



# THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS



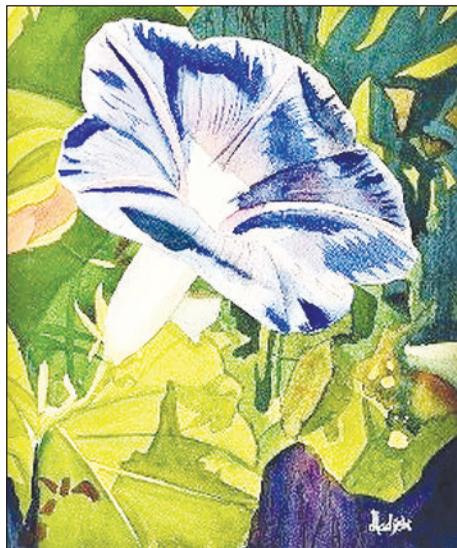
Vol. 19, No. 48

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers NOVEMBER 27, 2020

## Artist Reception Next Friday At ACT Gallery

Arts for ACT Gallery will hold an opening artists reception for its new exhibition on Friday, December 4 from 6 to 9 p.m. The show will feature Donna Chase in the main gallery and a group exhibit for the members of the Art League of Fort Myers in the white gallery. Come and meet the artists during Fort Myers Art Walk.

Chase is a semi-abstract collage artist. She entered her first juried art show in the fall of 2014. Soon after, her Pop Art chairs were accepted in the 2015 All Florida Show at the Alliance of the Arts and at the Sidney Bern Davis Center. This year, Chase was one of 12 artists selected for the "Art Lives Here" billboard campaign. She was invited in 2018 to participate in the RSW Airport - Art in Flight "My Florida" show and the Artists' Studio Tour. Her art is playful, colorful and diverse. They can be found in private collections throughout the United States and in numerous juried art shows throughout Southwest Florida. For a first look at her pieces and an update on her



**Morning Glory by Shah Hadjebi** images provided

career, follow her on Instagram at @donnachaseart

For almost 20 years, members of the Art League of Fort Myers had monthly shows in their Monroe Street gallery and were part of the Fort Myers Art Walk. In March, their gallery closed permanently. The Art League of Fort Myers was the first Art League in Lee County. They



**Frat Boys by Donna Chase**

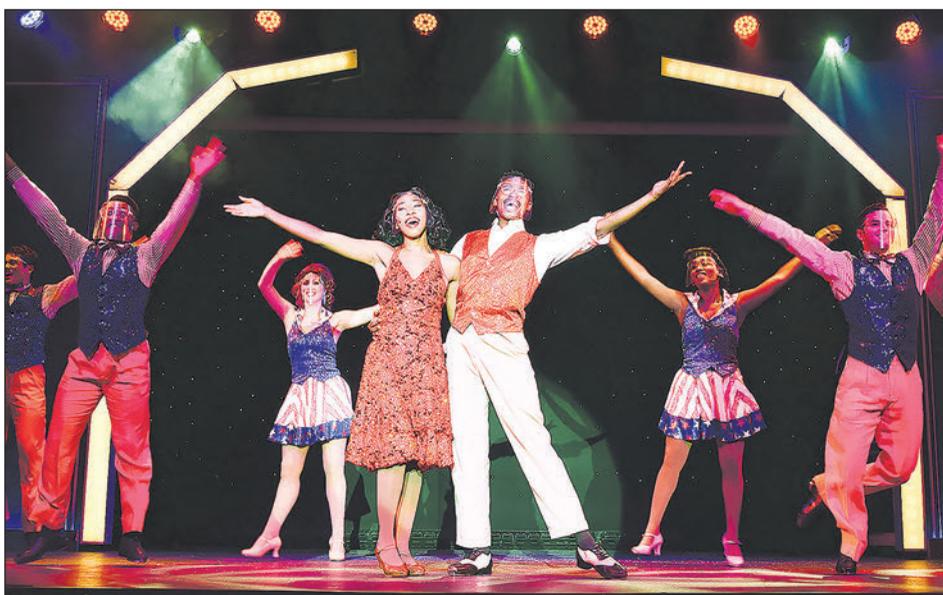
have come together one last time at ACT Gallery to celebrate and show new art.

Both exhibits continues through Monday, December 28.

Arts for ACT Gallery provides a quality, contemporary exhibition gallery featuring original art, limited edition prints,

giclees, hand-crafted fine crafts, T-shirts, silver and glass bead jewelry, gourd art, raku, clay and art cards.

Arts for ACT Gallery is located at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/artsforactgallery](http://www.facebook.com/artsforactgallery).



**Charis Michelle Gullage and Dwight Robinette star in *Holiday Inn*** photo provided

## A Holiday Celebration At Broadway Palm

by Di Saggau

Irving Berlin's classic *Holiday Inn* is now playing at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. It's a celebration to welcome a host of holidays, including Thanksgiving, Christmas, the New Year, Valentine's Day,

Easter and a few others. This is a musical adaptation of the 1942 classic holiday film starring Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire.

The story is about Jim (Caleb Schaaf) who leaves show business to settle down in a farmhouse in Connecticut. When he meets a talented schoolteacher, Linda (Charis Michelle Gullage), they eventually turn the farmhouse into a fabulous inn that is only open on holidays.

Adding to the fun is Dwight Robinette as Ted, and Sami Doherty as Lila, two continued on page 21

## Ocean Treasures At Davis Art Center



**Rachel Pierce with one of her works** photo provided

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is displaying local celebrity Rachel Pierce's Ocean Treasures art collection in December. Meet Pierce on opening night on Friday, December 4 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Pierce was a long-time TV journalist who recently shifted her focus to her artwork. A daughter of the Midwest, she grew up in the small town of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin and now calls Southwest Florida her home. After serving her communities as a journalist for 19

years, Pierce transitioned into art in an unexpected way. As a popular local celebrity, she emceed dozens of events each year. During one event, she was asked to be a celebrity painter and so created a piece to auction off to benefit the nonprofit. Everyone was surprised by her talent, and soon other people began requesting her to paint something for their organization's fundraisers as well. That's when the numerous commissions started to take form. Within a year of selling her

continued on page 25

Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

# Stafford Cleveland's Choice



by Gerri Reaves, PhD

The story of how newspaper editor Stafford C Cleveland came to Fort Myers in 1884 and started the newspaper that evolved into today's *The News-Press* is one of the most engaging and oft-told ones in local lore.

In short, advised by his doctor to move south for his health, the resident of Penn Yan, New York, put himself and his printing equipment on the railroad to Cedar Key, Florida, and then on a schooner, destination Fort Ogden.

He had been advised by a friend who had traveled in Florida the previous year that it was a promising new community to start a newspaper.

However, Henry Roan, Fort Myers store owner and captain of the schooner that was to take Cleveland to his destination, "shanghaied" the editor, as historian Karl H Grismer puts it, skipping his usual stop in Fort Ogden and hurrying him to Fort Myers instead.

Once there, Roan and other leading citizens set about convincing the editor to start a newspaper in Fort Myers. Their success is always portrayed as a triumph of small town boosterism, a win-win.

After all, Capt. Francis A Hendry, later dubbed the Father of Fort Myers, promised him 300 subscribers – quite a promise in a town with a population not much more than that.

In addition, the campaigners offered start-up expenses and vowed to advertise regularly. They even offered to physically set up the business for him.

Contrast that offer with the unknown scenario awaiting him in Fort Ogden.

So, it seems Cleveland was presented with an offer too good to turn down.

Anyway, he printed the first edition of the *Fort Myers Press* on November 22, 1884 in a small frame building at First and Jackson.

He died only a year later, December 3, 1885. What would the founding editor think if he knew his legacy nevertheless lived on... that not only did his newspaper survive, but a major street, Cleveland Avenue, is named for him?

We'll never know exactly what persuaded him to yield to the charm offensive and stay in Fort Myers, but it's tempting to speculate about other factors that might have been percolating in his mind as he faced the enthusiastic welcoming committee.

Was he just overwhelmed by being so unexpectedly appreciated, just plain sick and tired of traveling, or grateful to find the proverbial port in what had been a stormy life? Or all of the above?

The posthumous tributes to him in the New York press suggest that he might have been as thrilled and relieved over the town's offer as the town was over him.

Death notices in New York indicate that Cleveland was generally well thought of, a public-minded man of intelligence, ability and generosity with a tendency to overwork.

According to the *Yates County Chronicle*, which Cleveland had owned and edited for almost 30 years, "he possessed an excellent mind... well stored with the facts of almost every department of knowledge."

Cleveland had begun his newspaper career in 1850 and, in 1852, bought the paper whose name he later changed to the *Chronicle*.

But his life wasn't without troubles.

The paper notes he "had passed through severe business trials" and "went to Florida to begin a new life at a comparatively old age."

Moreover, the paper blames politics for any enemies Cleveland had, as well as for his "financial reverses."

He is described as "going to his grave a disappointed and disheartened man."

We can only hope that, unknown to people back in New York, Cleveland's final year in Fort Myers cheered him enormously after the tribulations back home.

The *Chronicle* even defends its founder's "religious morals and motives," stating that they were "misunderstood" by most people who knew him, thus causing his "political enemies" to label him an "infidel."

It was an undeserved label, according to the *Chronicle*, for he was "deeply religious" in nature. Apparently, his "skepticism" rankled some Penn Yanians.

The tribute hints at factional rancorous politics that clouded his last years.

Appointed postmaster at Penn Yan by U.S. President Rutherford B Hayes and serving three years, he was later removed by U.S. President Chester A Arthur for "factional reasons."

The paper also suggests that his defeat in the run for state senator was for a "similar cause."

He did, however, represent the county in the assembly in 1882, and he was one of the founders of the New York Press Association, serving one year as president.

He also published the two-volume *History of Yates County*.

The last position in New York was member of the Board of Education of Penn Yan, which he held for a total of 11 years before coming to Florida.

It's not every man who has the imagination and gumption to risk a new adventure in his 60s.

Think about that the next time you drive on Cleveland Avenue.

Then head to one of these two research centers to learn more about Cleveland and his little paper.

