



THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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VOL. 20, No. 22

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

MAY 28, 2021

Earth-Friendly Exhibitions At Davis Art Center

The Sidney and Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC) will host opening night receptions for the 13th annual June juried art show, Recaptured, in the Grand Atrium and a fiber art show, Save the Reef, in the Capital Gallery on Friday, June 4 from 6 to 10 p.m. The receptions will take place during Art Walk.

The world generates at least 3.5 million tons of plastic and other solid waste a day, 10 times the amount of a century ago. The U.S. is the king of trash, producing a world-leading 250 million tons a year – roughly 4.4 pounds of trash per person per day. This year's artist challenge was focused on "recapturing" that waste and turning it into a desirable piece of art. Cash prizes, the winner for Best In Show and the SBDAC pick will be announced at



Recaptured is an exhibition where trash is turned into artwork

image provided

7:30 p.m. during the opening night. The People's Choice Award will be announced during the Dueling Pianos event on Friday, June 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Save the Reef is an international effort presented by a team of fiber artists who share an interest in educating the public about the need to conserve and

preserve the fragile ocean environment. The artists are offering an interactive three-dimensional exhibit surrounding the attendees with texture and color. The art communicates messages intended to stimulate discussion and promote action needed to protect the environment for future generations.

Sidney's Sculpture Garden and reception area will be open to the public during Art Walk from 6 p.m. to midnight. Dance from 8 to 11 p.m. on the rooftop with DJ Selecta AJ.

Mangroves as Poetry, an evening of poetry presented by Zan Lombardo, in conjunction with the Save the Reef exhibit, will change the audience perspective on mangroves. This will take place free to the public in the Grand Atrium on Tuesday, June 8 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Both exhibitions will be on display through Thursday, June 24.

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



A bobcat gets attention at The Conservancy of Southwest Florida's von Arx Wildlife Hospital photos provided

Virtual Wildlife Baby Shower At The Conservancy

Baby season in Southwest Florida is in full swing. Each spring, the longer days and warming temperatures trigger many native animals to begin breeding and nesting.

This increase in activity results in a surge in admissions to the Conservancy

of Southwest Florida's von Arx Wildlife Hospital in Naples, where animal admissions double during spring and summer months.

The von Arx Wildlife Hospital, which treats injured, sick and orphaned animals, is hosting a virtual Wildlife Hospital Baby Shower on Saturday, June 5 to help raise awareness and support for its youngest patients.

Contributors are encouraged to visit www.conservancy.org to learn about the hospital and how staff members treat over 4,000 patients per year. With a 27



A great horned owl is renested with help from Brian Beckner

percent increase in admissions compared to this time last year, the team is hard at work caring for each and every patient. The hospital team is requesting baby shower donations of food, vitamins, husbandry items and household supplies, as well as monetary donations. Gifts can be donated online through the Conservancy's Amazon Wish List.

"The von Arx Wildlife Hospital team's dedication to caring for any mammal, bird or reptile is beyond compare. While baby animals require extensive time and focus, there is nothing more rewarding than raising the myriad of young wild animal babies admitted every year," said Joanna Fitzgerald, director of the

wildlife hospital. "The wildlife hospital baby shower is a unique opportunity to showcase how we're providing the best care possible while helping community members learn how they can help."

The gift registry is listed online at www.conservancy.org/BabyShower.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, the Conservancy relies on donations to provide items that are essential to patient care, ranging from food and medicine to medical equipment and cleaning supplies.

Learn more about the Conservancy's work and how to support the quality of life in Southwest Florida at www.conservancy.org.✧

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Before The Bradford



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

This historic photo, which was probably taken in fall 1904, gives a rare up-close view of the rustic business district pre-Bradford Hotel.

First Street is mostly overrun with vegetation, the sidewalks are mere dirt paths, and a concrete drinking trough stands in the middle of the intersection (in oval).

Downtown consists of frame structures – with one exception, the 1898 brick Heitman Building down at the Jackson corner (beneath arrow).

Despite its deterioration, the photo is particularly valuable for the clear view of the William Marion Hendry general store (just left of center) on the northeast corner of First and Hendry.

The one-story white wood frame structure was built soon after Hendry’s family arrived in Fort Myers in 1873, along with his brother, Capt. Francis A. Hendry, later known as “the father of Fort Myers.”

That business, established as Frierson & Hendry general store, played important roles in the town’s mercantile history, and even in the history of the post office and library system too.

The store served as the town’s first official post office when Hendry was appointed postmaster in 1876, a position he held for three years.

Because of that appointment, Hendry’s store was involved in one of the best-known feuds in local lore. Prior to Hendry becoming a paid postmaster, Jehu J. Blount had served as an unofficial, unpaid postmaster in his own general store located opposite on the northeast corner (barrel cistern on roof).

The rivalry, coupled with future appointments, resulted in the post office



Just left of center is the building where William Marion Hendry and Maj. Aaron Frierson started one of the town’s first general stores in the early 1870s. This photo was probably taken in fall 1904, just before Harvie E. Heitman built the first phase of the Bradford Hotel. Far left is the Jehu J. Blount store, barrel cistern atop it.

photo courtesy Bill Turner Collection at Southwest Florida Historical Society



Long gone are the wood frame general stores, drinking trough and dirt streets

photo by Gerri Reaves

ping-ponging across Hendry a couple of times.

Fast-forward to fall 1904. Harvie E. Heitman is making plans for the construction of the Bradford Hotel on the northeast corner. The tenants have to vacate and the store must be moved.

The final tenants were a cigar store in the front and, in the rear, the Woman’s Club Reading Room, which had opened there in March 1903. That room is considered the beginning of the Fort Myers Public Library, eventually evolving into today’s vast Lee County Library System.

Just after the historic photo was taken, construction of the first phase of the Bradford began. It opened in November 1905. Three stories high and constructed with Chattanooga-pressed brick, it would be the second brick structure in town.

As for the old store, Heitman incorporated it into the Bradford project. He moved it northward and, after the hotel was completed, raised the store to two floors and connected it to the rear of the hotel via a second-floor walkway.

The upper floor was used as quarters for “colored servants,” as noted on a 1908 insurance map.

Walk to First and Hendry and imagine the intersection before the Bradford.

Then visit the following research centers to learn more about how Heitman relentlessly modernized downtown.

Hours might be affected by the coronavirus pandemic, so call first.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization open Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon. 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.leeconomyblackhistorysociety.org.

Visit the IMAG History & Science Center at 2000 Cranford Avenue or at www.theimag.org.

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

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THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS



Publix Serves Day turned into Publix Serves Week this year

photo provided

Store Employees Give Back To The Community

Publix Serves Day is a company-wide effort that involves Publix store associates in a variety of volunteer work. While Publix associates give back individually throughout the year, associates look forward to helping their communities and team building with fellow employees within their respective districts to help change lives. COVID-19 has changed the way this yearly event takes place. This year has turned Publix Serves Day into Publix Serves Week.

Publix associates from several different stores were given different days in which to help the community. Several did Days of Caring with different United Way (UW) agencies throughout Lee County. Publix Store 1564 helped UW Partner Agency Midwest Food Bank by participating in their "Load Out Day." Volunteers helped prep food orders and loaded vehicles with food. Publix Store 162 assisted UW Partner Lehigh Community Services by sprucing up their parking lot with lines and arrows in order to easier direct traffic.

Several Publix stores provided help with the United Way Gifts In Kind

Warehouse. The United Way Gifts in Kind program accepts donations from the community and distributes them to local non-profits in need of the items.

Publix Serves Day honors Publix founder George Jenkins, who believed in giving back to the community, and Publix employees are still carrying on the tradition. Brian West, Publix spokesperson, said, "We have the greatest associates. Every day, they give back to their communities in so many great ways. Publix Serves is an opportunity for them to do something together, and meet the needs of organizations in a big way."

"Publix has a strong corporate culture of giving back to the community. Publix associates make a difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community by volunteering for various projects through Publix Serves and United Way Days of Caring. Thank you, Publix, for giving back to our community," said Jeannine Joy, president and CEO of United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee.

The United Way's Day of Caring is a year-round program, coordinated by the United Way Volunteer Center, which matches businesses' desires to help with the needs of the community.

For more information, call 433-7567, or visit www.unitedwaylee.org/volunteer.*

Theater Adjusts To New Mask Policy

Broadway Palm has adjusted its mask policy after the new guidelines were released from the CDC. The theater reopened in August 2020 with numerous health and safety policies in place. Since then, they have been very diligent in following CDC guidelines and adjusting policies when appropriate.

With the opening of *Beehive: the 60s Musical* on May 27, Broadway Palm is no longer requiring face masks or face coverings for patrons that are fully vaccinated. The theatre is requesting that anyone that is not fully vaccinated continue to wear a face covering while

not eating or drinking. The mask policy will not change for Broadway Palm employees; they will continue to wear face masks until further notice.

Broadway Palm will maintain other health and safety measures such as operating at a reduced capacity and increased cleaning and sanitizing practices. For a list of current procedures, visit www.broadwaypalm.com.

Beehive: the 60s Musical is playing at Broadway Palm through June 26. Performances are Wednesday through Sunday evenings with selected matinees. Tickets are \$48 to \$73. Children and group prices are available. For reservations, call 278-4422, visit www.broadwaypalm.com or drop by 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.*

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New playground equipment in Harlem Heights

photos provided

Rotary Helps Build New Playground In Harlem Heights

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers South partnered with Habitat for Humanity on a playground installation service project in Harlem Heights. This two-day project involved volunteers focusing on equipment assembly one day and volunteers installing the previously assembled equipment the next day. “A central focus of Rotary is to help our communities and create goodwill

through fellowship,” said Suzi Ward, Rotary Club of Fort Myers South Club president. “Our club is passionate about making the world a better place for everyone, both locally and globally. We support a variety of service projects, and our members were excited to get hands-on with this particular project last weekend.” “Habitat for Humanity exists in more than 70 countries across the globe,” said Habitat Lee and Hendry Vice President of Strategic Partnerships Vince Modarelli. “Our connection with Rotary Club of Fort Myers South is the local embodiment of a global partnership that improves



Rotarians taking part in the project

the quality of life for families all over the world.” Rotary Club of Fort Myers South has more than 95 members among the 1.3 million Rotarians worldwide. Service Above Self is the motto of Rotary International, which has contributed more than \$1.2 billion and tens of thousands of volunteer hours toward polio eradication in addition to projects such as water quality, world peace and literacy. Rotary Club of Fort Myers South meetings are held each Monday at noon at the Crowne Plaza Fort Myers at Bell Tower Shops hotel at 13051 Bell Tower Drive. Visit www.rotaryfmsouth.org to learn

about all the Rotary Club of Fort Myers South’s initiatives to promote community stewardship. For more information on Habitat for Humanity, visit www.habitat4humanity.org.

Dean’s List

Taylor Floethe of Fort Myers has been named to the dean’s list for the spring 2021 semester at Belmont University. Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

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Loan Borrowers Need To Prepare For Repayment

Students who have borrowed federal loans to help pay for college and are finishing their schooling must take exit counseling to prepare for repaying those loans. That goes for student borrowers who are completing degrees, diplomas and certificates, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

Exit counseling gives students the information they need to learn about staying on track with loan repayments after college, so that they can continue to pursue their goals. The counseling also helps students learn what to do if they have trouble making their payments.

Deferments and forbearances let students stop making payments temporarily if they qualify. Most federal student loan payments are in forbearance at least through September 30, because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The U.S. Department of Education assigns student loans to one of eight loan servicers.

Servicers not only collect payments but will also help students pick the loan repayment option that best fits students’ needs. Students should keep in touch with their servicer to make sure the repayment process goes smoothly.

For more information, visit www.advantageeducationloan.com.

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Fort Myers Film Festival Winners

The 11th annual Fort Myers Film Festival (FMFF) concluded May 16 with an awards ceremony and after-party that was held in the new sculptural garden atop the historic Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center. While every film and filmmaker who made it into the festival was a winner just by virtue of being screened, the Fort Myers Film Festival awarded “best of” in several categories, as follows:

Best Feature went to *Pooling to Paradise*, an 85-minute comedy written and co-produced by Caytha Jentis that opened this year’s festival on Wednesday night. Directed by Roxy Shih, the 85-minute feature stars Lynn Chen (*Saving Face*, *Go Back To China*), Jonathan Lipnicki (*The Resident*, *Jerry Maguire*), Dreama Walker (*Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*, *Gran Torino*), comedian Jordan Carlos (*Broad City*, *Guy Code*, *Girl Code*) and Taryn Manning (*Orange Is the New Black*, *Hustle & Flow*). The film is about “the power to forgive and selflessness to accept and honor all kinds of love – romantic, familial, friend and of oneself,” notes Jentis.

Best Short went to *About Frances*, which was written, directed and co-produced by former FMFF intern and NYU Tisch School of the Arts graduate Jordan Axelrod. “*About Frances* examines the act of storytelling in the



From left, Leslie Cimen, Eric Raddatz and Caytha Jentis photo provided

face of a slippery truth, an unheard song and the extent to which one can directly shape their own legacy,” said Axelrod. This is Axelrod’s fourth entry into the festival.

Best Short Short honors went to *Hot Dog Steering Wheel* by LA filmmaker Meg Favreau, who describes herself as an absurdist comedian grounded in emotion. Her film is about hot dogs, family and the grieving process. “I believe life is both absurdly funny and brutally difficult – often at the same time,” said Favreau. She was one of four writers selected for the 2017 Screenwriters Colony for

Episodic Comedy, and she also has an extensive background in sketch comedy, performing on and writing for teams at the UCB and iO, as well as the independent team Meg & Rob.

Best Local Film honors went to Director Peter Alexander’s *The Last Weekend*, which follows a group of longtime friends who gather following their college graduation for an impromptu party during the final weekend before setting out on their lives. Some will embark on new careers. Other will journey to new places. And still others will meet a completely unexpected future. Alexander also stars in the film along with Gabriela Adarve, Joshua Adorno, Tom Alexander and Johnathan Bezanis.

Best Environmental Film went to *The Wild Divide*. Directed by Eric Bendick and Danny Schmidt, *The Wild Divide* is denoted by exceptional production value (including breathtaking macro and micro cinematography and crystal clear studio-quality sound) and thought-provoking content that makes a strong argument for preserving and protecting the Florida Wildlife Corridor along the Lake Wales Ridge, an ancient ribbon of sand dunes that is a hotspot for biodiversity found nowhere else in the world. “We’re grateful and energized that so many Floridians are coming to understand the need for large-scale habitat connectivity,” said Florida Wildlife Corridor Communications Director Nicole Brand.

FMFF’s choice for Best Student Film was *Painting by Numbers*, in

which Director Radheya Jegatheva asks whether we realize that when we look at great art it is looking back at us with eyes that see more clearly than we do. In this whimsical journey through the masterpieces we thought we knew, shadows of the past and unsolved futures collide when a child’s vision peels away the layers we call reality. Jegatheva was a Curtin University student at the time he created the film, which was produced by Matt Hearn and Jay Jay Jegathesan with music & sound design by Steeve Body.

Best Documentary honors went to *The Lost Film of Nuremberg* by Jean-Christophe Klotz, which made its U.S. premiere at the Fort Myers Film Festival. The documentary details how Sandra Schulberg and Josh Waletzky painstakingly restored Stuart Schulberg’s 1948 film *Nuremberg: Its Lesson for Today*, which details how the Nuremberg prosecutors used the Nazis own propaganda films to win convictions of 21 high-ranking Nazi officials and officers in the wake of World War II. The documentary didn’t just win critical acclaim from the Fort Myers Film Festival, the film and Klotz also received a standing ovation from the FMFF crowd upon its completion.

The Fort Myers Film Festival also bestowed Lifetime Achievement in Filmmaking Awards to K.C. Schulberg and Sandra Schulberg, and a Humanitarian Award to death camp liberator, author and poet Robert Hilliard.

