



World Premiere Kicks Off Lab Theater Season

The 14th season of Laboratory Theater of Florida has begun and will feature a world premiere and five Southwest Florida premieres in the lineup. Season 14 also includes the perennial favorite 24-Hour Playwriting Project, staged readings, post-performance talkbacks and special events.

The Birds, adapted by Annette Trossbach, is playing through Sunday, June 26. Based on the classic Hitchcock film, this laugh-out-loud parody features heroes battling evil birds with plans to terrorize humans.

In addition to the prestige of being a world premiere, this show has the lofty goal of setting a Guinness World Record for the most birds (in the form of Peeps) used in a theatrical production.

Adapted by Trossbach and workshopped by a tight-knit ensemble cast and crew, *The Birds* is a Lab Theater original and sponsored by Art Zupko and



The world premiere of *The Birds* is on stage now through June 26

image provided

Hulett Environmental Services.

Trap by Stephen Gregg (Southwest Florida premiere) is a limited engagement offering on July 15 and 16 as part of the theater's education program. *Trap* is a documentary-style thriller play based on research into the strange happenings of Menachap, California, where every member of a middle school play in 2019 fell unconscious. Using interviews with witnesses, first responders and scientists involved in the strange case, the audience feels as if they're living through the events themselves... whether they want to or not.

Fairview by Jackie Sibbles Drury (Southwest Florida premiere) opens on August 5 and is sponsored by Grampy's Charities. This 2019 Pulitzer Prize-winning show features a sitcom-style family preparing for a birthday party. An unwelcome group of observers co-opts the story, resulting in a disruption of the action that will leave spectators asking questions.

The Play That Goes Wrong by Henry Lewis, Henry Shields and Jonathan Sayer (Southwest Florida Premiere) opens on September 16, is sponsored by Marlene

continued on page 16



The cast of *The Emperor's New Clothes*

photo provided

Classic Tale With A Musical Twist

Broadway Palm Children's Theatre is featuring the musical adaptation of the Hans Christian Anderson classic *The Emperor's New Clothes* during select matinees through Friday, June 24.

The classic tale is about an emperor who cares more about his clothes than anything else in his kingdom. That all changes when Mr. Stitch and Mr. Sew wreak havoc at the palace when they present the emperor with a special gift

— an exquisitely beautiful “magic” suit that is invisible to all but the wisest of men.

Broadway Palm Children's Theatre presents full-scale productions that are great for all ages. Performances are matinees with lunch beginning at noon and show beginning at 1 p.m.

Tickets for the buffet and the show are \$20 for all ages. Group rates are available for parties of 20 or more.

Broadway Palm Children's Theatre is located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. For tickets, call 278-4422, visit www.broadwaypalm.com or stop by the box office.*

District Honors Mentor Of The Year

Ana Lamotta has been selected as the APPLES (Accomplished Professional Practices for Lee County Education System) Mentor of the Year, according to the School District of Lee County. Lamotta is a peer collaborative teacher at Hector A. Cafferata Jr. Elementary School.

“I am honored to have received such a prestigious award,” Lamotta said. “I love what I do and am rewarded daily by having the opportunity to work with students, teachers and administration. I truly have the best of all worlds as we share the common goal to increase student achievement.”

Lamotta began her teaching career with the district in 2004. She has been a mentor to beginning teachers nearly every year since. As a peer collaborative teacher, she spends part of her day teaching students and the other part supporting her school's teachers.

“Mrs. Lamotta demonstrates a strong commitment to helping others grow,” said Assistant Principal Michael Licata. “She shows a willingness to share her experiences and knowledge. She creates a rapport that supports trust and openness and takes a genuine interest in her mentees both personally and professionally. Mrs. Lamotta is always willing to help and support in any way she can, while providing feedback that is honest, objective and constructive.”

The School District of Lee County's APPLES program offers a multi-tiered system of support to new and beginning teachers. One layer of support is that of the APPLES mentors, which were nominated by their administrators. A selection committee then named finalists and interviewed them to choose the award winner.*



Ana Lamotta

photo provided

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Peck, Almost Lost In History



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

Peck Avenue and Alley are certainly lesser-known streets today, but “Peck” has a long history as a street name. Unlike some names that have completely disappeared – Banana Street or Washington Avenue, for example – Peck is still hanging on. The name comes from “Bell-Peck Addition” or “Peck Addition,” the strip of land between Peck on the south and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard on the north. That addition is bound by Lee and Monroe streets on the east and west, respectively.

Before the avenue had the name Peck, it was Kerney Street, as indicated by an 1880s map. The name soon changed, for Clarence I. and Ferdinand W. Peck of Chicago, who had large local land holdings in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Thus, the names Peck Avenue and Alley.

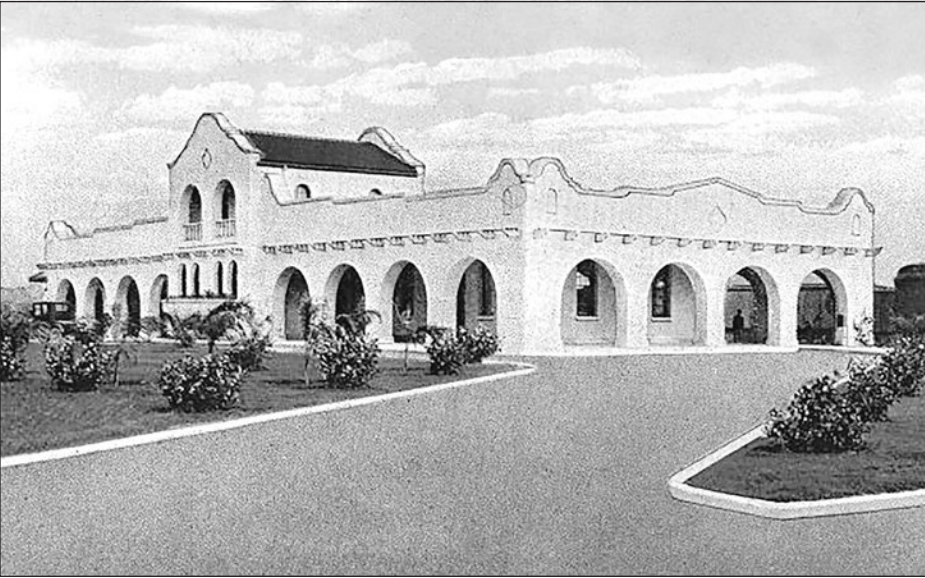
Shown in the historic photo is the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad passenger depot around the time it opened, February 4, 1924. For most of the building’s near-century history, it bore a Peck address.

The Mediterranean Revivalist style depot had replaced the first ACL passenger depot, a wood frame building at Main and Monroe, which had been constructed shortly after rail service began in Fort Myers in 1904.

The depot’s picturesque main entrance was on the north side facing Peck Alley, which now is more like a driveway than a street.

Peck Avenue ran on the south side of the depot parallel to the many strands of rail tracks that continued west to Monroe and then south to the downtown riverfront, where packinghouses were located.

The depot retained the Peck address until the first decade of this century, when it gained a new main entrance, and thus a new address on Jackson Street.



This undated photo shows the original road configuration at the ACL Passenger Depot bound by Peck Alley on the north (front) and Peck Avenue along the rear of the building
photo courtesy Florida State Archives



The former depot is now part of Collaboratory and the entrance (right) faces Jackson Street, not Peck Alley
photo by Gerri Reaves

By that time, it had long been a historical museum. After ACL passenger service had ended in 1971, and after a period of vacancy, the City of Fort Myers bought the depot in 1975. In 1982, it reopened as the Fort Myers Historical Museum (later renamed the Southwest Florida Historical Museum). The museum closed in 2016 but in 2018 reopened as one the area’s best redevelopment projects ever, Collaboratory, a model of historic preservation and environmental sustainability.

Collaboratory not only kept the Jackson Street address, but left railroad tracks in place so they enter the building with you! Talk about a nod to history....

While the old references to the Peck name went the way of the railroad, so have other links to the past.

Of course, the multiple rail tracks on Peck Avenue are long gone, and even the avenue’s name is no more.

It was renamed Widman Way in honor of Fort Myers Police Officer Andrew Widman, who was killed in 2008 in the line of duty.

“Peck”... just one example of how names appear and vanish, taking a little bit of history with them.

Stroll down Peck Alley to see the 1924 depot that was repurposed for the 21 century – and the alley named for two, a Chicago twosome.

Then visit the following two research centers to learn more about the depot’s important role in the development of Fort Myers.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization open Wednesday and 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. Call 332-8778 for the hours or visit www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org.

Also stop by the IMAG History & Science Center at 2000 Cranford Avenue or at www.theimag.org.

Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society and the Fort Myers Press. ✨

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Historic lily pond at Edison and Ford Winter Estates will soon be restored photo provided

Donation To Restore Lily Pond At Estates

The Edison and Ford Winter Estates received a \$10,000 donation from a member to restore the historic lily pond. The Edisons added the pond in 1929 as a means to collect excess water from the swimming pool. It sits between the pool and the Caloosahatchee River. Historic documents indicate that Mina Edison had planted iris, water lilies and papyrus around the pond.

The restoration plan includes draining the pond, cleaning the cement bottom of plant debris, creating a littoral zone and planting Florida native wetland species,

and repairing the rock edge. The coral rock waterfall behind the papyrus, which hasn't worked in many years will also be repaired.

"I mentioned to one of our members that we needed about \$10,000 to restore the lily pond," said Debbie Hughes, horticulture director at Edison and Ford Winter Estates. "After walking around the site, the member came back and pledged to donate the money to restore the pond."

The pond is in an area of high visibility, as it's near the river pavilion, which is available to rent for private events, and visitors pass the pond when walking to Pinchers restaurant. Work is slated to begin this summer and will not impact daily tours. For additional information about the site, or to purchase tickets online, visit www.edisonrord.org.

College-Credit Program Funding

Through a partnership with the Lee County Economic Development Office, Lee County residents selecting to enroll in certain Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) college-credit certificate programs may be eligible for funding to support in-state

tuition and fees provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (APRA).

FSW programs that are eligible for the funding are:

FSW School of Business and Technology – Accounting Technology Management, CCC; Computer Programmer, CCC; Financial Services Management, CCC; Information Technology Support Specialist, CCC; Network Security, CCC; Real Estate

Paralegal, CCC; Risk Management & Insurance Management, CCC; Small Business Management, CCC; Business Analytics, AS; and Computer Programming and Analysis, AS

School of Health Professions – Emergency Medical Technician, CCC

To be eligible, students must be Lee County residents, declare their program of study in one of the eligible FSW programs, commit to completing selected program of study by December 2023, and be available to work in Lee County.

Additionally, FSW's Continuing Education department offers micro-credentialing classes that may be covered by ARPA funding. Many of these career-ready certificates are available online and are self-paced.

Micro-credential programs include: QuickBooks Certified Users Program; FSW Leadership Academy; FSW Customer Service Academy; Microsoft Office MOS; Waste Water Operators Certification; Drinking Water Operators Certification; Project Management Professional (PMP); Phlebotomy; and Nurse Remedial/Refresher Course

Online programs include: Insurance Customer Service Agent Certification; Insurance Accredited Claims Adjuster; Real Estate Pre-licensing; Property Management; Coding Boot Camp; and Hazmat Train the Trainer.

For more information, contact Adrian Kerr, executive director of FSW Continuing Professional Education, at 432-7313 or email corporate.training@fsw.edu.

Free Meals For School Children

The School District of Lee County is partnering with the Florida's Summer BreakSpot program to keep children healthy and well-nourished while school is out. The program allows the district's food and nutrition services department to provide free meals to children age 18 and younger at no cost to them during the summer.

This summer, breakfast and lunch will be served at more than 80 school-based and community sites in Lee County between Tuesday, June 7 and Friday, July 29. There are no income requirements or registration. Meals must be consumed on site as there is no longer any grab and go service.

"The School District of Lee County has partnered with the Summer Feeding Program for over 20 years" said Food and Nutrition Services Director Kandy Messenger. "Serving summer meals to the students when school is not in session is an important service that we are able to provide."

There are three ways to find a Summer BreakSpot site and serving times for breakfast and lunch: dial 2-1-1, text "FoodFL" to 304-304 or visit www.summerbreakspot.org.

There will be a summer meals kickoff event at Paul Sanborn Park on Tuesday, June 7 from 11 a.m. to noon. The Cape Coral Parks & Recreation Fun-Mobile will be on site until 1 p.m. to offer a variety of free games and activities.

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Fort Myers Art:

Fort Myers Ward 4 Art Hub At Collaboratory



by Tom Hall

The City of Fort Myers Public Art Committee (PAC) has been establishing art hubs in each of the city's six wards using the 23 Edgardo Carmona sculptures that the

city purchased in August of 2018. One such art hub is the Collaboratory, which is located in Ward 4 at 2031 Jackson Street adjacent to the Fort Myers Fire Department's main station. At the behest of City Councilman Liston Bochette and the request of the Collaboratory, the PAC relocated Carmona's *Ribbon Routine* (*Ena En La Plaza*) to the plaza facing west toward the Lee Tran/Greyhound Bus Station.

The term art hub refers to a location that is either a cultural, residential or business destination. The Collaboratory is unquestionably the latter. Formerly known as Southwest Florida Community Foundation, the Collaboratory announced in 2021 that it is committed to bringing Southwest Florida together to solve all of this area's major social



Ribbon Routine by Edgardo Carmona, right, at the Collaboratory

photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

problems by 2040. It is the greatest community problem-solving initiative in American history.

To accomplish this ambitious goal, the Collaboratory is building an infrastructure and assembling partners in the business, philanthropic and governmental communities. While many of our local leaders in these economic sectors frequently see and interact with public, private and corporate art, others do not. By making the Collaboratory an art hub, all of these influential decision-makers will be exposed to the beauty and benefits of public art.

But the Collaboratory is a prime

location for an art hub for at least two other reasons. First, it is located directly across the street from the Rosa Parks Greyhound Bus Station. Built more than 20 years ago, the Rosa Parks Transportation Center has evolved into a significant focal point in Lee County's transportation network. It is currently undergoing a major \$4 million renovation that will enable it to handle the local demand for additional service and amenities. Thanks to an Intermodal Access Development Program grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the terminal will soon have two new bays at the northeast corner of the site on Widman Way, two more street-side bays on the west side of the site along Hendry Street, and expanded connections for persons with limited mobility. In addition, the facility will gain upgraded technology features and renovations to the interior and exterior of the building, making the space more comfortable and convenient for passengers while improving access for pedestrians and bicyclists.