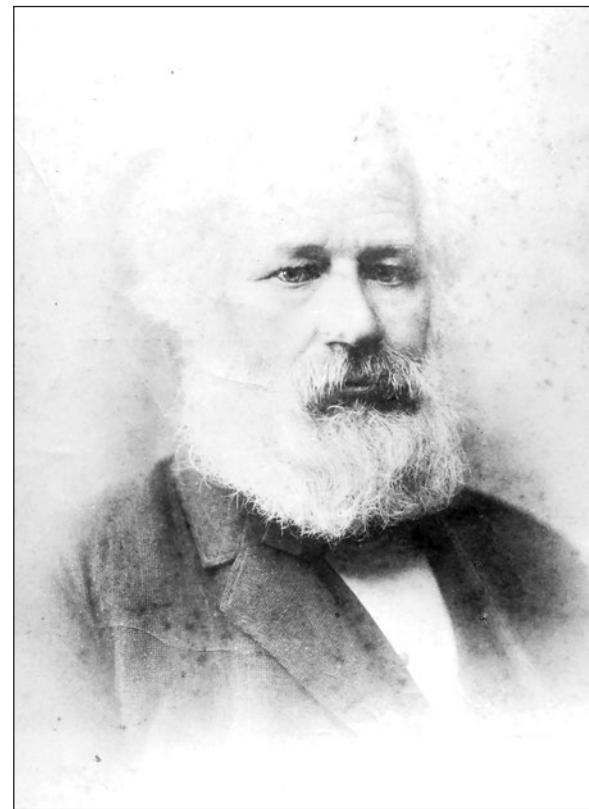
Hours might be affected by the coronavirus pandemic, so call first.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, nonprofit 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 for more information.

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

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

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



Stafford Cleveland founded the Fort Myers Press in November 1884. He died in Fort Myers in December 1885  
photo courtesy SWFL Historical Society

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Bromeliad growers will have exotic, rare and native species available for sale at Edison and Ford Winter Estates photo provided

## Bromeliad Sale At The Estates

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is partnering with the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society for its 2020 bromeliad sale on Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will take place outdoors, under the banyan tree and in the Garden Shoppe area.

Bromeliad growers will offer hundreds of different species, including exotic, rare and native plants. Several experts will be on hand from the society to answer questions about bromeliads. Edison Ford horticulturists will also be available to answer guests' gardening questions.

The society was formed more than 30 years ago and has held an annual sale since 1984. This event is the largest bromeliad sale in the state of Florida. Growers from other areas, including Miami, Sarasota and Venice will have

bromeliads for sale.

A limited number of garden carts will be available so guests are encouraged to bring their own. Food trucks and beer vendors will have refreshments for purchase. Parking and admission to the sale is free (does not include tours or admission to the museum, lab or riverside of the property).

Following guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control, all visitors will be required to wear a face mask at the sale. Edison Ford staff are wearing masks, surfaces are cleaned and sanitized daily, and protective shields have been installed at the ticket counter. Visitors are also required to wear masks in indoor spaces and on guided tours. Signs are posted throughout the site alerting visitors to practice social distancing, and hand sanitizer stations are available.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.edisonford.org](http://www.edisonford.org).✪

## Calendar Art Contest Open To Students

The 32nd annual Keep Lee County Beautiful, Inc. (KLCB) art contest for the 2022 Leave The Scene Clean calendar is now open. The full-size color calendar features the winning environmental artwork from Lee County students. The art contest is open to all public, private, virtual and home-schooled students.

The students are invited to create a full color drawing or painting showing what they have learned about conserving local resources and keeping the environment clean. Judges select a cover winner, 12 first place winners (one from each grade) and honorable mention winners. Winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony next fall.

The contest draws thousands of entries from local students. Submitted work will be judged on artistic execution and originality as well as environmental theme, such as litter prevention, recycling, community cleanup and protecting the environment.

The calendar, which is used as an educational tool, is distributed throughout the school system and during KLCB events. A blend of corporate support, educational content and children's artwork makes this project one of the most fulfilling projects of KLCB's mission. KLCB donates calendars to schools to serve as a source of funding for school environmental projects. Schools keep 100 percent of all the money they raise to be used toward the projects.

The contest rules and entry form are available at [www.klcb.org/leave-the-scene-clean-calendar.html](http://www.klcb.org/leave-the-scene-clean-calendar.html), by calling 334-3488 or emailing [tisha@klcb.org](mailto:tisha@klcb.org). The deadline for entries is April 23.✪

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Adults and children experience the IMAG History and Science Center photo provided

## Extended Hours At History And Science Center

The IMAG History and Science Center has extended hours of inspiration and operation and is now open on Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. along with its Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. schedule.

The IMAG is a family-friendly destination with interactive exhibits, aquariums, history displays, a 3D theater and more. It engages guests in the exploration of science, technology,

engineering, math and history, and offers hands-on experiences and educational programs that advance the appreciation and understanding of the unique Southwest Florida environment while nurturing the imagination in all of us.

The IMAG is continuing best practices by promoting good hygiene and hand washing, encouraging safe social distancing, wearing protective face coverings, providing convenient sanitation stations, and performing daily and hourly cleaning, deep-cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

The IMAG History & Science Center is located at 2000 Cranford Avenue in Fort Myers. For more information, visit [www.themag.org](http://www.themag.org) or call 243-0043.\*

## Select Strangest News Stories Of 2020



Kirsten and Cory O'Donnell

photo provided

Florida's reputation for strange headlines serves as a badge of honor for many Sunshine State residents. But which news stories were the strangest of 2020?

That's exactly the question that the Florida Freakshow, a weekly podcast that celebrates weird Florida news, is hoping to answer. Through mid-December, the podcast is inviting the public to vote on 2020's most peculiar Florida headlines. Voting is being conducted at [www.facebook.com/flafreakshow](http://www.facebook.com/flafreakshow).

Hosted by award-winning former journalists Cory and Kirsten O'Donnell of Cape Coral, the Florida Freakshow podcast shares humorous takes on Florida's weirdest news. Each week, the pair discuss four news stories from the Sunshine State, ranging from the mildly unusual to the outright bizarre.

"2020 has given us more than its fair share of memorable news worldwide. None of us will forget the record hurricane season, the civil unrest, a contested

election, or the COVID-19 pandemic," said Kirsten. "But our podcast is more interested in the unusual headlines that don't exactly make the front page."

The podcast will count down the top vote-getters on its December 30 episode.

"We've selected what we think are the three weirdest news stories from each month this year. As you can probably guess, it wasn't easy to whittle it down," said Cory. "Now we're inviting our listeners and others to vote on our Facebook page. When all the votes are in, we'll announce the freakiest Florida stories on our year-end show. It's almost like a tournament. We should call it the 'Freaky Four'."

The weekly podcast is available on most listening platforms, including Apple Podcasts, Pandora, Stitcher, Spotify, Google Podcasts, iHeart Radio, and TuneIn Live on Alexa. Listeners can also experience the podcast on [www.FloridaFreakshow.com](http://www.FloridaFreakshow.com). New episodes are released on Wednesdays.\*

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## Indie Movie Reviews Return In December

Thank God for Indie Movie Mondays (TGIM) returns to the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on December 7 for the 2020-21 season. The house opens for cocktails at 6:30 p.m., and the show starts at 7 p.m.

See the films submitted for selection and help decide which ones make it to the 2021 Fort Myers Film Festival.

TGIM is hosted by Eric Raddatz and co-host Melissa DeHaven. Each indie film to view comes from a different writer and director. This makes for a truly eclectic line-up of original filmmaking. Enjoy cocktails, live entertainment during intermission and the judges comments on the films all evening long.

The Fort Myers Film Festival is an independent filmmaker's preferred event to create, unite and showcase the finest artistic cinematic works. For submission, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities

visit [www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com](http://www.fortmyersfilmfestival.com).

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

## Continental Women To Meet

The Continental Women's Club will be celebrating the holiday season at its meeting at The Hideaway Country Club on Thursday, December 10 at 11:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to bring an unwrapped toy or gift for the Heights Foundation's children. There will also be several gift baskets to win, and holiday-themed face masks will be for sale.

Cost to attend the luncheon is \$24. Tables are socially distanced, and masks are required.

The Hideaway Country Club is located at 5670 Trailwinds Drive in Fort Myers. Call 691-7561 for more information.\*



A Providence Street vista

photo provided

## Dean Park 100th Birthday Holiday Walking Tour

Dean Park, one of the oldest neighborhoods in Fort Myers, is celebrating its centennial this year with a 100th anniversary Holiday Stroll on December 5 through 25, with visitors invited between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. daily.

Self-guided walking tour maps will be available at the Dean Park Triangle, a small park at the intersection of Cranford Avenue and Providence Street. The map

features 50 historic homes in Dean Park, where the first home was built in 1916, and includes a photo and historic facts about each house.

"We are so excited to be able to celebrate our 100th birthday with a fun, free and outside event that will be safe for everyone in the community," said Sheila Pastor, chair of the Holiday Stroll. "People can come whenever its convenient for them, pick up a map and enjoy the neighborhood."

Fort Myers history lives on in Dean Park, which was founded by Rhode Island businessman John Morgan Dean and once was the home to many well-known

local figures: the two founders of the Robb & Stucky furniture store, Harry Stucky, clothing store owner M "Flossie" Hill, legendary hardware store owner Edward Evans, Judge George Whitehurst, beloved local physicians Dr. Gordon Henry and Dr. William H. Grace, steamship captain Neil "Bo Gator" Storter and many others, including a lively collection of entrepreneurs riding the 1920's Florida real estate boom.

The historic district had originally planned to celebrate its centennial on March 28 with a historic house tour featuring the interiors of 10 private Dean Park homes. However, due to the coronavirus, this house tour was first postponed, then cancelled.

Home styles include numerous bungalows and craftsman homes, the English Arts & Crafts cottage of Virgil Robb, the Tudor revival home of Harry Stucky, several Spanish revival homes, Florida vernacular homes and the Art Deco-influenced apartment building of Fort Myers Mayor Frank A. Whitney. Many early residents lived in Dean Park throughout their lives while others, as they became more successful and their families expanded, moved from the smaller bungalows in Dean Park to the more commodious homes along McGregor Boulevard.

Just one mile east of downtown Fort Myers, Dean Park was designated as a historic district in 1997 and was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 2013. The subdivision's official birthday is May 1, 1920, the date on which John Morgan Dean recorded his map entitled

"Dean's Subdivision" with the Lee County Clerk of the Courts. He named the streets Rhode Island after his home state and Providence after his hometown.

The walking tour map and more information on all Dean Park houses is available at [www.deanpark.org](http://www.deanpark.org). Click on "map" to download the interactive map with links to a description of each home in Dean Park.✪

## Food Bank Donates Over 2,200 Turkeys

Over the last two weeks, Midwest Food Bank, Florida warehouse has been working hard to distribute over 2,200 turkeys to the local community, ensuring families in need have a delicious meal in time for the Thanksgiving season.

