



# THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

**FREE**  
Take Me Home

Vol. 20, No. 40

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

OCTOBER 1, 2021



Danny Sinoff photos provided

## Jazz And Comedy At Players Circle

Jazz pianist and singer Danny Sinoff opens the Players Circle Theatre's 2021-22 season with a performance on Monday, October 4. This is the first of 31 weekly Monday shows, which will feature a special theme each week.

Sinoff's October 4 show is Sinatra the



RC Smith

Capital Years, beginning at 7 p.m. Cost is \$35 for VIP seating and \$25 for general admission. Subsequent shows include the music of Duke Ellington, Nat King Cole, Johnny Mercer, Bobby Darin, Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, and George and Ira Gershwin, among others.

Comedian RC Smith, known as one of the best "TV warm-up guys" in the business for almost 20 years, will perform

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## Screenwriting Project Offered In Two Formats

Due to its popularity and COVID-19 safety protocols, The Laboratory Theater of Florida's 24-Hour Playwriting Project has been modified again this year to The 24-Hour Screenwriting Project. This year, the project is also a virtual fundraiser for the theater, allowing patrons to vote for their favorite short film, cast or writer via the ticketing portal with a donation of any amount.

This event is a variation on the perennial favorite. The premise is: gather four playwrights who will meet virtually at 8 p.m. on Friday, October 8. They will receive a theme, instructions and the three lines that the playwrights must include in each five- to seven-minute screenplay. After a night of writing, they meet their directors via video chat over breakfast for final edits. At lunch, the actors meet their cinematographer/director, who will be filming their work. The short movie is filmed and edited. A few hours later, the video is ready for viewing.

Popular vote via the ticketing portal determines the people's choice winner,



Darlyne Franklin



Laura Lorusso



Steven Michael Kennedy



Doug Winings

which will be announced via Facebook Live at 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 17.

Past winner Char Loomis heads up the project again this year. She said, My ideas are always to get the writer to think

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Rachael Endrizzi as Barbara and Kay Francis as Sophie

photo provided

## Comedy At Off Broadway Palm

The Off Broadway Palm Theatre opened its new season on September 23 with the laugh-out-loud comedy *Social Security*, playing through November 6. The production was originally produced on Broadway by David Geffen and the Schubert Organization at

the Ethel Barrymore Theatre in New York City on April 17, 1986.

The hilarious comedy is about a happily married couple who lives in the art world of New York. Their domestic tranquility is shattered upon the arrival of the wife's goody-goody sister, her uptight brother-in-law and her aging mother. The comedic sparks really begin to fly when mother hits it off with an elderly minimalist artist who

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## Summerset Sailing Regatta



A race unfolds during the regatta

photo provided

The Caloosahatchee Marching and Chowder Society (CMCS Sailing Club) will hold the 56th annual Summerset Sailing Regatta in the Gulf of Mexico off of Fort Myers Beach this weekend.

The regatta weekend kicks off with a skippers meeting at Bonita Bill's Waterfront Cafe on Friday, October 1. Buoy racing with four to five different classes of sailboats begins near the San

Carlos Light on Saturday, October 2 at approximately 10 a.m. Spectators may be able to see the boats gathering and racing from many vantage points along the beach from the beach pier to the Lani Kai Island Resort and beyond.

The sailors will meet Saturday evening for cocktails and dinner at the Original Shrimp Dock Bar & Grill on San Carlos Island. On Sunday, racing continues with

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

# To The Sweetest Man In Town



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

In August 1953, Mrs. George H. McCann of Glenside, Pennsylvania addressed a picture postcard of the Royal Palm Court to “the Sweetest Man in Town” in Key West, Florida. She put a two-cent stamp on it and mailed it from Fort Myers.

One can only wonder what the post office did with it, for she did not include a street address. Maybe, in 1953, everyone knew exactly who that resident of Key West was.

Like most postcard messages, it was perfunctory: “Keeping my promise to write. My sisters and I enjoyed our tour with you, blarney and all.”

Royal Palm Court was then a relatively new motor court, or tourist court, as they were called then. It had opened in February 1948, just in time for high season.

Pictured here circa 1950, it was located on Cleveland Avenue on the southeast corner at Franklin Street.

It promoted itself as “ultra modern” in a time when air conditioning, swimming pool, telephone and television were not yet standard amenities.

From opening day, the motor court also advertised innerspring mattresses, down pillows, built-in Venetian blinds, palmfrond-print drapes, fans, soft water, private parking spaces, room service and fireproof construction.

The court’s “sparkling white linens” were laundered by Prather’s, the well-known local business.

The court advertised recommendations by AAA; Quality Courts, Inc.; and the National Automobile Association.

But evidently, it was tile baths and steam heat that the business thought would impress travelers most, for those are featured on the sign out front.

The court’s location was a plus. A less than three-minute travel time to the business district made it convenient for shopping and church-going, ads read.

The golf course and fishing piers were nearby, and it was only a few minutes’ drive to beaches and “picturesque islands.”

By the mid-1950s in Fort Myers, the growing number of hotels and motels upped competition. Within two or three blocks of the Royal Palm alone were the Driftwood Motor Lodge and Edgepark Court.

And, a Howard Johnson’s motel and restaurant had opened on the opposite corner at Franklin.

The Royal Palm had a decades-long run. Today, the site is the parking lot for a medical center.

Visit Cleveland and Franklin and imagine spending a few days at a classic motor court – with tiled bath and palmfrond-print drapes, no less!

Then visit the following research centers to find out just how many motels and hotels were needed to accommodate all those tourists in the post-World War II era.

Sources: The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization open Wednesday and Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon. It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the



Today the site is a parking lot for a medical center

photo by Gerri Reaves



Royal Palm Court opened at Cleveland and Franklin in 1948

photo courtesy SWFL Historical Society

Arts. Call 939-4044 for more information.

The Lee County Black History Society is located at 1936 Henderson Avenue, adjacent to the Williams Academy Museum at Roberto Clemente Park. Call 332-8778 for the hours or visit [www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org](http://www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org).

Visit the IMAG History & Science Center at 2000 Cranford Avenue or at [www.theimag.org](http://www.theimag.org).

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

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Volunteer students with their collected trash on Fort Myers Beach

photo provided

## Coastal Cleanup Nets Over 3,000 Pounds Of Trash

**K**ee Lee County Beautiful, Inc. (KLCB) is the local organizer of the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC). Since the first ICC, more than 16 million volunteers have removed over 340 million pounds of trash from more than 500,000 miles of shoreline.

Keep Lee County Beautiful had over 1,200 volunteers at 43 sites across the county on September 18. The volunteers participated in shoreline cleanups, waterway cleanups in kayaks, and a dive cleanup on Captiva. In addition to removing over 3,000 pounds of litter and debris from Lee County, volunteers contributed to the world's largest database on marine debris by collecting data which will be sent to the Ocean Conservancy. This data is used by scientists, environmentalists, governments and others to better understand and characterize the global plastic pollution problem.

The data shows that 80 percent of global litter is plastics and is dominated by food and beverage items. Every year, 78 million tons of plastics enters the oceans, entangling wildlife, polluting beaches and costing coastal municipalities hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars. All the top-10 most-collected items were made of plastic, including cigarette butts (which contain plastic filters), plastic bottles, food wrappers, plastic bottle caps, plastic

utensils, grocery bags and straws. These plastics never fully biodegrade. They break up into smaller pieces, called microplastics, which are the growing concern of the global plastic pollution.

The last 35 years of the International Coastal Cleanup have proved that everyone has a role to play in stopping plastic pollution. Individuals can do their part by joining cleanups, cutting out single-use plastic items by looking at their shopping habits and refusing, and reducing plastics.

KLCB thanks the volunteers and the following Coastal Cleanup sponsors for making this event possible: The Common Club at The Brooks, Red Sox Foundation, Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation, Passarella & Associates, Family Thrift, Manheim Fort Myers, Berry & Pear, MK-Architecture, Doc's Beach House, Buffalo Chips, Royal Scoop, Captiva Cruises, Suncoast Beverage, Gasparilla Vacations, Waste Pro, Advanced Disposal, Coca-Cola Beverages Florida, Lee County Solid Waste, Lee County Parks & Recreation, Santiva Salt Water Fishing Team, Scubavice Diving Center, Captiva Rod & Gun Club, Kayak Excursions, Home Hunters USA, Bass Pro Shops Cabela's Outdoor Fund, Tunaskin, Safeguard Shredding, Ocean Conservancy, Florida Park Service, The Town of Fort Myers Beach, The Great Calusa Blueway, City of Bonita Springs, Keep America Beautiful, City of Fort Myers, Keep Florida Beautiful, Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, and Lovers Key State Park.\*

## Dining Fundraiser

**C**ooking for the Arts: An Evening in Tokyo featuring authentic Japanese cuisine and cocktails will be held at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC) on Friday, October 22. Cocktail hour is at 6 p.m., and dinner begins at 7 p.m.

The interactive dining experience is a fundraiser benefitting SBDAC's education programming. It involves cooking your way through a four course dinner while

taking part in live and silent auctions. Guidance will be given by Chef Brian Roland of CRAVE Culinaire.

Cost is \$250 per couple and \$1,000 per table of eight.

Cooking for the Arts is sponsored by WGPU, Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law, South Florida Concrete & Masonry and Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information, call 333.1933 or visit [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com).\*

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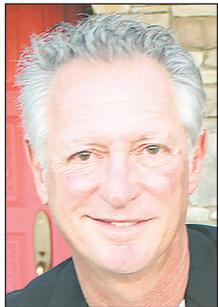
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## Fort Myers Art:

# Artists Sought For Outdoor Work At New Fire Station



by Tom Hall

The Fort Myers Public Art Committee is seeking artists for a representational, three-dimensional outdoor artwork to be installed at a new fire station serving the City of Fort

Myers. The sculpture is to be installed at Station 17, a Missile Level E Essential Facility providing fire and EMS services to business locations and residential developments along Six Mile Cypress Parkway that are located south of Colonial Boulevard and north of Daniels Parkway, as well as the southbound lanes of I-75. Located in Ward 6 (represented by Councilperson Darla Bonk), the station is expected to be completed in late spring or early summer of 2022.

Although representational, the sculpture or sculptural installation may possess modernist stylings or flair. The Fort Myers Fire Department and Station 17 would like the piece's design to accommodate small groups who may



A rendering of Fire Station 17

photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

gather for memorial events such as 9/11 commemorations and observances for fallen firefighters and police.

The facility is being designed by BSSW Architects, Inc. The site plan for Station 17 offers a number of possibilities for the artwork's location, including the area outside the multiuse and educational room, at or alongside the flagpole, and adjoining the parking lot that faces Six Mile Cypress Parkway. (The architectural site plan is appended to the call to artists so that interested artists can visualize possible locations for the artwork.)

Funding for the project is provided by the City of Fort Myers Public Art Fund. The total budget for the artwork is \$50,000, which covers materials,

engineering, fabrication, permitting, transportation, travel, installation, insurance, documentation, contingencies and the artist's/artist team's fee. While it will be the artist's responsibility to provide engineering for footers, anchor bolts and concrete or other pad, the Station 17 building contractor will form and pour the pad and footers for the sculpture and provide electrical service for any backlighting or up-lighting that the artist wishes to include in the sculpture's design. LED is preferred.

Artists who reside in the United States and U.S. territories are eligible to apply. All applicants will be considered regardless of race, gender, gender variance, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion, marital status,

political opinion or affiliation, or mental or physical ability. Minority artists living in the United States and U.S. territories are encouraged to apply.

The deadline for submissions is midnight Tuesday, November 30. Submissions must be made on Café. To find the call to artists/RFQ, visit [https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals\\_unique\\_info.php?ID=9484](https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=9484).

On Tuesday, December 21, a selection committee consisting of members of the public art committee, a member-at-large of the surrounding community, and designees of the Fort Myers Fire Department and BSSW Architects will choose three finalists from the submissions received. The winning artist will be selected following a virtual presentation of the finalists' designs on Tuesday, February 15. Both meetings are open to the public.

Fabrication and installation is slated for June 1 through August 31, 2022.

For assistance, contact Donna Lovejoy, public art liaison and administrator services manager of public works, at 321-7217 or [dlovejoy@cityftmyers.com](mailto:dlovejoy@cityftmyers.com). Questions may also be directed to Thomas Hall, City of Fort Myers public art consultant, at 691-2292 or [tom@artswfl.com](mailto:tom@artswfl.com).

*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.\**



BAILEY-MATTHEWS

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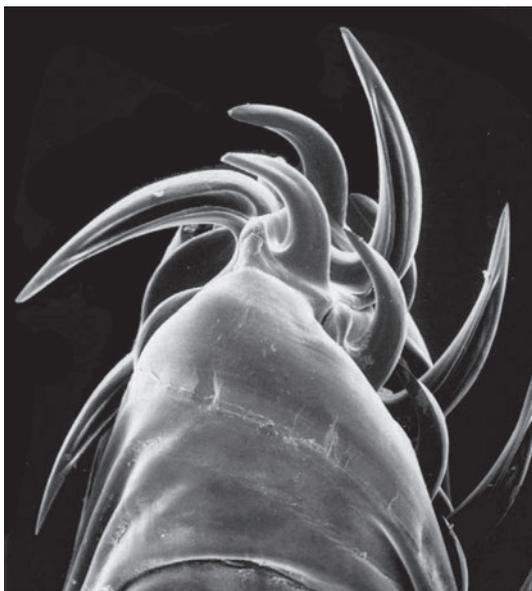
Free, virtual program, presented via Zoom.

OCTOBER 20 · 5 PM

**SPOOKY  
MOLLUSKS AND  
OTHER EVILS OF  
THE DEEP:  
A HALLOWEEN  
SPECIAL**

By José H. Leal, Ph.D.

Science Director  
and Curator,  
Bailey-Matthews  
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Shell Museum



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10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



## Pre-Registration Open For 2022 Kindergarten Year

The School District of Lee County recently opened pre-registration for students who will start kindergarten in August 2022. Pre-registration is available until November 30. Signing up early allows parents to avoid the lengthy wait times often experienced during the traditional student enrollment period.