According to Lee County Spokesman Tom Engstrom, the hub sees an average of 1,100 riders each day. For many of these passengers, glimpsing *Ribbon Routine* as they wait or disembark may very well represent their first or only exposure to public art. For newcomers, the committee also hopes that *Ribbon Routine* will create a favorable first impression, announcing that they've arrived in a town that values art and culture.

Last but by no means least, as the

240-acre midtown district grows and develops in accordance with the city's Midtown Vision Plan, the Collaboratory will increasingly find itself positioned as a gateway into the River District for the thousands of new residents expected to occupy the residential neighborhoods and patronize the mixed-used activity centers that will complement the historic district and nearby riverfront. While not intended as a gateway artwork, *Ribbon Routine* has the potential to define this portal-pathway as an entry point into the city's art and cultural hub.

Text and photos describing the sculpture have already been added to the city's free mobile app, Otocast, which provides Fort Myers residents and visitors with background information about 28 of the 40 outdoor artworks in the city's public art collection. An audio describing how the sculpture reflects and is emblematic of the Collaboratory's mission is in the process of being recorded and uploaded to the app as well.

To learn more about the city's other art hubs, visit www.artswfl.com/public-art-2/fort-myers-river-district-public-art-2/art-hubs/spotlight-on-ward-2-art-hub-at-community-urban-farm/spotlight-on-fort-myers-ward-2-art-hub-at-community-urban-farm.

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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Sea Turtle Lecture At Mound House

The Mound House will host a lecture titled *Sea Turtles: New Research* on Tuesday, June 14 with Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Sea Turtle Program Coordinator Kelly Sloan. The adult-only program will feature a wine-&-refreshments reception at 5:30 p.m. and the lecture from 6 to 7 p.m. Sloan earned a master's degree in

environmental science & policy and wrote a thesis on barnacle growth as a debilitated turtle syndrome indicator in loggerhead sea turtles. Due to limited seating, advance registrations are necessary. Cost is \$7 for Mound House members and \$12 for non-members. All unvaccinated guests are encouraged to wear masks. The Mound House is located at 451 Connecticut Street on Fort Myers Beach. For more information, reservations and a monthly programs schedule, call 765-0865 or visit www.moundhouse.org.✧



Andrew Chaung Saladin



Carson Mulvey



Isabel Liu



Jaansi Parsa

Microsoft State Champions

Four Dunbar High School students are 2022 Certipoint Microsoft Office Specialist Florida State Champions. All four students have been invited to compete in the Microsoft Office Specialist U.S. National Championship in Dallas, Texas from June 20 through June 22.

The 2022 state champions are: Andrew Chaung Saladin in Excel 2016; Carson Mulvey in Excel 2019; Isabel Liu in PowerPoint 2019; and Jaansi Parsa in PowerPoint 2016.

Three of this year's state champions have already had national and international success. Saladin is the reigning state, national and world champion in PowerPoint 2019. Mulvey is the reigning state and national champion in PowerPoint 2016. He finished second at the 2021 World Championship. Parsi is the reigning state champion in Excel 2016. She

finished second in the 2021 national competition.

Since Dunbar began competing in 2011, the school has had 29 state champions and the rare distinction of having three Microsoft World Champions and six national champions.

"It is outstanding to see our students continually place at the state, national and world levels," said Dunbar High School Principal Carl Burnside. "Once students have that taste for success, that success drives them to attain even more. It is also a credit to our teachers who continue to produce champions year after year, setting the standard for high schools in the area of technology in the United States."

The winner of the U.S. National Championship will receive a \$3,000 scholarship, trophy, certificate and an invitation to compete at the Microsoft Office Specialist World Championship in Anaheim, California at the end of July.

For more information about the Microsoft US National Championship, visit <https://us.moschampionship.com>.✱

Anglers Urged To Maintain Best Fish Practices

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is celebrating the launch of Return 'Em Right, a multi-entity effort in the Gulf of Mexico led by Florida Sea Grant, University of Florida, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, NOAA Fisheries, and a coalition of anglers, industry groups, universities, government and non-government organizations committed to maintaining healthy fish stocks and fishing access.

Return 'Em Right promotes best fishing practices to increase the survival of released reef fish. This includes proper fish handling and use of venting

tools or descending devices to mitigate barotrauma, a condition seen in many fish caused by the expansion of gases in the swim bladder when brought up from deeper depths. Barotrauma can be fatal for fish, and signs include the stomach coming out of the mouth, bulging eyes, bloated belly and distended intestines.

Weighted tools such as descending devices can help fish suffering from barotrauma overcome buoyancy issues and return them back to depth. These weighted devices come in a variety of forms including inverted hooks, lip clamp devices and crates or boxes. When used properly, research shows that descending devices can significantly increase the long-term survival of released fish.

Anglers fishing in the Gulf of Mexico that are age 18 and older who target reef fish in the Gulf of Mexico are

eligible to receive a free package of release gear from Return 'Em Right. The release gear packages are currently limited to Gulf of Mexico reef fish anglers only.

Sign up for your no-cost state reef fish angler designation before you plan to fish for or harvest certain reef fish species in gulf or Atlantic waters from a private recreational vessel (includes anglers over age 65). Learn more at www.myfwc.com/srfs and sign up at www.gooutdoorsflorida.com or anywhere you can purchase a Florida fishing license. For more information on the Return 'Em Right program, visit <http://returnemright.org> and www.myfwc.com/fishhandling.✱

Dean's List

Rachael Dochinger of Fort Myers has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2022 semester at University of Vermont. Dochinger is in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and an environmental studies major.

To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class.✱

Dean's List Honors

Seven students from Fort Myers were named to the dean's list for the spring 2022 semester at Tallahassee Community College. They are Samantha Massaro, Ethan Trombetti, Samuel Settos, Ross Nicholson, Sydney Levin, Brooke Adams and Caroline Gardner.

Students must earn a 3.50 grade point average to receive recognition.

David Larosa of Fort Myers has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2022 semester at Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio.

Larosa is majoring in petroleum engineering and is a graduate of Fort Myers High School.

Any full-time Marietta College student completing at least 15 credit hours with a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.74 in a given semester is recognized as a dean's list student for that semester.

Nolan Nguyen of Fort Myers was named to the dean's list for the spring 2022 semester at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa.

The dean's list recognizes full-time students achieving a 3.5 grade point average or higher for the semester.✱



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Sandy Stilwell Youngquist and Donna Lovejoy photos provided

Dress Collection Event Raises Funds For Pace

Pace Center for Girls, Lee raised more than \$53,000 during its Love That Dress! Sunset at St. Charles Yacht Club on May 12.

Taking place at the St. Charles Harbour & Yacht Club, the evening featured live music, hors d'oeuvres,



From left, Darlene Grossman, Olivia Tenzel, Rebekah Barney and Jenna Persons-Mulicka

refreshing cocktails and silent and live auctions offering one-of-a-kind packages and experiences. During the event, more than 300 dresses were collected to be sold at deeply discounted prices during Pace's annual Love That Dress! event on August 24. With a series of social events to help build inventory, the fundraising event culminates with what's described as the ultimate feel-good shopping spree of the year.

Proceeds from Love That Dress!

benefit Pace Lee, which provides academic programs and counseling services to girls and young women ages 11 to 18 who are working to overcome risk factors such as poverty, substance abuse, domestic violence, foster home placement, neglect, grief, incarceration of a family member, mental health and physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

To learn more about Pace Lee and its programs, visit www.pacecenter.org/locations/lee or call 425-2366.*

Singer Songwriters Needed For Competition

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC) is calling all original musicians for its Singer Songwriter Competition. Interested participants will have an opportunity to perform an original song live, win prizes and compete for a spot at Southwest Florida's Island Hopper Songwriter Festival.

The Singer Songwriter Competition is part of the center's Sounds of Summer Series. Competitors must submit lyrics and a video of themselves performing an original song by August 11, which is the deadline for video entries. There is no fee to enter.

Selected artists will be invited to perform one original song live in front of a judge's panel and a live audience at SBDAC on Friday, August 19. Cocktail hour starts at 6:30 p.m., and the event begins at 7:30 p.m. Judges will give feedback on each performance and determine the Grand Prize winner. The audience has a chance to vote for the People's Choice winner.

The winner of the Grand Prize will receive a performance spot at the Island Hopper Songwriter Festival in September, three hours of recording studio time utilizing SBDAC's Six Fingers studio, gift cards from the

continued on page 8

Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

Service 10:30 a.m. in house and live on Facebook. Adult Ed Forum 9:15 a.m. in Sanctuary, www.allfaithsuu.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

Friday Shabbat services every week 7:30 p.m. 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.crownoflife.org.

crownoflifelutheran.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 9 and 11 a.m. English, 10 a.m. Spanish. 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 10 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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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.

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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.lambofgodchurch.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.

SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER

Meditation classes. www.MeditationInFortMyers.org, 567-9739.

SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC

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

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC

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

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

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

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN

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

SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY

Sunday 9:30 a.m., www.saintnicholasmonast.com

ery.org, 111 Evergreen Road, 997-2847.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC

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

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST

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

TEMPLE 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.tjswfl.org, 14486 A&W Bulb Road, 433-0201.

THE FAITH CENTER

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

THOMAS A. EDISON CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday 10:30 a.m., www.taec.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

Saturday 5 p.m.; Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m., www.zionfm.org, 7401 Winkler Road, 481-4040.

Email changes to press@islandsunnews.com or call 395-1213.*



Ballmoss is a native bromeliad, not a moss
photos by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart

Lovely And Overlooked

by Gerri Reaves

This time of year, there's a gorgeous little native flower that's seemingly everywhere.

Ballmoss (*Tillandsia recurvata*) is in bloom.

Despite being one of the most common native bromeliads – no, ballmoss is not actually a moss – and despite the species having an astounding versatility in where it can thrive – on power wires, stop-signs and tree branches, or wall cracks – its flowers just don't get the attention they deserve.

Bouquets of flowers are often found even on the ground after windy weather dislodges the spherical masses from trees and shrubs.

To the undiscerning eye, the tangle of silvery or gray-green stems underfoot looks like so much debris, but they are valuable in that they decompose and renourish the soil.

This rootless air plant, or epiphyte, doesn't ask for much, only a place to perch, where it can absorb sunlight and nutrients on offer. It is not a parasite, but an independent little opportunist brilliantly surviving in the most unlikely places.

Viewed close-up, the elegant funnel-shaped flowers are as remarkable as many wildflowers. However, their small size, only about a half-inch, and



The wind disperses the tiny seeds



Stop and take notice of the "bouquet"

comparatively dull color, brownish or dull purple, make them easy to dismiss, even if they do appear on six-inch spikes.

When you're out and about, keep an eye out for those amazing little bouquets of so-called moss and give them their due.

Sources: *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida*, floridata.org and <http://floranorthamerica.org>.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱

Renovation At Humane Society

The Gulf Coast Humane Society's (GCHS) Adoption Lobby will be undergoing a full renovation through the month of June, and to handle the lost space, adoptions will be by appointment only.

During construction, GCHS is asking the public to schedule appointments to meet the shelter animals by emailing adoptiondesk@gulfcoasthumanesociety.org.

Registered volunteers are still welcome to help walk the shelter dogs and other various duties, with gates opening at 8 a.m. each day. Volunteer orientations will also be suspended for June, as well, due to space limitations

during the renovations.

"This June is special for us here at the Gulf Coast Humane Society, with both our adoption lobby and cat adoption areas receiving a wonderful refresh," said GCHS Executive Director Gary Willoughby. "This was made possible through support of Rescue Rebuild, a program of Greater Good Charities. Throughout much of the month of June, the dust will be flying as the lobby and cat areas get a much-needed makeover, improving the housing for our animals and for the visitors to our facility as well."

The renovation will include a new adoption desk, new flooring and major improvements to the cat adoption areas.

"Even better, they will be back again in November for some important facility improvements to our dog adoption area

too," Willoughby said. "So many people in our community have signed up to volunteer to help with this big effort, and we are very appreciative of all of them."

Adoptable shelter dogs and cats can be found on the GCHS website at www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org. Adoptions by appointments will begin Tuesday, June 10, and run through the month of June.

The Spay and Neuter Clinic will be running normal hours, as will the GCHS Veterinary Clinic. To learn more about GCHS, visit www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org.✱

Volunteers Sought For Plant Project

Lee County Natural Resources, in partnership with WETPLAN, invites residents to a workshop at the Buckingham Community Park to enhance the pond area with native plants.

The planting effort, for those who wish to participate, will begin at 8 a.m. Friday, June 10, at the pond adjacent to Barkingham Dog Park in the park. Volunteers should wear comfortable clothing, hats and sun protection. Refreshments will be provided by the Florida Native Plant Society. No advance registration is required.

Information will be available to everyone who attends regarding the environment, Florida ponds and pet

waste with flyers, magnets, pet-waste bags and more.

Native plants, such as sweetbay magnolia, blue flag iris and muhly grass, will be planted to remove pollutants from the water, stabilize the banks and provide habitat for wildlife.

The cooperative effort with Watershed Education Training – Ponds, Lakes and Neighborhoods (WETPLAN) is funded by Lee County Natural Resources and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through a grant from Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

WETPLAN is an education program and resource for anyone interested in improving and caring for their neighborhood lakes and ponds. The program provides workshops several times a year with a panel of experts providing assistance for home/condo owners associations and individuals.

Buckingham Community Park is located at 9800 Buckingham Road in Buckingham. Visit www.wetplan.org for more information.✱

Dean's Honor Roll

Ranae Feiock of Fort Myers was named to the dean's honor roll for the spring 2022 semester at Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas. Feiock is a senior majoring in agribusiness.

To qualify, students must be registered for 12 or more credit hours and earn a grade-point average of 3.6 or higher.✱

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Mother Nature Rules



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Our first tropical system of the season brought massive amounts of rain and forced everyone off the water for at least a day or two.

Most of last week I spent tarpon fishing with the fish being located day after day in the northern sound. I returned to these Cayo Costa fish all week, and the pack of boats grew daily. Big weather events like this generally push our tarpon offshore until conditions get stabile again.

With tarpon trips booked all week, my plan will be to do some recon looking in all the usual places. Hopefully, we will find some fish, though it may take a few tide cycles for our water to clean up. Sitting and soaking cut baits in some of the more traveled tarpon hangouts will be an option.

All this rain is a plus for other species as it will fire up the snook and redfish action. Beach and pass fishing for snook have kicked into high gear as these fish have started the annual spawn. When pass fishing, plan your time around the fastest-moving tides for the best action. Redfish will also be caught in the passes all summer, although during high tides



Zig Black with a redfish caught while mangrove fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell

photo provided

mangrove fishing will be the better bite.