Bank officials donated 250 turkeys to nonprofit partner agency, St Matthews House; 350 to St Vincent de Paul Church; 350 to Tice United Methodist Church; 200 to Iglesia el Evangelio de Cristo; and 150 to The Salvation Army, in addition to 12 other nonprofit partner agencies. Supporting over 169 partner agencies in 32 counties in Florida, the Florida team is dedicated to their mission efforts of bringing food and joy in times of struggle.

For more information about the Midwest Food Bank food relief mission, visit [www.midwestfoodbank.org/locations/fort-myers-fl](http://www.midwestfoodbank.org/locations/fort-myers-fl).✪

# LUMINARY WEEK SPECIALS

At Sanibel's #1 Shopping Destination - Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau



### Special Luminary Offers December 4 - 11

Butterfly Beach - 10% off \$50 purchase plus free butterfly bag

Sea Glass Lane - 10% off \$50 purchase, no Magnolia Pearl

Blue Giraffe - 10% off gift certificates of \$25

Sanibel Day Spa - 10% off any service or retail sale of \$50

Rooster Sunglass - Free case or cloth with \$30 purchase

Sand Castle Gifts - Free key lime samples, no purchase needed

Naples Soap - Free bath bomb with \$30 purchase

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Visit [ChicosPeriwinklePlace@mystore.chicos.com](mailto:ChicosPeriwinklePlace@mystore.chicos.com) for holiday deals

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Fort Myers Art:

# December Show Processes 2020 Pictorially



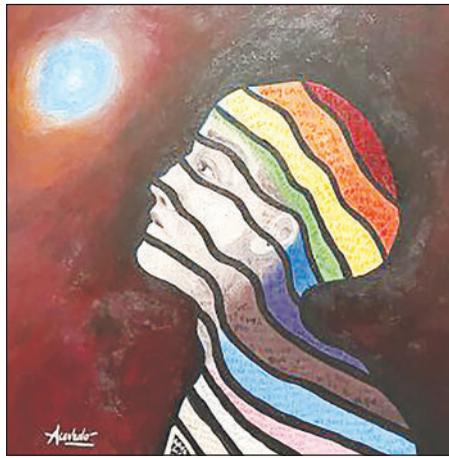
by Tom Hall

**D**AAS Co-op Art Gallery & Gifts is inaugurating a new invitational exhibition in the month of December featuring the art of Southwest Florida creatives who seek to transfer their thoughts about

the year 2020 into 20-by-20-inch works of art. The concept for the show evolved from conversations regarding the year's numerous ups and downs, twists and turns, and unexpected developments.

For many, 2020 has presented an array of devastating circumstances, social issues and economic crises. The COVID-19 pandemic has cost many lives, with the loss approaching 250,000 here in America alone. By contrast, 2020 seemed like a year of resilience and fortitude for others, who see the current times as a way to restore, regroup and reorganize many aspects of their environment.

"We are looking forward to the show and to see how these artists interpreted the theme," said DAAS co-founder, artist and curator David Acevedo. "I hope it serves as a way for artists to let go of the negative aspects of this year and heal. We need to



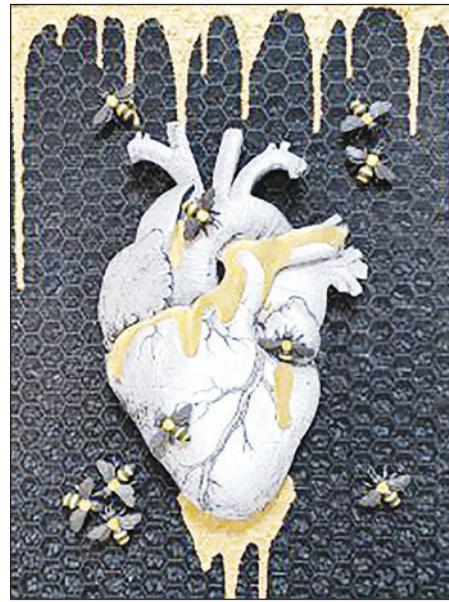
Artwork by David Acevedo  
image courtesy www.artswfl.com

look past this year to a brighter future." The opening reception is scheduled for Friday, December 4 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. in conjunction with the monthly Fort Myers Art Walk. The collective will be on display through January 2.

DAAS Co-op Art Gallery & Gifts is located at 1815 Fowler Street in the Butterfly Estates complex in Fort Myers. The gallery's temporary business hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday to Sunday. For more information, visit [www.daascoop.com](http://www.daascoop.com) or call 590-8645.

### Alliance Members Exhibit On Display Through November 28

Gravity of Gratitude: Members Exhibit is on display in the Alliance for the Arts' main gallery through this Thanksgiving weekend. The exhibition highlights the big and little things that bring us joy and strength.



Artwork for the invitational exhibition

Our health and mental wellbeing improve when we reflect on the people, places and things for which we are thankful. Taking the time to show your gratitude to others develops rich connections and relationships in our communities. Thus, the artists participating in the show reflect on what they are thankful for – whether that's beauty in nature, humanity in others, or our relationships with family and friends.

The Alliance for the Arts gallery and gift shop hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment by contacting [exhibitions@artinlee.org](mailto:exhibitions@artinlee.org).

[artinlee.org](http://artinlee.org).

### Naples Art Show Application Deadline Is December 11

The Naples Art Association is still accepting applications for inclusion in its downtown art show until Friday, December 11. The 33rd annual Downtown Naples Festival of the Arts is one of the last major art festivals of the winter season and a favorite festival for artists, art enthusiasts and collectors.

This festival was rated number 24 by *Sunshine Artist Magazine* in 2019.

If you would like to exhibit in the show, here's what you will need to know:

The show will be held on 5th Avenue South in downtown Naples on Saturday and Sunday, March 20 and 21. Festival hours will be Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Organizers are accepting 250 artists maximum. The application fee is \$35 and the booth fee is \$450 for a 10-by-10-foot area. Cancellation refund policy deadline is February 12 for a full refund for artist withdrawal (subject to \$75 in deposit forfeiture and \$25 processing fee).

Set up can begin at 4 a.m. Jury process begins on December 18, with status notification on December 29.

Last year's show was canceled and launched virtually due to COVID-19. For more information, visit [www.naplesart.org/naples-downtown-art-show](http://www.naplesart.org/naples-downtown-art-show).

*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.✧*

## 'Tis the Season

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# 'Ding' Darling Film Series Lineup

The 9th annual "Ding" Darling Wednesday Film Series kicks off its biweekly showings this winter with a schedule of seven films from January 20 through April 14. The films explore natural topics – from the world's largest and rarest bird of prey, and conservation activist Rachel Carson; to food waste, and man's interference with the Florida Everglades.

One of the season's highlights, *The Swamp*, on February 3, chronicles repeated efforts to transform the Florida Everglades into an agricultural and urban paradise, ultimately leading to a passionate campaign to preserve America's greatest wetland.

In honor of International Women's Day in March, *A Sense of Wonder* celebrates the life and conservation achievements of Rachel Carson, whose book *Silent Spring* drew attention to the tragic effects of pesticides on wildlife.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS)-Friends of the Refuge hosts the free film showings in the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center with sponsorship from Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts (SCBR). Seating is distanced, limited and on a first-come basis.

All films begin at 1 p.m. A short discussion will follow each film. The season schedule is:

- January 20 – *The Smog of the Sea*
- February 3 – *The Swamp*



From left: Sierra Hoisington, DDWS development officer and series organizer; Rick Boyd, general manager of Beachview Cottages and Castaways Beach & Bay Cottage; Rene Affourtit, SCBR CFO; Laurent Bosc, SCBR food and beverage director; Doug Babcock, SCBR vice president and CEO; and Erin Myers, "Ding" Darling deputy refuge manager photos provided

- February 17 – *Bird of Prey*
- March 3 – *A Sense of Wonder*
- March 17 – *Just Eat It*
- March 31 – *Science Fair*
- April 14 – *Urban Roots*

For more information, visit [www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series).

As a nonprofit organization, DDWS works to support JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge's mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research and education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop profits. To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit [www.dingdarlingsociety.org](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org) or contact Birgie Miller at 472-1100, ext. 4, or [dindarlingsociety@gmail.com](mailto:dindarlingsociety@gmail.com).



A scene from *The Swamp*

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## OBITUARY



MARGARET PORTER HOEL

**M**argaret "Peggy" Porter Hoel, 85, mother, grandmother, teacher, volunteer and friend, passed away of natural causes on November 15 at her home in Fort Myers, Florida.

Peggy was born on August 26, 1935 to Charles C. and Margaret K. Porter, Jr. in Columbia, Missouri. She was the youngest of four children. Preceded in death are her brothers: Charles C. Porter III, William W. Porter and Thomas C. Porter.

Peggy was preceded in death by her

husband, Donald K. Hoel (October 20, 2004). The couple met at the University of Missouri-Columbia while she was attending undergraduate school and he was attending law school. Upon her graduation in 1957, she moved to Kansas City, Missouri where she started her teaching career at Corinth Elementary School in Leawood, Kansas. In 1958, after graduating law school and passing the Missouri Bar, Don moved to Kansas City and commenced his legal practice at Shook, Hardy and Bacon. Don and Peggy were married on June 28, 1959.

The couple had four children: John Porter Hoel of Vienna, Virginia, Christian Thomas Hoel (deceased November 10, 1980), Mary Katherine Hoel (Gaithersburg, Maryland) and Martha Hoel Garrison, MD (Decatur, Georgia). She had seven grandchildren: Jack, Tyler and Porter (John), Ellen and Grace (Mary), Andrew and Megan (Martha) and two sons-in-law: David Garrison (Martha) and Dale Tuttle (Mary).

While raising a family in Kansas City was a full-time endeavor, Peggy continued her education career as a kindergarten teacher at the Barstow School (1974-1982) and later as a private tutor of children with learning disabilities. She was active in the John Knox Presbyterian Church, serving as member of the trustees. She was also a member of the Kansas City Young Matrons, the Delta Gama Sorority and University of Missouri Alumni Associations.

