the order of importance:

1. Discontinue all hormones that you're taking – Many post-menopausal women are supported on hormones, which may be fueling the fibroid growth in an older woman. It's the estrogen (estradiol) that could be the specific problem.
2. Sulforaphane – Sulforaphane is a dietary supplement that is basically a broccoli extract. It is used to support Phase II liver detoxification enzymes that break down estrogen properly. Sulforaphane supplements help to restore proper estrogen receptor gene expression, and interfere with tumor growth. DIM is another supplement that may help control estrogen.
3. Iodine – We assume iodine deficiency as one reason for hypothyroidism, but iodine deficiency is also strongly associated with lumpy breasts (ie fibrocystic breasts) as well as uterine fibroids. Iodine may be useful in preventing further growth of a fibroid.
4. Turmeric – Turmeric spice has been studied for its ability to shrink uterine fibroids, by binding to and activating PPAR-gamma and that in turn, shrinks a fibroid tumor/growth. Curcumin is a stronger, standardized extract of turmeric spice.
5. Matcha Tea or Epigallocatechin-3-gallate (EGCG) Supplements – In test tube and animal studies, cells treated with EGCG grew far more slowly and were noticeably smaller within days.

I have a longer version of this article with more natural strategies. I will email it to you once you've signed up for free my online newsletter at www.suzycohen.com. That article includes a recipe for an essential oil blend that you can apply externally for additional comfort.

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is the author of The 24-Hour Pharmacist and is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit www.SuzyCohen.com.✱

Hope Healthcare Honors Veterans Program

Hope Healthcare has become a certified Level 5 partner – the highest designation available – with We Honor Veterans, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

Through Hope's VALOR program, Hope's honor guard volunteers, many who are veterans themselves, stand ready to support veterans in hospice care. Through a veteran recognition program and salute ceremonies, Hope recognizes their dedicated service to the country.

"Hope provides care to the brave men and women who served to safeguard our freedom," said Samira K. Beckwith, president and CEO of Hope Healthcare. "Achieving Level 5 partnership status

with the NHPCO's We Honor Veterans program confirms our dedication to ensuring all veterans receive the specialized care they deserve."

According to NHPCO, more than 1,800 American veterans die every day, and only 4 percent die in the care of the Veteran's Administration. Hope serves as a critical resource by providing special services as part of its mission to serve as a safety net for the community.

Level 5 partners place a greater emphasis on staff education and caring for Vietnam-era and combat veterans, as well as taking on the role of regional mentor to other We Honor Veterans partners working to enhance their programs.

Hope Healthcare is a not-for-profit health care organization dedicated to providing care and comfort to every individual and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey. For more information, visit www.hopehcs.org.✱

PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Latte And Tucker



Latte ID# A805186

February is National Black Dog Syndrome Awareness Month. Did you know black dogs are overlooked more than any other dogs in shelters? I'm sure you are looking at my picture and wondering how that is possible. Hi, my name is Latte. I am a 7-year-old female labrador retriever mix who wonders the same thing. The volunteers at LCDAS think I am wonderful. I am affectionate, well-mannered, even-tempered, and I match everything!

My adoption fee is \$25.

Hello, my name is Tucker. I am a 5-year-old male domestic shorthair who is the perfect feline to represent our Give Love promotion because that is all I am looking to do – give you my love. I am one of the most affectionate cats you will find. I love to give head bumps and my favorite place to be is wherever you are – what more could you ask for in the perfect Valentine?

My adoption fee is \$25. You can adopt me and



Tucker ID# A808220

get a feline friend at no additional charge.

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.

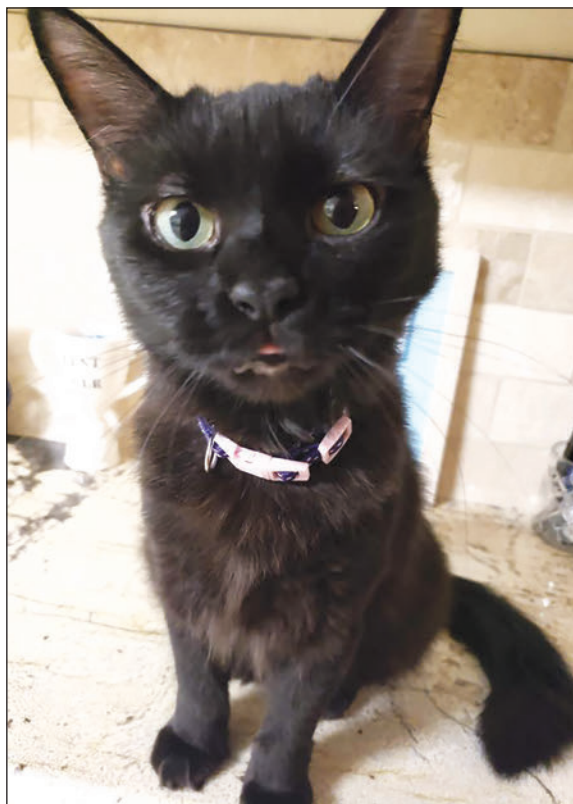
*The shelter is open to the public Monday through Saturday at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For information, visit Lee County Domestic Animal Services at www.leegov.com/animalservices or call 533-7387.**