For more information, visit www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com.*

Junior Achievement Receives Grant

Junior Achievement (JA) of Southwest Florida recently received a \$15,000 grant from the Truist Foundation to help further its work and career readiness programs for middle and high school students throughout Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties.

“Junior Achievement helps young people create successful futures by giving them the skills and knowledge to be successful in the world of work,” said Angela Fisher, president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida. “We are so grateful that the Truist Foundation supports our mission to teach and shape the next generation of business leaders.”

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida partners with classroom

business volunteers to deliver lessons on financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship to students at both public and private schools as well as after school programs and special at-risk groups. The organization is currently preparing for its second and third JA Inspire events, which provide eighth graders the rare opportunity to explore potential career paths and connect with local employers for the high-wage and high-demand jobs in their community.

“This partnership with Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida will put Truist’s purpose into practice,” said Jason Brewer, Lee and Charlotte Counties market president for Truist on behalf of Truist Foundation. “Investing in our children and young adults today will guide them to a path of success and well-being tomorrow.”

To learn more about Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida and its programs, visit www.jaswfl.org, call 225-2590, or email info@jaswfl.org.*

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Fort Myers Art:

Alliance Show Celebrates Inclusiveness



by Tom Hall
The Alliance for the Arts' June exhibition, Voices and Visions, will be presented in partnership with Arts4All Florida, which provides support and champion arts education and

cultural experiences for and by people with disabilities. The exhibition will feature adult artists of all abilities sharing their personal voice or statement through text and imagery as a means to celebrate inclusiveness.

The Alliance will host an online virtual opening reception via Zoom on Friday, June 4 at 6 p.m. The behind-the-scenes evening will feature a guided tour of the exhibit.

The reception is free to attend, although a \$5 suggested donation keeps Alliance programming affordable and accessible. An RSVP is required at www.artinlee.org/arts4alopening to obtain the access link.

The exhibition runs from Friday, June 4 through Saturday, June 26. The Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091



Arts4All Florida is partnering in the Alliance for the Arts June exhibition

image courtesy www.arts4allfl.com

McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.artinlee.org or call 939-2787.

Planet Preservation Referenced For Billboard Artwork

Susi Wingenroth is one of five artists juried into this year's Alliance for the Arts Art Lives Here Billboard Campaign. The work that will be coming to a billboard near you is titled *Frame of Reference*.

"This painting shows the morning sun radiating through the cypress trees in the wild heart of the wetlands," said Wingenroth. "It is intended as a call to those who see it to enjoy, care for and preserve these wild places. When we look up from our busy lives and notice our

home, beautiful living planet earth, we see a frame of reference for making healthier choices to preserve the planet for all living beings and for future generations."

Wingenroth is a Lee County School District arts educator. Prior to her current post, she taught art at Canterbury School from May 2006 through August 2016 and Renaissance School from August 2001 through June 2016. She has her bachelor of arts degree in fine and studio arts from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland.

Frame of Reference also represents an organic expression of Wingenroth's focus on balance and maintaining a sense of natural equanimity through life's ups and downs as both a yoga practitioner and instructor. But she has found a way to combine the discipline of yoga with her passion for dance, particularly African dance, belly dance and Indian dance styles. Called Bellyfit, this synthesis focuses on deep core muscles, which is crucial for proper alignment and strengthening of the back and pelvic floor.

"Bellyfit brings all of these parts of my life together in such a beautiful way," Wingenroth said. "Bellyfit combines dance with yoga for a safe and very effective holistic workout that nourishes body, mind and spirit. I was hooked

from the first time I tried it!"

Lively Dance Expressed In Describing Billboard Artwork

Bruce MacKechnie is one of five artists juried into this year's Alliance for the Arts Art Lives Here Billboard Campaign. The work that will be coming to a billboard near you is titled *Fandiggity Fandango*, which possesses in the words of the artist "an exuberance and rhythm that seemed to express some sort of lively, joyful dance, hence the title."

"I am inspired by the challenge of translating a composition created with mouse clicks into the physical world of paint strokes," MacKechnie amplifies. "As subject matter, I am interested in how pure abstraction is so wide open to interpretation. For this reason, I enjoy playing around with shapes, colors and compositions to see what comes out of the process – especially surprises and unforeseen meanings."

Last year, MacKechnie's painting *Jazz Dreamscape* was juried into the Art Lives Here Billboard Campaign. That work depicted various musicians from the world of jazz, with singer Billie Holiday's face looming largest of all.

"Going to jazz clubs and listening to recordings of various greats like Billy Holiday, Thelonious Monk and many others, I wanted to create an image that captured the dreamy rhythms, the varied and colorful abstract quality of the musical notes, and the range of feelings the music and the artists inspire," said MacKechnie in his artist statement accompanying the work. "My composition is sort of a dream team of jazz greats who have given me, and millions of others, hours of pleasure and entertainment over the years."

He also admits to designing a piece that would view nicely at 55 mph.

MacKechnie told *The News-Press* entertainment writer Charles Runnells last year that he was honored to be chosen for the exhibit and that, "It's something that gives me bragging rights with my friends."

Tom Hall is both an amateur artist and aspiring novelist who writes art quest thrillers. He is in the final stages of completing his debut novel titled *Art Detective*. A former tax attorney, he lives in Estero with his fiancé and their four cats.✴

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Walk-In Availability At Vaccine Clinic

Lee Health is permanently continuing walk-in vaccine availability for the community. Anyone can get a vaccine at no cost to them by visiting the COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Gulf Coast Medical Center. The clinic is open Tuesday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments can also be made by visiting www.leehealth.org.

To further increase availability to the community, Lee Health's vaccine clinic will also be open on Saturday, May 29 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"At Lee Health, we are committed to making sure anyone who wants a COVID-19 vaccine can get one, and that's why we continue to expand availability and increase access of the

vaccine through our community clinic," said Dr. Larry Antonucci, president and chief executive officer of Lee Health. "We urge everyone who is able to get their COVID-19 vaccine to do so as soon as possible."

Lee Health is now offering the opportunity for all patients ages 18 and older to choose which COVID-19 vaccine they receive, based on current availability. Lee Health currently has Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines immediately available for anyone wishing to get vaccinated. Ages 12 to 17 are still only able to receive the Pfizer vaccine and must have a parent with them when they receive their vaccination.

To receive the vaccine, go to the main entrance of Gulf Coast Medical Center and check in at the front desk. Bring personal identification and your insurance card if you have one. There is no cost for the vaccine. A mask is required to enter any Lee Health facility.✴



Danyella Orjuela photos provided



Gabriel Ramirez

Students Make Pledge To Join The Workforce

In 2019, SWFL Inc. approached the School District of Lee County with an idea to help its students celebrate entering the workforce after high school graduation with as much enthusiasm as student-athletes who select a college team, thus a Workforce Signing Day was born.

“There are many good jobs in our region that don’t require a college degree,” said Tiffany Esposito, president and CEO of SWFL Inc. “We’re always looking for creative ideas to bring attention to the variety of career paths available and to celebrate the students who jump into the workforce and take advantage of those opportunities.”

The partnership and several co-hosts – MY Shower Door, D3 Glass and the Lee County Economic Development Council – held the inaugural Workforce Signing Day on May 13. The event hosted nearly two dozen graduating high school seniors from across Lee County who walked up to a stage and signed a certificate with their new employer. Parents, employers, teachers, sponsors and legislators attended the event to cheer on the students.

“This was a wonderful opportunity to recognize and celebrate our seniors



Tiffany Esposito and Nina Barbero of SWFL Inc.

in a new way,” said Kelly Thawley, career specialist with the Career & Technical Education Department at the School District of Lee County. “We’re looking forward to making the event even larger next year.”

For more information about SWFL Inc.’s economic development work, visit www.swflinc.com, or call 992-2943.*

Locals Named To President’s List

Five Southwest Florida residents have been named to the president’s list for the winter 2021 semester at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Michaela Lentz of Cape Coral, Lisa Travis of North Fort Myers, Jeremy Nichols of Fort Myers, Diana Karadas of Fort Myers and Abigail Macdonald of Fort Myers were among the honorees that earned at least a grade-point average of 3.700 while maintaining at least 12 credits

Brittany Annand, a senior interior architecture and design major from Fort

Myers, was among approximately 665 students named to the president’s list for the spring 2021 semester at Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina.

The president’s list recognizes students who earn a 3.75 or higher grade point average for the semester.*

College Graduate

Michael Mondzelewski of Fort Myers received a master of business administration degree from University of Maryland Global Campus in Adelphi, Maryland during a virtual stateside commencement.*

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OBITUARY



BRUCE CAMPBELL AVERY

Bruce Campbell Avery, 81, of Fort Myers, Florida and Norwell, Massachusetts passed away on May 17, 2021 from congestive heart failure and kidney disease. Bruce was born on April 13, 1940 in Quincy, Massachusetts to Roland and Marjorie Avery. He attended Weymouth schools and graduated from Bentley College and the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School.

Bruce enlisted in the U.S. Army

Reserves serving as a chef in the early 1960s. On May 14, 1961, he married Virginia Rosier; they raised three children – Scott, Matt and Dawn – during their 30 years in Norwell. Bruce was a charter member of the United Church of Christ in Norwell; and upon retirement, he and Ginny became members of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ of Sanibel Island, Florida. Bruce held leadership roles in both churches, including deacon, trustee and head usher.

Bruce enjoyed a long, successful career in financial services, first at Putnam Investments and then retiring as COO from Massachusetts Financial Services in 1997. In addition, he was the president of the National Investment Company Service Association (NICS), served on the board of trustees of the South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, Massachusetts, was a member of the board of directors of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and a member of the Florida Lions Association.

The bulk of Bruce's leisure time was spent playing golf at the North Hill Country Club in Duxbury, Massachusetts and Beachview Golf Club on Sanibel, where he built countless meaningful relationships.

In addition to his parents, Bruce was pre-deceased by his brother Albert. He is survived by: Ginny, his loving wife of 60 years; his devoted children Scott (Marlese) of Cary, North Carolina; Matt (Lynda) of Tampa, Florida; and Dawn of Boston, Massachusetts. "Papa's" grandchildren include: Michael, Chris,

Kelly and Nick Avery of Cary, North Carolina; Tim and Jeff Avery of Tampa, Florida; and Rudy and Dante Avery of Boston, Massachusetts. He is also survived by: brothers-in-law Rich (Denise) Rosier of Sarasota, Florida; and Bob Rosier of Post Falls, Idaho; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Bruce's final wishes were to have his remains placed during private services in the Memorial Grounds at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, as well as the Memorial Garden at UCC Norwell.

Memorial donations may be made to: American Heart Association, P.O. Box 78851, Phoenix, AZ 85062-8851; Sanibel Congregational UCC, 2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL, 33957; UCC Norwell, P.O. Box 501, Norwell, MA, 02061; or the charity of your choice.

Family was his first priority, however, those fortunate enough to have known him describe him as loving, loyal, dependable, hard-working, generous and witty. To quote many who know him best, he "made everyone feel special."

The Avery family extends their deepest gratitude to the Arbor staff at Shell Point for the amazing care and kindheartedness Bruce received in his final years. According to those special people and many others, his sense of humor may be his most lasting legacy!

Arrangements courtesy of Hodges-Kiser Funeral Home, Fort Myers, Florida, www.kiserfh.com.

Airport Report
On April Traffic

During April, 1,107,004 passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport in Fort Myers. This was an increase of nearly 2,000 percent compared to April 2020. It is noteworthy that the April 2021 passenger count was only 0.4 percent less than the record-breaking total of 1,111,558 for April 2019. Year-to-date, passenger traffic is up 12 percent compared to last year.

The traffic leader in April was Southwest Airlines with 252,004 total passengers. Rounding out the top five airlines were Delta (170,511), United (133,508), American (132,980) and JetBlue (131,242).

Southwest Florida International Airport had 10,612 aircraft operations, an increase of 206 percent compared to April 2020. Page Field saw 11,915 operations, a 111 percent increase compared to April 2020.

Southwest Florida International Airport served nearly six million passengers in 2020 and is one of the top 50 U.S. airports for passenger traffic. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction.

For more information, visit www.flylcpa.com or www.facebook.com/flyrsw.

Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN
CONGREGATION

Service 9, and 11 a.m. Children's RE, Adult Education Forum 10 a.m., www.allfaiths-uc.org, 2756 McGregor Boulevard, 226-0900.

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE
CATHOLIC

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 10291 Bayshore Road, 599-4023.

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX

Sunday 9 and 10 a.m., www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org, 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-2099.

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.

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.

CHAVURAT SHALOM

For summer (June, July, August) 7:30 p.m. Friday Shabbat services every week. Other programs on vacation. ChavuratShalom@gmail.com.

CHURCH OF THE CROSS

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

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.crownofflifelutheran.com. 5820 Daniels Pkwy, 482-2315.

REDEEMER CHURCH

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 9 and 11 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.

FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST;

Sunday 10 a.m., 8210 College Parkway, 482-3133.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
FORT MYERS

11 a.m. Sunday, www.fpcfortmyers.org, 2438 Second Street, 239-334-2261

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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.

LAMB OF GOD

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

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.

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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 BETH EL 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.tjswf.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.

THOMAS A. EDISON CONGREGATIONAL

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

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.

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Corps Cannot Sacrifice The Caloosahatchee



submitted by James Evans, SCCF Environmental Policy Director

You might as well forget the term “shared adversity.” The Army Corps of Engineers is adopting a new

strategy with the next Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule that should be termed “redistribution of adversity to the Caloosahatchee” instead.

The new Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual or LOSOM, will determine when and how much water is released from the lake and where it goes. One of the corps’ stated goals for LOSOM is to “balance” all project purposes – flood control, water supply for agricultural, urban and environmental uses, navigation, preservation of fish and wildlife, and recreation.

On May 7, the corps presented its so-called “balanced alternatives” to the Project Delivery Team – a group of government and agency stakeholders overseeing the project. The proposals presented were anything but balanced

when it comes to the Caloosahatchee.

Of the five options presented, two would eliminate all flows to the St. Lucie estuary, except when lake levels get above critical levels – resulting in increased high-volume damaging discharges to the Caloosahatchee. One alternative was put together by lobbyists for the Florida Sugar Cane League, labeled the “Lakeside Communities Plan” – need I say more?

The fourth plan would cut back flows to the Caloosahatchee below the minimum needed to sustain the estuary during the dry season, just so water can be held and dumped with toxic algae into the Caloosahatchee in the wet season. The last alternative relies heavily on what the corps calls “operational flexibility,” which is corps-speak for adaptive management.

Over the past couple years, the corps has done a pretty good job by releasing water during the dry season to get water levels low for the wet season. Unfortunately, the LOSOM process has shown that the corps’ decisions are based less on science and more on politics. Given this fact, it may not be in the best interest of our coastal communities and natural systems to depend on the political winds to blow a favorable decision our way.

Balance starts with where we measure flows to the estuaries. The corps’ proposed alternatives would measure flows to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee in different locations with respect to the lake and estuaries. The corps measures

flows to the Caloosahatchee at the Franklin Lock (S-79), at the start of the estuary, when lake levels are low or when conditions are dry.

However, when lake levels are high or conditions are wet, the schedule measures flow at the lake at the Moore Haven Lock (S-77). This is important, because when the corps measures at S-77, the target flows do not include watershed runoff. Yet, in the St. Lucie, all flows are measured at the estuary at the S-80 structure and watershed runoff is included. This inequity allows the corps to send much higher flows to the Caloosahatchee regardless of watershed flows, which can make up half of the damaging water we receive in the estuary.

Since the LOSOM process began,

the City of Sanibel and other west coast stakeholders have urged the corps to address this by measuring all flows at the Franklin Lock.

If the corps is serious about balancing the purposes of LOSOM, it needs to take a long, hard look in the mirror to see if it is doing the work of the people or the work of a few powerful individuals.

It is unacceptable to sacrifice the public resources of the Caloosahatchee and the coastal communities of Lee County to protect other parts of the south Florida water management system.