Sanibel Island, Florida always held a special place in her heart, initially

discovering its peace and beauty in 1976. Every year over the Christmas holiday, the family would vacation on Sanibel. In 1993, Don and Peggy moved permanently to Sanibel where she immediately immersed herself in volunteer activities at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, where she served on the board of deacons, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and Bright Horizons. She developed a passion for growing orchids and learning about Sanibel's natural habitat. She was an avid supporter of BIG ARTS on Sanibel and the Florida Repertory Theatre of Fort Myers.

In 2012, Peggy moved to Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Myers. Her social activities and volunteering increased exponentially. She attended multiple academic classes offered at Shell Point, volunteered at the thrift shop, served as a greeter at the Pavilion healthcare facility and treasured her time as a member of the Shell Point Singers. Her days were active and full.

A private burial was held at Mt. Moriah Cemetery in Kansas City. Due to the current pandemic, a memorial service will be scheduled in the future.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully asks that donations be considered for Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, 2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957 or GLAD Kids Early Learning Center, 10320 Gladiolus Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33908. To sign the virtual guestbook, go to <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/kansas-city-mo/margaret-hoel-9907090>.✪

## Dinner Rasies Funds For Heights



Harold Balink

photo provided

**T**he Heights Foundation hosted a Big Reds Wine Dinner at Harold's Restaurant on Tuesday, November 10. The dinner was a fundraising event for The Heights Foundation, that works to build strong, self-sufficient families in the Harlem Heights neighborhood.

Chef Harold Balink teamed up with local media personality and wine journalist Gina Birch to pair stunning big red wines from around the world with Harold's creative cuisine. Seating was limited, and COVID-19 precautions were in place.✪

## Churches/Temples

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

**ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m., 10291 Bayshore Road, 599-4023.

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

**BETH YESHUA MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE**  
Saturday 11 a.m. 15675 McGregor Boulevard, 437-3171.

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

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

**CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE**  
Sunday 10 a.m., [www.revtedalhouse@aol.com](mailto:www.revtedalhouse@aol.com), 10200 Cypress Cove Circle, 850-3943.

**CHAVURAT SHALOM**  
(Fellowship of Peace) Friday Shabbat services led by members at 6 p.m. Saturday morning Jewish current events at 10 a.m. Talks by members on topics of interest Thursdays at 11 a.m. Contact [ChavuratShalom@gmail.com](mailto:ChavuratShalom@gmail.com) to participate on Zoom.

**CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
Sunday 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. 13500 Freshman Lane, 768-2188.

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

**CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

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

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

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

**CYPRESS LAKE UNITED METHODIST**  
Sunday 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. 8570 Cypress Lake Drive, 482-1250.

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST**  
Sunday 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., [www.christiansciencefortmyers.net](http://www.christiansciencefortmyers.net), [www.christianscience.com](http://www.christianscience.com). 2390 West First Street, 334-6801.

**FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 13545 American Colony Boulevard, 936-2511.

**FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m., 5916 Winkler Road, 437-4330.

**FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST;**  
Sunday 10 a.m., 8210 College Parkway, 482-3133.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT MYERS**  
11 a.m. Sunday, [www.fpcfmyers.org](http://www.fpcfmyers.org), 2438 Second Street, 239-334-2261

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

**JESUS THE WORKER CATHOLIC**  
Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday 8, 10

a.m. and 6 p.m., 881 Nuna Avenue, 481-1143.

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

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

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

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

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

**RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
8, 9:45 and 11:30 a.m., 21580 River Ranch Road, 495-0400.

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

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

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

**SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE METROPOLITAN**  
Sunday 10 a.m., 3049 McGregor Boulevard, 344-0012.

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

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

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC**  
Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.; Saturday 4 p.m.; Sunday 9 and 11 a.m., 13031 Palm Beach Boulevard, 693-0818.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**WORD OF LIFE**  
Sunday 10 a.m., Wednesday 7 p.m., 2120 Collier Avenue, 274-8881.

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

## OBITUARY



## CARL HENRY DIETZ

Carl Henry Dietz of St. Petersburg, Florida passed away on October 31 at the age of 94. He was born to Karl and Sophie (Haller) Dietz in Chicago, Illinois. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II and was stationed for a time in Sweetwater, Texas, where he was part of ground support for the training base of the WASPs. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, Carl married his high school sweetheart, Emma Lou Browning, on June 11, 1950. They recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary together.

They settled in McLeansboro, Illinois in 1950, where he and "Emy" were co-owners of Dietz Well Service. They sold the business in 1968 and Carl returned

to college at Southern Illinois University, earning a master's degree in technical education in 1970.

Later that year, they relocated to suburban St. Louis, Missouri, where he taught mechanical engineering at Florissant Valley Community College. Upon retirement in 1986, they moved to Sanibel, Florida and later to Fort Myers, Florida.

Carl was a 32nd Degree Mason and was an active member of the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club and the Lee County Power Squadron, where he was an instructor. After retirement, he and Emy traveled all over the world, as well as enjoying time with their family and with friends they made in McLeansboro, St. Louis, Sanibel, Fort Myers and all over the world.

Carl is survived by four children: Benny, Bamberg, South Carolina; Scott (Denise), Ballwin, Missouri; Mandy (Kim), St. Petersburg, Florida; and Seth (Emily), Miami, Florida. Grandchildren are Carl Dietz, Ryan (Julia) Dietz, Jennifer (Jeremy) Gawthorp, Christopher (Iveta) Dietz, Anthony Dietz, Madisen Dietz, Hannah Dietz, and Benjamin Dietz. Great-grandchildren are Taylor Ulm, Oliver Gawthorp, Emma and Isabelle Dietz, and Natalie Dietz, with another great-grandchild on the way.

Carl was preceded in death by the love of his life, Emy, and a younger brother, Walter.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be sent to: Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF), P.O. Box 1, Sanibel, FL 33957.✽

## Help Boost Recycling Efforts For The Holidays

Lee County Solid Waste has tips for residents for the 2020 holiday season so you can recycle, know what can be repurposed, and also know what needs to go in the trash bin.

Lee County's waste stream generally increases about 20 percent during the holidays, but taking even a few small steps can help reduce waste generated in your home.

**Gobble up your turkey and dispose of the oil** – Deep-fried turkey is a holiday tradition for many Florida families. Residents can safely and responsibly dispose of any leftover cooking oil at no charge. Put the used oils or grease in sealed, unbreakable, leak-proof containers.

Take it to the Lee County Household Chemical Waste Facility at 6441 Topaz Court in Fort Myers. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The site also is open two upcoming Saturdays: December 5 and January 9 from 8 a.m. to noon.

What happens to the oil? The used cooking oil can be refined and reused for power generation or heating.

**Recycle the usuals** – Aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles and jars, plastic containers can be recycled if:

The plastic containers are labeled #1

through #7;

Boxes did not contain a liquid; They are empty, clean and dry.

What about the paper plates, used napkins and plastic utensils? They go in the trash.

**Wrap it well and then ...**

Think about which gift bags, boxes, tissues and bows you could potentially store and reuse next holiday season.

Break down your shipping boxes and gift boxes and place them in your recycling bin.

Put used wrapping paper in your recycling bin unless it has a metallic finish.

What about packing materials? Air pockets and bubble wrap are not recyclable in your home recycling cart. Put them in your trash can or check availability to recycle them at some area grocery stores.

**Oh Tannenbaum – what to do with the tree:**

Be sure to remove the tree stand, lights, decoration and tinsel.

Broken and burned out strands of lights go in the trash.

Set green Christmas trees out with your yard waste.

Trees will be ground for use as mulch or compost.

What about flocked trees? Those trees with that snow-covered look cannot be recycled due to the white, powdery mixture on their branches. Put them with your trash.

For more information about recycling and waste disposal, contact Lee County Solid Waste at 533-8000 or visit [www.leegov.com/solidwaste](http://www.leegov.com/solidwaste).✽

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Hodges University faculty and staff built eight Thanksgiving displays made of perishable and non-perishable food. Pictured is *HU Fall Festival* by the registrar/library/student experience team, voted Best Overall display. photo provided

## University Staff Creates Edible Holiday Displays

For the second year, Hodges University faculty and staff put their creative and construction skills to work with eight Thanksgiving displays on the Fort Myers campus. From fall festivals and music videos to a turkey dance club, the displays were made of perishable and non-perishable food items for a Thanksgiving dinner.

As a result, 675 pounds of perishable and non-perishable food items were delivered to the Bonita Springs Assistance Office for its food pantry. Last year, Hodges University delivered 665 pounds of food.

Display participant teams included human resources, admissions, registrar/library/student experience, marketing, psychology, information technology, English as a second language and Johnson School of Business.

"We clearly have some serious creativity among our faculty and staff," said Dr. Meyer, president of Hodges

University. "They came up with some unique displays, some that were funny and some that were heartwarming. The most rewarding part of this was our ability as a team to help others in our community."

"We are a small operation that

believes in giving people a hand up, not a handout," added Teri Lamaine, president and executive director of the Bonita Assistance Office. "We appreciate Hodges University and know that their generosity goes a long way to helping people right here in our community." ✨

## Local Works Navy Radar Systems



Operations Specialist 2nd Class Jag McManamy

photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Ryre Arciaga

Navy Operations Specialist 2nd Class Jag McManamy of Fort Myers operates a radar systems controller during air defense exercises in the combat information center of the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Shiloh (CG 67) during Keen Sword 21.

Keen Sword is an example of the strength of the U.S.-Japan Alliance, the foundation of peace and security in the Indo-Pacific region for more than 60 years. The relationships built and maintained during these events are critical to our shared capability to respond to contingencies at a moment's notice. ✨

## JOIN US NOVEMBER 29 • 9 AM - 3 PM MUSEUM STORE SUNDAY



Celebrate Sanibel's history with the purchase of jewelry, hand-crafted pine needle baskets, Calusa reproductions, cookbooks, history books, toys, and more!

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950 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, FL 33957

## Employee Educational Scholarships

Cypress Cove's staff scholarship committee recently awarded 21 Educational scholarships for the spring 2021 academic term to employees and dependents of the South Fort Myers Life Plan community.

The recent scholar selections bring to 53 the number of employees and their dependents who have been chosen as scholarship recipients since the program began in 2018. Scholars from Cypress Cove spring class will be represented at eight different institutions of higher learning.

"Cypress Cove scholars are a diverse group in every way," said Philanthropy Specialist Allen Abbott. "That contributes to the impact we can have in a world needing a wide range of skills."

The current class of scholars will be attending Florida SouthWestern State College, Rasmussen College, the University of South Florida, Fort Myers Technical College, Western Governors University and the University of Florida.