"Last year, we had 2,500 new kindergarten students who could have secured a seat in the same kindergarten through fifth grade elementary school as their older siblings by registering early, and only 500 did so," said Soretta Ralph, executive director of student enrollment. "Some of those remaining 2,000 kindergartners are attending different schools than their brother or sister right now because they waited until open enrollment or later to register. Every family can avoid that happening to them by taking advantage of pre-registration and enrolling their incoming kindergartner now."

Students entering kindergarten in August 2022 must be age 5 on or before September 1, 2022.

The documents required to pre-register include:

Physical exam (dated within the last year)

Florida certificate of immunization  
Proof of address  
Original birth certificate  
Social security card (if available)  
Custody documents (if applicable)  
Parent photo ID  
Registration form

Parents may pre-register their children online by providing all documents to [studentenrollment@leeschools.net](mailto:studentenrollment@leeschools.net). Parents may also mail the documents, submit by fax to 335-1417, or place in the secure drop box outside the Student Enrollment Office entrance.

Parents who wish can visit the Student Enrollment Office located inside the Lee County Public Education Center at 2855 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. The office is open from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is closed from noon to 1 p.m. The Student Enrollment Office practices social distancing, so only one family member is allowed in the lobby.

For more information, visit [www.leeschools.net](http://www.leeschools.net). Parents with questions can email [studentenrollment@leeschools.net](mailto:studentenrollment@leeschools.net).

## Deans List

Jolie Candelore of Fort Myers was named to the dean's list for the spring 2021 semester at Seton Hall University.\*



You could own this unique, multicolored bowl in fused glass photos provided



Bid on an upscale collection of wines and charcuterie



Auction items include a seven-night stay at a luxury condominium in Hollywood, Florida vary with different items.

## Peek At The Unique Auction Opens This Friday

submitted by Sue Denham

Calling all who love to shop – and support worthy causes. The Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva, renowned for its support of organizations that champion women and girls, announces its fall fundraiser: Zonta’s Peek at the Unique Auction. The online auction, which runs the entire month of October, draws inspiration from Zonta’s former home tour, Peek at the Unique.

There’s something for everyone to “Peek” at: Bid on fabulous places to stay, from Sanibel to Asheville; consider land and sea excursions; enjoy unique tours of Sanibel staples (CROW, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, Sanibel Historical Museum & Village), grab show tickets, dinners, private lessons and gifts. How about a private party at Tino’s Southwest Grill? Bid on your chosen item – and keep bidding to win.

Think Christmas gifts. The complete catalog goes online on Friday, October 1 and runs through October 31: go to [www.32auctions.com/ZontaPEEK21](http://www.32auctions.com/ZontaPEEK21). In all, the auction will feature over 70 experiences and creations, with values ranging from a few dollars to thousands, all donated by local businesses, individuals and artists. Bid and pay for your purchases safely online; arrangements for picking up will

All proceeds will go out in grants to organizations whose mission of empowerment mirrors Zonta’s own. Earlier this year, Zonta’s foundation distributed \$82,500 to area nonprofits. Your participation will add to the fun – and help countless women in our area.

Even if you don’t win, consider donating some or all of your last bid to help us help others in these tough times. Every dollar will make a difference and allow Zonta to positively impact women and girls. For more information and to donate at [www.ZontaSanCap.org](http://www.ZontaSanCap.org).

You can also donate through the auction site or send a check to: Zonta Foundation of SWFL, P.O. Box 1244, Sanibel, FL 33957. Follow Zonta Sanibel-Captiva on Facebook and “like” us (@zontsanap) on Instagram. And have fun shopping!\*

## Funding Awarded For Student Coaches

Earn to Learn Florida (ETLF), a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to empower income-challenged students to complete college, has been awarded \$648,000 from AmeriCorps in partnership with Volunteer Florida. The grant will fund 72 AmeriCorps members to be deployed as Near Peer coaches for postsecondary success to serve 900 hours each during the program year August 1 through July 31, 2022.



Brenda Tate

The funding is a part of a statewide initiative awarding \$17,189,370 from AmeriCorps to fund 37 programs in 2021-22. Cumulatively, these programs will recruit and manage 1,612 AmeriCorps members who will serve in 35 of Florida’s counties, contributing 1,981,575 total hours of service valued at \$52,155,054.

“AmeriCorps members are on the front lines of service to Florida’s communities and various areas of

need,” said Volunteer Florida CEO Corey Simon. “With this year’s significant investment, we are excited to support the tremendous impact that these national service members will affect in schools, hospices and state parks throughout the Sunshine State.”

“In 2020, an AmeriCorps grant launched our Near Peer Coaching for Secondary Success,” said Brenda Tate, CEO of Earn to Learn Florida. “This year’s AmeriCorps funding will help additional students pursue their dream of completing a postsecondary education with little or no debt. We are grateful to Volunteer Florida for securing this funding for Florida’s students.”

Near Peer success coaches support students as they transition from high school to a postsecondary education institution. Members focus on advising students, especially those from low-income backgrounds, through the complex steps toward college enrollment, including the admission and financial aid processes. The program targets economically disadvantaged students in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Sarasota, Lee and Collier counties, with plans to expand to other counties. Each Near Peer coach will receive a stipend of \$9,900, plus a \$3,000 scholarship for their continued education upon completion of 12 months of service.

For more information, visit [www.earntolearnfl.org](http://www.earntolearnfl.org) or email Brenda Tate at [brenda@earntolearnfl.org](mailto:brenda@earntolearnfl.org).\*

# PSYCHIC FAIR

## TAROT, PET COMMUNICATION, AND SPIRIT COMMUNICATION READINGS

Sponsored by Sandy Anastasi and The Mystical Moon of Fort Myers

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND + 1PM TO 4PM**

Sanibel Island Beach Resort Hotel  
1232 Middle Gulf Dr., Sanibel, FL 33957  
Conference Room inside the Restaurant.

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Entrance fee: \$10  
Bring cash for suggested donations for readers.

*New Age Store courtesy of The Mystical Moon*

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## Pool Tournament Fundraiser To Benefit Local Boy

A 50-50 eight-ball pool tournament fundraiser to benefit Kasen Davis will be held at Diamond Billiards on Saturday, October 2 at 11 a.m. Kasen is a 2-year-old with a rare genetic disorder called mitochondrial disease and Leigh syndrome. The young boy's family hopes to purchase a handicap accessible van to aid them in getting Kasen to medical appointments.

Entry fee for the tournament is \$40 and registration will take place on site at the Diamond Billiards front counter. Doors open at 10 a.m. The fundraiser will also include raffle drawings at 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., and a silent auction at 5 p.m. For those unable to make the fundraiser, there is a GoFundMe account set up for the purchase of the van at [www.gofund.me/78c199a9](http://www.gofund.me/78c199a9).

The silent auction will feature over 250 items including those to Hilton Naples, Shula's Steakhouse, Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Key West Express and numerous pieces of fine jewelry.

"Even if you don't play pool, there is plenty of fun and winnings available," said Kasen's mother Jen Gonzalez. "We are touched by all the donations to help us care for Kasen."

Kasen spent the first 30 days of



**Kasen Davis** photo provided

his life in intensive care at Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami and has had many visits to the hospital since then. Kasen has several appointments to go to every week including physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech/feeding therapy as well as multiple specialty doctor appointments.

Diamond Billiards is located at 1242 Southwest Pine Island Road in Cape Coral. For more information on the fundraiser, call Jane Davis at 246-6924 or visit the event Facebook page. ✨

## Tai Chi Program For Seniors

The Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida (AAASWFL) will offer two free Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention workshops

for residents of Lee County. The first workshop will be held at Hope Lutheran Church on Monday, October 18 from 9 to 10 a.m. and will continue every Monday and Wednesday until December 15. The second workshop will be held at Iona Hope Episcopal Church on Tuesday, October 26 from 11 a.m. to noon and continue every Tuesday and Friday until December 17.

The Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention program was designed to relieve pain, improve balance and significantly reduce falls. Designed by a team of medical professionals and tai chi experts, the Tai Chi for Arthritis for Fall Prevention program is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as an exercise to prevent falls and is supported by arthritis foundations worldwide.

The health benefits of the Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention program include increased flexibility, muscle strength and fitness; reduce stress and promote relaxation; improve immunity; lower cholesterol and blood pressure; and improve body posture.

Space is limited and advance registration is required. To register, contact Sarah Gualco, AAASWFL's health and wellness coordinator, at [sarah.gualco@aaaswfl.org](mailto:sarah.gualco@aaaswfl.org) or by calling the Elder Helpline toll-free at 866-413-5337.

Funding for the program is provided by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

Hope Lutheran Church is located at

25999 Old 41 Road in Bonita Springs. Iona Hope Episcopal Church is located at 9650 Gladiolus Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.aaaswfl.org](http://www.aaaswfl.org) or call the Elder Helpline at 866-413-5337. ✨

## Hope Resale Store Relocates

The Hope Chest resale store, which has grown in popularity over the last several years, is relocating three miles east to the Daniels Crossing shopping plaza at 6900 Daniels Parkway.

Expected to open in early October, the new store is triple the size of its original location at 12,000 square feet and will accommodate a larger inventory of designer clothing, high-quality furniture, home goods and unique treasures.

Shoppers can also visit the Hope Chest stores located at The Crossings at 28520 Bonita Crossings Boulevard and the North Fort Myers Hope Chest at 13821 North Cleveland Avenue.

Proceeds from Hope Chest stores benefit unfunded programs and services of Hope Healthcare, which provides comforting, compassionate care to people with serious illness and their loved ones as they fulfill life's journey.

For volunteer opportunities or to donate items, call 482-4673 or visit [www.hopehcs.org/hopechest](http://www.hopehcs.org/hopechest). ✨

## Churches/Temples

### ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

Service 9, and 11 a.m. Children's RE, Adult Education Forum 10 a.m., [www.allfaiths-uc.org](http://www.allfaiths-uc.org), 2756 McGregor Boulevard, 226-0900.

### ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC

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

### ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX

Sunday 9 and 10 a.m., [www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org](http://www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org), 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-2099.

### BETH YESHUA MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

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

### BIBLESHARE

10 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Tuesday, [www.simplysimpleworship.com](http://www.simplysimpleworship.com), 7050 Winkler Road, Suite 121, 437-8835.

### CHABAD LUBAVITCH ORTHODOX

Friday 6:30 p.m., [www.chabadswf.org](http://www.chabadswf.org), 5620 Winkler Road, 433-7708.

### CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE

Sunday 10 a.m., [www.revtedalhouse@aol.com](http://www.revtedalhouse@aol.com) 10200 Cypress Cove Circle, 850-3943.

### CHAVURAT SHALOM

Friday Shabbat services every week 7:30 p.m. Other programs on vacation. [ChavuratShalom@gmail.com](mailto:ChavuratShalom@gmail.com).

### CHURCH OF THE CROSS

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

### COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

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

### CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m. Jan 1 – Easter; 9 a.m. after Easter – Dec 31. [www.crownoflifelutheran.com](http://www.crownoflifelutheran.com). 5820 Daniels Pkwy, 482-2315.

**REDEEMER CHURCH**

Sunday 9:45 and 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m. 8400 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-5442.

### CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday 8, 9, 10 and 11 a.m. [www.clpc.us](http://www.clpc.us), 8260 Cypress Lake Drive, 481-3233.

### CYPRESS LAKE UNITED METHODIST

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

### FAITH UNITED METHODIST

Sunday 9 and 11 a.m., 15690 McGregor Boulevard, 482-2030.

### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Wednesday 12 noon Testimony Service, Sunday 10:30 a.m., [www.christiansciencefortmyers.net](http://www.christiansciencefortmyers.net), [www.christianscience.com](http://www.christianscience.com). 2390 West First Street, 334-6801.

### FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

### FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

### FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST;

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

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT MYERS

11 a.m. Sunday, [www.fpcforymiers.org](http://www.fpcforymiers.org), 2438 Second Street, 239-334-2261

### IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

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

### JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC

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

### LAMB OF GOD

Sunday 7:45 and 10 a.m., [www.lambogodchurch.net](http://www.lambogodchurch.net), 19691 Cypress View Drive, 267-3525.

### NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m., [www.newhopefortmyers.org](http://www.newhopefortmyers.org), 10051 Plantation Road, 274-1230.

### PEACE COMMUNITY

Sunday 10:30 a.m. [www.peacecommunitychurch.com](http://www.peacecommunitychurch.com), 17671 Pine Ridge Road, 267-7400.

### PEACE LUTHERAN

Sunday 8 and 10 a.m., [www.peaceftmyers.com](http://www.peaceftmyers.com), [peace@peaceftmyers.com](mailto:peace@peaceftmyers.com). 15840 McGregor Boulevard, 437-2599.

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN

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

### RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

8, 9:45 and 11:30 a.m., 21580 River Ranch Road, 495-0400.

### SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER

Meditation classes. [www.MeditationInFortMyers.org](http://www.MeditationInFortMyers.org), 567-9739.

### SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC

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

### ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC

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

### SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE METROPOLITAN

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

### SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN

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

### SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY

Sunday 9:30 a.m., [www.saintnicholasmonast](http://www.saintnicholasmonast)

[ery.org](http://www.ery.org), 111 Evergreen Road, 997-2847.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC

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

### SOUTHWEST BAPTIST

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

### TEMPLE BETH EL SYNAGOGUE

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

### TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

Friday 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m., [www.tjswfl.org](http://www.tjswfl.org), 14486 A&W Bulb Road, 433-0201.

### THE FAITH CENTER

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

### THOMAS A. EDISON CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday 10:30 a.m., [www.taecc.com](http://www.taecc.com), 1619 Llewellyn Drive, 334-4978.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Sunday 10:30 a.m., [www.uucfm.org](http://www.uucfm.org), 13411 Shire Lane, 561-2700.

### UNITY OF FORT MYERS

Sunday 10 a.m., [www.unityoffortmyers.org](http://www.unityoffortmyers.org), 11120 Ranchette Road, 278-1511.

### WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

### WORD OF LIFE

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

### ZION LUTHERAN

Sunday 8, 9:30 and 10:45 a.m., [www.zionfm.org](http://www.zionfm.org), 7401 Winkler Road, 481-4040. *Email changes to press@islandsunnews.com or call 395-1213.* ✨



Ian Bartoszek of the Conservancy with a 16-foot female Burmese python weighing 148 pounds photos provided

Conservancy conservation associate Mady Eori with a 15-foot female Burmese python weighing 125 pounds

## Program Expanded To Control Pythons

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida, in partnership with the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida, reports the success of expanding its sentinel snake program targeting invasive Burmese pythons that are devastating native species across the Greater Everglades. Through the collaboration, an additional 10 adult male “scout snakes” were captured and implanted with radio-transmitters to lead biologists to reproductively active female pythons across multiple breeding seasons.

Through the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida “Conserve Wildlife” license tag grants, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida’s groundbreaking research and removal program was expanded by 40 square miles into Picayune Strand State Forest, a critical wildlife management area with an active Everglades restoration project. Male scout snakes are effective at locating reproductive females within areas where they would otherwise remain undetectable.

“We were thrilled to fund such an innovative approach to combating

invasives,” said Andrew Walker, foundation president and CEO. “The Conservancy is using science and speed to remove one of the biggest threats to wild Florida. We look forward to partnering with them again to advance this work.”

Three biologists removed 192 adult pythons weighing approximately 7,800 pounds, including 105 female pythons containing over 4,000 developing eggs, over two breeding seasons.

“The massive size of the female pythons located in the project expansion area indicates that there was limited removal effort placed on these invasive snakes in an ecologically critical area,” said Ian Bartoszek, environmental science project manager for the Conservancy.

“It is mission critical to continue to apply pressure on the existing python population as these animals have had over a 20-year head start expanding their population throughout the bio-region.”

For more information about the Conservancy’s python research and removal project, visit [www.conservancy.org/?s=pythons](http://www.conservancy.org/?s=pythons). This fall, the opening of the new John & Carol Walter Discovery Wing at the Dalton Discovery Center will feature an Invasive Species Gallery that will include information for the public about the impact of invasive pythons in the Everglades.\*

### Plant Smart

## Smooth Rattlebox

by Gerri Reaves

Smooth rattlebox (*Crotalaria pallida* var. *obovata*) is an all-too-common shrub in wild areas, disturbed sites and even preserved lands.

This pretty weed’s native range is tropical Africa to Taiwan. It was one of several plants in the genus *Crotalaria* originally introduced to the U.S. because, like many members of the pea, or bean, family, they stabilize soil and are nitrogen-fixers.

However, it turned out that the seeds are toxic to livestock.

It has since become naturalized in Florida, meaning that it easily self-cultivates. Furthermore, it has highly invasive potential and is considered a noxious weed.

In fact, the species is being formally assessed and considered for invasive status.

The erect multi-branched stems have short flattened hairs and can grow to a height of nine feet.

The leaflets on the alternate trifoliate leaves are elliptic or obovate. The center leaf is larger than the lateral ones and is often pointed. The leaflets of one to three inches long have flattened hairs on the undersides.

The elongated terminal flower spikes bloom throughout the year.

They have pendulous closely arranged yellow flowers of about a half-inch long.

The petals often have reddish brown streaks.

Like many members of the pea family, this species’ flowers take an elaborate form, in this case oblong wings, a rounded banner and a projecting curved keel.

The fruit is a cylindrical inflated pod of about an inch and a half long containing 30 to 40 seeds.

The name rattlebox refers to the noise the seeds made. They detach from the pod at maturity and “rattle” when the



Non-native smooth rattlebox is a member of the pea family. It has invasive potential and is toxic to livestock photo by Gerri Reaves

pods are shaken.

Despite its undesirable qualities, one thing can be said in this wildflower’s favor: It’s a food source for birds and a nectar source for butterflies.

Sources: *The Guide to Florida Wildflowers* by Walter Kingsley Taylor; *Weeds of South Florida* by George Rogers, PhD; <https://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu>; <https://nwdistrict.ifas.ufl.edu>; and [www.plantsoftheworldonline.org](http://www.plantsoftheworldonline.org).

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



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# Beach Blitz



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

**F**ishing action out along our beaches has really picked up over the past few weeks. This fall fishery presents anglers with some amazing sight-fishing opportunities

on a wide variety of species. Conditions are everything when fishing along the beaches. The longer our weather stays consistently calm, the more predictable this bite is. During calm weather periods, it's possible to return to the same places day after day.

My main target out on our beaches this next few months is tarpon. These amazing game fish stack up on schools of bait often within casting distance of the beach. Fall post-spawn tarpon are hungry as they are packing on pounds before they migrate south. Watching them crash the surface as they gorge on these schools of bait is an amazing sight. Unlike our spring tarpon fishing, these fish are much more willing to eat a bait with a hook in it.

With so many other types of fish feeding in these same baitfish schools, it's often best to wait until you get a clear opportunity to make a cast to them. Sharks, ladyfish, jacks, mackerel and even sailcats are all feeding on these bait schools too and will get to your bait



Capt. Jesse Minoski with a blacktip shark caught out on the beach this week

photo provided

before the tarpon. Live pinfish under a float are my bait of choice.

Feeding Spanish mackerel and ladyfish

mark the places to start your tarpon hunt. Usually these frenzies happen in clouds of fry bait in relatively shallow water

normally within a mile or so of the beach. Anywhere from Fort Myers Beach north to Redfish Pass is a good place to get started. Seems the further south you run, the less boat pressure there is.

Many days you will have these tarpon all to yourself without another boat in sight. Run the beaches while looking for any kind of bait, birds and life. Once you locate this life, shut down and watch. Some days, the signs are very subtle with just tips of tarpon fins showing, while other times they can be seen breaking the surface as they gulp mouthfuls of fry bait.

Something else we find this time of year out on the beach are large muds. These muds seem to disorient the bait fish and are often where the tarpon are feeding. I'm convinced tarpon are mudding the bottom by digging or stirring it up to set up a place to feed.

This action out on the beach can continue as late as January or until we experience our first major cold front dropping water temperatures below 70 degrees. The past few years, this bite has finished up by around Thanksgiving. For the next few months, I will take advantage of any chance I get to fish this beach bite with or without clients. Although it's not as consistent as our spring tarpon fishery, it will bring some of the most wide open tarpon fishing of the year.

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](mailto:captmattmitchell@aol.com).\*

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From page 1

## Players Circle

a return engagement at the Players Circle Theatre on Friday, October 8 at 8 p.m. Cost is \$15 general admission, \$25 VIP seating. The Players Circle Theatre is located within the Shell Factory and Nature Park at 16554 North Cleveland Avenue in North Fort Myers. For tickets, call the box office at 800-3292 or visit [www.playerscircletheater.com](http://www.playerscircletheater.com).\*

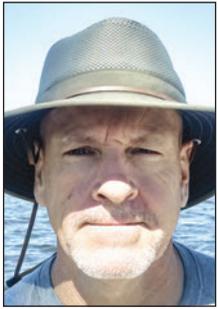
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Dave Doane with his co-worker Jesse

**CROW Case Of The Week:**

# Softshell Turtle Hatchlings

by Bob Petcher



The Florida softshell turtle (*Apalone ferox*) is the largest species of softshell turtle in the country. This turtle has an elongated head, a long snorkel-like nose and large webbed feet, each

sporting three claws.

Unlike hard shell turtles, the Florida softshell turtle has a cartilaginous carapace, which means its upper shell is covered in leathery skin that some say resembles a pancake. This skin color is olive green to dark brown – a pattern that serves as a form of camouflage to conceal turtles from potential predators.

Florida softshell hatchlings have a lighter carapace color with yellow and orange markings. These colors fade and are lost as the juvenile ages into an adult.

At CROW, the clinic has seen an influx of pregnant Florida softshell turtles, including some that were involved in accidents.

“We’ve had softshell turtles come in gravid for the past several months and have had hatchlings on and off since mid-spring,” said CROW Rehabilitation



Florida softshell hatchlings during their brief stay at CROW

photo by Haillie Mesics

Manager Breanna Frankel.

On September 21, a clutch of Florida softshell turtle eggs began to hatch after incubating for several months. A total of 19 eggs hatched, but their mother did not make it.

“Mom was a patient that suffered severe trauma after being hit by a car. She had severe sinus, jaw and shell fractures,” said Frankel. “The trauma was so severe that she didn’t make it, but we were able to harvest her eggs after she passed. Once we harvested the eggs, we were able to successfully incubate them.”

Once hatched, the baby turtles were

monitored while in CROW’s care.

“After hatching, they are placed on damp paper towels until their yolk sac absorbs and then they are transitioned into a shallow water tub with foliage and rocks for basking,” Frankel explained. “We keep them in our reptile room which is kept at ideal conditions for recovering reptiles, with high heat and humidity.”

According to the CROW official, baby turtles do not require much assistance once they hatch.

“Turtle and tortoise hatchlings are self-sufficient as soon as they hatch and do not require any assistance from the

parents,” said Frankel. “There is no real care aside from observation that is necessary. We just make sure they appear healthy after hatching and ensure they fully absorb their yolk sacs, then the rest is up to them.”

Not only do turtle hatchlings take up a minimal amount of space in the reptile room, their stay at CROW is relatively short as well.

“They are typically released within a few days of hatching,” said Frankel. “This group was released September 24 in Fort Myers, in suitable habitat.”

In addition to this clutch of 19 eggs, CROW officials are watching the progress on another clutch of 11 Florida softshell turtle eggs from a different mother that are expected to hatch soon. Once those eggs hatch, the same care process will be extended to those baby turtles until they too are released to begin their lives in the wild.

“We try to put our animals back in the general area from which they came,” said Frankel. “The second set of hatchlings, which hasn’t hatched yet, will be distributed appropriately but not in the same locations as the first.”

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](http://www.crowclinic.org).

## Estero Park Events

Estero Park will hold two popular events in the upcoming days. The Estero Park Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, October 23 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Vendor spots are available for \$5.

Vendors will set up their items in the park for purchase, including new and gently used items. No food, produce, or business merchandise is permitted. Shopping will be in the south parking lot near the recreation center.

Lee County Parks & Recreation is hosting Spooktacular Night at the Estero Park at 5 p.m. Saturday, October 30.

The evening will begin with a Trunk or Treat from 5 to 7 p.m. Children are encouraged to wear costumes and walk from vehicle trunk to trunk to see decorations and collect treats. Awards will be given out for the best decorated trunks/vehicles. Registration ends at noon Friday, October 22.

The PG-rated animated comedy *SCOOB!* will follow as a free movie in the park at 7:15 p.m. The film reveals how Scooby and his best friend Shaggy first met. Guests are encouraged to bring blankets or chairs.

Estero Park is located at 9200 Corkscrew Palms Boulevard in Estero. For more information or to register for either or both events, visit [leeparks.org](http://leeparks.org), call 533-1470 or stop by the center. Admission and parking to the venue is free.

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# Private Land Needed For Gopher Tortoises

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is seeking landowners to help with gopher tortoise conservation efforts as part of the agency's Gopher Tortoise Recipient Site Program. The program benefits landowners and tortoises, and is compatible with other land uses, such as hunting and wetland mitigation.

The program provides landowners with an opportunity to generate additional revenue from their lands, as the landowner may charge a market-based fee for each tortoise received at the site.

The price landowners can charge per tortoise received at an approved site is not set by the FWC, so the landowner can adjust the fee based on their needs. Based on the current market for gopher tortoise recipient sites, landowners can generate more revenue from this program than ever before while contributing to the conservation of the species.

The program offers a variety of conservation benefits to gopher tortoises. Tortoises benefit by being moved out of harm's way when relocated from development sites to the safety of FWC-permitted recipient sites. Recipient sites minimize the loss of tortoises, preserve habitat, restock depleted populations and promote genetic diversity of the species.



A gopher tortoise in its burrow

Managing properties and habitat for the gopher tortoise has a conservation benefit for more than 350 other species that have been documented using gopher tortoise burrows. Many of these species are also state or federally listed.

"Landowners play a significant role in conserving gopher tortoise habitat throughout Florida," said Alex Kalfin, program planning and monitoring administrator for the FWC's Wildlife Diversity Conservation Section. "We are hoping we can get more property owners enrolled in this program, which is not only a critical component of gopher tortoise conservation in Florida

but also provides substantial benefits for landowners."

FWC staff will assist property owners, whose lands meet the recipient site criteria, throughout the application process. They will also help landowners make improvements to their land to improve quality habitat for gopher tortoises and other wildlife.

The gopher tortoise is a protected species that resides in all 67 Florida counties. The tortoise is known as a keystone species, and its burrows serve as important refuges for 350 native species including threatened species such as the eastern indigo snake, burrowing owl and gopher frog.

To learn more about gopher tortoises, the recipient program and how to apply, visit [www.myfwc.com/gophertortoise](http://www.myfwc.com/gophertortoise).

Through the FWC Landowner Assistance Program (LAP), biologists provide technical assistance to private landowners, helping them develop

management plans for their property that maximize benefits to wildlife and people. They can also assist with finding financial assistance to complete important habitat restoration projects on private lands. To learn more about this program, visit [www.myfwc.com/lap](http://www.myfwc.com/lap) or call your FWC regional office and ask to speak to a LAP biologist.\*

# Local Becomes Army Cadet

Jordan Brashear of Fort Myers was one of more than 200 cadets who began their time as University of North Georgia (UNG) cadets with Freshman Recruit Orientation Group (FROG) Week, which is held before the beginning of the fall and spring semesters at UNG. This is the transition from civilians to cadets for incoming freshmen.

Cadet leaders plan and execute all corps events, including FROG Week, with the oversight of the commandant staff. UNG is one of six senior military colleges in the nation and commissions more than 100 officers into the Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserves each year.

Cadet Col. Ryan Jones, a senior from Richmond, Virginia, pursuing a degree in strategic and security studies, is the brigade commander who leads the more than 725 cadets enrolled at UNG. He said the knowledge and experiences gained in FROG Week help integrate the newcomers into the corps.

"FROG Week offers us a great opportunity to bring in our new freshmen and build a team with our cadet leaders," Jones said. "These older cadets give FROGs role models to look up to as they adjust to the leadership laboratory of the corps."\*\*

From page 1

# Screenwriting

outside the box and challenge their creativity. They always go beyond my expectations."

This year's screenwriters are Darlyne Franklin, Laura Lorusso, Steven Michael Kennedy and Doug Winings.

