



Mayors Join Be Kind Initiative



City of Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson and Legislative Assistant Kim Harris

photos provided

by Jeff Lysiak

Be kind in thoughts, actions and words to all people. That's the simple message behind a new initiative – Be Kind

– which continues to spread to communities large and small across the country.

The Be Kind campaign was created by Virginia-based artist Gini Bonnell,



From left, Fort Myers Beach Town Council members Bruce Butcher, Joanne Shamp, Tracey Gore, Dennis Boback and Anita Cereceda

who painted the simple message on a small wooden board in honor of World Kindness Day. She sent more than 1,400 identical copies of the sign to individuals, schools and businesses around the world in hopes of creating “a movement of kindness.”

Eventually, several high profile people – including Richmond, Virginia Mayor Levar Stoney – began having their pictures taken with the sign, which were

posted online via social media platforms Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Here in Southwest Florida, Bonita Springs Mayor Peter Simmons was informed of the initiative by friend and former special education teacher Jan Farrington. In turn, he brought the idea up at a recent Florida League of Mayors meeting, where several colleagues – including Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane

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Make a child's Christmas brighter with a donation to The Heights Center

photo provided

Christmas Gift Donations Sought

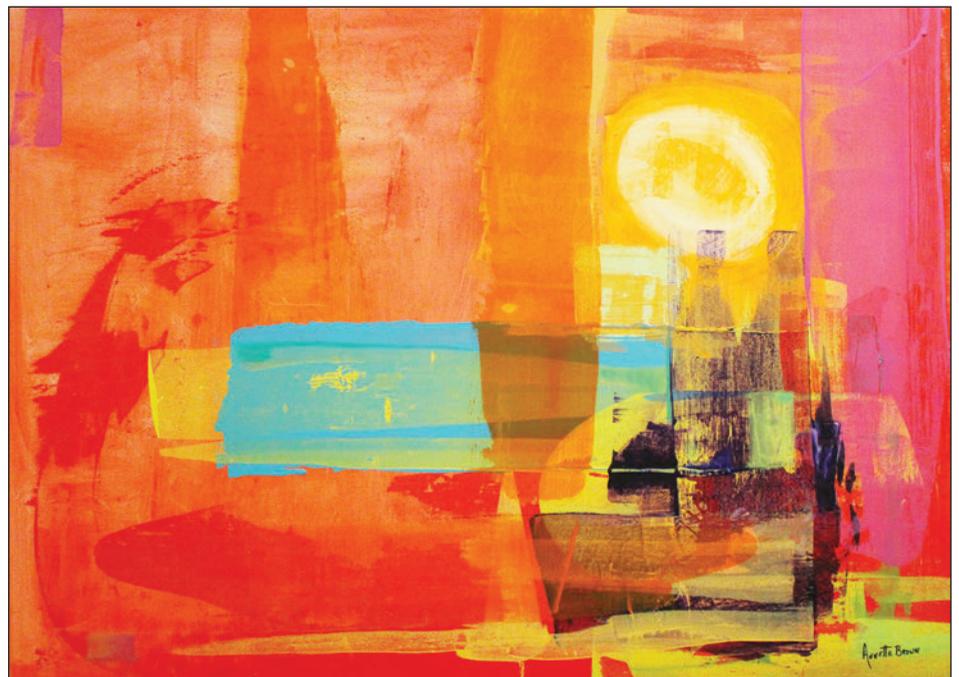
The Heights Center is seeking organizations and individuals to participate in the annual Harlem Heights Community Gift Drive. Individuals,

businesses and philanthropic groups are asked to donate new, unwrapped gifts for local children. Gifts are needed for more than 800 children, ranging in age from newborns to 17.

Suggested donations are gifts under \$25 including Legos, dolls, art sets,

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Art In Flight Exhibit Opens At Airport



Paradise by Annette Brown

image provided

For the last 13 years, the Alliance for the Arts and Lee County Port Authority have partnered on a project called Art In Flight, which brings art to the public spaces and the millions of travelers

at Southwest Florida International Airport.

The current Art In Flight: My Florida exhibit, which features the creative perspective of 30 Florida artists and what

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Plume Trade's Dark History



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

Citrus groves, cattle, gladiolus, fishing, tourism... just a few of the industries that have driven the Lee County and Fort Myers economies for the last 150 years.

Another important sector of the early local economy was the trade in animal skins, hides and parts: the skins of otters, alligators, raccoons and bobcats; alligator teeth; turtle shells; and other products.

Case in point: In 1887, one of the town's earliest merchants, Miguell Moralez, advertised as a dealer in "all kinds of skins that crawl or fly" and also sold tarpon scales, alligator teeth and hog tusks.

Perhaps the most lucrative items in the trade in animal parts were the plumes and skins of wading birds.

From the 1880s until well into the early 20th century, trade in the nuptial feathers of wading birds thrived in Southwest Florida, despite a series of laws against it, beginning in 1891.

The feathers of herons, egrets, ibises, spoonbills and flamingos were used to decorate ladies' hats in a grotesque fashion that peaked in this era.

Hunters shot and skinned the birds and left the unwanted body parts for scavengers. The nestlings were left to starve, die in the sun, or be taken by crows, raccoons, ants or vultures.

Dozens of other species, such as hawks and owls, were also slaughtered for feathers.

Hunters from the Western Everglades and the Ten Thousand Islands fed the Fort Myers market for wading-bird plumes. They were bought by merchants, as well as by buyers from the millinery industries of New York and other cities.

Some plume buyers called themselves taxidermists, and it was common for them to equip hunters, or "gunners," as they were called, with arms and ammunition to bring back the precious feathers.

As early as 130 years ago, there were reports of rookeries being virtually wiped out within a day or two.

By the 1880s – the decade that Fort Myers incorporated -- plume bird populations were already so depleted that rookeries no longer existed in proximity to human settlements.

In March 1885, Capt. TT Roan returned from a bird-hunting trip along the coast and observed that the hunters out-numbered the birds. He hoped enough would be saved to preserve the species.

The *Fort Myers Press* often reported on the take of hunters returning to town after plume hunting. In 1890, for example, Capt. George E. Cuthbert, a well-known plume hunter, came to town with more than 900 plume birds. All were bought by local merchant WR Washburn.

There was no stigma against the trade. Among the men who profited greatly were citizens holding city and county offices.

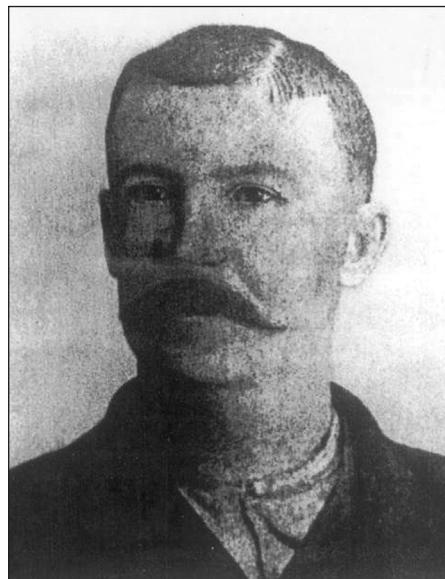
But farther north, efforts to end it was well underway at the national and state levels.

The first state-level Audubon Societies were established in the late 1890s. Florida Audubon was established in 1900.

Working together, those organizations helped to pass bird-protection laws.

Another boost to bird conservation was the establishment of the country's first National Wildlife Refuge, Pelican Island, in 1903 by Pres. Theodore Roosevelt.

In 1901, the Florida Legislature enacted the Audubon Model Law, which made it illegal to kill birds, except game birds like ducks and wild turkeys, thus outlawing plume hunting in the state.



Guy Bradley was hired as the Monroe County Game Warden in 1902 and was paid by Audubon to protect bird rookeries. He was murdered by a plume hunter in July 1908. photos courtesy Florida State Archives



Annie Ray Andrews of Estero's Koreshan Unity wears a hat decorated with what looks like the entire wings of a plume bird

Significantly, the law allowed for the state to hire game wardens who would protect the birds and be paid by Audubon.

Guy Bradley was the first warden to be hired. He served as Monroe County's game warden as well as its deputy sheriff. His murder near Oyster Keys on July 8, 1905 by a plume hunter has earned him the title of the country's first environmental martyr.

Just three years later, the second Audubon warden, Columbus McLeod, vanished under mysterious circumstances near Charlotte Harbor and was presumed murdered by plume hunters.

Despite laws against it, the bird slaughter continued in Southwest Florida. Profit was great and laws not sufficiently enforced. In 1903, hunters could earn \$32 an ounce for plumes, or twice their weight in gold.

Nearly a decade after Bradley's murder, Fort Myers resident W. Stanley Hanson, the state's district inspector under migratory bird law, wrote of a slaughter in the Back Bay of Cape Sable which left the carcasses of several hundred adult birds and five to six hundred young birds dead on the nest or on the ground.

Nevertheless, public sentiment against the plume trade continued to grow.

In 1913, Fort Myers's own Julia Hanson, secretary to Florida Audubon and chair of the bird-protection committee of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, writing in the *Press*, lamented the non-enforcement of state bird-protection law, which allowed for a \$300 fine for killing or possessing a bird.

She made a direct emotional appeal, wondering how it was possible that any woman could take pleasure in wearing "emblems of slaughter" in "the exploitation of her vanity."

Another argument reiterated in the *Press* was the economic one: protecting the birds was essential in attracting tourists to the area.

In July 1914, a front-page announcement in the newspaper stated that because of federal law, any woman in possession of or wearing an aigrette on the streets of Fort Myers would be prosecuted.

In January 1917, Julia Hanson and her son Stanley, the inspector, were two of

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GCHS Receives \$250,000 Will Donation

When Jerry Brown adopted his German shepard from Gulf Coast Humane Society in 2011, he walked away impressed and overjoyed about the entire adoption process.

That feeling hung with Brown throughout the rest of his life, as he and his wife Judy found years of happiness with their forever friend, in whom they named Shana.

"Shana means 'beautiful' in Yiddish," Judy Aronson said. "There wasn't anything extra special about the time Jerry adopted Shana from GCHS, but he always commented on how the staff was so helpful and how the process of adopting went so well."

Brown passed away recently, and one wish he had was to make a donation to GCHS. The generous donation was in the amount of \$250,000.

The donation will be turned into a fund dedicated in Brown's name to help people in Lee, Hendry, Charlotte and surrounding counties who can't afford to care for their pets with spay-neuters, shots and microchips. This will apply to domestic pets and be reserved for those who cannot afford this level of care.

The precise mechanics of the program are still being finalized, but the program will start being implemented in a few weeks, said GCHS executive director Jennifer Galloway.

"This was an overwhelming gesture by



Jerry Brown's wife, Judy Aronson (third from right), presented a \$250,000 donation check to GCHS photos provided

the late Jerry Brown and his wife Judy," Galloway said. "I cannot wait to share the stories of the pets who were helped because of Jerry and Judy's generosity. We are so happy Jerry was able to adopt Shana and come away feeling the way he did with GCHS."

Spay-neutering is a top initiative of GCHS, and it is proven with the number of surgeries they perform daily. Since August of 2015, the GCHS Spay and Neuter Clinic eclipsed the 15,000 mark, with 5,840 this year alone.

"The Brown donation is a game changer for GCHS and its initiative of spaying or neutering your pet," Galloway said. "Pet overpopulation is a major problem, and this donation will make it possible to help those pet owners who want to do the right thing, but do not have the resources to do so. We are so grateful that we will be able to help those who really need it to take care of their pets."

Of the \$250,000 donation, \$50,000 of it will extend to help the German Shepherd Rescue in Punta Gorda, which



Jerry Brown, in his traditional St. Patrick's Day outfit, was so appreciated of the GCHS' adoption process that he included the shelter in his will

has had over 1,100 rescued German shepherds in the last 12 years.

"We hope that many members of our community will see this gift as just the starting point in what Jerry wanted as his legacy," said GSR executive director Erik Hoffer. "The fund is now part of a 501C3 at Gulf Coast Humane Society and can accept funding from the community to insure this mission will last in perpetuity. Contributions to either the Jerry Brown fund or the Southwest Florida German Shepherd Rescue fund, both administered

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Tracey Galloway and Brian Schuman

photo provided

Fair Funds Holiday Food Drive

The Fair at Fenway South at JetBlue Park partnered with the Jordan Schuman Foundation For Kindness and Wade Shows to donate \$3,000 to Community Cooperative's Holiday Full Plates Project.

This was the sixth year the Fair at Fenway has taken place at JetBlue Park over two weekends in November, attracting thousands of local families.

"Community Cooperative helps feed the hungry in Lee County year round but it's especially important to donate to our neighbors in need this holiday season,"

said Brian Schuman, fair manager. "The Fair at Fenway South, Wade Shows and the Jordan Schuman Foundation for Kindness each donated \$1,000 to feed hundreds locally through Community Cooperative's Thanksgiving Full Plates Project."

On the last Saturday and Sunday of the fair, the groups also held a canned food drive for Community Cooperative and offered anyone bringing nonperishable food donations to receive half off admission.

"I'm happy to see the Fair at Fenway South becoming more deeply involved in the community," said Community Cooperative Chief Executive Officer Tracey Galloway. "We are honored to be the

recipients of Mr. Schuman's generosity especially knowing that a portion of the funds comes from the foundation created in memory of his daughter, Jordan. There's really nothing more gratifying than to see our community come together to help our neighbors in need during this holiday season." ❄️

Christmas Concert Sunday

The Southwest Florida Concert Band will be performing A Florida Family Christmas free concert at South Fort Myers High School on Sunday, December 16 at 2 p.m.

The concert will start with Leroy Anderson's classic Christmas Festival followed by a celebration of Hanukkah Festival of Lights. Featured guest vocalist Kathy Engle will sing the playful *Santa Baby*. Music from the animated movie *Polar Express* will also be performed. The band's brass quintet The Brass Monkeys will perform some seasonal favorites. Tunes from the Canadian Brass Christmas Suite and the Disney movie *Frozen* will also be performed.

South Fort Myers High School is located at 14020 Plantation Road in Fort Myers. For more information on the band, the scholarship program and other performances, visit www.swflconcertband.org. ❄️

Food Bank, ACT Receive Venue

Two events benefiting worthy local causes now have a venue free of charge. The Harry Chapin Food Bank and Abuse Counseling & Treatment Inc. (ACT) have been selected as the first recipients of Property with a Purpose, a new program that Top Rocker Events at Six Bends launched this year as part of Scott Fischer Enterprises.

The two Southwest Florida nonprofits will have their choice of either Top Rocker Field or Thunder Plaza for an event of their choosing. ACT and the food bank were chosen among a field of nonprofit applicants based on their profound community impact and need.

"We're proud to be able to support these two vital organizations that do so much for people in Southwest Florida," Fischer said. "There are so many worthy causes, and it's imperative that we do everything we can to help our neighbors in need."

The Harry Chapin Food Bank works with church food pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, disaster relief agencies

and other partners to feed about 28,000 people each week across Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades and Hendry counties.

ACT protects, supports, educates and empowers victims of domestic violence and their children, along with survivors of sexual assault and human trafficking. Its focus is on Lee, Glades and Hendry counties. As a recipient of the Property with a Purpose grant, ACT will host their annual fundraising concert Rock Out Against Domestic Violence at Top Rocker Field on March 30, 2019.

"We prioritize making a difference right here in Southwest Florida," Fischer said. "People around here have been behind us for more than 30 years, and we owe it to everyone to give back."

Top Rocker Field is a gated 3.13-acre outdoor facility with room for 4,000 attendees. It has three main entrances plus another semitruck entrance for large events. Thunder Plaza is 20,000 square feet and can accommodate 1,000 people.

Six Bends Harley-Davidson is located at 9501 Thunder Road in Fort Myers. Call Taylor Loethen at 284-0301 or email her at taylorl@sfe-us.com to book an event. Visit www.toprockerevents.com for photos and video of the venue. ❄️

Hunger Drive A Success

Pushing the Envelope, Inc.'s recently completed 8th annual CAN IT! Campaign to put hunger in its place in Southwest Florida collected 2,016 non-perishable food items for Community Cooperative, Inc. (CCI), exceeding the 2,000-item goal.

With the support of many community members and local businesses, Pushing the Envelope, Inc. collected more than 1,900 pounds of non-perishable food items. With the completion of this campaign, more than 9,500 pounds of food have been donated to CCI since its inception in 2010.

The success of the CAN IT! Campaign was primarily due to area businesses who helped collect non-perishable items. Participants included: Pushing the Envelope; Around the Clock Fitness; Markham Norton Mosteller Wright & Company; McGriff Insurance Services; Lee County Elections Offices; Gulf Coast Humane Society; Safe Harbor Community Church; Rusty's Raw Bar & Grill; Vogue Hair and Nail Salon; and Salon Adrian.

"Giving back to our community and helping those in need is part of our company culture," said Samantha Scott, APR, PTE president. "We are thrilled with the result and the impact these donations will make for those in need in our community." ❄️

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Fort Myers Art:

Holiday Musical At Dinner Theater Through Christmas

by Tom Hall



Elf the Musical is on stage at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre through Christmas Day. Based on the holiday film of the same name, this charming and whimsical musical

comedy follows Buddy the Elf in his quest to find his true identity and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Buddy, a young orphan, crawls into Santa's bag and winds up in the North Pole where he is raised, unaware that he is human, until his enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to discover his true identity. This modern day holiday classic is sure to bring out the true spirit of Christmas... after all, the best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!

Elf the Musical is directed by Paul Bernier and choreographed by Amy Marie McCleary. It stars Chris Duir, who was seen as the Scarecrow in Prather Productions' National Tour of *The*



Elf the Musical is now playing at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

Wizard of Oz and has performed at Broadway Palm as Bert in *Mary Poppins* and as Andy Lee in *42nd Street*. In addition, he's performed with Celebrity Cruises and overseas in Macau and Dubai.