Founded in 1967, SCCF’s (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation) mission is to protect and care for Southwest Florida’s coastal ecosystems.✧



Members of the Estero Island Garden Club and Town staff work on the demonstration garden

photos provided

Native Plant Demonstration Garden Unveiled

Community organizations joined with Town of Fort Myers Beach staff recently to build a native plant demonstration garden at the corner of Palermo Circle and Estero Boulevard. This is a pilot project proposed by Town Councilor Bill Veach and supported by his colleagues on Town Council.

Members of the Estero Island Garden Club designed and planted the garden, with help from the community for prepping and planting, and will be maintaining it. The garden has 23 different types of plants including bushes, wildflowers and ground covers.

“Our garden aims to inspire and educate the public on the importance of native plants in our landscape,” said Randa Veach, vice president of the Garden Club. “Native plants play a big role in protecting our environment and supporting our native pollinators and wildlife. There will be an educational sign in the garden and labels identifying the plants.”

The Florida Native Plant Society-Coccoloba Chapter provided the plants. A grant through the Mound House from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Planet



The Whale benefits from the demonstration

Stewardship Education Program, secured by Education Coordinator Penny Jarrett, also helped pay for plants. The grant was received in 2019 and provides funds for water quality testing as well as plants.

Several community members worked alongside staff in the Town’s Public Works Department to prepare the site that included digging up and removing concrete, adding and leveling garden soil, and unloading and spreading mulch. On May 6, 21 volunteers installed 213 plants in less than three hours.

Special thanks to Marty Harry of The Whale Restaurant who is providing water for the garden.✧

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CROW Case Of The Week:

Chuck-Will's-Widow



by Bob Petcher

The Chuck-will's-widow (*Antrostomus carolinensis*) is a nocturnal bird that roosts during the day, regularly on the ground. It has a flat head and long wings, and its brownish color

allows it to be well-camouflaged.

At CROW, a nestling Chuck-will's-widow was admitted after it fell from its nest in Lehigh Acres. Upon initial examination, the nestling was in reasonably good body condition with no significant findings. As an apparently healthy orphan, the patient was transferred to rehab for care. The patient was given oral fluids and put on an hourly feeding schedule.

"It is receiving supplemental feeds as it is too young to eat on its own at this point," said CROW Rehabilitation Manager Breanna Frankel. "They are an insectivorous species, meaning they eat insects. Due to it being so young, we are using an insectivore pellet diet created for insectivorous species. The pellets are soaked and softened for added hydration and ease of digestion."



Patient #21-2574 will need to grow and mature prior to release

photo by Haillie Mesics

The young patient has been eating well and maintaining a healthy weight, and its feeding frequency has lightened since intake.

"The feeding schedule was originally every hour from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. – 15 times per day – and has already decreased to every 1.5-hour feeds, 10 times per day," said Frankel. "It is gaining weight appropriately and growing very quickly."

While the patient appears stable, it will remain under close monitoring and continues to receive supportive care.

"The patient will be closely monitored throughout its entire stay at CROW," said Frankel. "The likelihood of an underlying

injury is minimal because this species nests on the ground. They do not build nests, they just deposit the eggs in an area of their choosing, and the young chicks are semi-precocial, meaning after they hatch, they are able to walk within the first day but still require feeding and thermoregulation assistance from the parents.

The nestling probably should have been left alone and not brought to CROW.

"This is likely the case of an 'abducted' animal because this species nests on the ground, not in trees, and the nestlings are able to walk around within a day of hatching. The parents continually care for

the young while they are on the ground until they are able to fly," said Frankel. "Our 'If You Care, Leave It There,' program is crucial for many of our young wildlife species in Southwest Florida. It encourages well-meaning individuals who find babies on the ground to observe the baby and monitor for parents – or call CROW – prior to intervening. Sometimes it may take a parent 15 minutes to find food to bring back to baby, sometimes it may take a couple hours depending on the species. The best thing for young wildlife is to be left wild and raised by their parents – we are not their best option, we are their last option."

Due to its age, the patient will need to stay at CROW or another wildlife rehabilitation center until it is able to fend for itself.

"The nestling is gaining weight quickly and growing quite well. We will continue to monitor its development through the nestling period and continue to wean it onto whole insects," said Frankel. "We will be looking for another Chuck-will's-widow or nightjar species to cohabitate with this one and, when ready, move outside for flight conditioning then consider release, but that may be a month away or so."

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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Wind And More Wind



by Capt.
Matt Mitchell

After yet another week of what seemed like nonstop winds, getting clients out on the water for several days was a tough proposition. Catching snook and redfish in these conditions is possible if you are tucked away, but when your clients have tarpon charters booked, this open water style of fishing is almost impossible.

We had a big high pressure stuck on top of us for an entire week, and winds blew from the east at 20 to 30 mph everyday. I felt so bad for clients that had multiple days booked with us for tarpon fishing this past week. Our conditions went from bad to

worse. When you are making a long trip from out of town to chase tarpon and you get weather like that, it just sucks. No matter how well planned a trip is, it's still up to Mother Nature if you're gonna get a shot at one of these magical fish.

As I'm writing this, it's looking like we will finally get a break from these extreme conditions. Water temperatures have dropped back into the mid 70s, and tarpon have gone back into what seems like an early season pattern. Deeper channels in the southern sound from the causeway and just off the intercoastal were the best bet for anglers soaking cut baits on the bottom. During the choppy conditions, it was hard to spot any fish up on the surface unless they free-jumped or were hooked up.

While set up in a pack of boats in one of the many finger channels between Tarpon Bay and St. James City Saturday, we watched several boats hook up on tarpon. After soaking cut fresh mullet on the bottom, it took us only 10 minutes to get that much-awaited bite. After a crazy drag-screaming, 200-yard first run, we dumped the anchor buoy and gave chase to this jumping tarpon. We ran the boat and finally got some line back on the reel, managing to get this big fish under control. Once the tarpon was at the boat, I got a face grab and removed the circle hook while getting a few quick pictures. I'd estimated the fish to be around 120 pounds. At one point, there where three boats hooked up at the same time. After coming back to our marker buoy, we set up again. As quick as the bite had started, it was done.

With better conditions on the way this week, tarpon fishing should gradually improve. Consistent weather and light winds will give us much better opportunities for catching tarpon again.

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.✪



Mary Laser with her first tarpon of the season

photo provided



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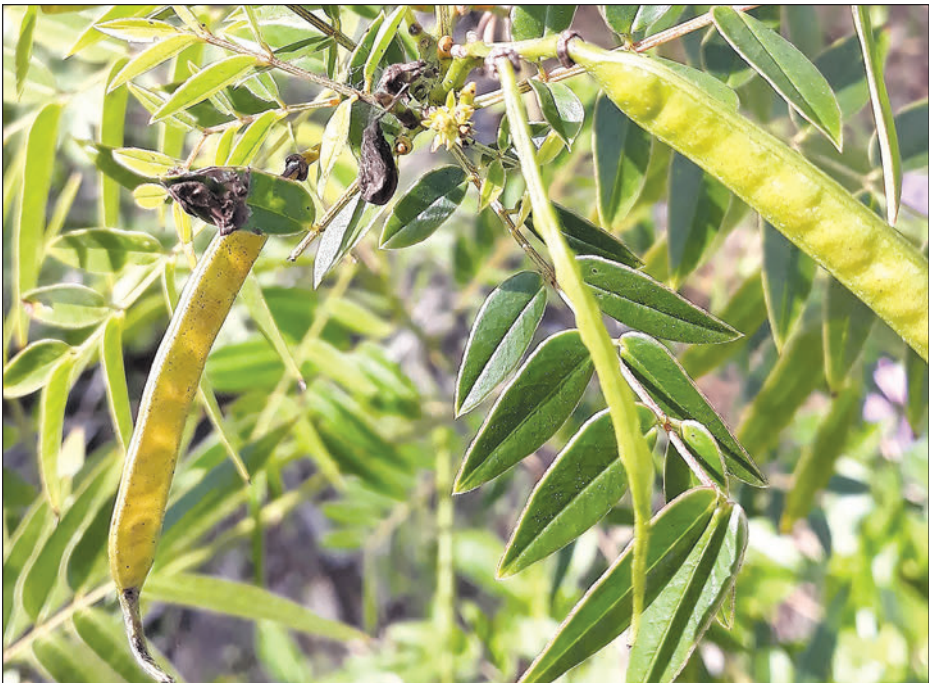
Native privet wild sensitive plant is the larval host plant for the sleepy orange and cloudless sulphur butterflies
photos by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart
Privet Wild Sensitive Plant

by Gerri Reaves

Privet wild sensitive plant (*Senna ligustrina*) is a native shrub of the pea family with attractive foliage and butterfly-attracting showy flowers. It is the larval host plant for the sleepy orange and cloudless sulphur butterflies, as well as the orange-barred sulphur butterfly, which was introduced to the state in the 1920s. Various pollinators visit the flowers, particularly bumblebees.

Other common names are privet senna and privetleaf senna. In the wild, this perennial shrub grows in hammocks, at forest edges and along roadsides. It usually reaches four to eight feet tall with an almost equal width. The bark is dark brown. Evergreen leaves are pinnately compound and have six to 11 pairs of alternate linear pointed leaflets. One odd fact about the plant: glands at the base of the leaves exude a sweet substance that attracts ants that kill caterpillars, thus preventing their consumption of the pretty leaves. Five-petaled flowers appear in open clusters at the branch ends. They are



The fruit is a flat pod butter-yellow, often with brownish dots. They bloom year-round, but more profusely in late spring and early autumn, when the nights are longer, thus the description “short-day plant.” Give this fast grower full sun to partial shade. It tolerates drought very well, but not salt, and prefers well-drained dry or slightly moist sandy soil. It will grow even in nutrient-poor soil, but for best result, give it some organic content. The thin flat pod is about five inches long and brown when mature.

Propagate it with seeds, or let it self-sow, which it readily does. It can be grown in a large container too. Sources: *A Gardener’s Guide to Florida’s Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, *The Shrubs & Woody Vines of Florida* by Gil Nelson, www.flawildflowers.org, www.floridanativegarden.wordpress.com, www.fnps.org, and www.plantbook.org. *Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.**

Board Approves Water Quality Research Project

The Lee Board of County Commissioners has approved an agreement with Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) for a water quality research project at the Boma site in Glades County to test methods for removal of nitrogen from the Caloosahatchee surface waters in order to improve water quality. The project will be funded by a \$180,000 innovative technology grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, which the board

approved on April 6. The research, in partnership with FGCU and the South Florida Water Management District, will take place at the C-43 Water Quality Treatment and Testing Project Boma site in Glades County. In 2007, the Lee Board of Commissioners voted to contribute \$10 million toward the purchase of 1,700 acres of agricultural land – then owned and operated by the Boma family – in Glades County for the purpose of constructing a water quality project to benefit the Caloosahatchee watershed. The South Florida Water Management District built 12 tanks, called mesocosms, containing wetland vegetation that were used to conduct a water quality assessment

of nutrient removal from Caloosahatchee water that was allowed to flow through the wetland cells. This project will utilize some of these mesocosms to test innovative technology that could reduce nutrients in water bodies, and prevent or mitigate harmful algal blooms. Work is expected to begin in June. The Caloosahatchee estuary has

a total maximum daily load (TMDL) state designation for total nitrogen and an adopted State of Florida Basin Management Action Plan to lower this pollutant. Commissioners spend millions of dollars annually on projects to reduce pollutants in the estuary. For more information on Lee County’s efforts to protect and improve water quality, visit www.leegov.com/water.*

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Vote Delayed To Stop Commercial Use At State Park

submitted by Save Cayo Costa

The Florida Department of Recreation and Parks (FDEP) has postponed the Cayo Costa State Park Management Plan vote, scheduled to come before the Acquisition & Restoration Council (ARC) on June 11. The agencies have been receiving mounting pressure from Save Cayo Costa environmental advocates to stop bringing large commercial groups to the park’s least resilient and most vulnerable section of Cayo Costa State Park known as “the narrows.” The plan is six years overdue. More than 2,100 have signed a petition to stop these activities, and public opposition is growing.

“This postponement is outrageous. The FDEP must immediately stop the commercial boats from using the south dock. Postponing this vote for review can take months and every day more damage is being done. They have enough evidence to stop this now and not delay this vote any longer. Allowing this neglect to continue at Florida’s most pristine barrier island park represents a gross mismanagement by the DEP of this unique and irreplaceable resource,” said Dick Anderson, a longtime environmental advocate.

“It’s troubling when citizen advocates

have to convince the very people our tax dollars pay to protect our resources to do their jobs. Cayo Costa State Park is a priceless and irreplaceable treasure, and the FDEP has the power to control human impacts. It’s clear we’ve made our point, and they know they’ve created a mess down here,” said Margi Nanney, an island advocate for over 40 years.

Since 2016, advocates have worked to convince the FDEP to stop the park’s concessionaire from transporting as many as 100 people per day to the narrows. The island is only 450 feet wide at that section, with a trampled path through sensitive mangroves and beach dune areas. There are no facilities or park oversight. Those who oppose the south dock access shift from its pre-2016 passive recreational use to commercial use say resources are being depleted and things will only get worse over time.

“There is evidence the sea grass beds have been impacted by the 50-foot commercial boats with twin engines repeatedly crossing over shallow waters to access the narrows. It is obvious to longtime users that the flats are being blown out, and a new channel has been illegally dredged with daily trips,” said Randy Johnson, longtime local boater.

Advocates state shorebird and turtle nesting patterns have also been affected by large commercial groups at the narrows, and the heavily traveled path from bay to the gulf has created a divide across the island which is subject to breach like “Charley Pass” when Hurricane Charley’s

eyewall hit it in 2004.

John Cassani of Calusa Waterkeepers is concerned. He said, “The area east of the island is within the Pine Island Sound Aquatic Preserve, designated as an Outstanding Florida Water and is entitled to the most protection the state of Florida can provide for an aquatic resource.”

Sea grass beds are important to marine communities, and large boats also pose a threat to the endangered manatees and sea turtles who frequent the area. The narrows historically has been visited by private boaters, hikers and paddlers who have less impact on the resources.

Johnson argues the DEP is limiting private boater access by taking away the only south bayside access to the park. He contends there are very limited total park moorings for private boaters who have less impact on the island’s resources. “If this were a land-based park, it would be the most inaccessible park for the boating public to visit from protected waters without third party transportation,” he said.

The dock parcel was purchased in 1978 for preservation using Environmentally Endangered Lands funds. In 2004, Hurricane Charley destroyed a small dock that was there but boaters continued to use the access point. In 2015, the DEP misled dock permitting agencies when they stated they were “reframing and re-decking an existing dock.” There was no dock there. Because of this, they were exempted from an environmental resource permit that would have triggered careful review and public

notice. There are also large mooring poles that were placed recently without permits.

Advocates are all for commercial groups visiting Cayo Costa State Park, but feel large boats should use the park’s Pelican Bay facilities. Just a few more minutes north through deep water, park headquarters have the proper infrastructure for groups arriving in ferry boats. Advocates believe the DEP must immediately invest in increasing the number of boat slips and dockage space at the north facilities to prepare for increased visitation. A visitor center is also planned, which will attract more guests.

“What will it look like in 50 to 100 years if uncapped commercial groups on the most vulnerable part of the island continue to negatively impact the resources? The DEP is selling out the most fragile part of Cayo Costa,” said Nanney.

After over four years of review and public input, the DEP admitted damages have been ongoing and made the decision to stop the commercial landings at the narrows’ south dock. In January, 2021, they abruptly reversed their decision to close the dock after pushback from the concessionaire. This complete reversal has triggered a push by many to see the original language reinstated.

There is no schedule for the next ARC management plan at this time and, unless the DEP orders the commercial boats to stop using the south dock, the negative impacts to park resources on Cayo Costa will continue. For more information, visit www.savecayocosta.com.✪

Panel Discusses Shark Interactions

At its May meeting, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) hosted a roundtable discussion focused on the issue of shark interactions when fishing, such as sharks taking anglers’ catch before getting it to the boat. The discussion also included a staff presentation that covered a recently conducted FWC survey focused on fishers’ experiences with predators when saltwater fishing.

