

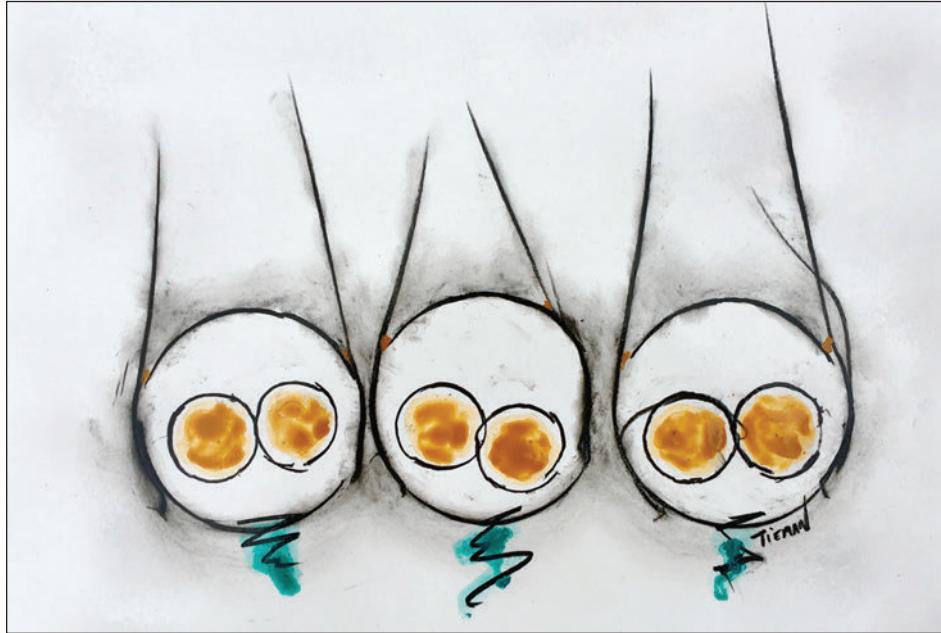


# THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

VOL. 17, No. 52

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

DECEMBER 28, 2018



Untitled work by Guy Tieman

## Inner Child And Home Expressed In New Art Shows

Opening receptions for two exhibits – one where the artist expresses his inner child and the other where the artist searches for a place called home – will be held at the Sidney & Berne Davis

image provided

Art Center during Art Walk on Friday, January 4 from 6 to 10 p.m.

In his new show, Connecting the Dots in the Grand Atrium, Guy Tieman reacts and responds to lines and forms by adding simple, printed, colored shapes and forms made of paper and wood. In complementary reaction, Tieman builds windows (pockets) in the body and fills them with dowels of different colors,

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*Innocence* by Jill Lindsay image provided

work, the smaller details become clear. The longer you linger, the more you may see. On a trip to the Dali Museum a few years ago, I was so inspired by his use of pixelation in the Lincoln piece *Gala Contemplating the Mediterranean Sea*.

I had been experimenting with altered *National Geographic* pages that are soaked with a solvent that literally moves the ink, creating new colorations and patterns. I thought cutting these papers into squares would mimic pixels and add a graphic component to the pieces. I use a variety of techniques to add or subtract features. I have created many of these "square" paintings now. They continue to mesmerize me. Using alcohol inks and

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## Golf Tournament Proceeds Provide Adaptive Tricycles

Robbie's Riders, Grampy's Charities and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank presented two adaptive tricycles, worth more than \$2,000, to Naples children during the 2nd annual Grampy's Pro-Am, presented by Sanibel Captiva Community Bank at Fiddlesticks Country Club.

Maximo Zapata, an 8-year-old with Down syndrome, and Emilio Alfonso Feal, a 6-year-old with autism, received custom tricycles that will assist with general strengthening, new proprioceptive sensory input and improved reciprocal coordination of the legs. They can now participate in activities with their families and peers, and the normal childhood experience of riding a bike.

Robbie's Riders provides special adaptive bicycles and tricycles to children with disabilities, according to their individual capacities and needs. The charity works to donate special needs cycles as quickly as they can raise funds to purchase them. Working with Claire Le Boulenge, a pediatric physical therapist



Back row from left, Grampy's Charities board members Fran Walenta, Jimmy Castle and David Essig, Grampy, Katie Betz, Grampy's Charities board member Bob Risch, Save the Kids Fund board member Jack Johanneman and Golisano Children's Hospital pediatric physical therapist Claire Le Boulenge. Front row from left, Aaron Zapata, Blake Nawrocki, Maximo Zapata, Garrison Betz and Sienna Gonzalez.

photo provided

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**Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:**

# Happy New Year, 1900

by Gerri Reaves, PhD



**F**ort Myers literally rang in the 20th century, with church bells starting at 11 p.m. as people gathered at First and Hendry.

Midnight brought a deluge of noise-making. Whistles from the Seminole Canning Company and an anchored steamboat let loose, and the town lived up to its frontier cowtown image with the sounds of guns, cannons and firecrackers.

An impromptu parade of shouting men and boys were led down First Street by drum and fife players.

The historic photo of the 1898 Heitman Building at First and Jackson gives an idea what the streets looked like soon after the turn of the 20th century. In 1900, that modern building was the only brick structure in Fort Myers.

In the image, reminders of the old century contrast with signs of the new one – understandable, for Fort Myers had incorporated less than 15 years before New Year's Day 1900.

Note the unpaved street, hitching post (left foreground) and tin awnings. The large "bank" sign marks Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Tampa, which established a branch in the building in May 1901. (In 1907, it would become the Bank of Fort Myers, the town's first home-owned bank.)

Those utility lines are further evidence of downtown modernization. Public electrical service had been implemented only two years before, at dusk on New Year's Day 1898, but more technology was on the way as the new century dawned.

On January 2, 1900, Gilmer M. Heitman had secured a 14-year charter from the county commissioners to establish a telephone line between Fort Myers and Alva. In addition, he had already ordered a 50-drop switchboard for Fort Myers itself.

In February, the amazing telephone entered daily life in Fort Myers. The new Lee County Telephone Company was located in the second-floor corner of the Heitman Building behind that catty-cornered window.



Just after the turn of the twentieth century, the Heitman Building at First and Jackson was the only modern brick structure in town

photo courtesy Florida State Archives



New Year's Day meant the beginning of "high season" in Fort Myers. In 1900, the grand Fort Myers Hotel at the foot of Royal Palm Avenue kicked off its third season, attracting wealthy guests from around the world. Within a few years, the hotel was renamed the Royal Palm Hotel.

photo courtesy Florida State Archives

However, electric service was still enough of a novelty in January 1900 that a "unique" sign for a new bar and billiard room warranted a mention in the *Press* simply because it was lit by two electric bulbs. Wow.

New Year's Day in Fort Myers also meant the start of the high-end tourist season.

This was particularly true after the grand Fort Myers Hotel opened its doors in January 1898 and gave Palm Beach and Miami some competition, attracting wealthy

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First Street has changed significantly since 1900, but the Heitman Building (right) reminds us of the celebrations of the past. As tradition dictates, this New Year's Eve, celebrants will gather downtown to noisily welcome 2019.

photo by Gerri Reaves

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**THE RIVER**  
WEEKLY NEWS  
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

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**Reporters**

Gerri Reaves, PhD  
Jeff Lysiak

**Contributing Writers**

Jennifer Basey	Marion Hauser, MS, RD
Barbara Cacchione	Ross Hauser, MD
Kay Casperson	Capt. Matt Mitchell
Suzi Cohen	Trinette Nelson
Linda Coin	J. Brendan Ryan, CLU, ChFC, MSFS
Marcia Feeney	Di Saggau
Ed Frank	Jeanie Tinch
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Tom Hall	

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Lorin Arundel

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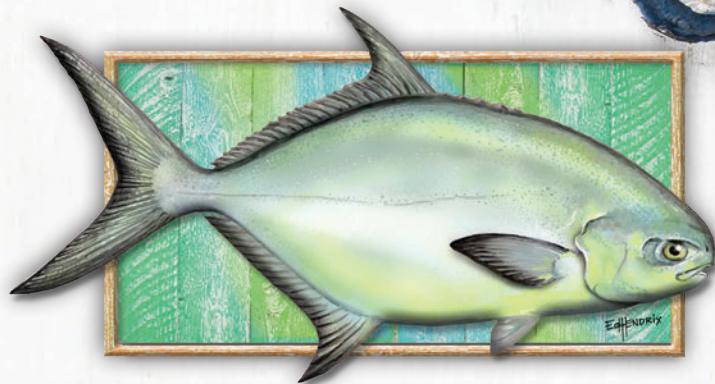
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**Graphic Arts/  
Production**

Ann Ziehl, Manager  
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Justin Wilder

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# FT MYERS

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#### FRIDAY

**Freecasters • 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Reggae • Soul**

**Sarasota Steel Pan Band • 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Caribbean**

**The Shindigs • 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM**

**Beach Boys Tribute Band**

#### SATURDAY

**Kettle of Fish • 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Rock • Blues • Reggae**

**CeCe Teneal & Soul Kamotion • 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

**Blues • Soul • Roots**

**JP Soars & The Red Hots • 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM**

**Blues**

**Bob Marley Tribute Band featuring Yvad • 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

**Reggae**

**Caribbean Chillers • 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

**Jimmy Buffet Tribute Band**



#### SUNDAY

**Twinkle & Rock Soul Radio • 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM**

**Rock • Soul**

**Billy Rice Band • 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM**

**Country Rock**

**U.S. Stones • 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

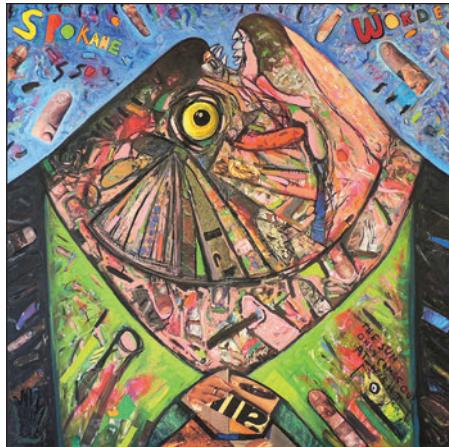
**Rolling Stones Tribute Band**





Alexander Martin

photos provided



Ken Hoffman

accessible

Hoffman's anthropomorphic paintings reveal the closeness between people and animals, and speak to our society's political and cultural scene. These provoking paintings pair well with the unexpected abstractions that Martin showcases with his Boys Will Be Boys series.

By addressing human roles of identity through these unusual outlets of color and mixed media, both Hoffman and Martin express an emerging sense of our unexpected realities that will draw you in like a magnet. Engage in the provocative wonderland that interconnects animals and abstractions of found objects to reveal the dynamism and whimsy of society through paintings, installations and more.

Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.artinlee.org](http://www.artinlee.org).

## Alliance Presents Magnetism Exhibit

The Alliance for the Arts' January exhibit, Magnetism, will feature award-winning artists Ken Hoffman and Alexander Martin from January 11 through February 2. The exhibit explores themes such as identity, connection and pressures of society.

The opening reception will be held on Friday, January 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. A conversational walk and talk with the exhibiting artists will be held on January 12 at 10 a.m. during Alliance for the Arts weekly GreenMarket.

Admission to the gallery is free and open to the public, but a \$5 suggested donation helps keep arts programming

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## Teen Expo This Saturday

The SWFL Teen Expo will be held at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC) on Saturday, December 29 from 6 to 10 p.m. The one-night-only event invites businesses and organizations providing immersive activities for Southwest Florida teens to showcase what they have to offer. In addition to the vendor expo, students from SBDAC's DJ Class with Tommy Giaime will spin live.

The SWFL Teen Expo features DJ sets, food, raffles, local programming, events and activities for local youth. There will be a parents lounge on the second floor where parents can mingle while their teens have a fun time dancing and learning about activities. Tickets are \$10.

Four student disc jockeys will showcase their new skills throughout the night. There will be sets from Dryher, Monarc, DJ Aznoh and Vivyd. Each student learned to DJ via SBDAC's The Art of Djing classes lead by DJ Tommy Giaime. The Art of Djing offers both private and group lessons throughout the year. Giaime, who attended the Berklee College of Music, is also the owner of Sol Productions, a full-service DJ company.

There will be a \$25 sign-up vendor fee for for-profit businesses that provide programming, activities or events for Southwest Florida teens. The fee includes a six- or eight-foot table and two chairs.



DJ Tommy Giaime

photo provided

Nonprofit businesses can sign up for free. Just provide SBDAC with a copy of your tax-exempt letter from the IRS. This also includes a six- or eight-foot table and two chairs. Vendors are strongly encouraged to bring an interactive element to the vendor set up.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in the historic downtown Fort Myers River District. For more information, call 333-1933 or visit [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com).\*\*

## Seafood And Music Festival Set For River District

The inaugural Fort Myers Seafood & Music Festival will bring a unique blending of seafood and music, seasoned with a small marketplace of arts, crafts and select fine products to the River District on Friday, January 4 from 4 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, January 5 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, January 6 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

General admission is free. VIP tent admission is \$75, which includes an open bar with staff serving premium drinks. The location of the tent provides optimal viewing of the live music performances.

All food (available at additional cost) will be cooked on-site by local restaurants and food purveyors, incorporating fresh

ingredients. Grouper, mahi mahi, stone crabs, oysters, shrimp and soft-shell crabs are used in preparation of the entrees with all the seafood ingredients being local, sustainable ocean resources from Florida's coastal waters. A variety of vegetarian and rice dishes will also be offered. Alcoholic drinks (beer, wine and mixed-drinks) and non-alcoholic drinks (water, sodas and blended fruit drinks) will be available along with a variety of side dishes and dessert items.

While enjoying your meal, sit back and relax to musical entertainment consisting of live on-stage performances by creative and talented musicians from both the local and regional circuits. Genres of music will vary from soul, rock, R&B, jazz, reggae and Caribbean. Performers will soon be announced.

For more information, to purchase VIP tickets and a full schedule of events, visit [www.seafoodfestivals.com](http://www.seafoodfestivals.com) or call 941-487-8061.\*\*

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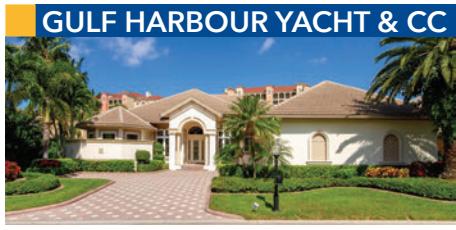
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**Fort Myers Art:**

# Coconut Point Art Festival Rocks This Weekend



by Tom Hall

The 8th annual Coconut Point New Years Weekend Art Festival will take place at Coconut Point Mall this weekend – Saturday, December 29 and Sunday, December 30 – from 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

Organizer Howard Alan Events will provide visitors with a weekend experience of fine art, food and shopping. The art festival sets up in the parking lot just north of Panera Bread and east of U.S. 41 at 23106 Fashion Drive in Estero.

There will be 200 artists and artisans from 30 different states at the festival with every medium and genre being represented. Expect \$15 handmade silver jewelry to life-size sculptures costing in excess of \$50,000.