Haven on Earth Animal League

Eve

Hi There! My name is Eve -- perfect for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. 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 haveneearthanimalleague@yahoo.com.

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



Eve



Emergency	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
HealthPark Medical Center	1-800-936-5321
Ft. Myers Chamber of Commerce	332-3624
Foundation for Quality Childcare	425-2685
Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce	454-7500
Fort Myers Beach Library	463-9691
Lakes Regional Library	533-4000
Lee County Chamber of Commerce	931-0931
Post Office	1-800-275-8777
Visitor & Convention Bureau	338-3500
ARTS	
Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio	337-5050
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall	481-4849
BIG ARTS	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Cultural Park Theatre	772-5862
Edison Festival of Light	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade	332-4488
Florida West Arts	948-4427
Fort Myers Harmonica Band	610-653-7940
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy	936-3239
Young Artists Awards	574-9321
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
American Legion Post #38	239-332-1853
Angel Flight	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center	731-3535
American Business Women Association	357-6755
Audubon of SWFL	https://www.audubonswfl.org/
Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR	482-1366
Caloosahatchee Folk Society	321-4620
Cape Coral Barbershop Chorus	1-855-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club	542-9153
duPont Company Retirees	454-1083
Edison Porcelain Artists	415-2484
Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter	239-267-1990
FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Confederacy	728-3743
Friendship Force Of SW FL	561-9164
Garden Club of Cape Coral	239-257-2654
Horticulture and Tea Society	472-8334
Horticultural Society	472-6940
Lee County Genealogical Society	549-9625
Lee Trust for Historic Preservation	939-7278
NARFE (National Active & Retired Federal Employees)	482-6713
Navy Seabees Veterans of America	731-1901
Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL	667-1354
Sons of Confederate Veterans	332-2408
Southwest Florida Fencing Academy	939-1338
Southwest Florida Music Association	561-2118
Kiwanis Fort Myers Beach	765-4254 or 454-8090
Kiwanis Fort Myers Edison	694-1056
Kiwanis Fort Myers South	691-1405
Iona-McGregor	482-0869
Lions Club Fort Myers Beach	463-9738
Lions Club Fort Myers High Noon	466-4228
Lions Club Estero/South Fort Myers	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County	768-0417
Organ Transplant Recipients of SW Florida	247-3073
POLO Club of Lee County	477-4906
Rotary Club of Fort Myers	332-8158
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline (24 hour)	211 or 433-3900
AREA ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
Burrough's Home	337-9505
Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium	275-3435
Edison & Ford Winter Estates	334-7419
Fort Myers Skate Park	321-7558
Imaginarium Hands-On Museum & Aquarium	321-7420
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Koreshan State Historic Site	239-992-0311
Langford Kingston Home	239-334-2550
Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center	765-8101
Skatium	321-7510
Southwest Florida Historical Society	939-4044
Southwest Florida Museum of History	321-7430
True Tours	945-0405