Performances are Tuesday through

Sunday evenings with selected matinees. Tickets are \$45 to \$70 with group and children's prices available. Tickets are now on sale and can be reserved by calling 278-4422, visiting www.broadwaypalm.com or in person at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

Lab's Christmas Play Destined To Be A Beloved Holiday Classic

When it comes to Christmas, there are three kinds of people: haters, traditionalists and folks so gaga about the holiday that they laud every Yuletide tale known to man. All three are on stage at Lab Theater in *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and Then Some)*.

Director Lauren Redecker Miller likens *Every Christmas Story Ever Told* to a giant jigsaw puzzle because of the intricacy of all the entrances, exits, props, sound and light cues required by Michael Carleton, James FitzGerald, John K. Alvarez and Will Knapp's spritely script. But from the audience's perspective, *Every Christmas Story*

is more of a tapestry, with Heather McLemore Johnson, Dave Matthew Chesebro and Kayleigh O'Connell quilting together a veritable blizzard of references to BHCs – short for “beloved holiday classics.” And aside from the sheer joy of watching this all-in, high-energy Tinseltown trio act up and act out with each other on the Lab Theater stage, much of the fun associated with this frenetic, three-actor tour de force is trying to identify the movies, television specials, books and magazines tumbling out like the irregular pieces of an interlocking, tessellating Spilsbury dissected map.

If you're looking for an apt analogy, *Every Christmas Story Ever Told* is to the holiday season what *An Act of God* or *The Bible Unabridged* is to Judeo-Christian religion – an affectionately irreverent lampoon of time-honored traditions that Western culture has installed over the centuries to celebrate (depending on your view) the winter solstice, the birth of Christ or unabashed and wonton commercialization. If you loved either of those shows, you're in for a figgy-pudding-caliber treat. Really, who among us hasn't poked fun at one or all of the bombastic BHCs that assault the airwaves earlier and earlier each year?

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.✪

Babysitting Course

Four Freedoms Park will be hosting a babysitting course for participants age 11 to 16 on Saturday, December 15 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40.

The Child and Babysitting Safety program is an American Safety and Health Institute program that has been designed to assist young people with providing proper childcare via classroom training and hands-on procedures. Participants must bring lunch.

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

From page 2

Historic Downtown

the co-founders of the Lee County Audubon Society.

At the federal level, bird-conservation efforts culminated in 1918, when Pres. Woodrow Wilson signed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), effectively eliminating the plume trade.

Stroll downtown and imagine when downtown stores bought the feathers and skins of plume birds.

Then visit the following two research centers to learn more about the history of the plume trade in Fort Myers.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization open Wednesday and Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon and Wednesday 4 to 7 p.m.

It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Call 939-4044 or visit www.swflhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

The Lee County Black History Society is located at 1936 Henderson Avenue, adjacent to the Williams Academy Museum at Roberto Clemente Park.

Hours for the volunteer non-profit organization are Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday by appointment only. For more information, call 332-8778 or visit www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org.

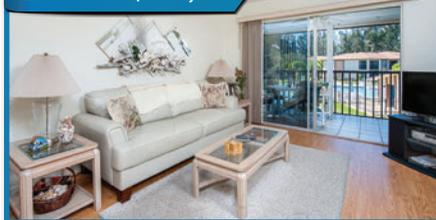
Sources: *The Conflict of Conservation, Fashion, and Industry: Compromise Between Environmentalists, Women, and the Plume Trade* by Tammy Zhang; *Death in the Everglades* by Stuart B. McIver; the Fort Myers Press; www.audubon.org; and www.loc.gov ✪

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Welcome and Discovery Center will feature an exhibit hall and wildlife viewing areas
photo provided

Groundbreaking For New Center At Lovers Key

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service recently joined former Florida Rep. Matt Caldwell, the Friends of Lovers Key State Park (FOLKS) and other local representatives for a groundbreaking ceremony announcing the construction of the new Welcome and Discovery Center at Lovers Key State Park.

The park's citizen support organization, FOLK, was instrumental in helping to secure funding for the center, which is expected to be completed in 2020. DEP received \$4 million in state funding to construct the facility, and FOLKS will provide an additional \$1.5 million for interior enhancements. The nearly 4,000-square-foot elevated Welcome and Discovery Center will feature a community room with seating for 75 visitors, exhibit discovery hall, bookstore, office space, wildlife viewing areas, covered teaching porch, storage rooms, access ramp and catering kitchen.

"The Welcome and Discovery Center shows what can happen when motivated people decide to do something important for Florida's residents and visitors," said Florida State Parks Director Eric Draper. "The center will connect people to the area's unique natural and cultural resources in new ways. We hope the community will join in supporting the center and Lovers Key State Park with time and money."

"As the second most popular park in the best state park system in the world, the addition of a thoroughly modern visitors center will be a welcomed

addition," said former Florida Rep. Matt Caldwell. "Lovers Key plays host to millions of visitors each year, which present millions of opportunities to educate others about the unique natural blessing we enjoy in Southwest Florida."

"It was some nine years ago that FOLKS took up the challenge of assisting the Park and in leading the way in the creation of a visitor center building for Lovers Key," said FOLKS President Richard Donnelly. "Little did we realize then the fundraising difficulties and setbacks that were to arise in achieving that goal, but that being said, one can understand the genuine satisfaction and pride that the FOLKS board now feels as we see the ground about to be turned over, signifying the realization of a remarkable dream – the new Welcome and Discovery Center for Lovers Key State Park."

"The Welcome and Discovery Center will be an engaging facility, providing opportunities for visitors to discover more about the unique habitats and wildlife found within the park, identify what they saw during their time at the park and find inspiration for conserving our public lands for generations to come," said Lovers Key State Park Manager Katie Moses. "The centralized location of the center will provide a wonderful community gathering place for visitors to begin their journeys to exploring and discovering all the different recreational opportunities in the park."

Lovers Key State Park encompasses 1,442 acres between Fort Myers and Naples, and is comprised of four barrier islands – Lovers Key, Inner Key, Black Island and Long Key. The park offers 2.5 miles of white sandy beaches on the Gulf of Mexico and a variety of recreational opportunities, including wildlife viewing, fishing, kayaking and swimming.✽

That legacy in which Jerry Brown will leave behind, will benefit countless of animals for generations to come, but he also wanted to make sure his favorite furry friend was going to be taken care of, as well.

"One of the last things Jerry said to me was to make sure Shana was going to be taken care of," Judy said. "But Jerry did a lot of things for people, and it feels wonderful all these animals will be taken care of because of him."✽

From page 3

Donation

by Gulf Coast Humane Society, are greatly needed and truly appreciated.

"Jerry loved German shepherds and he wanted to create a fund for them and for all animals through his will. This is quite an extraordinary gift, but more so that his legacy will help many dogs of all breeds, as well as his favorite, the German shepherd."

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For the full menu, visit sundialresort.com.



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Along The River

The Fort Myers Woman's Community Club is continuing nightly tours of the **Historic Langford-Kingston Home and Burroughs Home** as part of the **62nd annual Holiday House** through Saturday, December 22 from 5 to 9 p.m. The last tour begins at 8:30 p.m.

Admission is \$5 for adults; children under age 10 are free. Veterans and active military service members are admitted free with identification. Advance tickets may be purchased through the Fort Myers Woman's Community Club website at www.fmwcc.net.

Mistletoe Magic is the theme of Holiday House 2018. Every year since 1956, members and volunteers of the Fort Myers Woman's Community Club spend hours planning creative designs to transform the elegant Langford-Kingston Home and Burroughs Home – including the lawns, gardens and grounds – into magical displays of holiday design and décor.

"Holiday House is a wonderful tradition our members take great delight in sharing with our community every year," said Paige Anne LeBoutillier, 2018 Holiday House chair. "Every detail of the elaborate and beautiful decorations are carefully planned to ensure our guests are filled to brimming with the holiday spirit. Mistletoe Magic promises to be every bit as sparkly, cheery and joyful as the holiday season itself."

In addition to touring both festively



A scene from a past Cape Coral Christmas Boat Parade

photo courtesy Cape Coral Christmas Boat Parade Facebook

decorated historic homes, children may visit with Santa Claus at the Langford-Kingston home during each night of Holiday House. A variety of local musical performers will provide entertainment during the run of the event.

The Historic Langford-Kingston Home and Burroughs Home are located in downtown Fort Myers at the corner of First Street and Fowler Street.

The **Fort Myers Beach Art Association** is holding its annual **Art Divine Sale** of original art priced at or below \$150. The sale runs through Thursday, January 10.

For more information, call 463-3909, visit www.fortmyersbeachart.com, email publicity chair Pam Flaherty at fmbaapublicity@gmail.com or stop by the gallery, located at 3030 Shell Mound Boulevard on Fort Myers Beach.

The **Alliance for the Arts** is offering an **ARTCade family program** this Saturday, December 15 from 10 a.m. to noon. Children and parents are invited to participate in free visual arts projects, games and creative activities inspired by current gallery exhibitions.

Small Works from Small Hands will be presented by Samantha Howard and

inspired by the current Small Works Exhibit: Off the Wall. Students will create string art ornaments, mini wreaths, pine cone owls or pom-pom Santas.

This project is made possible thanks to grants from Publix Supermarket Charities and the Cape Coral Kiwanis Foundation.

Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, call 939-2787 or visit www.artinlee.org/artcade.

The **Cape Coral Christmas Boat Parade** will begin in the **Bimini Basin** this Saturday, December 15 at 7 p.m. The boat parade will feature over 20-plus boats decorated with Christmas lights, inflatables and costumed characters and motors pass the beach before heading down various canals in South Cape Coral.

The full festival takes place from 4 to 10 p.m. There will also be food vendors, Christmas music, crafts for the kids, local performances and a visit from Santa Claus. Following the boat parade will be a movie in the park, a free showing of National Lampoon's *Christmas Vacation* on the big screen.

There will be free parking at the field lot next to the corner of SE 8th Court and SE 47th Terrace in downtown Cape Coral. There will be shuttles picking up and dropping guests off at the event at Four Freedoms Park.

To register your boat, call Sea Tow of Cape Coral at 549-0558. To perform at the festival, call Todd King, special events coordinator at 573-3121. For more information, call 573-3128.✱

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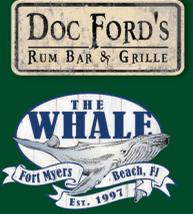




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PAL Boxing Team, from left, Assistant Coach Rudy Martinez, Jeremy Pozo, Nathan Martinez, Kejuan Saez, Josiah Vasquez, Danilo Diez, Head Coach Jose Ojeda, Jayden Pozo and Assistant Coach Jesus Diez photo provided

Fort Myers Boxers Continue Winning Ways

Earlier this month, the Fort Myers Police Athletic League (PAL) boxers competed in the USA Boxing Florida State Championships and brought back six championship titles and a silver award. Two weeks later, the PAL Boxing Academy took seven boxers and coaching staff to compete in the National Sugar Bert

boxing tournament in Kissimmee, Florida and earned another six championship awards and a bronze.

Sugar Bert Boxing Promotions, named for the former Golden Gloves boxer, Sugar Bert, hosts thousands of amateur boxers, coaches and families annually at competitions around the country. The Fort Myers PAL Team and coaches traveled to the event with the help of community sponsors, coaches and families annually at competitions around the country. The Fort Myers PAL Team and coaches traveled to the event with the help of community sponsors that is part of Chief Derrick Diggs Community Engagement Initiative to bring sports programs to young children and

teenagers to promote strong character and positive life skills.

Winners in the tournament included:

1. Danilo Diez, age 15, ranked #1, National Sugar Bert Champion at 132 pounds, Open Junior;
2. Jeremy Pozo, age 16, ranked #1, National Sugar Bert Champion at 132 pounds, Novice Junior;
3. Jayden Pozo, age 16, Novice National Sugar Bert Champion at 125 pounds;
4. Josiah Vasquez, age 12, ranked #1, Intermediate National Sugar Bert Champion at 119 pounds;
5. Kejuan Saez, age 13, ranked #1, Intermediate Novice National Sugar Bert Champion at 125 pounds;
6. Terry Sanders, age 10, ranked #1, Peewee Open National Sugar Bert Champion at 90 pounds; and
7. Nathan Martinez, age 13, ranked #3, Intermediate Bronze medalist at 101 pounds.✪

Open Houses Set For Student Enrollment

Middle and high school officials of the School District of Lee County are inviting prospective students to attend upcoming open houses before the start of student enrollment for the 2019-20 school year. Dates and times can be found on the district's open house calendar at www.leeschools.net/calendars/open_houses.

Parents of incoming sixth grade and ninth grade students are advised to visit the schools in their zone because each one has unique programs or learning opportunities that may interest or attract your child.

Student enrollment for the 2019-20 school year is open January 14 to March 1, 2019. Incoming ninth grade students currently attending a district middle school will receive a pre-printed application by January 14 to enroll online. Incoming 6th grade students currently attending a district elementary school will receive their pre-printed application to enroll online by January 22. Pre-K students already attending a Lee County public school or who took advantage of the early registration period will receive their pre-printed application to enroll online by January 28. Most elementary schools do not hold an open house but instead invite parents and prospective students to call and schedule individual tours.

Although application mailings are staggered, all students may enroll in person at any time during the student open enrollment period. Students new to the district must enroll in person.

Students who wish to enroll in an advanced program such as IB, AICE or arts program need to have their applications turned in by February 1. Acceptance or denial letters will be mailed out on Friday, February 14.

Students who enrolled online will learn their school assignment online March 15. School assignment letters for students who enrolled in person will be mailed out on March 22.✪

Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 2756 McGregor Boulevard, allfaiths-uc.org, 226-0900.

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 10291 Bayshore Road, 305-651-0991.

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX

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

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

Friday Shabbat at 7 p.m. 2050 Periwinkle Way, www.batyam.org 579-0296.

BETH SHILOH MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. 15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171.

BIBLESHARE

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

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 16581 McGregor Boulevard, 267-3166.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH ORTHODOX

Friday 6:30 p.m. 5620 Winkler Road, chabadsfwf.org, 433-7708.

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE

Sunday 10 a.m. 10200 Cypress Cove Circle, revtedalhouse@aol.com, 850-3943.

CHURCH OF THE CROSS

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

CONGREGATIONAL

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

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

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

CYPRESS LAKE BAPTIST

Sunday 9:45 and 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m. 8400 Cypress Lake

Drive, 481-5442.

CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday 8, 9, 10 and 11 a.m. 8260 Cypress Lake Drive, www.clpc.us, 481-3233.

CYPRESS LAKE UNITED METHODIST

Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 8570 Cypress Lake Drive, 482-1250.

FAITH FELLOWSHIP WORLD OUTREACH

Sunday 10:30 a.m., Thursday 7:30 p.m., Friday 7:30 p.m. 6111 South Pointe Boulevard, 278-3638.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST

Sunday 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. 15690 McGregor Boulevard, 482-2030.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Wednesday 12 noon Testimony Service, Sunday 10:30 a.m. 2390 West First Street, christiansciencefortmyers.net, christianscience.com.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. 13545 American Colony Boulevard, 936-2511.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN

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

FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST;

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

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

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

JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC

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

KINGDOM LIFE

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 2154 McGregor Boulevard, 218-8343.

LAMB OF GOD

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

NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER

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

NEW COVENANT EYES

Monthly 9 a.m. 1900 Park Meadows Drive, newcovenanteyes.com, 220-8519.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST

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

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN

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

PEACE COMMUNITY

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

PEACE LUTHERAN

Sunday 8 and 10 a.m. 15840 McGregor Boulevard, www.peaceftmyers.com, peace@peaceftmyers.com, 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. 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. 111 Evergreen Road, saintnicholasmonastery.org, 997-2847.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC

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

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST

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

TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE

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

TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

Friday 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. tjswfl.org, 14486 A&W Bulb Road, 433-0201.

THE NEW CHURCH

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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

UNITY OF FORT MYERS

Sunday 10 a.m. 11120 Ranchette Road, unityoffortmyers.org, 278-1511.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WORD OF LIFE

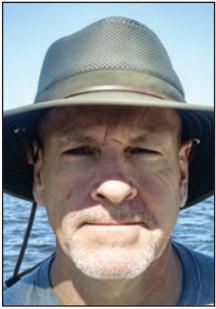
Sunday 10 a.m., Wednesday 7 p.m. 2120 Collier Avenue, 274-8881.

ZION LUTHERAN

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

CROW Case Of The Week:
Royal Tern

by Bob Petcher



A royal tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) is a seabird that is roughly the size of a crow. It is distinctive by its shaggy black crown and orange dagger-like bill.

Royal terns do not dwell in

trees. Rather, they set up camp in nest scrapes – shallow depressions in the ground. Interestingly, juvenile royal terns leave these nests within one day of hatching and congregate in a group called a crèche. These crèche nurseries will include most all of the chicks within a particular community and sometimes hold thousands of young terns ranging from two days to 35 days old.

On November 26, a royal tern was rescued from the Sanibel Causeway and brought to CROW. The bird was reportedly sitting along the roadway and did not move when approached. At the clinic, veterinarians checked the bird over for injuries, but did not find any by palpating, or feeling, the bird's wings and legs. They did note that the bird had some neurological deficits such as hind limb paresis, mild ataxia and decreased cloacal tone to go along with mild abrasions on its left hock.

The bird was started on a treatment

plan for brevetoxicosis, or red tide poisoning, which included fluid therapy and GI protectants.