As we move into June, our mangrove snapper action both in the passes and out on the flats really gets rolling. These bigger mangrove snapper can be found all through our inshore waters for those anglers looking for a fresh fish dinner. Many of the same areas where we catch trout on the flats are also loaded with these snapper. As summer goes on, these fish average between 12 to 14 inches with a few larger ones in the mix. Both

live shiners and shrimp get these fish fired up.

Trout fishing has also remained strong with fish being caught both on the flats and out on the beaches. Some of the largest trout we catch all year are caught while targeting snook out on the beach snags and rocks. We even catch some monster trout while drifting pinfish for tarpon.

With June being a huge tarpon month for everyone, this tropical weather event

quickly threw a wrench in the works. Simply put, mother nature doesn't care about anyone's plans. With so many tarpon here the past few weeks, my fingers are crossed conditions quickly improve and these fish return in big numbers.

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.✴

Chancellor's Honor Roll

Three students from Fort Myers were named to the chancellor's honor roll for the spring 2022 semester at University of Mississippi. They are Amanda Oleksa, majoring in civil engineering; Grant Goble, majoring in general business; and Tess Gates, majoring in accountancy.

The chancellor's honor roll is reserved for students who earn a semester grade-point average of 3.75 to 4.00.✴

From page 6

Songwriters

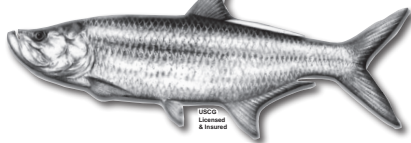
Kearns Group restaurants and other downtown businesses, four concert tickets to any SBDAC 2022-23 season event, SBDAC and Island Hopper swag and, of course, a trophy with bragging rights. The winner of the People's Choice award will receive gift cards from two downtown restaurants, four concert tickets to any SBDAC 2022-23 season event, SBDAC and Island Hopper swag, plus a trophy.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission. Video entries can be submitted at www.sbdac.com/singer-songwriter-competition.

Sponsors for the Sounds of Summer Series include Island Hopper Festival, Suncoast Beverage, Iheart Radio, The Irving Luxury Living Downtown, Blu Sushi and Victory Layne Chevrolet.

The 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.✴

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Dave Doane with his co-worker Jesse

CROW Case Of The Week:

Roseate Spoonbill



by Bob Petcher

The roseate spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) is a majestic water bird that has been called flamboyant possibly due to its bright pink feathers, red eyes and oddly shaped bill.

Interestingly, these wading birds do not have spoon-shaped bills directly after hatching. Reports say it takes nine days for the bills to begin to flatten, 16 days for them to take on a spoon shape and 39 days to be nearly full-sized.

At CROW, an adult roseate spoonbill was admitted from Fort Myers Beach after being found upside down and unable to fly. The spoonbill was severely dehydrated and lacked a blink reflex.

"The nerves responsible for blinking connect to the brainstem. Certain conditions that cause neurologic abnormalities can cause this mechanism to be temporarily disabled," explained Dr. Charlotte Cournoyer, CROW veterinary intern. "Most commonly at CROW, this is found during physical exam of red tide patients. The blink reflex usually returns after several days of supportive care once the toxin has been removed from the system."



Patient #22-2817 is more mentally alert after treatment for what is suspected to be red tide poisoning
photo by Haillie Mesics

The spoonbill may have suffered from red tide poisoning as compared to a vehicle collision.

"While we cannot exclude trauma as a cause for this animal's clinical signs at this time, we are more suspicious of a biotoxin, such as red tide or botulism," said Dr. Cournoyer. "We suspect that the abrasions seen on the keel, or sternum, of the patient are due to being unable to stand and, as a result, causing increased pressure and trauma to the area by resting on it."

The patient also had some leg abrasions, but they were not considered

too serious.

"The patient was placed on thick foam to prevent the sternum from developing any more abrasions, but the wounds were mild enough that no bandaging is needed at this time," said Dr. Cournoyer. "The patient received intravenous lipid emulsion therapy on the first night, which is a treatment where we infuse a lipid (fat) solution into the veins that will bind any fat-soluble toxin, such as brevetoxin – the causative agent of red tide poisoning. The patient is being rehydrated and having toxins flushed out of the system with intravenous fluid therapy. The patient

is also receiving antibiotics based on evidence of an infection on bloodwork."

The spoonbill was placed under supportive care and will continue to be closely monitored.

"The patient is mentally debilitated and experienced starvation prior to presenting to CROW, therefore will receive a liquid diet for the first few days of care, then be reintroduced to solid food such as fish and crickets, once it is more alert and able to better process the food," said Dr. Cournoyer.

After only three days of care, there has been improvement in the patient's condition.

"The patient is more mentally alert today compared to admission. We hope to continue to see small improvements daily in terms of regaining strength and appropriate mentation," said Dr. Cournoyer. "The patient is still very debilitated and will require several days, at least, of intensive care. We hope to see steady improvements through the return of blinking, strength in the legs and mental alertness over the next few days. Once the patient begins to stand, eat and walk normally, then it will be moved outside to rehab for flight conditioning."

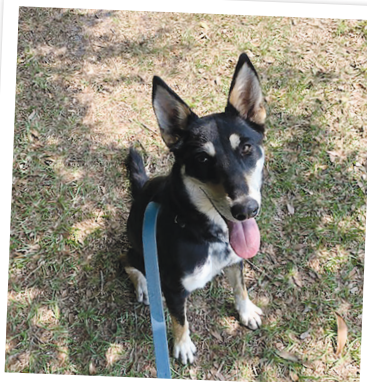
CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.) is a non-profit wildlife hospital providing veterinary care for native and migratory wildlife from our local area. The hospital accepts patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mail donations to P.O. Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644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



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Participants at the 2021 Tommy Bohanon Foundation Youth Football Camp photo provided

Foundation To Host Youth Football Camp

The Tommy Bohanon Foundation 6th annual Youth Football Camp will be held at North Fort Myers High School on Saturday, June 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. An expected 200 young athletes from first through eighth grades will attend the camp.

“Our annual football camp gives us the opportunity to guide kids towards the path to success,” said Tommy Bohanon, former NFL player who with wife Katie are founders of the nonprofit and graduates of North Fort Myers High. “We get to spend an entire day forming relationships with other students and mentors, teaching kids the value of hard work and helping them build confidence in themselves, all while getting more football experience in a fun environment. These camps, like everything we do at the foundation, are done with the hope and intention of making a positive impact on their future and the community.”

Local volunteers will participate

in this year’s football camp and contribute to its success. Coaches and former Division 1 athletes are taking roles in the program to mentor the student-athletes. In preparation, high school student junior coaches are being mentored by professional coaches on the responsibilities of being a coach, gaining new football skills and learning important life lessons geared toward their future success.

Additional volunteers include teachers and members of Lee County Sheriff’s Office, EMTs and North Fort Myers Fire Department, who will be providing support throughout the day. Tropical Smoothie Cafe will be catering lunch.

The Tommy Bohanon Foundation is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to supporting young athletes to reach their highest potential on and off the playing field. Their programs and community outreach events have helped countless kids in the Southwest Florida area. To volunteer, participate or donate, visit www.tommybohanonfoundation.org. For more information, contact Katie Bohanon at 671-0441 or katie@tommybohanonfoundation.org.

Special Needs Preparation For Storm Season

Storm season has started and those with special needs are urged to prepare for potential power outages. If you haven’t already, now is the time to prepare those with special needs so they are safe and comfortable to weather any storm:

Have a plan in place to ensure the continuity of any life-support needs. This may include making special arrangements to spend time with a friend or relative during an outage or using a back-up generator.

If you use a back-up generator, be responsible for the safe installation, use and maintenance of any back-up power. Keep phone numbers of emergency

response agencies, such as the hospital, fire department and police, in a convenient location, in the event emergency assistance is needed.

Ensure that you have a back-up telephone if you use a cordless or other telephone that is dependent on electricity.

Have a battery-powered radio on hand and a supply of fresh batteries to remain aware of news and other information.

Keep a flashlight and extra batteries handy.

Those needing assistance can apply for special needs programs which provide shelter and transportation free of charge during tropical storms and/or hurricanes. Applications can be found online by county.

Visit www.lcec.net for storm season safety tips and to download the LCEC Hurricane Guide.



The new logo for Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida

image provided

Nonprofit Debuts Updated Logo

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida (JA SWFL) launched its updated logo and branding, the first change to the logo since 1986. The update reflects the organization’s evolution from a supplemental youth development program in the 1980s to a fully integrated K-12 education partner today.

“Junior Achievement has changed significantly since its inception, and this update of our brand reflects the reality of JA today,” said Angela Fisher, president and CEO of JA SWFL. “We’ve worked closely with our partners in education, business and the community to ensure that we deliver proven, life-changing learning experiences to students. This process, which includes the use of innovative learning technology, accelerated significantly over the course of the pandemic. The time just felt right to make this change to our brand to recognize what Junior Achievement has become.”

Since 1986, the Junior Achievement logo has consisted of a green triangle with three white or gold stairsteps in the triangle. The new logo, which resembles planes flying in formation or

a flock of geese, borrows elements from the five previous JA logos. The new logo and branding, which utilizes dark blue, turquoise, yellow and green color elements, represents how one leader in the community, working in tandem with Junior Achievement, can impact many lives. Ultimately, by working together, we can all rise above. Junior Achievement envisions “a world where young people have the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities.”

The brand update is occurring globally with JA operations in more than 100 countries worldwide beginning the process this year.

The first part of the brand update will begin on June 1, 2022, and will include websites, social media channels and other marketing materials. The transition will also include updating the curriculum, signage and buildings. It is expected to take a few years to complete.

Locally, Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida partnered with classroom business volunteers during the 2020-21 school year to provide nearly 126,000 hours of instruction to nearly 13,900 students in 576 classes throughout Collier, Lee, and Charlotte counties. For more information on Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida, visit www.jaswfl.org, call 225-2590, or email info@jaswfl.org.

Free State Park Admission Via Reader Program

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Florida State Parks and its partners will advance outdoor access for all Floridians through the Real Florida Reader Program. Through a partnership among the Florida Department of State’s Division of Library and Information Services, public libraries across the state and DEP, library patrons can check out a Real Florida Reader pass at their local public library for free admission to one of more than 170 participating state parks.

“A visit to one of Florida’s state parks goes hand-in-hand with a visit to the library,” said DEP Secretary Shawn Hamilton. “We welcome all Floridians to read about our state’s diverse environment and culture and then get outside and experience these natural wonders firsthand.”

The 2022 library summer reading

theme is Oceans of Possibilities. Library patrons are encouraged to check out books about Florida’s wildlife and natural resources and then explore one of the award-winning state parks to experience these resources firsthand.

“We are proud to partner with Florida State Parks to offer park passes in Florida’s public libraries,” said Secretary of State Cord Byrd. “Florida has a rich historical and cultural heritage. The Real Florida Reader initiative provides the perfect opportunity for Floridians to get outside this summer to explore Florida’s natural treasures.”

Floridians can use their public library card to check out a Real Florida Reader day pass, which provides free admission to state parks for up to eight people in a vehicle (excluding Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, Skyway Fishing Pier State Park and Weeki Wachee Springs State Park). This promotion runs through September 12.

Floridians without a library card can sign-up at their local library to take part in this program. For more information, visit www.floridastateparks.org/realfloridareader.

Budget Favors Everglades And Water Quality

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is celebrating the success of the 2022 legislative session and key environmental investments in the fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 budget. The budget includes a more than \$3.6 billion investment in Florida's environment and water quality to ensure the delicate balance of environmental protection and a healthy economy is maintained, including more than \$1.2 billion for Everglades restoration and the protection of water resources. This brings the four-year total to more than \$3.3 billion, surpassing the goal of \$2.5 billion and more than doubling the investment made in the previous four years.

"On his first full day in office, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 19-12, which laid out his bold vision to protect Florida's environment. The FY 2022-23 environmental budget continues the governor's commitment with historic levels of support for Everglades restoration, water quality protections, vital land acquisitions, and resiliency of inland and coastal communities," said DEP Secretary Shawn Hamilton. "With this funding, DEP and its partners will be able to continue our work to expedite Everglades restoration; implement clean water projects to reduce nutrients in our waterways; assist communities with water supply projects; combat blue-green algae and red tide; make our communities more resilient; and acquire vital lands essential to the tourism that drives Florida's economy and protection of our critical water resources."

Budget highlights include:
More than \$500 million for Everglades Restoration, which includes: \$352 million for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, including the EAA Reservoir and restoration strategies;

\$78 million for the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Plan and dispersed water management (water storage in the basins);

Additionally, \$100 million of federal funding is included for the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project.

More than \$557 million for targeted water quality improvements, which includes:

\$125 million for cost-share grant funds for water quality improvements, including septic conversions and upgrades, other wastewater improvements, and rural and urban stormwater system upgrades;

\$50 million to accelerate projects to meet scientific nutrient reduction goals (called total maximum daily loads), which may include green infrastructure investments or land conservation to protect water resources;

\$20 million for wastewater and stormwater projects that address water

quality impairments and coral reef restoration in Biscayne Bay.

\$75 million for springs restoration.

\$50 million for alternative water supply.

Nearly \$31 million to combat harmful algal blooms and red tide, which includes:

\$20 million for innovative technologies and short-term solutions to aid in the prevention, cleanup and mitigation of harmful algal blooms;

\$5 million to assist county governments with their response to red tide events.

More than \$500 million for resiliency. This funding will support development of a statewide data set and vulnerability assessment; grants for adaptation projects to address risks of flooding and sea level rise to coastal and inland communities; sea level rise planning efforts; and adaptation projects to strengthen critical infrastructure.

\$50 million for beach restoration.

More than \$375 million for prized properties, which includes:

\$100 million for Florida Forever;

\$264 million for infrastructure improvements and resource management at Florida's state parks;

\$10 million for grants to local governments through the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program; and

\$220 million for cleanup programs.

For more information about DEP's environmental actions, visit www.protectingfloridatogether.gov.✱

Fish License-Free This Weekend

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) invites residents and visitors to go fishing in Florida during the saltwater license-free weekend on Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12.

License-free fishing days provide an opportunity for new anglers to try fishing for the first time or experienced anglers to introduce a friend or family member to a new hobby. The fishing license requirements are waived for all recreational anglers during these dates but all other rules including seasons, bag and size limits still apply.