This spring's scholarship class,

according to Abbott, includes 12 returning scholars. Of the 21 recipients, seven were awarded named scholarships (awards named in honor of Cypress Cove resident donors).

Receiving named scholarships are Samuel Chery (the Ann Tatler Scholarship Scholarship); Mabeille Jocelyn (the Bill and Janet Nichols Scholarship); Romain Johnson (the Bill and Carol Cessna Scholarship); Danilo Jose Moreno (the Carol Guthrie Scholarship); Victor Noel (the Tom and Bev Lisle Scholarship); Olivia Nowak (the Betty Haskell Scholarship); and Felipe Orrego (the Turk and Mills Family Scholarship).

Fourteen other Cypress Cove employees or dependents of employees selected as scholarship recipients are Evelyn Alpizar Flores, Sephora Augustin, Marie Josee Bernavil, Sanley Castor, Kelly Corgelas, Madison Cunningham, Shantae Gayle, Dee Dee Guervil, Baylee Hanna, Dapheline Jocelin, Gina Karat, Abigayle Pierre, Cabrini Tavarez and Everett Taylor.

First-time scholarship recipients receive \$2,000 toward their education, while employees having previously received scholarship program assistance were awarded \$1,000. ✨

**CROW Case Of The Week:**

# Virginia Opossum

by Bob Petcher



While there are several dozen different species of opossums in North America, the Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*) is the most notable. It is the only marsupial

(pouched mammal) found north of Mexico and the only member of the genus that stores body fat.

Virginia opossums have long heads and pointed snouts, rounded furless ears, and a scaly, nearly hairless, prehensile tail – the ability to grasp or hold objects – that is about half of their total body length.

Sporting 50 teeth, opossums eat almost anything, from insects to road kill, with interest in fruit, eggs, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and small mammals also in play. They also prey on snakes, including poisonous ones, and are known to be immune to snake venom.

If cornered and unable to escape, a Virginia opossum may subject itself to becoming catatonic as a defensive measure. This allows the mammal to appear to be unconscious or dead – though most of its body functions remain normal – thus symbolizing the phrase “playing ‘possum.”



**Patient #20-5141 clutches its food bowl, but will need to feed more before being considered for release**  
photo by Becca Wehmeier

At CROW, a juvenile Virginia opossum was admitted after it was found covered in oil and lethargic. Upon initial examination, the patient was noted to be severely dehydrated and covered with oil and dirt. The opossum was given a bath using Dawn dish soap to remove the oil, then blow dried to dry its fur.

“We don’t know how she became covered in oil. It is possible it’s from a car. We have no other information about her other than she was found in Fort Myers covered in oil and seemingly lethargic,” said Dr. Sasha Troiano, CROW veterinary intern. “Dawn dish soap is very effective

at cleaning oil off of animals. It is the detergent of choice for removing oil.”

The patient is being monitored closely and is receiving supportive care that includes antibiotics and food.

“The patient is being fed a variety of food, as opossums are omnivores. Currently, she seems to like soft cat or dog food, and she is also being offered a variety of fruits and vegetables and small fish pieces,” said Dr. Troiano. “She is being treated with antibiotics and GI (gastrointestinal) protectants.”

Apparently, the opossum was admitted with no major injuries but is on

a deworming medication.

“The patient is very skinny, and had a lot of gastrointestinal parasites based on a fecal examination,” said Dr. Troiano. “She is being dewormed, and supported with subcutaneous fluids as needed, antibiotics and nutrition. She is eating some on her own, but does not have the best appetite at this time. She will continue to receive supportive care.”

The deworming process is a regular medical procedure with this type of animal.

“We generally see opossums come in with a high parasite burden, especially if they are debilitated,” said Dr. Troiano. “The parasites are almost never the reason they are in the hospital, but they can become a problem in animals that are sick for other reasons, which is why we treat these parasites.”

The young Virginia opossum has been at the clinic for just over a week, but will need more time to fatten up, according to Dr. Troiano.

“The patient is continuing to receive supportive care, and the oil has been cleaned off of her fur,” she said. “She is still skinny, so she will need to be with us until she is in a better body condition prior to considering release.”

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).✪

## Local Named To College Volleyball All-Region Team

Brittany Annand of Fort Myers was recognized for earning 2nd Team All-Region honors as a women’s volleyball player at Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina. Annand is a senior majoring in interior architecture and design.

Annand was one of three Bruins selected to the 2020 All-Region teams in the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA). The recognition is voted on by coaches of the south region.

Annand received her second All-Region honor of her career. This season, the Bruins setter led the team with 338 assists pushing her to over 2,000 career assists. Annand was dominant in the regional tournament as she posted 61 assists, averaging 10.1 assists per set with an efficiency of .448.

The Bruins captured their fifth-straight NCCAA Division II South Region championship recently after the team swept No. 4 Johnson University in the semifinals before sweeping No. 2 Toccoa Falls College in the region championship. The Bruins will be the No. 2 seed at the NCCAA Division II National Tournament in Greenville, South Carolina from November 18 to 20.✪



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# First Day Back At It



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

After a few weather-related days off, you are never quiet sure exactly what you will return to. A five to 10 degree drop in water temperature can completely

rearrange what was so good just a few days prior. My day starts at 5 a.m. as I open the shrimp tank and take a hundred shrimp just in case. I head out to the canal to be greeted with a brisk northeast wind and temperatures in the low 60s. This noticeable change brought the realization the season has changed.

While chumming for 20 minutes at a favorite bait spot in the dark, I was not hearing any shiners or bait fish flipping. As it gradually began to get light, that first throw of the cast net had flashes of at least a few shiners in it. It's always a big relief knowing that the bait had not moved out of the bay with the passing of our strong cold front. Bait, as expected, does prove a little tougher on pre-front days, and it requires a half dozen throws before I'm comfortable that I have enough for my morning trip.

I take off the rain gear after washing the grass off the boat. I idle out from the shallow grass flat, re-rig a few rods and make sure to shorten up and re-tie

any chaffed leaders. By 7 a.m., it's go time as I pull some floating grass out of my livewell, hop the boat up on plane and head back to the south to pick up my clients for the day. During this ride, I'm looking at the tide phase and deciding on the first fishing spot.

Starting off in a mangrove channel close to home after chumming a few different spots down the shoreline, it's looking like the first stop was the wrong move. So I push further down the bank to the deep dead-end corner, and the first scoop of live shiners I chum gets a instant reaction. This puts a smile on my face as we begin to catch small snook. A few more casts, and my client catches a few decent redfish. The sun is slowly warming the waters, which brings the fish to life. After 20 minutes of good action, this bite slowly grinds to a halt and it's time to move on.

While crossing the sound, the conditions picked up and it was a little sloppy. I headed to the pass hoping that during the last few hours of falling tide, the fish would fire up. With very few boats out, I power-poled down in the fast-moving current and set up to fish a favorite rocky edge. One scoop of shiners was a sure sign that this was the right call. Hungry snook chased shiners up to the surface, making loud pops as they ate freely. For the next hour, we sat and caught snook after snook on almost ever cast.

*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).* ✨



Ryan had a nonstop trip, catching snook and redfish with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided

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Plant Smart

# Beggarticks

by Gerri Reaves

**B**eggarticks (*Bidens alba*) is one of the most common and recognizable native wildflowers. It's extremely wildlife friendly and low-maintenance, to boot.

This member of the aster family flourishes throughout the state in just about any habitat and under almost any conditions.

Other common names are romerillo and monkey's lice, as well as Spanish needles, although the latter actually refers to *Bidens bipinnata*, also native to the state.

This widespread and irrepresible cheerful little daisy introduces the dilemma: what is an undesirable weed and what is a desirable wildflower?

One thing you have to admit about this species, even if you want to banish it from your yard: Wherever it volunteers, there will be pollinators. Wherever it grows, by default, won't be a sterile zone, the fate of so many South Florida lawns are.

Beggarticks is the larval food plant for the dainty sulphur butterfly and a nectar plant for numerous butterfly species.

In fact, it is the third most common source of nectar for honey production in the state.

Furthermore, pollination scientists deem this species of special value to native bees.

It spreads via the achenes, or dry hard



**Native beggarticks, one of the most common wildflowers in Florida, blooms all year and attracts various butterflies and other pollinators**  
photos by Gerri Reaves

fruit -- the clinging "beggarticks" that inspire the common name.

One plant can produce an astounding three to six thousand seeds, each about a centimeter long.

They spread mainly by attaching themselves with barbed spines to clothing and animal fur, but also travel by wind and water.

The opposite leaves are stalked and can be simple or compound with up to seven leaflets and pointed tips.

Lance-like or egg-shaped, they measure one to four inches long and have finely serrated edges.

The plant can grow up to three feet tall or more, with angled stems and erect flowerheads about an inch across.

The five to eight white ray flowers are toothed, or notched, and bloom all year.

Sometimes it lacks ray flowers and has only the yellow-orange tubular disk florets.

The young leaves and flowers are reportedly edible, and it is used medicinally in various ways.

If you want to balance the benefits and disadvantages of welcoming this so-called weed to your yard, consider limiting it to one area and deadheading it before the

**The clinging seeds of about a centimeter long have two barbs that resemble antennae**

seeds spread.

Sources: *Everglades Wildflowers* by Roger L. Hammer; *The Guide to Florida Wildflowers* by Walter Kingsley Taylor; *Illustrated Plants of Florida and the Coastal Plain* by Dr. David W. Hall and Edward H. Stehman; *National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida* by Peter Alden et al.; *Weeds of South Florida* by George Rogers, Ph.D.; *Wild Plants for Survival in South Florida* by Julia F. Morton; [www.flawildflowers.org](http://www.flawildflowers.org); and [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org).

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

## Land Purchase For Conservation 20/20 Program

**T**he Lee Board of County Commissioners have approved the purchase of three properties totaling more than 365 acres for the Conservation 20/20 program.

Two of the properties are near Alva and the third is near the Yucca Pens Preserve near Cape Coral. The properties are:

About 179 acres located on the north side of North River Road, about a quarter-mile west and north of Fichters Creek Lane, in Alva. The property

is adjacent to the south boundary of the other Alva-area parcel approved Tuesday. The land includes natural wetlands, pasture and cypress. The purchase price is \$1,225,000, plus costs to close estimated at \$20,000.