"We commonly see that the gastrointestinal tract is affected due to the neurologic effects of the red tide toxin," said Dr. Kyle Abbott, CROW veterinary intern. "The neurotoxin results in the intestines not having normal motility and the gut becoming stagnant. The gastrointestinal protectant medications help treat this while we are getting the intestines to start mobilizing again."

The day after admittance, veterinarians noticed the tern's right wing was droopy. The bird was anesthetized and full x-rays were taken. The radiographs revealed the bird to have a fracture of the shoulder girdle (coracoid and scapula) that was deduced to be due to some form of blunt force trauma.

"The abrasions were likely a result of the same trauma as what caused the fractures, or it could have been from the tern stumbling due to effects of the red tide," Dr. Abbott said. "With an injury like a fracture there is always the potential for underlying red tide toxicosis to cause neurologic signs and result in them flying into a car. This tern initially had mild neurologic signs consistent with being affected by red tide as well as the shoulder girdle fractures."

The patient was placed in a body wrap, and its treatment plan was amended for the injury.

"The body wrap remains in place for the first two weeks or so to allow for the shoulder to build up enough tissue to help stabilize the joint and fractures,"



Patient #18-4377 in a body wrap prior to being humanely euthanized due to a fractured shoulder's inability to heal properly

photo by Brian Bohlman

said Dr. Abbott. "In this tern's case, there were two fractures, and the joint was very unstable. Due to the severity of the fracture, a body wrap may be needed for longer."

After the weekend, more x-rays were taken of the shoulder injury. The results were not great.

"Tern species need perfect flight to succeed in the wild with the extreme diving they must do to catch fish," said Dr. Abbott. "When new radiographs were taken, they showed that the healing process was not going well

for the shoulder. The shoulder had changed to a position where healing was unlikely and the prognosis became poor. Unfortunately, we made the difficult decision to humanely euthanize the tern."

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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A Few Hours Can Make All The Difference



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Things can and do change by the day or even hour when it comes to winter fishing in Southwest Florida. This up-and-down pattern is typical of this time of year,

making timing everything when it comes to catching certain species of fish. This week we experienced some of the best catch-and-release snook action in the days just prior to another strong cold front moving through. During the periods of south wind as a front approaches, our snook fishing can be as good as it gets. This proved very true with back to back days of catching several snook over 30 inches along with lots of other snook.

Then, the first day after a cold front, we are blasted with strong northerly winds and cold morning temperatures. With our low temperatures in the high 40s behind this last cold front along with gusty winds, most anglers stayed off the water for at least one full day before temperatures gradually improved. Plummeting water temperatures brought our wide open snook bite to a complete halt in just a few hours and making our fishing all about sheepshead and drum

for the next couple of days.

While fishing with one of my oldest clients, Nick Basilio, and his son visiting for a few days from Pennsylvania this week, we were faced with a morning trip during the passing of a cold front. With this being the only day, they were able to go on the trip but my expectations were a little low due to the weather. Hopefully, our water temperature would hold in the low 70s for at least a few hours so that we could catch snook close to home and hide from the 20 to 30 mile per hour winds.

Working in our favor though was a extreme low tide that bunches these snook up in deeper warmer water. While heading out in the dark to get shiners, the conditions were rough, and you could noticeably feel the air temperature was falling. The bait came easy enough after chumming for about 15 minutes and, with a blacked-out live well, I suddenly felt much better about our chances of having a decent trip.

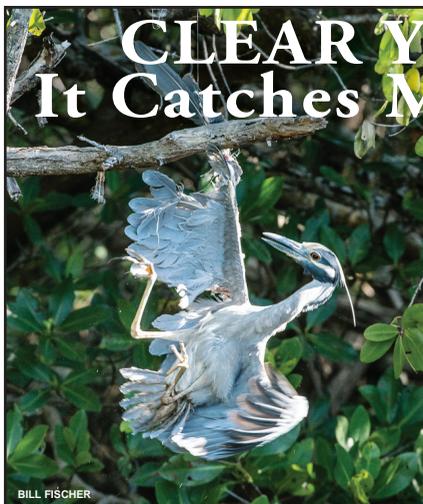
Hiding in deeper mangrove-sheltered channels around St James to stay out of the direct wind, we caught over 50 snook on the four-hour morning trip. Along with snook up to 26 inches, we caught jacks of all sizes, small grouper and five keeper mangrove snapper. The morning continued to get colder by the hour and, at roughly 11 a.m., the water temperature dropped below 70 degrees and the snook just stopped feeding. A few hours either way during these passing cold fronts of winter can make all the difference in the world. The pattern of the weather's ups and downs will continue all winter long and require the juggling of trips to keep everyone happy.



Gary Biltgen with a big snook caught while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell prior to cold front photo provided

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been fishing local waters since he moved to Sanibel in 1980. He now lives in St. James City and works as a back country

fishing guide. If you have comments or questions, email captmattmitchell@aol.com.**



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Refuge Awards Education Grants



Teacher grant recipients: front row from left, Lee County Environmental Education Specialist Susie Hassetf; Cassandra Duke and Megan Hull, Gulf Middle; second row, Lori Shaw, Cape High; and Julie Stephens, Royal Palm Exceptional School; third row from left, Jill Whitewood, Cypress Lake Middle; and Michelle Start, Lehigh Acres Middle; fourth row, Linda Grant, Alejandra Matos and Laine Holt, Patriot Elementary; back, Sara Hallas and Wendy Kindig of DDWS. Not pictured: Barbara Pavese, Neil Armstrong Elementary; and Joanne Pavese, Edison Park Creative & Expressive Arts School. photo provided

“Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) recently awarded \$11,000 in grants to conservation education-related projects at nine different schools in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties for the 2018-19 school year. Teachers submitted grant applications to the DDWS Environmental Education Committee by October 31. The committee chose awards based on need and relevance to conservation.

Schools to which DDWS awarded grants this year include Cape Coral High for its Bees & Butterflies Sanctuary project; Neil Armstrong Elementary in Port Charlotte for its Our Community Garden project; Gulf Middle School in Cape Coral for its Urban Gardening project; Lee County district-wide environmental education for a Breakout of the Box learning tool; Royal Palm Exceptional School Center in Fort Myers for its Enviro-Art project; Cypress Lakes Middle School in Fort Myers for its Inform, Educate & Inspire project; Edison Park

Creative & Expressive Arts School in Fort Myers for its Creating Environmental Stewards in Kindergarten project; Patriot Elementary School in Cape Coral for its The Insect-Plant Connection project; and Lehigh Acres Middle School for its The Importance of Bees project.

“This is the 13th year the society has awarded these conservation teacher grants,” said Wendy Kindig, education committee chair. “To date, we have awarded more than \$86,000 this year’s in teacher grants. We were impressed by the wide variety of projects our teachers and their students imagined this year. The society is pleased to help the future of conservation stewards in this important way.”

Grant recipients report back on their projects to the society and refuge, sending pictures and often thank-you notes from the students, upon project completion in June 2019.

In 2019, DDWS will again be awarding grants to districts, schools and individual

continued on page 14

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Non-native fish-tail sword fern was introduced to Florida as an ornamental. It belongs to the same genus as the very popular native wild Boston fern. photos by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart Fish-tail Sword Fern

by Gerri Reaves

Non-native fish-tail sword fern (*Nephrolepis falcata*) is a member of the wood fern family and belongs to the genus, *Nephrolepis*, as do many of Florida's native ferns.

Perhaps the most familiar *Nephrolepis*

of those natives is wild Boston fern (*N. exalta*), also called sword fern, the most plentiful native fern in the lower half of the state.

The nursery industry's fern market is dominated by *Nephrolepis* species, and numerous cultivars have been developed.

Fish-tail, like the other members of the genus, are epiphytes, or air plants. Thus, they can grow on tree limbs, in crevices, or on the ground.

This native of the Philippines was introduced to Florida in the 1920s and



The ends of the pinnae fork one to three times for a frilly fish-tail effect

1930s as an ornamental.

It became popular because of the forked or fish-tail-like ends of the flat divided fronds, a distinguishing feature. Sometimes the plant is double- or triple-forked, an effect that gives it another common name, fancy frill.

The pinnae, or leaflets, are serrated and yellow-green.

The round sori, or clusters of spore-producing organs, appear along the edge

of the pinna's underside. It grows 2 1/2 to 3 feet tall.

While fish-tail has escaped cultivation and quickly spreads via rhizomes, root-like horizontal stems, it has not become invasive.

Nevertheless, this fast-growing frilly fern might be best enjoyed as a pot plant or a hanging basket.

In fact, its cascading effect is attractive on a tall stand or in a hanger. Yet another common name, weeping sword-fern, refers to this cascading effect.

The fronds can be used in flower arrangements.

It has a variety of uses in traditional medicine.

Ferns excel at creating a beautiful tropical look in the garden – and they are low maintenance besides.

But the popularity of *Nephrolepis* species has spurred the development of so many hybrids and cultivars that a problem has resulted: their similarity to native ferns makes it easy to confuse the non-natives with the natives.

Thus, non-natives are sometimes sold as natives.

When choosing ferns for your yard, consider including only native ones. A nursery specializing in native plants can advise you on the best species for your yard's soil, moisture and light conditions.

Sources: *The Ferns of Florida* by Gil Nelson, www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu, and www.researchgate.net.

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

Holiday In The Park To Be Festive

The seventh annual Holiday in the Park celebration featuring a Winter Wonderland returns to Roberto Clemente Park on Saturday, December 15. The family event starts at 3 p.m. with a special tree lighting ceremony at 6:30 p.m.

Attractions include a 35-foot community Christmas tree, 26 decorated palm trees, community group decorated holiday trees, and a three-dimensional Coeur de Noel floor standing decoration with animated garland. There will be free food and drinks, Soul Santa, an Elves Fire Truck Parade and a Christmas Choir Showcase.

In addition, the park is hosting the following special events:

December 20: Youth Night from 6 to 8 p.m.

December 21: Movie Night from 6 to 8 p.m.

December 22: Motown Christmas from 3 to 8 p.m.

The City of Fort Myers, Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency, Housing Authority of the City of Fort

Myers, First Assembly & Cornerstone, and the Lee County Black History Society are sponsors of the Holiday in the Park celebration.

Roberto Clemente Park is located at 3265 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, call 332-8778 or visit www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org.*

Garden Club Seeks Vendors For March In The Park

The major fundraiser of the Garden Club of Cape Coral is in need of vendors. The 11th annual March in the Park, a plant and garden art sale, will be held at Jaycee Park on March 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

If you are a vendor selling plants, food, or do a craft that is garden-related and want to join the juried show, contact Ginny Huffer at 257-2654 or huffmom5@aol.com, or visit www.gardenclubofcapecoral.com for more information. Jaycee Park is located at 4125 SE 20th Place in Cape Coral.*



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From page 13

Education Grants

teachers in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties. The grants are funded by monies received from the DDWS Conservation Education Endowment Fund, earmarked specifically for education by the late Kip Koss, grandson of Jay N. "Ding" Darling.

For information on next year's grants, contact Conservation Educator Sara Hallas at 472-1100 ext. 236 or Kindig at wendykindig@aol.com, or visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/teacher-grants.

Anyone interested in supporting conservation education at "Ding" Darling can visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Miller at director@dingdarlingsociety.org.*

Former Director Designated Professor Emeritus

After 20 years as a professor of environmental studies and environmental education at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), Peter Blaze Corcoran retired in June 2017. He is a long-time resident of Sanibel and the former founding director of the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education at FGCU.

This spring, Corcoran was privileged to be designated a professor emeritus by FGCU in honor of his role as a founding faculty member, his years of dedication and his commitment to FGCU and its mission.

Since his retirement, he continues to consult in sustainability in higher education at places such as Northern Iowa University, Miami Dade College, Methodist Theological Seminary of Ohio and Education University of Hong Kong. Corcoran inspires students and teachers with his passion for environmental education, commitment to youth empowerment and intergenerational collaboration, vision for a more just and sustainable world, and optimism for the future.

Corcoran is now a senior fellow at Forum 21 Institute in New York City, a research fellow at the Earth Charter Center for Education for Sustainable Development at the University for Peace in San Jose, Costa Rica, and a senior advisor at Unity Earth Center in



Peter Blaze Corcoran photo provided

Melbourne, Australia. Through Unity Earth, Corcoran was able to participate in the return to country of Mungo Man, a powerful spiritual journey with the Aboriginal people of the Australian Outback to return the remains of their ancestors to the original sacred burial grounds from which they had been taken. It was one of the most important experiences of his life, firming his interest in harmony and reciprocity with indigenous people and their sacred sites. Through his work with Forum 21 Institute, he's taken part in other inspiring projects at sacred places such as Mount Etna on Sicily in Italy and Mount Blanca in Colorado.

Corcoran was also privileged to attend the Rome and Assisi Spirituality and Sustainability Conference in late May. While in Italy, Corcoran was honored to receive an invitation to Saving Our Common Home and the Future of Life on Earth and returned to the Vatican in July. This exclusive gathering of interfaith and environmental experts and activists worked collaboratively to advise the Vatican on urgent issues of climate change and sustainability. The conference was inspired by Pope Francis's groundbreaking 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, which called Christians and all faith traditions to take swift and

unified global action against climate change and its social repercussions.

Most recently, Corcoran presented at The Parliament of the World's Religions in Toronto, a diverse, interfaith event that brought together spiritual leaders from nearly every spiritual tradition around the world, with about 10,000 people from 80 countries in attendance.

Corcoran has returned home to Sanibel for the season and, in an effort to implement his global learning and interfaith work on a local scale, has been involved in the development of an interfaith environmental initiative among churches on Sanibel and Captiva.✪

Contract For Ecosystem Restoration Plan

The Lee Board of County Commissioners recently voted to award a contract to an engineering firm to develop an ecosystem restoration plan for the Bob Janes Preserve near Alva.

The contract, awarded to Soil and Water Engineering Technology, Inc., is to identify projects to improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities at the preserve.

The Bob Janes Preserve, which includes 5,620 acres, was purchased in 2006 as a Conservation 20/20 preserve. The preserve includes tributaries that flow to the Caloosahatchee Estuary, which

is subject to a State of Florida Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) due to total nitrogen levels.

The preserve has large areas of ditched, drained and cleared lands that were previously altered for cattle grazing and other agricultural activities prior to its acquisition as a preserve. Natural surface water flow patterns have also been disrupted, so increasing on-site water storage and treatment will provide water quality benefits by reducing nitrogen levels.

Due to the size of the preserve, the approved \$228,285 contract is to evaluate and identify potential improvements. Subsequent phases will depend on the findings and recommendations.

For more information on Lee County Natural Resources' efforts to protect and improve water quality, visit www.lee.gov.com/naturalresources/waterquality.✪

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Will Power

Top 5 Year-End Gifting Questions



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

When giving gifts this festive and generous time of year, there's a lot of confusion about the gift tax rules, so I thought that we could review a few of the more common ones together:

5. Are Gifts Taxed as Income?

It depends on how much you've given already! Typically, gifts are not taxed as income. Let's say that you make a cash gift to your daughter Suzie of \$15,000. Does she have to declare that gift as taxable income on her Form 1040 income tax return? No, she doesn't. When we talk about "gift tax,"

we are referring to the transfer taxes – the estate and gift taxes. A transfer tax is a tax imposed on the donor – not the recipient – on the value of the gift. But there is also an annual exclusion of \$15,000. This means that a donor can make a gift of \$15,000 to anyone and it is not enough to require the filing of a gift tax return. Suppose a donor makes a gift of \$100,000 to daughter Suzie. Now the donor has to file a gift tax return reporting the \$100,000 transfer. Does the donor pay gift tax at this time? The answer is – it depends. If the donor has consumed his lifetime exemption (today that exemption is \$11.2 million, which is increasing to 11.4 million) then he does not actually pay gift tax. Instead, he has consumed a part of his lifetime (and death) exemption.

4. Is Paying Someone's Medical Expenses a Gift?

Not if paid properly! In my example of making a gift to Suzie above, assume that your daughter Suzie has medical expenses of \$20,000 that you would like to help her out with. You've already given her the \$15,000 but she needs that for her necessities. Can you gift additional amounts to pay for her medical expenses without having to file a gift tax return consuming more of your exemption? Yes, you can, provided that you make the payment directly to the medical provider. If you were to give Suzie another \$20,000 to pay her doctor bills, then you would have to file a gift tax return. If instead you made the payment directly to Suzie's doctors and hospitals, then the payment is considered gift tax-free.

3. Is Paying Someone's Educational Expenses a Gift?

Typically not! If Suzie has a \$20,000 tuition bill, you are able to gift her \$15,000 plus her tuition, provided that you pay the educational institution directly as you would have a doctor or hospital in the previous example.

2. Must the Gift Be Completed Now?

Suppose that you have some valuable artwork in your home. Knowing that you might have a taxable estate when you die, and that the valuable artwork is only going to add to the tax liability, you decide to gift that artwork to your children. First, remember that if you make gifts above \$15,000 in value, you are consuming your estate tax exemption anyway as you will have to file a gift tax return reporting the transfer. In any event, you take those yellow sticky post-it notes to post on the back of each piece of art – "This painting now belongs to Junior." You leave the paintings on your wall. Under IRS rules, you have not made a completed gift because you have not actually lost dominion and control over the asset. The painting must actually leave your residence to be considered a completed gift.