Visitors will find paintings in oil and acrylic, 2D and 3D mixed media, assemblages and collages, watercolors, pastels, drawings in pen and ink and charcoal on paper, etchings and lithography, photography and digital art, bronze and metal sculpture, Raku, ceramics, stone and wood carvings,



Participants at a past Coconut Point New Year's Weekend Art Festival

photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

wood music boxes, glass fusion and glass art, leather works, fabric, paper mache and hand-crafted art jewelry. Spacious aisles allow art enthusiasts to explore the exhibits and interact with the artists who will be present for the duration of the show.

It's difficult to single out stars at a show as exceptional as this, but watercolor artist Christine Reichow stands out in any crowd. One of the paintings on display in her booth during the 2nd annual festival was *Wild One*, a botanical watercolor that was recently accepted by the Florida Watercolor Society into their 41st anniversary exhibition. It was one of

only 99 accepted by the society for the exhibition out of several hundred entries. And it's small wonder. Reichow specializes in botanicals, florals and wildlife paintings, and watercolor is a medium that uniquely enables Reichow to create leaves, petals, anthers and feathers that are as luminous as they are transparent. All of Reichow's compositions convey an intimate and deeply felt love for the delicacy and serenity of the natural world that surrounds her. There is a Zen-like quality to her depictions. They encourage the viewer to become centered, to re-establish a primordial connection to

## Kiwanis 5K Run

The Fort Myers Metro-McGregor Kiwanis will hold the 11th annual Calusa BUG Chase 5K run at the Calusa Nature Center on January 26. Packet pick up will take place the day of race from 7 to 7:45 a.m. Race day registration begins at 7 a.m. and race time is 8 a.m.

The race will benefit the Fort Myers-Metro Kiwanis Club's BUG (Bring Up Grades) Program and other local club sponsored youth service projects. Last year there were over 225 registered runners.

Race sponsors include Weinstein Wilkes Financial Group; Burandt, Adamski, Feichthaler & Sanchez, PLLC; Five County Insurance; Kiwanis Club of Cape Coral; Lake Michigan Credit Union; Larue Pest Control; Passarella & Associates, Inc.; Ron Harris, CPA; and United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee. The Bagel Factory of Fort Myers, Sun Harvest Citrus and Calusa Nature Center have committed to in-kind sponsorships. Sponsorship opportunities are now available starting at the \$100 level.

The course, supervised by the Fort Myers Track Club, travels the trails at the nature center and a portion of the asphalt bike path on Ortiz and will be timed with Chrono Track Bib Tag Technology. Participants can pre-register online at [www.ftmyerstrackclub.com](http://www.ftmyerstrackclub.com). Registration includes a long-sleeve commemorative t-shirt, complimentary race day admission to the Calusa Nature Center and refreshments. Overall and age group awards for the 5K run will be presented.

the universe and its cosmic rules of order. Reichow is a member of the American Watercolor Society, Florida Watercolor Society, Watercolor West and Transparent Watercolor Society, and a signature member of the National Watercolor Society.

Another local star at the 2nd annual festival was Tim Parker, who is best known for figurative abstracts in oil, acrylic and mixed media on canvas and acid-free boards that reflect the influence of his 22-year career in the high-end fashion, fragrance and cosmetic industries. His style involves an exploration of the interaction between texture, expressive brush strokes, vibrant color and the human figure, and he employs this same unique approach when painting other motifs such as landscapes, wildlife and still lifes. The net result is paintings that allow viewers to see multiple facets and dimensions in and throughout his oeuvre or body of work. Tim's work is collected internationally and can be found in numerous corporate and private collections.

The popular outdoor festival is consistently ranked by *Sunshine Artist Magazine* among the top art shows in the country.

Coconut Point Mall is located at 23130 Fashion Drive in Estero. For more information, visit [www.artfestival.com](http://www.artfestival.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.\*\**

The Calusa Nature Center is located at 3450 Ortiz Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, contact Chrysten Foley at [cfoley1@nova.edu](mailto:cfoley1@nova.edu). To keep updated on the event, visit [www.facebook.com/events/119673162265792](http://www.facebook.com/events/119673162265792).\*

## Nominations For Citizen Award

The public is invited to nominate an exemplary civic-minded citizen for the 2018 Paulette Burton Citizen of the Year Award. Lee County Commissioners are looking for nominees who are involved in the community and work diligently for causes in which they believe.

The annual award strives to recognize a citizen who has provided outstanding civic contributions to Lee County government. The selection criteria includes a positive attitude, knowledge of the objectives and activities of Lee County government, a demonstrated interest in community/county government partnerships, and promotion of harmony between the community and county government.

Nominations are due by Friday, February 22. Commissioners will select the winner.

Nomination forms are available at Lee County libraries and recreation centers or online at [www.leegov.com/citizenoftheyear](http://www.leegov.com/citizenoftheyear). For library locations, visit [www.leelibrary.net](http://www.leelibrary.net) and for recreation center locations, visit [www.leeparks.org](http://www.leeparks.org).

The award was created in 1991 to honor Burton, a long-time Sanibel resident and government watchdog.\*\*

Wishing you a joyous and peaceful season, with health, love and happiness for the New Year



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## Prevention Project Grant Applications

The United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee recently announced that grant applications for funds from the Youth Violence Prevention Partnership are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 18. Applications should be submitted to the United Way by email to [madison@unitedwaylee.org](mailto:madison@unitedwaylee.org).

The United Way and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Myers (UUCFM) have begun a partnership designed to reduce youth violence. This initiative is a United Way Collaborative entitled the Youth Violence Prevention Project (YVPP). The YVPP is a community funding initiative to encourage the development of programs that will reduce youth violence and the risk factors that contribute to it.

YVPP focuses on giving grants to local youth-centered organizations or communities who propose youth violence prevention programs with clear and measurable objectives. The project will offer a total of \$25,000 in grants to fund student-driven programs that address youth violence prevention and awareness. Grants will be awarded in increments of \$500, up to \$2,500. Projects must be in Lee County.

A student committee will review the submitted grant applications and select projects to be the recipients of the funding. Selected projects will be required

to match the funding with money or in-kind donations.

For more information or to apply, visit [www.unitedwaylee.org/yvp](http://www.unitedwaylee.org/yvp).\*\*

## Plant-Based Cooking Class

The Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Committee (WIB) will host its January networking meeting in the center court at Bell Tower Shops on Wednesday, January 9 from 4 to 6 p.m. The program will feature a demonstration on whole food, plant-based cooking from Mark Blust, vice president of marketing and operations for the Prawnbroker Restaurant Group and owner of Pretty Much a Vegan, based in Fort Myers.

Cost is \$10 for Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce (GFMCC) members and \$20 for future members. All business professionals are invited to attend.

Each month, Women in Business features a non-profit spotlight and, in January, Lee Adolescent Mothers Program (LAMP) will be highlighted. Attendees are asked to bring a donation to LAMP. Their wish-list includes personal hygiene products, laundry detergent, dish soap, diapers, baby wipes and toddler and infant socks.

Bell Tower Shops is located at 13499 South Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers. To register, call 332-2930 or visit [www.fortmyers.org](http://www.fortmyers.org).\*\*

to match the funding with money or in-kind donations.

For more information or to apply, visit [www.unitedwaylee.org/yvp](http://www.unitedwaylee.org/yvp).\*\*

## Tickets Available For Concert Season

World-renowned artists from throughout Europe, Russia and Romania will travel to Fort Myers this winter to perform for the Fort Myers Community Concert Association in its 70th annual concert series. All performances will start at 7:30 p.m. at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall on the Florida SouthWestern State College campus in Fort Myers.

The six concerts for the 2019 season are National Symphony Orchestra of Romania on January 7, 2019; Teatro Lirico D'Europa performing Puccini's *Tosca* on January 14, 2019; Russian National Orchestra on February 12, 2019; Russian National Ballet on February 25, 2019; Itzhak Perlman on March 11, 2019; and Sir James Galway, Flutist on March 28, 2019.

Single tickets are now available for purchase for each of the six performances, which organizers say are among the best ever offered by the Fort Myers Community Concert Association. For most performances, prices are \$55 for orchestra seats, \$35 for lower balcony seats and \$25 for upper balcony seats. Mezzanine seats are sold out.

Single tickets for the March 11 performance by internationally acclaimed violinist Itzhak Perlman are \$70 for orchestra seats, \$35 for lower balcony seats and \$25 for upper balcony seats.

For tickets, call the Barbara B. Mann Hall box office at 481-4849.

Barbara B. Mann Hall is located at 13350 FSW Parkway in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.fortmyerscommunityconcerts.org](http://www.fortmyerscommunityconcerts.org).\*\*



Teatro Lirico D'Europa members photo provided



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## Along The River

**L**ee County Domestic Animal Services will host a Pet Safety Program for children of all ages this Friday, December 28 from 10 a.m. to noon. The program will be held in the conference room at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers.

This is an opportunity for parents to learn along with their children how to safely interact with a dog and read its body language. The program will teach things such as socialization, responsible pet ownership and avoiding risky situations. It will be interactive for the entire family, so parents are asked to stay with their child.

There will be games that will allow for fun learning over the holiday break. Seating is limited to 35 people on a first-come basis.

For more information, call 533-7387 or visit [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com).

The Cape Coral Animal Shelter (CCAS) and **Fathom's Restaurant** will hold their monthly **Yappy Hour** this Friday, December 28 from 5 to 7 p.m. This is an opportunity for pets and their owners to enjoy an evening of outdoor entertainment. Come celebrate the end of the best year ever, the Year of the Dog.

Fathom's Restaurant and Bar will be providing beer and wine as a fundraiser for the nonprofit organization to receive all proceeds. CCAS merchandise will be available for sale and a 50/50 raffle will be held during the evening. There will also be live music.



Fireworks will be set off at several sites along the river on December 31 photo provided

Kick off the old year with a few **New Year's Eve celebrations** this Monday, December 31.

The Downtown Countdown is a large outdoor party in the historic **River District of Fort Myers**. The celebration kicks off at 8 p.m. There will be live bands appearing on four stages throughout the night as well as disc jockeys, vendors, food and family fun all the way to midnight with a ball drop and fireworks show over the river.

South Cape New Year's Eve Ball Drop will take place at **SE 47th Terrace** from SE 9th Place to SE 11th Place from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. The free

event will feature live music, food trucks and beer tents.

The **Cape Harbour Marina** will host an annual event that features midnight fireworks. There will be live music, food and drinks. The action begins at 9 p.m. and is free to attendees. The Marina at Cape Harbour is located at 5703 Cape Harbour Drive in Cape Coral. Visit [www.caphearbour.com](http://www.caphearbour.com) or call 541-1374 for more information.

Fort Myers Beach will hold its annual birthday party on New Year's Eve. At **Times Square**, there will be free cupcakes served from noon to 1 p.m. and live music throughout the day. The town birthday party will then be extended to the Fort Myers Beach Community Pool from 1 to 3 p.m. with

food, drinks, relay races, games and a photo booth. At midnight, there will also be a ball drop and fireworks are expected to go off the pier in time to ring in the new year.\*\*

## Boxing Team Seeks Sponsors For Next Level

**T**he Fort Myers Police Athletic League (PAL) Boxing Team has garnered more championships and is seeking sponsors to help them move onto the next level of national competition. Last week, team members competed in the 2018 Florida State Silver Gloves tournament in West Palm Beach. The Florida Silver Gloves is designed to get at-risk kids off the street and motivated to engage themselves into a positive athletic competition. The Fort Myers PAL boxers brought back three state champions who are advancing to the Regional Silver Gloves in Washington D.C. during the first week of January.

The PAL winners include Terry Sanders, age 10, in the Peewee division at 90 pounds; Nathan Martinez, age 13, in the Intermediate division at 106 pounds; and Josiah Bravo Vasquez, age 13, in the Intermediate division at 125 pounds.

The Fort Myers Police Athletic League Boxing Academy is a non-profit organization funded in part by the Fort Myers police Department and dependent upon private donations and sponsorships to assist with travel, equipment and related expenses. Interested sponsors can email Officer Lamar Campbell at [lcampbell@fmpolice.com](mailto:lcampbell@fmpolice.com) or call 284-0112.\*\*

perform work that will make a meaningful contribution to the arts and culture of the city. The maximum funding for each arts and culture grant is \$2,500 for individual artists.

**T**he application process for the City of Fort Myers' Arts and Culture grants opened on December 14 and runs until January 18. The City of Fort Myers recognizes the importance of the arts to the cultural, educational and economic well-being of its diverse population. In order to enhance access by all its residents to a full range of cultural experiences, the city provides funding for arts and cultural programs, through the city's public art committee.

Deadline to apply is January 18 by 5 p.m. For more information and applications, visit [www.floridacommunity.com/grants-process/arts-culture-artist-guidelines](http://www.floridacommunity.com/grants-process/arts-culture-artist-guidelines).\*\*

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## Arts And Culture Grants Applications

**T**he application process for the City of Fort Myers' Arts and Culture grants opened on December 14 and runs until January 18.

The City of Fort Myers recognizes the importance of the arts to the cultural, educational and economic well-being of its diverse population. In order to enhance access by all its residents to a full range of cultural experiences, the city provides funding for arts and cultural programs, through the city's public art committee.

Artists must live or work within corporate limits of the city or create/

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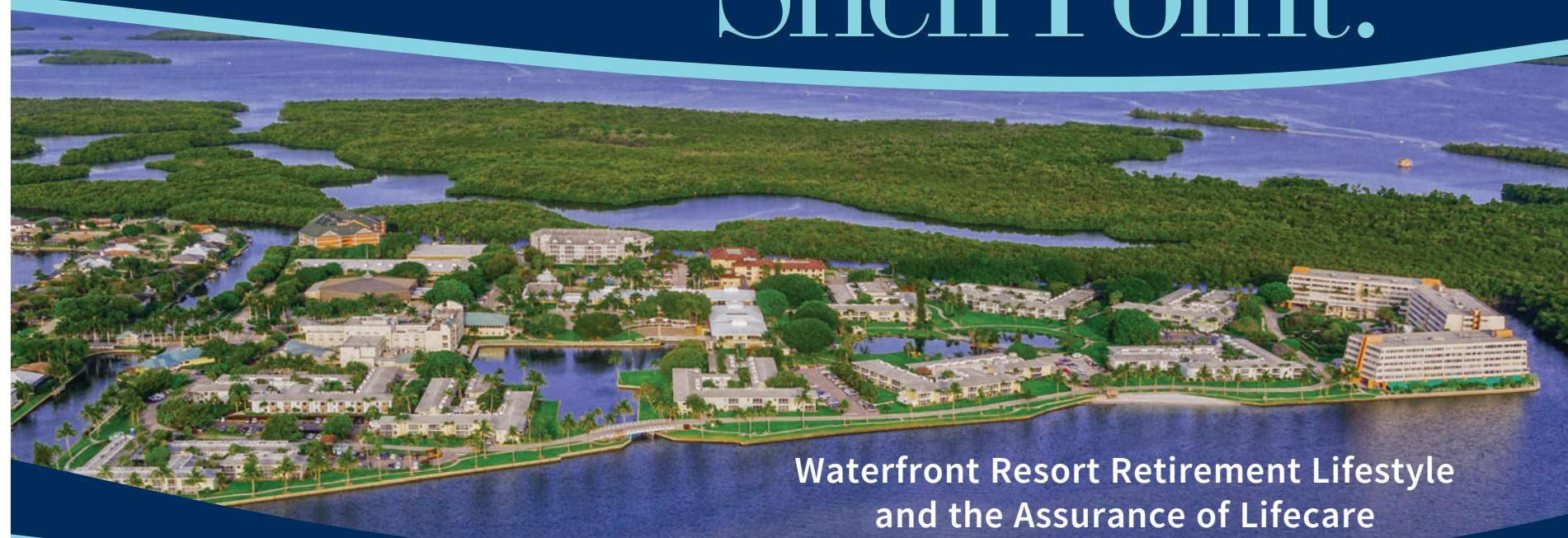
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The exterior of St. John XXIII Catholic Church

## Parish Life Center Completed At Catholic Church

Owen-Ames-Kimball Company (O-A-K), a construction contracting and management company, has completed the construction of a 22,000-square-foot Parish Life Center at St. John XXIII Catholic Church in Fort Myers.