“Sharks interacting with fishermen’s catch is an issue we are hearing about more and more,” said FWC Chairman Rodney Barreto. “We are proud to have gathered together such a high-caliber group of experts and thank all of them for sharing their perspectives on interactions between fishermen and sharks in Florida. FWC looks forward to continued engagement with our panel and hearing from the public.”

“As some shark populations recover and more fishers are on the water, these increased interactions with sharks are likely to occur,” said FWC Commissioner Mike Sole. “This conversation is a starting point in helping us better understand shark interactions while fishing, and promoting dialogue between fishery managers, fishermen, scientists and conservationists about this issue.”

The FWC will continue to stay engaged on the future management of sharks in Florida.

“We need to learn more about the different shark species involved with

these incidents. This problem is a human interaction problem more than a shark interaction problem and I think all of us here today are in a position to get closer to a solution,” said Dr. Guy Harvey, fisheries biologist.

“It’s not simply a matter of too many sharks. Knowing which of these species have recovered, which have not and which are interacting with fishing gear is essential because with the wrong management measures we could drive the past 30 years of conservation success right back into the ground,” said Dr. Robert Hueter, senior scientist emeritus for Mote Marine Laboratory and chief scientist for OCEARCH. “Today, we should be celebrating Florida’s return of its top marine predators vital for a healthy ocean. What we need to do is give fishermen the tools to minimize their interactions.”

“The unanimous consensus in the commercial fishing community is that the high number of shark interactions are indicative of an overpopulation of many shark species as a result of management measures, and this comes at great cost to commercial fishermen and the seafood supply chain,” said commercial wholesale dealer Mike Merrifield, co-owner of Wild Ocean Seafood Market. “Some sharks can be sustainably harvested and need to be managed through sound science, not emotional public opinion.”

“Monday alone, we lost 45 rigs to sharks. We are seeing five times what we saw three to four years ago. We have to look into why so many of these sharks are here. How do we get this back to balance?,” said Capt. Bill Taylor of Black Dog Fishing Charters.

“We must ensure that we have shark fisheries that balance the needs of the ocean with the needs of the fishing industry,” said Karyl Brewster-Geisz, NOAA federal fishery manager.

For the full May 12 and 13 agenda, including links to background reports, go to www.myfwc.com/about and click on “The Commission” and “Commission Meetings.”

For more information about shark regulations, visit www.myfwc.com/marine and click on “Recreational Regulations” and “Sharks.”✪

Gag Grouper Season To Open

Gag grouper will open for recreational harvest in most state Gulf of Mexico waters and all federal gulf waters on June 1. It will remain open through December 31.

Franklin, Wakulla, Taylor and Jefferson counties opened April 1 and will remain open through June 30. These four counties will reopen September 1 through December 31. Monroe County follows the Atlantic state season and opened May 1.

Gulf state waters in Florida are from shore to nine nautical miles. Federal waters begin where state waters end and extend to 200 nautical miles.

The minimum size limit for gag grouper is 24 inches total length and the daily bag limit is two fish per person within the four grouper per person aggregate limit.

If you plan to fish for gag grouper anywhere in Florida state or federal waters from a private recreational vessel, you

must sign up as a state reef fish angler (annual renewal is required). To learn more, visit www.myfwc.com/srfs. Sign up at www.gooutdoorsflorida.com.

Learn more about grouper at www.myfwc.com/marine by clicking on “Recreational Regulations,” “Reef Fish” and “Groupers.”✪

Season Closing For Snook Harvest

The recreational harvest of snook in Atlantic state and federal waters has a regular season closure that starts on June 1.

Snook are one of the many reasons Florida is the Fishing Capital of the World. Seasonal harvest closures and anglers using proper handling methods when practicing catch-and-release measures help conserve Florida’s valuable snook populations and can ensure the species’ abundance for anglers today and generations to come.

To learn more and see a video about catch-and-release fishing and the best way to handle a fish, visit www.myfwc.com/marine and click on “Recreational Regulations” and then “Fish Handling Tips.”

If you practice catch-and-release fishing during the closed season, you can still contribute to data collection by submitting your catch information for this and other species through the iAngler app. For more information, visit www.angleractionfoundation.com.

Learn more about recreational fishing at www.myfwc.com/marine by clicking on “Recreational Regulations.”✪

Foundation Hires New Executive Director

Veteran Florida legislator Heather D. Fitzhagen has joined the Uncommon Friends Foundation (UFF) as its new executive director. She took over for Jennifer Nelson on April 1.



Heather D. Fitzhagen

Fitzhagen had a long, esteemed career in law and politics in Florida, representing Fort Myers and the 78th District in the House of Representatives for eight years. She also brings with her a wealth of experience from her law career and in the volunteer sector. She has served on the board of directors of her alma mater, Hollins University, the Florida Alliance to End Human Trafficking, Lee County Association of Women Lawyers, and the PACE Center for Girls, among many others.

As executive director of UFF, Fitzhagen will lead the mission and values of the foundation under the guidance of the board of directors. President Brian Rist is excited for the future of the foundation under her leadership. "It's a new day at the Uncommon Friends Foundation. The board is looking forward to the future under Heather's guidance and confident

that she will lead us to the next level of success," Brain said.

Fitzhagen's experience will greatly benefit the dynamic team at the Uncommon Friends Foundation as it strives to celebrate the unique talents and gifts inspired by Fort Myers resident Jim Newton and "Uncommon Friends" Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Charles Lindbergh, Harvey Firestone and Dr. Alexis Carrel. The character and ethics of these dynamic and history-making individuals allowed them to build, grow and sustain important friendships despite their different backgrounds and experiences, a tradition the Foundation wants to keep alive in the Southwest Florida community.

The Uncommon Friends Foundation is also responsible for awarding scholarships to students who reflect the characteristics of the "Uncommon Friends," while also providing ongoing character and business ethics education to the community.

The Uncommon Friends Foundation is headquartered in the historic Burroughs Home which also houses memorabilia and research on the "Uncommon Friends."

Fitzhagen is excited to grow in her new role and bring her expertise to the Foundation. "Both the Burroughs Home and Uncommon Friends Foundation are Southwest Florida treasures. I look forward to sharing these treasures with a broader audience, enhancing educational programming and expanding our scholarship program," she said.

For more information about UFF, call 337-9503 or visit www.uncommonfriends.org.

Fourth School Board Member Earns Certification

The School District of Lee County announced that Lee County School Board Member Melisa Giovannelli has earned the distinction of certified board member from the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA).



Melisa Giovannelli

"From the moment I was elected as a board member, I was active in the learning process with Florida School Boards Association," Giovannelli said. "Education is very important to me personally and professionally, and allows me to continue to grow as a school board member."

To earn this distinction, members must complete 96 hours of training

in three different content areas. The bulk of this training falls under boardsmanship, school finance, policy governance, bargaining and personnel, curriculum and instruction, state/federal legislative processes, and school law.

"I am proud to recognize Melisa as a certified board member," FSBA Director of Leadership Services Tina Pinkoson said. "Since her election in 2016, she has shown a willingness and desire to learn."

Fellow Lee County School Board members Debbie Jordan, Chris Patricca and Cathleen Morgan also have the distinction of being certified board members. The distinction is one of several professional development programs offered by the Florida School Boards Association to ensure board members obtain well-rounded and thorough understanding of his or her policy-making job responsibilities.

The Florida School Boards Association is the professional association for school boards in Florida. The mission of FSBA is to increase student achievement through the development of effective school board leadership and advocacy for public education. ✨

Citizen Advisory Committee To Meet

The Citizen Advisory Committee of the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will meet in Room 200 of the Cape Coral Public Works Building on Thursday, June 3 at 3 p.m.

Participants will learn about the latest transportation planning in Lee

County. Agenda topics for the meeting include endorsement of fiscal year (FY) 2021-22 through FY 2025-26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), review and recommend MPO priorities for multi-modal projects, review and recommend MPO priorities for highway safety program funds, and review and approval of proposed Long Range Transportation Plan Amendments.

The Cape Coral Public Works Building is located at 815 Nicholas Parkway East in Cape Coral. For more information, visit www.leempo.com.



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Superior Interiors

The Benefits Of Hidden Storage



by Linda Coin

Let's be honest, no one likes a cluttered living space. Even if you don't notice that your home is more disorganized than put together, it probably just seems second nature by now. But, that doesn't mean it's comfortable, and it doesn't mean it's inviting for your guests and other family members.

What if you have too many items and not enough space to store them? Even if your living arrangement is small, there's still a saving grace that can work in your favor... hidden storage. From different pieces of multifunctional furniture to vertical hanging storage units, there are plenty of interesting and discrete ways you store items and reduce clutter around the house.

Whether it's a pile of clothing, a

mountain of toys or a stack of papers, clutter is nothing more than a distasteful distraction that can take away from the beauty of your living space. When you create hidden storage options, you can get rid of the clutter and make the room more peaceful and put together.

A bed with built-in storage. This can be useful in the master bedroom for your clothing if your closet isn't cutting it. In a children's room, this can also be utilized for clothing but also toys in place of adding an extra box chest to the space.

Credenzas, chests, and cabinets. Consider these in rooms that guests frequent when they visit your home, such as the kitchen, living room, family room and dining area. These storage options can be used to house books, seasonal accessories, games and other items that you don't want clashing with the aesthetic of the room.

All of the accessories you own don't have to be locked away and hidden completely. If you have collectibles or beautiful accessories that you want to put on display but have no space for, utilizing your walls for vertical storage is an excellent choice. A nice set of shelving not only gives you a space to put these prized possessions but also makes for a lovely set of wall decor. In this sense, you

can consider the clutter "hidden" as it's been transformed into a wall accessory in disguise.

When you're readjusting your living space, keep in mind that any form of organizational storage is beneficial to the room in question. Whether you're setting up shelving, adding multifunctional furniture or putting a new storage system in the closet, every organizational trick in the book gives you the opportunity to fully maximize the living space.

And don't forget: Before reorganizing rooms in your home, go through the clutter and decide if it still makes sense and has a purpose in your home. If you use it, find a place for it. If you haven't touched it in years, get rid of it. This is one of the most common reasons clutter forms in the first place.

Making moves to remove clutter from your home will contribute to a clear living space and headspace. If you're itching for an opportunity to reorganize your house but you've failed in the past, consider consulting a design professional to assist in your journey to decluttering. He or she will evaluate your current living situation, assess options for reorganization and suggest specific opportunities for hidden storage to consider. From there, you can get a better understanding of what solutions would work best in your home and which ones will most encourage you to maintain organization, so clutter is kept at bay.

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

Volunteer Earns National Boy Scouts Award

The Southwest Florida Council Boy Scouts of America (BSA) recently presented Dave Dale the National Silver Beaver Award. The recognition is the highest honor a local BSA council can bestow upon a volunteer for exceptional character and distinguished service to youth. A total of five awards were presented to volunteers this spring across the seven-county Southwest Florida Council region. The region includes Charlotte, Collier, Lee, Manatee,



Dave Dale

Sarasota, Desoto and Hendry counties.

"Dave has been a steady hand guiding the council during changing and challenging times in the BSA organization and during the pandemic. His leadership has been instrumental in positioning the council for stability, growth and future success," said Greg Graham, scout executive and CEO of the Southwest Florida Council BSA. "He is to be commended for the exemplary leadership he has provided as our organization's current president as well as other roles he has served over the years. Dave embodies the scouting principles of service to others and the community. He is most deserving of this national recognition."

"I am humbled by this recognition," said Dale. "The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations, providing programs for young people that build character. It has been an honor to serve and watch boys and girls grow and prepare for life."✪

Base Operations At Airport Ranked Among Best

Base Operations at Page Field in Fort Myers has been named the 16th best overall fixed-base operator (FBO) and sixth best independent FBO in the U.S. in the 2021 Professional Pilot PRASE (Preferences Regarding Aviation Services and Equipment) Survey.

For the 2021 PRASE Survey, subscribers scored a total of 1,689 U.S. FBOs in the six categories of line team, customer service representatives (CSRs), facility, amenities, promptness and efficiency, and value for price. A certain minimum number of respondents in all categories was the threshold for ranking in the Top U.S. FBOs.

"We are so pleased to have Base Operations at Page Field recognized as a top independent and overall U.S. FBO based on our customers' feedback for exceptional aviation ground services," said Ben Siegel, CPA, C.M., executive director of the Lee County Port Authority. "The Base Operations

team is committed to delivering a great experience to our guests, and I am proud of their commitment to excellence in customer care."

Professional Pilot is a monthly business aviation trade magazine. The magazine's 48th annual Professional Pilot PRASE Survey occurs each year and tabulates the customer opinions of aviation ground services. Executives in charge of flight departments, aviation managers, chief pilots, CEOs and other qualified subscribers are polled once a year in order to determine the PRASE Winner's List. PRASE is the gold standard of aviation ground service leaders.

The Lee County Port Authority operates Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field in Fort Myers. Page Field provides services to corporate, commercial and private aviators through their business arm, Base Operations at Page Field, and accommodated more than 126,000 aircraft operations in 2020. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction and both airports are funded solely with revenue generated from their operations. For more information, visit www.baseoperationsfmy.com.✪

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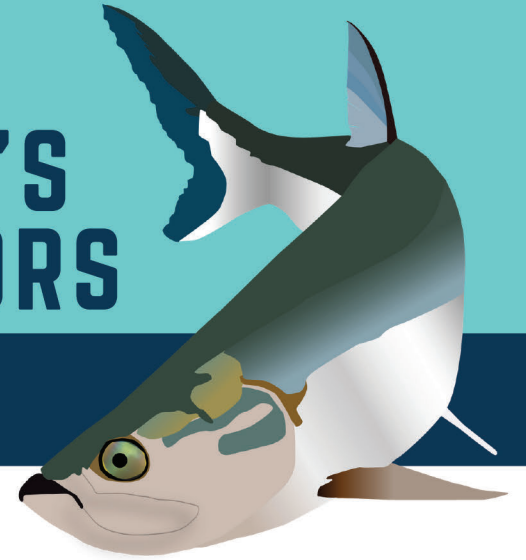
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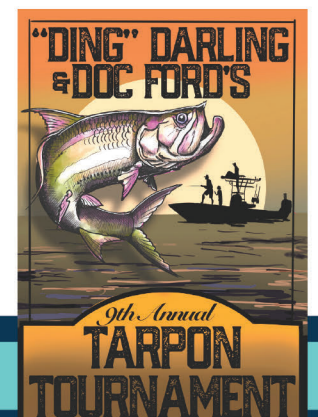


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Book Review

When The Stars Go Dark



by Di Saggau

In her latest novel *When the Stars Go Dark*, Paula McLain draws upon her own history. What the main character, Anna, knows and thinks about the hidden scars of sexual abuse, the author

knows as a sexual abuse survivor.

McLain set the story in Mendocino, a small coastal town in Northern California where she spent time in her 20s. It was a time of pre-DNA, pre-cell phone, and before the Internet had exploded. While digging into research, she learned that, in 1993, a rash of real-life abductions of young girls had occurred in the same geographical area and time frame she was exploring, most notably the kidnapping of 12-year-old Polly Klass.

The novel opens in 1991. A personal tragedy has caused Anna, a seasoned missing persons detective, to take to the road, leaving her job, husband and baby son behind in San Francisco. Her first day in Mendocino, she spots a flyer pinned on a message board about a 15-year-old girl named Cameron Curtis, who disappeared the previous day. It turns out, she's one of several missing



image provided

girls in recent months.

As past and present collide, we learn about Anna's troubled upbringing and the life she is fleeing. McLain carefully weaves fictional victims with actual kidnapping victims. In the end, this intense story of tragedy ends with a message of hope. Her characters are interesting and well defined.