The saltwater waiver applies to any recreational activity requiring a saltwater fishing license (crabbing, lobstering, scalloping, etc.), whether fishing from shore or a boat. A snook or spiny lobster permit also are not required on these days, however, always make sure to check recreational regulations. Plan your trip with information about places to fish.

Some of Florida's freshwater lakes have largemouth bass swimming in them, worth big prizes. Join the FWC TrophyCatch program's 10th season and learn more about the 10-Tag Celebration at www.trophycatch.com.

For more information on fishing in Florida, visit www.myfwc.com/fishing. Get your all-year Florida fishing license at www.gooutdoorsflorida.com.✱



A baby alligator

photo provided

Baby Gators At Science Center

The IMAG History & Science Center recently welcomed its newest resident animal ambassadors: four baby alligators. Native to the state of Florida, these newly born American alligators were acquired by IMAG through a partnership with Gatorland of Orlando and the Shell Factory of North Fort Myers.

In their infancy, alligators have yellowish band markings on their bodies and tails which vanish as they mature. Other than their fading bands and a change in overall color from black to brown, there is little other change in the lizard-like bodies of alligators since prehistoric days; they look the same as they did millions of years ago with their rough and scaled gator hide.

Male alligators grow usually from 11 to 16 feet in length while female gators grow from 8 to 10 feet. And although adult males generally weigh between 400 and 800 pounds, they can weigh as much as 1,000 pounds and more.

The average lifespan for the American alligator is between 30 to

50 years.

Positioned in their u-shaped jaw distinguished by an "overbite," alligators have approximately 80 teeth. Yet, over their lifetime, gators regenerate their teeth as many as 50 times replacing up to 3,000 teeth as needed. "Baby alligators chirp and squeak," said Emily Fick, museum educator at the IMAG, "whereas adult gators make loud noises like roars and bellows." Fick points out that male gators use different grunts and groans to attract female gators. Another interesting statistic Fick says is that female gators lay about 20 to 50 eggs at a time during their nesting in June and that the genders of her babies are determined completely by the temperature at which she keeps her eggs.

"We are excited to add our four new gator residents to the IMAG LivingLab for guests to enjoy and to watch them grow," Matt Johnson, IMAG executive director, said in a recent statement. "These new offspring will be wonderful IMAG ambassadors who will tell inspiring stories of their unique species."

IMAG History & Science Center is located at 2000 Cranford Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.theimag.org or call 243-0043.✱

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Book Review

The Match



by Di Saggau

Harlan Coben's latest novel, *The Match*, brings readers in touch again with a man called Wilde. You may remember him from *The Boy From the Woods*, but this book does

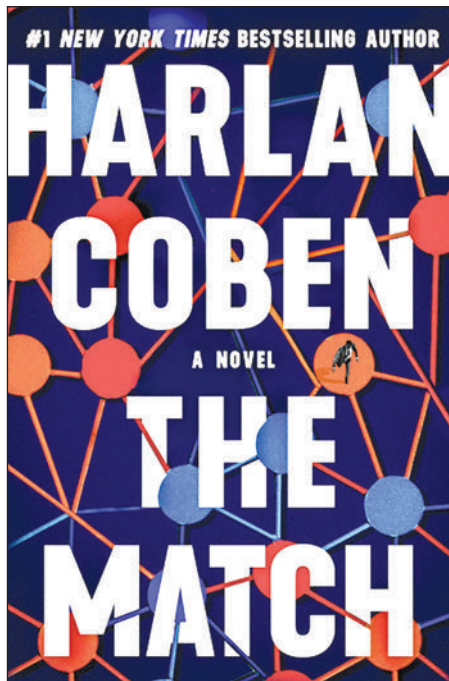


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close to getting the answers to his mysterious origin. Hester has never been a major character until now. Her son, David, was Wilde's best friend and died tragically. David and Laila's son, Matthew, is Wilde's godson. Wilde and Laila have long had a complicated relationship. A widow, Hester is dating Oren Carmichael, the retired local police chief. Hester is a contrast to the reclusive Wilde, who lives in his movable technologically advanced Ecocapsule in

stand alone. Thirty years ago, Wilde was found as a boy living feral in the woods, with no memory of his past. Three decades had gone by and still no one, including Wilde, had a clue about his origin.

DNA and online ancestry databases play a prominent role in this thriller. Coben blends the dark aspects of reality television and the fame it engenders, social media influencers, online trolling and the sometimes far-reaching consequences of submitting a DNA sample to an online ancestry database, into a riveting tale. Among the supporting players is lawyer Hester Crimstein. All their lives are well fleshed out, and the interactions and relationships bring in many personal threads that make the characters seem real.

As the story opens, Wilde is now between 40 and 42 years old, and

the woods. Their investigative working practice is one of the story's highlights, showing their respect and affection for one another.

The plot is quite ingeniously constructed. Readers may surmise bits

and pieces of the puzzle, but will be kept guessing about the details until the very end of the book. The conclusion of *The Match* is both satisfying and surprising. Hopefully, *The Match* will not end Wilde's story.✧

School Smart



by Shelley M. Gregg, NCSP

Dear Readers, Here we are, at last, at the end of another school year. The last day of school is always a special one filled with class parties and picnics,

pizza and cupcake lunches, and that final report card. Your children (and you) have made it through another school year, with this one being particularly difficult. Congratulations!

Now, it's time to celebrate and take a break (at least for a few days) and applaud your child's achievements and passage to a new grade. Make sure to take that last day of school photo. And take some additional photos of your child with a few of his/her products that they created through the year. It will make for good memories later.

Katy Mann, a family activity blogger, has some great ideas to help you and your children celebrate this happy event and to help you mark this occasion.

Kick off summer vacation right now with an epic water fight. Use water balloons, sponge balls, plastic cups, buckets a sprinkler, squirt guns, baby pools, the slip n' slide and, of course, the garden hose. If you are really brave, add in some cans of inexpensive shaving cream for added action.

Create a special evening celebration. Set up your tents and sleeping bags and spend the night in your backyard. Have a barbeque and make some s'mores. Your kids will love camping in the backyard.

Don't forget to write a summer bucket list. Let each child identify five to 10 things they want to do over the summer and make a master list of all the things your family wants to do. Figure out how and when you might do these things and put them on the calendar.

Celebrate with an outdoor movie night. Bring the TV or computer outside and watch one of the classic movies about summer camp, summer vacation and the last day of school. Make it an extra special event by setting up an ice cream bar with several ice cream flavors, and little bowls filled with favorite toppings like crushed Oreos, M&M's, fudge sauce, gummy bears and whipped cream.

Celebrate your child's achievement with a success poster, a sign, a scrapbook or even a video. Highlight your child's accomplishments from their year at school and at home. It might include things like joined the computer club, met goals in speech

therapy, improved grades in math and reading, made new friends, was on time for school at least once a week, no detention or learned how to pack your own lunch. Kids will have fun looking back and remembering what they have achieved in just one school year.

And finally, make sure to have your child write a thank you note or email to the teacher. If permitted, it would also be nice to drop off a small gift like some yummy jam or cookies to their home. E-learning has been difficult for teachers too. Before you decide on a gift, send an email to the teacher and ask if it would be alright to do so.

Shelley Gregg 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. To contact her, email smgreggs@gmail.com or visit www.schoolconsultationservices.com.✧

Mighty Mussels' Players Gain Weekly Honors

Fort Myers Mighty Mussels Outfielder Emmanuel Rodriguez and Starting Pitcher Mike Paredes have been named the Florida State League Player and Pitcher of the Week, respectively.

Rodriguez becomes the first Mighty Mussels' position player to win the award in 2022. The Dominican Republic native went 7-for-12 with five extra-base hits and seven walks in five games against Tampa, posting an eye-popping 2.200 OPS.

He swatted two home runs and reached base in 14 of his 20 plate appearances in the series. Rodriguez leads the minor leagues in walks (54) and has now raised his season OPS to 1.063, a figure that leads the league by 180 points.

Paredes led the Mussels to their third no-hitter in less than nine months, tossing six hitless innings on Tuesday at Hammond Stadium. The California native struck out five and walked two, going just one batter over the minimum.

Paredes is the fourth Mussels' pitcher to win the award – joining John Stankiewicz (April 11 to 17), Marco Raya (April 18 to 24) and David Festa (May 9 to 15).

The Mighty Mussels team is the Single-A affiliate of the Minnesota Twins that play home games at Hammond Stadium within the Lee County Sports Complex at 14100 Six Mile Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers. For more information, tickets and schedule, visit www.milb.com/fort-myers.✧

EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

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



THOMAS P. HALL
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The happy couple, Julia and Manuel
photo provided

Dream Wedding Comes True For German Couple

The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida (RMHC SWFL) provides a “home-away-from-home” for families of seriously ill or injured children receiving medical treatment at Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida or other local medical facilities. Because Florida is a vacation destination, the Ronald McDonald House staff often find themselves helping families from other states and countries.

In April, prior to the dates of their planned wedding and the expected arrival of their twins, German couple Manuel and Julia flew to Cape Coral for their “babymoon.” Shortly after their arrival, Julia went into premature labor, and twins Marla and Matilda were born a couple of months early. While the twins have been growing stronger at Golisano Children’s Hospital, Julia and Manuel have stayed at the Ronald

McDonald House in Fort Myers.

During the RMHC Volunteer Appreciation Party held at the house, they expressed their sadness to Volunteer Manager Ileny Farese about having to cancel their May 7 wedding in Germany. They joked about getting married in Florida and having RMHC SWFL handle the planning since they’d done such a great job with the appreciation party. The staff at RMHC SWFL decided to make that wish a reality.

They called Lee Bellamy, the general manager of Shangri-La Springs in Bonita Springs and a long-time RMHC board member, who immediately agreed to help Manuel and Julia’s dream wedding come true. “We were very honored to help RMHC and host this wedding for a deserving couple and their new family,” said Bellamy. Tracy Stein, director of sales at Shangri-La Springs, sprang into action securing photography, food, flowers, hair and makeup from the Southwest Florida community. Also, some helpful Macy’s staff members made sure Manuel had a suit for the wedding.

Staff members from Golisano Children’s Hospital, who have been caring for the twins, joined the RMHC team at Shangri-La Springs on May 26, to watch the union. One of the fathers staying at the Ronald McDonald House attended to show support. Manuel and Julia came to Florida as an engaged couple, but they’ll return to Germany as a married couple, with twins Marla and Matilda in tow. They’ve gained quite an extended family of Floridians.

The staff at RMHC SWFL extends its gratitude to those who helped make the wedding possible. First and foremost is Shangri-La Springs, whose location, amenities and staff made the day memorable. Others who contributed to the success of the day included Artichoke and Company; Heaven Scent Flowers & Events of Bonita Springs; Brenna Bartholf, Bsquared Studio; Jim Jett Photography; Nancy Boye and Staff, Macy’s; and WINK News.

To learn more about Ronald McDonald House Charities Southwest Florida, visit www.rmhcswfl.org.✱



Neal Communities, presenting sponsor of the BIG Backpack Event, presented Leonardo Garcia (fourth from left) and Connie Ramos-Williams (second from left) of the Multicultural Centre of Southwest Florida with a check for nearly \$15,000 in 2020
photo provided

Business To Again Sponsor Backpack Event

Neal Communities has once again stepped up to become the presenting sponsor of the annual BIG Backpack Event.

The beneficiaries of this generous support are the 2,000 Lee County students and their families who will receive free backpacks, school supplies and bags full of kid-friendly groceries at the 23rd annual Multicultural Centre of Southwest Florida BIG Backpack Event, to be held at the Fort Myers Skatium on Sunday, July 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This is the seventh straight year Neal Communities will sponsor the event, providing much needed economic relief and supplying children with new backpacks filled with pencils, pens, paper, crayons, folders and other essential back-to-school items kids need to go back to school in the fall.

“We are proud to be a part of this incredible event that supports students and their families in Southwest Florida communities,” said Tim Oak, Southwest Florida regional president of Neal Communities. “The Multicultural Centre

of Southwest Florida does an amazing job of providing struggling families the resources they need to kick off the new school year.”

The BIG Backpack Event will again use a carline this year to distribute the necessary supplies. The first 2,000 children ages 5 to 12 will receive free backpacks and school supplies, and each family will receive a grocery bag full of kid-friendly food such as peanut butter, jelly, macaroni and cheese, pasta and spaghetti sauce.

Over 40,000 backpacks have been distributed to families over the event’s 22-year history. With an estimated 80 percent of Lee County children qualifying for free or reduced meal programs at their schools, the need is high and support such as this is beneficial to families.

Additional sponsors of this family event include: Fort Myers Broadcasting, *The News-Press*, *Lee County Family News*, Comcast, Lee County Sheriff’s Office, Community Cooperative, HABA, CONRIC PR & Marketing, City of Fort Myers, Lee County School District and Children Medical Services Health Plan.

For more information on the event, to volunteer, or to make a donation, visit www.multicultural-centre.org or email info@multicultural-centre.org.✱

Nonprofit Grant Aids At-Risk Women And Girls

The Alliance for Period Supplies of SWFL has received a \$22,500 grant from the Community Trust Fund of the League Club to purchase 226,586 pads, which will provide an annual supply of period products to 784 at-risk women and girls in Southwest Florida.

“We are grateful for the support of the Community Trust Fund of the League Club. They have supported APS of SWFL since our beginning in 2019,” said Dusti Beaubien, the president and founder of the Alliance for Period Supplies of SWFL. “This generous grant allows us to continue our work to end period poverty in Southwest

Florida and ensure that a period is the end of a sentence, not a girl’s education or a woman’s ability to work.”

One in three low-income women struggled to buy period products within the past year. The inability to access period supplies can force women to use rags, socks, or paper products, which are unreliable, can lead to infection and create anxiety.

The Alliance for Period Supplies of SWFL is the only organization in the region consistently providing period products to women and girls in Collier and Lee counties. Since it was founded in 2019, the organization has distributed more than 2.5 million pads to menstruators in need.

For more information about the Alliance for Period Supplies of SWFL or to learn how you can help end period poverty in Southwest Florida, visit www.apsofswfl.org.✱

Estimates On Property Value

Lee County Property Appraiser Matt Caldwell released the initial estimates of 2022 property values recently. The estimated just value of all property in Lee County is now over \$173 billion, an increase of more than 30 percent above last year.

“Everyone in Lee County could feel that property values have been increasing rapidly, but this confirms the fact that 2021 saw unprecedented increases,” said Caldwell. “Thankfully, homeowners are protected at essentially a maximum of only a three percent increase through their homestead exemption.”

The purpose of the value estimate is to give the taxing authorities an initial

estimate for developing their budgets and property tax rates. Caldwell’s office will continue to refine these estimates and will certify the official values before July 1.