1. Can't I Just Sell the House for \$1 to Avoid Taxes?

Nice try, but this one won't work! You can't sell assets for \$1 to avoid gift and estate taxes. Some believe that they can outsmart the IRS by "selling" assets at an amount below fair market value to avoid the gift tax rules. Assume that Tom "sells" his rental house valued at \$225,000 to his daughter Suzie for \$100. Here, Tom has made a taxable gift in the amount of \$224,900, which is the difference of the fair market value of the property less the amount that Suzie actually paid for it. How do you determine the fair market value? Some assets – like stocks and bonds – have a ready market that is easily determined. Others – like real estate or family business interests – require you to engage the services of a qualified appraiser who can issue an appraisal report that must be attached to the gift tax return. I've seen instances where individuals instead obtained a realtor's price estimate report to justify a transfer value. It's been my experience that the IRS doesn't consider realtor's listing reports or price estimates to be a qualified report. When the IRS doesn't consider it to be a qualified report, then they (the IRS) are free to determine what they believe to be the accurate fair market value, usually resulting in the assessment of additional tax.

I hope that this helps you when you play Santa Claus this year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

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Surrounded by Hodges University faculty and staff, NCH President/CEO Dr. Allen Weiss and Hodges University President Dr. John Meyer cut a celebratory ribbon to mark the university's designation as the first Blue Zones Workplace for higher education for its Naples and Fort Myers campuses photo provided

First Blue Zones Workplace In Higher Education

Hodges University is the first institution of higher education to earn the Blue Zones Workplace designation. This includes both campuses in Naples and Fort Myers.

"Our School of Health Sciences led the charge to have Hodges University as a Blue Zones approved site on both our Naples and Fort Myers campuses. Our faculty and staff have very enthusiastically embraced this initiative to the point that we have announced

a 30,000-mile challenge. In 2020, Hodges University will celebrate its 30th anniversary, so an especially healthy and meaningful way to do that is to have all of us at Hodges log the number of miles we walk each month, with the goal of reaching 30,000 miles," said Dr. John Meyer, president, Hodges University. "Being a part of Blue Zones is a way for us to encourage healthier habits and lifestyle changes. That means that people are healthier, happier and more productive. It's also a great example for our students, who we are training, to be the professionals our community needs to continue to grow and thrive."

For more information, visit www.hodges.edu.✱

Series Underwriter Announced

The Fort Myers Community Concert Association, Inc., Board of Directors has announced that Alexandra Bremner and her mother, Eunice Bremner, have agreed to be the underwriters of the entire 2019 concert season.

Alexandra and Eunice are the niece and sister of the late Berne Davis, who was the series underwriter for many years prior to her death in 2016.

"Berne was a program sponsor every year for 18 years and a member of the community concert association for 68 years," said Fort Myers Community Concert Association President Mary Lee Mann. "This gracious gesture by her sister and niece ensure that Berne's memory will live on and make possible the continuation of the association for many years to come and we are eternally grateful to them."

Program sponsors include Rob and Ruth Diefenbach of Fort Myers, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Madeleine Taeni, and Pamela Templeton of Fort Myers.

The announcements were made at the fall association meeting on November 11, sponsored by Fran Fenning at FineMark National Bank & Trust Co.

Mary Lee Mann reported to the board that few series tickets remain for this year's 70th concert series that begins in January with six concerts:

National Symphony Orchestra of Romania – January 7

Teatro Lirico D'Europa performing Puccini's *Tosca* – January 14



Kay Holloway and Alexandra Bremner

photo provided

Russian National Orchestra – February 12

Russian National Ballet – February 25
Itzhak Perlman – March 11

Sir James Galway, Flutist – March 28

All performances will be at the Barbara B. Mann Hall on the Florida SouthWestern College campus in Fort Myers. All six concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. and are included in one ticket price, which ranges from \$198 for prime orchestra seats to \$186 for other orchestra seats, \$102 for lower balcony seating and just \$78 for upper balcony. Most mezzanine seating already is sold out, Mann said.

For tickets, call the Barbara B. Mann Hall box office at 481-4849. For more information, visit www.fortmyerscommunityconcerts.org.✱

Book Review

The Reckoning

by Di Saggau



John Grisham's *The Reckoning* is a powerful, surprising novel. Set in Clanton, Mississippi, the mythical setting of *A Time to Kill*, the book is set in 1946 when World War II hero Pete

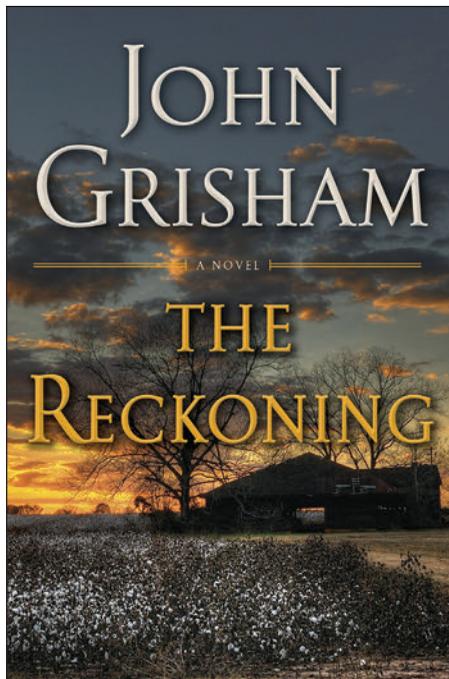


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Banning returns home a changed man: a decorated World War II hero and the patriarch of a prominent family, a farmer, father, neighbor and a faithful member of the Methodist church. Then one cool October morning, he rose early, drove into town, walked into the church and calmly shot and killed his pastor and friend, the Reverend Deter Bell. As if the murder wasn't shocking enough, Pete's only statement to the sheriff and lawyers, to the judge and jury and to his family, was, "I have nothing to say." This isn't a spoiler alert, it's clearly explained in the front cover of the book and in all the reviews.

The book is about what made Pete do such a thing. It's broken up into three parts. The first part really grabs you because you want to know why he killed the pastor. Even when facing the electric chair, he won't explain. The second part details his experiences in World War II, including the Bataan Death March. The pages are filled with scenes of war, and we understand how it can change a man. It definitely is not complimentary to General Douglas MacArthur. Grisham's research is impressive. The third part centers around Pete's children, Joel and Stella, figuring out why Pete murdered the pastor and their mother's own mysterious end.

We don't get an answer about why Pete killed the pastor until the final three pages of the book and, even then, it's a surprising twist that you

would not have guessed on your own. The question of why Pete Banning killed Dexter Bell remains prevalent throughout the entire book, so much so that you want to move quickly to the final pages to get that answer. That's something I never do, but I was tempted.

Grisham knows how to hold a reader's attention, and he does a solid job of portraying a Southern town at a particular moment in time, touching upon various social issues as the book progresses. He takes us from the Jim Crow South to the jungles of the Philippines during World War II; from an insane asylum filled with secrets to the Clanton courtroom where Pete's defense attorney tries desperately to save him. I like what *Entertainment Weekly* had to say about *The Reckoning*. "With every new book I appreciate John Grisham a little more, for his feisty critiques of the legal system, his compassion for the underdog, and his willingness to strike out in new directions." ✨

concerning, is weight loss due to the fact that the medications suppress appetite. If kids are eating far too little and it becomes an issue, child and adolescent psychiatrist Alan Ravitz, MD, suggests it may be appropriate to go off the medication. It is important to note, however, that another study last year showed that in children followed for 10 years, into adulthood, there were no differences in height or weight between those who had taken stimulant medications and those who hadn't.

Conversely, Dr. Ravitz recommends against drug holidays unless there is a compelling reason for them as the data shows that children with ADHD who stick with their treatment program year-round reap better results than those who experience interruptions. That's because it's a misnomer to think that ADHD affects only their performance in school. "Kids who are being treated for ADHD do better in more than just the classroom," Dr. Ravitz says. "Medication has to do with managing behavior in a variety of different circumstances." Children's social behavior and emotions are still developing in the summer months; they still have to get along with family and friends and function effectively in-group activities like sports and day camp.

Overall, a parent should consider how a drug holiday would affect her child's well-being. Because ADHD affects social development as well as academic performance, the conservative approach is to avoid disrupting the prescribed treatment plan, says Dr. Ravitz. However, there are no hard and fast rules on this issue; ultimately, decisions should

arise from a conversation between the family, the child and health practitioner. Consultation with the child's physician is paramount to the safety of your child when considering the issue of a drug holiday.

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

HTAP Receives \$3,800 Grant

At a presentation on November 28, The Cape Royal Community Foundation honored Human Trafficking Awareness Partnership (HTAP) with a \$3,800 donation to help HTAP reach even more children in Cape Coral through its ArtReach and school programs.

This year, HTAP has conducted programs at the Island Coast High School and an ArtReach program at Lifeline Family Center with more programs planned. On February 7, the Cape Coral Art League will be exhibiting artwork at an event that will be highlighting artwork from students around the county. Cape Royal Community Foundation has been supporting HTAP for four years through fundraisers and community action. ✨

School Smart

by Shelley M. Gregg, NCSP



Dear Shelley, I've heard that kids with ADHD can be taken off their medication during school vacations and summer breaks. My 9-year-old

daughter started taking medication for her ADHD in August. I'm considering taking her off for Christmas vacation but I'm not so sure. Please help me understand some of the pros and cons to this idea.

Jesse S, Cape Coral

Jesse,

Parents of children who take stimulant medication for ADHD often wonder whether their kids should take a "drug holiday" during the summer months.

A drug holiday, or what clinicians call a structured treatment interruption, is a deliberate, temporary suspension of medication. Since children with ADHD don't need to perform academically during school vacations and summer break, parents wary of side effects often seize the opportunity to take kids off their regular regimen of Ritalin, Adderall or other drugs for ADHD. On the other hand, some parents are very wary of an interruption in medication and fear that their children's behavioral problems will rebound, making them too difficult to handle.

There are certainly pros and cons for prescribing a drug holiday. Sometimes a doctor will prescribe a drug holiday in order to evaluate a child's progress and determine if medication treatment is still indicated. Another concern is that there is some evidence that taking stimulant medications can affect a child's physical development early on in the treatment course – an effect parents hope to mitigate with a summer drug holiday. For some kids what's most noticeable, and most

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Female Pioneers of Fort Myers

Women Who Made a Difference in the City's Development

By Robin C. Tuthill and Thomas P. Hall

"Packed with facts and employing an engaging storytelling style, [Female Pioneers of Fort Myers] both teaches and entertains. Local history buffs and newcomers to history will value Tuthill and Hall's research and appreciate the accessible format, too."

Gerri Reaves, PhD, author of *Legendary Locals of Fort Myers* and *Fort Myers, Then & Now*

Marketing Firm Adds Coordinator

Pushing the Envelope, Inc., a strategic marketing communication firm based in Fort Myers, welcomes Hannah Anderson as a communication coordinator.

Anderson will provide a variety of public relations services for the company's clientele, including publicity and media relations, online reputation management, copywriting, as well as support social media strategy, email marketing and other marketing services.

Anderson holds a bachelor of arts degree in English from Florida Atlantic University (FAU). Prior to joining Pushing the Envelope, she was an assistant coordinator for FAU's Division of Research.✱



Hannah Anderson photo provided

Financial Focus

Questions When You Consider An Annuity

by Jennifer Basey



Like everyone, you want to retire comfortably – without worrying about running out of money. And that's why you should consider every available source of income

for your retirement years. One such source might be a fixed annuity – but is it right for you?

A fixed annuity is an insurance product that can provide you with an income stream you can't outlive, although payments also can be structured to end after a certain number of years. Your principal and interest rate are guaranteed, based on the claims-paying ability of the issuing company, and the interest you earn is tax-deferred and will compound annually until you begin taking income.

These features are certainly attractive, but, even so, before you invest in an annuity, you will need to ask yourself some key questions, including these:

What other sources of guaranteed income will I have available? One way to evaluate the value of an annuity is to determine what other guaranteed income you might have available during retirement. If you find that Social Security and any other sources of assured income, such as a pension, are enough to cover all or most of your essential living expenses, then you may not need any additional guaranteed income from an annuity. However, if these other guaranteed income streams aren't enough to meet your cost of living, then you might want to invest some of your assets in an annuity.

How much of my retirement funds

should I consider putting into an annuity? You'll need to determine the portion of your diversified portfolio that a fixed annuity should occupy, taking into account the nature of this investment – specifically, it's a fixed-rate, income-producing vehicle. This means you'll want a certain percentage of your portfolio in stocks, another in bonds, and still another percentage in the guaranteed income from an annuity. The exact percentages will depend on your age, proximity to retirement, risk tolerance and other factors.

What are the issues I might want to discuss with a financial professional before investing in an annuity? As mentioned above, you will need to determine if, and how, an annuity meets your needs and how it fits into your portfolio. A financial professional can evaluate your situation and help you answer these questions, as well as inform you about other issues related to an annuity. For example, if you decide to tap into your annuity earlier than planned, you probably will incur surrender charges. These charges decline each year, usually reaching zero after seven years. Furthermore, different annuities come with different fees, so a financial professional can help determine what options would best suit your needs.

You'll also need to be aware that while the interest you earn is tax-deferred, it isn't tax-free. You will be taxed at your ordinary income tax rate once you start taking withdrawals, and withdrawals prior to age 59 ½ may be subject to a 10 percent federal tax penalty. So, you'll want to consult with your tax advisor before withdrawing from your annuity.

A fixed annuity could be a valuable asset during your retirement years. But, at the same time, it's a big investment – so get the help you need to determine if you're making the right choice.

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

Superior Interiors

Downsizing

by Trinetta Nelson



Many individuals and families are choosing to downsize and simplify their living spaces. For some, the responsibility of their larger home and yard has become daunting.

Whatever the reason, this decision usually brings on the task of cleaning out and getting rid of what may have been some special treasures but are now just accumulated "stuff."

As years go on, collections, mementos and trinkets tend to slowly pile up. As the process of sifting begins, create four piles: "throw out," "donate," "keep," "possible." The key to this process is to keep it moving fast; the longer you look at something, the better the chance that

you will want to keep it. Utilize the one second rule to decide which pile. Ask yourself the question...why?

If planning to move into a smaller space and retain some furniture, list the pieces in order of importance. If cuts must be made later down the road, all you need to do is refer to this list.

After the cleaning out, the fun part of preparing the new home begins. Some choose to completely restart when downsizing: new everything to change it up. Whether you take this route or hold on to some special pieces, a decorator can be there to make the process an easier, even more rewarding one. Discuss how you will be living moving forward, what will work and what won't to meet your needs. When consulting with clients who are moving from a lifelong home to a smaller abode, it is best to measure the must-keep furniture pieces and create an accurate floorplan to be certain the pieces will actually fit into the new space.

Trinetta Nelson is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands and can be reached at linda@coindceden.com.✱

Community Foundation's Annual Report

The Southwest Florida Community Foundation has released its 2017-18 Annual Report online at www.floridacommunity.com/annual-report.

Since its inception 42 years ago, the foundation has distributed more than \$78.2 million in direct support to the community.

With gratitude for the generous support of its donors, the Southwest Florida Community Foundation achieved a record level \$6.8 million in funds invested in the community in FY 2018. Encompassing grants, scholarships and other funded programs, that total represents a 47.8 percent increase over FY 2017's \$4.6 million. The gain was due largely to a boost in grants awarded, which increased from \$3 million last fiscal year to \$5.2 million in FY 2018, including grants supporting Hurricane Irma recovery.

Total assets increased to \$126.7 million, up from \$112.2 million in FY 2017, while investments rose 13.2 percent, from \$76.5 million to \$86.6 million during the same period. The increases in total assets are a result of new funds, New Market Tax Credits, additional contributions and investment returns. For the one-year period ending June 30, 2018, the foundation's investments had a 7.7 percent gross return.

"Through the generosity, guidance and hard work of our donors, board of trustees, referring professional advisors and nonprofit partners, amazing things happen in our community," said Sarah Owen, president & CEO of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation.

Highlights from the past year include:

Awarding \$901,729 in scholarships and other assistance to help 128 students,

Granting more money to nonprofits to help them create change in the region. More than \$6.1 million and a total of 928 of grants were funded through donor advised funds, specialty funds including the Women's Legacy Fund of SWFL, LGBT Fund of SWFL, Bonita Springs Community Fund and the Fund for the Environment of SWFL, Field of Interest Funds, Nonprofit Agency Funds, Donor Designated Funds and Scholarship Funds.

The foundation provided \$30,000 in Good Samaritan funds to the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee, as well as joining forces this summer to create a giving fund for money to those nonprofits that helped individuals with incomes affected by the water crisis.

The foundation also opened its new Collaboratory. The Collaboratory is a public-private partnership of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation and the City of Fort Myers. The transformation of the former Atlantic Coast Railway Depot and construction of a new LEED addition creates a 24,000 square-foot campus that includes the foundation's regional headquarters and state-of-the-art shared space for the community and tenants.

The Collaboratory features vibrant spaces for work, gatherings and special events. In addition, state-of-the-art technology encourages regional collaboration.

The foundation funded the project with a \$10 million New Market Tax Credit deal, or NMTC, a program that encourages economic development in distressed neighborhoods. Florida Community Loan Fund provided the NMTC allocation and U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation is an investor on the project. Whitney Hancock Bank provided additional financing.✱



Rick Evanchyk photo provided

Goodwill Leader To Step Down At End Of Year

Rick Evanchyk, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc., recently announced that he will leave his post after four years as president and CEO and 15 years total with the organization. After great consideration, Evanchyk is looking forward to spending more time with family and exploring new opportunities. Evanchyk believes the timing of his departure is right as he will be leaving the organization in great hands to move the company forward and make it stronger.

"It has been an honor and an absolute highlight of my career to work for this incredible organization," said Evanchyk. "To be able to say that I worked alongside people every day whose focus was making an impactful change in someone's life has been an amazing experience for me and one that I will never forget."