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

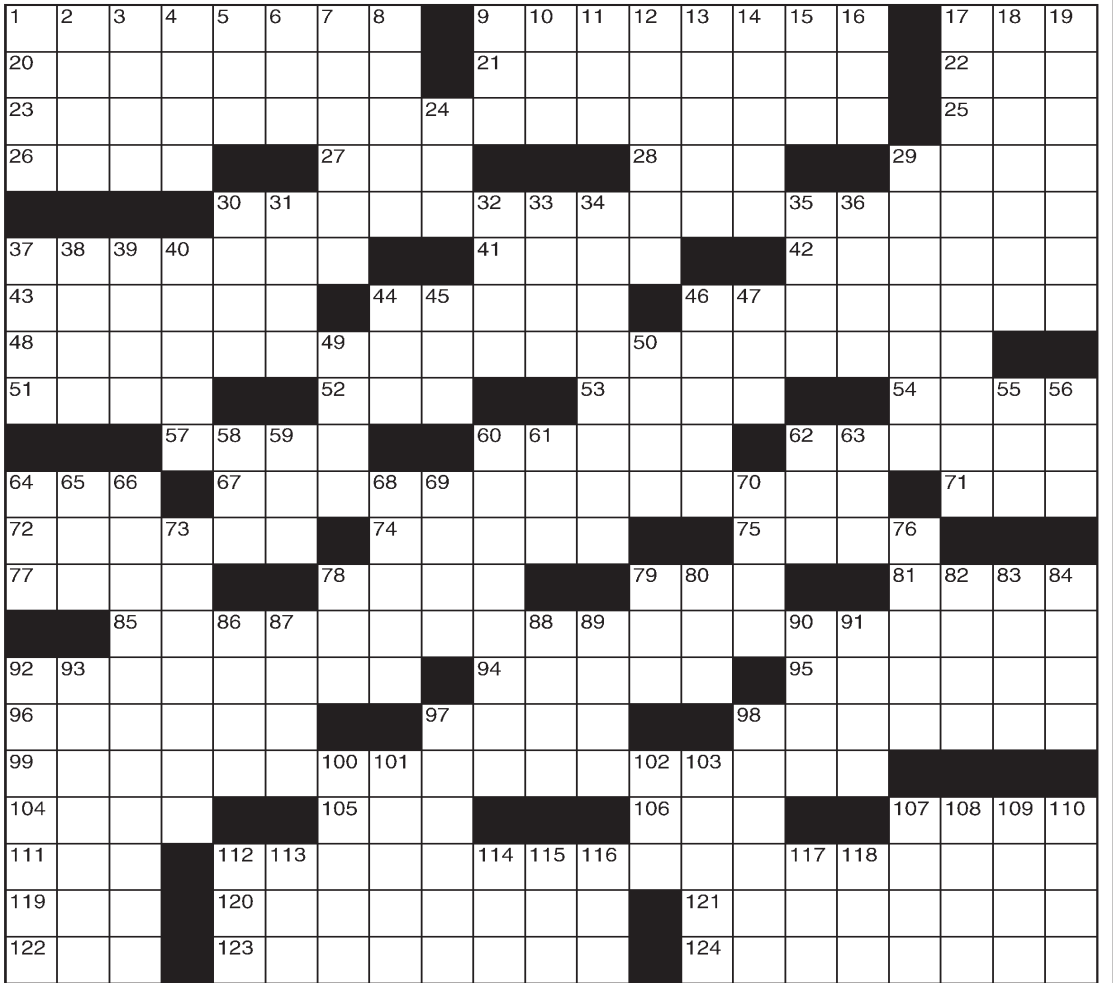
PUZZLES

Answers on page 28

Super Crossword

RIISING TO THE DEBATE

- ACROSS
- 1 While away the hours
- 9 Amorphous, sunken-into seats
- 17 Book divs.
- 20 Adopts, as a belief
- 21 Do a new layout of
- 22 Marina del —, California
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Musician Yoko
- 26 Fixes a seam, say
- 27 Drink served with scones
- 28 Suffix with final or solo
- 29 Heroic poetry
- 30 Riddle, part 2
- 37 7-Eleven drink
- 41 Isn't on target
- 42 Contract inker, e.g.
- 43 "Stones for —" (1988 film)
- 44 San —, California
- 46 Most fake
- 48 Riddle, part 3
- 51 With 57-Across, descent before pulling a rip cord
- 52 Chilean cheer
- 53 Praise publicly
- 54 Margarita glass liner
- 57 See 51-Across
- 60 1990s Philippine president
- 62 Ad entreaty
- 64 ET of TV
- 67 Riddle, part 4
- 71 "Rock and Roll, Hoochie —"
- 72 Gel alternative
- 74 Bow rub-on
- 75 "— Cassius has a lean and hungry look": Julius Caesar
- 77 — Sunday
- 78 Let out
- 79 Xenon, e.g.
- 81 Fesses (up)
- 85 Riddle, part 5
- 92 Deliver news about
- 94 Capacious
- 95 One of Jupiter's moons
- 96 Rare Italian violins
- 97 Trial run
- 98 Watched kids for cash
- 99 End of the riddle
- 104 Tip jar bills
- 105 Mimicker
- 106 "— There Was You"
- 107 — ghanouj
- 111 Poetry Out Loud org.
- 112 Riddle's answer
- 119 Wind up
- 120 Tendency to stick together
- 121 "Casino Royale"
- 122 Rds.
- 123 Outburst of wild emotion
- 124 Tokyo "ta-ta"
- DOWN
- 1 Sunday seats
- 2 Court champ Arthur
- 3 Shoot forth
- 4 Male heirs
- 5 "Tsk!"
- 6 "Semi-" suffix
- 7 Get together
- 8 Road twists
- 9 Male sib
- 10 Always, to bards
- 11 Astern
- 12 Feature of a perfect ball game
- 13 Audacious
- 14 Just slightly
- 15 Slender fish
- 16 Hog home
- 17 Certain liquid fuel
- 18 High-tech map subjects
- 19 Natalie Portman's childhood home on Long Island
- 24 "Bali —"
- 29 Most tense
- 30 Twist
- 31 Skin cream brand
- 32 Ensnares
- 33 Cookie giant
- 34 Lead singer
- 35 Beginning on
- 36 Have supper
- 37 Son of Willy Loman
- 38 Skyscraper beam
- 39 Many an app
- 40 Anguish