Kristin Hannah said, "*When the Stars Go Dark* is a beautifully written, sharply observed literary thriller with an

extraordinary, unforgettable heroine... An unflinching look at the long shadow cast by trauma and the resilience it takes to survive, this is a novel of both great sadness and great beauty." ❄️

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, During our quarantine, we got a little loose about screen time rules with our kids. Now that they're back in school, we are having a hard

time bringing back our rules. What might help?

Brenda L, Cape Coral

Brenda,

Screen time has become a part of many kids' days, especially through our quarantine period. And it's normal for kids to have trouble going back to previous rules. Consider how your family approaches turning off screens. Think about what is currently happening and what you want to see happen; then have a family discussion about this topic to develop expectations and rules.

Here are a few ideas about screen time that might make it easier for you and your child to follow family rules according to www.understood.org:

"Before screen time starts, set clear expectations around how much time your child gets, whether it's 20 minutes or two hours. When time's almost up, give your child a warning.

Or you can look for a natural stopping point – like the end of a round in a game or the end of a show. Agree ahead of time that this is when your child will turn it off.

Make sure your child is paying attention when you say to turn it off. Have your child look at you and repeat what you've said.

If nothing happens, go over and put a hand on your child's shoulder. Try not to talk or yell from another room or while you're doing other things.

Let your child know what to do after turning off the screen. It's easier to 'shift gears' if there's something specific to shift them to."

Having appropriate focus is another reason children have difficulty with disengaging from screen time. Children who struggle with focus sometimes become so involved with their screens that they become hyperfocused, ("an intense fixation on an interest or activity for an extended period of time"). They are so immersed in their activity that they can't pull themselves away. They can't stop thinking or talking about what they're watching or playing, and struggle to turn it off mentally and even physically. Your child may not even hear you say it's time to close their screens.

Children who are hyperfocused often struggle with transitions as well, and you may see these situations:

You say it's time to turn it off, but your child doesn't look up or react in any way.

Your child hears you and responds

but goes back to playing as soon as you leave.

After multiple warnings, you firmly say to shut it down, and your child gets very angry and emotional.

Leaving our screens can be difficult for both children and adults. Make sure to communicate your expectations about screen time clearly. If your child has difficulty with transitions, make sure to give them plenty of notice and directions about the transitions required, your expectations and what comes next. Having clearly stated expectations that children hear frequently will help them follow your rules.

Shelley Greggs is former faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she taught 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 or at www.schoolconsultationservices.com. ❄️

Broadcast News Regional Awards

The Radio Television Digital News Association recently announced winners of its annual Regional Edward R. Murrow Awards competition for broadcast news. The WGCN news team won two regional Murrow awards.

WGCN, along with the *Naples Daily News* and *The News-Press*, was recognized for Excellence in Innovation for the collaboration, the Coronavirus Town Hall series.

The virtual town halls included: 100 Days of Coronavirus, June 2020, featured experts discussing health challenges, what's next for education, the future of the restaurant industry and the impact this pandemic has had on the residents of Southwest Florida.

SWFL Open for Business, July 2020, asked, was it worth it to reopen when we did? We talked with economists, business owners and local leaders about whether the phased reopening in June paid off.

Back to School, August 2020, examined the reasoning behind scheduling schools to open for face-to-face and/or online education for fall 2020. Masks? Social distancing? Temperature monitoring? What was a school year going to look like?

Under Pressure, December 2020, featured local people experiencing mental health symptoms as well as experts on coping measures and where to get help.

Moderators for the series were WGCN News Director Julie Glenn and *The News-Press/Naples Daily News* Southwest Florida Audience Development Director Mark Bickel. The community was invited to participate by submitting questions in advance of each town hall and watching on WGCN, *The News-Press* and *Naples Daily News* Facebook pages and websites.

"In a year when we were wall-to-wall with news, there was no shortage of high-caliber coverage, so to have won two awards this year is quite the accomplishment," said Glenn of WGCN. "I'm especially proud that our team

continued on page 20

EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

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Public Relations Team Hires Coordinator

CONRIC PR & Marketing has welcomed experienced social media and digital marketing expert Emily Margolis to its team as digital marketing coordinator. She joins the team to develop digital strategies and guide clients through full-scale marketing campaigns to transform their businesses.



Emily Margolis

"This is an exciting time for CONRIC as we expand our reach to serve clients across the country and expand our team to better serve clients' growing digital marketing needs," said Connie Ramos-Williams, founder, president and chief marketing officer of CONRIC PR & Marketing. "Emily's education, experience, energy and enthusiasm make her a great addition to our CONRIC family."

Margolis who is Google and Hootsuite certified, will lead and assist multiple digital projects at CONRIC, handling social media management, strategic planning, SEO, copywriting, design and analytics. She will work collaboratively with the digital team and CONRIC clients to implement impactful digital marketing campaigns across varied social media and email platforms. She will also assist in website design and search engine optimization to help CONRIC clients increase their audiences.

"I'm excited to join the CONRIC team and learn from dynamic marketing professionals with a wide range of skills. As someone who's passionate about constant advancement, I feel I will fit right in with CONRIC's high-achieving culture," said Margolis.

Prior to joining CONRIC, Margolis specialized in digital marketing, social media and copywriting for a local herbal supplement manufacturer. She also held positions in social media strategy and community engagement in various

industries including a literary and arts magazine, and a voter efficacy focused organization as well as marketing agencies in Gainesville and Chicago.

Born and raised in Southwest Florida, Margolis studied advertising at the University of Florida where she graduated summa cum laude. After graduating at the start of the pandemic, she moved to Fort Myers to continue developing her digital marketing career.✱

Marketing Firm Adds Media Specialist

Priority Marketing has added former TV reporter Noelani Fender to its growing public relations team as a media relations specialist.

In her role, Fender will help tell clients' stories through television, print, digital and social media. Her responsibilities include writing news releases, guest articles and op-eds, as well as pitching stories to target media. As a former TV journalist, Fender also produces and edits video interviews and B-roll video to provide content for media outlets and social media sites.

Fender's media experience includes roles as a features and enterprise reporter for FOX4 in Southwest Florida, as well as a bureau multimedia journalist for WCTV Eyewitness News in Tallahassee and WALB News 10 in Albany, Georgia. Prior roles include social media manager, media specialist and public information intern. Fender is profiled in the journalism textbook *Broadcast News Writing, Reporting and Producing*, which gives readers a glimpse into the working life of today's broadcast journalist.

Fender has a bachelor of fine arts degree in mass media from Valdosta State University, minoring in speech communication.✱



Noelani Fender

Bank Officer Elected To College Board

John Wright, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank's executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief operating officer, has been elected to the Florida SouthWestern State College Foundation board of directors.

Wright was recently promoted to the bank's executive vice president, chief financial and operating officer. With more than 30 years of experience in community banking, he has worked for several community banking institutions in Maryland.

"I'm honored to join the FSW

Foundation board and look forward to helping elevate one of Southwest Florida's strongest assets," said Wright. "There's a natural partnership between SanCap Bank and FSW, as we're both fiscally responsible organizations that are part of the backbone of this amazing community."

Annually, the foundation provides close to \$2 million in student scholarships and program support to benefit over 22,000 students, including funding for academic programs, new technology and new or improved facilities. The FSW Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization recognized as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and by the State of Florida as a Direct Support Organization for Florida SouthWestern State College.✱

School Nurse Honored

Melissa Wallace of Harns Marsh Elementary School has been selected the 2021 School Nurse of the Year, according to the School District of Lee County. Wallace was nominated by Principal Tracey Zenoniani.

"Melissa is the kind of person you would always want on your team," said Harns Marsh Elementary School Principal Tracey Zenoniani. "She has a very positive, child-friendly approach, and our students respond to her in a positive way even when they are upset. She also is a great communicator with our parents and makes them feel comfortable and informed when explaining any needs or plans that would benefit the students."

Wallace is a nine-year veteran of the School District. She is assigned to both Harns Marsh Elementary and Harns Marsh Middle School in Lehigh Acres. Since the campuses are so close, she frequently visits both schools every day and can respond when needed. She not only serves her students' medical needs, but mentors them to help with their academics and makes sure their parents are taken care of as well.

"This year has been so difficult and we've all worked closely together," Wallace said. "I love my school. I love my students and my team that I work with in the East Zone. We couldn't do it without each other."

District and school staff surprised



From left, School Nurse of the Year Melissa Wallace, Principal Tracey Zenoniani and a student photo provided

Wallace with a car parade on National School Nurses Day to present her with her award, flowers, balloons and a cake.

"Thank you to all our wonderful hard-working Sschool nurses for their continued medical care and support of our students and staff," said Health Services Coordinator Beth Wipf. "Their expertise and excellent medical support to our students on a daily basis allows students to focus on their academics and excel in school. Their compassion and professionalism make them world class leaders of Lee County School District."✱



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Will Power

Are Charitable Trusts The Answer For Inherited IRA Accounts?



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

Beware of financial advisors and estate planning attorneys who suggest using a Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) as the answer to the SECURE Act's mandatory 10-year distribution rule for Inherited IRA accounts. The solution may not match your goals, since CRTs come with their own set of unique legal and tax issues.

You may have heard that the SECURE Act, enacted at the end of 2019, requires most beneficiaries to withdraw the entire balance from an Inherited IRA account within 10 years of the decedent-owner's death. The prior law allowed for distributions over a beneficiary's lifetime using a Single Life Table. Under the

old law, a 30-year-old beneficiary may have 50-plus years to withdraw the balance of an Inherited IRA, as opposed to 10 years today.

The SECURE Act rules result in beneficiaries losing years of tax deferred growth. They will also be forced to pay higher income taxes since greater amounts must typically be withdrawn to satisfy this 10-year rule.

Is there an answer to the SECURE Act?

Several advisors recommend naming a CRT as a beneficiary in order to lengthen the withdrawal period to the beneficiary's lifetime. In this transaction, the IRA is paid to the CRT upon the account owner's death. The CRT then pays an income stream to one or more beneficiaries either over the course of their lifetimes or a period of years (described below), before distributing the balance to a qualifying charity.

A CRT itself qualifies as a charity, so upon the IRA account owner's death, the distribution to the CRT is not a taxable event. In order for the CRT to so qualify, it must pay at least five percent of its value annually to a beneficiary, and the actuarially determined remainder value to the charity must be at least 10 percent. Because of this 10 percent requirement, young beneficiaries usually disqualify the CRT, unless the CRT is limited to a period of years (not to exceed 20). So there goes your

lifetime payout.

Using today's interest rates, beneficiaries younger than 40 may disqualify a CRT and ruin the entire plan to begin with. Not only would there not be a lifetime payout, but since the CRT wouldn't qualify as a charity, the distribution from the IRA to the CRT creates an ordinary income taxable event, resulting in high federal income tax rates upon the death of the account owner.

There are different types of CRTs, including Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts (CRAT), Charitable Remainder Unitrusts (CRUT), Charitable Remainder Net-Income Unitrust (NICRUT), Charitable Remainder Net-Income With Make-up Unitrust (NIMCRUT) and Charitable Remainder Flip Unitrust (FLIPCRUT). Each has its own unique issues, which is beyond the scope of this article.

Assuming the CRT satisfies the 10 percent remainder rule, what other issues might we run into? First, if the CRUT has a high payout rate, the beneficiary will likely experience decreasing distributions annually. If the trustee can only earn the Section 7520 interest rate (that rate used by the IRS to make its calculations as to whether the CRT qualifies as a charity), a CRUT that begins with a \$100,000 payout may fall to an amount as low as \$12,000 before the trust terminates.

Second, if the CRT has hard-to-value assets such as closely held business interests or real estate, an appraisal must be conducted annually to determine the value. If an IRS audit results in an adjustment to the values determined, penalties and interest may apply. Further, partial payouts of these hard-to-value assets may be necessary depending upon the type of CRT used.

Third, if the CRT has multiple lifetime beneficiaries, and one beneficiary dies resulting in a grandchild beneficiary, generation skipping transfer taxes could become due. A CRT cannot pay estate or generation-skipping transfer taxes it triggers. Instead, those must be paid from other assets that might affect different beneficiaries.

Fourth, if S Corporation stock is owned by the CRT, then the S election will likely be defeated, resulting in corporate income taxes owed.

Fifth, CRTs must pay out a percentage, and only a percentage to the beneficiary. If the beneficiary experiences extraordinary medical expenses, for example, the trustee cannot invade the principal of the CRT for those needs.

There are other issues that I could mention, depending upon the client's goals and the type of CRT employed.

While the CRT strategy may work for some, client and attorney should pay attention to the details of that client's situation before embarking on this strategy.

©2021 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at www.floridaestateplanning.com.✴

County Schedules For Memorial Day

Most Lee County administrative operations will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day.

The county's holiday schedule adjustments are as follows:

Solid Waste – All garbage, recycling and yard waste collections in unincorporated Lee County, the City of Bonita Springs, the Village of Estero and the Town of Fort Myers Beach will take place one day after the regularly scheduled collection day for the entire week beginning May 31. This means that if your regular collection day is Monday, the collection truck will pick up that material on Tuesday. Tuesday's regularly scheduled pickups will occur on Wednesday and so on for the rest of the week through Saturday, June 5. Regular collection schedules resume on Monday, June 7.

Lee County Solid Waste facilities and offices are closed on Monday, May 31, in observance of the holiday. This includes the operation at the Household Chemical Waste Collection Facility, 6441 Topaz Court, and the Resource Recovery Facility on Buckingham Road.

Solid Waste urges all residents to recycle the plastic, metal and glass from Memorial Day weekend activities.

Parks & Recreation – Lee County Parks & Recreation beaches, parks, preserves, swimming pools and boat ramps are open on Monday, May 31. Recreation centers and administrative offices are closed and reopen on Tuesday, June 1.

Lee County Utilities – The offices of Lee County Utilities, the Call Center and drive-thru window will be closed

on Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day. A drop-box is on site at the front door and another accessible via the drive-thru for payments by check.

Libraries – All library locations will be closed on Monday, May 31. Each branch will resume regular operating hours on Tuesday, June 1.

Domestic Animal Services – Animal Services, 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, will be open for regularly scheduled hours on Saturday, May 30, for the Lost & Found Pet Center (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and for the Pet Adoption Center (10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) Animal Services will be closed for the holiday on Monday, May 31, but will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, June 1.

LeeTran – LeeTran will not run bus, trolley or paratransit service on the holiday, Monday, May 31. Service resumes Tuesday, June 1. Route schedules and maps are at www.rideleetrans.com.✴

Committee To Reveal Finalists For APEX Awards

The Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce's Women in Business Committee will announce the top finalists of its annual APEX Awards during its monthly networking program at Crowne Plaza Fort Myers at Bell Tower on Wednesday, June 2 from 4 to 6 p.m.

The APEX Awards recognizes women with outstanding reputations for professionalism, philanthropy and leadership in Southwest Florida. The networking event will celebrate all 17 nominees and reveal the finalists of this year's awards program.

The 2021 APEX Awards nominees are Sandra Aguilar, eXp Realty; Cecilia St. Arnold, Blessings in a Backpack of Southwest Florida; Kathleen O. Berkey, Becker & Poliakoff; Reema Bhatia, Stickboy; Claribel Bocanegra, Porto Fino Dental; Kristen Flaherty, Trilogy Laboratories; Kerri Goldsmith, HBKS Wealth Advisors; Marie Grasmeier, Grasmeier Business Consulting; Holly B. Kobie, Kobie Kooling, Inc.; Alicia Miller, Sally J. Pimentel Deaf & Hard of Hearing Center; Lori L. Moore, Roetzel & Andress; Rachel Peacock, WGPU-FGCU; Hannah Pelle, United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee Counties; Marie Springsteen, Quigley Eye Specialists; Jamie Sterling, The Sterling Center; Sheryl Verhulst, Lee County Library System; and

Jen Whyte, Fort Myers Brewing Company.

Tickets are \$10 for chamber members and \$20 for future members. Admission includes a complimentary beverage with light appetizers. Advance registration is encouraged. The Women in Business Committee will recognize the finalists, celebrate all of the nominees and reveal the APEX Award recipient on August 27 at The Westin Resort at Marina Village in Cape Coral.