Listed as a Southwest Florida Bucket List event, this production sells out every year. Adding a virtual ticket to

the in-person event this year means that you can choose where you enjoy the fun – while raising money for the theater. This event is sponsored by Stacy Lee-Williams.

In-person tickets are \$37 for adults and \$15 for students with a valid student ID. Virtual tickets are \$25.

Lab Theater is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers. For tickets, visit [www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com](http://www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com) or call 218-0481.\*

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Check out our beach tips by visiting [SanCapLifeSavers.org](http://SanCapLifeSavers.org) or simply scan the code.



# Dangerous Use Of Public Roads Action Upheld

The Lee County ordinance prohibiting dangerous uses of public roads and rights-of-way within unincorporated Lee County, which had been challenged in court, was found constitutional on September 23.

The Lee Board of County Commissioners in April approved the ordinance. The Lee County Sheriff's Office immediately began to educate and raise awareness of the ordinance. Enforcement is used as a final step. Violations of the ordinance are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500 and/or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed 60 days, as provided in Section 125.69, Florida Statutes.

Dangerous uses include stopping and standing on a median or engaging in any physical interaction between a pedestrian and an occupant of a motor vehicle within certain areas of unincorporated Lee County.

The board adopted the ordinance because increased use of public roads and rights-of-way by pedestrians to solicit drivers had led to heightened concern regarding pedestrian and driver safety within unincorporated Lee County.

The Cape Coral-Fort Myers metropolitan area currently ranks 11th in the nation for most dangerous places for pedestrians, according to the 2021 Dangerous by Design Report issued by Smart Growth America in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The unexpected presence of individuals standing in the medians or interacting with drivers further increases the danger of collisions between pedestrians and motor vehicles, the board said.✪

# Committee To Meet On Roadway Projects

Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Citizen Advisory Committee will meet at the Estero Recreation Center October 7, 2021 at 1 p.m. This will be a joint meeting with the Citizen Advisory Committee from the Collier MPO.

Agenda topics for the joint meeting include status of the regional roadway

projects on roads crossing the county line, presentations on the Lee and Collier 2045 Long Range Transportation Plans, update on the I-75 managed lanes study, information on the RSW Airport Master Plan and endorsement of the Lee-Collier Interlocal Agreement.

The Estero Recreation Center is located at 9200 Corkscrew Palms Boulevard in Estero. For more information, visit [www.leempo.com](http://www.leempo.com).✪

# County Holding Public Meetings On Redistricting

The Lee Board of County Commissioners announced the schedule for public meetings at which the community can provide input on the redistricting process and launched a website landing page to provide data, maps, information and transparency throughout the process.

Florida law requires each county to examine the need to redistrict every 10 years following the U.S. Census. Members of the Lee BoCC are elected by voters countywide, but are seated according to five districts in which they reside.

Four public meetings, including three public hearings, are planned as part of the redistricting process during Lee BoCC's regularly scheduled meetings that begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Old Lee County Courthouse, 2120 Main Street in downtown Fort Myers.

Tuesday, October 5 – Public hearing to review preliminary map options;

Tuesday, November 2 – Public hearing to review map options;

Tuesday, November 16 – Public hearing to adopt new map; and

Tuesday, December 7 – Item on the Lee Board of County Commissioners agenda to certify for transmission to the Florida Secretary of State.

The new landing page can be found at [www.leegov.com/countymanager/redistricting](http://www.leegov.com/countymanager/redistricting). Residents also are encouraged to sign up for Lee County's newsletter by visiting [www.leegov.com](http://www.leegov.com) and clicking on the envelope icon. Recipients receive meeting notices with agenda links and other information. Following Lee County Government on Facebook also provides updates.

The goal of redistricting is to readjust the population between commission districts so that no commission district includes substantially more individual residents than the others. If commission district boundary adjustments are needed,

Lee County can make such changes during an odd-numbered year. Given the late release of U.S. Census data this year, the normal 10-month process will be condensed to about four months.✪

# Junior League To Hold Women's Conference

The Junior League of Fort Myers will hold an in-person and virtual women's conference titled She Is... on Saturday, October 23 to focus on celebrating women who have persevered, triumphed, and navigated adversity in life. Four motivating speakers will share tools women can use to tackle their personal goals from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Our hope for this conference is that attendees will learn, build connections and experience a community of women in Southwest Florida and beyond. It's called 'She Is...' because we hope women can fill in the blank after 'She Is...' with anything they can dream of for themselves," said Junior League of Fort Myers Advancement Director Meghan

Warner.

"Our mission has always publicly focused on improving our community through voluntarism, but an equal part of that mission is to develop the potential of women," added Erin Cowan, Junior League of Fort Myers president. "A conference like this one brings that part of our mission to life. We hope this will become an annual 'must-attend' event for women throughout our community who want to grow."

The four speakers are: Karen Spears, founder of Freely Give Inc.; Kayla Lynnay Ajini, founder of SWFL Leading Ladies; Megan Woodell, owner of Mindset in the Making; and Patricia Devost, owner of Coastal Coaching and Consulting.

Tickets are \$35 per person and a \$5 discount will be applied to anyone who uses the code JLFM2021 before October 1. The location of the conference will be announced at a later date at [www.jlfm.org](http://www.jlfm.org) and Facebook @jlfmfortmyers.

For tickets, visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/she-is-a-womens-conference-tickets-167893821941](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/she-is-a-womens-conference-tickets-167893821941).

For more information, contact Warner at [financevp@jlfm.org](mailto:financevp@jlfm.org) or visit [www.jlfm.org](http://www.jlfm.org).✪



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## Book Review

**Billy Summers**

by Di Saggau

Stephen King has long been an author with a huge imagination. Known as a master of horror novels, his thrilling new novel is a definite switch. *Billy Summers* is about a good guy in a bad job. He's

a killer for hire and good at his job, but he'll only do his job if the target is a truly bad guy. Now 44 years old, Billy, a decorated Iraq war vet, wants out but he has to do one last hit.

Billy is offered \$2 million for his one last big job. He agrees to the assignment and settles down in a small Midwestern town, pretending to be a freelance writer working on a novel. He makes friends and becomes part of the community.

As he writes his novel, actually a memoir based upon his time in Iraq, he learns things about himself that he had forgotten about decades ago.

Billy is intelligent, but likes to put what he calls his "dumb self" in front of those who hire him. He assumes new identities. While waiting for his target to arrive, he reads comic books in public but in private reads works by Zola and Dickens. With a great deal of careful planning, Billy carries out the hit, but questions whether or not he will be paid

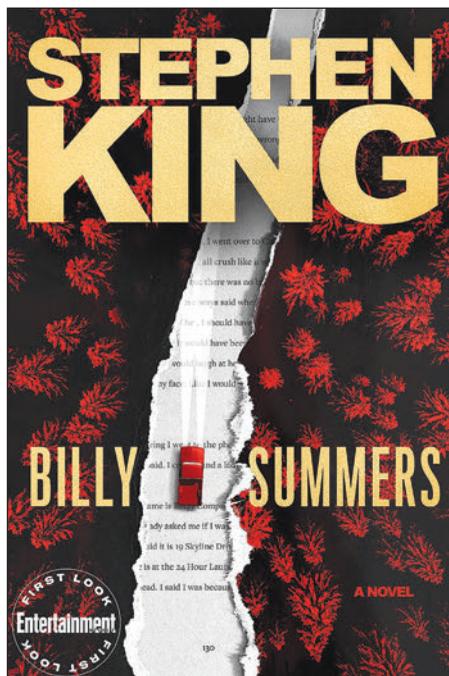


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what he was promised.

A new character joins the plot in the second half of the book. It is someone almost as dynamic as Billy, and together they form an unlikely team. To say more would rob the reader of the unexpected twist. It's one of the most compelling and surprising duos in King fiction.

Many have called *Billy Summers* King's best book in years. It's a spectacular novel that is part war story and part love letter to small town America and those who live there. Billy is a complex

hero with one last shot at redemption, and he's someone you are not likely to forget.

I agree, *Billy Summers* is Stephen King at his best.✪

**School Smart**

by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

**D**ear Shelley, My kids want to use speech-to-text software for their writing assignments, but I think that might be a bad thing for them. Isn't it a lazy

way to write? Does any learning happen when they use speech-to-text?

Allyson P, Fort Myers

**Allyson,**

Speech-to-text writing is an important tool for children to use, and there are many reasons why it's so helpful for the writing process.

It's a wonderful tool for getting ideas down quickly before children might forget what they want to say. A blank page can be intimidating for any writer and with speech-to-text, kids will participate in both vocalizing their words and ideas and simultaneously seeing their words appear "on paper." They don't have to worry about penmanship, grammar, or spelling at this initial stage of their writing, they just need to focus on the words they are choosing to use. This immediacy of seeing their words may reduce some feelings of intimidation and decrease some of the stress in the writing process. Children can watch their words fill the page and feel proud that they have come up with something to say. Once children have their first draft in front of them, they can move on with the writing process.

Speech-to-text typically has a spelling and grammar function. Children should use this tool as well. Spell check is a simple way for students to see that they have misspelled words, with the automatic underline quickly notifying students of a mistake. They can then go through their work and revise their grammar and ideas, correcting anywhere the technology misheard them and getting practice editing their own writing.

Another benefit of speech-to-text is the reverse process of text-to-speech that is also available with this tool. The computer reads aloud the student's work, and that way through hearing the text read aloud, the student can be sure that words or lines weren't skipped, improving comprehension.

Speech-to-text software is typically included on word processing programs like Word. Google Docs Voice Typing, Microsoft Dictate have a speech-to-text function and Chrome has a speech-to-text extension that is available. There are some apps as well that perform speech-to-text.

Writing is linked to critical thinking and has implications for academic success across all areas of the school curriculum. Children show what they know and have learned through writing. And, of course, they must be good writers to do well on tests, complete homework assignments and eventually compose advanced essays and reports. Speech-to-text is a great tool to help them become great writers.

Shelley Greggs is former faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she taught psychology and education courses. She is also a nationally certified school psychologist and consultant for School Consultation Services, a private educational consulting company. Questions for publication may be addressed to [smgreggs@gmail.com](mailto:smgreggs@gmail.com) or at [www.schoolconsultationservices.com](http://www.schoolconsultationservices.com).✪

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**THOMAS P. HALL**  
ROBIN C. TUTHILL, EDITOR

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

**Regional Worship Celebration**

Pastors and their churches across the region are joining together to bring strength, unity, praise, prayer and worship at the 16th annual Southwest Florida Regional Worship Celebration at the Riverside Bandshell in Riverside Park on Saturday, October 9 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Hosted by the Southwest Florida Pastors, Leaders and Churches Association, The Awakening Worship Celebration will be led by our area's leading pastors to bring unity among churches, justice in government and healing to our region and nation through individual and corporate prayer.

Robert Stearns with Eagles Wings will join the local worship teams as participants step into His presence with prayers and declarations. Local government leaders, law enforcement and other officials will be joining in.

Everyone is invited to attend at no charge. Chairs are provided, but participants are encouraged to bring

their own umbrellas, chairs, blankets and water.

Riverside Park is located at 10451 Old 41 Road in Bonita Springs. For more information, visit [www.swflpastors.org](http://www.swflpastors.org) or call 274-8881 ext. 250.✪

From page 1

**Off Broadway**

is the art dealers' best client.

The cast features all Broadway Palm alumni including Rachael Endrizzi, Kay Francis, Megan Orłowski, Ken Quiricone, Christopher Russell and Michael Weaver. Directing *Social Security* is the Off Broadway Palm's Artistic Director Paul Bernier.

The Off Broadway Palm is located in the main lobby of Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. Performances are Wednesday through Sunday evenings with selected matinees. Tickets range from \$45 to \$65 with discounts available for groups of 20 or more. Tickets are now on sale and can be reserved by calling 278-4422, visiting [www.broadwaypalm.com](http://www.broadwaypalm.com) or at the box office.✪



From left, Rachel Toomey, Melissa Mitchell, Teri Hansen and Holly Boldrin photo provided

## Marketing Firm Earns Award For Public Service

Priority Marketing earned Gold and Silver Angel Awards for excellence in public service advertising from the American Advertising Federation (AAF), District 4.

AAF's Angel Award Competition combines two missions of the national organization: utilizing industry expertise to address community issues and celebrating advertising excellence. AAF's District 4 includes Florida and all of the Caribbean.

Priority Marketing earned a Gold Angel Award in the category of Fundraising Events & Initiatives for a campaign promoting the Cirtacular gala. Guadalupe Center's virtual, circus-themed fundraising extravaganza raised more than \$1 million to support life-changing, transformational education programs to help break the cycle of poverty for children in Immokalee. Priority Marketing conceptualized a virtual event that would be fun for guests while highlighting achievements of students, therefore motivating the audience to give.

Priority Marketing earned a Silver Angel Award in the category of Organization or Cause Promotion for its Unmasking the Epidemic

campaign, a virtual event that helped educate community members about the alarming pediatric mental health crisis in Southwest Florida. That event also raised more than \$1 million to support Kids' Minds Matter.

"Guadalupe Center and Kids' Minds Matter are both making significant progress in accomplishing their respective missions, and raising awareness for their incredibly successful programs is a critical element in helping them raise the financial support needed to make a difference in our community," said Priority Marketing President and Senior Creative Director Teri Hansen, APR. "It's worth celebrating any time a nonprofit raises \$1 million during a single event, but the fact that both events were virtual shows that these campaigns were truly remarkable given the challenges of 2021."\*

## New Location For Autism Nonprofit

My Autism Connection (MAC), a nonprofit organization serving autistic adults age 18 to 50, will hold a grand opening of its new location at 7181 College Parkway Suite 22 in Fort Myers. To celebrate, MAC will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony and public reception on Thursday, October 7

beginning at 5 p.m.

MAC connects autistic adults to their communities through social and experiential learning to build healthy relationships and transition towards independence for work and life. As services for autistic individuals fade upon adulthood, MAC's program fills the need for support in the areas of social engagement, skill building and career development.

"After much renovation with the help of volunteers, our new space allows us to have a safe and clean environment to host our members," said Sandra Worth, founder and executive director of My Autism Connection. "We have customized the space to accommodate for sensory sensitivities, allowing for a comfortable atmosphere to build skills and form connections."