Under Evanchyk's leadership, the Southwest Florida Goodwill agency has made major strides in organizational growth, persons served, community collaboration and other accomplishments including the development and expansion of our Pathways programs. One of his major accomplishments is the organization's HUD Housing initiative for people with disabilities. Under his direction the Goodwill housing program has 16 focused apartments in operation with more than 200 residents. This is up from six apartments when he joined the organization. In addition, Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida's housing program recently received an award for Excellence in Management from the Southeastern Affordable Housing Management Association.

After careful deliberation, the Board of Directors of Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida has officially appointed John Nadeau, currently the organization's vice president of operations, to be the new president and CEO. Nadeau has worked at the organization for the last three years and, in his short time, he has successfully seen the organization through some of its most challenging retail times.

Prior to his move to Southwest Florida, Nadeau spent eight years at Goodwill of the Olympics and Rainier Region in Tacoma, Washington, the majority of that

time as director of stores. In Tacoma, he was responsible for the operation of 35 Goodwill retail stores and e-commerce operations with combined yearly sales of more than \$65 million. Nadeau also has extensive experience in the grocery retail industry, including 23 years with Fred Meyer, Inc. and as president/owner of an upscale supermarket.

"John brings a varied background with him to the leadership table," said Evanchyk. "He has Goodwill experience, for-profit retail experience and has held positions at many different levels of management. I am thrilled to be able to pass on this opportunity to someone who will keep the mission at the core of what we do and maintain the continuity and positive direction of what has been started."

Mike Sullivan, board chair stated, "Rick has led our Goodwill through very challenging times all the while keeping us mission-focused and financially sound. Under his leadership, our agency has grown from about 300 employees to over 800, and from serving just over 5,000 people through our programs and services to well over 28,000 people each year. We are very grateful for all that he has done for this organization.

"The appointment of John will be a seamless transition. We look forward to John's leadership and his direction to take us to the next level."

In response to his appointment, Nadeau had this to say, "It is an honor to have the opportunity to lead an organization with such a tremendous impact on the Southwest Florida community. The legacy that both previous CEOs Tom Feurig and Rick Evanchyk have left behind will be one that I will proudly strive to uphold and take to the next level. We have a great team here at our Goodwill, and I look forward to keeping the momentum going."

Evanchyk will continue his term as president and CEO through 2018. Nadeau will officially take over in mid-January 2019.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that serves Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties. Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida assisted more than 37,000 individuals last year through its various programs and services. The organization is committed to serving people with disabilities and disadvantages by offering life-changing opportunities to achieve independence.✱

Honor Society Inductee

Fort Myers native Kathye Keating was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Jacksonville University.✱

Dean's List

Fort Myers native Alexa Prejna was among the students named to the 2018 fall term Dean's List at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. She is currently majoring in environmental studies.✱



From left, Stephanie Wegman, Katie Hansen, Jo Brasher, Colleen DePasquale, Rose Yates, Pam Korecky, Pam Korecky, Samira K. Beckwith, West McCann, Bob Sheehan and Jeff Brown photo provided

New Hope Chest Resale Store

Friends of Hope Healthcare and members of the local Fort Myers business community gathered to celebrate the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting at the newest Hope Chest resale store in Fort Myers.

Featuring an array of upscale designer-brand clothing and accessories, home furnishings, antiques and unique collectibles, the resale store is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. In addition to the new Hope Chest at 14540 S. Tami Trail in South Fort Myers, shoppers can visit Hope Chest at the Crossings at 28520 Bonita Crossings Boulevard and the North Fort Myers Hope Chest at 13821 North Cleveland Avenue.

Proceeds from Hope Chest benefit unfunded programs and services of Hope Healthcare, which provides exceptional care and support to individuals and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey.

For more information about volunteer opportunities or donating items to the Hope Chest resale stores, call 482-4673 or visit www.hopehcs.org.✱

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It's Bowling Time Again, But Not The Indoor Type



by Ed Frank

It's time to go bowling again, and I'm not talking about the sport of hurling a ball down an indoor alley.

Saturday kicks off (a pun) of 40 bowl games, six this Saturday, with the bowl schedules running all the way to January 26 for the Senior Bowl.

Should you not become bleary-eyed watching all this football, not even including the conclusion of the National Football League schedule, you might be happy to know that the NCAA recently approved the addition of three more bowl games in the next two years.

The natural question is why more bowl games?

An increase in the bowl lineup in 2015 allowed five-win teams to be bowl eligible and, since then, five teams with 5-7 records have participated, the reasoning being there just were not enough teams with 6-6 records or better to fill all the bowl slots.

The obvious reasoning for the increase is the five-letter word, money.

A 2016 report commissioned by the Football Bowl Association said the 41 bowl games at that time generated a combined economic impact of \$1.5 billion – ranging from \$12.6 million to \$93.7 million per bowl. The study defined economic impact as money spent in a local community for hotels, food and other costs. It does not include ticket purchases.

A bowl brings football fans into a community where many of whom have never

been previously with hopes that they will return again.

We often laugh why a team with a 5-7 record is invited to a bowl. But consider these facts:

Stadiums wouldn't be half-filled at the end of the regular season if a team didn't have a chance to go to a bowl.

It allows teams three additional weeks of practice, and most coaches have a bonus in their contracts for playing in a bowl.

Not all conferences agree on 5-7 teams going to bowl games. The Pac 12 prohibits 5-7 teams from accepting bowl invitations.

At this time, it's not certain the bowl lineup will be expanded to 43. If it is, Chicago and Myrtle Beach are likely destinations.

Next week, we'll discuss the multi-million dollar payoffs to the four teams vying for the National Championship – Alabama, Clemson, Oklahoma and Notre Dame.

The Miracle In Miami

If you didn't watch the end of last Sunday's Miami Dolphins vs. New England Patriots game, you missed unquestionably the most exciting game-ending play of this season and perhaps any season.

Although it's been replayed time and time again on television, you can search for it on the Internet.

With Miami down 30-27 on their own 31-yard line and only 7 seconds remaining, New England was defending for a "Hail Mary" pass. Instead, Miami quarterback Ryan Tannehill threw quickly to Kenny Stills who ran 14 yards and pitched back to DeVante Parker who ran five more yards and pitched back to Kenyan Drake who weaved 50 yards in and out of Patriots defenders for the winning touchdown.

The 66,087 fans, half-filled with Patriots fans, cheered as if they had won the Super Bowl.

The unbelievable ending kept the 7-6 Dolphins hopes alive for the NFL playoffs.*

Student-Athlete Of The Month

Cape Coral native Alexander Gonzalez, an offensive lineman at Culver-Stockton College in Canton, Missouri, was recently named the school's Primo's Pizza and Subs Student Athlete of the Month for November.

Gonzalez, a 6-foot-4, 300-pound sophomore, is a two-year starter for the football team. He earned All-Heart of America Athletic Conference honorable mention accolades for his play this past season.

Off the field, Gonzalez is pursuing a degree in business administration and a minor in marketing. He has been named to the Dean's List in both of his completed semesters.*

NBA's Future To Be On Display In Fort Myers

NBA star Joel Embiid of the Philadelphia 76ers helped lead Montverde Academy to the semifinals of the Culligan City of Palms

Classic in 2011. Soon, top-ranked prospects Cole Anthony, Scottie Barnes, Vernon Carey Jr. and a host of others will descend on this year's elite basketball tournament with legitimate hopes of following the path Embiid and others blazed from Fort Myers to NBA stardom.

The 46th annual Culligan City of Palms Classic returns to Suncoast Credit Union Arena from Monday, December 17 to Saturday, December 22, providing Southwest Florida a glimpse at supremely talented players already drawing attention from NBA personnel. Anthony, who leads powerhouse Oak Hill Academy of Mouth of Wilson, Virginia into the tournament, is No. 2 in the 2020 mock draft compiled by ESPN's Jonathan Givony.

"NBA scouts have long made a habit of visiting Fort Myers, and their motivation for coming is only getting stronger," Culligan City of Palms Classic Executive Director John Naylor said. "With so much lottery-level talent coming through here, this is truly the cradle of the NBA."

Five of the last nine No. 1 overall picks in the NBA Draft played in the Culligan City of Palms Classic, including Deandre Ayton, who became this year's

top pick after appearing at the City of Palms twice — in 2014 and 2016. John Wall, Kevin Love, Ben Simmons, Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum are just a few of the City of Palms alums now starring in the NBA.

For single-day preferred, reserved and general admission tickets, visit www.cityofpalmsclassic.com or call 1-800-440-7469. Tickets are also

available Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Suncoast Credit Union Arena box office on 13351 FSW Parkway and the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall box office on 13350 FSW Parkway.

The Culligan City of Palms Classic offers discounted group rates. Call John Naylor at 489-1085 for more information.*

SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who was the last NL player before the Marlins' Giancarlo Stanton in 2017 (59 home runs) to hit 50 or more home runs in a season?
2. In 2017, Boston's Chris Sale became the fastest pitcher to reach 1,500 strikeouts in major-league history (1,290 innings). Who had been the fastest?
3. How many times did the Minnesota Vikings make the playoffs in the 10 seasons (1991-2001) being coached by Dennis Green?
4. Who was the last men's basketball player before North Carolina's Joel Berry in 2016-17 to score at least 20 points in back-to-back NCAA championship games?
5. How many games did the Washington Capitals win in their inaugural NHL season of 1974-75?
6. The Russian men's soccer team won how many games in its World Cup history (1994-2014) before its two-victory run in the 2018 World Cup?
7. Who was the first British boxer to win an Olympic gold medal and a professional world title?

ANSWERS

1. Prince Fielder belted 50 home runs for the Brewers in 2007. 2. Kerry Wood of the Chicago Cubs reached 1,500 strikeouts in 1,303 innings (1998-2010). 3. Eight of the 10 seasons. 4. UCLA's Bill Walton, in 1972-73. 5. The Capitals won only eight of 80 games (they also had five ties). 6. Two (one win each in 1994 and 2002). 7. James DeGale won the IBF super middleweight title in 2015.

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Lee Schools TV Video Production Specialist Adam Wright and Lee Schools TV Video Production Supervisor Jason Sill photo provided

Lee Schools TV Wins Suncoast Emmy Award

Congratulations to Lee Schools TV Video Production Supervisor Jason Sill and Video Production Specialist Adam Wright for winning a 2018 Suncoast Emmy Award. Their story *Dulce's Dream* was honored in the Educational/Schools News Feature category at the 42nd annual Suncoast Regional Emmy Awards Saturday night in Orlando.

"It's an incredible honor to receive this award on behalf of The School District of Lee County," said Wright. "We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to

share this heartwarming story of human compassion with our community and look forward to telling more great stories involving our amazing students, teachers and staff members in the future."

Dulce's Dream tells the story of third grade student Dulce Jaimés receiving a prosthetic arm that science teacher Eric Demeri made for her over spring break on a 3-D printer. The story is a viral hit on Facebook with more than 3.1 million views, 126,000 likes and 75,000 shares.

The win was the first professional Emmy award and nomination for Lee Schools TV. Students from the Lee Schools TV Intern Program have previously won several Suncoast Emmy Awards, and two have won a National Student Production Award "Student Emmy" for their work.✪

Tree Of Lights Donations Sought



Trees of Lights at a local business

photo provided

Hope Hospice's Tree of Lights tradition offers a way to commemorate loved ones while providing essential funds for those in need of hospice care and bereavement support.

In each Hope Care Center, a Tree of Lights will be adorned with white paper butterflies designated "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one by \$30 donors. Along with having a butterfly placed on the tree of their choice, \$60 donors will also receive a keepsake metal ornament engraved with the Hope Hospice logo.

In addition, with a gift of \$300, a dedication stone will be engraved with the donor's personal message and placed in one of Hope's Tribute Gardens.

To learn more or make a donation, visit <https://donate.hopehcs.org/treeoflights>.

Hope Hospice is a not-for-profit health care organization dedicated to providing care and comfort to every individual and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey.

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

From page 1

Art In Flight

it means to them to call Florida home, will be on display from December through May on Concourses B and D at the airport. The show will come to the Alliance for the Arts main gallery in June.

Participating artists include Robert Aillen, Elisabeth Arena, Jolie Black, Juli Bobman, Annette Brown, Stacey Brown, Martin Casanova, Donna Chase, Patrick Conolly, Lillian Coury, Betsy D'Jamoos, Lisa Duritsch, Alane Enyart, Lydia Fogaras, Janet George, Ehren Gerhard, Imani Gibbs, Julie Griffin, Megan Kissinger, Mariapia Malerba, Deborah Martin, Ellen Miller, Caren Pearson, JT Phillippe, Whit Robbins, Dorothy Salcedo, Erik Schlake, MiMi Stirn, Carla Wormington Messerli and Beverly Yankwitt.

"Art inspires and activates our imaginations," said Alliance exhibitions coordinator Krista Johnson. "This exhibit makes it possible for people to experience art every day and promotes Lee County's colorful and cultural vibe." Southwest Florida International

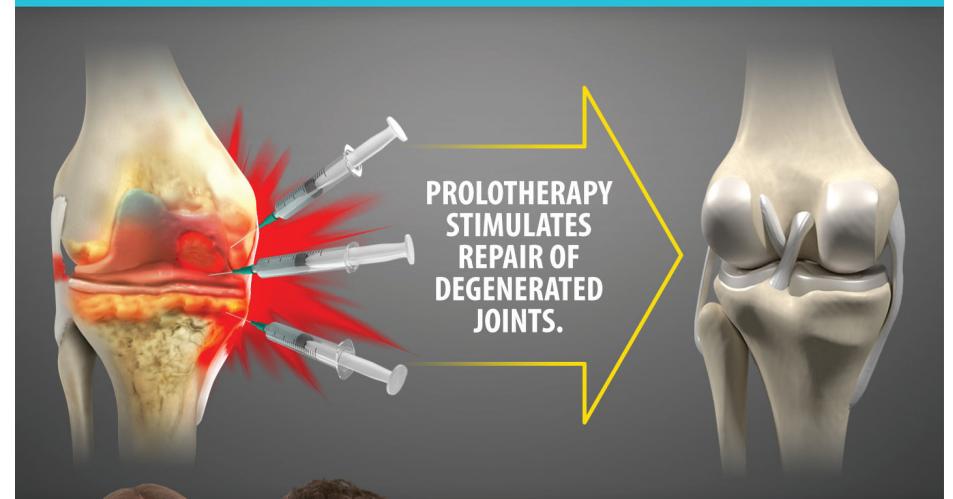


Fantasy Redux by Ellen Miller

image provided

Airport is located at 11000 Terminal Access Road in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.artinlee.org/rsw2019.✪

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KATHERINE WORSNICK, MPAS, PA-C

ROSS HAUSER, MD

Foundation Raises Funds For Advocates



First row from left, winning teammates Ashley Solomon, Elise Altman and Jennifer Siegal-Miller; back row from left, Karyn Samuel and Emily Traylor photos provided

Guardian ad Litem Foundation, 20th Judicial Circuit, recently raised \$7,145 at its Trivia Night to support the organization's I am for the child program at Bokampers Sports Bar

& Grill in Naples. Sixty guests dined at an extensive appetizer buffet and had drinks before forming teams and competing for prizes. They showcased their intelligence in a



Donna Kordek and Jennifer Siegal-Miller

variety of categories, including arts and entertainment, sports, science and nature, geography, history and riddles.

Proceeds from Trivia Nite, the first in a series of fundraising events this season, support an essential program that pairs volunteer advocates with abused, neglected and abandoned children in

Southwest Florida. More than one-third of local children in crisis do not yet have a volunteer advocate to offer a voice in the courtroom, schools and child welfare system.

For sponsorship or ticket opportunities at upcoming events, visit www.voicesforkids.org or call 533-1435.✱



From left, Marianna Passos, Sara Garces and Sacha Bretz



Front row from left, Barbara Kushnir and Carol Hidy; back row from left, Ira Kushnir and David Hidy



Gary Dyer and Peter Knize



Donald Oldham and Jean Oldham



Caroline Thonon and Bruce Greenberg



Dallas Vick and Tim Vick



Ginger Peeler and Georgann Bardenheier

Children's Hospital Receives 2,000 Storybooks

Since opening the doors of the new building in May 2017, Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida has served as a beacon of quality health care for children in Southwest Florida. Its opening – and the capital campaign that helped make the hospital possible – inspired many in the community to support its mission through their time, talents and treasures.

One Southwest Florida author was so moved by the hospital's presence and its impact on the community, he's penned an inspiring new children's book all about a sick child and his little red wagon – the vehicle used frequently to transport young patients through Golisano Children's Hospital.

On December 12, Sanibel author Dan Perkins and Admiral Scott Logan – a longtime supporter of the children's hospital and collaborator with Perkins on the book's publishing – unveiled the new book, titled *Timmy and the Little Red Wagon* and will donate 2,000 copies to the hospital.

"The experience of a child's visit to a hospital can be a scary event," said Perkins. "But the experience and the warmth at Golisano puts everyone at ease. I kept thinking I could help continue to break down those fears through a book, just another way to help make the ordeal not so frightening."

Logan, a longtime Sanibel resident, has been a frequent supporter of SanCap Cares, the annual fundraising initiative for the children's hospital in the Sanibel and Captiva communities. A few years ago, SanCap Cares raised awareness and funds for the Little Red Wagon Fund, used to support Southwest Florida's most critical pediatric health care needs. Logan was taken by the name of the fund and usage of the decades-old kids toy in the hospital setting.

"A little red wagon is so ubiquitous during childhood. Generations of kids have used them, and everyone seems to have fond memories of theirs," said Logan. "When I heard how Golisano uses these wagons – to transport sick children

around the hospital – I was amazed. What a great thing to do for these kids. Instead of gurneys or wheelchairs, they bring a piece of childhood to the hospital to make children feel more at home."