- 44 Actor Gibson
- 45 Had supper
- 46 Sainted pope
- 47 FDR follower
- 49 Hit the links
- 50 Boxing punch
- 55 London lav
- 56 16 eighths
- 58 Tummy "six-pack"
- 59 Actor Marvin
- 60 Interstate stop
- 61 Pal, in Calais
- 62 Earlier
- 63 "No — do!"
- 64 Rock blaster
- 65 Mauna —
- 66 Big magazine pitches
- 68 Suze with financial tips
- 69 Stir up, as silt
- 70 NASDAQ kin
- 73 Polishes
- 76 Bride's belongings
- 78 Green start?
- 79 Big Red, e.g.
- 80 Poet Lowell
- 82 "— calling?"
- 83 California's — Valley
- 84 TDs, e.g.
- 86 Fortitude
- 87 — -bits
- 88 Looking up
- 89 Attend
- 90 Imminent
- 91 Lard holders
- 92 Seminal punk band
- 93 Distinguished
- 97 Feared fly
- 98 Luxury watch company
- 100 Vows
- 101 In a tizzy
- 102 Dol. divisions
- 103 Quotes
- 107 Farm building
- 108 Cruising
- 109 South African
- 110 Dutch
- 112 "— bin ein Berliner"
- 113 Nerf ball, e.g.
- 114 Make public
- 115 "— will not!"
- 116 Genetic ID
- 117 Actor Liotta
- 118 Swelled head



King Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Move like molasses
- 5 High card
- 8 Judicial garment
- 12 Place for sports reporters
- 14 Vivacity
- 15 Aware
- 16 Flex
- 17 Do sums
- 18 Kindle down-loads
- 20 Sew loosely
- 23 Liveliness, in music
- 24 Wheelbase terminus
- 25 Obama's old title
- 28 — de Janeiro
- 29 Hawaiian dances
- 30 Deity
- 32 Dakar's country
- 34 Salver
- 35 Bacchanalian blast
- 36 Yonder
- 37 Hallux, more commonly
- 40 That girl
- 41 "Superfood" berry
- 42 Mexican miss
- 47 Showroom
- 48 One of three rulers
- 49 Paradise
- 50 Tree fluid
- 51 Harmonization
- 8 Start the PC up again
- 9 Bread spread
- 10 Savings institution
- 11 Make — meet
- 13 Faction
- 19 Prejudice
- 20 Tavern
- 21 Line of symmetry
- 22 — gin fizz
- 23 Stop, at sea
- 25 Hints at
- 26 Shrek is one
- 27 Bellow
- 29 Medal earner
- 31 Coloring agent
- 33 Idea
- 34 Gas bill units
- 36 Command-ment starter
- 37 Commanded
- 38 On the rocks
- 39 Chess or checkers
- 40 Use scissors
- 43 Historic time
- 44 Wall climber
- 45 Can metal
- 46 Joan of —
- DOWN
- 1 Wife of Saturn
- 2 Raw rock
- 3 Buddhist sect
- 4 Mansion and its surroundings
- 5 Sleeping
- 6 Opposed
- 7 Outer