The nonprofit organization is funded by donations and relies on the support of the community. MAC partners with local businesses to provide education to the community and career exploration opportunities for autistic individuals.

"MAC has brought a tremendous amount of joy and perspective for Downtown House of Pizza," said Jason Kohn, owner of Downtown House of Pizza. "The staff has made connections with young adults in MAC, and those relationships have continued throughout the years. We have benefited both individually and collectively by having MAC visit our shop to learn about the restaurant business."

For more information or to donate, visit [www.myautismconnection.net](http://www.myautismconnection.net).\*

## Rehousing Programs Gain Additional Funds

The Lee Board of County Commissioners recently voted to allocate an additional \$208,671 in Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act funds to help rapidly rehouse about 30 households experiencing homelessness.

The allocation is part of the board's continuing commitment to assist those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 530 individuals have been rehoused using pandemic funding from various sources.

Lee County Human & Veterans Services serves as a collaborative hub for resources – federal, state, local, private and nonprofit – designated to aid Lee County residents through supportive programs and services.

The board accepted emergency solutions grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in June and December 2020.

Tuesday's action allocated funds from administration and outreach to rapid rehousing.

For more information on Lee County Human & Veterans Services programs, visit [www.leegov.com/dhs](http://www.leegov.com/dhs). If you or someone you know is experiencing homelessness, call the helpline at 533-7996.\*

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Will Power

## First Volley: House Ways And Means Committee Unveils Tax Proposal



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

**I**n my efforts to keep you up to date, here's a synopsis of President Biden's tax proposal that arises from the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill is not law until passed by the Senate and House and signed by the president. There will likely be changes through negotiations. Here's my summary:

### Gift and Estate Tax Provisions

**Estate and Gift Exemption Decrease** – Currently, the gift and estate tax exemption is \$11.7 million per taxpayer. The bill would reduce it to approximately \$6,020,000, effective

December 31, 2021.

**If You Own a Farm** – You have a special exemption to reduce its value, rather than being taxed at highest and best use. The farm provisions are the only pro-taxpayer provisions in this legislation.

**Taking Away Estate Planning Tools** – Many of you know that the Sheppard Law Firm uses advanced estate planning strategies, including SLAT (Spousal Lifetime Access Trusts), IDGT (Intentionally Defective Grantor Trusts), and sale to IDGT, GRAT (Grantor Retained Annuity Trust) and QPRT (Qualified Personal Residence Trust), to name a few. All of these strategies involve retaining grantor trust status for income tax purposes yet enabling a transfer for gift tax purposes, excluding assets from the grantor's estate. While it's unclear whether the GRAT and QPRT would be eliminated under the law as they are both sanctioned by the Internal Revenue Code, IDGT and SLAT strategies would be eliminated. There are other issues with QSST (Qualified Subchapter S Trusts). *The date of enactment of the law would be the date where these strategies are eliminated.*

**Insurance Trust Rules Change** – Irrevocable Life Insurance Trusts (ILIT) would no longer be able to use trust income to pay premiums without including the insurance proceeds in the grantor's estate for estate tax purposes.

**Sales to IDGTs** – Another tool in our arsenal to minimize gift and estate taxes is to create a sale between the grantor and an IDGT. Under the current law, no capital gain is recognized. This legislation would force recognition of capital gain.

**Valuation Rules** – You may know that when transferring interests in businesses, real estate and even investments, the current law provides for a discount when those interests are held in a company, partnership or LLC. The discounts relate to the fact that the closely held business interests aren't marketable, are usually a minority interest and lack voting control. Passive business interests and other non-business assets would no longer receive these discounts on valuation. The only exception are active business interests where the taxpayer is an active participant.

### Income Tax Provisions

Estates and trusts with income over \$100,000 pay an additional three percent surtax on their modified adjusted gross income.

Keep in mind that irrevocable trusts that don't pass through their income currently are taxed at the highest federal marginal rate to the extent that the income is equal to or exceeds \$13,050. Individuals don't pay the highest marginal rate until they have \$523,000 of taxable income. This three percent surcharge on AGI over \$100,000 adds to the disadvantage of accumulating income.

**Qualified Small Business Stock Exclusion** – New provision cap gains that would otherwise not be taxable at 50 percent.

### What Is Not Part Of The Bill?

**Step-up in Basis** – Congress did not include a provision that would eliminate the step-up in tax cost basis at death.

**No Deemed Sale at Death** – which would have triggered capital gains.

**No Added Limitations on GRATs** – so short-term GRATs appear to remain feasible.

**No Elimination of Dynasty Planning** – to the extent that taxpayers have enough exemption left to engage in planning that eliminates estate taxes at each generational level.

**No Increase in Gift/State Tax Rates** – while many strategies are threatened, the actual tax rate will remain the same.

**No Estate Tax Surcharges for Billionaires** – Good news for Jeff Bezos and Bill Gates.

### What Should Clients Do Now, Before A Bill Passes?

Clients should focus on creating SLATs, undertake sales to grantor trusts using valuation discounts, use their exemptions before they lose them. For clients who have already exhausted their gift tax exemption but not their GST tax exemption, it may make sense to gift equal to the balance of their GST tax exemption and pay tax on the gift. If the donor lives for three years from the date of the gift, the gift tax paid will be removed from the estate.

I'll keep you posted with further developments as they transpire.

©2021 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at [www.floridaestateplanning.com](http://www.floridaestateplanning.com).✪

## New Director For Clean Water Advocacy Group

**T**he board of directors of Calusa Waterkeeper has appointed Trisha Botty to the position of executive director. Botty brings a wealth of experience to the organization, which is dedicated to the protection of clean water in the Caloosahatchee river and estuary, Lake Okeechobee, Charlotte Harbor, Estero Bay and other portions of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Charlotte counties' watersheds.



Trisha Botty

"We welcome Trisha's dynamic leadership and advocacy in our fight for drinkable, fishable, swimmable water in our region," said Jim Watkins, Calusa Waterkeeper president. "We're excited about her vision to grow the organization's reach and capacity as we look to expand our staff and leadership team."

Calusa Waterkeeper is a nonprofit organization focused on improving the quality of water in the region through public policy, advocacy, community

education, monitoring and court action when necessary. Its force of volunteer citizen rangers monitors local waters and advocates for water quality issues in Southwest Florida.

Botty most recently served as head of social impact and connectivity (grantmaking lead) at Collaboratory (Southwest Florida Community Foundation) in Fort Myers. Her professional background includes positions in government, philanthropy, organized labor and nonprofits in the DC metro area, Upstate New York and Southwest Florida. Through her experience in philanthropy, she has developed and implemented strategies to foster community collaboration, strength organization and deliver social impact through sustainable funding.

"Calusa Waterkeeper is impactful, science-driven and innovative in its approach to protect and restore Southwest Florida's vital waterways," said Botty. "Growing up near the Great Lakes, I developed an early understanding of how the health of our waters are interconnected with the health and wealth of our communities. I am honored to represent our area's most authoritative source on the condition of our waterways, and I look forward to building its capacity so it can have an even greater impact on our community."

Botty graduated from the State University of New York at Oswego with a political science degree. She is currently working on her

master's degree at the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications with a concentration in public interest communication. She was a 2020 recipient of Gulfshore Business magazine's 40 under 40 distinction.

Botty is replacing former executive director KC Schulberg who is taking on another role within the Waterkeeper Alliance.

To become a Calusa Waterkeeper member or to make a tax-deductible donation to Calusa Waterkeeper's efforts, visit [www.calusawaterkeeper.org/contribute](http://www.calusawaterkeeper.org/contribute).✪

## New Program Coordinator

**E**arn to Learn Florida (ETLF), a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to empower income-challenged students to complete college, has named Madeline Wilk as Near Peer Coach program coordinator.

"Near Peer Success coaches support students as they transition from high school to a postsecondary education institution," said Brenda Tate, CEO of Earn



Madeline Wilk

to Learn FL. "Members focus on advising students, especially those from low-income backgrounds, through the complex steps toward college enrollment, including the admission and financial aid processes."

AmeriCorps funds the Near Peer program in partnership with Volunteer Florida. The program targets economically disadvantaged students in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Sarasota, Lee, and Collier counties, with plans to expand to other counties. Each Near Peer Coach receives a stipend of \$9,900, plus a \$3,000 scholarship for their continued education upon completion of 12 months of service. This year, 72 Near Peer coaches will be deployed by ETLF.

"The Near Peer program helps students pursue their dream of completing a postsecondary education with little or no debt," said Wilk. "Not only do the students benefit, but the peers find themselves growing as they share what they have learned through their own experiences. It's rewarding to see the impact on both the students and the peers."

Wilk's experience includes working as club manager for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago and as a Girls in the Game program specialist. This organization helps girls discover their strengths and lead with confidence through active sports, health and leadership programs. Wilk has a bachelor of science degree in kinesiology and exercise science from Ball State University.✪

## Symphony Staff Member Joins Orchestra

**H**ilary Gamble, who has been a violist and personnel manager for the Southwest Florida Symphony, is joining the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra as associate principal viola – an orchestra she affirms is both “important to the community and has an important role in the city.”



Hilary Gamble

Gamble has been hailed as a rising star performer, touring internationally as a chamber musician and soloist throughout the Americas, Asia, the Middle East and the United Kingdom. She had been with the Southwest Florida Symphony since 2018.

Gamble’s performance experiences include the Starling Honors String Quartet, the Trans-Siberian Orchestra and Broadway’s Next to Normal. She was principal viola with the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra, Teatro Del Lago Internacional Academia (Frutillar, Chile) Orchestra of the Americas, (Caribbean Tour) and the Napa Valley Orchestra Institute (California). Gamble worked under the batons of Martin West, Mariss Jansons, Mario Venzago, Carl Topilow, Robert Page, Miriam Burns, Sir Roger Norrington and Leon Fleisher. She was a finalist at the Anton Rubinstein International Viola Competition, winner of the Pittsburgh Concert Society Major Auditions, was a finalist at the Lennox International Young Artist String Competition and was invited to perform at the 2014 Primrose International Viola Competition.

Gamble graduated from Geneva College and received two graduate degrees from Carnegie Mellon University as a full scholarship recipient. She also studied as a Temerty Fellow at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada.

For information on the Southwest Florida Symphony’s 60th season, call 418-1500 or visit [www.swfso.org](http://www.swfso.org).

## Nursing Facilities Earn High Ratings

**T**he Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released their most recent Five-Star Quality Ratings, awarding Gulf Coast Medical Center Skilled Nursing, HealthPark Care & Rehabilitation Center and Lee Memorial Hospital Skilled Nursing with five stars.

CMS created the five-star system – the gold standard in quality and safety rankings – to help consumers, their families and caregivers compare healthcare facilities. CMS ranks facilities from one to five stars.

The Gulf Coast Medical Center

Skilled Nursing Unit, HealthPark Care & Rehabilitation Center and Lee Memorial Hospital Skilled Nursing Unit each received top scores in Overall Quality in the five-star ratings report from CMS.

The Gulf Coast Medical Center Skilled Nursing Unit and Lee Memorial Hospital Skilled Nursing Unit also received five stars across the board in all categories (health inspection, quality measures, staffing and RN staffing).

“We are honored to be recognized by CMS for the high quality care we provide our patients every day at Lee Health,” said Leslie Vollmer, senior administrator of skilled nursing services and post acute intake and business development. “Thank you to all of the doctors, advanced health providers, nurses and support staff for their commitment to providing compassionate and exceptional care in our nursing facilities.”

The scores awarded by CMS are based on previously reported quality and safety data points including patient satisfaction, value and outcomes.

Visit [www.medicare.gov/care-compare](http://www.medicare.gov/care-compare) to learn more about the CMS star ratings program.

## Airport Expansion Project To Begin

**T**he Lee County Board of Port Commissioners authorized the construction and total budget for the terminal expansion project at Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW) at a board meeting held on September 21. The \$331 million project focuses on improving the airport’s efficiency by consolidating and streamlining security checkpoints, adding concession space and providing passengers more amenities and options. The RSW Terminal Expansion Project is set to begin soon and construction is planned for three years. The expansion is the second largest public works project in Lee County history, only being surpassed by the airport’s midfield terminal complex construction completed in 2005.

“Southwest Florida International Airport is the front door to our community and supports travel, new business and tourism in our region,” said Kevin Ruane, chair of the board of port commissioners. “We are pleased to start this essential project that will enhance infrastructure and manage growth while vastly improving the passenger experience at RSW. It will also create hundreds of jobs for our local economy.”

Plans for the project include consolidating the transportation security administration checkpoints into a new 16-lane configuration and providing additional seating, concession spaces and a business lounge. In total, more than 164,000 square feet of space will be remodeled and 117,000 square feet of new walkways and concession space will be added to the airport terminal.

The consultant working on design and planning is Atkins North America, Inc. The construction manager/general contractor for the project is Manhattan Construction (Florida).

The project is being funded with

grants from the Florida Department of Transportation, Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs), airport revenue bonds and Lee County Port Authority construction funds. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction.

The Lee County Port Authority operates Southwest Florida International

Airport (RSW) and Page Field (FMY) in Fort Myers. RSW is an award-winning, medium-hub airport that served nearly six million passengers in 2020 and has had record-breaking traffic this summer. For more information, visit [www.flylcpa.com](http://www.flylcpa.com) or [www.flylcpa.com/rswterminalexansion](http://www.flylcpa.com/rswterminalexansion).

## New Directors For Community Cooperative



Robert Galloway



Julie Klein

**R**obert Galloway and Julie Klein have joined the board of directors of Community Cooperative, a nonprofit dedicated to eliminating hunger and homelessness in Lee County.

Galloway is the vice president of Galloway Automotive and general manager of Sam Galloway Ford-Lincoln, where the nonprofit’s annual Soup

Kitchen Benefit is held each year in the dealership’s service bays.

Klein is an owner of CRS Technology Consultants, a Cape Coral-based firm that designs, implements and maintains technology systems.

“We are elated to welcome Robert back to the board, recognizing the significant contributions he has made through time to Community Cooperative,” said Board Chairman Keith Banasiak. “As a native of Southwest Florida who has grown a business here, Julie brings great perspective to the board and our organization’s entrepreneurial approach to solving the problems within our mission. We are lucky to have their talents and experience to serve this organization.”