Located at 13060 Palomino Lane in Fort Myers, the new Parish Life Center includes a large gathering hall

with a commercial kitchen for hosting social, spiritual and ministerial events; multipurpose flex-rooms, classrooms and offices to accommodate the growing parish; an indoor/outdoor stage and courtyard area for parish receptions and small group gatherings; and an adoration chapel.

O-A-K's team for the project was led by Ryan Propst as job site superintendent, Abrie Spies as project manager, Matthew Zwack as general superintendent/chief safety officer, Abel Natali as chief estimator, and Dave Dale as principal in charge. Learn more about O-A-K at [www.owen-ames-kimball.com](http://www.owen-ames-kimball.com).\*\*

## Churches/Temples

### ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

Sunday 10:30 a.m., 2756 McGregor Boulevard, [allfaiths-uc.org](http://allfaiths-uc.org), 226-0900.

### ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC

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

### ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX

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

### BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

Friday Shabbat at 7 p.m. 2050 Periwinkle Way. [www.bat Yam.org](http://www.bat Yam.org) 579-0296.

### BETH SHILOH MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

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

### BIBLESHARE

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

### BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES

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

### CHABAD LUBAVITCH ORTHODOX

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

### CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE

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

### CHURCH OF THE CROSS

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

### CONGREGATIONAL

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

### COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

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

### CYPRESS LAKE BAPTIST

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

photo provided

## Refuge Center Raises \$156K At Starlight Auction

The 24th annual Starlight Auction was a fundraising success for the Animal Refuge Center with \$156,000 donated through sponsorships, donations, the live auction and silent auction.

"It was a great night," said ARC Board President Rob Spicker. "Bidding was very competitive on many of the silent auctions, and the live items all sold for more than their estimated value."

Three hundred guests filled the ballroom at the Sanibel Harbour Resort and Spa on Saturday, November 26. One room alone was filled with nearly 200 silent auction baskets for the guests to bid on.

Special guest for the night was Mischka, who needed to have a leg amputated after being rescued by ARC. She has recovered and is in great spirits as she learns to get around again.

"Mischka represents the 'ARC doesn't do easy' philosophy of the Animal Refuge Center," Spicker said. "She came to us in the condition no other shelter would take her in, but for us, giving her love, care and the medial attention she needs is what we do. It's why the money raised at the auction is so critically important to continuing our mission."

Former Board Member Lee Allor



Mischka at the recent Starlight Auction

photo provided

was also recognized for his 20 years of service at the auction. Lee was board president for 10 of those years and oversaw the move from a small facility on Airport Road to the current shelter on Old Bayshore Road in North Fort Myers. He also helped expand the number of programs available at the shelter.

The ARC is Southwest Florida's largest no-kill shelter. It is located at 18011 Old Bayshore Road in North Fort Myers. Visit [www.animalrefugecenter.com](http://animalrefugecenter.com) for more information.\*\*

### METROPOLITAN

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

### SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN

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

### SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY

Sunday 9:30 a.m. 111 Evergreen Road, [saintnicholasmonastery.org](http://saintnicholasmonastery.org), 997-2847.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC

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

### SOUTHWEST BAPTIST

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

### TEMPLE BETHEL SYNAGOGUE

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

### TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

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

### THE NEW CHURCH

Sunday 11 a.m. 10811 Sunset Plaza Circle #401, [newchurchflorida.com](http://newchurchflorida.com), 481-5535.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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

### UNITY OF FORT MYERS

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

### WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

### WORD OF LIFE

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

### ZION LUTHERAN

Sunday 8, 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. 7401 Winkler Road, [zionfm.org](http://zionfm.org), 481-4040.\*\*

Drive, 481-5442.

### CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN

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

### CYPRESS LAKE UNITED METHODIST

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

### FAITH FELLOWSHIP WORLD OUTREACH

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

### FAITH UNITED METHODIST

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

### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

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

### FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. 2466 First Street, [fumcfmyers.org](http://fumcfmyers.org), 332-1152.

### FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN

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

### FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ; Sunday 10 a.m., 8210 College Parkway, 482-3133.

### IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

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

### JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC

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

### KINGDOM LIFE

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

### LAMB OF GOD

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

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

### NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER

Friday 6:30 and 7 p.m. 8505 Jenny Cae Lane, [nbcministry@embarqmail.com](mailto:nbcministry@embarqmail.com), [facebook.com/nbcministry](http://facebook.com/nbcministry), 656-0416.

### NEW COVENANT EYES

Monthly 9 a.m. 1900 Park Meadows Drive, [newcovenanteyes.com](http://newcovenanteyes.com), 220-8519.

### NEW HOPE BAPTIST

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

### NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN

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

### PEACE COMMUNITY

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

### PEACE LUTHERAN

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

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN

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

### RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

### SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER

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

### SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC

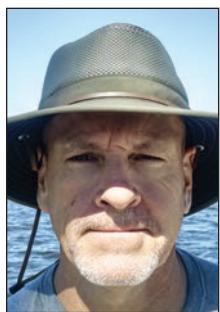
Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.; Saturday 3 and 5 p.m.; Sunday 7, 9 and 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m. 12171 Iona Road, 489-3973.

### 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

## CROW Case Of The Week: Red-bellied Cooter



by Bob Petcher

**T**he red-bellied cooter (*Pseudemys nelsoni*), known more affectionately in these parts as Florida redbellies, is a good-sized freshwater turtle. The color of the carapace – the upper shell – varies from brownish to black, but the shell does have a reddish band across the middle of the plates and vary with the age and the sex of the reptile. The pastron – or bottom portion of the shell – sports a brighter color.

While some aquatic terrapins are difficult to find, paddlers can usually spy a red-bellied cooter on a rock or log along the side of a river or creek. Interestingly, these turtles sun themselves this way to control their body temperatures.

At CROW, an adult female Florida red-bellied cooter was admitted after it was hit by a car along Highway 82 in Lehigh Acres. The turtle suffered a mildly displaced fracture of its carapace, which extended down the midline to the back of the shell.

"The fracture was approximately eight inches long. There were only

two parts to the fracture, and the fracture line traveled almost directly up the middle of the carapace from the rear," said Dr. Malka Spektor, CROW veterinary intern. "There was minimal displacement, and good alignment of the fracture fragments, making the repair pretty straight forward and simple."

The wound was bandaged after radiographs were taken. The patient was provided with pain medication and fluids.

"The bandaging allows the open tissue to begin the healing process without becoming contaminated or infected," explained Dr. Spektor.

Veterinarians later affixed grommets to the turtle's shell using epoxy. Once the grommets were in place, they were wired together. The grommets and wires will stay in place to stabilize the fracture site as it heals and will be removed once it is stable.

"Every turtle fracture repair is a little different, depending on the fracture. When we can, we prefer to use the grommets and epoxy over drilling screws into the shell because screws are more invasive, and we are placing more holes in the shell," said Dr. Spektor.

"The goal of any fracture repair is good alignment and stability of the fragments to put the shell back together and hold it until healing occurs. If we can achieve that healing with glued pieces that hold the wires in place, we will do that. We glue the grommets with superglue and epoxy in strategic places across the fracture. After it sets for 24 hours, we



Patient #18-4482 undergoes a wiring process with applied epoxy to stabilize the fragments in its carapace

photo by Brian Bohlman

oppose the fracture by using wires, and we can tighten them to hold those fragments together."

The wiring process brings the shell fragments closer together.

"The wiring actually tightens the shell pieces together, and then keeps them in place until the body produces bridges to hold them together," said Dr. Spektor.

"The wiring is usually kept in place for four to six weeks, depending on the patient and the fracture."

The red-bellied cooter is expected to be fine after the grommets are removed.

"We do a staged reduction of the

fracture, taking off one piece at a time to ensure it is stable before removing all of it," added Dr. Spektor. "Once all of the hardware is removed, and we make sure that it is stable, the patient can be released."

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).\*\*

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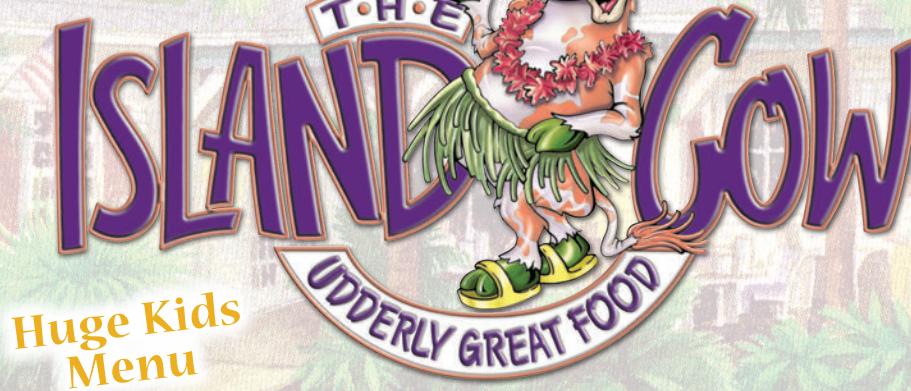
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## Winter Dock Fishing Time



by Capt.  
Matt Mitchell

**W**hat a crazy week of weather we had to deal with. Tropical storm winds along with gale warnings caused lots of beach erosion and brought some of the worst marine forecasts I have ever seen in December.

So far this year, our cold fronts have been coming from the Northwest and moving Southeast at a much more rapid frequency than the usual north to south pattern. Fishing in between these fronts has been great although cancelled or rescheduled trips have been a big part of my work week.

Sheepshead fishing using shrimp has been the daily go-to as our water temperature has stayed in the mid 60s for the past few weeks. Along with catching lots of sheepshead, I have also been getting on some nonstop rat redfish action. Most of the bigger sheepshead I'm catching have been relatively close to the passes with the best action coming in the northern part of the region from Redfish Pass to Captiva Pass.

During clear water periods when conditions are settled, it's been just

a matter of riding docks around the passes until you find the sheepshead stacked up. During stirred-up conditions, fish dock to dock until you find them as there has been no visibility.

Some the docks that I've been targeting sheepshead have also been holding rat redfish, though the better redfish bite has been coming in mangrove creeks during the low incoming tide. Finding a bend or place that the current splits or creates an eddy in these narrow creek systems can be gangbusters on these awesome bright colored hard-fighting winter redfish. Jig heads baited with a chunk of fresh shrimp threaded onto the hook has caught both species.

Whenever I mention sheepshead, I hear complaints about how hard they are to fillet. I fillet lots of these fish every winter and really don't think of them as hard to clean. When I fillet them I don't break the rib cage by cutting around it.

Leave the fillet of these sheepshead attached at the tail, flip the fillet back and cut the meat off the skin. Sheepshead for their size do not have as much yield as many of our other species due to the large head and rib cage, though they are some of the better eating fish in our waters.

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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While visiting from Maryland, Cheseca and Adam caught lots of sheepshead while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell  
photo provided

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## Junior Achievement Receives Grant



Students from Shadowlawn Elementary School participate in a recent JA in a Day program with volunteers from FineMark National Bank & Trust  
photo provided

**J**unior Achievement of Southwest Florida recently received a \$50,000 grant from the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation to help further its programs throughout Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties.

"This grant will enable us to extend Junior Achievement programs to 2,500 more students in Southwest Florida, helping our goal of reaching 12,500 students during the 2018-19 school year," said Angela Fisher, president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida. "Our volunteer-led programs and insightful job shadowing experiences provide students real-life, hands-on learning opportunities that build a solid foundation for future success in a global economy. We are so thankful to the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation for entrusting us with these funds that will further JA's impact on our region's next generation of

business leaders."

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida partners with classroom business volunteers to deliver lessons on financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship to students at both public and private schools, as well as after school programs and special at-risk groups. During the 2017-18 school year, Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida facilitated nearly 63,800 hours of instruction to more than 11,600 students throughout Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties.

"We're proud to support the work that Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida does with local schools in our community," said Mary Beth Geier, Florida director of the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation.

For more information, visit [www.jaswfl.org](http://www.jaswfl.org) or call 225-2590.\*\*

River District.

To enjoy the ArtFest Fort Myers VIP Club and the 200 artists, visit [www.artfestfortmyers.com](http://artfestfortmyers.com) or call 768-3602.\*\*

## Morning Meander At Lakes Park

**T**ake a nature walk with a bird patrol guide at Lakes Regional Park on Saturday, January 5 at 8 a.m.

This easy walk along clear paths offers an opportunity to see birds in native vegetation with experienced bird patrol guides pointing out the many species in Lakes Park, a Lee County birding hot spot and crucial nesting area for many birds. Wear comfortable shoes and dress to be outside. Bring water, sunscreen and binoculars.

This tour, which is free with paid parking, is provided in cooperation with Lee County Parks and Recreation.

Meet at Shelter A7. After entering the Lakes Park gate from Gladiolus Drive, turn right and drive to the end of the road, continuing through the parking lot. Shelter A7 is located near the train station.

Lakes Regional Park is located at 7330 Gladiolus Drive in Fort Myers. For more information, call 533-7580 or 533-7576.\*\*

**E**xperience ArtFest Fort Myers as a Very Important Patron at the VIP Tent for the Opening Night Party on Friday, February 1 from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be culinary delights, wine and beer from some of the area's finest restaurants as well as an extraordinary sampling of 65 festival artists and surprise performances. VIP reserved parking will be adjacent to the fine art festival.

This ticket-holder-only retreat right in the center of all the festival action creates a restful break amid your artful shopping. The VIP Club includes breakfast treats, specialty lunch, afternoon snack bar and beverages all day and convenient reserved parking. The VIP Club is \$125 per person.

VIP Club sponsor Ron Bucher, senior director of investments at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., will welcome everyone to an art filled weekend. "I look forward to this event every year. The arts change life for the better and are so important to our community in Southwest Florida. I am proud to be a part of this nationally award-winning art festival."

ArtFest Fort Myers 2019, the annual juried fine art festival, takes place February 1, 2 and 3 in the Fort Myers

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Queenswreath's large rough-textured evergreen leaves give the vine another common name, sandpaper vine  
photo by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart

## Queenswreath

by Gerri Reaves

**Q**ueenswreath (*Petrea volubilis*) is a twining woody vine whose showy lavender flowers give it notable ornamental value.