For more information, visit www.leeapa.org.✱

Dean’s Honor Roll

Eden Sams of Fort Myers was named to the dean’s honor roll for the spring 2022 semester at University of Mississippi. Sams majored in allied health studies.

The Dean’s Honor Roll is reserved for students who earn a semester grade-point average of 3.50 to 3.74, completed at least 12 graded hours for the semester and are not on academic probation during the semester.✱

Will Power

The Advantage Of Sprinkle Trusts



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

Wouldn't it be great if the inheritance you leave your children can be used for multiple generations while at the same time minimizing the income taxes they pay? This can be accomplished with a sprinkle trust.

Assume that Benny creates a trust that upon his passing is held in further trust for his daughter Susan. Susan is the trustee, so she has complete control over the investments held in the trust. Instead of Susan being the only beneficiary, however, Benny's trust provides that Susan can distribute the interest, dividends and rents that her trust share generates not only to herself, but also to her children (and one day to her grandchildren!).

Suppose that Susan's trust share generates \$75,000 in income this year. Also assume that Susan's combined federal and state income tax bracket is 39 percent. If Susan distributes the income to herself, she pays income tax of \$29,250. Her son Rob needs money for a down payment on a home. If Susan kept the income and paid the tax, she could then make a gift of \$45,750 to Rob, net of the income tax she paid. Under federal gift tax law, Susan can only make a tax free gift of \$16,000 to Rob, so she must file a gift tax return that reduces her federal gift/estate tax exemption by \$29,750 (computed as \$45,750 net of tax less the \$16,000 exemption amount).

Instead of keeping the income for herself, following the terms of the trust her father established for her, she distributes the income directly to Rob, whose marginal tax bracket is 20 percent. The distribution is not a gift from Susan to Rob, it is a distribution of income. Rob pays income tax of \$15,000, which is about half of what Susan would have paid. Rob has \$60,000 to use as a down payment instead of \$47,750, which was what would have remained after Susan paid taxes instead of Rob. Because it's a distribution of income and not a gift, Susan doesn't have to file a gift tax return and consume part of her federal exemption.

What if Benny was worried that Susan's children would put pressure on her to distribute the trust income to them rather than to herself? The trust share can be drafted to include Benny's intent that Susan's interest and welfare be first considered before the trustee distributes income to anyone else.

Because Susan is an interested trustee, meaning that she is the person making the decisions and is a beneficiary, there is a conflict of interest. Normally, a more remote beneficiary could raise that issue and cause Susan difficulty.

But there's another provision that can be used to mitigate beneficiary challenges. This has to do with who the trust benefits after Susan's death. Normally, it flows down the lineal line of descendants to the next generation. Benny would have his attorney draft that provision in. He would also, however, give Susan a testamentary power of appointment.

A testamentary power of appointment allows Susan to change who the beneficiaries are following her death. The power of appointment can be wide or narrow. Normally, to exclude the assets from Susan's estate for federal estate tax purposes, that power of appointment would be limited to Benny's descendants, their spouses and charities. If a power of appointment is so limited, then the assets may be excluded from Susan's estate for federal estate tax purposes.

Why is a well drafted power of appointment so important? Simply put, it gives those you love and trust the ability to change what would otherwise be an irrevocable provision after your death. If Susan saw the need to redistribute the wealth, perhaps because one child needs it more than another, or maybe another child has drug or alcohol dependency problems, Benny would want her to be able to adjust the provisions as necessary.

Another great reason is that by giving Susan this power, her children and grandchildren are unlikely to challenge how she decides to sprinkle the trust benefits among them. They would know that should they become a thorn in Susan's side, she could disinherit them from the trust.

A sprinkle trust can be a valuable tool for beneficiary income tax planning. Those clients who wish to "keep things simple" by mandating outright distributions rather than a continuing trust limit their loved one's ability to mitigate income taxes.

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Traffic Conversion Downtown

Contractors for the City of Fort Myers are converting the traffic pattern from one-way to two-way traffic on the following streets:

First Street/Palm Beach Boulevard – from Fowler Street to Seaboard Street
Second Street – from Fowler Street to Seaboard Street

Seaboard Street – from Second Street to Palm Beach Boulevard

During each week from Monday through Friday, traffic will be reduced to one lane during daytime and nighttime hours until traffic is converted to two-way. Crews are expected to close side streets during the nighttime work. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses with properties directly on or adjacent to the streets being converted to two-way traffic.

Work to complete the two-way traffic conversion will be completed in two phases:

Phase 1 was held during the week of June 6 to 10 with Second and Seaboard streets from Fowler Street to Palm Beach Boulevard.

Phase 2 will be held during the week of June 13 to 17 with First Street/Palm Beach Boulevard from Seaboard Street to Fowler Street.

Beginning June 13, during the nighttime hours from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., westbound motorists should expect travel to be reduced to one lane while crews begin removing and replacing existing roadway striping and signage in the closed lane on First Street/Palm Beach Boulevard from Seaboard Street to Fowler Street. Lighting and noise should be expected by residents during

this work and is unavoidable.

Crews are expected to complete the conversion to two-way traffic on First Street/Palm Beach Boulevard during daytime hours between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 16. In case of inclement weather, the two-way traffic conversion may take place on Friday, June 17.

Message boards alerting motorists to the new traffic pattern are posted in and around the project area on Second Street, Seaboard Street, First Street/Palm Beach Boulevard, Fowler Street and Park Avenue. Messages will change as work progresses. Fort Myers Police Department officers will be onsite to assist with the new two-way travel pattern when it is implemented on each street. Motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists should use extreme caution while driving in and through the traffic conversion area.

The purpose of restoring the two-way traffic is multifaceted; however, the all-encompassing factor is to create a neighborhood environment that is safe for all modes of transportation (motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and transit). Previously, the prime objective of the one-way east and westbound pair streets was the quick movement of vehicles into and out of downtown. Today, residents are living, working and shopping throughout the River District in downtown Fort Myers. Vehicular traffic now needs to move through the area at much slower speeds, and two-way traffic is an important component towards achieving that goal.

To view a video of the new traffic movements throughout the project area, visit www.cfm2way.com. Residents may also call 337-1071 to inquire about the project.✧

Airport Earns Accreditation

Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW) has achieved the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC) STAR Facility Accreditation, the gold standard for facility cleanliness. Under the guidance of GBAC, a division of ISSA, the worldwide cleaning industry association, Lee County Port Authority (LCPA), RSW operator, has implemented the most stringent protocols for cleaning, disinfection and infectious disease prevention in its terminal building.

As the cleaning industry's only outbreak prevention, response and recovery accreditation, GBAC STAR helps organizations establish protocols and procedures, offer expert-led training and assess an airport's readiness for a biorisk situation. The program verifies that RSW has implemented best practices to prepare for, respond to and recover from outbreaks and pandemics.

"I am proud of the RSW team for earning this rigorous accreditation to establish a comprehensive system for a clean and healthy airport environment," said Ben Siegel, CPA, CM, executive director of Lee County Port Authority. "It shows our guests, passengers and employees that we are committed to ensuring that the millions of people who use Southwest Florida International Airport are comfortable in traveling through and working at our airport."

RSW is a member of the American Association of Airport Executives, who partnered with GBAC and encourages all member airports to achieve this accreditation.

In order to achieve the GBAC STAR,

LCPA was required to demonstrate compliance with the program's 20 core elements, which ranged from standard operating procedures and risk assessment strategies to personal protective equipment as well as emergency preparedness and response measures. To learn more about GBAC and this accreditation, visit www.gbac.issa.com.✧

Historic Traffic At Airport In April

During April, 1,221,628 passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW) in Fort Myers. This was an increase of 10.4 percent compared to April 2021. Year-to-date, passenger traffic is up 34 percent compared to last year.

The traffic leader in April was Delta with 267,699 total passengers. Rounding out the top five airlines were United (172,727), Southwest (170,801), JetBlue (154,100) and American (130,291).

Southwest Florida International Airport had 9,994 aircraft operations, a decrease of 5.8 percent compared to April 2021. Page Field saw 15,665 operations, a 31 percent increase compared to April 2021, which was the best month recorded in nearly 40 years. For more information, visit www.flylcpa.com or www.facebook.com/flyrsw.✧

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www.IslandSunNews.com

Superior Interiors

Outdoor
Decorating
At Its Finest

by Katie Frederick

The line between indoors and outdoors continues to blur as many of us want to take our indoor comforts and solitude outdoors. This concept is becoming more realistic as many

manufacturers of home products develop more and more appliances, furniture, lighting and accessories that can be used indoors or out.

People are driven to find peaceful sanctuaries as a prescription for our stressful lives. Outdoor patios and porches are becoming more sophisticated and refined, and are becoming a living extension of the indoor spaces. Three season indoor spaces are also making a significant come back.

Creating or renovating an outdoor space has many elements. Landscape design, stonework and carpentry are all critical components of designing your outdoor haven. Outdoor furnishings, lighting and accessories are also an essential element in your overall plan. As you begin the process and consider space planning and design, be sure to include the entire family. You will be amazed at the wish list that you come up with.

Your outdoor space should accommodate all your needs throughout the year. Do you entertain outdoors? Make sure that there will be enough seating for your larger parties. Do you spend time outdoors in the evenings and at night? Make sure that you have adequate lighting and bug control included in your plan. Is the outdoor grill seasonal for you or all year round? Where you place the grill and whether it has a protective roof will make a difference depending on how you use it. Do you plan to have your family meals outdoors often? If so, make sure that your dining area comfortably accommodates your family and then some.

Outdoor furniture has greatly evolved

from the folding, vinyl strap versions of the past, to beautiful pieces made of teak, steel, rattan and wicker. Many pieces look just like indoor furniture but are constructed and designed to stand up to the outdoor elements.

Fabrics are being manufactured to resist fading from ultraviolet rays, to resist mildewing from damp conditions and to resist odor absorption. These types of fabrics are a must for any upholstery or drapery that will be used outdoors or in a screened-in location.

Lighting is also a very important aspect in creating an inviting outdoor space. Be sure you incorporate various types of lighting in your outdoor space just as you would in your indoor spaces. Landscape lighting, overhead lighting, ceiling fans or decorative side lighting are good ideas. Torches or lantern lighting can also be a charming and functional element to your lighting plan. Developing a creative lighting plan can help you create a space with increased ambiance and functionality.

Remember to create a space that is perfect for you and your needs. This is a space where memories will be made, so consider it an important investment. I like to call an investment like this an emotional anchor: a space where your family gathers, shares and remembers forever.

Katie Frederick is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at katie@coindecaden.com.✱

Free Autism
Screening

Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida, will offer a free monthly autism spectrum disorder screening for toddlers 18 months to age 5 at the Pediatric Specialist Office on Friday, June 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

The Pediatric Specialist Office is located at 15901 Bass Road, Suite 102, in Fort Myers. To schedule a screening, call 343-6838.✱

Got A Problem?
Dr. Connie Is In

by Constance Clancy

Q: I see that my young adult daughter is co-dependent with others. Can you better explain what that means, and how I can help her to be more independent?

A: Codependency is a type of relational disorder in which one or both people display behaviors that are an unhealthy reliance on one another. A codependent individual may feel he/she is not worthy and relies on the other for dependence and support. While we all like to have support, it can get to a level where it does not serve the person who develops a codependence. It tends to be associated with low self-esteem which can equate to unhappiness.

Often someone will go to excessive extremes for someone in order not to be abandoned. It's an unhealthy dependence of, "I'll do anything, just don't leave me." Often, codependency stems from households where there was abandonment or addiction. The person still has pain from the past and becomes dependent on others not to be left.

Some of the signs of codependency

include:

- Needing constant approval from peers, family or significant other;
- Fearful of losing someone;
- Inability to express emotions or feeling lack of trust in self and/or others;
- Fear of being alone or abandoned;
- Need to control others (out of fear);
- Addictive, impulsive or compulsive behavior;

Continuing to put others needs before your own; and

Not setting healthy boundaries with others.

There is such a thing as a healthy bond with friendships and relationships. It's an interdependence where the friends, partners and family members express and behave with healthy boundaries, honor, respect and love.

It may be good for your daughter to talk with a professional to help her understand her codependency and how she can shift that into healthy relationships with others. A good therapist will help her explore her family of origin and why she has developed this. More importantly, your daughter can learn helpful tools to develop a healthier self-esteem and become more independent.

Constance Clancy, EdD, LMHC, LPC, NCC is a licensed mental health therapist, hypnotherapist, author and holistic stress management instructor. If you have a question, email Constance at drconstanceclancy@gmail.com or visit www.drconstanceclancy.com.✱

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Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



A recent rule change in Major League Baseball caught Dodgers manager Dave Roberts by surprise last Saturday night. As MLB.com reported: “With the Dodgers trailing by

five runs heading to the ninth inning on Saturday night, manager Dave Roberts sent position player Zach McKinstry to the mound at Dodger Stadium. At least he tried to. Roberts had used six pitchers in the game – which ended as a 9-4 loss – and was hoping to save the remainder of his bullpen for the finale of the four-game series on Sunday afternoon. The umpiring crew, headed by crew chief CB Bucknor, intervened. After a lengthy discussion, Bucknor announced that the score differential must be at least six runs in order for a position player to pitch before extra innings. The rule was announced ahead of the 2020 season, but it was suspended for two years before being instated for ‘22.” Designed to keep games that could still be competitive from getting out of hand, this is one of the first times the rule has been used.

Exciting playoff action. From *USA Today*: The Colorado Avalanche reached the Stanley Cup Final for the first time since their 2001 championship on Monday, shredding their reputation of a highly talented team that disappointed in the playoffs. The Avalanche staged a furious third-period comeback and won in overtime on a goal by trade deadline acquisition Artturi Lehkonen to sweep the Edmonton Oilers with a 6-5 victory in Game 4. Lehkonen, then with Montreal, also got the Canadiens into the Final last season with an overtime goal.” What’s also amazing is they’re winning on the road. The Avalanche moved to a perfect 7-0 away from Denver in the playoffs, the only team in the NHL this postseason that hasn’t lost a road game. Said Star center Nathan MacKinnon: “I don’t know the secret. I find our details are probably better at home. I don’t

know if we’re a little slower or what [on the road], but I just feel everyone’s kind of in a good spot. We have five guys connected, offensively and defensively.” They’ll play the winner of the Lightning-Rangers series.