About 98 acres for the Conservation 20/20 Land Acquisition Program, about three-quarters of a mile north of the intersection of North River Road and Fichters Creek Lane, in Alva. The parcel's northern and eastern boundaries are adjacent to the Bob Janes Preserve, an existing Conservation 20/20 site. The property is improved pasture with the potential for rehydration of its sandstone and water table aquifers. The purchase price is \$634,000, plus costs to close estimated at \$20,000.

Ninety-three acres adjacent to county-owned Yucca Pens Preserve and the state-owned Yucca Pens Unit of Fred C. Babcock-Cecil M. Webb Wildlife Management Area in northwest Lee County, near Cape Coral. This parcel is located about one mile east of Burnt Store Road. The purchase price is \$260,400, plus closing costs estimated at \$17,500.

Each parcel was unanimously recommended for purchase by the Land

Acquisition and Stewardship Advisory Committee.

There are 30,424 acres within the Conservation 20/20 Land Acquisition Program prior to the completion of these purchases. 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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Give a gift that makes a difference for the imperiled manatee

## Bring A Manatee Home For The Holidays

This year, bring a manatee home for the holidays when you Adopt-A-Manatee from Save the Manatee Club. Of course, you can't actually bring a manatee home, but these symbolic adoptions of real Florida manatees support manatee conservation efforts and make a caring holiday gift for family and friends.

Manatee adoption packages can be shipped directly to your gift recipient

and include an adoption certificate, a photo and biography of an individual manatee, a Save the Manatee Club membership handbook, and newsletters sent throughout the year with updates on adoptees and manatee conservation news. These certificates can brighten a home office or classroom and make for a clutter-free Christmas, Hanukkah or New Year's present. Tax-deductible adoptions start at \$25 and, for a limited time, also include Save the Manatee Club's 2021 wall calendar with each order. Order by Thursday, December 10 for holiday delivery.

Unlike other wildlife adoption programs, the Adopt-A-Manatee choices

are real, living manatees with unique histories. Some manatees have been recorded in their natural habitat by researchers for years, like Floyd, who is easily identifiable by his scars caused by boat strikes. Others are viewable at Ellie

photo by David Schrichte

## Holiday Events Planned At Lee Parks

Lee County Parks & Recreation is planning holiday events throughout December. All events have been modified to reflect CDC guidelines.

Events include:

North Fort Myers Breakfast with Santa – Saturday, December 5, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; North Fort Myers Recreation Center, 2000 N. Recreation Park Way, North Fort Myers.

Come have breakfast with the jolly ol' man himself. Make a holiday craft, write a letter to Santa and take a socially distanced selfie with him. All breakfast and craft items will be individually wrapped and available to take home.

Admission is \$3 per child. For more information, call the North Fort Myers Recreation Center at 533-7200.

A Holiday Time in the Park – Friday, December 11, 5 to 9 p.m.; Veterans Park, 55 Homestead Road South, Lehigh Acres.

Celebrate the season with a family friendly night. Bring chairs or blankets to view Disney's holiday movie *A Christmas Carol*. Santa will arrive on a fire truck; bring a camera for the child's holiday photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus. A North Pole mailbox will be available for letters to Santa. To reflect CDC guidelines, socially distancing areas will be marked for movie viewing, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in a roped area and hand sanitizer stations will be available.

Admission is free. Free popcorn and cookies will be available. For more information, call the Veterans Park Recreation Center at 369-1521.

Holiday Movie in the Park – Saturday, December 12, 6:30 p.m.; North Fort Myers Park, 2000 North Recreation Park Way, North Fort Myers.

Join in on an evening full of holiday cheer. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to

Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park in Florida year-round, like Ariel, who stars in the park's manatee education programs. Select from over 30 adoptable manatees or send a gift certificate so your loved one can choose their favorite.

For decades, the Adopt-A-Manatee membership program has sponsored essential manatee conservation work by Save the Manatee Club. From collecting original research, distributing free public awareness and education materials, helping with rescue and rehabilitation efforts, or taking legal action, funds from manatee adoptions help protect this imperiled species.

"In 2020, wildlife rescue teams had their hands full rescuing plenty of manatees injured from watercraft collisions," said Patrick Rose, Save the Manatee Club executive director and aquatic biologist. "We are dedicated to supporting our manatee rescue partners and advocating for education and protection measures that can prevent these injuries and deaths in the first place."

Send your loved ones a gift that makes a difference with an Adopt-A-Manatee packet from Save the Manatee Club. Visit [www.savethemanatee.org](http://www.savethemanatee.org) or call 1-800-432-5646 to get started.\*

## Help SCCF Bring Back the Barn Owls

Poisoned rats can kill the eagles, hawks, bobcats and owls that eat them.

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Or consider not using any rat poisons at all. Instead, seal all entry points to your home.



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North Fort Myers Recreation Center  
2000 North Recreation Park Way, North Fort Myers, FL 33903 (239) 533-7200 [leeparks.org](http://leeparks.org)

image courtesy [www.facebook.com/northfortmyresrec](https://www.facebook.com/northfortmyresrec)

view Disney's holiday movie *The Santa Clause*. Socially distanced family spaces will be set up. Come at 6 p.m. to pick your spot.

Admission is free. Popcorn and bottled water will be provided to the first 150 participants. For more information, call the North Fort Myers Recreation Center at 533-7200.

Santa Fest – Saturday, December 19, 3 to 9 p.m.; Wa-Ke Hatchee Park, 16760 Bass Road, Fort Myers.

Join in on an exciting evening filled with holiday cheer. There will be bounce houses, food trucks, photos with Santa and the movie *Elf* in the park, beginning at 6:15 p.m.

Admission is free. Toy donations for Golisano Children's Hospital encouraged. For more information, call the Wa-Ke Hatchee Recreation Center at 432-2154.

For more information about Lee County Parks & Recreation locations, amenities and other special events, visit [www.leeparks.org](http://www.leeparks.org), call 533-7275 or email [leeparks@leegov.com](mailto:leeparks@leegov.com).\*

# Highlights Of Coastal Wildlife Nesting Seasons

The 2020 nesting season was truly remarkable, with record sea turtle nest counts, three different species of both sea turtles and shorebirds nesting on the beaches, and several exciting research projects under way. It was a productive and memorable year for the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Coastal Wildlife program.

Shorebirds had mixed success in their nesting efforts this year. The snowy plovers (*Charadrius nivosus*) fledged five chicks. The least terns (*Sternula antillarum*) and Wilson's plovers (*Charadrius wilsonia*) were unable to produce any young due to storms, high tides and predators.

All five snowy plover fledglings left Sanibel in late summer, and have been seen as far south as North Keewaydin and as far north as Anclote Key.

The 2020 sea turtle season officially ended on October 31, with the last remaining green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) nest inventoried on October 29. It was a banner nesting year, with many highlights and several broken records for loggerheads (*Caretta caretta*) and leatherbacks (*Dermochelys coriacea*):

Earliest sea turtle crawl (leatherback, April 1);

Earliest loggerhead nest (April 15);

Most loggerhead nests on Sanibel



One of 56 leatherback sea turtle hatchlings recorded on Captiva photos provided

(660) and Captiva (266);

Most total nests combined (loggerhead, green, leatherback);

Tracked three loggerheads via satellite transmitter;

Most leatherback nests on Sanibel (four) and Captiva (two);

Encountered Juniper, the



One of five snowy plover chicks that fledged on Sanibel

leatherback, four times, tracked via satellite transmitter (in collaboration with Florida Leatherbacks, Inc.);

Emerged hatchlings: 33,825;

First successful leatherback nest on Captiva: 56 hatchlings;

For more information, tune in to

SCCF's Land. Water. Wildlife. podcast.

On one episode, SCCF Shorebird Biologist Audrey Albrecht talks about the shorebird nesting season, and in a recently recorded episode, the SCCF Sea Turtle Program scientists discuss the sea turtle nesting season in depth.\*

## CROW CRAWL

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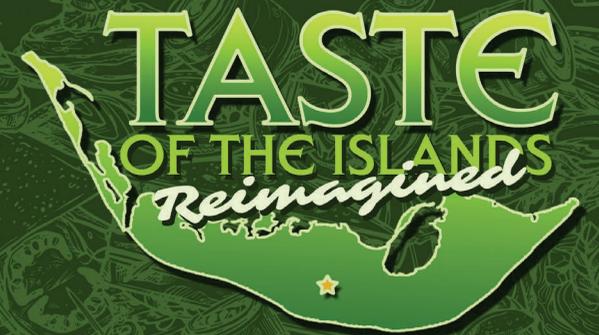
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## Health First

# Thanksgiving Day: A Time For Gratitude



by Julie Rosenberg, MD

**T**hanksgiving Day is upon us, a national holiday celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year. Thanksgiving has always been my favorite holiday. I

appreciate the opportunity to slow down, take a pause, to spend time with family and friends, and to focus on offering gratitude for the many blessings in my life.

Gratitude is an intentional discipline and an affirmation of goodness. Practicing gratitude is a reliable means to increase happiness. It leads to forgiveness and paying it forward. Gratitude has also been shown to improve relationships, as well as overall physical and psychological health. There is a growing body of scientific research that shows that practice of gratitude that may improve your overall health and wellbeing.

A regular gratitude practice can have a dramatic impact on your outlook on life. Consider this: Instead of taking things for granted, can you pause to notice and identify the things for which you are grateful, such as going for a morning walk or taking a long, hot shower? Gratitude is about learning to appreciate the positive aspects of your own life.

You can make gratitude a regular habit by trying the following ideas – they require only a small investment of time:

Notice the things for which you are grateful – Nature. People. Community. Shelter. Pets. Everyday comforts like a good meal. You notice so much more when you focus on feeling grateful for what you do have instead of focusing on what you don't have. Once you start identifying things to be grateful for, your mind begins to automatically think with gratitude.

Give thanks for the gift of time – Poet and essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "We are always getting ready to live but never living." We often prepare endlessly, but never actively pursue the things that we want in our lives. Every day offers a new start. The past is history. The future is unknown. Consider today a gift. How will you use the time to move forward?

Keep a gratitude journal – Set aside a few minutes each day to write down at least five good things in your life. Keeping a journal allows you look back over your past entries, which will support your personal growth. By writing each day, you will begin to magnify and expand on sources of goodness in your life.

Begin each day with gratitude – How do you start your day? Do you review your to do list? Do you check email or text messages before getting out of bed? Many of us awaken and immediately get

caught up in the daily grind – we forget the simple beauty and preciousness of life. When you start your day in a mindset of gratitude, you set a positive tone for the day and happiness comes more easily.