Logan thought there was a good story to tell, and he brought the idea last year to his friend and fellow Sanibel resident, Perkins. Perkins had just completed his first self-published children's book titled *Peter the Little Irish Seal*. Logan told him if Perkins would write a book about a little red wagon, he would help publish it. Amanda Cross, co-founder of SanCap Cares, provided the guidance and encouragement to Perkins and Logan to make this project a reality.

Perkins got to work, telling a tale of Timmy, a boy who loved his little red wagon and eventually passes it on to his own son. Cameron, Timmy's son, finds out he has to go to the hospital for tests, and immediately gets scared. But he's put at ease thanks to his dad and grandfather, who bring his favorite little red wagon to the hospital.

"I must admit, I had never heard of using wagons in hospital, but it's an amazing idea," said Perkins. "This is why I wrote this book."

Perkins even consulted with Golisano Children's Hospital medical staff and child life specialists to make sure the telling of his tale was medically accurate and true-to-life.

The Logan Family Foundation funded the printing of the book, and the first run of 2,000 copies will be donated to Golisano Children's Hospital. The hospital has a library and book give-away program for children during their stay. The books help give kids a break from boredom and provide a pleasant distraction – and the patients can take them home when they are discharged.

Perkins and Logan know that Timmy and Cameron's story doesn't end here. They hope to print more copies in the future – selling some, but only to raise more funds so they can donate more to the children's hospital.

"It's our goal that every child who is admitted to the hospital will receive a copy of this book," said Perkins.

To learn more about *Timmy and the Little Red Wagon* or how you can support Golisano Children's Hospital, contact Jeff Muddell at jeff.muddell@leehealth.org.✱

"This holiday season will again be challenging for many families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood," said Kathryn Kelly, president and CEO of The Heights Foundation. "This is a great opportunity to bring joy to the children of our community. We are thankful for the generous support of our neighbors."

Items can be dropped off at The Heights Center, located at 15570 Hagie Drive in Fort Myers. Toys will be collected through 6 p.m. on Friday, December 14.

Volunteers are needed to assist with set-up and at the event. Organizations and individuals interested in participating can contact Melissa Barlow at 482-7706 or melissa@heightsfoundation.org. All donations are tax deductible.✱



From left, Cristie Travis, Ashley Tait-Dinger, Armando Llechu, Susan Ryckman, Dr. Emad Salman, Dr. Alex Daneshmand and Leah Binder photo provided

Golisano Hospital Recognized

For the third year in a row, Lee Health's Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida has been named a Top Children's Hospital by The Leapfrog Group. Only 13 children's hospitals in the country – three in Florida – earned this prestigious distinction, which highlights each hospital's highest commitment to safety and quality care of children. Only three children's hospitals in the country have ever been recognized by Leapfrog for three consecutive years.

"We are honored to receive this recognition for the third year in a row. Thank you to all of the professionals who work tirelessly to create a safe and comfortable environment for the children and families in our community. We look forward to continuing to provide compassionate and quality health care for years to come," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, Lee Health president and CEO.

The selection of Top Children's Hospitals is based on the results of the 2018 Leapfrog Hospital Survey. Performance across many areas of hospital care is considered in establishing the qualifications for the award, including inpatient care management, medication safety, and infections and injuries. The rigorous standards are defined in each

year's Top Hospital Methodology.

Since moving to its new state-of-the-art facility next to HealthPark Medical Center in 2017, Golisano Children's Hospital has received multiple national accolades. In addition to being honored by Leapfrog for three consecutive years, the hospital was named as the "Most Beautiful Hospital in the U.S." by Soliant, a national health care staffing agency, earlier this year.

"Our hospital was built around the health care needs of the children in our community, and it's an honor to consistently be named among the top children's hospitals in the nation," said Armando Llechu, chief administrative officer, Golisano Children's Services. "Our mission is to keep children as close to their homes as possible, and this endorsement shows that parents can be confident their children are also receiving safe and high-quality care. To earn this prestigious award three years in a row reflects our continued commitment to maintain these high standards."

This announcement comes on the heels of three Lee Health hospitals receiving "A" grades on Leapfrog's Fall 2018 Hospital Safety Grades report card last month. Gulf Coast Medical Center, Cape Coral Hospital and Lee Memorial Hospital all received the highest possible grade. HealthPark Medical Center received a "B" grade, missing the top mark by just .03 points.✱

From page 1

Christmas Gift

footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, remote control cars, tea sets, action figures, board games, coloring books and crayons. Personal items needed include pajamas, jewelry, body lotion and spray, soaps, hair accessories and wristwatches. Donations of gift cards from Target, Kmart or Walmart are appreciated. Monetary donations can be made at www.heightsfoundation.org/donate.

The gifts will be distributed at The Heights Center on Saturday, December 15 from 10 a.m. to noon. Each child will visit Santa, have cookies and hot chocolate, and make Christmas crafts, while their parents choose gifts for their children.

Giving Council To Hold Meeting

The Planned Giving Council of Lee County, Inc. will present How to Leverage Non-Cash Gifts during its meeting at Blue Coyote Business & Social Club on Wednesday, December 19. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m., while lunch and program begin at noon.

Tracy Connelly, vice president of development at the Guadalupe Center in Immokalee, will be the speaker. The event is free to members. The cost for

non-members is \$30.00 and includes lunch. Reservation deadline is Friday, December 14 at noon. To RSVP go to plannedgivinglee.org.

Connelly will share his experience working with donors interested in making non-cash gifts, and engage the audience in sharing their successes and lessons learned in working with donors with these unique philanthropic vehicles.

Blue Coyote Business & Social Club is located at 9854 Caloosa Yacht and Racquet Club Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, visit www.plannedgivinglee.org or call 850-0040.✱

deaRPharmacist

Body Creams That Won't Cause Cancer

by Suzy Cohen, RPh



Dear Readers: I'm going to make you fall in love with body butters today. They are completely natural and insanely easy to make. You can add essential oils to make it smell lovely and then

apply as liberally as you like without fear that your moisturizer will irritate your skin, provoke cancer, or disrupt your estrogen and thyroid hormone (termed endocrine disruption). This is a great gift for yourself or to your friends for occasions.

Let's face it, keeping your skin glowing and supple is no easy task, which is why most people turn to lotions to hydrate the skin. It's instantly soothing. It's not just women who seek soft supple skin either, many men use shaving creams that dry their faces, or they have dry elbows and heels.

Don't let the beautiful bottles trick you, there are thousands of toxins in the beauty industry, and many popular lotions and creams have questionable if not serious harmful effects on your body.

Sadly, price does not dictate purity, these are found in both cheap and expensive products. For example, paraffin is a petroleum-derived compound that essentially coats your skin with a thin plastic covering. Parabens are used as preservatives but might impact your cell's ability to divide properly and disrupt normal hormone production. Many popular expensive skin creams contain antifreeze (propylene glycol) and still others

contain silicone, another compound I feel is best avoided. The worst, in my opinion, are the perfumes because those could expose you to a thousand different weird chemicals that are hard to unglue from your cells. My point is there are hundreds of scientific papers suggesting a correlation between cancer incidence and potent chemicals found in cosmetics, perfumes and skin care products.

Body butters can be made naturally by using cold-pressed extracts of either beans, seeds, or nuts. These nourishing formulas will remain solid at room temperature, but once applied, they melt into your skin. The best body butters contain healing oils that are whipped into cream. I'm thinking of cocoa, cupuacu, almond oil, coconut oil, pumpkin seed oil and jojoba oil.

Creating homemade body butter out of these oils is actually a straightforward simple process that you can do with a friend or daughter. Obviously, you can buy nice body butters today online and at retail boutiques.

To fully enjoy them, just dab on your fingers and rub it where you most need moisture, like your knuckles, hands, knees or heels for example. You can put it all over if you want. Body butter is intended to be concentrated so a little goes a long way.

Once you experiment with making homemade body butter, you'll never want to go back to conventional lotions. Making body butters at home is a fun way to bond with the kids and ensure purity in your skin care regimen. Sign up for my free newsletter at www.suzycohen.com, and I'll email you the recipes so you can make your own Whipped Pumpkin Spice Body Butter and also Jasmine Lemongrass Body Butter.

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.

Candlelight Vigil December 21

As a tribute to at least 30 homeless individuals who have lost their lives while living on the streets or in shelters in Lee County this year, the Lee County Homeless Coalition will host its 22nd annual Candlelight Vigil on Friday, December 21 at 6 p.m. The community is encouraged to gather on the steps of the Old Lee County Courthouse located at 2120 Main Street in Fort Myers to mourn those who have passed. The memorial event is also intended to educate and inspire the public to support the community's need for more affordable housing, shelters, living wages and accessible health care.

The Candlelight Vigil will include remarks by Lee County Homeless Coalition representatives, Janet Bartos, executive director; and William Rodriguez,

past board chair. An opening prayer will be presented by Bishop El Johnson, of New Life Worship Center. Taps will be performed by Harvey Charter, Commander Victor Paul Tuchman Post 400 Jewish War Veterans. Music will be provided by New Life Worship Center Choir.

The Lee County Homeless Coalition is a non-profit organization comprised of community and faith-based service providers, local businesses, people who are currently experiencing or who have experienced homelessness and other advocates committed to ending homelessness. The coalition's mission is to advocate, educate and promote awareness of issues and obstacles facing homeless individuals in Lee County through community collaboration, planning and implementing solutions.

To learn more about how one can help join the fight against homelessness, contact Janet Bartos at 322-6600. For more information, visit www.leehomeless.org.

Doctor and Dietician

Staying Active Year-Round On Sanibel



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

One of the mottos of our Caring Medical clinic is "Keeping People Active for Life!" Living year-round on Sanibel through the hot and humid months proves a bit challenging regarding exercising outside. (BTW, we enjoy meeting many of our fellow exercisers out there on the multi-use paths. You inspire us too!)

The heat and humidity make running, even walking outside, more challenging. Exercise has many benefits, especially as we age. If we do not keep moving as we live into our 60s, 70s, and 80s, we are headed to a nursing home. Studies show that once you lose the ability to ambulate

two blocks, your chance of needing nursing home care increases seven-fold. Enhancing and preserving mobility helps maintain our ability to function, as well as improves our physical and psychological well-being. Working on cardiovascular, strength and balance aspects of health will maximize long-term function, maintain balance, prevent falls and keep the mind strong.

If the weather is too hot for our comfort level, we need to adjust our exercise regimes. We realize that our pace slows in the heat, we require more fluids, electrolytes and carbohydrates in our diets, and we may need to find other ways to stay active. Some suggestions include changing from walking/running-focused activities to other activities such as lap swimming, pool running, bike riding, indoor treadmill running or walking, rec center classes, combination workouts that include walking with weights, or exercise regimes in the pool. It is amazing what fun it is to do strength and running exercises in your pool. Check out www.fluidrunning.com or Google "water workouts," and you will find a lot of great ideas. Remember, sitting is now the new cigarette smoking. It can kill you. Let's get up and get out there. See you on the paths!

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics has two locations: one in Oak Park, Illinois, and one in Fort Myers. It was established in 1991 by Ross Hauser, MD, and Marion Hauser, MS, RD. They can be reached at info@caringmedical.com.

Treatment Clinic Opens December 17

SalusCare's Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) clinic will open on Monday, December 17 at the 3763 Evans Avenue campus in Fort Myers.

Medication Assisted Treatment is treatment for opioid addiction disorders that includes the use of medication along with counseling and other support. The clinic treats individuals age 18 and older who meet criteria for substance use disorders such as opioids and alcohol.

The clinic will be led by addiction psychiatrist Dr. Zaheer Aslam who will supervise a psychiatric advanced practice registered nurse and other medical staff. In addition, the clinic will be staffed by licensed clinicians and care coordinators to link patients with community resources, provide case management and needed therapy. The clinic operates Monday through Friday, and patients are seen by appointment. Treatment is funded by several sources, including grants through the state of Florida and Lee County. The clinic also accepts self-pay and insured patients as well.

The community is invited to learn more at the MAT Clinic Open House at the Evans Ave. campus on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

"We are thrilled to bring this much-needed service to our community,"

said SalusCare President & CEO Stacey Cook. "Research shows that a combination of medication and therapy can successfully treat substance use disorders and, for many, can help sustain recovery."

For more information on the MAT Clinic, call SalusCare's Welcome Center at 275-3222.

From page 1

Be Kind Initiative

– became intrigued by the simple yet powerful message.

"It seems like there's too much negativity in the world today," said Ruane. "As a society, it seems like we've kind of lost our way a little. So we're trying to make this initiative go viral. All we ask is that mayors across the United States take a photo of them holding the Be Kind sign and post it online."

In addition to Simmons and Ruane, several other mayors from Lee and Collier counties – including Fort Myers Mayor Randy Henderson, Fort Myers Beach Mayor Tracey Gore and Naples Mayor Bill Barnett – have joined the cause.

"I certainly hope other leaders around the country will join us," said Simmons in his Facebook post on December 4, adding the hashtag #BeKind to his message.

"We'll try to take this viral throughout the state and see how far it goes," added Ruane. "Especially this holiday season, it would be nice to see more people be kind."

PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Sasha And Ditto

Hello, my name is Sasha. I am a 1-year-old female Australian cattle dog mix whose stunning good looks and sparkling personality would make me a great addition to any home. I am presently working on my leash manners and sit and stay with the fabulous team of volunteers. With any dog adoption, you can continue training at the ABC4-K9 facility. Every adoption comes with four weeks of obedience training for just \$60.



Sasha ID# A762590

My adoption fee is Pick an Ornament from \$15 to \$50

Hi, I'm Ditto. I'm a 13-year-old male domestic shorthair who is LCDAS' longest-term feline resident, and nobody knows why! I am quite the charmer. As you can see, I will dress up for a night out on the town. My charming personality goes along with my good looks. I would be quite the affectionate companion as well. I would love to

spend the holidays with a family of my own.

LCDAS is reducing pet adoption fees for the lucky families that find their perfect match this month. Just pick a door on the Countdown to the Holidays calendar to reveal a reduced adoption fee ranging from \$50 to as low as \$15.



Ditto ID# A754462

The adoption fee for all pets includes: spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, flea treatment, deworming, heartworm test for dogs six months or older, feline aids and leukemia test for cats, a Lee County license for pets three months or older, microchip pet ID, and a 10-day health guarantee. The total adoption package is valued at more than \$500.

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

Haven on Earth Animal League

Lily And Sylvia

Hi, I'm Lily! I'm a beautiful 2-year-old female tabby with a white bib. I have been fully vetted and brought up to date on all vaccines. My adoption fee is \$100. Come see me at Petco in Gulf Coast Town Center.

Hello, I'm Sylvia. Aren't I just adorable? I'm only 6 months old and a very sweet little girl. I'm currently staying with a foster family and would really like a home to call my own! My adoption fee is \$100 which includes vaccines and spaying.

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



Lily



Sylvia

PAWS Of Sanibel

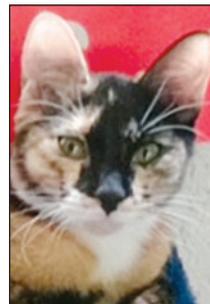
Brava And Lucy

Two very unusual and beautiful sisters are up for adoption. One is tortoiseshell cat with white or calico features, while the other is a dilute tortoiseshell.