Now it’s the Warriors turn to steal one in Boston in Game 3 of the NBA Finals, and you’ll know those results before reading this column. We are watching the best two teams who are also the best two defensive teams playing in the Finals, which adds excitement on both sides of the ball. For the first two games the teams played fairly even in the first half, but in the second half each team ran away with it, playing how they play best. Boston made a furious comeback in Game 1 and dominated the fourth quarter after being 12 down and winning by 15. The Warriors did the same in the third quarter of Game 2, pulling away from a five-point halftime lead to end up with a 19-point win. Very similar teams, very similar results. Boston has the younger version of Steph Curry with Jayson Tatum. Both are scoring machines and make others around them better when they’re not. Exciting basketball showing us why each team deserves to be in the Finals and to win.

The good news story of the week is about honoring a legend. From a press release from Roland Garros (the French Open): “Billie Jean King’s fight to affect change is as undiminished at age 78 as at any stage during the height of her playing days. While the 12-time Grand Slam singles champion and former world No.1 remains an active influence on the WTA tour she pushed so tirelessly to establish, it is her off-court advocacy from which she draws greater pride these days. King received the Legion d’Honneur from French President Emmanuel Macron at Élysée Palace on Friday in honor of her fight for women’s sport, gender equality and the rights of LGBTQ people in sport. On the 50th anniversary of her sole Roland-Garros triumph, King has been bestowed another honor. In a nod to her trailblazing fight for gender equality, she became the first woman to present the Coupe des Mousquetaires (trophy) to the men’s champion on Sunday” (to Rafael Nadal, who remains undefeated in French Open Finals with 14 championships.)

King was front and center for the women’s singles finals on Saturday and could not have been prouder of the two finalists, Iga Swiatek and Coco Gauff. “I think they are amazing. I think they are fantastic. I think they both have different personalities, different games, which I always think is good,” King said. “Iga, you know, when I saw her win here (in 2020), I wondered how she’s going to hold up. She held up amazing. What’s she up to, 34 straight matches? What makes her interesting is her forehand is so different from her backhand and her serve is getting better. She’s actually quite quick.”

And Coco made it to her first grand slam final. Gauff, who turned 18 in March, is the youngest woman to reach a Grand Slam final since 17-year-old Maria Sharapova at 2004 Wimbledon and the youngest American woman to reach a major final since a 17-year-old Serena Williams at the 1999 U.S. Open. She’ll be back.

King concluded her interview saying: “I always want every generation, both men and women, to step up both in sports and in life.” King is still relevant and a strong voice and role model in professional tennis.

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 to press@islandsunnews.com.✱

Boat Ramp To Close Temporarily

The Matlacha Park Boat Ramp at 4577 Pine Island Road in Matlacha will close for maintenance and repairs on Wednesday, July 20. The ramp will reopen at 7 a.m. Tuesday, August 16.

Pine Island-area boaters can use the county’s nearby ramp at Lavenders Landing in Bokeelia at 7290 Barrancas Avenue NW seven days a week or launch at Pine Island Commercial Marina at 6001 Marina Drive on weekends and county-observed holidays. The ramp is not open to recreational boaters on weekdays.

Davis Boat Ramp at 2227 Davis Boulevard in Fort Myers is currently closed for routine maintenance and is expected to reopen July 17. Visit www.leeparks.org/parks for the latest updates on the projects.✱

From page 1

Lab Theater

and Darrell Smith and is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. in New York. Everything goes wrong when the cash-strapped Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society tries to put on a murder mystery. This hilarious award-winning show is a play within a play that is described as what would happen if Monty Python and Sherlock Holmes had a baby – and the result is a riotous explosion of comedy.

The 24-Hour Playwriting Project will be held October 22 at 8 p.m. The theme for this season, usually a well-guarded secret, is Jazz-Era Cabaret. Directed and coordinated by Char Loomis, playwrights will be assigned a theme, a director and actors. Within just 24 hours, you will see the fruits of their labor when all of their short plays are presented to be judged by a panel of area theater and arts professionals. It is sponsored by Stacy Lee-Williams.

The Thanksgiving Play by Larissa FastHorse (Southwest Florida premiere) opens on November 4 and is sponsored by Arlene Foreman. Events go sideways when elementary school teachers attempt to put on a culturally sensitive Thanksgiving Play, hiring a Native American actress who ends up being a white lady who is just a little tan. And that’s just the beginning. It is directed by Madelaine Weymouth, with Emarié Spiller as assistant director.

Ain’t Misbehavin’ by Murray Horwitz, and Richard Maltby, Jr. (Southwest Florida premiere) opens on December 9 and is directed by Sonya McCarter. Featuring the music of jazz legend Fats Waller, who believed that life was meant for fun, audiences will be swept away through the nightclubs of 1920’s Manhattan in this musical revue – winner

of the 1978 Tony Award for Best New Musical. *Ain’t Misbehavin’* is currently available for sponsorship.

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street by Hugh Wheeler and Stephen Sondheim opens on February 10. Sweeney Todd, an unjustly-exiled barber, returns to 19th-century London, seeking vengeance against the lecherous judge who framed him and ravaged his young wife. The road to revenge leads Todd to Mrs. Lovett, a resourceful proprietress of a failing pie shop, above from which he opens a new barber practice. Mrs. Lovett’s luck sharply shifts when Todd’s thirst for blood inspires the integration of an ingredient into her meat pies that has the people of London lining up. And the carnage has only just begun. *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* is currently available for sponsorship.

Pass Over by Antoinette Chinonye Nwandu (Southwest Florida premiere) opens on March 31 and is sponsored by Ella Naylor and Jeffrey Cull. Moses and Kitch stand around on the corner, talking trash, passing the time and hoping that maybe today will be different. As they dream of their promised land, a stranger wanders into their space with his own agenda and derails their plans. *Pass Over* exposes the unquestionable human spirit of young men stuck in a cycle and looking for a way out. A provocative riff on *Waiting for Godot*, this is a rare piece of politically charged theater by a bold new American voice.

Also included are two special Holocaust events (January 9 at 7 p.m. and April 10 at 7 p.m.) and the New Play Festival on May 5, 6 and 7 at 8 p.m.

The Laboratory Theater of Florida is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in downtown Fort Myers. For tickets, visit www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com or stop by the box office.✱

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 1981, Chili Davis became the first player in Major League Baseball history to hail from what island nation?
2. Name the TV sports anthology series, first airing in 1961, that brought viewers “The thrill of victory ... and the agony of defeat.”
3. In 2012, who broke Candace Parker’s NCAA women’s basketball career record for dunks with her eighth slam?
4. Who was selected No. 1 overall by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the 1986 NFL Draft? (Hint: He was drafted again by the Los Angeles Raiders in 1987.)
5. Who was head coach of the University of Florida Gators men’s basketball team that won back-to-back NCAA championships in 2006-07?
6. Which two German professional football clubs compete in a rivalry match known as “Der Klassiker”?
7. The 1970 film “The Super Fight” was a computer-decided fantasy boxing match between what two heavyweight champions?

ANSWERS

1. Jamaica. 2. ABC’s “Wide World of Sports.” 3. Baylor’s Brittney Griner. 4. Borussia Dortmund. 5. Billy Donovan. 6. Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund. 7. Muhammad Ali and Rocky Marciano.

Doctor and Dietician

Eggplant: The Incredible Purple Vegetable



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

We all know we should eat more vegetables and fruits. Eggplant is technically considered a fruit, yet eggplant is called “the king of vegetables” in India. Who knew? Many people say they dislike eggplant. However, many people have

not actually tried it. (Like Brussels sprouts until they became all the rage.) Eggplant is low in calories and provides a lot of nutritional bang for the buck. Eggplant has a high-water content and is a good source of vitamin C and K, and minerals such as magnesium, phosphorus and copper, as well as fiber, folic acid, potassium and manganese.

Consuming foods like eggplant regularly will help keep you regular, as well as reduce incidence of cardiac risk due to its high fiber content. Eggplants are great sources of phytonutrients, those lovely defenders against free radical activity which can reduce risk for conditions such as cognitive decline, CAD, Diabetes and cancer, as well as prevention of anemia due to its high copper content.

We love eggplant, of course. Marion recently made a grilled eggplant lasagna that was delicious. We like to make it in many different ways. Our good friends, Marylou and John make a delicious Asian garlic roasted eggplant.

What are some other ways to eat eggplant?

1. Baked, crunchy eggplant: slice the eggplant into strips or cut into rounds, sprinkle with salt and let them sweat.

Pat dry. Spritz with some olive oil then toss in a gluten-free bread crumb spice coating. Bake at 400 degrees for about 15 minutes or until crunchy.

2. Mashed into a dip: We love baba ghanoush which is made from roasted eggplants mixed with tahini, garlic and EVOO. It is creamy, smoky and delicious served with pita or bread.

3. Roasted: This is our favorite and one of the simplest ways to make eggplant. Cut into rounds and spritz with some olive oil, salt and pepper and roast in a 425-degree oven on parchment paper. These cook fast. We like to serve them with crunchy bread and “the green stuff” (which you recall is EVOO, garlic and herbs).

4. In pasta dishes: Most of us have had eggplant parmesan in an Italian restaurant which is grilled, or fried eggplant topped with marinara sauce and cheese. You can also slice the eggplant lengthwise and roll a ricotta cheese filling inside, like lasagna. Roasted eggplant is also great tossed with spaghetti, olive oil, garlic and herbs, and chopped tomatoes.

5. Indian curries: We love to make curry with whatever veggies we have on hand with tofu and/or chicken.

Eggplant tastes great in these curry dishes too. Just chop it up and stir it in.

6. Asian dishes: One of our favorite dishes to make and/or order at a Chinese restaurant is eggplant with garlic sauce. The sauce is made of soy and oyster sauce, rice vinegar and a little sugar, combined with minced ginger and garlic, water and cornstarch for thickening.

7. And a final favorite is Greek eggplant moussaka: Layers of sliced grilled (some fry) eggplant with ground beef (or lamb) and Bechamel sauce and fresh grated Parmesan. Add a little cinnamon, nutmeg, herbs and parsley to make for a delicious dish. Some people also add potatoes to this dish. Lots of options are available.

We encourage you to pick up that purple plant at the grocery store next time you want to be a little adventurous and make one of the above recipes.

*This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Ross Hauser, MD, and Marion Hauser, MS, RD, established Caring Medical in 1991. Caring Medical Florida and the Hauser Neck Center are located in Fort Myers. They can be reached at info@caringmedical.com.**

dearPharmacist

Disease Risk May Be Related To Height



by Suzy
Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: An interesting study was published in the June 2022 issue of *PLOS Genetics* and it has to do with height.

Researchers evaluated more than hundreds of thousands of people to see if their height had any correlation with medical problems. The average height of a man is 5'9" and a woman is 5'4" so anything above that is considered “tall.” As it pertains to the study, the mean height of all the study participants was 176 cm (5'6”).

Keep this in mind as you continue to learn how being tall impacts disease risk.

What’s fascinating is that stature isn’t something that comes to anyone’s mind when thinking about risk factors. When someone is ill, the typical risk factors evaluated are your environmental exposures, as well as where you live, the kind of food you eat as well as weight... genetics, your family history of disorders and toxic exposures. But how tall you are never comes to mind. It seems like such an implausible claim.

The difficulty is that height is not modifiable. Other risk factors are easily modifiable but again, being short, average in height or towering is not something you can change. Anyway,

taller people apparently have a higher risk of peripheral nerve damage (neuropathy) and varicose veins, and lower risk of heart disease. This contradicts prior studies by the way.

We’re seeing more and more Alzheimer’s today as the population ages. One trial examining about 500 people found that men who are about 6’0” are almost 60 percent less likely to develop dementia or Alzheimer’s compared to those shorter than 5’7”. The same benefit holds true for taller women, however the correlation is not as tight.

What about people of shorter stature? Research currently shows that someone below average height has a lower risk of getting cancer. In men, the risk of having prostate cancer are also lower if you’re below average height. It’s not yet possible to fully explain this, however, growth hormone levels play a role in the development of cancer.

The information presented today is based on numerous studies and meta-analyses, so what I’m saying is not carved-in-stone. I just find it so engrossing how height is becoming a better known, albeit non-modifiable, risk factor for disease development. But why? People of shorter stature (like me!) have reduced telomere shortening and that’s a good thing. Childhood illness and exposure to pathogens plays a role, as does lifestyle factors, diet and genetics.

Personally, I don’t think anyone should worry about their height. You can’t change it anyway. So while investigators continue to tease out our destiny based upon height, I suggest we all just focus on the modifiable factors instead. You can make changes to things within your control, and the tweaks you make now translate to life-long health and longevity, not only for you, but also for your children, and

their children and so forth.

*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.**

Donate Blood

Lee Health is seeking blood donations to help replenish supply levels. For more information, visit www.leehealth.org/our-services/blood-centers.*

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PUZZLES

Answers on page 23



"I'm NOT starting another

— this is the same one"

SCRAMBLERS

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

Bully
TUBER

Forsake
ROAMON

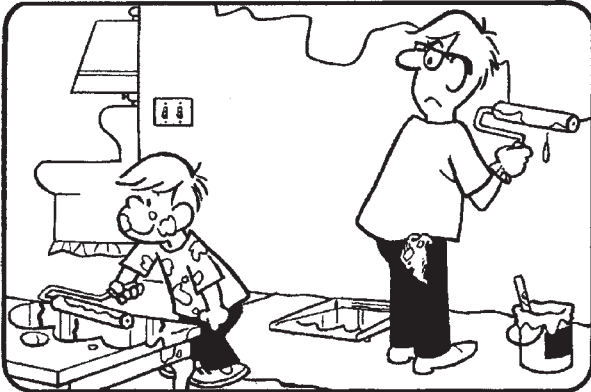
Rock
TEARING

Produce
EYLID

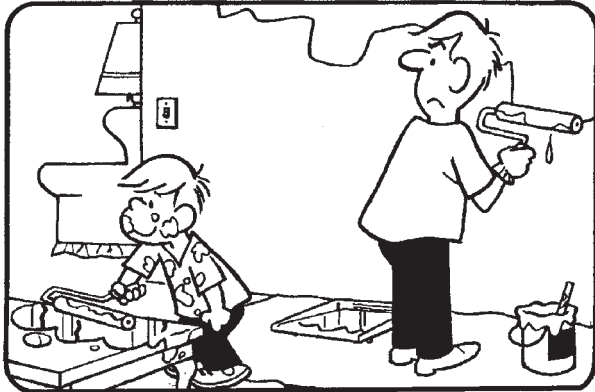
TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Shade is missing. 2. Switch is different. 3. Neckline is different. 4. Glasses are missing. 5. Flag is missing. 6. Stick is moved.