MAGIC MAZE

WORDS TYPED WITH ONLY THE MIDDLE AND INDEX FINGERS

X E V R O L I F C Z W T Q F N

K I G F C Z W D N D U B R E T

P M J U H E C Y E E U Z R N X

U S Q N F M C E L R H E E C J

G E C Z X I D V E U D C T E T

R P N L U N R H N N E N T V J

H E C J I I C T U R D A U I Y

W V T R P M R H N N L U B H K

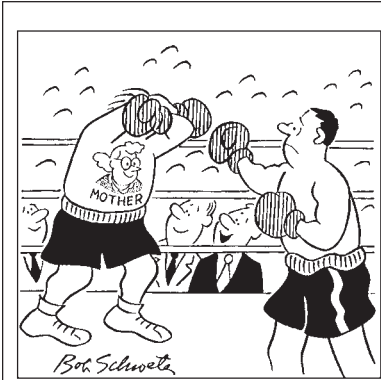
K I G E B U T C H E R C R E B

Z X W U E M E V I T C E F E D

S R P O M L J I G E D B A B Y

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

- Beehive
- Butcher
- Butter
- Centrifuge
- Cherub
- Defective
- Endure
- Fence
- Hundred
- Indeed
- Kitchen
- Minimum
- Recent
- Thunder
- Untrue



"It's going to be tough getting through his _____!"
Answer on page 31

SCRAMBLERS

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

Solid
NEEDS

Novelty
FILTER

Soft
LEGENT

Flood
TRENTOR

TODAY'S WORD

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

SUDOKU

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

Answer on page 28

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Apron is longer. 2. Earmuffs are removed. 3. Fence is shorter. 4. Door window is lower. 5. Footprint is missing. 6. Bow is added.



Strawberry and Citrus Shortcake

2 Oranges, zested and juiced (3 tablespoons juice total)
1 pound strawberries, sliced
4 tablespoons natural sugar, divided
2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
1 stick unsalted butter, slightly melted and cooled
1 cup milk plus 2 tablespoons
1 tablespoon baking powder
Pinch of sea salt
½ teaspoon fresh ground pepper
1 cup heavy cream
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 tablespoons confectioners' sugar
Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Combine flour, 2 tablespoons sugar, baking powder and a pinch of salt in a medium bowl. Next add melted butter, 1 cup milk, 1 tablespoon orange zest and 1 tablespoon orange juice. Stir until combined, do not over mix. Drop by generous tablespoonful onto parchment-lined baking sheet. Brush tops with milk and sprinkle remaining sugar on each biscuit. Bake for 12-15 minutes or until cooked thoroughly. Remove from oven and set aside to cool slightly.

In a small sauce pot combine strawberries, 2 tablespoons orange juice, ground pepper and cornstarch. Bring to boil and reduce to simmer for 5 minutes, or until slightly thickened, stirring frequently. Remove from heat and set



Strawberry and Citrus Shortcake

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

aside to cool slightly. Using a whisk or hand mixer beat together cream, vanilla, and confectioners' sugar until stiff peaks form. Assemble shortcake by cutting a biscuit in half and topping with strawberry compote and whipped cream.*

Redfish Pass Tides					Point Ybel Tides					Punta Rassa Tides					Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	5:00 am	10:16 am	4:45 pm	11:49 pm	Fri	4:05 am	10:18 am	3:50 pm	11:51 pm	Fri	5:08 am	10:35 am	4:52 pm	11:56 pm	Fri	7:10 am	1:43 am	6:55 pm	1:32 pm
Sat	6:44 am	10:40 am	5:26 pm	None	Sat	5:49 am	10:42 am	4:31 pm	None	Sat	6:27 am	11:17 am	5:41 pm	None	Sat	8:54 am	3:05 am	7:36 pm	1:56 pm
Sun	6:17 pm	1:19 am	None	None	Sun	5:22 pm	1:21 am	None	None	Sun	7:47 am	1:19 am	6:47 pm	12:49 pm	Sun	8:27 pm	4:35 am	None	None
Mon	7:23 pm	2:45 am	None	None	Mon	6:28 pm	2:47 am	None	None	Mon	10:55 am	2:27 am	7:55 pm	2:09 pm	Mon	9:33 pm	6:01 am	None	None
Tue	8:38 pm	3:56 am	None	None	Tue	7:43 pm	3:58 am	None	None	Tue	11:41 am	3:27 am	9:04 pm	3:12 pm	Tue	10:48 pm	7:12 am	None	None
Wed	9:48 pm	4:52 am	None	None	Wed	8:53 pm	4:54 am	None	None	Wed	12:02 pm	4:25 am	10:11 pm	4:11 pm	Wed	11:58 pm	8:08 am	None	None
Thu	1:34 pm	5:38 am	10:47 pm	4:16 pm	Thu	12:39 pm	5:40 am	9:52 pm	4:18 pm	Thu	12:18 pm	5:16 am	11:02 pm	5:04 pm	Thu	3:44 pm	8:54 am	None	7:32 pm