Crowne Plaza is located at 13051 Bell Tower Drive in Fort Myers. TTThe event is presented by Sanibel Captiva Community Bank. For more information on the APEX Awards, registration for the June Women in Business program or tickets for the APEX Awards luncheon in August, visit www.fortmyers.org or call 332-2930.✴

From page 18

Regional Awards

brought home the 'Excellence in Innovation' prize for the second year in a row. It shows that we are not simply covering the same stories in the same ways, but that we strive to meet and serve our audience where they are, bringing fact-based reporting every day of any year."

"What a fantastic collaboration this was for WGPU and *The News-Press/Naples Daily News*," said Bickel. "I think we really touched a nerve in the Southwest Florida community with these timely town halls tied to the pandemic. We provided essential information and connected with leaders and experts who helped us navigate through this public health crisis."

For more information about the town hall series, visit www.wgpu.org/swfl.

WGPU also earned another Regional

Murrow award in Feature Reporting, for *Black Cattle Rancher Family to Be Honored in Immokalee*, by Andrea Perdomo, March 12, 2020. The 500-year-old Florida cattle industry long overlooked its Black ranchers. An exhibit at the Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch highlighted Huey P. Howard and his family, who have cattle on about 7,000 acres in Southwest Florida.

Perdomo was a reporter for WGPU until later in 2020, when she moved on to reporting for public media station WLRN in south Florida.

To read and hear the award-winning story, visit <https://news.wgpu.org/news/2020-03-12/black-cattle-rancher-family-to-be-honored-in-immokalee>.

The Radio Television Digital News Association has been honoring outstanding achievements in electronic journalism with the Edward R. Murrow Awards since 1971.✴

Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



A few things on my mind today around baseball and a golf legend.

Item: Last Friday in a 16-1 Padres blowout over the the Mariners, the 20,000th player in MLB history appeared. Mariners

backup catcher José Godoy entered in the sixth inning as a defensive replacement. The 26-year-old Venezuelan went 0 for 1 with a walk.

Item: Major League Umpire Joe West breaks Bill Klem's regular-season record of 5,376 games. West began setting the new mark Tuesday umpiring the White Sox-Cardinals game. Ironman indeed.

Item: The next no-hitter will tie the record for a season, and it's only May. Have you noticed what's happening? I talked to my baseball analysts, Ralph Moses and Jeff Wilder. Moses said, "One reason is that there is so much swing and miss in today's game. Another reason is all the defensive shifting that goes on. Personally, if someone shifted against me, I would love to go to the open part of the field. A player like Ichiro or Rod Carew would have bunted their way to a .400 batting average. Something else I've noticed is that umpires are calling more high pitches for strikes than ever before." A proposal I've seen to help with that – besides a robotic strike zone – is having "permanent" home plate umpires. Instead of shifting bases every day, the best rated

umpires will only make the calls behind the plates, and the others in their crew will rotate between first, second and third base in each series.

Wilder feels it's still early. "I expect they will slow down significantly as the weather continues to warm up and hitters get into their grooves. Having said that, it's harder now to get a hit in the major leagues than ever before. I believe the league average is currently .236, which is even a point lower than the year of the pitcher in 1968 at .237. You might remember that MLB lowered the mound 10 inches after that year. Here's what I think is going on. All pitchers have more velocity now. Couple that with advanced analytics and defensive shifts, and it's very hard to get a hit. I also think hitters are encouraged not to change their approach and their swing. Don't shorten up and try to hit the hole created by a defensive shift. Instead, maintain the same approach, swing, launch angle (even with two strikes). I don't believe management wants a weak single. They want extra base hits and no manipulation of swing, so as to avoid creating any bad habits. I personally think that's very wrong, and I also believe it's hush hush within major league baseball; they don't talk about it outside their circles. Additionally, the ball has changed. MLB worked with Rawlings for several years to try and manipulate the ball so fewer home runs would be hit. As I understand it, average flyball distance this year is down nine or 10 feet. That's the difference between a homer and a warning track flyout. It also may be the difference between a hard ground ball finding a hole, and a fielder making a play to preserve the no hitter."

Item: Yermín Mercedes of the White Sox "missed" a take sign on a 3-0 pitch and homered in a blowout against the

Twins. Sox manager Tony LaRussa was not pleased because baseball has unwritten rules. Wilder's take. "I still think there are unwritten rules. However, it does not apply to the Mercedes situation. What's so interesting about that situation is that if a regular pitcher was in the game, all unwritten rules and etiquette apply, and you don't swing at 3-0. However, once you put a position player in to pitch, you're turning the game into a circus. There are no rules in a circus, and hitters are allowed to do whatever they want. The unwritten rule is that no rules apply. Besides, the greatest equalizer in baseball has always been the beanball. There are consequences for breaking the unwritten rules. And since the Twins misinterpreted the unwritten rule in that situation, they threw at him the next day anyway. That's the closure for that particular situation. Once they throw at him, it's over and everyone moves on." Moses concludes. "Baseball's unwritten rules are definitely old school and most have to do with not showing up your opponent. I see changes coming in how demonstrative young players are when they celebrate, often at the expense of others."

Item: Phil Mickelson becomes the oldest men's major PGA champion. "This is just an incredible feeling because I believed it was possible, but everyone was saying it wasn't." Two years since Mickelson's last win, eight years since his last major win and, remarkably, 30 years since his first victory as a junior at Arizona State, the largest spread between wins in PGA history. He also became just the 10th golfer to win victories in three different decades. "I'm having so much fun that it's

easier to stay in the present and not get ahead of myself," he said.

"Mickelson has been so good for so long that his six titles seem like they should be more. He has finished second 11 times, including six in the U.S. Open, the one major he hasn't won. But winning when most people figured he was washed up had to make this one of the most rewarding victories of his life," according to ESPN.

To continue with my good news story about Athletes for Hope (AFH), I'd like to highlight their "university" for college athletes. "While universities across the U.S. often provide volunteer opportunities to their student athletes, they rarely offer the educational aspect that allows student athletes to learn how to be effective volunteers and what community causes might align with their passions. AFH created the AFH University program (AFH U) to address this need and provide guidance to college athletes throughout their philanthropic journey. AFH U helps college athletes explore themes such as leadership, life skill development, advocacy, their role in the community and how to discover their philanthropic passions through a series of facilitated workshops. AFH staff works closely with each team to provide opportunities to engage in meaningful, impactful community work that align with the team's passions." Enjoy your week!

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.✱

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Nicknamed "Hefty Lefty," this quarterback tallied four completions for 28 yards for the Super Bowl champion New York Giants in 2007. Who is he?
2. Who holds the NBA record for technical fouls in a career?
3. Name the novelist who wrote *Beartown* and *Us Against You*, which both take place in a small, hockey-obsessed community in Sweden.
4. The Tim Hortons Brier is the Canadian men's championship in what sport?
5. In 1930, Chicago Cubs catcher Gabby Hartnett caught a baseball dropped 800 feet from what?
6. What Yale football player and coach became known as the "Father of American Football" for creating many of the sport's rules?
7. Baseball historian and author Peter Nash (aka Prime Minister Pete Nice) was a member of what early 1990s rap music group?

ANSWERS

1. Jared Lorenzen. 2. Rashad Wallace, with 317. 3. Fredrik Backman. 4. Curling. 5. A Goodyear Blimp. 6. Walter Camp. 7. 3rd Bass.

Interactive Map For Fishing Piers

Florida Fishing Pier Finder is an interactive map that allows anglers to find publicly accessed fishing piers, jetties and fishing-specific bridges in freshwater and saltwater locations throughout the state. It is best viewed using a computer or tablet with a larger screen.

Visit www.myfwc.com/pierfinder to search for a location by county, city, feature name and type of feature (such as a bridge or pier). These structures give anglers who fish from shore an

opportunity to catch a variety of species. Some fishable structures extend a few feet into the water, while others extend 2,000 or more feet into the gulf or Atlantic Ocean. A majority of these structures are free to use. For those fishing piers where a fee is required, almost all have a pier license that covers anglers, resident and non-resident, that fish on the pier.

The Florida Fishing Pier Finder was created through funding from the federal sport fish restoration program, which collects taxes from purchases of fishing equipment and motorboat fuel to fund projects that provide enhanced fishing opportunities. Learn more at www.myfwc.com/sfr.✱

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From left, Sam Galloway III, Robert Galloway, Katherine Dougherty and Kathy Galloway
photos provided



From left, Tim and Theresa Mitchell, Paula Himschoot, Jennifer and Jared Hartley, and Mark Taylor

Benefit Honors Late Founder

More than 700 supporters attended the 18th annual Sam Galloway, Jr. & Friends Soup Kitchen Benefit on May 6 and raised a record \$1.22 million for Community Cooperative. The event, held at Sam Galloway Ford in Fort Myers, honored the organization's founder, the late Sam Galloway, Jr., who passed away in March. Community Cooperative's Board of Directors announced the Community Café, known as the Fort Myers Soup Kitchen, has been renamed to Sam's Community Café & Kitchen to honor Galloway's legacy of raising money to help feed the hungry in Southwest Florida.

Restaurants and restaurateurs that donated food to the event included: Chris and Katilin Whitaker of LYNQ; Harold Balink of Harold's; Mike and Karen Gavala of G3 Catering; Will Prather and Maureen Green-Prather of Broadway Palm; Vickie and Andre Jones of Jonesez BBQ; Wesley Hansen, Jr. and Deanna Hansen; John and Paul Browning of Three Fishermen Restaurant; Shannon Yates and Wally Thomas of Nevermind Awesome Bar & Eatery; Chip and Betsy Barnwell of The Farmer's Market Restaurant; Tim and Healy Yoa of Artisan Eatery; Norman and Mary Love of Norman Love Confections; Kristin Potts of Kristin's Famous Key Lime Pies; Uncle Charlie's Cookie Ministry; Mast Family Culligan; the Mitchell Family of Suncoast Beverage; The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon; Seed & Bean Market; and Total Wine & More.✱



From left, Susie and Robert DeSantis, Donna Sublett, Ann Sell, Will Galloway, Susan and Drew Chicone, Sally Brumfield, and Jennifer and David Chicone



Dustin and Stefanie Ink Edwards



Tyler Carner and Jessica Conway



Sam Lewis and Noelle Casagrande



From left, Winston Fowlkes, Ben Talmage and Brandon Bolling



Lauren Paylor and Rusty Roepke



Melissa Vogt and Shelley Hobbs



Wendy and Evan Lubell



From left, Chief Eric Smith, Commander Mark Shelly, Commander James “Jim” Bogliole, Sheriff Carmine Marceno, Commander Chris Lalor, Commander Andrew “Andy” Prisco, Deputy General Counsel Abby Smith and PIO Jessie Santero



Tony Rossi



Phyllis and Willie Calloway



From left, Tom Lytton, Tracy Vo Lytton and Gretchen Sax



Gina and Keith Banasiak



Samantha Lloyd and Mary Rine



April Mellott and Chris Spiro



From left, Bryan and Cassandra Simmering and Erin and Mike Rhodes



From left, Therese and Todd Everly and Bess Charles



From left, Ashley Simonelli, Camilla Schlager, Sarah Dilling and Courtney Albinagorta



From left, Olivia, Kathy and Will Galloway

Doctor and Dietician

Living Longer Is In Your Control Most Of The Time



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

As you know, we are fans of the Blue Zones project. Dan Buettner, founder of BlueZones “...traveled the world for *National Geographic* to identify the diet, eating patterns and lifestyles of the world’s longest-lived people.” Adopting these principles makes it easy for everyone to eat and live in a way that gives them the best chance to live to age 100. We are born with certain genetics. But after that, we have a lot of control over what happens to us by controlling how we think and act. There is a vitality test on www.bluezones.com that assesses your projected life expectancy and then gives you tips for lengthening your longevity. Check it out. Marion is going to live to be 100, by the way!

Living a life free of cancer, heart disease and diabetes can be done by optimizing your lifestyle and the environment in which we choose to live our lives. We are blessed to live in Southwest Florida where we can get outside every day, 365 days per year. We can grow a garden, walk, ride, swim and have access to fresh food.

Here are some tips for increasing your longevity:

Include fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains and legumes in your eating plan to give you a “plant slant” that has been associated with high vitality levels,

disease prevention and longevity. This means that your plate contains these items at every meal. This also means that processed food has been eliminated. When you eat like this, it becomes a way of life, not a diet. Cutting out junk food from your diet might not be as hard as you think. Make the transition and do not bring that type of product into your home. We have a lot of great recipes on www.hauserdiet.com as does BlueZones, where you can create healthier snacks and treats.

Make a concerted effort to reduce anxiety and stress. We have all felt it and continue to feel it. As you know, we do not have TV in our home, we do not watch the news and we do not watch mindless TV programs. That may sound drastic, but it dramatically reduces stress, complaining and comparing. Significantly reducing time spent on social media and the Internet also reduces anxiety and stress. You will be amazed at how much more time you have to do things that are healthier for you. Read a book! Marion reads a book or two per week on average – so much better for your brain. Learn a language, take up a new hobby, get outside in your yard. Plant some herbs and vegetables or flowers. Walk on the beach. There are so many things to do.

Reduce episodes of anger. This may be a hard one for some. We listened to a daily devotion this morning from Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose Driven Life*. He notes that our response to anger is under our control. Everyone has “crazy makers” in their lives. Reduce exposure to these types of people and control your response to them. Be peaceful. Speak kindly. You never know what someone else is going through. Love your neighbor as yourself.

And finally, improve your attitude. Bad thoughts can surface just about anywhere – in line at a coffee shop, in traffic, at work, or at home. Anger is a normal human emotion but coping effectively is key to health. Simmering anger can erode relationships as well as increase the risk of high blood pressure, heart disease and stroke. Find the coping strategies that help you live peacefully. We find that letting go and realizing that certain things are not within our control

help us to not hold onto those types of situations.

Here’s to living life to the fullest and enjoying every moment!

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition.

dearPharmacist

Breathe Easier With These Asthma Products

by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: If you’ve ever had your bronchial tube go into a spasm, you know how scary it is! A bronchospasm occurs when the breathing airways suddenly contract, making it hard to breathe and causing that high-pitched, whistling sound called wheezing. If this goes on chronically, it is termed bronchial asthma, or just asthma.

About 25 million Americans have asthma and attacks may be mild and short-lived, or serious. Today’s article is for those of you who wish to breathe easier and are seeking natural options to use adjectively with your medication. The symptoms vary from day to day – sometimes hour to hour – but always include wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, exercise intolerance and chest pain. Acid reflux is also quite common.

There are so many reasons for a person to have a problem breathing. One lesser known trigger includes perfume or cologne. Another is pet fur, especially cat saliva. There is the trigger of tropomyosin that comes from cockroaches. When I lived down south, it was the headache of every Florida resident. And finally, there’s something called “cardiac asthma” which stems from the heart! If you’d like to read a

more comprehensive version of this article with more details and more solutions, visit my website at www.suzycohen.com where you can sign up for my weekly newsletter. I’ll email it to you. In the meantime, here are some natural remedies and devices to help you breathe with more comfort:

Vitamin D-rich Foods – Eating more foods with vitamin D such as milk and eggs can help. Getting the sunshine vitamin is useful too, because your body activates the D into a hormone that is used for immune function.

Black Seed Oil – This is a dietary supplement that fights inflammation and is especially useful for the lungs. It contains many active compounds such as “thymoquinone,” which has been studied specifically for breathing.

The Breather: Natural Breathing Lung Recovery Exercise Trainer – This is a small plastic device that you hold in your hand and it’s designed to improve the flow of oxygen. It’s just an exerciser, it’s not intended or useful during an asthma attack. It improves lung capacity and is sold online.

AirPhysio: Natural Breathing Lung Expansion And Mucus Removal Device – This is another small plastic device that is helpful to clear the airways and minimize mucus. It can be helpful with many respiratory conditions such as asthma, atelectasis, COPD, Emphysema, even Cystic Fibrosis.