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

To Play
Sudoku:

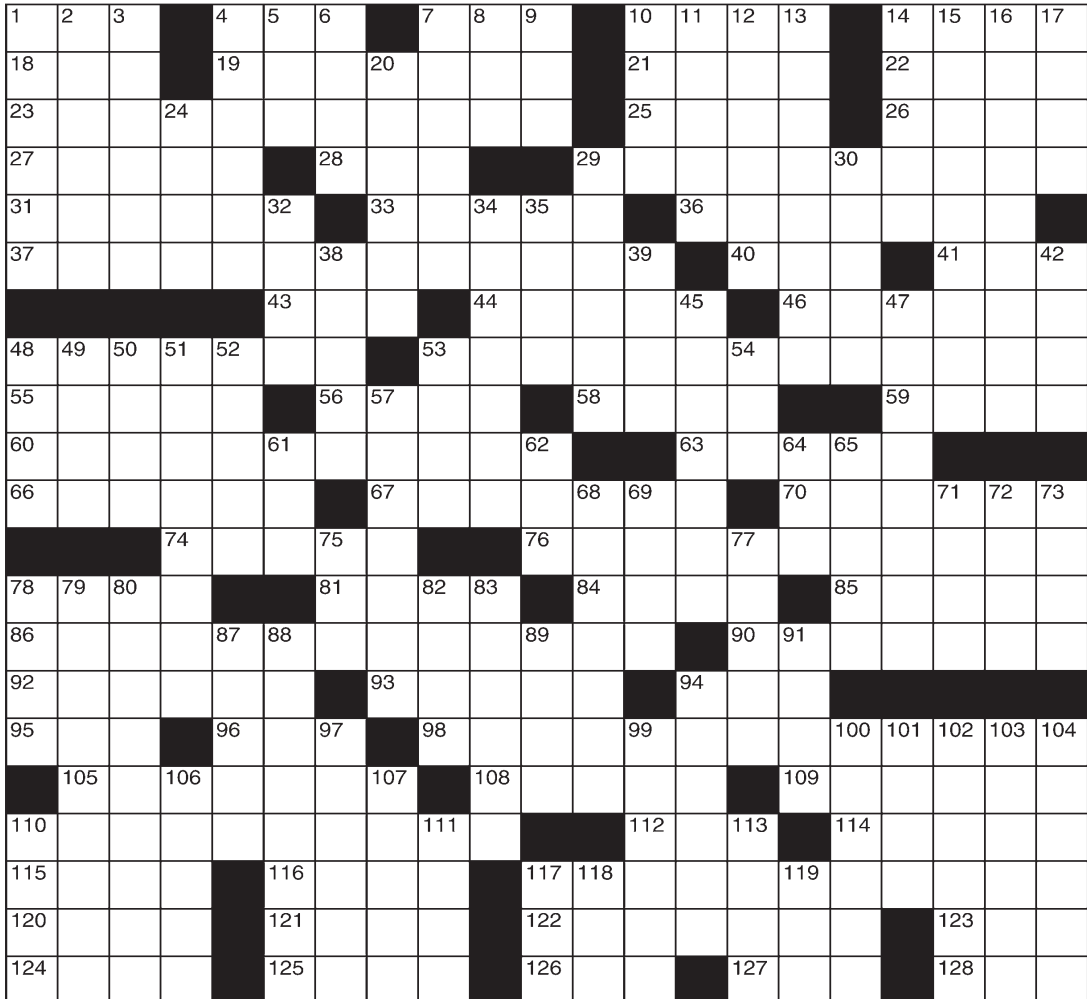
Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (the same number cannot appear more than once in a row, column or 3x3 box.) There is no guessing and no math involved, just logic.

PUZZLES

Answers on page 23

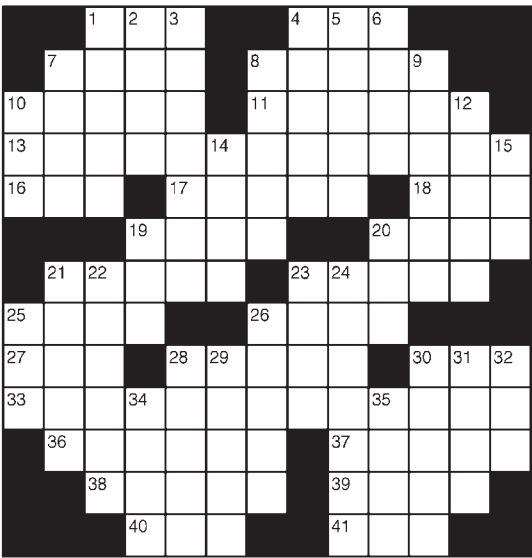
Super Crossword JUST ADD SALT

- ACROSS
- 1 V-J Day prez
- 4 Not cooked
- 7 Epoch
- 10 Nails, as an exam
- 14 "— boy!"
- 18 "There it is!"
- 19 Went by, as hours
- 21 Whet
- 22 Unmask
- 23 Giving monikers to flower holders?
- 25 Whale type
- 26 Bride's ride, perhaps
- 27 It might follow "So I lied!"
- 28 That, to Juanita
- 29 The lass I love with a twangy voice?
- 31 Fill with fury
- 33 Alaskan panhandle city
- 36 "No fooling!"
- 37 Embryonic thyroids and pituitaries?
- 40 Many a shareable PC file
- 41 Cry loudly
- 43 "Chairman —" (NBA moniker)
- 44 Brief review
- 46 Lake in north Minnesota
- 48 Broken stone used in paving
- 53 Actor
- 55 Amazed
- 56 "Will you allow me?"
- 58 Father, in France
- 59 Be disposed
- 60 "Batman Forever" star commanding a warship?
- 63 Barrage of shots
- 66 Fail to feed
- 67 Actress on HBO's "Insecure"
- 70 Matador
- 74 Levi's material
- 76 Homer hit by poet Tate?
- 78 Swing about
- 81 Old soda brand
- 84 The Beatles' "— Tired"
- 85 "Better in Time" singer
- 86 Title of a sommelier training
- 88 video hosted by novelist Gordimer?
- 90 Goes into overtime, say
- 92 Rival of Sampras
- 93 Heat energy unit
- 94 See
- 95 115-Across
- 95 Sharks' org.
- 96 Signing tool
- 98 Dilemma caused by quarterback Joe?
- 105 Men's neckwear accessory
- 108 Island porch
- 109 Beethoven's Third
- 110 Really mean porkers?
- 112 Biology subj.
- 114 Financier
- 115 With
- 94-Across, designer with the fragrance Fantasia
- 116 QED's "E"
- 117 Rich founder of a loafah-producing company?
- 120 Newsy note
- 121 Jazzy Simone
- 122 Feeling bad for
- 123 Rural tract
- 124 California city known for its zinfandel
- 125 Highlander, e.g.
- 126 Positive reply
- 127 Negative replies
- 128 Bit of work
- DOWN
- 1 Broadway's "Dear Evan —"
- 2 Debi Mazar's "Entourage" role
- 3 Beast breakers
- 4 Go back (on)
- 5 N. Afr. country
- 6 Surfer's ride
- 7 Attack verbally
- 8 "No fooling!"
- 9 Mag VIPs
- 10 Shout at sea
- 11 Breed of herding dog
- 12 Set up tents
- 13 Totally enclosed
- 14 Lion in "Narnia" tales
- 15 "Speaking," for a woman on the phone
- 16 Redpack container
- 17 GI on the run
- 20 "Do not —" (Monopoly directive)
- 24 Non-PC computer
- 29 Reckless
- 30 U.S.-Can.-Mex. pact
- 32 "Only Time" singer
- 34 Dawdles
- 35 Pant leg part
- 38 Singer Terrell
- 39 Fill totally
- 42 U2, for one
- 45 Medusa's killer
- 47 ABA member
- 48 Hr. fractions
- 49 Biology subj.
- 50 Vena —
- 51 Tony winners, e.g.
- 52 Probe (into)
- 53 Fitness sites
- 54 Stephen of "The Heavy"
- 57 Foodstuff
- 61 Griffey of baseball
- 62 Operated
- 64 Kin of "Inc."
- 65 "There it is!"
- 68 Best Picture of 1988
- 69 Cry of woe
- 71 Big heads
- 72 Nevada city
- 73 City in 5-Down
- 75 Not Rep. or Dem.
- 77 Clean a spill
- 78 Stately bird
- 79 Attack verbally
- 80 Not trued up
- 82 Violinist Hilary
- 83 Paragons
- 87 U.S. humane org.
- 88 TV ratings system
- 89 "— la Douce"
- 91 Old Italian coins
- 94 Climb, as a tree or rope
- 97 — acid (aqua fortis)
- 99 Seer's cards
- 100 Circular gaskets
- 101 — Raton
- 102 Likely (to)
- 103 Parrot, often
- 104 Guy's stylish carrier
- 106 As a friend, in France
- 107 Kind of bar
- 110 Sandbox toy
- 111 Coup d'—
- 113 Not "fer"
- 117 Operative
- 118 Crusty treat
- 119 Brian of rock



King Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Scratch
- 4 Hosp. scan
- 7 Ashen
- 8 Ridicule
- 10 Director
- 11 Seek, as office
- 13 Breakfast order
- 16 Simile center
- 17 Four-star reviews
- 18 FDR project
- 19 107, to Cato
- 20 Actor Johnny
- 21 Velocity
- 23 Apple centers
- 25 And others (Lat.)
- 26 French cheese
- 27 Plopped down
- 28 Pink hue
- 30 Insult, slangily
- 33 Steakhouse order
- 36 Eucalyptus eaters
- 37 Start of a supplication
- 38 Move furtively
- 39 Smile
- 40 Trail the pack
- 41 Thesaurus wd.
- 10 CEO's deg.
- 12 Answers an invitation
- 14 Incursion
- 15 Phone bug
- 19 Cartoon sitcom
- 20 Rap's Dr. —
- 21 Desolate
- 22 Cookout spots
- 23 Beach crawl-er
- 24 Drilling plat-forms
- 25 Mentalist's claim
- 26 Invigorating
- 28 Salsa singer
- 29 Borneo ape, for short
- 30 "Mack the Knife" singer
- 31 "This — out-rage!"
- 32 Pigs' digs
- 34 Teen hangout
- 35 Grand Ole —
- DOWN
- 1 Island south of Sicily
- 2 Oodles
- 3 Set aside
- 4 Bea Arthur
- 5 Littlest litter-mates
- 6 Data
- 7 Name of 12 popes
- 8 Fountain of Rome
- 9 Precisely



MAGIC MAZE ● NORMANDY

V K I H D A X U Q N K H E O B

Y V S I P M J U H E B Y V V T

Q O L I R E T G D B Y W T E G

R P M N E A C K I F D B Y R W

U S Q X H X W N O M K I U L F

D B Z A U (D - DAY) X O W O U

R S M E O E Q O L R B D N R L

J O Y N H F R D C R F R L D A

Y A U W V T S V E Q O O P O N

B J L E R V A H E L K W I H G

F E C B N O C N E L A S Z Y W

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: Invasion Code-Named Operation —

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------|----------|--------------|
| Alençon | D-Day | Juno | Sword |
| Bayeux | Évreux | Le Havre | Utah |
| Caen | France | Omaha | World War II |
| Cherbourg | Gold | Rouen | |



Cantaloupe Smoothie Bowl



Cantaloupe Smoothie Bowl

- 1 cup cantaloupe, diced and frozen
- ½ banana, peeled, sliced and frozen
- ¼ cup milk, almond milk, or soy milk
- Various toppings (such as nuts,

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

toasted coconut, berries, hemp seeds, chia seeds)
Place frozen fruit in a high-speed blender and turn on. Slowly add liquid until the mixture starts to blend (you might not need all the liquid). Turn off and scrape down sides, continue blending until the mixture is thick and smooth. Pour into small bowl and top with favorite toppings. Serve immediately.
Fresh tip: The cantaloupe halves can be saved and used as bowls to serve in.✱

PETS OF THE WEEK



Indie ID# A922086 photos provided Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Indie And Lucas

Hello, my name is Indie. I am a white 6-year-old female terrier mix.
I am the petite ‘super senior’ with soulful eyes that will draw you in... then my sweet personality will have you fall in love. At just over 40 pounds, I am a great size for just about any home. I would love to lay my head on your lap when you pet me. I am looking for my person to come into the shelter and give me that forever home I so deserve.
My adoption fee is \$20.
Hi, I’m Lucas. I am an orange tabby and white 3-year-old male domestic shorthair.
I am a chill guy hanging out with the staff and volunteers at Lee County



Lucas ID# A923764

Domestic Animal Services while I wait for my new family to come and adopt me. I am one of those rare hybrids of laid-back personality mixed with stunning good looks. Combine that with the June adoption special of \$20 (and as always adopt one get a feline friend at no additional fee), and you have hit the jackpot with me.
My adoption fee is \$20.
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 JUNE 6, 2022

Aries (March 21 to April 19) A recent spate of confusion regarding decision-making begins to clear up. But caution is still advised. Continue to check details. An old friend has important news.
Taurus (April 20 to May 20) You’re anxious to see your ideas move from concept to development. But trying to force the issue right now could backfire. Wait for movement to resume shortly.
Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Keep your thoughts focused on the positive as you deal with an unexpected turn of events in a personal or professional relationship. This could be the start of a welcome change.
Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Health matters take on added importance at this time. Deal with them before they interfere with your summer plans. A relationship that cooled off could soon warm up again.
Leo (July 23 to August 22) While a few details involving upcoming decisions still need your attention, you fun-loving Felines can begin to spend more time enjoying your lively social life again.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) That long-sought-after career change could require you to move to another city. Weigh your decision carefully before either accepting or rejecting the offer out of hand.
Libra (September 23 to October 22) A workplace situation can be awkward for Librans who prefer to keep their problems private. But you might have to “tell-all” if you hope to see it resolved in your favor.
Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Although your financial situation starts to improve this week, you still need to be cautious about money matters. Avoid major obligations, for now.
Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Your overall aspects continue to brighten, allowing you to tackle long-deferred challenges. A change in travel plans could work to your benefit.
Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Things seem to be slowing down for the usually restless Sea Goat. But wouldn’t a bit of respite be just what you need right now? Activity picks up by the weekend.
Aquarius (January 20 to February

18) Personal relationships take a positive turn for both married and single Aquarians. Professional commitments, however, could be complicated by newly emerging events.
Pisces (February 19 to March 20) A decision you thought was final might be reopened as new facts are discovered. This could lead to a short-term problem, but ultimately might prove beneficial.
Born This Week: Your keen interest in pursuing global events could lead you into a career as a politician or journalist.