SUPER CROSSWORD

P	A	S	S	T	I	M	E		B	E	A	N	B	A	G	S		P	G	S
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[illegible]

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

1. **Literature:** Which novel introduced the character of Lisbeth Salander?
2. **Movies:** What was the name of Bill Murray's character in the 1984 *Ghostbusters* film?
3. **History:** Roughly how many people migrated from drought-stricken Dust Bowl states in the United States in the 1930s?
4. **Entertainment:** What was the title of the first arcade video game?
5. **Famous Quotations:** Which American humorist once observed, "In the spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours"?
6. **Music:** Which 1980s movie featured the theme song *Don't You (Forget About Me)* by Simple Minds?
7. **Television:** What was the name of Michael Knight's car on the series *Knight Rider*?
8. **Geography:** Which country lies between India and China?
9. **Psychology:** What fear is represented in the condition called "heliophobia"?
10. **General Knowledge:** What is the name of the pound sign on a keyboard?

1. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* 2. Dr. Peter Venkman 3. About 2.5 million 4. Pong 5. Mark Twain 6. *The Breakfast Club* 7. KITT (Knight Industries Two Thousand) 8. Nepal 9. Fear of the sun 10. Octothorpe

FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17, 2020

Aries (March 21 to April 19) Your natural Arian leadership qualities make you the person others will follow in tackling that important project. But don't get so involved in the work that you neglect your personal life.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Aspects favor sorting through your possessions, both at work and at home, to start giving away what you don't use, don't need or don't like. Relax later with someone special.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) The issues are not quite as clear as they should be. That's why you need to avoid getting involved in disputes between colleagues at work or between relatives or personal friends.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) You'll get lots of support from others if you own up to your mistake quickly and include a full and honest explanation. Learn from this experience so that you don't repeat it.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) There might be some early confusion over a major move, whether it's at work or at home. But once you get a full breakdown of what it entails, it should be easier to deal with. Good luck.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22)
Creating order out of chaos, even in the most untidy spaces, should be no problem for organized Virgos. So go ahead and do it, and then accept praise from impressed colleagues.

Libra (September 23 to October 22)
Whether it's for business purposes or

just for leisure, a trip might be just what you need right now. You would benefit both from a change of scenery and from meeting new people.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) While things generally go well this week, a romantic situation seems to have stalled. But you can restart it if you want to. Then again, maybe this is a chance to reassess the situation.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) A meeting that was promised quite a while back could finally happen. So be sure you're prepared with everything you'll need to make your case sound convincing and doable.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) A workplace blunder could create a problem down the line unless you deal with it right now to see how and why it happened. Don't be surprised at what you might learn.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) This is a good time to re-sort your priorities and see if adjustments are called for. Be honest with yourself as you decide what to keep, what to discard and what to change.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Letting yourself be bathed in the outpouring of love and support from those who care for you will help you get through a difficult period sooner rather than later. Good luck.

Born This Week: You have an uncanny gift for reaching out to all people and creating bridges of

MOMENTS IN TIME

- On Feb. 22, 1732, George

Washington is born in Westmoreland County, Virginia. As leader of the Continental Army in the American Revolution, his success was due in part to his shrewd use of the “ungentlemanly,” but effective, tactic of guerrilla warfare against British armies used to close-formation battle-line warfare.

- On Feb. 19, 1878, the technology that made possible the modern music business comes into existence in a New Jersey laboratory as Thomas Edison creates the first device to both record sound and play it back: the phonograph.

- On Feb. 18, 1885, Mark Twain publishes his famous – and famously controversial – novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Twain first introduced Huck Finn as the best friend of Tom Sawyer, hero of his novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876).

- On Feb. 17, 1947, with the words, "Hello! This is New York calling," the U.S. *Voice of America* begins transmitting its radio broadcasts into the Soviet Union. The VOA began in 1942 as a radio program designed to explain America's policies during World War II and to bolster the morale of its allies.

- On Feb. 23, 1958, Formula One champion Juan Manuel Fangio of Argentina is kidnapped in Cuba by a group of Fidel Castro's rebels. Fangio was taken from his Havana hotel the day before the Cuba Grand Prix and was released unharmed after the race ended.