With a dedicated team of volunteers, board of directors and staff, Community Cooperative collects and distributes resources through a strong and viable network of community partners.

The Community Cooperative board also includes Charlotte Miller, vice chairperson; Ryan Van Horn, secretary/treasurer; Wayne Kirkwood, immediate past chairperson; Betsy Alderman; Joe Catti; Ryan Carter and Ty Roland.

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# Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



**K**nute Rockne is regarded as one of the greatest coaches in college football history. The College Football Hall of Fame identifies him as “without question, American football’s most-renowned coach.” From

Wikipedia: “Rockne helped to popularize the forward pass and made the Notre Dame Fighting Irish a major factor in college football. On November 1, 1913, the Notre Dame squad stunned the highly regarded Army team 35-13 in a game played at West Point. Led by quarterback Charlie “Gus” Dorais and Rockne, the Notre Dame team attacked the Cadets with an offense that featured both the expected powerful running game but also long and accurate downfield forward passes from Dorais to Rockne. This game was not the “invention” of the forward pass, but it was the first major contest in which a team used the forward pass regularly throughout the game.

During 13 years as head coach from 1918 to 1930, Rockne led Notre Dame to 105 victories, 12 losses, five ties and three consensus national championships, which included five undefeated and untied seasons. Rockne posted the highest all-time winning percentage (.881) for a major college football coach. He was also shrewd

enough to recognize that intercollegiate sports had a show-business aspect, so he worked hard promoting Notre Dame football to make it financially successful.”

So what? Brian Kelly just surpassed Rockne’s record with his 106th victory in a dominating win over Wisconsin last Saturday. Kelly has been coach since the 2010 season. However Kelly also knows his legacy, and said “I’m now the winningest coach at Notre Dame without a national championship.” We know his goal.

The Chicago White Sox have now made the playoffs two seasons in a row, getting in as a wild card team last year and winning the division this year. So what? This is the first time the Sox have been in the playoffs in back-to-back seasons in their history, 121 years. Surprising.

Clemson is now a .500 team. So what? Four collegiate teams, Alabama, Clemson, Ohio State and Oklahoma, have accounted for 71 percent of the playoff spots since the new playoff system began seven years ago. Ohio State and Clemson have losses this season, and Alabama and Oklahoma have squeezed out some close victories. *Sports Illustrated* asks the question “Are we getting closer to parity?” Time will tell.

The Chicago Bears averaged 1.1 yards per offensive play in last Sunday’s 26-6 loss to the Cleveland Browns. So what? This was the second fewest by any team in a game this century, according to the NFL on CBS. Chicago managed just 47 yards on 42 offensive plays. They had just one net passing yard after taking into account the 67 yards lost on nine sacks, three more sacks than completions for QB Justin Fields who was 6 for 20. For Cleveland’s

defense, it was the fewest yards they have allowed since 1946. Da Bears.

The United States clinched the 2021 Ryder Cup on Sunday after rookie Collin Morikawa secured the final half point to get to a 19-9 victory. So what? As reported in *The Sporting News*, it’s the largest margin of victory in Ryder Cup history since the 28-point format came about. It’s the first time since 1979 and 1983 that Team USA won back-to-back home Ryder Cups after winning in 2016 at Hazeltine.

My daughter Hillary ran her first full Ironman last Sunday in Chattanooga. So what? She said because it was so hot in her last half-Ironman in Ohio, this was actually easier for her to do because of both the temperature and the number and helpfulness of the volunteers. The ratio was 1:1 between volunteers and athletes, allowing the athletes a great amount of support over the 145 mile course – a 2.4-mile swim followed by a 116-mile bike ride and concluding with a 26.2-mile marathon. One example was getting help with a quick tire repair on the course, or getting a pair of goggles to use when hers broke right before the swim. Hillary was very pleased to have completed this in just over 14 hours. Amazing.

Our good news story is another Paralympics story from the Good News Network. “In the spring of 2016, 17-year-old Beatrice de Lavalette was waiting for a flight when she got hit by the terrorist bombing at Brussels airport. Along with serious burns and a spinal cord injury, De Lavalette lost both legs below the knee.

De Lavalette began riding horses at age three and by age 12, she’d taken up dressage. Getting back in the saddle was no easy feat in light of her injuries, but she was determined to do so as soon as she was able. Five months after the bombings, thanks to her grit, determination, and extensive regimens of rehab and retraining, that’s exactly where she was. “I had no muscle, I was just skin and bones, so being back on the saddle with no sense of balance was really uncomfortable. But with time, I was able to build up the muscle and work on my balance, and it got easier with time,” she told CNN.

Unsurprisingly, Beatrice was depressed as she tried to come to terms with her injuries. She admits to crying a lot in the hospital until an unexpected visitor turned things around for her. “DeeDee (my

horse) saved my life,” Beatrice said in an interview on *The Doctors*. “My mom had figured out a way to get DeeDee into the hospital parking lot. I said, ‘Where’s my [wheel]chair?’ I went outside in the rain and as I got closer, she came towards me and put her head against my chest. That moment made me decide that I wasn’t going to give up on life.”

It’s taken a great deal of hard work for her. Having to adjust to her body’s new normal was, in many ways, like having to learn to ride all over again. But as her efforts began to pay off, the Paralympics seemed the perfect outlet to showcase her hard-earned skills. After making her first appearance as part of the U.S. Para-Dressage team in 2020, De Lavalette set her sights on Tokyo, where she rode an “awesome” 14-year-old Dutch Warmblood named Clarc. “The reason I’ve gotten to this level of recovery is because of my horses,” De Lavalette told *News 4 JAX*. “I can’t change what happened, but I can succeed at being me. As I have said many times, I was in the wrong place at the wrong time. What else is there to say? I have a new life in front of me,” she said on her website. “What’s important is that I’m alive and I feel that I will do something grand with my life.” Beatrice, 22, partnered Clarc to fifth place in the grade II individual (70.27 percent) and sixth in the freestyle (72.19 percent). To me, Beatrice finishes first in attitude and determination.

*Howard Prager is the son-in-law of longtime columnist Ed Frank. Prager is a sports enthusiast from the Chicago area who also writes and blogs about leadership. Email comments or questions to [press@islandsunnews.com](mailto:press@islandsunnews.com).*✴

From page 1

## Regatta

a distance race along Fort Myers Beach. The weekend wraps up with an awards dinner at the Original Shrimp Dock on Sunday evening.

The regatta hosts sailors from Naples, Marco Island, Punta Gorda, Tampa, Cape Coral and Fort Myers. The net proceeds from the event go towards funding youth sailing programs throughout the areas of west Florida.

For more information, visit [www.summersetregatta.com](http://www.summersetregatta.com).✴

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## SPORTS QUIZ

1. What Atlanta Braves outfielder won consecutive National League MVP honors in 1982-83?
2. What pro golfer turned TV analyst mistakenly left a check for \$40,000 – his prize for winning the 1975 Pleasant Valley Classic – behind in a bar?
3. Former Philadelphia Flyers head coach Dave Hakstol was named as the first head coach in the history of what NHL franchise?
4. The Pittsburgh Steelers’ Franco Harris caught the famous “Immaculate Reception” in the 1972 AFC divisional playoff game, but who was quarterback Terry Bradshaw’s intended receiver?
5. What WNBA franchise, one of the league’s original eight teams, folded after the 2006 season?
6. What conservative pundit was hired by ESPN as an NFL commentator in 2003 and resigned four weeks later after making controversial remarks about Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb?
7. What athletic footwear and apparel company’s name is derived from a Latin phrase meaning “sound mind in a sound body”?

## ANSWERS

1. Dale Murphy. 2. Roger Maltbie. 3. The Seattle Kraken. 4. John “Frenchy” Fuqua. 5. The Charlotte Sting. 6. Rush Limbaugh. 7. ASICS (anima sana in corpore sano).

## Doctor and Dietician

## Coconut, Nut Butter Paleo Banana Cookies



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

The doctor definitely has a sweet tooth. Yet, he wants to avoid consuming white sugar/flour products because of the ill effects on one's health. Thus, the dietitian is always trying to come up with something "healthier" but satisfying to the sweet tooth. When looking at some very ripe bananas, she decided to combine a recipe for keto cookies with one of the flourless banana cookie recipes. The results were excellent according to the doctor. Unfortunately for those with whom we are sharing this recipe, quantities are estimated because of our tendency toward non-measuring when cooking.

We want to encourage you to try these types of recipes instead of consuming products laden with sugar, flour and preservatives/chemicals. In a recent staff meeting at Caring Medical, we were discussing the cumulative effect of maximizing health by doing a lot of little things in our lives to lessen the toxic load our bodies have to fight in order to keep diseases at bay.

We all know that excessive consumption of sugar leads to

adult-onset diabetes, cardiovascular disease as well as stresses the immune system. Chemicals and processed so-called food lead to toxin build-up and increases strain on our livers and other organ systems to detoxify. Control what we can control – and food is a major part of that, right? Try to eat as clean as you possibly can. It's worth it and work towards developing a lifestyle, not a "diet."

Back to the recipe. What you need: 2 ripe bananas, 1 cup nut butter (we used half peanut butter and half coconut almond butter), 1 egg, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1 tbsp. raw honey, 1 tsp. kosher sea salt, 1/2 tsp. cinnamon, 1/2 cup chopped pecans, 1/2 to 2/3 cup unsweetened coconut flakes, 1/2 cup dark chocolate chips, and a heaping 1/2 cup gluten-free chocolate rice cereal or oats.

What to do: Preheat oven to 375. Mash bananas in large bowl, add nut butter and stir vigorously until combined. Add egg and continue mixing, followed by baking powder, honey, salt and cinnamon. Stir until well mixed. Add nuts, coconut and chocolate, folding in well, followed by cereal. Add more of these ingredients if dough seems too wet. Chill cookie mixture for about 30 minutes. This is a key step because it helps solidify the dough. Drop heaping teaspoons of dough on cookie sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake eight minutes. Remove from oven and consume with a lovely cup of espresso. Cheers.

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

Read us online at [www.IslandSunNews.com](http://www.IslandSunNews.com)

## dearPharmacist

## Chantix Recalled By FDA Due To Contamination



by Suzy Cohen, RPH

**D**ear Readers: If you use the medication called Chantix, you need to stop, according to the United States Food & Drug Administration (FDA). This

medication has just been officially recalled by Pfizer, in all lot numbers, sizes and dosages. It goes by the chemical name varenicline.

The medication was FDA-approved for the masses in May 2006 because studies proved it worked better at placebo to get people off tobacco. The studies showed that in three months over 40 percent of people using Chantix were able to quit smoking. But that doesn't matter anymore because the medication was found to be tainted with a cancer-causing chemical called nitrosamine. For clarity, I want to be sure you know that Bupropion, a different drug altogether, is not impacted by this recall. It is also used for smoking cessation and may serve as an alternative for some of you. It used to go by the name of Zyban, but the brand was discontinued – only generics are available today.

Since 2006 when the FDA approved it, millions of men and women took Chantix (varenicline) tablets to help them with their nicotine addiction. The reasons vary for why a person would want to quit smoking but, for sure, smoking leads to disease and disability, as well as faster signs of skin aging due to the free radical damage done to the skin.

Everyone knows that it can increase one's risk for emphysema, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and lung cancer. So to have a medication that helps such as Chantix was something that everyone welcomed. It is ironic that those who feared lung cancer induced by smoking – who took Chantix to stop – now have to face the fact that they were likely exposed to the cancer-causing nitrosamine found in the drug itself!

According to the FDA official statement from their website:

"Long-term ingestion of N-nitroso-varenicline may be associated with a theoretical potential increased cancer risk in humans, but there is no immediate risk to patients taking this medication. The health benefits of stopping smoking outweigh the theoretical potential cancer risk from the nitrosamine impurity in varenicline.

Nitrosamines are common in water and foods, including cured and grilled meats, dairy products and vegetables. Everyone is exposed to some level of nitrosamines. These impurities may increase the risk of cancer if people are exposed to them above acceptable levels over long periods of time."

If you took Chantix, I would not think you are in any immediate danger, so try not to worry yourself, but do take action to improve your lifestyle and increase antioxidants in your body. It would be great if you could have basic blood work drawn to make sure you're healthy and strong. If you smoke (or if you took Chantix), I highly recommend Vitamin C and Catalase as two antioxidants to fight oxidative damage in the body. These are very strong antioxidants that work all over to do good housekeeping on your cells.

If you'd like to read the extended version of this article, I have it posted on my website at [www.suzycohen.com](http://www.suzycohen.com).

*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](http://www.SuzyCohen.com).\**

## Superior Interiors

## Designing A Bedroom For Multiple Children



by Jeanie Tinch

**Y**ou might wind up having to sleep two kids or grandkids per bedroom at some point, particularly in your vacation home. However, having multiple children share a

room doesn't have to be a catastrophe. With a little creativity, you can get the most out of any space, no matter how many little ones share it.

As the beds will likely be the largest pieces of furniture in the room, they'll have a big impact over how you arrange

everything else. When it comes to multiple children, you have a few options. Of course, you can put them side by side, but you can also include bunk beds or murphy beds if space is a consideration. Each choice has its advantages as adjacent beds help open the middle of the floor for activities, while lofted or bunked beds add an element of fun for older kids. Keep in mind that if children are separated by a few years in age, they might not go to bed at the same time, so make sure your sleeping situation allows for staggered bedtimes.

Especially as they get older, your children might want to have a little more privacy. In the absence of a second bedroom, a pocket door is a perfect compromise. They can slide right into the middle of the room, creating a barrier that can be taken in or out as necessary, making them one of the more flexible interior design choices. They're also a good way to add a novel textural element into a space, without changing the overall aesthetic of the room.

Even one kid is more than capable of making a mess, so when two are sharing

the same space, it's even more important to stay organized. Keep everybody on track by equipping the room with plenty of storage solutions. Baskets or containers should be clearly labeled based on what should go inside. Each child should know exactly where everything is kept, which cuts down on arguments and makes cohabitation more harmonious.