MOMENTS IN TIME

- On June 13, 1381, a large mob of English peasants marches into London and begins burning and looting the city. The revolt began with the bubonic plague in the late 1340s, which killed nearly a third of the population of England and led to higher wages due to scarcity of labor. Parliament, however, passed laws to hold down wages.
- On June 19, 1856, the first national convention of the Republican Party comes to its conclusion. After the Civil War, the Republican-dominated Congress forced a radical Reconstruction policy on the South,

which saw the passage of the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution.
On June 17, 1885, the dismantled Statue of Liberty, a gift from France, arrives in New York Harbor after being shipped across the Atlantic Ocean in 350 individual pieces packed in more than 200 cases. The copper and iron statue was reassembled and dedicated the following year.
On June 15, 1904, more than 1,000 people taking a pleasure trip on New York City’s East River are drowned or burned to death when fire sweeps through the riverboat-style steamer *General Slocum*.
On June 14, 1951, the U.S. Census Bureau dedicates UNIVAC, the first commercially produced general-purpose electronic digital computer in the U.S. UNIVAC used thousands of vacuum tubes for computation.
On June 16, 1961, Rudolf Nureyev, the young star of the Soviet Union’s Kirov Opera Ballet Company, defects during a stopover in Paris. While preparing to board the return flight, Nureyev threw himself into the arms of airport security people,

continued on page 22



FRIDAY
Cloudy
High: 85 Low: 75



SATURDAY
Few Showers
High: 81 Low: 73



SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 84 Low: 74



MONDAY
Sunny
High: 85 Low: 76



TUESDAY
Few Showers
High: 84 Low: 74



WEDNESDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 87 Low: 79



THURSDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 86 Low: 76

Redfish Pass Tides					Point Ybel Tides					Punta Rassa Tides					Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	10:14 am	3:35 am	11:50 pm	5:07 pm	Fri	9:19 am	3:37 am	10:55 pm	5:09 pm	Fri	9:35 am	3:39 am	11:03 pm	4:44 pm	Fri	12:34 am	6:51 am	12:24 pm	8:23 pm
Sat	10:42 am	4:09 am	None	6:00 pm	Sat	9:47 am	4:11 am	None	6:02 pm	Sat	10:02 am	4:11 am	None	5:42 pm	Sat	2:00 am	7:25 am	12:52 pm	9:16 pm
Sun	1:10 am	4:39 am	11:14 am	6:52 pm	Sun	12:15 am	4:41 am	10:19 am	6:54 pm	Sun	12:14 am	4:47 am	10:42 am	6:41 pm	Sun	3:20 am	7:55 am	1:24 pm	10:08 pm
Mon	2:29 am	5:03 am	11:51 am	7:44 pm	Mon	1:34 am	5:05 am	10:56 am	7:46 pm	Mon	1:11 am	5:31 am	11:33 am	7:39 pm	Mon	4:39 am	8:19 am	2:01 pm	11:00 pm
Tue	12:33 pm	8:38 pm	None	None	Tue	11:38 am	8:40 pm	None	None	Tue	2:07 am	6:28 am	12:25 pm	8:38 pm	Tue	2:43 pm	11:54 pm	None	None
Wed	1:20 pm	9:33 pm	None	None	Wed	12:25 pm	9:35 pm	None	None	Wed	3:17 am	7:31 am	1:15 pm	9:36 pm	Wed	3:30 pm	None	None	None
Thu	2:11 pm	10:27 pm	None	None	Thu	1:16 pm	10:29 pm	None	None	Thu	4:35 am	8:41 am	2:14 pm	10:30 pm	Thu	4:21 pm	12:49 am	None	None

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THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS



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Take Your Pet To Work Week

Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) is celebrating National Take Your Pet to Work Week from June 20 to 24, making it easy to consider adopting a canine or feline friend to be a new co-worker. Adoption fees are \$20 for all adult dogs and cats throughout June.

Take a picture of the new furry family member on the job and share it on LCDAS's Facebook page to celebrate. The adoption package includes spay or neuter, microchip, up-to-date vaccinations, county license and a 10-day health guarantee, a \$600 package.

LCDAS is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Photos and information about lost pets or pets for adoption are available at www.leelostpets.com. Pet information on the website updates hourly. Adoption applications may be completed online.✧

From page 20

Moments In Time

screaming, "Protect me!" He was given political asylum.

• On June 18, 1983, Dr. Sally K. Ride becomes the first American woman in space when the shuttle *Challenger* is launched on its second mission. Ride, as

a mission specialist, was the first woman to operate the shuttle's mechanical arm used to remove ice from its exterior.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

• Save the peels from your oranges, and dry them at a low temperature in the oven. You can add them to a pot of coffee or tea for a flavor boost that is refreshing and delicious.

• "If your tomato garden is experiencing caterpillars, try planting dillweed close to your tomatoes. It can provide a diversion, allowing your tomatoes to grow pest-free!"

– YF in Florida

• Cure your color in new garments (especially dark- or bright-colored) by soaking the item in cold, salty water before washing. Make sure that the fabric will allow this!

• "Take good care of quality paint brushes, and they will take care of you! Wash thoroughly in soapy water and rinse very well. After the brush is washed, combine enough water to cover the bristles and add two tablespoons of fabric softener. Swish for a minute or two, being sure to get it in the brush good, then hang to drip dry. Before you use the brush to paint, simply rinse the fabric softener away."

– ME in Washington

• Baking soda can be used as a tooth scrub. It's particularly effective against stains, as it is a mild abrasive.

• "When you are dusting, don't forget the light bulbs. Dusty light bulbs can contribute to less-bright lighting and can shorten the life of your bulbs. Turn lights off when you are not using them. You will save electricity that way."

– AL in Oklahoma

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• President William McKinley always wore a red carnation for good luck, but sometimes gave it away as a memento. When greeting a crowd in 1901, he handed a 12-year-old girl named Myrtle the bloom off his lapel, saying, "I must give this flower to another little flower." While it's not known if the gesture proved lucky for Myrtle, just minutes later McKinley was fatally shot by a man in the crowd.

• The larger an animal's brain, the longer it will yawn.

• Smoking has long been banned by airlines, but ashtrays are mandatory on every plane, for safe disposal in case someone breaks the law.

• A Chinese farmer named Wang Englin, who quit school in the third grade, spent 16 years teaching himself law in order to sue a chemical company that was polluting his village. Unable to buy all the books he needed, he paid a local bookstore with bags of corn to let him sit and read, copying information by hand and using a dictionary when necessary. He finally won his case

in 2017.

• During World War II, a Dutch warship was disguised as a tropical island to escape detection by the Japanese.

• Convinced that stomach ulcers were caused by *H. pylori* bacteria, although no one else seemed to believe it, Dr. Barry Marshall drank the bacteria himself (testing it on humans was illegal), developed ulcers within days, treated them with antibiotics, and ended up winning a Nobel Prize.

• On average, professional soccer players run as far as nine miles in a match.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Life is like arriving late for a movie, having to figure out what was going on without bothering everybody with a lot of questions, and then being unexpectedly called away before you find out how it ends.

– Joseph Campbell

TRIVIA TEST

1. **Television:** Luke's Diner is a prominent feature in which 2000s TV show?
2. **Music:** When did The Archies' *Sugar Sugar* hit the No. 1 spot?
3. **Animal Kingdom:** What does the Greek translation of rhinoceros mean?
4. **Movies:** Which movie features the

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4/20 ✧ TFN

CAREGIVER

We are seeking a caregiver for an elderly woman with experience, for two 24 hour shifts every other week and PRN (as needed). Must be caring and compassionate, and able to complete personal care tasks like bathing, dressing, eating, grooming and daily med intake. Also assist with physical transit. Contact Lisa 239-395-0153.

1/21 ✧ TFN

PSA


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

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.

song *Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head*?

- 5. **Language:** What is the American English equivalent of the British English phrase "drawing pin"?
- 6. **U.S. States:** Which state's nickname is the Yellowhammer State?
- 7. **History:** Who is believed to be the first to draw a world map, in sixth century BC?
- 8. **Ad Slogans:** Which company advertised its product with the one-word description "Fahrvergnugen"?
- 9. **Geography:** How many states are in Australia?
- 10. **Literature:** Which 20th-century novel starts with the line, "They're out there"?

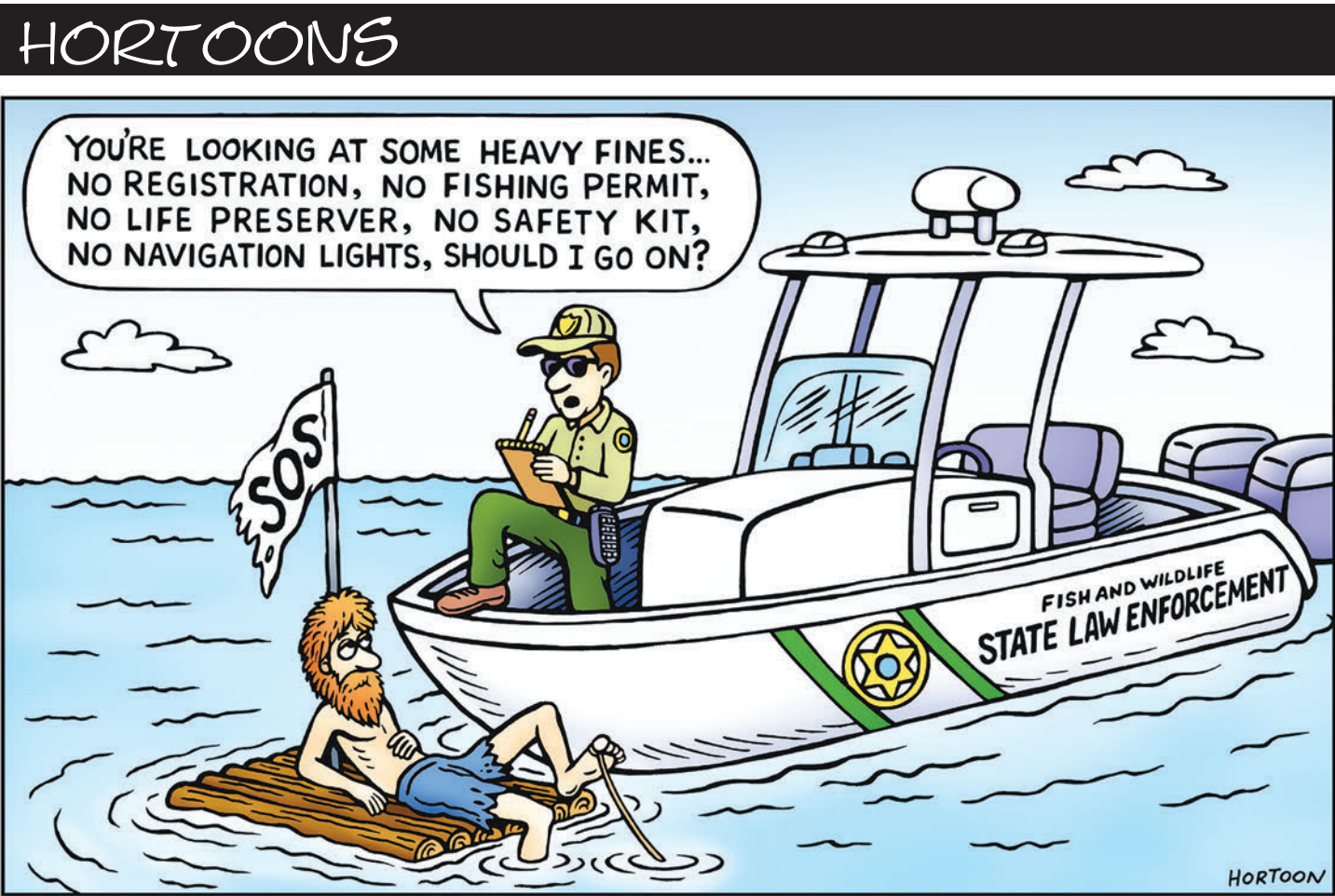
TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. *The Gilmore Girls* 2. 1969 3. Horned nose 4. *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* 5. Thumb tack 6. Alabama 7. Greek academic Anaximander 8. Volkswagen. It's German for "driving enjoyment." 9. Six 10. One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

SCRAMBLERS ANSWER

- 1. Brute 2. Maroon 3. Granite; 4. Yield

Today's Word
ARGUMENT



PUZZLE ANSWERS

SUPER CROSSWORD

H	S	T		R	A	W		A	G	E		A	C	E	S		A	T	T	A		
A	H	A		E	L	A	P	S	E	D		H	O	N	E		S	H	O	W		
N	A	M	I	N	G	V	A	S	E	S		O	R	C	A		L	I	M	O		
S	U	E	M	E		E	S	A			M	Y	G	A	L		N	A	S	A		
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S	L	U	E		D	E	N	I	M		N	A	H	U	M	D	I	N	G	E	R	
W	I	N	E	A	N	D	N	A	D	I	N	E		P	L	A	Y	S	O	N		
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P	I	G	N	A	S	T	I	E	S				R	N	A		I	C	A	H	N	
A	N	N	A		E	R	A	T		S	P	O	N	G	E	N	A	B	O	B		
I	T	E	M		N	I	N	A		P	I	T	Y	I	N	G		L	E	A		
L	O	D	I		S	C	O	T		Y	E	S		N	O	S		E	R	G		

KING CROSSWORD

			M	A	R				M	R	I									
			P	A	L	E			T	A	U	N	T							
M	I	L	O	S					R	U	N	F	O	R						
B	U	T	T	E	R	E	D		T	O	A	S	T							
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			S	P	E	E	D			C	O	R	E	S						
E	T	A	L						B	R	I	E								
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MAGIC MAZE

SUDOKU

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

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Barefoot Beach	Bonita Springs	2007	5,624	\$8,750,000	\$8,500,000	17
Metes And Bounds	Captiva	2024	5,500	\$5,823,000	\$5,823,000	0
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2020	4,781	\$4,495,000	\$4,000,000	38
Deerwood	Bonita Springs	1998	5,291	\$3,295,000	\$3,350,000	2
Bonita Beach	Bonita Springs	2015	3,544	\$3,175,000	\$3,000,000	24
Betts	Sanibel	1974	2,450	\$2,995,000	\$2,800,000	27
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2002	5,487	\$3,200,000	\$2,550,000	14
Sanibel Estates	Sanibel	2016	2,524	\$2,495,000	\$2,500,000	1
Water Shadows	Sanibel	1972	2,546	\$2,495,000	\$2,495,000	0
Alva	Alva	1985	5,086	\$2,395,000	\$2,200,000	10



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