- On Feb. 21, 1970, national security adviser Henry Kissinger

continued on page 31

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THE RIVER
 WEEKLY NEWS
 FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS



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COVE CONDOMINIUM
OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff vs.
RICHARD O. CHILDRESS and TERRI A.
CHILDRESS, Defendants.
ST – 19 – CV 129
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Within the time limited by law (see
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and in case of your failure to appear or
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against you as demanded
in the Complaint, for
DEBT, FORECLOSURE OF LIEN AND
BREACH OF CONTRACT.

Witness my hand and the Seal of this Court
this 10th day of January, 2020.
ESTRELLA H. GEORGE
Clerk of the Court
By:Donavan Donovan
Deputy Clerk
By: Matthew J. Duensing, Esq.
Attorney for Plaintiff,
Frenchman's Cove Condominium
Owners' Association, Inc.
Law Offices of Duensing & Casner
9800 Buccaneer Mall, Bldg. 2, Suite 9
P.O. Box 6785
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00804

NOTE: This defendant, if served
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or other defenses with the Clerk of this
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the plaintiff's attorney within twenty one
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excluding the date of service. The
defendant, if served by publication or by
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completion of the period of publication or
personal service outside of the jurisdiction.
2/14 ★ 3/6

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From page 28

Moments In Time

begins secret peace talks with North Vietnamese representative Le Duc Tho at a villa outside Paris. The North Vietnamese were demanding an unconditional U.S. withdrawal on a fixed date.

- On Feb. 20, 1998, American Tara Lipinski wins the gold medal in women's figure skating at the Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan, becoming the sport's youngest gold medalist at age 15.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was American humorist Evan Esar who came up the following definition: "Statistics: The only science that enables different experts using the same figures to draw different conclusions."
- The Emperor Charlemagne, who conquered much of Western and Central Europe during the first century, had an unusual relationship with his daughters. He refused to allow them to get married, but he evidently had no objections to their forming, shall we say, less formal relationships. He doted on his illegitimate grandchildren and even gave money and gifts to their fathers.
- If you look at a list of the names of the 50 states, you'll find every letter of the alphabet except Q.
- For reasons unknown, a law in New Jersey forbids the sale of cabbage on Sunday.
- You won't be surprised to learn that the most dangerous device that is common in the modern world is the automobile. You might be surprised to learn, though, that the second most dangerous is the stair step.
- You've probably never heard of Countess Rosa Branicka, but she accomplished an amazing feat. In the mid-19th century, at the age of 63, the wealthy Polish noblewoman became

SCRAMBLERS

1. Dense; 2. Trifle;
3. Gentle; 4. Torrent

Today's Word

DEFENSE

ill. The diagnosis given by experts in Germany was breast cancer, and immediate surgery was recommended. For reasons unknown, the countess declined the treatment, then set about purchasing her own surgical instruments. Once all the tools were assembled, Branicka checked into a hotel in Paris and removed the tumor herself. Reports indicate that she healed well and quickly, and lived to the ripe old age of 82.

- The only chemical element that is not a solid at a temperature of absolute zero is helium; it remains a liquid.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"One glance at a book and you hear the voice of another person, perhaps someone dead for 1,000 years. To read is to voyage through time. – Carl Sagan

Online Security Protects From Cyber Thieves

The theft of credit and debit card numbers should make everyone, including students, more careful about protecting their money from cyber thieves. The following measures can help, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