Be thankful as you carry out your daily routine – In addition to writing in a journal, try practicing thankfulness as you go about your daily activities. Savor things that you might consider small or routine. For example, take an extra moment to enjoy your morning coffee, a breath of fresh air or a stroll on the beach.

Over time, you will train yourself to think differently. Thankfulness will become second nature to you. Maintaining this mindset will lead to greater satisfaction and appreciation in life.

On Thanksgiving Day, if only for a few moments, commit to expressing gratitude. Try to focus on all that you have, rather than what you don't have or what you think you deserve. Voice your gratitude to the people who mean the most to you. Your efforts may have enormous benefit not only for them, but for you.

*Julie Rosenberg, MD, is a global healthcare leader, medical consultant and the author of two books, Beyond the Mat and Be True. For more information, visit her website at [www.drjulierosenberg.com](http://www.drjulierosenberg.com). For consulting and speaking requests, email inquiries to [info@drjulierosenberg.com](mailto:info@drjulierosenberg.com).\**

## Lee Commission Approves Use Of Toll Transponders

**T**he Lee Board of County Commissioners has approved an agreement to allow motorists to use E-ZPass transponders – widely used along the east coast and beyond – to drive on Lee County toll roads.

The E-ZPass toll network includes 18 states throughout the Northeast and Midwest. The agreement would allow people who already have those transponders to use them on Lee County toll bridges.

"This agreement is very helpful for visitors to Lee County who already use E-ZPass transponders in their own communities," said Commissioner Brian Hamman, chairman of Tourism Development Council. "E-ZPass is well established in many of the areas where a majority of our visitors come from, including New York, Massachusetts, Ohio and Indiana."

The agreement that allows the use of E-ZPass in Lee County is with the Central Florida Expressway, which joined the E-ZPass group in 2018. The Central Florida Expressway would process transactions with no transaction fees charged to the county.

The transponders will be accepted locally starting early next year.

Local motorists can continue to use LeeWay and SunPass transponders.

For more information about Lee County toll programs, visit [www.leewayinfo.com](http://www.leewayinfo.com).\*

## Superior Interiors

## How To Decorate Around A Fireplace



by Katie Frederick

**I**f you're lucky enough to have a fireplace in your home, it is likely the focal point of your living room year-round, but there's no denying that the shining moments of this architectural

feature occurs during the fall and winter months, even in our temperate climate. Not only can you light a fire and get cozy on a crisp evening, the decorating choices for the mantel and surrounding area are seemingly endless.

Having the right decor around your fireplace is ideal for drawing your eye to the area and emphasizing the feelings of the season. Follow these tips to create a safe and aesthetically pleasing display around your hearth.

First and foremost, it's critical to follow some fire safety rules when decorating around your fireplace, especially if it's functional. Keep any décor a safe distance away from heat sources, especially if the materials are flammable. This means keeping a close eye on any floral arrangements and cloth items you may use. If your fireplace is more ornamental, you can still create a warm feeling by putting candles in the space (there are very realistic flameless options available). This may offer some more flexibility with embellishments, as the fireplace will not be emitting embers and heat.

No matter how you use your fireplace, it's important to enhance it with your decor choices. A good rule of thumb is to have one item in the middle of the mantel and a sconce or other

matching items on either side. Adding a mirror centered over the hearth is a great way to create symmetry and make the living area seem more spacious.

Another good anchor item would be a vase of flowers or a cornucopia with other seasonal accessories flanking it. From there, it's time to add other elements like candle sticks, photos, or sentimental collectables you rotate with the seasons. The consensus is that while symmetry is important for beginning to place your decor items, adding accessories in odd groups is the most pleasing to the eye. This may mean adding three candles or five figurines around the space to create depth in addition to the larger, centering items.

Of course, the best part of decorating around the fireplace is giving homage to the new seasons through your assortment of embellishments. In the spring or summer, your mantel may be adorned with a fresh bouquet of flowers. Fall and winter are times when the area might welcome a little more holiday style.

For autumn, hanging a decorative wreath and adding candles is a great way to welcome in the shorter days. Winter holiday events can mean deep reds and greens, possibly a fresh garland or nutcrackers placed at a safe distance away from any heat. Either way, the fireplace is an area to showcase your seasonal decor and evoke the warmth of the holiday season.

Finally, it's important to never clutter your fireplace area with too many frills. Not only can this pose a safety hazard if you want to light a fire, but it may not be pleasing to look at consistently. Therefore, switching out decor every few months is recommended. You can rotate your favorite pieces and appreciate them at different times of the year.

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

## Gobble Up Electric Savings This Thanksgiving

**E**ven though COVID-19 will keep us from cooking for family, friends and neighbors, it is likely that you will still be whipping up a delicious feast this Thanksgiving. Despite the smaller crowd of hungry bellies, it is still important to consider your electric usage while you dish out your famous foods.

Lee County Electric Cooperative reminds customer to:

Be smart with your oven use – Cook multiple things at once and resist the urge to peek into the oven. If you can cook some appetizers, dinner and dessert items at once, you can cut down on your electric usage while giving your oven a much-deserved rest.

Remember that every time you open your oven, the temperature drops by 25 to 30 degrees in addition to raising the temperature in your kitchen.

Put your microwave to work – Microwaves use half as much electricity as conventional ovens, and cook items in a shorter time. Consider using your microwave to cook smaller items like side dishes, and leave the big dishes for the oven.

Make sure you match up pots and pans to your burners – Using a small pot on a big burner wastes electricity.

Consider using a cooler rather than opening your fridge over and over to get out cold items like drinks – Be sure to give hot food time to cool down before storing them.

Save time, water and electricity by using your dishwasher to clean your Thanksgiving mess – If possible, scrape food from dishes to prevent the need to pre-rinse. Be sure to fill it completely to get the most bang for your buck.\*



Dr. Chrissann Ruehle with her award

photo provided

## FGCU Instructor Wins Award For Case Study

Florida Gulf Coast University Management Instructor Dr. Chrissann Ruehle has won the Best Student-Authored Case Study Award from the North American Case Research Association (NACRA) for work based on her partnership with Vectra Digital.

Her case study, *Vectra Digital: Capturing Artificial Intelligence Value After Adoption*, was presented to a NACRA roundtable in October.

"We are extremely proud of Dr. Ruehle," said Harrison Ambs, chief strategy officer at Vectra Digital. "Her hard work goes beyond a case study. Once published, her work will be at the forefront of AI (artificial intelligence) and education. If you could hear us, the team at Vectra Digital is cheering pretty loudly for her. It's a humbling experience as a company to be a part of it."

Ruehle's case study will be adjusted based upon feedback from the information technology (IT) roundtable and submitted for publication to the *Case*

*Research Journal* (CRJ).

"I was so surprised and happy about getting an award from such a prestigious group," said Ruehle. "The experts on the roundtable spent an hour discussing the case and were extremely excited about it."

At the heart of her case study is Vectra Digital's proprietary artificial intelligence tool that manages digital accounts and budgets 24 hours a day. Vectra Digital is an award-winning, full-service marketing agency in Fort Myers.

Ruehle's case study highlights Vectra Digital's founding, its AI introduction and development, barriers to AI adoption, ethical issues encountered and future plans for the AI tool.

The study is part of her dissertation *Understanding the Complex Ethical Landscape of Artificial Intelligence Adoptions*.

The dissertation also includes a college instructor's manual for teaching topics related to her AI research with Vectra Digital. The manual will be made available at an instructor's request once the study is published in a journal. Depending on which publication accepts the case, the manual could be made available throughout the U.S. and internationally.✪

## Estate-Sized Lots Selling Out Quickly

Horse Creek, a community of custom homes on estate-sized lots, has just 11 acre-plus properties remaining for sale. As one of the few subdivisions in Southwest Florida offering minimum one-acre lots, Horse Creek offers a stunning natural setting on the Orange River and welcoming Old Florida home designs by exclusive builder and developer Daniel Wayne Homes, Inc.

Horse Creek embraces a more traditional sense of living and style while including space for extra garages and outbuildings. The community was designed as an exclusive enclave on 220 acres with only 113 total residential

lots. Residents enjoy a deeded, gated community lifestyle coupled with space and privacy unmatched in Lee County.

Buyers have the opportunity to choose from one of 17 floorplans, including a new multigenerational floor plan named Palm Beach, or, they can build an entirely custom home on the acre of their dreams. Additional options include oversized garages for RVs and boats, as well as double lots.

"Horse Creek harkens back to days gone by while still offering modern conveniences – residents enjoy the nostalgia of a traditional neighborhood with privacy, nature and space while having dining, shopping and other activities less than 15 minutes away," said Dan Dodrill, founder of Horse Creek and Daniel Wayne Homes, Inc.

For more information, contact Jason Chodakowsky at 332-7335 or visit [www.horsecreekcommunity.com](http://www.horsecreekcommunity.com).✪

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## Book Review

## The Silent Wife

by Di Saggau



**T**he *Silent Wife* by Karin Slaughter is a mystery thriller. Present day Atlanta, Georgia, a young woman is brutally attacked and left for dead. The police investigate but the trail goes

cold. Until a chance assignment takes GBI investigator Will Trent to the state penitentiary to investigate the murder of an inmate. While speaking with potential witnesses, a prisoner named Daryl Nesbitt says he recognizes the MO. The attack looks identical to the one he was accused of eight years earlier. He always insisted that he was innocent, saying it was a corrupt investigation led by the now deceased Chief Jeffrey Tolliver. Now he's sure he has proof, and that means there may still be a serial predator out there.

This complicates things for Trent, because his lover and hopeful wife is medical examiner Dr. Sara Linton, also Tolliver's widow. He's fearful that investigating her former husband's possible misdeeds may drive them apart. As Trent digs into both crimes, it becomes clear that he must solve the original case in order to reach the truth. Yet nearly a decade has passed – time for memories to fade, witnesses to vanish,

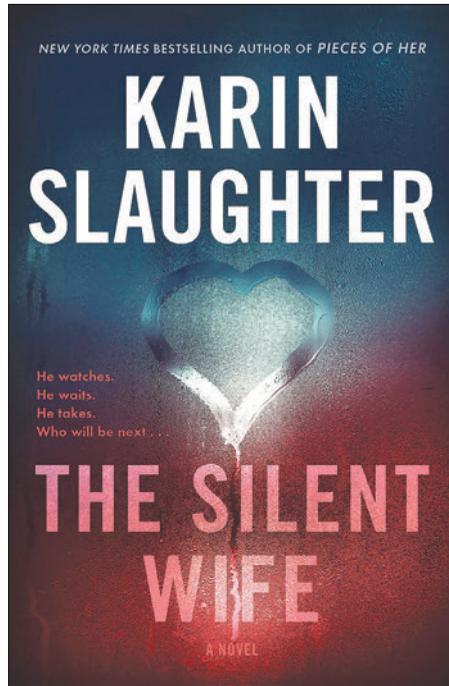


image provided

evidence to disappear. And now he needs Linton's help to hunt down a ruthless murderer. His partner Faith is also there to lend a hand and will have you laughing out loud.