Please seek medical attention and proper treatment if you have breathing difficulties. The preceding options are for your consideration, and not intended to treat an asthma attack.

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

Beautifulife: Little Things



by Kay Casperson

I’ve always been a big believer that some of the littlest things in life can make the most significant impact. From the way you greet someone to how gracious you are to others, from how you wake up in the morning to how you wind down at the end of the day, and everything in between.

I have always automatically done little things for my family that I know they appreciate in a big way. Like making the kids’ rooms neat and tidy before returning from school, they come home to a comfortable room and relax. Now that they are older, they try to do this

before leaving for school, but sometimes mornings can be rushed, and they don’t always have the time.

Another example would be to get their breakfast ready and out in the morning to save them time and help to prepare their lunches for school. And, at dinner, I try to make new meals that I know they will enjoy, and we sit together and catch up from the day. My family did this growing up, and I know my family now loves and appreciates this time together.

I remember when my husband and I were just dating, and he would write me a note and leave it somewhere for me to find when he left my house. I saved these little notes, because they were so sweet and thoughtful, and significantly impacted my feelings for him. Again, it’s not the super big things you remember sometimes, but the tiny, nostalgic moments and gestures that someone does.

When I was growing up, I remember the times we would gather together as a family up at our lake cabin and play card games together. Or sitting around

the campfire telling stories and laughing for hours. My husband and I renovated a lake home next to my parents years ago. We had it for 10 years while our girls were young to spend some time with their grandparents and extended family. They also enjoyed those card games and talks around the campfire. They will never forget that time in their lives as they enjoyed the simple little things that brought so much joy.

When my Dad leaves for Minnesota after visiting us in Florida, he always leaves a note for the girls and some cash. They never expect it, but they, of course, love and appreciate this gesture from their Grandpa. They will never forget this little thing that he did that significantly impacted them.

My husband has bought flowers for me on every occasion without fail, from my birthday to Mother’s Day, Valentine’s Day, Christmas Eve, which is our anniversary. My favorite flowers are always delivered right on time. I never expect it, but this is another beautiful way to show appreciation

and love that has made a significant impact.

Whether it is calling a friend or loved one for lunch or coffee, doing something kind for someone, or simply extending a helping hand, you just might be making a more enormous impact than you think. Send someone an unexpected note of kindness or appreciation. Reaching out to see if a friend or elderly person is okay will touch hearts in a more significant way than anything you can buy, and it is priceless.

My affirmation for you this week is: “I will remember to cherish the little things in my life that have made the biggest impact on who I am, and am grateful for each and every one of them.”

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

Hope For Pets Program Now Expanded

When someone is coping with a serious illness, the physical and financial responsibility of caring for their pet can be a challenge. Hope Hospice created the Hope for Pets program to alleviate that worry and give people in their care some peace of mind that their pets will have veterinary visits, exercise and, when needed, a new, loving home.

To ensure no pet is left behind, Hope for Pets has partnered with Cape Coral Animal Shelter (CCAS) and Gulf Coast Humane Society for years to help coordinate pet adoptions and veterinary care. Now, CCAS is offering enhanced services to keep the connection between Hope's pet owners and their loyal companions strong for as long as possible.

"We've built a bridge for a pet from its owner, to a foster family and, finally, to its adopted home," said CCAS Executive Director Liz McCauley.

As part of the Hope for Pets program, CCAS veterinary clinic provides extra support for pets who remain in the owner's home while they are in Hope's care. Owners will appoint CCAS for their pet's treatment, and volunteers from Hope and CCAS will visit, transport the pet to veterinary visits, and deliver food and supplies.

CCAS also helps transition pets to a foster home when caring for them becomes too difficult for the owner, or if a move to Hope Care Center is underway.

"We have a network of fantastic foster parents who are specially educated about end-of-life care. They keep in touch with the owner and help them stay connected to their pet with updates, phone calls and visits," said McCauley.

She explained that oftentimes, pet

adoptions are delayed due to an absence of medical information or lapsed treatments. Now, veterinary services are brought up to date and pets are given the care they need to stay happy and healthy well before they join their new adopted home.

"We are creating a continuity in transitioning a pet from owner to foster family, while forging a faster pathway to adoption," said McCauley.

The enhanced Hope for Pets program is already underway. As a pet owner prepares to move to a Hope Care Center, CCAS confirmed medical records for her beloved cat "Monkey" were in order. A welcoming foster family will bring him by for visits to brighten her day.

Samira K. Beckwith, president and CEO of Hope Healthcare, said Hope recognizes the special relationship between people and their pets.

"Pets are like a member of the family, and the unconditional love, comfort and companionship they provide is invaluable," said Beckwith. "Through our partnership with CCAS, along with the generosity of our donors, community grants and help from our volunteers, we can preserve the precious owner bond for as long as possible while preparing the pets for success in their new, adopted homes."

The Cape Coral Animal Shelter is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, no-kill shelter that is located off Santa Barbara Boulevard at 325 Southwest 2nd Avenue. Gulf Coast Humane Society is located at 2010 Arcadia Street in Fort Myers. Its veterinary clinic is located at 2685 Swamp Cabbage Court in Fort Myers.

As a local, not-for-profit, community-based, safety net organization, Hope Hospice has served Lee, Hendry and Glades counties since 1979. Help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for people facing issues related to serious illness. Hope Hospice is one of many programs and services provided by Hope Healthcare. For more information, call 482-4673 or visit www.hopehcs.org.

Medical Center Offering Scholarships

Lee Health's Shipley Cardiothoracic Center is donating \$150,000 to Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) to support bioengineering students. The funds will be dispersed through the Lee Health Foundation over a period of three years, at \$50,000 a year, through student scholarships.

The funds will be used to support FGCU bioengineering students in their junior and senior years. In addition to student scholarships, the donation will also be used to support the students' professional development through conferences, travel, internships and other opportunities. The goal is to engage the students in the research, clinical delivery and community engagement that the Shipley Cardiothoracic Center participates in throughout the year.

"Through this fund, we are training the leaders of tomorrow. FGCU is such an important community partner, and we are proud to be able to provide this donation, which will create the Shipley Center

Scholars Program Fund," said Dr. Paul DiGiorgi, cardiothoracic surgeon at Shipley Cardiothoracic Center. "We hope to gain insight from the students as they conduct research, gather data, observe cases, etc., while also hoping to inspire the students to continue in biomedical engineering careers and learn from the surgeons here."

The Shipley Cardiothoracic Center is Lee Health's cardiothoracic surgery program – the largest in the region, performing over 1,600 surgical cases annually. The center is located within HealthPark Medical Center, the only hospital in Florida to receive this recognition for four consecutive years.

The Shipley Cardiothoracic Center's long-standing partnership with FGCU includes various educational projects and collaborative efforts with the university's software engineering and bioengineering students, including an internship program called the Shipley Center Scholars.

"The Shipley Center Scholars program is an amazing opportunity for our students to gain relevant clinical exposure to the needs and problems associated with healthcare today. Working directly with the physicians, nurses and staff of Lee Health, these students will be able to translate their experiences in the hospital to project and research opportunities within our

bioengineering program," said Dr. Chris Geiger, associate professor and chair of the department of bioengineering at FGCU. "In addition to funding for tuition, the program will provide students with experiential learning opportunities through a summer internship, as well as additional support to disseminate their findings at regional and national conferences."

To learn more about the Shipley Cardiothoracic Center and how you can support this program and others, visit www.leehealthfoundation.org.

Hope Specialized Dementia Care Training

To better serve those in their care living with dementia, Hope Healthcare's nurses, chaplains and social workers completed Aliviado Dementia Care, a specialized training program created for hospice care teams.

Hope's staff members learned about recognizing different types of dementia in older adults, identifying strategies for treating pain and tailoring care for people with dementia through an interactive, video-based program. Studying the most up-to-date, evidence-based best practices also helps Hope's hospice team improve communication with family caregivers.

"At Hope, we're focused on and improving the quality of life through exceptional care, comfort and support,"

said Samira K. Beckwith, president and CEO of Hope Healthcare. "Our team's commitment to continuing education and professional development ensures we offer the highest level of compassionate care possible for our community's families and their loved ones."

Approximately 16 percent of patients in hospice care have dementia as their primary diagnosis, according to New York University's Rory Meyers College of Nursing, making it the second most common hospice diagnosis after cancer. Alzheimer's disease, which is a form of dementia, was the sixth leading cause of death in the United States in 2019.

For more information, call 482-4673 or visit www.hopehcs.org.

Use LCEC App To Monitor Electricity

Managing your Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC) account safely and securely online with SmartHub is an electricity win. LCEC's bill pay and customer service tool offers a multitude of ways to make your life easier and even lower your electric bill.

With SmartHub, you are able to view payment history, pay your bill, request a payment extension, receive bill reminders, set usage alerts, monitor energy usage and report an outage.

Visit www.lcec.net or download the free SmartHub app. Make sure to have your account information handy when you register as a new user.

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ARTS

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

AREA ATTRACTIONS

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

Answers on page 31

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!



Measurement

CHIN

Delight

TATER

Disfigure

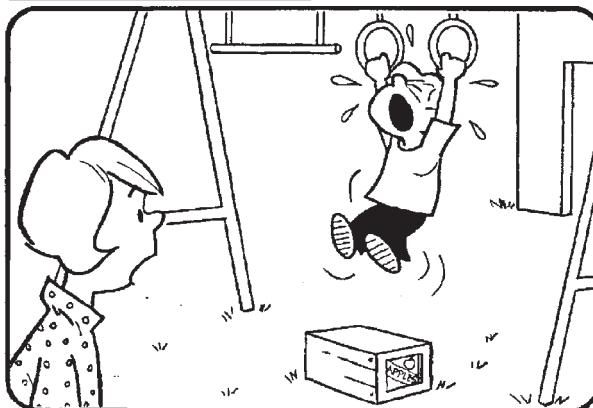
FECADE

Magma

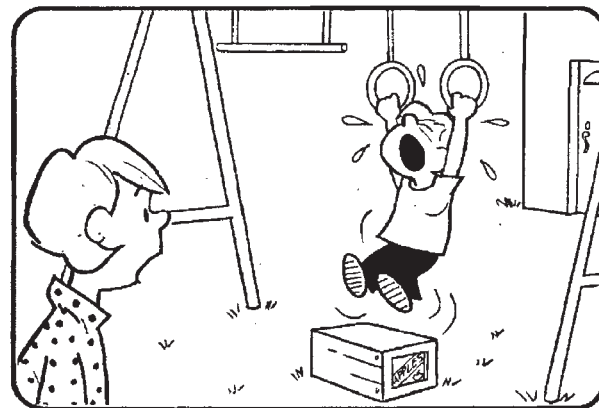
STABAL

TODAY'S WORD

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Rings are lower. 2. Shift is different. 3. Crate is different. 4. Door is closed. 5. Sleeve is shorter. 6. Hair is different.

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.

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

PUZZLES

Answers on page 31

Super Crossword

BOTH SIDES

- ACROSS**

1 Having lasting import

9 Enzyme name ending

12 Directory no.

15 Toasty

19 In a busy way

20 Wacky

22 86-Across star Nastase

23 * Earth's layers of rock strata

25 Met VIP

26 Reaping mo.

27 Partner

28 "Keystone" officer

29 Revolting one

30 Sit in on, as a class

32 * Top-end

35 Accompany

39 — -um (gnat)

41 Delicious

42 * Taking baby steps, perhaps

45 Cause to take notice

49 Touch-related

50 Away from home

51 — -en-Provence

53 Altercation
- 54 Spanish for "these"

55 Bank account amt.

57 Tick off

59 Indigo dye

60 Japanese religion

62 * Criterion applied

66 Brainchild

68 Boosting drink

69 Prefix with dynamics

70 * Football receiver's success

76 Swab analysis site

81 Everyone, to

82 Dust specks

83 See 124-Across

85 Ballplayer

86 Tennis site

88 Org. for an air marshal

89 August hrs.

91 13th-century king of England

93 Final stops

95 * Classic coaster at Disney parks
- 98 Muscat native

100 Driving around in a Winnebago, e.g.

101 Mourned loudly

102 * Not on a leash

106 Dying fire feature

108 Go wide of

109 Apple apps use it

110 Norwegian port

111 Kin of -trix

115 Axel relative

116 Repeatedly (or a hint to both halves of the answers to the starred clues)

121 Ballet dip

122 Hauled

123 Rendered unnecessary

124 With 83-Across, gave spoonfuls to directly

125 Plane domain

126 Paper crew, for short

127 Proximity
- DOWN**

1 Witchy types

2 Frozen drink treat

3 "Uncle!"

4 Arcade error

5 Lacto- — diet

6 Bylaw, briefly

7 Epic of Troy

8 Tour de France activity

9 In a skillful way

10 Brit's title

11 Book before Daniel

12 Heisman, e.g.

13 Be human

14 Fronted

15 Erudite

16 Perp's out

17 Kind of bolt

18 Soft, dry and crumbly

21 Slip — (flub up)

24 Certain aria

29 Thruway exits

30 Like painters

31 Elec. or water

32 August woe

33 Man of La Mancha

34 Steak- — (frozen beef brand)

35 Politician Kefauver

36 Hoard
- 37 Mojave plants

38 Dramatist Joe

40 Dallas coll.

43 Kan. neighbor

44 Narrow way

46 Big Sicilian volcano

47 Ruckus

48 Auction cry

52 Wacky

56 Gets used (to)

57 Jai —

58 Unit of 36"

61 Lakers great

63 Beehive State athletes

64 Exacta, e.g.

65 Titleless one

67 Being hammy

70 War ender

71 Salve plant

72 Put-down

73 Preached

74 Grassy fields

75 Most regularly

77 "It's —!" ("You're on!")

78 Old ship-locating system

79 World War II hero Murphy

80 Sightless

84 "In excelsis —"
- 87 Demure

89 Jazz great

90 — -fi flick

92 "Valley of the Dolls" co-star

94 Flatbread of India

96 Foretell

97 Film studio roarer

99 "Excuse me, but ..."

102 Actor Fiennes

103 Palate dangler

104 Away from home

105 "Walkabout" director

107 Frozen, dome-shaped dessert

110 Likelihood

111 Actor Richard

112 "Valley of the Dolls" co-star

113 Links

114 Halts

116 NFL coups

117 Tick off

118 Flanders of Springfield

119 LaRue of "CSI: Miami"

120 Plane domain

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11		12	13	14		15	16	17	18
19									20			21					22			
23								24									25			
26						27					28					29				
				30	31					32				33	34					
35	36	37	38				39		40				41							
42						43						44		45				46	47	48
49								50				51	52			53				
54						55	56				57				58		59			
60					61		62		63	64						65				
				66		67			68				69							
70	71	72	73					74				75			76		77	78	79	80
81						82						83		84		85				
86					87		88				89	90			91	92				
93					94			95	96					97						
				98				99		100						101				
102	103	104							105				106		107					
108							109					110					111	112	113	114
115																119	120			
121																				
124																				

King Crossword

- ACROSS**

1 Green shade

5 Police officer

8 Achy

12 Last writes?

13 Coach

14 Bard's river

15 Besides

17 Hatchling's home

18 Bagel choice

19 Aquarium favorites

21 Weir

22 Mediocre

23 Fan's cry

26 '60s war zone

28 Entrap

31 Coup d' —

33 "The Voice" network

35 "My Way" composer

36 Event location

38 "Eureka!"