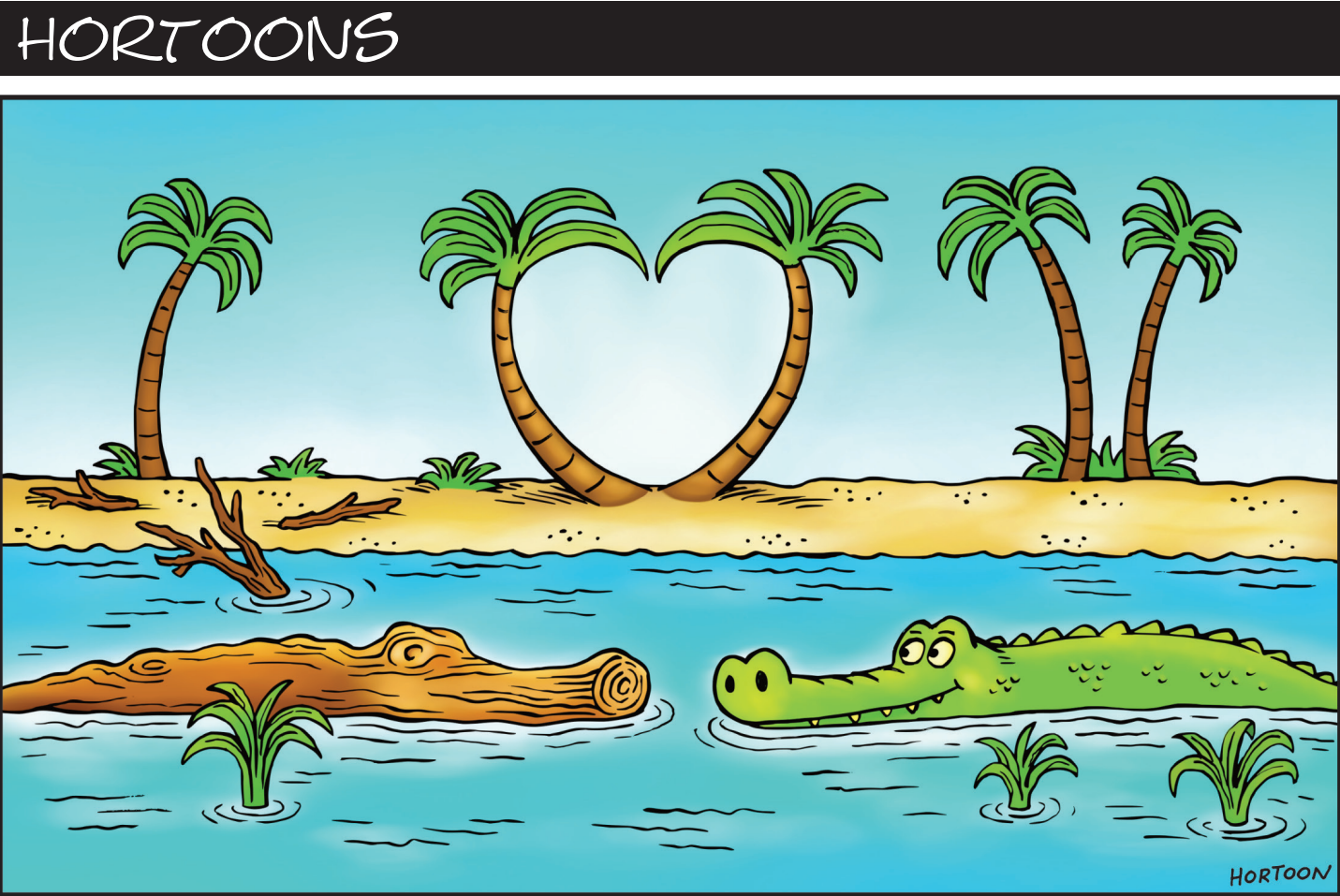
Never provide your Social Security, bank account or credit card number in response to a phone call, text or email. If you get a text or email from a bank or company, don't click on any link in the message. It may lead you to a fake

site run by thieves hoping you'll enter personal information, or it may install spyware or malware on your phone or computer. Instead, sign in through the website you normally use when you do business with that firm.

Never provide bank, credit card or other sensitive data on a website that doesn't explain how your information will be protected, including encryption to safely transmit and store data.

When you use your ATM or debit card, make sure no one can see your PIN. Check ATMs for obvious signs of tampering or for a skimming device.

Install a free or low-cost firewall to stop intruders from gaining remote access to your devices. Download and update security patches offered by your system and software vendors to correct weaknesses that could be exploited.✱



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Sanibel Isles	Sanibel	2018	4,530	\$4,395,000	\$3,950,000	127
Bay Woods	Bonita Springs	2015	4,207	\$3,495,000	\$3,200,000	43
Tuscany Isle	Bonita Springs	2006	5,992	\$2,495,000	\$2,100,000	40
Summerfield	Estero	2001	3,358	\$1,249,900	\$1,100,000	117
Willow Walk	Estero	2002	3,618	\$1,199,000	\$1,135,000	33
Beachview Country Club Estates	Sanibel	1999	2,980	\$1,074,900	\$1,056,000	3
Hérons Landings I	Sanibel	2001	2,820	\$975,000	\$955,000	49
Banyan Cove	Estero	2004	3,127	\$899,900	\$850,000	438
Wildcat Run	Estero	1996	3,063	\$895,000	\$836,000	0
Palm Acres	Fort Myers	2009	3,036	\$799,900	\$770,000	33



Randy Wayne White

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