As children grow up, their tastes change. It's perfectly natural that your little one won't want the same bedroom design at age 5 as they will at age 9. However, you don't need to perform a complete renovation every time your children develop a new interest. Use neutral paint and furniture to begin the room, and then turn to accents and accessories to add bursts of color. This way, you don't have to paint and re-paint the room, and it's easy to update the feel.

Kids like to feel included, so allow them to make some of the choices for the room. Choose a few themes that are within your budget and fit in with the rest of your vision. Then, let your children make the final call together. It's a good time for them to learn about the benefits

of compromise, and they'll be much happier knowing that they had some level of ownership over the design of their space.

When a child must share a room with a sibling, he can start to feel like he doesn't really have a space of his own within the house. You can ward off these feelings by adding personalized touches throughout the room, such as monogrammed pillows, or a chest that features his favorite animal painted on the outside. Hang up artwork drawn by both children, so they each understand that even though they are sharing a room, they also have their own individual stakes in the living area. Each child could have a little space of his or her own within the larger room, that could be as small as separate drawers or as large as individual night tables, depending on how much space is available. Sharing a bedroom doesn't have to be a challenge and can even bring siblings (or visiting cousins) together.

*Jeanie Tinch is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at [jeanie@coindceden.com](mailto:jeanie@coindceden.com).\**

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# PUZZLES

Answers on page 23



"Don't forget—I'm supposed to start next year."

## SCRAMBLERS

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

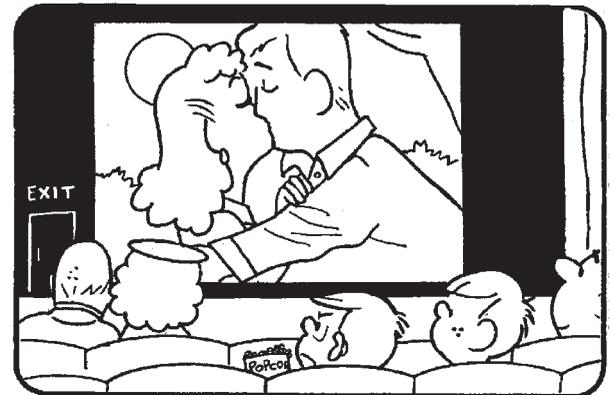
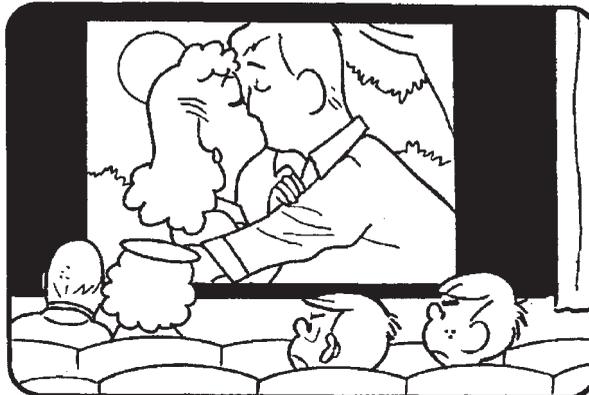
- Debris
- HARTS
- Cabin
- OGLED
- Special
- MUSCOT
- Error
- GROWN

**TODAY'S WORD**

\_\_\_\_\_

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Popcorn is added. 2. Leaves are missing. 3. Exit is added. 4. Button is added. 5. Expression is changed. 6. Man is added.

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

## To Play Sudoku:

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

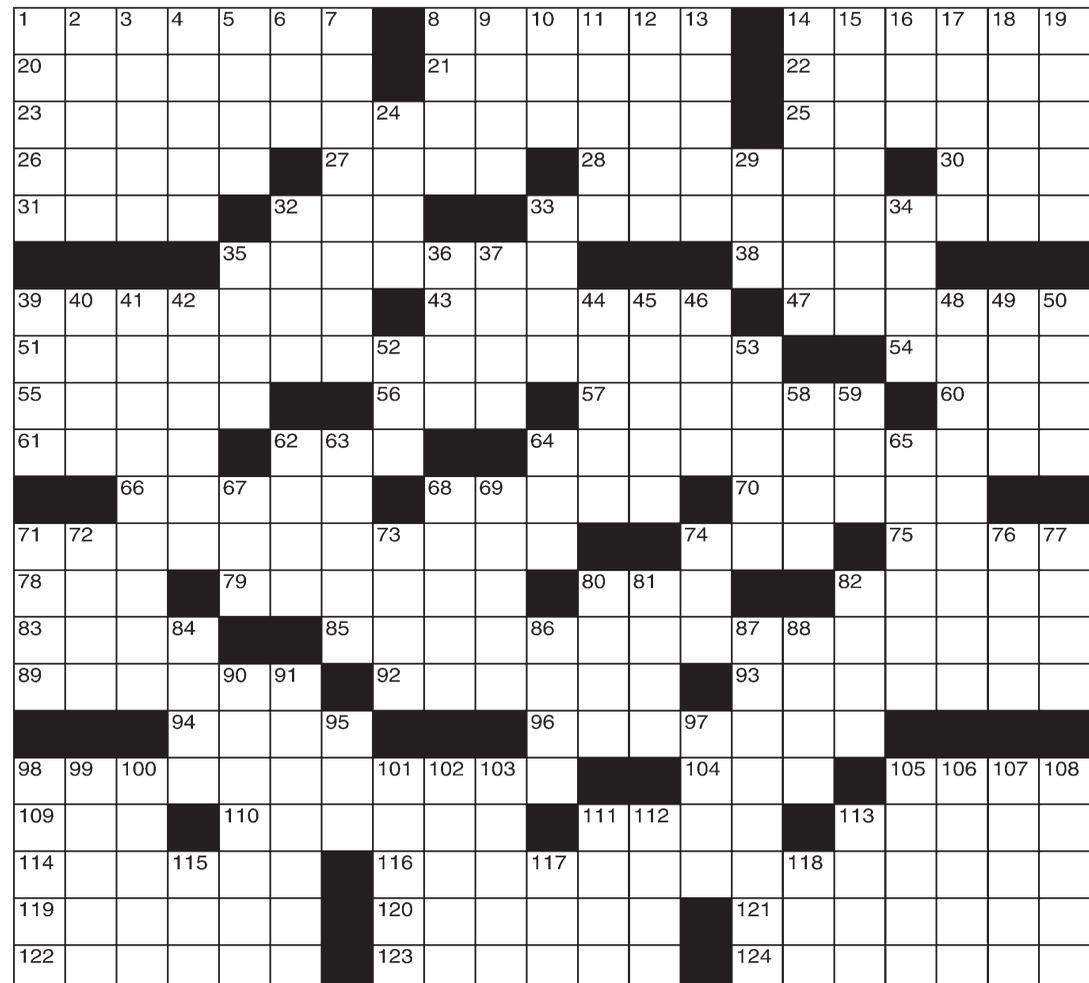
# PUZZLES

Answers on page 23

## Super Crossword

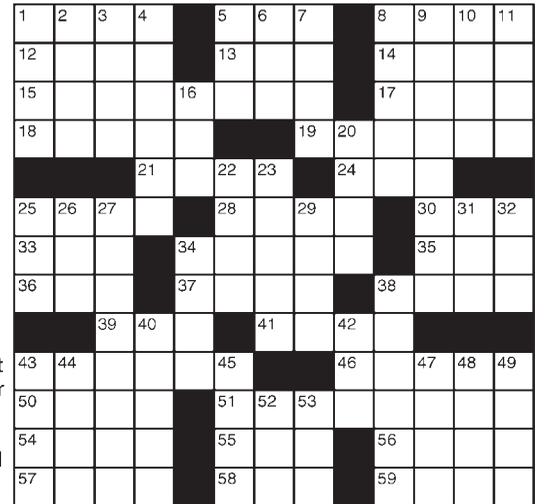
PAIRS OFF

- ACROSS**
- 1 Gallery display
  - 8 Bits of fabric, e.g.
  - 14 "Quit that!"
  - 20 Low-cost and inferior, informally
  - 21 Apple ad catchphrase
  - 22 For a short period
  - 23 Actress Freeman who lived in a European gambling mecca?
  - 25 Cello relative
  - 26 Classic Ford
  - 27 Animated one, in brief
  - 28 Like some radio shows
  - 30 Cereal grass
  - 31 Palmist, e.g.
  - 32 General —'s chicken
  - 33 Two-masted sailboat painted bright red?
  - 35 Oahu beach
  - 38 IV flow
  - 39 Land of ska
  - 43 King or czar
  - 47 Fluctuate
  - 51 Really hurt the feelings of?
  - 54 Aquatint, e.g.
  - 55 Quaint newspaper sections
  - 56 Very little
  - 57 Enter gently
  - 60 Actor Ron
  - 61 Golf club
  - 62 Saints' org.
  - 64 Like someone who has moved to America again?
  - 66 Coup group who has chimney
  - 68 Like a black chimney
  - 70 Nothing, in Latin
  - 71 Parasite on a passenger flight?
  - 74 Mil. rank
  - 75 Sonar sound
  - 78 Groom's vow
  - 79 Hound breed
  - 80 Laugh loudly
  - 82 Cut off with scissors
  - 83 T-man Eliot
  - 85 Be too busy for a health-resort visit?
  - 89 Stun guns
  - 92 Go to bed
  - 93 Acclimated
  - 94 Essence
  - 96 Making a snug home
  - 98 "Alice" waitress who specialized in serving Dad's soft drinks?
  - 104 Styled after
  - 105 Peat source
  - 109 Indisposed
  - 110 Sporty Chevy
  - 111 Clay lump
  - 113 Vixen's boss
  - 114 Sight-related
  - 116 Apt getaway spelled by this puzzle's missing pairs of last two letters
  - 119 Get even for
  - 120 Follows
  - 121 Discharge an egg
  - 122 Usurer, e.g.
  - 123 Typists in trials
  - 124 Rode a bike
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Zeniths
  - 2 — Island (part of New England)
  - 3 Edgy
  - 4 Ocean filler
  - 5 German car
  - 6 Ocasek of the Cars
  - 7 Of the "Ode on a Grecian Urn" poet
  - 8 Fodder storer
  - 9 "Move it!"
  - 10 Bighorn male
  - 11 BP gas brand
  - 12 Carrier founded in 1927
  - 13 La — (opera house)
  - 14 Rescuers
  - 15 Hostess classic
  - 16 "So that's your game!"
  - 17 Stove light
  - 18 Of a pelvic bone
  - 19 Extra inning
  - 24 Chess piece
  - 29 Classic Ford
  - 32 Burrito's kin
  - 33 Very little
  - 34 Sword sort
  - 35 Nintendo game consoles
  - 36 Not engaged
  - 37 Petty of NASCAR
  - 39 Actress Ryan of "Boston Public"
  - 40 God of love
  - 41 Bikers' competition on a dirt trail
  - 42 In no key, musically
  - 44 Take — (plop down)
  - 45 Actor Keach of "Man With a Plan"
  - 46 Errand, e.g.
  - 48 Most hard and cold
  - 49 Rights gp.
  - 50 Reasons
  - 52 Poking tool
  - 53 Essence
  - 58 Monogram letter: Abbr.
  - 59 Final degree
  - 62 Papa's ma
  - 63 Edible fruit part
  - 64 — choy
  - 65 Rap genre
  - 67 Chest protector, of sorts
  - 68 Holey utensil
  - 69 Musical piece for eight
  - 71 "— life grand?"
  - 72 Brain flash
  - 73 Old autocrat
  - 74 Slalom, say
  - 76 Neck area
  - 77 Alum
  - 80 Bygone days
  - 81 Former foes of Navajos
  - 82 Forest buck
  - 84 Labor Day mo.
  - 86 Madre's boy
  - 87 Postal slot
  - 88 Actress Best of "The Man Who Knew Too Much"
  - 90 Chest protector, of sorts
  - 91 Thieving type
  - 95 Dress border
  - 97 Southwest art mecca
  - 98 Foe
  - 99 Antipasto bit
  - 100 Cindy Brady player Susan
  - 101 Goes very quickly
  - 102 Facade
  - 103 Mature nit
  - 105 "The Practice" actress Sokoloff
  - 106 "Barry Lyndon" star Ryan
  - 107 Situation
  - 108 Filled fully
  - 111 Singer Laine
  - 112 A smaller amount of
  - 113 Valuable sire
  - 115 Conjunction in Cologne
  - 117 Wordplay bit
  - 118 Actress Best of "Nurse Jackie"



## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 — Valley, Calif.
  - 5 Indent key
  - 8 Booty
  - 12 Portent
  - 13 Hot temper
  - 14 Corduroy ridge
  - 15 Arm of the Arctic Ocean
  - 17 Desire
  - 18 Sub detector
  - 19 Sunflower State
  - 21 Study all night
  - 24 Pvt.'s superior
  - 25 Salamander
  - 28 Canal feature
  - 30 Acapulco gold
  - 33 "The Greatest" memo
  - 34 Continental cash
  - 35 "Awesome!"
  - 36 Sweetie
  - 37 Apple computer
  - 38 Memory unit
  - 39 A billion years
  - 41 Crazy
  - 43 Treat badly
  - 46 Available
  - 50 Contented sounds
  - 51 Left the band
  - 54 "— Rhythm"
  - 55 Actress Mendes
  - 56 Now, on a
  - 9 Veteran's tale
  - 10 Pond growth
  - 11 Pop music's Bee —
  - 16 Goof up
  - 20 Requests
  - 22 Grad
  - 23 Aesopian ending
  - 25 "Unh-unh"
  - 26 "Evil Woman" gp.
  - 27 Port authority?
  - 29 Designer Chanel
  - 31 Squealer
  - 32 Poetic tribute
  - 34 Drei minus zwei
  - 38 Dwarf tree
  - 40 Expels
  - 42 Camp bed
  - 43 Postal delivery
  - 44 "Othello" villain
  - 45 Ornamental jug
  - 47 Pitch
  - 48 Jai —
  - 49 Band in Boston?
  - 52 Prior night
  - 53 Snooze
- DOWN**
- 1 Scatters seeds
  - 2 Texter's "As I see it"
  - 3 Chow —
  - 4 Unbroken
  - 5 "— the sea-son ..."
  - 6 Exist
  - 7 Toucan's feature
  - 8 Tried to hit a



## MAGIC MAZE ● WELL-MADE WORDS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
 Unlisted clue hint: CONTAINER FOR HOLDING INK

- |          |          |           |            |
|----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Cromwell | Orwell   | Swell     | Wellhead   |
| Dwell    | Powell   | Unwell    | Wellington |
| Farewell | Roswell  | Well-done | Wellpoint  |
| Maxwell  | Stilwell | Wellborn  |            |



Zucchini Ricotta Rollups

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

**Zucchini Ricotta Rollups**

2 large zucchini or yellow squash, sliced thin lengthwise  
 1 cup ricotta cheese  
 1 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded  
 2 cups marinara sauce (your favorite)  
 2 egg yolks  
 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning mix  
 1/3 cup parmesan cheese, grated  
 1/4 cup fresh basil, hand torn  
 Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste  
 Lay out all the zucchini and yellow

squash slices on paper towels. Lightly sprinkle each side of the sliced zucchini and squash with sea salt. Let the salted slices sit for about 20 minutes. After 20 minutes use another paper towel to soak up any liquid from the vegetables. In a small bowl combine the egg yolk, mozzarella cheese, ricotta cheese and Italian seasoning. Season cheese mixture lightly with salt and pepper. Spread a thin layer of the cheese mixture on one side of each vegetable slice. Roll each slice up carefully and place seam side down in a baking dish. Evenly add marinara sauce to the top of the vegetable rollups. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and bake in a 375 degree oven for about 15 minutes. Top with hand torn basil, serve warm.✪

## PETS OF THE WEEK



Flora ID# A882952 photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

### Flora And Luna

Hello, my name is Flora. I'm a black and white 4-year-old female pit bull. I'm one of those rare breeds who has been dealt a tough hand in life, but you would not know it by my sunny personality. I was surrendered to LCDAS after my owner passed away. I have quickly become a staff and volunteer favorite while I patiently wait for my new family to come for me. I'm very well-mannered and loving, and would be a welcome addition to any family. My adoption fee is \$30.