40 Speck

41 Zwei follower

43 Literary rep

45 Move fast

47 Wiped out

51 Teen fave

52 Oliver Twist's request

54 Margarita garnish

55 Leading lady?

56 Buffalo's lake

57 "A Room of
- Own"

58 Sailor

59 Grit

10 Activist Parks

11 Tolkien crea- tures

16 Muscat's land

20 Overhead trains

23 Speed (up)

24 Devoured

25 Good-looking

27 CEO's deg.

29 "Top Hat" stu- dio

30 Chow down

32 Swimming reptiles

34 Smooth talker
- 37 Shoe width

39 Malaria symp- tom

42 Map within a map

44 London newspaper

45 Hawaiian city

46 Tennis score

48 Asta's feeder

49 Ireland

50 Monopoly card

53 Eggs
- DOWN**

1 May honorees

2 Bassoon's kin

3 Round Table titles

4 Lieu

5 Neanderthal

6 Raw mineral

7 Medicare sec- tion

8 "Evil Ways" band

9 Type of vol-

MAGIC MAZE

THE EYES HAVE IT

B L I F C Z W T Q N K I F C Z

W U R P M J H E C Z X U T S Q

N L J G E C Z X V T R P W N P

L J H E Y C A Y W V T S I E E

R P N L K R I G E C B Q N Z E

Z X W E U S A R K P V U K A R

O B S U C O F E S P M I L G A

M L L Y T N E W T Y T N E W T

J I G I E P A D B A Y T L W S

X W U T N S D L O H E B G Q P

O N L K J K W A G H G F O D C

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

Unlisted clue hint: BRIEFLY SHUT THE EYES

Behold

Focus

Gawk

Gaze

Glance

Glimpse

Ogle

Peek

Peer

Squint

Stare

Teary

Twenty-twenty

Twinkle

View



Guava Barbecue Wings



Guava Barbecue Wings
24 chicken wings (separated into 2 pieces)
1 (14-ounce) brick guava paste
12 ounces guava nectar
1/4 cup honey
1 onion, diced
1 tablespoon ancho chili powder
1 tablespoon cumin
1 tablespoon garlic powder
2 tablespoons black pepper
3 cups ketchup
2 tablespoon soy sauce
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
2 tablespoon all-purpose seasoning (divided)

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

Fresh herbs for garnish, finely chopped (such as parsley, cilantro, or thyme)
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste
In a medium sauce pot combine all ingredients except for the wings and 1 tablespoon all-purpose seasoning. Cook over low-medium heat until the guava paste is dissolved, about 30 minutes. Taste and adjust seasoning as needed. Remove from heat and set aside.
Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Spray a baking sheet with nonstick spray. Spread out wings in one layer, season with remaining 1 tablespoon all-purpose seasoning and bake for 45 minutes. Turn oven up to 425 and bake for additional 15 minutes or until golden brown and crispy. Remove from oven and toss with guava barbeque sauce and garnish with chopped fresh herbs. Serve warm.✪

PETS OF THE WEEK



Charles Wilson ID# A739215 photos provided Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Charles Wilson And Cinnamon

Hello, my name is Charles Wilson. I'm a red and white 5-year-old male pit bull mix. I have been crowned prom king, and you know what that means – my adoption fee is waived with an approved application. I came to Animal Services after my previous owner passed away. I have that well-aged, rugged look, even though I am just a teenager. I am full of energy and spunk, and I am at my happiest when I am around people. Who wouldn't want to adopt a king into the family?
Hi, my name is Cinnamon. I'm a brown tabby 3-month-old female domestic shorthair. Kitten season is in full



Cinnamon ID# A860194

swing at Animal Services, and they have every color and size you could be looking for. Just one look at the head tilt pose on me, and you will no doubt fall in love! I'm a sassy girl who knows what I like and want and will no doubt let you know. I have a great spirit and will keep you entertained. My adoption fee is \$10, and you can adopt a feline friend for me at no additional charge.
Lee County Domestic Animal Services is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available by appointment Monday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit www.leelostpets.com to complete an online application. As always, cats and kittens are adopt one and get a feline friend at no additional charge. For more information, call 533-7387.✪

My Stars ★★★★★
FOR WEEK OF MAY 24, 2021

Aries (March 21 to April 19) Home conditions still demand attention. Also, keep an open mind about a sudden question of trust involving a close friend. All the facts are not yet in.
Taurus (April 20 to May 20) With summer just around the corner, travel begins to dominate your sign. Make plans carefully to avoid potential problems in the first half of June.
Gemini (May 21 to June 20) A romantic Libra sets a challenge that your "sensible" side might question, but your idealistic self finds the prospect too intriguing to resist. The choice is yours.
Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Those tense times in your personal life are just about over. Concentrate on reaffirming relationships. Your love of travel opens a surprising new opportunity.
Leo (July 23 to August 22) The Big Cat usually loves to be in the center of things. But this week it might be wiser to watch and learn from the sidelines. A Pisces wants to make you purr.
Virgo (August 23 to September 22)

"New" is your watchword this week. Be open to new ideas, both on the job and in your personal life. A romantic Aries or Sagittarian beckons.
Libra (September 23 to October 22) Some difficult family decisions have to be faced, but be sure to get more facts before you act. Be careful not to neglect your health during this trying time.
Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) You still need to support a loved one through a difficult time. Meanwhile, things continue to work out to your benefit in the workplace.
Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Aspects continue to favor expanding social opportunities. A Gemini reaches out to offer a chance for re-establishing a once-close relationship.
Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) There's a potential for misunderstanding in both your job and your personal life. A full explanation of your intentions helps smooth things over.
Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) You might be feeling restless on the job, but delay making any major moves until all the facts are in. A Scorpio has

a surprising revelation.
Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Your business sense works to your advantage as you sort through the possibilities that are opening up. A Libra is Cupid's best bet for your romantic prospects.
Born This Week: You have a gift for being open-minded about people. This helps you make friends easily. You would do very well in public service.

MOMENTS IN TIME

• On May 31, 1859, the famous tower clock known as Big Ben, located at the top of the 320-foot-high Elizabeth Tower, rings out over London for the first time. At night, all four of the clock's faces, each one 23 feet across, are illuminated. A light above Big Ben is also lit to let the public know when Parliament is in session.
• On June 4, 1876, a mere 83 hours after leaving New York City, the Transcontinental Express train arrives in San Francisco. First-class passengers rode in beautifully appointed cars with plush velvet seats that converted into snug sleeping berths. Third-class

passengers sat on narrow wooden benches.
• On June 5, 1922, George W. Carmack, the first person to discover gold along the Klondike River, dies in British Columbia. In 1896, near the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike River, Carmack stumbled across a deposit of gold so rich that thumb-sized pieces of gold lay scattered along the creek bed.
• On June 6, 1933, eager motorists park their automobiles on the grounds the first-ever drive-in movie theater, in New Jersey. Inventor Richard Hollingshead had come up with the idea in his driveway with different projection and sound techniques.
• On June 2, 1953, Queen Elizabeth II is formally crowned monarch of the United Kingdom in a ceremony steeped in traditions that date back a millennium.
• On June 3, 1965, 120 miles above the Earth, Major Edward White II opens the hatch and steps out of the Gemini 4 capsule, becoming the first U.S. astronaut to walk in space. Attached to the craft by a 25-foot tether, White

continued on page 30



FRIDAY
Sunny
High: 83 Low: 72



SATURDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 85 Low: 76



SUNDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 83 Low: 72



MONDAY
Sunny
High: 84 Low: 74



TUESDAY
Sunny
High: 83 Low: 72



WEDNESDAY
Sunny
High: 84 Low: 74



THURSDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 82 Low: 71

Redfish Pass Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	2:04 pm	10:14 pm	None	None
Sat	2:50 pm	11:11 pm	None	None
Sun	3:41 pm	None	None	None
Mon	4:42 pm	12:09 am	None	None
Tue	5:59 pm	1:04 am	None	None
Wed	9:56 am	1:55 am	7:39 pm	2:00 pm
Thu	10:13 am	2:41 am	9:21 pm	3:37 pm

Point Ybel Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	1:09 pm	10:16 pm	None	None
Sat	1:55 pm	11:13 pm	None	None
Sun	2:46 pm	None	None	None
Mon	3:47 pm	12:11 am	None	None
Tue	5:04 pm	1:06 am	None	None
Wed	9:01 am	1:57 am	6:44 pm	2:02 pm
Thu	9:18 am	2:43 am	8:26 pm	3:39 pm

Punta Rassa Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	3:58 am	8:34 am	1:56 pm	10:14 pm
Sat	5:03 am	9:30 am	2:52 pm	11:06 pm
Sun	6:00 am	10:27 am	4:28 pm	None
Mon	6:57 am	12:00 am	5:46 pm	11:28 am
Tue	7:49 am	1:00 am	6:55 pm	12:53 pm
Wed	8:34 am	2:01 am	7:59 pm	2:21 pm
Thu	9:14 am	2:51 am	8:58 pm	3:23 pm

Cape Coral Bridge Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:14 pm	12:35 am	None	None
Sat	5:00 pm	1:30 am	None	None
Sun	5:51 pm	2:27 am	None	None
Mon	6:52 pm	3:25 am	None	None
Tue	8:09 pm	4:20 am	None	None
Wed	12:06 pm	5:11 am	9:49 pm	5:16 pm
Thu	12:23 pm	5:57 am	11:31 pm	6:53 pm

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From page 28

Moments In Time

remained outside the capsule for 20 minutes.

• On June 1, 1980, CNN (Cable News Network), the world’s first 24-hour television news network, makes its debut.

CNN signed on at 6 p.m. EDT from its headquarters in Atlanta.

NOW HERE’S A TIP

• There are many fancy cleaners for sale for wood and laminate floors. Truth is, all you need is regular sweeping and a clean, damp mop. Never use harsh cleaners on wood, and do not use too much moisture.

• DD in Missouri keeps morning cereal crisp by using two bowls. Bite by bite dipped in milk is the perfect remedy for avoiding a soggy spoonful!

• Use white chalk to fill pin holes in the wall before painting. You can also use this tactic to hide holes if you are unable to paint the white walls of a rental. It simply fills the hole, making it “disappear.”

• Save prescription medicine bottles and use them to sort beads or findings for beadwork or jewelry making. Bonus: Store the bottles upside down in a plastic storage bin so you can see what’s in the bottles without having to sort through all of them.

• Add chocolate syrup to your cake mix for a deliciously deep flavor when making a chocolate cake.

• Check your pillows: Press into the pillow at the spot where your head rests. If the pillow doesn’t spring back when you remove your hands, it’s time to replace it.

• Add these to the list of items to eliminate the odor of cooking cabbage: a heel of bread, a whole walnut or a pinch of baking soda.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• Are you one of those folks who paces while talking on the phone? Psychologists believe this may be a kind of coping mechanism to make up for lack of body language and nonverbal cues that normally accompany conversation.

• A chef traditionally wears white

because the chef of the first prime minister of France (1815) believed it was the most hygienic of all colors.

• The shape of the Coca-Cola bottle is patterned after a cacao seed pod.

• In 1995, Chris “Fenderman” Black got hitched to his Fender Stratocaster guitar that he’d purchased 35 years earlier, after his real wife quipped that he spent so much time with it, he should marry it.

• Early Hoover vacuum cleaners were hard to sell because potential customers refused to believe they could have that much dirt in their carpets.

• Plane exhaust kills more people than plane crashes. Approximately 10,000 people die annually from toxic airplane pollutants.

• Argentine goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea would crouch down and covertly urinate on the field before every penalty shootout for good luck. He started the ritual during the 1990 World Cup quarterfinals and continued it for the rest of his career.

• “Hurkle-durkle” is an old Scottish word meaning to lie in bed after it’s time to get up and get going.

• A New Jersey man bought a \$5

bottle of orange juice, which his wife deemed too expensive and sent him back to return. He bought two Powerball lottery tickets with the refund and ended up winning the jackpot worth \$315.3 million.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“I think that you have to believe in your destiny, that you will succeed; you will meet a lot of rejection and it is not always a straight path, there will be detours – so enjoy the view.”

– Michael York

TRIVIA TEST

1. **Movies:** How long was the shortest Academy Awards ceremony?
2. **Television:** Which U.S. state was the setting for the 1980s *Newhart* TV sitcom?
3. **Medical:** What is a common name for the condition known medically as ankylosis?
4. **Geography:** Which European nation colonized Haiti?
5. **History:** What was the Monroe Doctrine, a policy stated by

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After 9, it's Turtle Time
• Turn off all lights visible from the beach
• Only use amber (red) lights at night
• Fill in any holes on the beach
• Remove all beach furniture

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5/28 ★ 7/16

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No early birds, please.
5/28 ★ 6/4

PUBLIC SERVICE

AL-ATEEN HELP LINE
Are you concerned with a friend or family member's drinking?
Call the 24-hour help line of South Florida Al-Anon at 941-564-5098 or visit www.southfloridaal-anon.org.
4/24 ★ TFN

CYCLING SAFETY NOTES
• Ride to the Right
• Warn to Pass
• Wear a Helmet
• Use Lights at Night
• Always be Courteous

Shore Fishing:



Don't Harm The Fish
by Capt. Matt Mitchell
Landing a big fish from the beach can be hard on the fish. Dragging a fish up onto the sand if you're going to release it is not an option as it usually damages or kills the fish.
Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it.
The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.
If you want a picture with the fish, support it as you lift it out of the water – and do it quickly.
Before releasing, revive the fish while holding it in the water; moving it slowly back and forth so water goes over its gills. The fish will let you know when it's ready to swim off.
Florida residents as well as out of state visitors need a fishing license to fish from shore.

- President James Monroe in 1823?
- 6. **Advertising:** Horatio Magellan Crunch is the mascot for which cereal brand?
 - 7. **Food & Drink:** What is bannock?
 - 8. **Bible:** What is the Pentateuch?
 - 9. **Science:** How do mosses reproduce?
 - 10. **Inventions:** When did the first patented drive-in movie theater open?

HORTOONS



TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. The first Academy Awards ceremony in 1929 lasted 15 minutes. 2. Vermont 3. Stiff joint 4. France 5. The U.S. opposed further European colonization of the Americas, but wouldn't interfere with existing colonies or meddle in the affairs of European countries. 6. Cap'n Crunch 7. Flat, quick bread of Scottish origin 8. The first five books of the Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy 9. Spores 10. 1933 in Camden, New Jersey.

SCRAMBLERS ANSWER

1. Inch 2. Treat;
3. Deface; 4. Basalt
Today's Word
THRIFT

PUZZLE ANSWERS

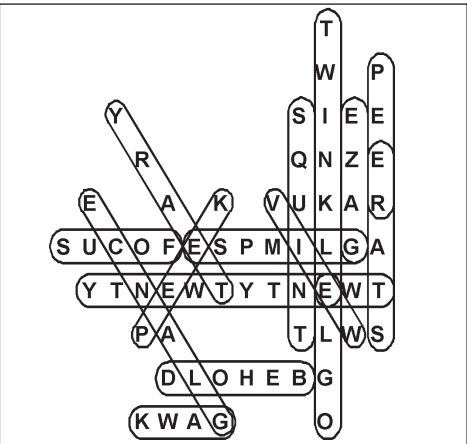
SUPER CROSSWORD

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H	A	N	D			S	K	Y			E	D	S		N	E	A

KING CROSSWORD

M	O	S	S		C	O	P		S	O	R	E	
O	B	I	T		A	R	A		A	V	O	N	
M	O	R	E	O	V	E	R		N	E	S	T	
S	E	S	A	M	E		T	E	T	R	A	S	
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MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Imperial Shores	Bonita Springs	2016	5,801	\$2,495,000	\$2,350,000	48
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2013	3,824	\$2,110,000	\$2,095,000	73
Sanctuary At Wulfert	Sanibel	2013	2,703	\$1,649,000	\$1,649,000	19
Sanctuary	Bonita Springs	1999	3,127	\$1,175,000	\$1,355,000	1
Evans James Homstead	Fort Myers	1924	3,872	\$1,399,999	\$1,325,000	111
Hérons Landings II	Sanibel	2002	2,621	\$1,245,000	\$1,315,000	5
Sanctuary At Wulfert	Sanibel	1993	3,514	\$1,495,900	\$1,300,000	16
Buttonwood Harbor	North Fort Myers	2006	5,198	\$1,199,000	\$1,202,000	49
Hidden Harbor	Fort Myers	2017	2,673	\$1,195,000	\$1,195,000	39
North Yachtsman Porte	Sanibel	1987	2,472	\$1,129,000	\$1,124,000	28



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