This member of the verbena family is native to Mexico, Central America and the West Indies.

The soft lavender flowers give it the alternate common names purple wreath and bluebird vine.

The Latin term *volubilis* in the species name refers to its ability to twine or revolve, enabling it to wind and climb up poles or other structures.

This fast-growing vine can be used on a trellis, fence, or can be trained into a shrub or small tree. It blooms more than once a year but most profusely in spring and summer.

The dense drooping flower clusters, or racemes, are up to 14 inches long. Each flower in a raceme has an individual stalk attached to the main axis of the inflorescence. When the five rounded flower petals fall, the calyx remains.

The calyx is a whorl at the base of the petals, usually the sepals, which are green in most flowers but lavender in

queenswreath. The effect after the petals fall is a seeming second round of star-like flowers. The narrow "petals" are lighter in color than the actual flowers.

These cascading flowers resemble those of wisteria, thus another common name, Florida wisteria.

The evergreen leaves of four to eight inches long are opposite and oval with pointed tips. Their rough texture inspires another common name, sandpaper vine.

The inconspicuous round fruit measures about a half-inch across.

Queenswreath prefers rich sandy soil and full sun but will tolerate some shade. It is drought and wind tolerant but not salt tolerant. A white cultivar is available too.

While this plant is non-invasive, pest resistant and "Florida friendly," if you want a blue-purple vine for your yard, consider planting a native one instead.

Skyblue clustervine (*Jacquemontia pentanthos*) is not only lovely, but a good nectar source for native butterflies. Also called blue jacquemontia and Key West morning-glory, it is endangered in Florida.

Sources: *Florida Gardener's Guide* by Tom MacCubbin and Georgia B. Tasker; *Florida, My Eden* by Frederic B. Stresau; [www.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.ifas.ufl.edu); [www.plantbook.org](http://www.plantbook.org); and [www.south-florida-plant-guide.com](http://www.south-florida-plant-guide.com).

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

## Water Quality Lawsuit Initiated

submitted by John C. Capece,  
Calusa Waterkeeper

**C**onservation groups filed a notice of intent last week to sue three federal agencies for failing to assess harm to Florida's endangered species before approving the ongoing release of Lake Okeechobee waters polluted with toxic, nutrient-rich agricultural waste.

The discharges likely help drive the catastrophic red tide algae blooms killing Florida's coastal wildlife.

The groups are challenging the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' plan to extend through 2025 deadly discharges from the lake into the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers. The discharges harm protected marine species like sea turtles and Florida manatees and trigger toxic algae blooms that limit use of waterways and cripple local economies.

The notice gives the Army Corps, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service 60 days to respond to the claims submitted by the Center for Biological Diversity, Calusa Waterkeeper and Waterkeeper Alliance.

"Even as the red tide wreaks havoc, the corps keeps treating Florida's rivers like a toilet," said Jaclyn Lopez, Florida director for the Center for Biological Diversity. "Year after year our waterways are polluted, and the health and livelihoods of Floridians are threatened. Florida's residents, from fisherman to manatee, deserve better."

Before approving long-term schedules for discharges from Lake Okeechobee, the corps is supposed to work with scientists from the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to assess risks to plants and animals protected under the Endangered Species Act. But the agencies have ignored the impacts of the algal blooms and failed to consider how the ongoing damage would harm populations of manatees, sea turtles, smalltooth sawfish and coral for the next seven years.

"LORS (Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule) is responsible for discharges that impact over 200,000 acres of habitat for the endangered smalltooth sawfish," said John Cassani, Calusa Waterkeeper. "The Caloosahatchee is important pupping habitat for sawfish, and the corps' discharges threaten to harm this vital nursery."

It has been well documented that the current schedule for discharges from the lake causes harm to the rivers, their estuaries and marine animals. The harmful discharges are managed by the corps to prioritize agricultural needs. The releases, which include algae and nutrients that are allowed to accumulate in the lake, cause significant harm to water quality and wildlife.

"Government agencies are supposed to uphold and enforce our nation's laws," said Waterkeeper Alliance Executive Director Marc Yaggi. "Sadly, the Army Corps has been violating the very laws it is sworn to uphold, causing incalculable damage to endangered and threatened species like manatees and sea turtles that rely on clean healthy waterways and coasts to survive. We intend to force the Trump administration to immediately

end its dereliction of duty and to protect threatened marine life and coastal economies from the impacts of harmful algal blooms before it's too late."

Past analyses of the corps' schedule for the lake failed to consider the long-term impacts of high volume discharges beyond three years, discounted the effects of harmful algal blooms and did not consider habitat impacts triggered by climate change.

In 2008, the corps updated its plan for managing the discharges with the goal of lowering the risk of damage to the Herbert Hoover Dam, which retains the lake. But the plan was supposed to be reconfigured within three years to incorporate the impacts of structural improvements to the dike and water quality upgrades projected to come from the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

The dike repairs are behind schedule, the Everglades plan has not been completed and toxic algae blooms continue to kill countless marine animals. Meanwhile, the corps has opted to simply extend the current water-management plan through 2025 without assessing the harm to protected wildlife and water quality.\*\*

## Land Purchased For River Benefits

**T**he Lee Board of County Commissioners have authorized the purchase of 624.9 acres along Joel Boulevard in northern Lehigh Acres for Conservation 20/20.

The parcel, commonly known as "GS-10," is located along Joel Boulevard and was historically used as a borrow pit. It is southeast of the Greenbriar Swamp and the size, location and previous use are ideal for a water quality/storage project with potential passive public recreation components.

The purchase price is \$3.87 million. Approval was recommended unanimously last month by the Conservation 20/20 Land Acquisition and Stewardship Advisory Committee.

This parcel is part of the proposed Caloosahatchee River Estuary, Lehigh Section 10 Storage Project in the 2012 Caloosahatchee River Watershed Protection Plan.

The proposed project includes modifying the existing site to allow for additional surface water storage. The project will present regional water quality benefits to the impaired Caloosahatchee River and provide significant nutrient load reductions outlined in the Caloosahatchee Estuary Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP).

For more information on Lee County Natural Resources' efforts to protect and improve water quality, visit [www.leegov.com/naturalresources/waterquality](http://www.leegov.com/naturalresources/waterquality).

Conservation 20/20, which has preserved more than 28,000 acres since its inception, is Lee County's environmental acquisition and management program. Conservation lands help the county protect drinking water, enhance water quality, provide nature-based recreational opportunities, protect areas from flooding and provide wildlife habitat. For more information, visit [www.conservation2020.org](http://www.conservation2020.org).\*\*

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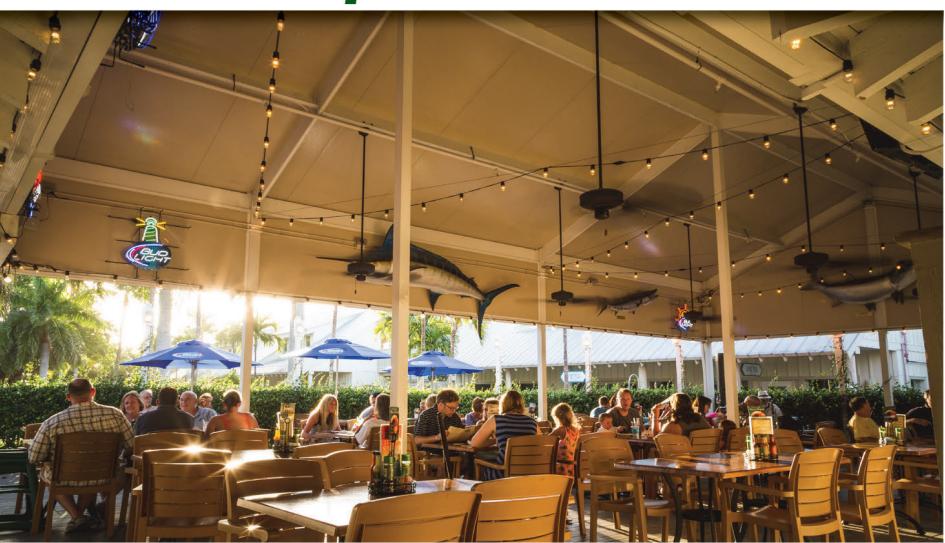
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## Holiday Family Discussions



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

**E**veryone is gathered together; the presents are open, and a sumptuous Christmas dinner finished. Younger family members roll their eyes as elder generations recount classic stories.

What is left to discuss?

How about mom and dad's estate plan? That would bring the house down, wouldn't it?

There's really no good time to discuss an estate plan with adult children, but it's not a bad idea to broach the subject during a festive and positive family gathering, especially if the family is typically dispersed all over the country and not often together.

While you don't have to get into all the details, there are some basics that adult children ought to know, especially if you named them as your personal representative, power of attorney, trustee or health care surrogate in your legal documents.

### Knowing Who To Call

The first tidbit they should know is the names and contact information of all your financial professionals, including your attorney, CPA and financial advisor. Scheduling a handshake visit with the attorney when the kids are in town is a good idea, if only to say hello. This makes communication much easier if it becomes necessary in a time of crisis.

Since your CPA is presumably familiar with your income tax issues, it's good for those that follow you to know who that person is. I've had client's children not know who the CPA is and therefore aren't aware of what the last three years tax returns looked like when they suddenly became responsible for filing their parents' returns.

### Understanding Assets

Finances are one of the most sensitive issues between parents and their adult children. An adult child might see investments totaling more than \$1 million and wonder why mom and dad haven't been more generous with gifts. We all know that while \$1 million sounds like a lot of money, it doesn't generate a whole lot of income in today's low yield environments. And if a retiree spends down their principal, they have no way of replenishing it.

On the other hand, many adult children can be effective stewards and guardians for their aging parents who might become susceptible to investment scams. I've heard more than one adult child tell me that if they'd only known what their mom or dad was up to, they'd have been able to step in and avoid financial disasters.

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If you have a safety deposit box, now's the time to let your children know the bank branch and location of the box, along with the location of the key. If you haven't already put one of your children's names on the signature card for the box, take them down to the bank and do so. Otherwise, on your death or incapacity the box won't be accessible.

Online bank and brokerage accounts are becoming more common. If something happens to you it will be important for those that you trust to act for you to know how your accounts can be accessed, including where you might keep a list of your user names and passwords. At the same time, when you change or update your passwords you'll have to remember to update that list.

Online social media accounts often become problematic, so the username and passwords associated with those accounts should be recorded somewhere secure and your loved ones should know how to find them.

While Normal Rockwell never painted a family holiday scene that included legal documents, bank statements and tax returns strewn about the kitchen table, now might be a good opportunity to have much needed conversations with your loved ones.

On a brighter note, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2019!

©2018 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at [www.sbslaw.com](http://www.sbslaw.com).\*\*



A previous Grande Dames Tea celebration

photo provided

## Grande Dames Tea Set For March 26

PACE Center for Girls, Lee County recently announced its 2019 Grande Dames Tea will be held at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre on Tuesday, March 26 from 1 to 3 p.m.

The 11th annual event celebrates three local women for their roles in business, community and philanthropy. PACE has named Alexandra Bremner as chair of the annual event. The 2019 honorees will be announced in January.

"Our annual Grande Dames Tea brings the community together to cherish the impact and achievements of local women, learn from their wisdom and honor the female spirit," said Meg M. Geltner, executive director at PACE Center for Girls, Lee County. "Aligning with our efforts to empower girls and young women to live a life defined by responsibility, dignity, serenity and grace, this inspirational event provides real-life examples of women that our PACE girls can aspire to be."

Each year, PACE's Grande Dames Tea honors women who exemplify the organization's guiding principles and have made a significant impact on the community through decades of service and helping others. The event's theme, The Wisdom of Age – Honoring the Female

Spirit, represents the unique perspectives and powerful insight that these women have gained throughout their life journeys, and the importance of passing this knowledge along to future generations. Honorees will share words of wisdom and advice during this inspirational event, which also features a question-and-answer session and special performances by the PACE girls. Proceeds from the event benefit PACE and its strength-based, gender-specific programs that guide PACE girls in finding their voice and achieving their potential.

Ticket sales begin February 1, with admission at \$60 per person. Attendees are encouraged to wear their favorite tea party hat.

A range of sponsorship opportunities are now available for the 2019 event, including Title sponsorship at \$10,000, Golden Tea Leaves sponsorships at \$7,500 and Silver Teacup sponsorships at \$5,000. These levels include eight tickets and many other benefits. Additional sponsorships include China Teapot sponsorships at \$2,500, which include six tickets, Silver Teaspoon sponsorships at \$1,000, which include four tickets and Table sponsorships at \$500.

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre is located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. To learn more about PACE Center for Girls, Lee County, or to purchase tickets to the 2019 Grande Dames Tea, visit [www.pacecenter.org/locations/lee](http://www.pacecenter.org/locations/lee) or call 425-2366.\*\*

**Book Review**

## Varina



by Di Saggau

**V**arina by Charles Frazier, author of the popular *Cold Mountain*, brings us back too the Civil War with a story about Varina Howell Davis, the wife of the only president of the Confederate State of America. It comes at a time when statues of Confederate "heroes" are being toppled, including that of Jefferson Davis. After reading the book, one might think Varina would consider this justice. She is a Southern woman who, after the Civil War, moved to New York to write for newspapers and declared that "the right side won."

At age 18, Varina, her marriage prospects limited, marries the Mississippi landowner Jefferson Davis, a widower 19 years her senior. She expects the secure life of a Mississippi landowner but he promptly leaves his young wife to fight in the Mexican-American War. After returning home, Davis turns his military experience into a political career, representing Mississippi in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, as well as serving as the Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce before being elected president of the Confederacy in 1861.

This places Varina at the white-hot center of one of the darkest moments in American history. The book begins in 1906 in Saratoga Springs, New York, and the elderly Varina, who likes to be called V, is visited by a black man named James Blake. He tells V he was once Limber Jimmy, the little boy Varina rescued and raised for awhile. That was in 1865. V then begins telling James the story of her life.

The Confederacy falling, her marriage in tatters and the country divided, Varina and her children escape Richmond, Virginia, and travel south on their own. They are now fugitives with "bounties on

## School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

**D**ear Readers, Here is my annual reminder of some of the best gifts you can give your children this holiday season.

These are gifts from the heart. During

this busy time of year, think about giving your children some extra support by choosing highly expressive words that convey a strong belief in your child. Kids quickly forget their new toys, but they will not forget your words of love, encouragement and praise.