These photos do not do them justice, as they are much more adorable in person. Adopt one, or keep them together and adopt both. They are four and five months old. They come with complete vet check-up, all shots, tests, wormed, treated with flea preventative and spayed. Call Pam at PAWS at 472-4823 to adopt one or both.*



Brava



Lucy

Sonny And Cher

This is Sonny and Cher. Some of you may remember them. Three years ago, four kitties, the momma and three kittens were trapped between the Sunset Beach Resort and Lantana condominium on West Gulf Drive. All were adopted (Lana, Tanner, Sonny and Cher) to lovely people. However, Sonny and Cher's mom has reached a time in her life when she feels she must move in with family over on Pine Island. Unfortunately, in addition to her granddaughter being allergic, her son operates a business out of his home that is directly on Pine Island Road and the doors are always opening and closing, so it's not safe for kitties. These are very special kitties, and need to be together forever. Call Pam at 472-4823 if you can give these sweethearts a new home.*



Sonny



Cher

THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

Emergency	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
HealthPark Medical Center	1-800-936-5321
Ft. Myers Chamber of Commerce	332-3624
Foundation for Quality Childcare	425-2685
Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce	454-7500
Fort Myers Beach Library	463-9691
Lakes Regional Library	533-4000
Lee County Chamber of Commerce	931-0931
Post Office	1-800-275-8777
Visitor & Convention Bureau	338-3500

ARTS

Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio	337-5050
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall	481-4849
BIG ARTS	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Cultural Park Theatre	772-5862
Edison Festival of Light	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade	332-4488
Florida West Arts	948-4427
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy	936-3239
Young Artists Awards	574-9321

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

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

AREA ATTRACTIONS

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

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

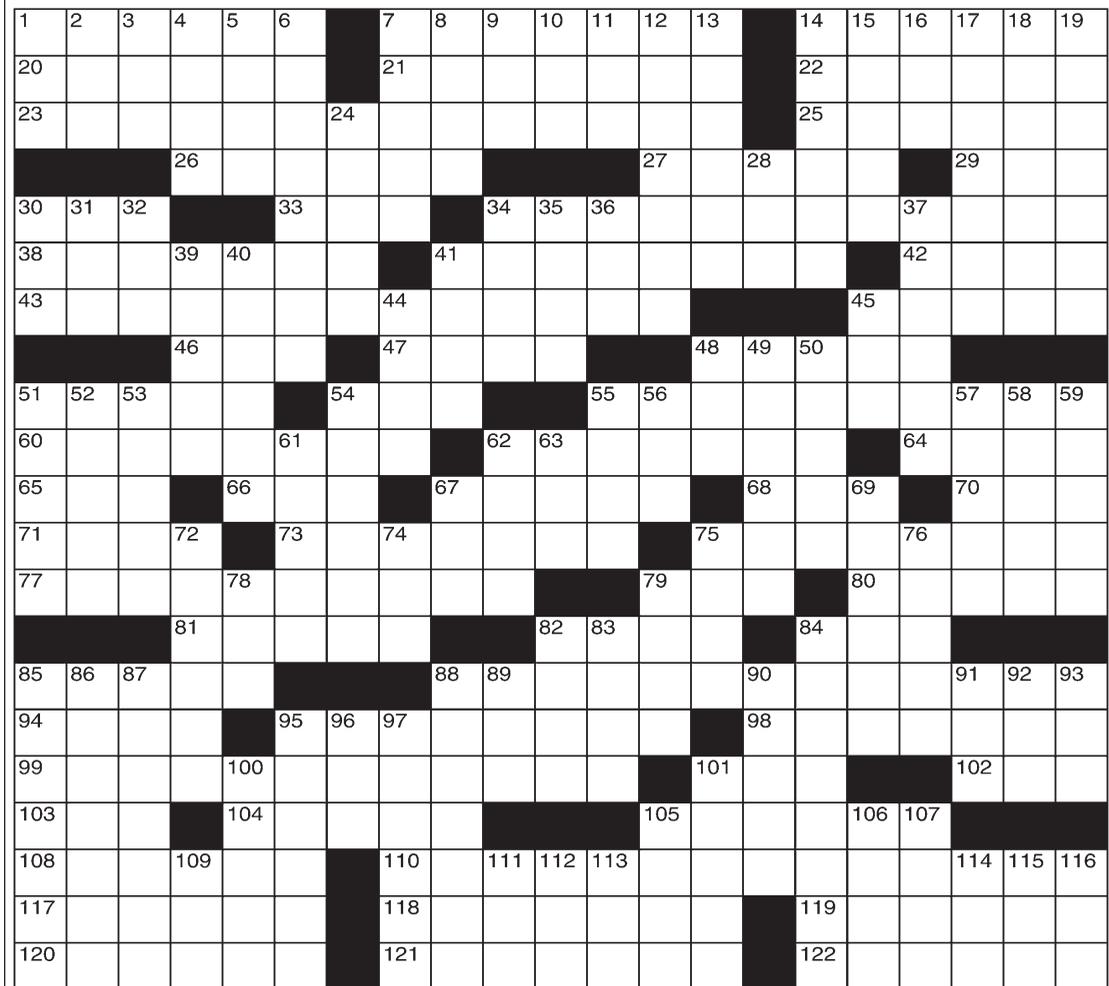
PUZZLES

Answers on page 29

Super Crossword

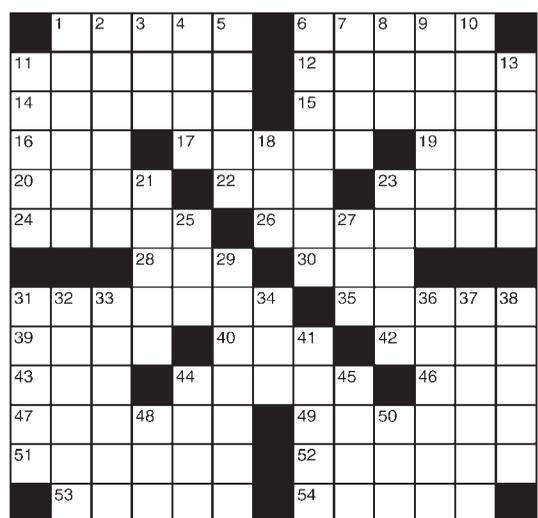
PUNCH LINES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fistfight "souvenir"
 - 7 Fish groups
 - 14 Yasir of the Middle East
 - 20 Actress Mumford
 - 21 Fine-meshed nylon cap
 - 22 Go to the polls again
 - 23 Certain room decor adhesive
 - 25 Gives a heads-up
 - 26 Baseball's "Georgia Peach"
 - 27 Hindu mystic
 - 29 Mobster's gun
 - 30 Spot's sound
 - 33 Ending for plug or play
 - 34 It may be worn under a tennis shoe
 - 38 Hitchcock film of 1940
 - 41 Clichés
 - 42 Trickster of Norse myth
 - 43 Ramones' debut single
 - 45 In the — of (during)
 - 46 "— So Shy" (1980 hit)
 - 47 Bluish-black sour fruit
 - 48 Check casher, say
 - 51 — boom
 - 54 Hurt
 - 55 Slimy pest in a flower bed
 - 60 Does some needlework
 - 62 Peniless people
 - 64 Pop singer Turner
 - 65 Fracas
 - 66 Lead-in to mo or pitch
 - 67 Blackjack call that's apt for this puzzle's theme?
 - 68 "— the ramparts ..."
 - 70 Roker and Pacino
 - 71 Nevada city
 - 73 Trouser lines
 - 75 Hand-held seizing tool
 - 77 Sleeve feature with a link
 - 79 Transaction in 71-Across
 - 80 Wants badly, with "for"
 - 81 Eddie — (clothing chain)
 - 82 Above
 - 84 Luau bowlful
 - 85 End in — (go unresolved)
 - 88 Innate sense of time
 - 94 Pieces of pizza?
 - 95 Actor Tatum
 - 98 Acorn maker
 - 99 Solar system component
 - 101 He cried "I pity the fool!"
 - 102 Little guy
 - 103 Luau accessory
 - 104 Perfect thing
 - 105 Small river craft
 - 108 Messing up
 - 110 Ability to influence a campaign, perhaps
 - 117 Loath (to)
 - 118 Not in time
 - 119 Come out
 - 120 One hunting
 - 121 Appalachian range
 - 122 Get canines
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Handful of
 - 2 Imitating
 - 3 "My mama done — me ..."
 - 4 Buoyant tune
 - 5 Kids' guessing game
 - 6 Tail-fanning birds
 - 7 Brand of cat food
 - 8 Low- — meal
 - 9 In vogue
 - 10 Man-mouse middle
 - 11 Put- — (hoaxes)
 - 12 Disclose accidentally
 - 13 Plastered and Porthos
 - 14 Pal of Athos
 - 15 Antique
 - 16 "— Maria"
 - 17 Permanently
 - 18 Tears into
 - 19 Aid in self-diagnosis
 - 24 Like icecaps
 - 28 Eroded
 - 30 Hedge fund whiz
 - 31 Roman Cath., e.g.
 - 32 DOJ agcy.
 - 34 Jason's ship of myth
 - 35 "It wasn't meant —"
 - 36 Managed care gp.
 - 37 Most furtive
 - 39 Set of values
 - 40 Brno natives
 - 41 Tolling thing
 - 44 Sister and wife of Osiris
 - 45 Guys
 - 48 Lead-in to 52-Down
 - 49 Clever
 - 50 "Pro" replies
 - 51 Neck wrap
 - 52 Get via Amazon, e.g.
 - 53 Not a single person
 - 54 Pronto
 - 55 Supporters of canines
 - 56 Oafish sort
 - 57 Fibbing sorts
 - 58 Not aflame
 - 59 Breathes in quickly
 - 61 Yale of Yale University
 - 62 Singer Edith
 - 63 It spits out bills, briefly
 - 67 Pajama-clad mag founder
 - 69 Latch again, as a door
 - 72 Like some safe runners
 - 74 South, in Spanish
 - 75 — diagram (math image)
 - 76 Remorse
 - 78 Raven sound
 - 79 Tennis champ Björn
 - 82 Electric co., e.g.
 - 83 Bottled (up)
 - 84 Blood part
 - 85 Funnel-shaped flowers
 - 86 Merit
 - 87 Career completer
 - 88 Flowering
 - 89 Hanoi-to-Beijing dir.
 - 90 Major vessel
 - 91 Moon, e.g.
 - 92 Co. leader
 - 93 B minor, e.g.
 - 95 Coot
 - 96 Go in haste
 - 97 Makes fit
 - 100 Light wash
 - 101 Middle Ages weapons
 - 105 Nosh
 - 106 Highest point
 - 107 "—'s Gold" (Peter Fonda film)
 - 109 Bug a lot
 - 111 Brit's john
 - 112 Sort
 - 113 Mai —
 - 114 Leftover bit
 - 115 "Blech!"
 - 116 Informal shirt



King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Yard activities
 - 6 Measuring device
 - 11 Wig
 - 12 Show up
 - 14 Hang around
 - 15 Vocalist
 - 16 Big bother
 - 17 Formal pronouncements
 - 19 Yoko of music
 - 20 Spill the beans
 - 22 Bear hair
 - 23 Coaster
 - 24 Black-and-white movie, e.g.
 - 26 90210, for one
 - 28 Always, in verse
 - 30 Mongrel
 - 31 Sways from side to side
 - 35 "Gone With the Wind" star
 - 39 Look lasciviously
 - 40 Three-man vessel?
 - 42 Intend
 - 43 Grazing area
 - 44 Filleted
 - 46 Suitable
 - 47 Identify
 - 49 Sarcastic remark
 - 51 Stag's lack
 - 52 With malice
 - 53 Butcher's wares
 - 54 Keglers' venue
 - 55 Highest point
 - 56 "—'s Gold" (Peter Fonda film)
 - 57 Bug a lot
 - 58 Brit's john
 - 59 Sort
 - 60 Mai —
 - 61 Leftover bit
 - 62 "Blech!"
 - 63 Informal shirt
 - 64 Tainer
 - 65 51-Across of a sort
 - 66 Tied
 - 67 "The Republic" man
 - 68 Wear away
 - 69 Since, slangily
 - 70 Belgian city
 - 71 "Get lost!"
 - 72 Conger or moray
 - 73 Boxer
 - 74 Cutting responses
 - 75 "Look Homeward,
 - 76 Anti-elderly bias
 - 77 Quick look
 - 78 Baltimore newspaper
 - 79 Snooty, e.g.
 - 80 Boutonnieres' sites
 - 81 Access
 - 82 Watch-crystal holder
 - 83 Ernie's pal
 - 84 Prima donna
 - 85 — long way (last)
 - 86 Diarist Anais
- DOWN**
- 1 Large beer glass
 - 2 Golfer Palmer
 - 3 Schlep
 - 4 — out (supplemented)
 - 5 Helvetica lack
 - 6 Stomach-related
 - 7 Met melody
 - 8 Grecian con-
 - 9 51-Across of a sort
 - 10 Tied
 - 11 "The Republic" man
 - 13 Wear away
 - 18 Since, slangily
 - 21 Belgian city
 - 23 "Get lost!"
 - 25 Conger or moray
 - 27 Boxer
 - 29 Cutting responses
 - 31 "Look Homeward,

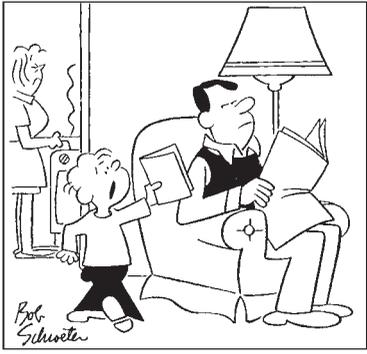


MAGIC MAZE ● GOOD —

H Q N K H E B Y V S P M J H E
 B Y V T Q O L I G D B Y W T R
 P M K I F F D G B Y W U S Q O
 M K I M O R N I N G F D G B Z
 X W U Y S I O Q O N R K N L J
 H F D C N D A I Y W O V I T S
 Q P N E N A D L V O M K D R I
 H F V E E Y P O B A U D E C K
 B E I Z Y W V M O U H E E S C
 R R Q E N U T R O F H E R A U
 F P N M L J E S U C X E B I L

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

- Behavior
- Company
- Excuse
- Humor
- Book
- Day
- Food
- Luck
- Breeding
- Deal
- Fortune
- Morning
- Cheer
- Evening
- Friday



"Mom says to show my report card to you — she's already got a _____."
answer on page 31

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the CAPITAL letters below to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word to complete the gag!

Berate _____

STEANCH _____

Concern _____ _____

GRADER _____ _____

Courier _____ _____

DRAHLE _____ _____

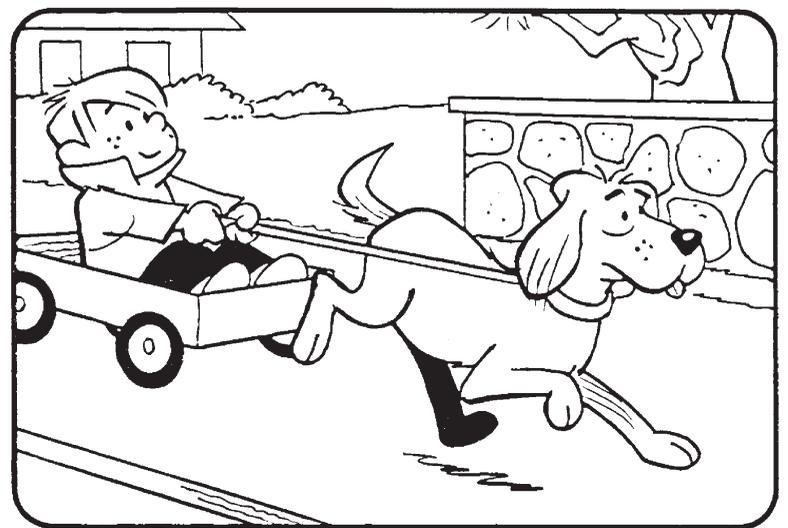
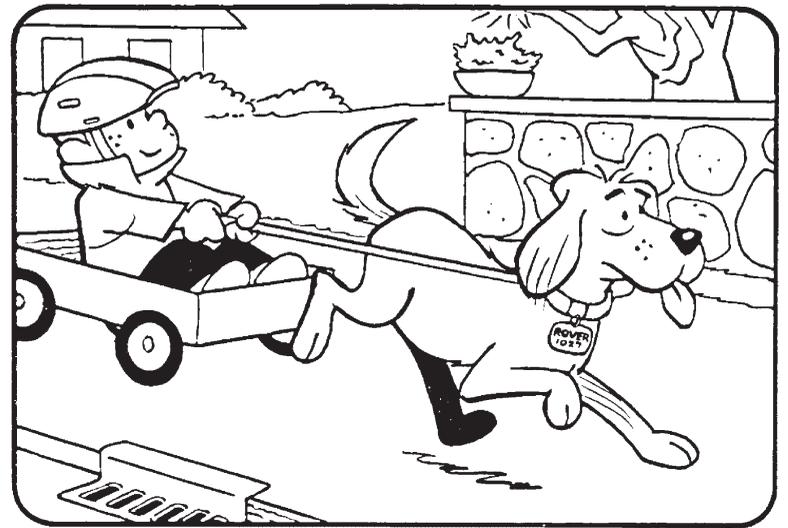
Argue _____ _____

TEABED _____ _____

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS

Differences: 1. Helmet is missing. 2. Drain is missing. 3. Tail is shorter. 4. Flower pot is missing. 5. License tag is missing. 6. Tongue is smaller.

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

SUDOKU

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

answer on page 29



Peanut Brittle Chocolate Truffles

- 6 ounces peanut brittle, finely crushed
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 4 ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 4 ounces dark chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- Pinch of sea salt

In a small saucepot over medium heat, bring heavy cream to a simmer. Remove from heat and pour into a bowl with the chocolate chips. Tightly cover with plastic wrap for 10 minutes to melt the chocolate. Uncover and add the vanilla, stirring until completely smooth. Place in refrigerator for at least 3 hours in order to set. Using an ice cream scoop or small spoon, scoop out small amounts of chocolate and roll into balls (disposable latex gloves are helpful during this step). Next, roll the truffles into the crushed peanut brittle (or coating of your choice). Place onto a parchment lined baking sheet and chill to set. Serve at room temperature. Store in an air tight container in the refrigerator for up to 1 week.

Fresh From Florida tip... these truffles can be rolled in additional items such as crushed cookies, flaked coconut, or cocoa powder.✧



Peanut Brittle Chocolate Truffles

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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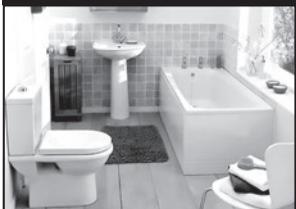
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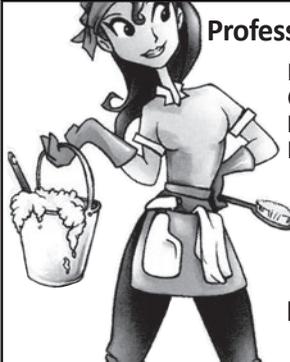
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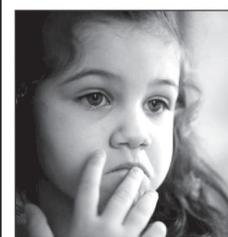
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The New Math:
\$1 = \$8

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Thank you for your generosity!