Hi, my name is Luna. I'm a gray tabby 7-month-old female domestic shorthair. I'm a spunky kitten who is full of life and personality. I love to bounce



Luna ID# A880776

around the free roam room, getting into mischief and playing with toys or whoever comes into the room. I also get along well with my feline friends – so take advantage of LCDAS' adopt-one-get-a-feline friend at no additional charge promotion and take home two. My adoption fee is \$10.

Lee County Domestic Animal Services is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available by appointment Monday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com) to complete an online application. As always, cats and kittens are adopt one and get a feline friend at no additional charge. For more information, call 533-7387.✪

## My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

**Aries** (March 21 to April 19) You'll soon have a chance to take a big step up from where you are to where you want to be. Check it out first. Remember: Even the Mountain Sheep looks before it leaps.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) This week brings a challenge that could determine the future direction of your life. If you're ready for a change, accept it with confidence. A loved one supports your decision.

**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) A disruption creates a delay in completing your projects. Use this time to pursue a personal matter you were too busy to deal with before. You'll find it will be time well spent.

**Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) You still need to be on the alert for any signs of problems that could create serious misunderstandings. A more positive aspect begins to emerge toward the week's end. Be patient.

**Leo** (July 23 to August 22) With things slowing down a bit this week, it would be a good time for luxury-loving

Leonines to go somewhere for some well-earned pampering. Things liven up around Friday.

**Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) Single Virgos looking for partners are finally getting a break from Venus, who has moved in to make things happen. Attached Virgos see their relationships blossom.

**Libra** (September 23 to October 22) You've been working hard to get things done. Now take a breather and recheck your next step. You might want to make some changes in view of the news that comes your way.

**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) The watchword for savvy Scorpios this week is "preparation." Consider sharpening your skills to make the most of the new opportunity you're about to take on.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) There might still be some loose ends that need tucking up if you hope to get that important relationship repaired. A new spurt of activity starts soon.

**Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) It's a good idea to keep the positive momentum going by finding and getting rid of anything that could

cause you to stumble. Keep the path ahead clear and open.

**Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18) A period of contemplation is advised before you make your next move. Be sure that where you decide to go is the right place for you. A health matter needs attention.

**Pisces** (February 19 to March 20) That new energy surge that hit you last week continues to send out good vibrations. Try investing a part of it in creating something noteworthy on the job.

**Born This Week:** You like to balance your personal universe, and in doing so, you help bring harmony into the lives of the rest of us.

### MOMENTS IN TIME

• On October 6, 1847, *Jane Eyre*, the book about the struggles of an orphan girl who grows up to become a governess, is published. Author Charlotte Bronte wrote of her experiences at being sent to a boarding school at the age of 5.

• On October 8, 1869, future auto inventor and mechanic Frank Duryea is born. In 1893, his Duryea Motor Wagon made its first successful

trip, 600 yards down his street in Springfield, Massachusetts, before the transmission blew.

• On October 9, 1936, harnessing the power of the Colorado River, the Hoover Dam begins sending electricity over transmission lines spanning 266 miles to Los Angeles. The dam was built for the collection, preservation and distribution of that most precious of all Western commodities, water.

• On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union inaugurates the "Space Age" with its launch of Sputnik, the world's first artificial satellite. The 22-inch sphere weighed 184 pounds. In January 1958, Sputnik burned up in the atmosphere when its orbit deteriorated.

• On October 7, 1960, the television drama *Route 66* first airs on CBS. It followed two young men as they drove across the country in a Corvette. *Route 66* was shot on location all over the U.S. instead of in a studio.

• On October 10, 1973, Spiro Agnew becomes the first U.S. vice president to resign in disgrace. He pleaded no contest to a charge of income-tax evasion in exchange for dropping charges of political corruption,

continued on page 22

 <b>FRIDAY</b> Mostly Sunny High: 86 Low: 73	 <b>SATURDAY</b> Sunny High: 87 Low: 75	 <b>SUNDAY</b> Sunny High: 85 Low: 72	 <b>MONDAY</b> Partly Cloudy High: 86 Low: 75	 <b>TUESDAY</b> Sunny High: 85 Low: 73	 <b>WEDNESDAY</b> Sunny High: 88 Low: 77	 <b>THURSDAY</b> Sunny High: 87 Low: 75
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**Redfish Pass Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:24 am	2:56 am	9:10 am	4:54 pm
Sat	12:33 am	4:13 am	10:28 am	5:37 pm
Sun	12:44 am	5:06 am	11:29 am	6:14 pm
Mon	12:56 am	5:50 am	12:22 pm	6:46 pm
Tue	1:09 am	6:33 am	1:12 pm	7:15 pm
Wed	1:24 am	7:16 am	2:02 pm	7:42 pm
Thu	1:42 am	8:01 am	2:55 pm	8:06 pm

**Point Ybel Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	8:15 am	2:58 am	11:38 pm	4:56 pm
Sat	9:33 am	4:15 am	11:49 pm	5:39 pm
Sun	10:34 am	5:08 am	None	6:16 pm
Mon	12:01 am	5:52 am	11:27 pm	6:48 pm
Tue	12:14 am	6:35 am	12:17 pm	7:17 pm
Wed	12:29 am	7:18 am	1:07 pm	7:44 pm
Thu	12:47 am	8:03 am	2:00 pm	8:08 pm

**Punta Rassa Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	7:17 am	12:06 am	10:42 pm	4:21 pm
Sat	8:47 am	1:28 am	None	5:25 pm
Sun	12:02 am	5:00 am	11:26 am	6:21 pm
Mon	12:41 am	6:21 am	12:33 pm	7:06 pm
Tue	1:10 am	7:16 am	1:24 pm	7:47 pm
Wed	1:36 am	8:02 am	2:14 pm	8:25 pm
Thu	1:59 am	8:47 am	3:08 pm	9:02 pm

**Cape Coral Bridge Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	2:34 am	6:12 am	11:20 am	8:10 pm
Sat	2:43 am	7:29 am	12:38 pm	8:53 pm
Sun	2:54 am	8:22 am	1:39 pm	9:30 pm
Mon	3:06 am	9:06 am	2:32 pm	10:02 pm
Tue	3:19 am	9:49 am	3:22 pm	10:31 pm
Wed	3:34 am	10:32 am	4:12 pm	10:58 pm
Thu	3:52 am	11:17 am	5:05 pm	11:22 pm

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# Auto Accidents And Power Lines

**A**uto accidents are extremely scary for all those involved. If you are never involved in or are witness to an accident that involves power lines, it is imperative to follow the steps below to potentially save your life or the life of someone in need. Lee County Electric Cooperative reminds all drivers to:

Remain in your vehicle – If your car comes in contact with a power pole/line, do not leave the car. Your car and the surrounding area of the accident scene could be energized. If you leave the car, you could become the electricity's path to the ground, which could result in serious injury or death from electric shock. It is equally important to not allow bystanders to help as they could be seriously injured or killed.

Call for help – Call 911 immediately who will then alert the responsible utility. Both will come to your aid ASAP.

Wait for the OK – Wait for a utility or emergency worker to give you the okay before exiting your vehicle. The only reason to exit your car is if it on fire. If your car is on fire, jump clear of the

vehicle with your feet together and hop away with your feet remaining together.

Keep your cool – Vehicle accidents can be extremely unnerving. Do your best to remain calm and listen to the instructions of the emergency and utility personnel. You remaining calm will help yourself and those working to help you.

For more safety tips, visit [www.lcec.net](http://www.lcec.net).✱

## Don't Hit Rock Bottom

**N**arconon reminds families that an addict or alcoholic does not need to hit "rock bottom" before they reach out for treatment. The truth is it can always get worse and there will be another rock bottom.

Why let it get worse? Will the next bottom be one they can't come back from? Get them help now so that you don't lose your loved one.

For more information, visit [www.narconon-suncoast.org/blog/the-concept-of-hitting-rock-bottom.html](http://www.narconon-suncoast.org/blog/the-concept-of-hitting-rock-bottom.html). Call 1-877-841-5509 for a no-cost screening or referral.✱

happened to have a set of crutches lying around. I used a hair elastic to secure a hand towel to the arm rest of one crutch. Then I sprayed it with water and used it to scrub the ceiling. It worked really well. I was done in no time." – AA in Florida

• Two ways to remove a bandage: Rub a little baby oil or vegetable oil over it. The oil will soak in and make it easier to remove. Or – and this works especially well with kids – have them soak in the bath and use baby shampoo to soften the sticky edges.

• A baking soda and water mix is great for tile floors if you want a quick mop up. If a lot of your floors are tile, do yourself a favor and invest in a steam mop. They clean and sanitize, leaving your floors brilliant.

• Be sure you use a trivet or other protectant when placing flowerpots on wood floors. Also, purchase felt pads for the bottoms of furniture. This will eliminate divots or other kinds of depressions or scratches in the floor.

• "Tiny tears in your window screen can be secured with clear nail polish. I dab the spot, then use tweezers to line up the tiny wires, then dab again. Just make sure the window is open, or the screen might stick to the windowpane." – TT in Indiana

### STRANGE BUT TRUE

• During the entire run of *Gilligan's Island*, it was never revealed if "Gilligan" was his first or last name.

• Although lesser known today, the temperance novel *Franklin Evans; or, The Inebriate: A Tale of the Times* was one of Walt Whitman's most commercially successful works. The great American poet wrote this novel at the start of his career, strictly for cash. Interestingly, considering the book's subject matter, he later admitted that he wrote it in a three-day drunken stupor.

• Tic Tacs got their name from the sound they make when they are tossed around in their container.

• The gelatin in Haribo gummy bears contains nine out of the 10 amino acids that are essential to our bodies.

• On February 1, 2005, the Emergency Alert System was accidentally activated in portions of Connecticut, calling for the immediate evacuation of the entire state. Later studies showed that citizens' common sense prevailed, with the typical response being to "change the channel" or seek other confirmation.

• Between 12,000 and 15,000 bicycles are retrieved from the bottom of Amsterdam's canals each year.

• In Ethiopia, a spot known as "The Gateway to Hell" is one of the hottest on earth, with air that's toxic to humans. Scientists have found organisms in its acid pools that are capable of surviving without oxygen.

• After the release of the 1996 film *Scream*, which involved an anonymous killer calling and murdering his victims, Caller ID usage tripled in the United States.

• Your ears secrete more ear wax when you are afraid than when you aren't.

• 1912 saw the last Olympic gold medals made entirely out of gold.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Stop the habit of wishful thinking and start the habit of thoughtful wishes."

– Mary Martin

### TRIVIA TEST

- 1. General Knowledge:** What is the full name of the famous Barbie doll?
- 2. Movie:** Which movie features a family home on Cherry Tree Lane?
- 3. Geography:** What is the capital city of Bermuda?
- 4. Awards:** For what achievement is the

From page 20

## Moments In Time

which included accepting bribes even while vice president.

• On October 5, 1986, after his plane crashes in Nicaragua, ex-Marine Eugene Hasenfus confesses to shipping military supplies into Nicaragua for use by the Contras, an anti-Sandinista force created and funded by the U.S. and run by the Central Intelligence Agency. The resulting

Iran-Contra scandal would rock the Reagan administration.

### NOW HERE'S A TIP

• Have your carpets cleaned. High-traffic areas may require cleaning as often as every three or four months, but bedrooms can go as long as 18 months. Use runners and area rugs to safeguard spots that may be vulnerable, like under a vanity or by your sofas.

• "I had some residue on my bathroom ceiling from hard water condensation. I

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#### OFFICE MANAGER

for Sanibel physical therapy/wellness clinic. 35-40 hrs/week with overtime options during season, and reduction to 20-30 hrs/week off-season. Office management or medical/wellness office experience required. Must be efficient, enthusiastic, comfortable with computer scheduling and multitasking, and have excellent customer service and communication skills. Email resume to [rachel@islandtherapycenter.com](mailto:rachel@islandtherapycenter.com) or bring to Island Therapy Center front desk.  
10/1 ✱ 10/8

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### FICTITIOUS NAME

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under The fictitious name of Direct Refining, located in Lee County, FL, with an address of 15693 Anderson Lane, Ft. Myers, FL 33912 has registered said name with The Division of Corporations of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated the 24th Day of September, 2021.  
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9/24 ✱ 10/8

### Cycling Safety Notes

Ride to the right  
Warn to pass  
Wear a helmet  
Use lights at night  
Always be courteous



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