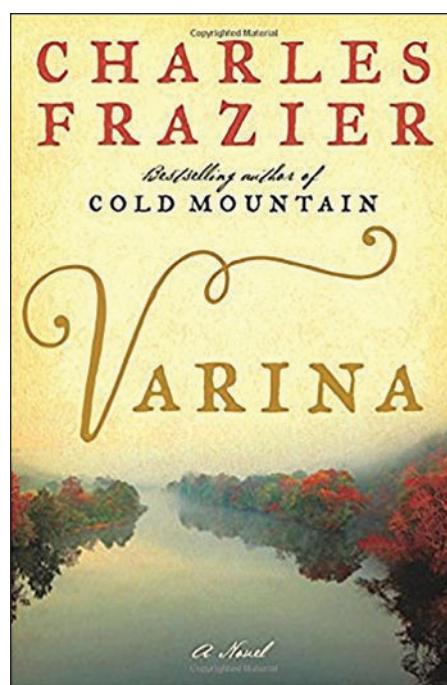


image provided

their heads, an entire nation in pursuit." Slavery is prominent throughout *Varina*. "From the earliest memory, owning another people was a given. But V began feeling the strangeness of it at about age 9 or 10. Not the wrongness of the sin of it, but the strangeness only."

Over a period of six Sundays, James returns to visit V. His questions and V's memories combine as both of them come to understand their separate experiences. V says, "being on the wrong side of history carries consequences." V lives that truth every day. If you've done terrible things, lived a terrible way, profited from paining the face of history's power to judge, then guilt and loss accrue. Those were times that required choosing a side, and then sooner or later, history asks, "which side were you on?"

*Varina* is a well-written novel that is worth rereading. It is an indictment of complicity without ignoring the historic complexity of the great evil at the core of American history. Intimate in its detailed observations of one woman's tragic life, and epic in its scope and power, it is a novel of an American war and its aftermath.\*

succeed like you

You can do it better than I can

You're better at this than me

**Crediting their hard work**

I can see how much work you put into this

I can see how hard you tried

You worked so hard on this, and you achieved it perfectly

You're making fantastic progress

I can see you spent a lot of time on this

I can imagine how much effort you had to put in to achieve this

You must have worked so hard to get this result

All that hard work paid off

**Being thankful for the time you spend together**

I really appreciate you spending time with me

I can't wait to play with you tomorrow

It's so interesting to do this with you

I really enjoyed playing with you

I'm so glad you're at home with me

I'm having so much fun being with you

**Helping them evaluate their own performance**

What do you think about this?

You must be so proud!

What's the thing your most proud of?

What's your opinion on this?

How would you evaluate your own work?

And what do you think of the result?

How do you wish it had gone?

**Being thankful for their help**

Thank you so much for doing this I'm so grateful that you helped me

with this

You really helped me out

Thanks for understanding

I don't know what I would have done without you

Without your help I wouldn't have succeeded

You helped me to get through this quicker

The house is so tidy thanks to you

**Describing what you see**

Your bedroom is so clean

Wow, you've made your bed! Fantastic

There are so many beautiful colors in this picture

I can see that you really tried hard

I noticed that you cleared the table yourself. Well done

**Describing how you feel**

I just love spending time with you so much

I'm so happy when you're at home

I love being part of your team

I love hearing your opinion

I'm so incredibly grateful that I have you

It makes me so happy when you're around to help me

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

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"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

Sometimes though, parents find it difficult to express their thoughts and support for their children. Here is a list of highly expressive and meaningful phrases that child psychologist Yekaterina Kes has put together to use with your child. All of them will help your child to understand the depth of your love and affection for them. What could be a better present to them than that?

**Expressing belief in your child**

I trust you

I believe in you

I respect your decision

It won't be easy, but I'm certain you'll do it

You're doing everything right

You understand this perfectly

How did you manage to do this so well?

Teach me how you do it, so I can

**Superior Interiors**

## Less Is More, Small Is Big

by Jeanie Tinch



**A**n architectural and generational theme that we see driving a market trend is "small spaces." This "small is big" movement is gaining momentum with help from both millennials and baby boomers. Millennials are on board with their finances in mind; they gravitate towards cost-efficient living spaces. Smaller spaces lend themselves to these constraints. Baby boomers' infatuation stems from a simple decreasing need for space.

While these two groups have been identified as having many different traits, the market recognizes the desires of these

## Babcock Ranch Parcel Discussion

**T**he Lee Board of County Commissioners recently voted to end discussions with Kitson & Partners concerning the prospective purchase of 1,519 acres of property at Babcock Ranch.

Pursuant to board direction, county staff had explored the possibility of acquiring the land, which is adjacent to the Telegraph Creek and Bob Janes Preserves and had been nominated for Conservation 20/20 by Babcock Ranch Holdings, LLC.

Babcock Ranch previously agreed to preserve 60 percent of the property as open space, improve water quality, create critical wildlife connections, provide public recreation access and maintain the property in perpetuity.

"Enhancing the significant environmental commitments that already exist is a high hurdle, and one that both sides explored thoroughly and in good faith," said Lee County Manager Roger Desjarlais. "At this point, we have not uncovered a deal structure that improves upon the win-win scenario already in place. We thank Syd Kitson and his team for the chance to evaluate this opportunity and for a great process and working relationship."

Although Lee County will not be acquiring the additional Babcock Ranch acreage, area residents will benefit from the conceptual development plan proposed by Kitson & Partners. That plan includes:

Preservation – minimum 60 percent open space; 50 percent to be restored and maintained as conservation area;

Access – designated public recreation and civic areas;

Water Quality – wetland creation and hydrologic enhancement; re-use and onsite surface water for irrigation; additional 50 percent water quality treatment beyond South Florida Water Management District requirements for onsite stormwater management basins;

Species Habitat – protected species

two large segments of our population and produces furnishings that work for both generations.

Small-scale tables have been popular due to their low cost and flexibility; they do not make the owner commit to it for a long period of time and offer flexibility of use within a space.

Ottomans have also become popular, likely for their decreased size and increased functionality. They can be used as tables, footrests, extra seating and storage. A desk can also function as a buffet or console table.

Simplicity and multi-use furnishings have made their way back within the industry's new releases. While small space living requires a certain amount of flexibility and creativity, even the tightest of spaces can shine. To help get the most out of your space, consult an interior design professional to explore possibilities. This design consultation is an extremely efficient (and cost-saving) way to make the most of a room's functionality while incorporating chic new eye-catching trends.

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

management plan, panther habitat management and wildlife crossings and wildlife connections to adjacent conservation lands.

In regards to additional Conservation 20/20 action from the recent board meeting, commissioners authorized commencement of acquisition activities for three parcels totaling 800 acres for Conservation 20/20 at the regularly scheduled Board meeting Tuesday.

The Board of County Commissioners recently has authorized pursuit of 18 active Conservation 20/20 projects. Seven additional parcels have been evaluated by the Conservation Land Acquisition and Stewardship Advisory Committee and will be reviewed by the Board in January 2019.

In addition, an agreement to purchase the nearly 600-acre "GS-10" parcel in Lehigh Acres will be considered at the board's next regularly scheduled meeting, which is December 18.

For more information about Tuesday's parcels and future agenda items, visit [www.leegov.com/bocc/meetings](http://www.leegov.com/bocc/meetings). For additional information about Conservation 20/20, visit [www.conservations2020.org](http://www.conservations2020.org).\*\*

## Dean's List

**T**wo Southwest Florida natives were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2018 semester at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Kaley Champion is from North Fort Myers, and Kaitlyn Matter is from Fort Myers.\*\*

## Dean's List

**T**wo Fort Myers natives were among 2,400 students named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2018 semester at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina.

Justin Dobbs is a management pre-major major, and Marco Tanzella is a management major.\*\*

Species Habitat – protected species

**Financial Focus**

## New Year's Financial Resolutions

by Jennifer Basey



**A**s the year winds down, you may want to look ahead to see which areas of your life you can improve in 2019. Perhaps you'll decide to exercise more, eat healthier foods, reconnect

with old friends or volunteer at a school or charitable organization. All these goals are certainly worthwhile – but you also may want to add some New Year's financial resolutions to your list.

Here are a few ideas to consider:

**Boost contributions to your employer-sponsored retirement plan.** Good news! Contribution limits will be increasing for many employer-sponsored retirement plans.

For 2019, if you're age 50 or older, you can contribute up to \$19,000 (up from \$18,500 in 2018), or \$25,000 (up from \$24,500 in 2018) to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. It's usually a good idea to contribute as much as you can afford to your employer's plan, as your contributions may lower your taxable income, while any earnings' growth is tax-deferred. (Keep in mind that taxes are due upon withdrawal, and withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2 may be subject to a 10 percent IRS penalty.)

At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered.

**Try to "max out" on your IRA.** Even if you have a 401(k) or similar plan, you can probably still invest in an IRA. For 2019, you can put in up to \$6,000 in a traditional or Roth IRA (up

From page 2

## Historic Downtown

tourists from around the world. (It was soon renamed the Royal Palm Hotel.)

The opening of the Gilded Age hotel the first or second week of January energized the atmosphere. For the duration of high season, the town's economy and social life were synchronized with the hotel's.

Opening day was always publicized and the first registered guest of the season announced in the *Press*. Thereafter, arrivals were regularly announced as well, and hotel events were featured in the news.

Already in 1900, the hotel advertised that it was "famous with sportsmen of two continents" and "the greatest of Tarpon Fishing resorts."

If you ring in New Year's 2019 on First Street, imagine the whistles and fife players of 1900 and the amazing sign lit by not one, but two, light bulbs.

Then visit the following two research

from \$5,500 in 2018), or \$7,000 (up from \$6,500) if you're age 50 or older. (Income restrictions apply to Roth IRAs.) Contributions to a traditional IRA may be tax-deductible, depending on your income, and any earnings growth is tax-deferred. Roth IRA contributions are not deductible, but earnings growth can be withdrawn tax-free, provided you don't start taking withdrawals until you are age 59 1/2 and you've had your account at least five years. You can put most types of investments – stocks, bonds, mutual funds, government securities and so on – into an IRA, so it can expand your options beyond those offered in your 401(k) or similar plan.

**Build an emergency fund.** Try to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a low-risk, liquid account. This fund can help you avoid dipping into your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a major car repair.

**Control your debts.** Do what you can to keep your debts under control. Ultimately, the less you have to spend on debt payments, the more you can invest for your future.

**Don't overreact to financial market volatility.** In 2018 – especially the last few months of the year – we saw considerable market volatility, with huge drops and big gains in rapid succession. What will 2019 bring? It's always difficult – and usually futile – trying to forecast the market's performance over the course of an entire year. But, in any case, try not to overreact to whatever ups and downs we may experience. Instead, continue pursuing an investment strategy that's appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

Following these suggestions can help you become a better investor in 2019 – and beyond.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor. Jennifer Basey is a financial advisor in Fort Myers. She can be reached at [jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com](mailto:jennifer.basey@edwardjones.com).*\*\*

centers to learn more about how early Fort Myers celebrated New Year's Eve.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization open Wednesday and Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon and Wednesday 4 to 7 p.m. It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Call 939-4044 or visit [www.swflhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.swflhistoricalsociety.org) for more information.

The Lee County Black History Society is located at 1936 Henderson Avenue, adjacent to the Williams Academy Museum at Roberto Clemente Park. Hours for the volunteer, non-profit organization are Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday by appointment only. For more information, call 332-8778 or visit [www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org](http://www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org).

Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, *The Fort Myers Press*, *Remembering Fort Myers* by Prudy Taylor Board, and *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl H. Grismer.\*\*



Kiwianian of the Year Rachel Toomey and Volunteer of the Year Lindsey Lenhart  
photo provided

## Kiwanis Elects New Officers And Honors Members

The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club held their installation banquet for the club's 2018-19 officers at the Edison Restaurant in Fort Myers. Awards were also given to club members for their support in service to the community.

The individuals that took office include: Rachel Toomey as club president; Lindsey Lenhart as president-elect; Kim Berghs as secretary; and Todd Adams as treasurer. Toomey is media director at Priority Marketing. Lenhart is a crime laboratory analyst with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Berghs is volunteer center manager at United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee. Adams is wealth manager at Wealth Planning Group. Liz Ross, a retired accountant,

will now serve as immediate-past president of the club. The 2018-19 Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club Board of Directors are Bill Grant, Barbara Hartman, Steve Hess, Linda Parrish, Cathy Smith and Ada Trapanese.

Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club recognized members with top club honors. Lindsey Lenhart was awarded Volunteer of the Year, and Rachel Toomey was awarded Kiwanian of the Year.

The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club is looking for more service-minded

individuals and business professionals who would like to make a direct impact on the community through volunteering. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in Fort Myers. For details on joining the Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club, call membership chair Stewart Ross at 507-304-1624. Interested individuals or businesses can also email stewart.ross@mnsu.edu. The Metro-McGregor Kiwanis Club can be found on Facebook or online at www.metro-mcgregor.com.\*\*

## Women Voters Environmental Program

The League of Women Voters invites the public to an educational program on the Bert Harris Act and the environment at The Collaboratory on Saturday, January 5 from 9 to 11 a.m.

Frank Alcock, PhD, associate professor of political science at New College of Florida in Sarasota, will be the speaker. There is no charge for admission.

"As the environmental chair of the league, I thought it important to reach out to him," said League Director Patty Duncan. "Fortunately for us, he agreed to come and speak to our group about this act's impact on our ability to address environmentally sensitive

proposals. Expect a dynamic and dramatic presentation on the politics of the environment."

Dr. Alcock teaches courses on world politics and international law and environmental policy. He teaches students about the Bert Harris Act and the impact it has on cities' and counties' inability to protect sensitive environmental areas.

Dr. Alcock is a former director of the Marine Policy Institute at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota. He appears regularly as a political analyst with ABC News in Sarasota. He hosts a regular television program on the Manatee Education TV channel. He holds a PhD in political science from Duke University.

The Collaboratory is located at 2031 Jackson Street in Fort Myers. For reservations, call 278-1032 or e-mail reservations@lwvlee.org by January 2, 2019.\*\*



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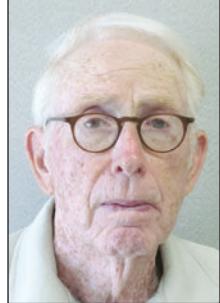
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# Twins To Retire Star Catcher's Number – Ninth To Receive Honor

by Ed Frank



**F**or nearly two decades, this reporter has written dozens of columns about the Minnesota Twins' Joe Mauer from the day he was selected the No. 1 pick in the 2001 Major League draft to the day he announced his retirement at the end of the 2018 season in an emotional farewell at Target Field.

During that long tenure that spanned 15 Major League seasons, all with the Twins, there has never been one scintilla of a negative incident associated with this true ambassador of baseball.

It was fitting, therefore, that the Twins announced recently that Mauer's uniform, No 7, was being retired, joining just eight other former players or manager in club history to receive that honor.

And how deserved an honor it is.

His amazing career is chronicled over several pages in the Twins 2018 Media Guide. But, of equal, or perhaps even greater importance, is his off-the-field charitable work.

"The Minnesota Twins organization has been blessed to have Joe Mauer part of our franchise since 2001," said Executive Chair Jim Pohlad. "Few players have achieved more on the field, or given more off the field than Joe."

Mauer resides part-time here in Fort Myers where he purchased a residence back in 2003 when he played for the Fort Myers Miracle team on his way to the Majors.

The following is a brief summary of his Major League accomplishments:

He played all 15 Major League seasons with the Twins, joining Tony Oliva as the only player in club history to do so. His career batting average was .306 with 428 doubles, 30 triples, 143 home runs, 923 RBI and 1,018 runs scored. He caught 921 career games, the most in Twins history, prior to moving to first base in 2014.