Mail your tax-deductible donation to:
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3760 Fowler Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901
Call (239) 334-7007 or donate online at:
harrychapinfoodbank.org

THE RIVER
WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS



Harry Chapin Food Bank
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

 FRIDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 76 Low: 70	 SATURDAY Cloudy High: 71 Low: 65	 SUNDAY Partly Cloudy High: 69 Low: 63	 MONDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 72 Low: 65	 TUESDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 67 Low: 59	 WEDNESDAY Scattered Rain High: 70 Low: 61	 THURSDAY Scattered Rain High: 66 Low: 60
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Redfish Pass Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:27 am	11:48 am	7:12 pm	None
Sat	5:51 am	12:22 am	7:47 pm	12:36 pm
Sun	7:29 am	1:45 am	8:20 pm	1:23 pm
Mon	9:03 am	2:51 am	8:52 pm	2:08 pm
Tue	10:24 am	3:44 am	9:23 pm	2:50 pm
Wed	11:32 am	4:32 am	9:56 pm	3:29 pm
Thu	12:33 pm	5:17 am	10:31 pm	4:05 pm

Point Ybel Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	3:32 am	11:50 am	6:17 pm	None
Sat	4:56 am	12:24 am	6:52 pm	12:38 pm
Sun	6:34 am	1:47 am	7:25 pm	1:25 pm
Mon	8:08 am	2:53 am	7:57 pm	2:10 pm
Tue	9:29 am	3:46 am	8:28 pm	2:52 pm
Wed	10:37 am	4:34 am	9:01 pm	3:31 pm
Thu	11:38 am	5:19 am	9:36 pm	4:07 pm

Punta Rassa Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:00 am	11:34 am	6:37 pm	None
Sat	5:16 am	12:16 am	7:22 pm	12:36 pm
Sun	7:08 am	1:50 am	8:03 pm	1:34 pm
Mon	8:26 am	2:48 am	8:43 pm	2:20 pm
Tue	9:41 am	3:40 am	9:25 pm	3:02 pm
Wed	10:49 am	4:31 am	10:07 pm	3:48 pm
Thu	11:40 am	5:20 am	10:45 pm	4:37 pm

Cape Coral Bridge Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	6:37 am	2:04 am	9:22 pm	3:04 pm
Sat	8:01 am	3:38 am	9:57 pm	3:52 pm
Sun	9:39 am	5:01 am	10:30 pm	4:39 pm
Mon	11:13 am	6:07 am	11:02 pm	5:24 pm
Tue	12:34 pm	7:00 am	11:33 pm	6:06 pm
Wed	1:42 pm	7:48 am	None	6:45 pm
Thu	12:06 am	8:33 am	2:43 pm	7:21 pm

PUZZLE ANSWERS

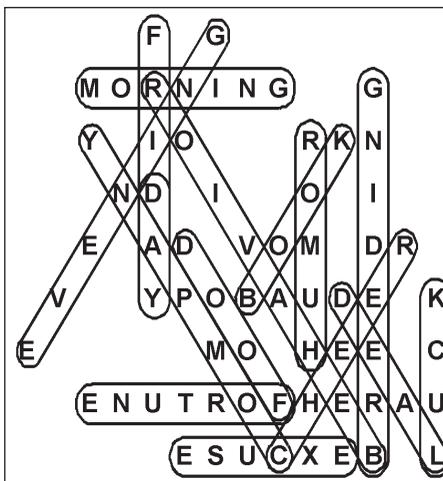
SUPER CROSSWORD

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

KING CROSSWORD

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

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2018

- Aries** (March 21 to April 19) Careful, Lamb. Don't let your generous nature lead to some serious overspending as you contemplate your holiday gift-giving. Your social life kicks off into high gear by week's end.
- Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) A positive attitude helps you weather annoying but unavoidable changes in holiday plans. Aspects favor new friendships and reinforcement of existing relationships.
- Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) Demands on your energy level could be much higher than usual as you prepare for the upcoming holidays. Be sure to pace yourself. Friends and family will be happy to help.
- Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) Don't allow a suddenly icy reaction from a friend or family member to continue without learning what caused it -- and what can be done to restore that once warm and caring relationship.
- Leo** (July 23 to August 22) A relationship seems to be unraveling, mostly from a lack of attention. It might be a good idea to ease up on whatever else you're doing so you can spend more time working to mend it.
- Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) New facts emerge that not only help explain the recent rift with a trusted colleague, but also might provide a chance to wipe the slate clean and make a fresh start in your friendship.
- Libra** (September 23 to October 22) A family member's personal situation is, fortunately, resolved in time for you to get back into your hectic round of holiday

preparations. An old friend might bring a new friend into your life.

- Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) Pace yourself in meeting holiday pressures and workplace demands to avoid winding up with a frayed temper and a Scorpian stinger that lashes out at puzzled kith, kin and colleagues.
- Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) A financial matter requires close attention. Also, news from a trusted source provides the means to help sort out a long-standing state of confusion and put it into perspective.
- Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) This is a good time to reinforce family ties. Make it a priority to assess and resolve all outstanding problems. Start the upcoming holiday season with a full measure of love.
- Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18) Don't be pressured into a so-called solid-gold investment. Wait until the holiday distractions are over. Then take a harder look at it. You might find that the "gold" is starting to flake off.
- Pisces** (February 19 to March 20) A former friend might be trying to heal the breach between you by using a mutual friend as an intermediary. Best advice: Keep an open mind despite any lingering bad feelings.
- Born This Week:** You have a way of saying the right thing at the right time. Your friendships are deep and lasting.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was Kurt Vonnegut, one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, who made the following sage observation: "There is no reason why good cannot triumph as often as evil. The triumph of anything is a

matter of organization. If there are such things as angels, I hope they are organized along the lines of the Mafia."

- If you received all of the gifts in the song *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, you'd have 364 presents.
- The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas is an apt time to consider the word "crapulous," which means "sick from excessive eating or drinking."
- Ireland's Porterhouse Brewing Company has what might seem to be an unlikely hit on its hands: the Oyster Stout. During the brewing process, raw oysters are shucked directly into the conditioning tank. This unlikely combination is popular, though, selling out quickly whenever it's available.
- Those who study such things say that while shaving, a person removes about as much skin as hair.
- As the holidays approach and you're out shopping for gifts, you might want to keep this in mind: According to survey results, siblings are the worst holiday gift-givers, getting the lowest marks from 21 percent of respondents. However, they weren't far behind in-laws, who were rated the worst by 20 percent.
- Unless you're from Central Florida, you've probably never heard of the small town of Ocoee. So you might be surprised to learn that during World War II, Ocoee earned the distinction of sending more men, per capita, to serve in the military than any other town in the United States.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Fame is very agreeable, but the bad thing is that it goes on 24 hours a day."
- Gabriel Garcia Marquez

TRIVIA TEST

- History:** In which war was the Battle of Midway fought?
- Geography:** Which country has the most natural lakes?
- Art:** What famous sculpture in Washington, D.C., was created by Daniel Chester French?
- General Knowledge:** What plant is also known as the windflower?
- Literature:** In which of Stephen King's novels does the Overlook Hotel appear?
- Inventions:** What item was invented in 1845 to hold papers together?
- History:** What did the Lateran Treaty of 1929 establish?
- Bible:** What was the first of the plagues of Egypt mentioned in the Book of Exodus?
- U.S. Presidents:** Who was the first U.S. president to be impeached?
- Movies:** Which movie carries the tagline "The most beautiful love story ever told"?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

- World War II
- Canada
- Abraham Lincoln statue at the Lincoln Memorial
- "The Shining"
4. Anemone
6. The rubber band
7. Vatican City as an independent state
8. Water turns to blood
9. Andrew Johnson
10. *Beauty and the Beast*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ CLASSIFIED ★ CLASSIFIED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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 7/13 ★ TFN

WONDERFUL RENTAL IN POPULAR LOCATION ON SANIBEL



2 Rooms, Bathroom, Approx. 1,000 sq. feet. This was Molnar Electric's old office. Call Judy at 239-851-4073.
 8/5 ★ TFN

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1101 Periwinkle Way. Conveniently located very close to causeway! Approx. 700 sq. ft. w/reception area and 1/2 bath. Call Mike at 970-476-9204 or email pazzos@vail.net
 11/30 ★ TFN

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SEASONAL RENTAL

SANIBEL – SEASONAL RENTAL AVAILABLE FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL, 2019

Canal front home 3 bedrooms, 2 bath pool home in Shell Harbor close access to the beach and causeway on the East End of Sanibel. Perfect location – \$8,000 per month. VIP Realty Group Inc. Call or text Rose at 239-851-5188.
 11/23 ★ TFN

CUTE AND COZY HOUSE SFM NEAR SANIBEL

Jan-April 2019. This cute and cozy house, located in South Fort Myers near Sanibel Island on the bike path walking to Outlet Stores. Is convenient to all beaches. It is nicely decorated with an open living floor plan, 1 bedroom, 1 full bath. Fully equipped kitchen. Heated pool and laundry are located on property. Has a screened in Lanai, 55+ quiet area with lots of activities. \$2,200 a month
 Call 239-590-9952
 11/30 ★ 12/14

ANNUAL RENTAL

ANNUAL RENTAL

SANIBEL
 Waterfront – 3/2+ den, dock, Direct access. \$2,950/mo. Gorgeous, Custom home.
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Gulf Beach Properties, Inc.
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 Share beautiful lake front house, private BR & Bath, split plan, furn. Walk to beach.
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 239-246-3394
 10/26 ★ TFN

SANIBEL – DUNES ANNUAL RENTAL

3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Pool and tennis courts. Close to beach. \$2,800 per month. VIP Realty Group Inc.
 Call or text Rose at 239-851-5188.
 11/23 ★ TFN

SANIBEL ISLAND ANNUAL RENTALS

2/1 on Main Street \$1,800
 2/2 on Sandpebble \$2,000
 Dogs okay.
 Call or text Bridgit @ 239.728.1920
 11/9 ★ TFN

ANNUAL RENTAL ON SANIBEL

2 bdrm / 1 bath, East End. 1/2 of Duplex, piling home. Walk to beach. Washer & Dryer in unit, Private sundeck. Includes yard service & pest control. No Smoking / No pets. \$1,750. Call Bob 410-913-2234.
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 Amy's Something Special.
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 5/6 ★ TFN

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Comforter set, decorative pillows, pictures, Lenox pieces, Christmas items, ornaments, storm shutters for patio doors, large tile saw, Saturday 12/15, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 9209 Kincaid Court, Sanibel
 Please no early birds.
 12/14 ★ 12/14

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.

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 just recently changed the regulations on fishing from shore. Florida residents as well as out of state visitors need a fishing license to fish from shore.



Pet Distemper On The Rise In U.S. After Hurricanes

The Gulf Coast Humane Society is going through what every shelter in the country dreads – confirmed cases of canine distemper.

GCHS has been a leading shelter in herd health over the years, but with the rise of canine distemper in the U.S., the disease has found its way to the shelter.

“Distemper is a serious infectious disease, and we have been following every protocol to make sure our shelter animals are safe and healthy,” said GCHS executive director Jennifer Galloway. “We are committed to practicing the best and safest protocols to keep all of our shelter animals safe.”

Canine distemper is a virus which is contracted through airborne exposure, such as coughing and sneezing, or by touching another surface which was exposed by an infected animal. What makes canine distemper so dangerous is the animal can start shedding the virus seven days before symptoms start showing.

Symptoms include pus-like discharge from the eyes, nasal discharge, fever, coughing, lethargy, reduced appetite and vomiting. Distemper is often fatal.

The virus attacks the animal’s respiratory, gastrointestinal and nervous systems, the latter causing seizures, muscle twitches, convulsions with jaw chewing movements and/or partial or complete paralysis.

The distemper cases resulted after GCHS helped out other shelters affected by Hurricane Florence, which hit North Carolina. Out of the five dogs GCHS took in from these shelters, two ultimately were infected with canine distemper.

The dogs which were brought into

GCHS, had their two vaccinations and were titer tested. GCHS is currently being advised by the University of Florida’s Maddie’s Shelter Medicine program.

Dr. Cynda Crawford of the University of Florida, is an infectious disease expert and is helping layout a plan to make GCHS distemper free. It will be a tireless process, but one which needs to be followed to a “T”, Galloway said.

“I commend GCHS for partnering with shelters impacted by the recent hurricanes to offer their dogs a safe haven,” Dr. Crawford said. “Unfortunately, such good deeds come with risk for bringing in a contagious disease, despite best efforts to reduce this risk. GCHS is committed to supporting the full recovery of the distemper-infected dogs so they have that second chance at life the shelter promised when

they took them in. I hope the community rallies around them, specifically in adopting the dogs when they are ready.”

GCHS has been proactive in keeping the community informed about all the diseases which have been exasperated by the slew of hurricanes, starting with Irma. The shelter requires potential adopters who come in and do meet and greets with dogs to initial and sign a worksheet on common shelter diseases and illnesses. The GCHS shelter manager has consistently been in contact via email with adopters to warn them of symptoms of infectiucanine or feline distemper – all of which have risen in the U.S. due to the hurricanes.

The only solution to prevent distemper is vaccinating all animals. All potential adopters will need to have vaccinations records of all their pets before adopting from GCHS.

Some facts about distemper include: Distemper does not spread to humans; Canine distemper does not infect cats or kittens; Distemper vaccine which pet owners are highly recommended to get for their animals, is very effective in preventing the disease. GCHS vaccinates all their shelter animals, as well.

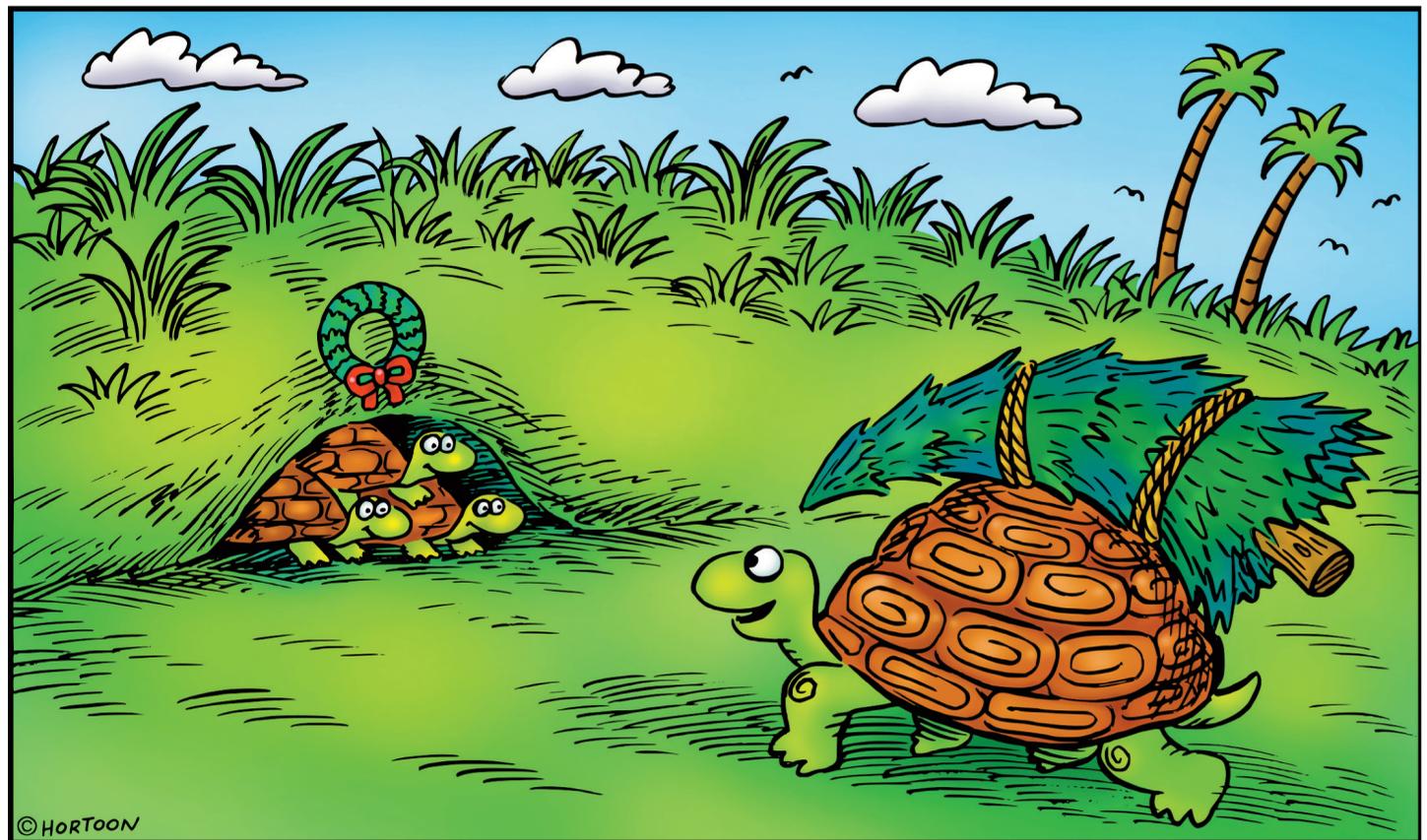
To help and donate, visit www.gulfcoasthumaneociety.org.

SCRAMBLERS

1. Chasten; 2. Regard;
3. Herald; 4. Debate

Today's Word
HEADACHE

HORTOONS



Read us online at
IslandSunNews.com

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Bonita Beach	Bonita Springs	2012	4,474	\$5,745,000	\$5,250,000	3
Southport On The Bay	Bonita Springs	2007	4,704	\$2,990,000	\$2,650,000	249
Bay Woods	Bonita Springs	2001	5,085	\$2,749,000	\$2,699,000	513
Fairview Isles	Fort Myers Beach	2016	2,492	\$1,599,000	\$1,500,000	287
Siesta Isles	Fort Myers Beach	1986	3,832	\$1,269,900	\$1,172,500	155
Rio Vista	Fort Myers	1988	5,685	\$949,000	\$780,000	368
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2017	2,431	\$828,000	\$735,000	97
Lake Murex	Sanibel	1971	2,302	\$797,000	\$750,000	262
Tamarind Trace	Estero	1999	2,664	\$795,000	\$785,000	34
Sanibel Shores	Sanibel	1987	2,371	\$749,000	\$717,000	79

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