Mauer was the 2009 American League Most Valuable Player, named to the AL All-Star team six times, earned three Gold Glove Awards as a catcher and won three AL batting titles. He signed an eight-year \$184 million contract in 2010, the highest ever earned in baseball for a catcher – a record that remains.

The 35-year-old Mauer and his high school sweetheart wife, Maddie, are parents of twin girls and a baby boy born last month. The couple has been extremely active in community service over the years. They annually host the Mauer and Friends

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who was the last Cleveland Indian before Jose Ramirez in 2017 to have five extra-base hits in a game?
2. Rhys Hoskins of the Philadelphia Phillies set a record in 2017 for hitting his first 10 major-league home runs faster than anyone in history. How many games did it take him?
3. When was the last time the Detroit Lions won a playoff game on the road?
4. Name the last time before 2018 that the Houston Cougars men's basketball team won an NCAA Tournament game?
5. Between 2000-2018, three defensemen were selected No. 1 overall in the NHL Entry Draft. Name two of them.
6. Of Bobby and Davey Allison, Dale Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr., and Lee and Richard Petty, who was the only pair to finish in the top two spots at a Daytona 500?
7. Who was the first men's tennis player to claim all nine ATP Masters 1000 events?

## ANSWERS

6. The Allisons, in 1988. 7. Novak Djokovic, in 2018.
1. Kelly Shoppach, in 2008. 2. Seventeen games. 3. It was 1957. 4. It was 1984. 5. Erik Johnson (St. Louis), 2006; Aaron Ekblad (Florida), 2014) and Rasmus Dahlin (Buffalo), 2018).

## Boutique Office - Big Results



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Kids Classic luncheon to benefit Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare, raising more than \$1 million for the hospital's foundation. They also donated a play room at this hospital for pediatric patients.

Mauer also hosts a bowling fundraiser for the Highland Friendship Club, an organization dedicated to providing work and recreation opportunities to people with developmental disabilities.

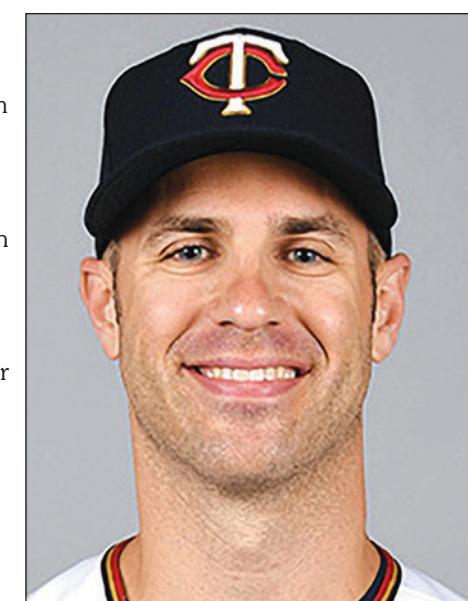
In 2005, he established a community ticket program called Mauer's Minnies, providing game tickets to thousands of economically disadvantaged youth and their families from the Twins Cities. Since that time, more than 50,000 youth and their families have attended Twins games for free due to Mauer's generous contribution.

These charitable endeavors just touch the surface what Mauer and his wife have accomplished in community service over the years.

Just 35 years old, Mauer probably had several years of competitive baseball remaining. But the serious concussion he suffered as a catcher and the desire to spend more time with his young family led to his retirement decision.

However, you have to wonder whether he will remain with the Twins organization in some advisory role. Don't be surprised to see him here come February working with players during Spring Training.

Twins fans, players and baseball in general will miss this future Hall of Famer. He has been a tribute to the game.\*\*



**Joe Mauer** photo courtesy Minnesota Twins

From page 1

## Surrealism

resin add another depth and coloration that intensify the work."

Kuser is an artist, graphic designer, gallery owner and magazine publisher. She said, "With my art, I want to bring a fresh and contemporary twist to a long established medium.... surrealism. Using my skills as a graphic designer, I create 2D/3D digital surrealism. Through a mystical and fantasy driven vision, a story emerges from my canvas. I use stark details with transitional blending; thus my art takes flight. The range of my artwork can vary from something with as little as 70 digital layers to creating a more complex piece with greater than 700 layers or images."

Kuser's art has been exhibited in the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery; Naples Art Association's von Liebig Art Center; Lee County Alliance for the Arts; BIG ARTS on Sanibel; Reverie & Rock Art Gallery; Old Courthouse Art Center in Rockford, Myers.

Illinois; Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center; and the Spring Art Affair at Bell Tower Shops. She has also participated in the annual Arts for ACT fine art auction, Art Poems and the Pen Women of Florida annual conference in 2016. In 2017, she took second place in an international contemporary art competition through Open Art Miami and was featured in the gallery during Art Basel that same year. She earned her bachelor's degree in management and organizational development from Spring Arbor University in Michigan. She and her husband own KMK Publishing Inc., which publishes two monthly event magazines in Southwest Florida: *Happenings A&E Magazine* and *Lee County Family News*. Lindsay also co-owned Reverie & Rock Art Gallery in downtown Fort Myers.

The exhibits will remain on view until January 28.

Arts for ACT Gallery is located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. Visit [www.artsforactgallery.com](http://www.artsforactgallery.com) for more information.\*\*

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## Hospital Receives Donation Of Children's Books

**O**n December 12, author Dan Perkins of Sanibel and Admiral Scott Logan donated 2,000 copies of the new book, titled *Timmy and the Little Red Wagon*, to Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. The Logan Family Foundation funded the printing of the book.

The hospital has a library and book give-away program for children during their stay. The books help give children a break from boredom and provide a pleasant distraction – and the patients can take them home when they are discharged.

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

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

## Hertz Arena To Continue Use As Shelter

**T**he Lee Board of County Commissioners recently approved a contract for structural design and construction improvements to the Hertz Arena roof and building for continued use as an emergency shelter.

The \$3.2 million project will be funded by \$2 million from the Lee County's All Hazards Reserve Fund, \$1 million from the general fund and the balance from major maintenance funds. The Walker Contracting Group, Inc. is the contractor for the project.

On June 19, commissioners approved a new lease agreement with KTB Florida Sports Arena, LLC, owner of Hertz Arena, then known as Germain Arena, to continue the availability and use of the arena as a public shelter for disasters and emergency events and replacement of the roof. Lee County previously had an agreement in place with the arena owners since 1999.

Improvements to the arena include design and repairs to the roof and other necessary measures to withstand hurricane winds. Work is anticipated to begin in March and be completed in June, weather permitting.\*\*

## Graduation Rate Rises To Highest Level Ever

**T**he Florida Department of Education recently released the 2017-18 graduation rates, and Lee County has shown dramatic improvement.

The graduation rate increased to 82.6 percent for the 2018 graduation class, a 4.1-percent increase from the year



A donation of 2,000 storybooks was delivered to the children's hospital last week

photo provided

before and the highest level attained by the district.

Here are the highlights:

Overall graduation rate increased by 4.1 percent (78.7 to 82.8 percent)

English Language Learner's (ELL) rate increased by 4.5 percent

Exceptional Student Education (ESE) rate increased by 16.6 percent

"These numbers are fantastic," said Superintendent Dr. Greg Adkins. "We are constantly improving student achievement, and this proves that the direction we have taken is working. I am extremely proud of our students for their hard work and our staff for the dedication to student success."

Two high schools had more than a 10-percent improvement in their graduation rates, East Lee County and the Lee Virtual Franchise. Eleven of the 14 high schools increased their graduation rates in 2017-18. Twelve schools graduated more than 90 percent of their students.\*\*

## Foundation To Host Dinner For Police Officers

**T**he Fort Myers Police Foundation will host the Men & Women in Blue of the Year appreciation dinner at Colonial Country Club on Saturday, February 2 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The appreciation dinner honors the outstanding public service of the brightest stars of the Fort Myers Police Department (FMPD). Retirements for 2018 will also be recognized. More than 50 officers will be honored during the event.

"These men and women put themselves at risk each and every day to make our community safe, and we think they deserve an evening of recognition and thanks," said Wayne Chevalier, president of the Fort Myers Police

Foundation. "We hope the community will join us in thanking these public servants in blue for all they do for us."

Individual tickets are \$100, and tables of eight are \$750. Sponsorships from \$100 to \$10,000 are also available.

All funds raised by the Police Foundation go toward purchasing life-saving equipment for the FMPD.

The Fort Myers Police Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose goal is to help build a stronger bond between the community and its local police department.

Colonial Country Club is located at 9181 Independence Way in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.fortmyerspolicefoundation.org](http://www.fortmyerspolicefoundation.org).\*\*

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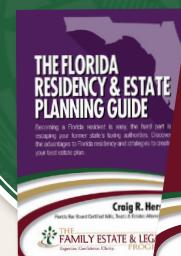
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Alice Skaff and Lori Adams photos provided

## Celebration Fundraiser Raises \$90K

The Summit Celebration, an event focused on promoting positive change in an orphan's life, raised \$90,000 to benefit Haven of Hope International (HOHI). In addition, the event was a celebration of Alice Skaff, HOHI founder, and her successful climb of Mount Kilimanjaro to raise funds and awareness for orphan care worldwide.

The Summit Celebration took place at Miromar Lakes Golf Club in November and featured an elegant dinner buffet, auctions and entertainment by Southwest Florida's own The Orange Crush Band.

"The night was a true celebration with heartfelt support as the community rallied around our vision to change the destiny of orphans around the world. The support flowed as we announced the pre-launch of our Global Hope Expansion Campaign that will enable us to do more for over 6,000



Scott and Jennifer Rinden



Barry and Robyn Woodard



Brooke and Pat Denson



Beth and Russ Schomp

children around the world," said Skaff. "At Haven of Hope International, we're passionate about changing the statistics and setting a new standard of foster/orphan care. We promise to be transparent, child-focused



From left, Emily Hart, Jeri Church and Michaela Jones

bridge-builders that create a lasting impact for their future."

For more information about Haven

for Hope International or to donate, visit [www.havenofhopeintl.org](http://www.havenofhopeintl.org) or call 564-LOVE.★



From left, Kim Burmylo, Richard and Cindy Harding, and Gary Burmylo



Celebration attendees "Sharing the Love" with orphans

# All Children Deserve To Be Kids

submitted by Roxanne Dyer

**N**ot every child in Southwest Florida has the luxury of living at home with their parents.

According to Children's Network of Southwest Florida, as of December 10, there were 1,502 children in our five-county area receiving out-of-home care, which includes foster homes, group homes, treatment centers and temporary or permanent placements with relatives and family friends.

Families that welcome these children into their homes do so with a big heart. They want to provide stability, compassion, guidance and hope to youth who have been abused, neglected or abandoned by their biological parents. It's a truly selfless act.

Many of these caring individuals have their own children, too, so agreeing to bring another child into their home can present a strain on the family budget. Although foster parents and certified caregivers may receive nominal compensation to pay for food, clothing, transportation and some expenses, it's nowhere near enough to cover every cost, let alone the extras that make childhood fun.

Through its Children's Needs Program, the Guardian ad Litem Foundation, 20th Judicial Circuit, Inc., raises money to help pay expenses for children assigned to Guardian ad Litem for experiences such as happier birthdays, summer camps, sports participation or a fun outing like a night at the arcade, theme park tickets and much more.

The goal is to help these kids feel better during a very uncertain and stressful time in their lives. These children have been through enough already, so if anyone deserves a little special treatment, it's them.

Funds raised through the Children's Needs Program also cover other expenses for children assigned to Guardian ad Litem such as tutoring, academic clubs, school field trips, additional clothing, scout participation, infant items and even a warm, cozy bed. The program is simply about building a sense of normalcy so children can "fit in" with their friends and classmates. Because what every kid

From page 1

## Adaptive Tricycles

with Golisano Children's Hospital who donates her services, each child is evaluated and fitted for his or her own adaptive cycle.

The golf tournament was established 30 years ago by McDonald's owner/operator Fred Frederic, founder of the Fort Myers Ronald McDonald House until his passing in 2015. At that time, Grampy's Charities offered to coordinate future tournaments and



Roxanne Dyer

photo provided

truly wants is to do is fit in with their peers and feel accepted.

Guardian ad Litem strives to provide children in the court system with a court-certified volunteer advocate (GAL) who helps them navigate the judicial, education and child welfare system while seeking what is in the child's best interests and a permanent solution. These GAL advocates, who become close with children and their caregivers, may request funds on behalf of the child through the Guardian ad Litem Foundation.

A one-day ticket to Disney World, for instance, costs about \$130. Bowling runs as much as \$50 an hour to rent a lane. Birthday party packages can cost \$15 to \$25 per child in attendance, depending on the venue. Tutoring costs add up quickly, and a new twin bed with bedding runs around \$225. Again, costs add up quickly and temporary caregivers are often willing to open their heart and home, but lack resources for the "extras."

The children served by our GAL volunteer advocates should be able to celebrate their childhood like everyone else. Through your support of our Children's Needs Program, either with a one-time or recurring donation, Guardian ad Litem Foundation, 20th Judicial Circuit, Inc. can make that happen.

For more information about donor opportunities, visit [www.voicesforkids.org](http://www.voicesforkids.org) or call 533-1435.\*\*

raised more than \$80,000 at the inaugural Pro-Am in 2017. The 2018 tournament raised \$100,000 to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida.

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

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dearPharmacist

## Other Treatments For Seizure Management



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

**D**ear Readers: Epilepsy is frustrating and difficult on one's life. It can show up many ways, from mild absence seizures, to grand mal, to cyclic vomiting and nocturnal seizures. Medications such

as gabapentin, phenytoin, valproate, topiramate, carbamazepine and others may control symptoms for a while, but they're not a cure. No one has the answer to all types of seizures, because the origin differs.

Knowing what raises or lowers your threshold becomes imperative to reducing frequency. For example, becoming dehydrated, upset or taking too hot a shower can trigger a seizure. Sleep deprivation, a stressful interaction with someone or too much glutamate or caffeine can all reduce your seizure threshold, causing an episode. Here are some popular medications that reduce seizure threshold and increase seizure frequency: Antihistamines; Insulin and diabetes medications; Oxytocin; Maprotiline; Clomipramine; Clozapine; Lithium; Fluoroquinolone antibiotics; Methylphenidate; Metronidazole or Tinidazole; and Schizandra herb.

Animal research suggests that impaired methylation (reduced folate, which is not folic acid by the way) can damage the hippocampus and result in post-seizure memory loss. In a 7-year-old girl, reduced folate transport to the brain led to seizures, cognitive impairment, immune suppression and anemia. When the child was given a little methylfolate (not folic acid), her condition substantially improved. You can protect your brain from seizures naturally. Consider compounds known to raise threshold,

reducing seizure incidents: magnesium; omega 3 fish oils; grape seed extract; and CBD or cannabidiol, an extract from marijuana.

That last one might shock you, as it is from marijuana, but CBD, a non-psychoactive hemp extract is federally legal now since President Trump recently signed the bill. That means that people in pain, and those with seizures have easier access and possibly a cure.

Fish oils are essential for cell membrane stability in trillions of your cells. They're critical for neurological function and work by reducing nerve irritation or excitability in the brain. This means that your nerves aren't so easily over-stimulated, and seizure-inducing compounds are less likely to be released.

In 2015, a case-controlled study involving 70 children was published in the *New American Journal of Medical Science*. The kids all had uncontrolled, chronic seizures. Thirty-five of the children were given omega 3 fish oil (containing EPA and DHA), while everyone else received a placebo. After three months, the number of children without seizure activity went from no one to 57 percent. No improvements happened in the placebo group.

Another study confirmed omega 3's benefits for epilepsy in adults. In this study, participants with drug-resistant seizures took about 1,000 milligrams of omega 3 fish oils supplements every day. This went on for three different 10-week treatment periods. There was an incredible 34 percent reduction in seizure frequency compared to the placebo group.

Fish oil isn't the only "brain food" for epilepsy. Grape seed extract is another protective compound. It protects your hippocampus, which houses one of your seizure 'switches.' Grape seed extract turns off the seizure switch. Finally, keep in mind that chamomile, ginkgo and St. John's wort may interact with your medication.

*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).*

solely by donations and fundraising events, 21st Century CARE assures that all funds remain local to the area in which they are raised.

"Every year more than 800,000 Americans are diagnosed with cancer and due to financial constraints, many of them experience challenges meeting the out-of-pocket expenses related to the treatment and care they need," said Kathy Tolentino, director, 21st Century CARE Foundation. "CARE exists to relieve some of the financial burdens and assist with the incidental expenses so that patients can focus on getting better. By donating, you're not only giving back, but you're also helping to save a life."

Gifts to the CARE Foundation are tax-deductible and welcomed year-round. To donate, visit [www.21stcenturycare.org/cancer-donations](http://www.21stcenturycare.org/cancer-donations) or call 936-3756 or 888-850-1622.

## Foundation Seeks Donations For Cancer Patients

**D**onations are being sought by 21st Century CARE, 21st Century Oncology's not-for-profit charitable foundation, for the 2018 holiday season. The foundation provides cancer patients with financial assistance for incidental expenses related to cancer treatments, enabling them to put their focus where it belongs – on beating the disease.

CARE stands for cancer assistance, research and education and was established in 1996 by Dr. Charles Thomas. Between 2007 and March 2018, 21st Century CARE has provided assistance to more than 5,000 patients in the amount of \$651,952. Supported

Doctor and Dietician

## Cell Phones, Headaches And Neck Pain



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

**H**aving more headaches and neck pain lately? It could be from how you use your phone. The aching and squeezing from muscle contractions at the base of the neck are often a result of the head position we subject ourselves to day in and day out. Long lengths of times spent looking down at our phones weaken and overstretch the ligaments along the neck, leading to "text neck." The head is heavy, and the longer it is kept in a head-forward/flexed position, the greater the pressure on these ligaments. In fact, the force increases approximately 10 pounds for every inch of forward head posture. The frequent and prolonged flexion of the neck causes degenerative changes to the

From page 1

## New Art Shows

shapes and sizes. Through his art, Tieman is trying to reconnect with a childlike ability to explore, express and take risks, with the simple goal of enjoying the creative experience.

Southwest Florida artist Kristina Jackson explores the meaning of home in her new exhibition, Kristina's World, in the Capital Gallery. The pieces explore what home is, and what it means to be homeless. Jackson's work asks the viewer to be what they believe and find home in the world around them. The show's title is a reference to Andrew Wyeth's 1948 piece *Christina's World*, which depicts a young woman gazing upon a farmhouse. In Wyeth's statement, he explains the painting is of his neighbor who suffered from polio, and he wanted to "do justice to her extraordinary conquest of a life which most people would consider hopeless."

Tieman is known to bring a childlike perspective to his works. "As we age," said Teiman, "we tend to lose our ability to explore, express and take risks."

Tieman earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in printmaking and photography and a master of fine arts degree in glass art. After serving as an artist's assistant and raising a family, Tieman began creating art for himself again in his 50s. He's avoided the intricacies and labor of glass art and focused on print, drawing, wood,

curve of the cervical spine and all the structures that support the neck. As the ligament weakness ensues, the forward head position worsens, and the ligaments can no longer keep the vertebrae in their proper alignment. To protect and stabilize the vital structures running through the neck, including the spinal cord, neck muscles will tighten and spasm. What we may feel is neck pain, tension headaches, tingling sensations, among many other symptoms.

Massage, chiropractic care, or physical therapy can often provide symptomatic relief from text neck. When these first-line methods are only providing temporary relief but not curing the problem, the ligaments may be permanently overstretched, and the normal curve of the spine could be compromised. The treatment to strengthen ligaments is known as prolotherapy or regenerative injection therapy. As the ligaments strengthen, the treatment focus may advance to restoring a more normal cervical spine curve. Once the issue has been medically resolved, having better posture while using the phone, performing regular upper body exercise and utilizing accessories like headsets or features like voice-to-text can help prevent recurrences.

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

and paint – art that allows him to experience the true satisfaction of artistic expression.

For more information on Tieman, visit [www.tiemanstudios.com](http://www.tiemanstudios.com).

Jackson was always looking for a sense of home. Was it four walls, a family, dinner at the table, a roof in the rain, a sign over the doorway? Is it where the heart is?

In Kristina's World, the artist is no longer on the outside looking in, waiting for a connection. Home is in connecting to her community. Home is in her art. Home is in her outreach to the homeless. Home is in offering help to the veterans that gave to her country. Home is in helping man's best friend meet his new family. Her world is finding a need and filling it.

Both exhibits close on January 24 at 5 p.m. General admission is a \$1 donation.

Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. Call 333-1933 or visit [www.sbdac.com](http://www.sbdac.com) for more information.

## President's List

**G**uerdine Michel, an exercise and sport science major from Fort Myers, earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average during the Fall 2018 semester at Coastal Carolina University. The academic achievement earned a spot on the President's List.

# PETS OF THE WEEK

photos provided

Haven on Earth Animal League

## Lily And Sylvia

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

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



Lily



Sylvia

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

PAWS Of Sanibel

## Brava And Lucy

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

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



Brava



Lucy

## Sonny And Cher

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



Sonny



Cher

**THE RIVER**  
WEEKLY NEWS  
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

Emergency .....	911
Lee County Sheriff's Office .....	477-1200
Florida Marine Patrol .....	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol .....	278-7100
Poison Control .....	1-800-282-3171
HealthPark Medical Center .....	1-800-936-5321
Ft. Myers Chamber of Commerce .....	332-3624
Foundation for Quality Childcare .....	425-2685
Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce .....	454-7500
Fort Myers Beach Library .....	463-9691
Lakes Regional Library .....	533-4000
Lee County Chamber of Commerce .....	931-0931
Post Office .....	1-800-275-8777
Visitor & Convention Bureau .....	338-3500
<b>ARTS</b>	
Alliance for the Arts .....	939-2787
Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio .....	337-5050
Art League Of Fort Myers .....	275-3970
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall .....	481-4849
BIG ARTS .....	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre .....	278-4422
Cultural Park Theatre .....	772-5862
Edison Festival of Light .....	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade .....	332-4488
Florida West Arts .....	948-4427
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers .....	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony .....	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres .....	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic .....	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater .....	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony .....	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy .....	936-3239
Young Artists Awards .....	574-9321
<b>CLUBS &amp; ORGANIZATIONS</b>	
American Legion Post #38 .....	239-332-1853
Angel Flight .....	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center .....	731-3535
American Business Women Association .....	357-6755
Audubon of SWFL .....	339-8046
Audubon Society .....	472-3156
Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR .....	482-1366
Caloosahatchee Folk Society .....	321-4620
Cape Chorale Barbershop Chorus .....	1-855-425-3631
Cape Coral Stamp Club .....	542-9153
duPont Company Retirees .....	454-1083
Edison Porcelain Artists .....	415-2484
Embroiderers Guild of America - Sea Grape Chapter .....	239-267-1990
FM UDC Chapter 2614 - United Daughters of the Confederacy .....	728-3743
Friendship Force Of SW FL .....	561-9164
Garden Club of Cape Coral .....	239-257-2654
Horticulture and Tea Society .....	472-8334
Horticultural Society .....	472-6940
Lee County Genealogical Society .....	549-9625
Lee Trust for Historic Preservation .....	939-7278
NARFE(National Active & Retired Federal Employees) .....	482-6713
Navy Seabees Veterans of America .....	731-1901
Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL .....	667-1354
Sons of Confederate Veterans .....	332-2408
Southwest Florida Fencing Academy .....	939-1338
Southwest Florida Music Association .....	561-2118
Kiwanis Fort Myers Beach .....	765-4254 or 454-8090
Kiwanis Fort Myers Edison .....	694-1056
Kiwanis Fort Myers South .....	691-1405
Iona-McGregor .....	482-0869
Lions Club Fort Myers Beach .....	463-9738
Lions Club Fort Myers High Noon .....	466-4228
Lions Club Estero/South Fort Myers .....	898-1921
Notre Dame Club of Lee County .....	768-0417
Organ Transplant Recipients of SW Florida .....	247-3073
POLO Club of Lee County .....	477-4906
Rotary Club of Fort Myers .....	332-8158
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society .....	472-6940
United Way of Lee County .....	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline (24 hour) .....	211 or 433-3900
<b>AREA ATTRACTIONS</b>	
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum .....	395-2233
Burrough's Home .....	337-9505
Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium .....	275-3435
Edison & Ford Winter Estates .....	334-7419
Fort Myers Skate Park .....	321-7558
Imaginarium Hands-On Museum & Aquarium .....	321-7420
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge .....	472-1100
Koreshan State Historic Site .....	239-992-0311
Langford Kingston Home .....	239-334-2550
Ostego Bay Foundation Marine Science Center .....	765-8101
Skatium .....	321-7510
Southwest Florida Historical Society .....	939-4044
Southwest Florida Museum of History .....	321-7430
True Tours .....	945-0405

To be listed in calling card email your information to: [press@riverweekly.com](mailto:press@riverweekly.com)

# PUZZLES

Answers on page 29

## Super Crossword

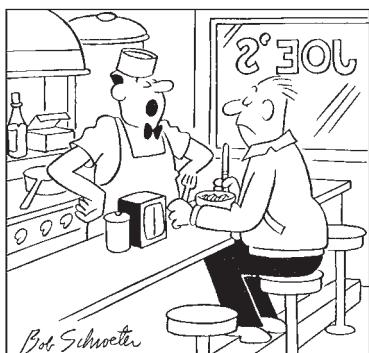
### THAT GNAWING FEELING

**ACROSS**

- 1 Dry out  
6 Should the necessity arise  
14 Eye, kidney and heart  
20 Informed  
21 Grade on a salary scale  
22 Big chicken brand  
23 Rodent who helps couples end spats?  
25 Forced out of a country  
26 Squeezed (out)  
27 — pollio  
28 Untold millennia  
30 — bean (Old World plant)  
31 Stand for  
33 Rodent causing prices to increase over time?  
40 — Haw"  
42 Visit briefly  
43 "By the way," on memos  
44 Frothy pie topping concocted by a rodent?  
50 Bit of a tortilla treat
- 55 Spheres  
56 Cliff nests  
57 Seized  
59 Part of CD  
60 Throws in  
61 Actor Arnaz  
62 "Jazz" writer Morrison  
63 Serious rifts  
65 Rodent blurring out secrets?  
69 Shooters' gp.  
70 How cliffs incline  
72 Very bad grade  
73 Rodent who's a pop star?  
77 Fishing boat  
81 Chevy now called the Sonic  
82 Tune for two  
83 Utterances of disgust  
85 Ames' home  
86 Series with Agent 99  
88 Of the eyes  
91 Middle name of Poe  
92 Malia Obama's sis  
93 Rodent who was a U.S. president?  
96 Outrage  
98 Battery terminal
- 99 Massive fight of all the relevant facts about a rodent?  
100 Revelation of all the relevant facts about a rodent?  
106 Nary a soul  
111 Shuffle or Mini  
112 Silvery gray  
113 Silver of film  
115 Special air  
116 Fight against  
118 Rodent-themed hit for Peter, Paul and Mary?  
125 Franklin of soul music  
126 Bolsheviks' theory  
127 Laotian, say  
128 Eye liners?  
129 Infuriates  
130 Idylls, e.g.

**DOWN**

- 1 Turned white  
2 Stirred from sleep  
3 Poe bird  
4 Ideology  
5 That woman  
6 — facto  
7 Muslim ascetic: Var.  
8 Sch. in Manhattan  
9 Manning the quarterback
- 39 "— that the truth!"  
41 "My word!"  
44 Young guys  
45 Actor Stoltz of "Mask"  
46 Go well (with)  
47 Apple debut of 1984  
48 G.P.'s study  
49 Start of an expiration notice
- 51 Deliberate choice  
52 China's — En-lai  
53 Pullet, e.g.  
54 Comics dog  
58 TV and radio stations  
60 "Jack & Jill" actress Peet  
61 Certain baseball hit: Abbr.  
64 — Lanka  
65 Roseanne's mom on "Roseanne"  
66 "Chi-Raq" director Spike  
67 Mo. #4  
68 Advanced deg. for a designer  
70 Arrange for  
71 Pec pic, say  
73 Binges  
74 Iris locale  
75 Filming sites  
76 "A Clockwork Orange" novelist Anthony  
77 Heaved  
78 Entertainer Falana  
79 Moviedom's McGregor  
80 Novelist Ayn Rand  
83 Peptic problem  
100 Like the flu
- 101 "Rigoletto," for one  
102 Doesn't win  
103 Pif of song  
104 Dish with kidney beans  
105 Make blank  
107 Low voice  
108 Navel type  
109 REM activity  
110 Tall stories  
114 Bits of resistance  
117 That woman  
119 Wet lowland  
120 Ltd. relative  
121 Move hastily  
122 Raggedy  
123 Trash-talk  
124 Hiker's aid



"It's called the 'Chef's Delight' because he uses only \_\_\_\_\_."

answer on page 31

## SCRAMBLERS

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

Burdened  
**EELAND**

Switch  
**TRIVED**

Succeed  
**LOFLOW**

Aim  
**RIVETS**

TODAY'S WORD

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Lamp is different. 2. Ear flap is smaller. 3. Sign is different.  
4. Number is different. 5. Pocketbook is missing. 6. Wreath is missing.

		<b>2</b>			<b>1</b>		<b>9</b>	
	<b>4</b>			<b>6</b>		<b>2</b>		
<b>8</b>			<b>4</b>					<b>7</b>
	<b>1</b>			<b>3</b>				<b>9</b>
<b>3</b>			<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>8</b>		
	<b>4</b>			<b>8</b>		<b>5</b>		
<b>2</b>			<b>5</b>					<b>4</b>
	<b>3</b>			<b>9</b>		<b>2</b>		
<b>9</b>			<b>6</b>			<b>5</b>		

## SUDOKU

### To play Sudoku:

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

answer on page 29



### Crab Cake Benedict

1 pound crabmeat, drained, shell pieces removed

1 large tomato, sliced

4 eggs, pan fried

1/4 cup red onion, finely chopped

2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped

3 tablespoons light mayonnaise

2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

3/4 teaspoon seafood seasoning

1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

2 egg whites, lightly beaten

1 1/2 cups panko (Japanese bread crumbs), divided

2 tablespoons olive oil

Combine the red onions, parsley, mayonnaise, dijon, seafood seasoning, worcestershire sauce, and egg whites in a medium bowl. Gently fold in crabmeat and 3/4 cup panko crumbs. Cover and chill 30 minutes. Shape the crab mixture into 8 patties

about 3/4-inch thick. In a shallow dish, roll patties in remaining 3/4 cup panko crumbs, coating evenly. In a nonstick skillet over medium heat, heat oil and cook 4 crab cakes at a time for 7 minutes until golden brown on each side.

### Hollandaise Sauce

3 eggs, yolks separated

1/4 teaspoon Dijon style mustard

1/2 lemon, juiced

Hot pepper sauce, to taste

1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted

Sea salt, to taste

In a blender or food processor, add mustard, lemon juice, egg yolks and a few dashes of hot pepper sauce. Blend ingredients and slowly add the melted butter until the ingredients thicken. Taste hollandaise and adjust seasoning with salt and hot pepper sauce. Serve sauce immediately.

To assemble Crab Cake Benedict, place one or two slices of tomato on each plate. Season the tomato lightly with salt and pepper. Place a pan fried egg over each tomato slice. Add a crab cake to the top of each pan fried egg. Evenly distribute the hollandaise sauce over the top of each crab cake and serve immediately.\*\*



Crab Cake Benedict

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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WEEKLY NEWS

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December 14, 2018

Place Classified



**THE RIVER**  
WEEKLY NEWS

FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS



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**FRIDAY**  
Cloudy  
High: 76 Low: 69



**SATURDAY**  
Sunny  
High: 78 Low: 71



**SUNDAY**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 77 Low: 70



**MONDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 76 Low: 69



**TUESDAY**  
Sunny  
High: 78 Low: 67



**WEDNESDAY**  
Sunny  
High: 77 Low: 70



**THURSDAY**  
Sunny  
High: 75 Low: 68

## Redfish Pass Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:37 am	11:41 am	6:52 pm	None
Sat	6:14 am	12:13 am	7:32 pm	12:29 pm
Sun	8:07 am	1:49 am	8:12 pm	1:16 pm
Mon	9:52 am	3:06 am	8:51 pm	2:02 pm
Tue	11:16 am	4:06 am	9:25 pm	2:41 pm
Wed	12:27 pm	4:57 am	10:01 pm	3:20 pm
Thu	1:23 pm	5:40 am	10:36 pm	3:57 pm

## Point Ybel Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	3:42 am	11:43 am	5:57 pm	None
Sat	5:19 am	12:15 am	6:37 pm	12:31 pm
Sun	7:12 am	1:51 am	7:17 pm	1:18 pm
Mon	8:57 am	3:08 am	7:56 pm	2:04 pm
Tue	10:21 am	4:08 am	8:30 pm	2:43 pm
Wed	11:32 am	4:59 am	9:06 pm	3:22 pm
Thu	12:28 pm	5:42 am	9:41 pm	3:59 pm

## Punta Rassa Tides

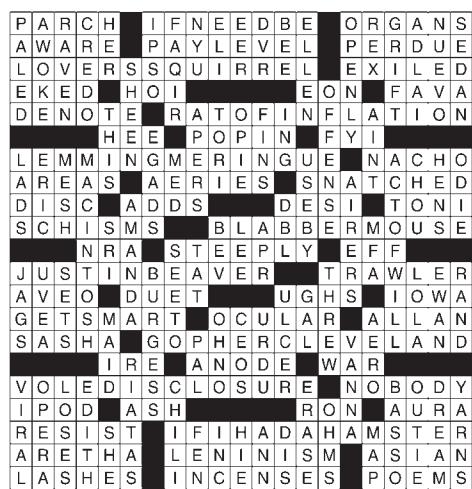
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	5:06 am	11:44 am	6:22 pm	None
Sat	6:31 am	12:32 am	7:12 pm	12:50 pm
Sun	7:49 am	1:52 am	8:00 pm	1:50 pm
Mon	9:07 am	2:53 am	8:47 pm	2:43 pm
Tue	10:35 am	3:47 am	9:33 pm	3:31 pm
Wed	11:30 am	4:38 am	10:19 pm	4:21 pm
Thu	12:04 pm	5:24 am	10:59 pm	5:08 pm

## Cape Coral Bridge Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	6:47 am	1:45 am	9:02 pm	2:57 pm
Sat	8:24 am	3:29 am	9:42 pm	3:45 pm
Sun	10:17 am	5:05 am	10:22 pm	4:32 pm
Mon	12:02 pm	6:22 am	11:01 pm	5:18 pm
Tue	1:26 pm	7:22 am	11:35 pm	5:57 pm
Wed	2:37 pm	8:13 am	None	6:36 pm
Thu	12:11 am	8:56 am	3:33 pm	7:13 pm

# PUZZLE ANSWERS

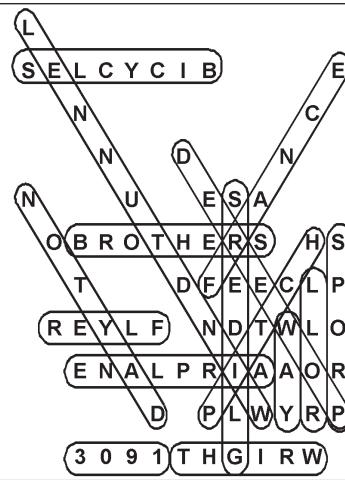
## SUPER CROSSWORD



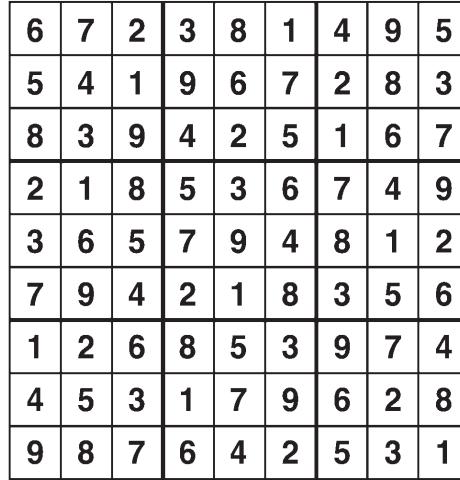
## KING CROSSWORD



## MAGIC MAZE



## SUDOKU



## My Stars ★★★★

### FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 31, 2018

**Aries** (March 21 to April 19) You might be busier than you had expected right now. But between the socializing rounds and the workplace tasks, there are opportunities for special moments with that certain someone.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) Your creative approach leads to a quicker-than-expected solution to a workplace problem. Now you can devote more time to that proposal you hope to introduce by midmonth.

**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) Technological glitches create problems early on. But by midweek, all runs smoothly once again, and you're well and truly on your way to meeting all your deadlines.

**Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) Your energy levels are high, and you feel you can handle everything that comes along. But try to take a break from your hectic pace for some quiet time with someone close to you.

**Leo** (July 23 to August 22) Before you pounce on that shiny new opportunity, take more time to check it out to see how much substance actually lies beneath all that glitter. A family member has important news.

**Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) A personal situation you thought was resolved resurfaces, thanks to a possibly well-intentioned move that went awry. Deal with it as soon as possible. Accept the help of a trusted friend.

**Libra** (September 23 to October 22) That goal you set way back when is finally in sight. Maintain your focus on achieving it, and don't allow yourself to be distracted by unimportant demands for your attention.

**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) A temperamental flare-up creates negative feelings that need to be dealt with immediately. But things once again go well after the apologies are made and hurt feelings are soothed.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) An early impulsive act causes confusion. But all is smoothed over once explanations are made. Expect a friend or family member to ask for your kind and always wise advice.

**Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) You might have to do some juggling of your priorities, as a personal matter appears to require more time and attention. Put your pride aside and accept help from those who offer it.

**Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18) Your creative aspect is strong. Not only does it help you accomplish your goals, but it also inspires others. This could lead to a potentially rewarding collaboration opportunity.

**Pisces** (February 19 to March 20) Be careful about making major decisions when you're not really committed to them. And resist any pressure to do otherwise. Better to delay action until all doubts are resolved.

**Born This Week:** You set goals and are rarely distracted by any attempt to move you off the path you've chosen to reach them.

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

• It was beloved American comedian and film star Groucho Marx who made the following sage observation: "There's one way to find out if a man is honest – ask him. If he says 'Yes,' you know he is a crook."

• You might be surprised to learn that, in addition to his holiday duties, Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of children, coopers, sailors, fishermen, merchants, broadcasters, the falsely accused, repentant thieves, brewers, pharmacists, archers, pawnbrokers, Aberdeen, Galway, Russia, Greece, Hellenic Navy, Liverpool, the Italian town of Bari, the city of Siggiewi in Malta, Moscow, Amsterdam and the Lorraine region of France.

• The next time you've enjoyed a happy hour out with friends, you might want to consider the virtually unknown adjective "gambrinous," which means "to be content and happy due to a stomach full of beer."

• A pregnant goldfish is known as a "twit."

• Sometimes looking at local ordinances can make you wonder what inspired lawmakers to pass such laws. For instance, in Florida it's illegal to wear nothing but liquid latex while in a public place.

• If you make a serious study of Hungarian gypsies, you probably already know that you're a "tziganologist."

• Ever wonder how the statuette taken home by winners of the Academy Awards got its nickname? Evidently, in 1931 a secretary at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences saw the statuette for the first time and exclaimed, "Why, he reminds me of my Uncle Oscar!" The comment struck the fancy of a reporter who was present, and he put it in a story about the awards, and the name stuck.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"It is easier to fight for one's principles than to live up to them." – Felix Adler

## TRIVIA TEST

- Geography:** What is the current capital of Turkey?
- Movies:** What message did the Wicked Witch of the West write in the sky in *The Wizard of Oz*?
- General Knowledge:** In which century did the *National Geographic* magazine first publish?
- History:** In what decade were the Dionne quintuplets born, the first known set of quintuplets known to have survived their infancy?
- Literature:** What is the last word of Robert Frost's poem *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*?
- Music:** Which singer/songwriter's nickname is "Sweet Baby James"?
- Famous Quotations:** What 20th-century statesman once said, "The price of greatness is responsibility"?
- Television:** What was the name of the town that was the setting for the comedy series *Petticoat Junction*?
- Math:** What is the only number whose letters are in alphabetical order when spelled out?
- Chemistry:** How many hydrogen atoms are in one molecule of water?

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Ankara 2. "Surrender Dorothy" 3. 19th century (Sept. 22, 1888) 4. 1930s 5. Sleepy 6. James Taylor 7. Winston Churchill 8. Hoooterville 9. Forty 10. Two (H2O)

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1/4 \* TFN

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1/25 \* TFN

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5/6 \* TFN

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*The River Weekly News*  
Call 395-1213

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8/5 \* TFN

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Contact Chris: 314-406-7058  
[cbeckner@yahoo.com](mailto:cbeckner@yahoo.com) for pictures/price.

12/21 \* 12/28

**Cycling Safety Notes****Ride to the right****Warn to pass****Wear a helmet****Use lights at night****Always be courteous****SANIBEL BICYCLE CLUB****Shore Fishing: Don't Harm The Fish**

by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Landing a big fish from the beach can be hard on the fish. Dragging a fish up onto the sand if you're going to release it is not an option as it usually damages or kills the fish.

Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it.

The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.

If you want a picture with the fish, support it as

you lift it out of the water – and do it quickly.

Before releasing, revive the fish while holding it in the water; moving it slowly back and forth so water goes over its gills. The fish will let you know when it's ready to swim off.

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

**Island Sun**  
NEWSPAPER  
Sanibel & Captiva Islands

**THE RIVER**  
WEEKLY NEWS  
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

## JetBlue Park January Events

JetBlue Park at Fenway South has a number of events open to the public in January.

The Fenway South Farmers Market will run from January 7 through March 25 with free parking and no admission fee. Offerings include fresh produce, flowers, cheese, breads, barbecue, coffee, tea, pickles, pizza, farm fresh eggs, guacamole, soap, pasta, acai bowls and lots of ready-made foods. For the first time, all Local Roots Farmers Markets will implement a no plastic straws policy. For more information, visit [www.buylocallee.com](http://www.buylocallee.com).

The 22nd annual Hot Works Art Show will be at the park for the first time January 5 and 6 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. High-quality art from a carefully selected elite group of unique, professional artists will be available. The show was voted as one of the Top 100 art shows in America. Admission is by donation and parking is \$10. For more information visit [www.hotworks.org/event/estero-fine-arts-show-2019](http://www.hotworks.org/event/estero-fine-arts-show-2019).

Home Base will hold its Run to Home Base on January 19. Registration starts at 7 a.m. with the race time at 8:30 a.m. The 2019 Run to Home Base Florida honors and supports Southwest Florida veterans and their families. All proceeds from this event will go directly to Home Base's Southwest Florida initiatives, including the Warrior Health and Fitness Program and the two-week Intensive Clinical Program. Participants can choose from a 5K run/walk, a one-mile walk and a 100-yard kids' dash. All participants will receive a race medal, photos at home plate and the finish line, race T-shirt and complimentary beverage at the Post-Race Party, courtesy of Fort Myers Brewing.

### SCRAMBLERS

1. Laden; 2. Divert;
3. Follow; 4. Strive

*Today's Word*

### LEFTOVERS

Company. Visit [www.giving.massgeneral.org/home-base/run-to-home-base-florida](http://www.giving.massgeneral.org/home-base/run-to-home-base-florida) for more information.

Cirque Italia, an Italian entertainment company that brings a performance of European style, will return from January 17 to 20. It is described as a "vivid, dramatic and moving experience under a customized traveling tent." Cirque Italia presents Aquatic Spectacular, a custom-designed water stage that holds 35,000 gallons of water that performers dazzle over while thrilling the audience with every move. Cirque Italia brings talented artists from across the world including aerial acts, hand balancing, contortionists and many more surprise performances. Prices range from \$10 to \$50. For more information visit [www.cirqueitalia.com/the-tours/gold](http://www.cirqueitalia.com/the-tours/gold).

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



Cirque Italia Aquatic Spectacular show

photo provided

## HORTOONS



## Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
The Rocks	Sanibel	1988	2,172	\$1,699,000	\$1,500,000	220
Idlewilde	Estero	2006	3,230	\$1,299,000	\$1,220,000	5
Seagrape	Sanibel	1984	2,010	\$1,279,000	\$1,220,000	42
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2016	2,575	\$1,189,000	\$1,100,000	282
Nature's Cove	Estero	2005	2,974	\$929,000	\$890,000	34
Wildcat Run	Estero	2001	3,405	\$799,900	\$760,000	138
Tidewater Island	Fort Myers	2003	2,739	\$799,000	\$750,000	110
Water's Edge One	Fort Myers	1999	2,747	\$749,500	\$670,000	36
Estero River Heights	Estero	1980	2,235	\$679,900	\$650,000	79
Woodlake At Bonita Bay	Bonita Springs	1987	2,496	\$655,000	\$655,000	0

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