The crimes are disturbing and Slaughter doesn't hold back from details. She shows the grim realities of these heinous acts as well as the emotional aftermath on victims and their loved ones. She uses two timelines which allows readers to see the past to understand how it impacts present day. *The Silent*

*Wife* is a suspense story that is not only pulse-pounding and thought-provoking, but humorous as well. I look forward to her next novel.\*

## School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSF

**D**ear Readers, Every year as we approach Thanksgiving and the holiday season, I like to suggest that parents and caregivers take time to reflect on being

thankful and having gratitude, and to share their thoughts with their children, friends and family. The dictionary defines gratitude as "the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness." Thankfulness and gratitude are two very important concepts for children to understand, experience and internalize.

Teaching children to be thankful for the abundance in their lives can be difficult as our society is very focused on material goods. Research tells us that, "Having regular experiences of gratitude is associated with healthy psychological and social functioning," (McCullough, Emmons & Tsang, 2002; Watkins, 2004). When we teach gratitude and thankfulness to our children and allow it to grow, we support improvement of our children's mental health and development of a positive life-long skill.

So how does a simple act of gratitude support our mental health and well-being? When we engage in being thankful, this often leads to an increased sense of wellbeing and positive mood. Being grateful often reduces anxiety levels and feeling of depression. When we are grateful for specific people in our lives, we strengthen these relationships and increase connectivity to the world.

Parents can teach their children to be thankful and have gratitude, but just teaching it to our children is not enough. We must model it as well. Serving as role models for our children is the best way to help them learn and understand these concepts. And, as we role model for them,

we will also benefit, as our own mental health will improve.

Here are some activities to help you teach thankfulness and gratitude to your children:

Say, "Thank you!" – Tell your children thank you and tell them why you are saying it. When you say thank you and give verbal feedback, be explicit in your praise of the aspects that are good. Start your feedback with, "Thank you! I want to give you a compliment/compliments." Allow your children to realize that you are grateful for what they have done correctly. Children will start remembering the compliments as they are valued and repeated in more work.

End each day with a positive thought – Have your child tell you what one thing they have learned that day or what was the best part of their day before they go to sleep each night. You could also do this at dinnertime and have each family member share something positive.

Gratitude/Thankful diary/Thank you notes – Encourage your child to write thank you notes or have their own diary that they write, draw or glue things in that they are thankful for in their lives. In times of upset, they can look through their diaries to remind themselves of all the things that make them thankful. These are powerful tools allowing children a tangible outlet to show gratitude.

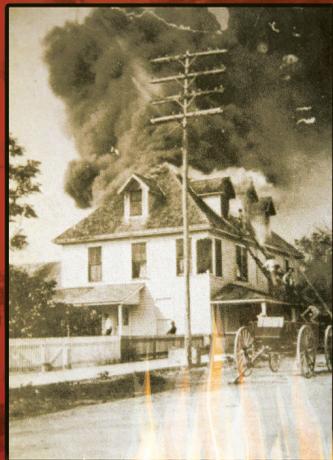
Gratitude jars – Create a family gratitude jar and encourage family members on a weekly basis to write a little note with whom and what has made them grateful, and put it in the jar. Read them once a month at a family dinner and see positive feelings grow.

Modeling gratitude, that for which you are thankful, allows this expression of positivity to be normalized and incorporated as a part of daily life. Gratitude is a simple but effective way to develop a positive mindset for children and adults alike.

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](mailto:smgreggs@gmail.com). Not all questions submitted can be addressed through this publication.\*

## EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

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



THOMAS P. HALL  
ROBIN C. TUTHILL, EDITOR

Available at  
[www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)  
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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

## County Hires Firm For Water Quality Project

**T**he Lee Board of County Commissioners has approved a contract with a local engineering firm to monitor construction of a project adjacent to Yellow Fever Creek Preserve, which is a Conservation 20/20 site, to improve water quality and the ecosystem.

The project is located within the City of Cape Coral near Averill Boulevard and Del Prado Boulevard North. It is designed to improve water quality by diverting excess flow from Gator Slough Canal into a reservoir. There, it will be treated before being released into Yellow Fever Creek,

a tributary to the Caloosahatchee. This joint project with the City of Cape Coral will help reduce the flow of freshwater toward Matlacha Pass and restore historic base flows to the Yellow Fever Creek watershed. The transfer of water will also enhance the rehydration of wetlands south of Del Prado Boulevard, restoring the habitat.

The Caloosahatchee estuary has a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) state designation for Total Nitrogen and an adopted State of Florida Basin Management Action Plan to lower this pollutant. Commissioners spend millions of dollars annually on projects to reduce pollutants in the estuary.

The project will provide Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) credit for  
continued on page 19

## Best College In Florida For Entrepreneurship

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) is the top public college or university in Florida for undergraduate entrepreneurship studies, according to The Princeton Review and *Entrepreneur* magazine. Coming in at No. 29 out of more than 300 schools, FGCU ranked higher than entrepreneurship undergraduate programs at DePaul University, Florida State University, the University of St. Thomas and Syracuse University among others.

"We tried a new model with an independent School of Entrepreneurship, and it works," said Sandra Kauanui, director of FGCU's Daveler & Kauanui School of Entrepreneurship. "This ranking by The Princeton Review and *Entrepreneur* magazine sets us apart from other entrepreneurship schools, especially many of those in Florida. It's nice to be recognized for the hard work we have all contributed to reaching our goal."

Since its founding four years ago, FGCU's entrepreneurship program has grown exponentially. Its mission is to infuse entrepreneurial spirit throughout the university with an interdisciplinary entrepreneurship major and minor. These are the fastest-growing degrees on campus with 2,793 students enrolled this past year in entrepreneurship classes.

"Yet again our Daveler & Kauanui



The front entrance at FGCU

photo provided

School of Entrepreneurship continues to grow and excel," said FGCU President Mike Martin. "We are proud of all that is being accomplished and the recognition by The Princeton Review and *Entrepreneur* magazine allows many others to recognize this great FGCU program as well."

Beyond degrees, FGCU's School of Entrepreneurship is home to the highly successful Runway Program, which helps students develop a business model and a viable product while earning their degree. That effort is furthered by a recent collaboration with the Naples Accelerator to offer entrepreneurship training, which is open to FGCU alumni. Other features

include the Mentor Program, through which faculty and outside business experts offer guidance and advice, and the Faculty Fellows Program, which integrates entrepreneurship into academic departments across campus. Additionally, the Daveler & Kauanui School of Entrepreneurship, in partnership with Veterans Florida, helps U.S. military veterans develop their business plans and obtain seed funding.

"We pride ourselves on setting our goals high and achieving them. Each faculty member we have hired has placed students first in their work. We listen to our students and take their feedback and incorporate it into our program. That

approach has made all the difference for the Daveler & Kauanui School of Entrepreneurship," Kauanui added.

The ranking comes at an important time for FGCU. The university is building Lucas Hall, which will house the Daveler & Kauanui School of Entrepreneurship, the Small Business Development Center and the Regional Economic Research Institute. The 27,000-square-foot facility will have a business incubator, flexible meeting rooms and expanded faculty and office space. It will be a central location for advancing the culture of entrepreneurship, business development and market analysis that are essential to growing Southwest Florida's economy. It is slated to open in mid-2021.

In addition to its No. 29 placement in the "Top 50 Undergraduate Schools for Entrepreneurship Studies for 2021" ranking, FGCU is part of The Princeton Review's "2021 Best Colleges: Southeastern." The university is also No. 32 in the "Top 50 Green Colleges" list. Colleges and universities in the top 50 have "exemplary commitments to the environment and sustainability," according to a release from The Princeton Review.

The Princeton Review revealed the entrepreneurship ranking lists for 2021 on [www.princetonreview.com/entrepreneur](http://www.princetonreview.com/entrepreneur). *Entrepreneur* magazine posted the ranking lists on [www.entrepreneur.com/topcolleges](http://www.entrepreneur.com/topcolleges). The magazine will publish a feature article on the rankings in its December issue.

For more information about the FGCU Daveler & Kauanui School of Entrepreneurship, visit [www.fgcu.edu/soe](http://www.fgcu.edu/soe).✪

## Matching Challenge For Wonder Gardens

The season of giving is here and the Everglades Wonder Gardens has an incredible opportunity to double your impact. Donors William and Judith Turner are matching gifts made to the zoological park and attraction site through Giving Tuesday, December 1. Donations are tax-deductible and will be matched from now until the end of Giving Tuesday with the match cap at \$10,000.

Donors can participate either online at [www.wondergardens.org](http://www.wondergardens.org) or by sending a check to Everglades Wonder Gardens and inserting "Giving Tuesday Matching Gift Fund" in the memo field.

"As Everglades Wonder Gardens turns 85, we are striving to improve our animal exhibits while continuing to inspire more than 75,000 guests every year," said Executive Director David Rahahe:tih Webb. "Please join us in helping the Wonder Gardens grow our impact as a premier old Florida eco-tourism and environmental education attraction."

Members, advocates, friends and the public are being asked to consider making a gift this season to support its initiative of improving some of their cherished resident animals' homes with the new Sun and Scales exhibits. Donors who give to the Wonder Gardens this season will play an integral part of the historic landscape and unique zoological park by supporting the wellbeing of the resident animals.

As a premier eco-tourism and environmental education attraction, Everglades Wonder Gardens' team cares for more than 300 animals. Many came to them as former pets, illegal contraband, or non-releasable wildlife, and found their forever-home at the Wonder Gardens. Their ambassador animals help them to tell their story of Old Florida while visiting classrooms, communities and now virtually. The animals help to cultivate a positive ethic for conservation that the Wonder Gardens hope to carry on for generations to come.

Donors can visit [www.wondergardens.org](http://www.wondergardens.org) to learn more about why and how they can contribute to Everglades Wonder Gardens to help maximize this opportunity.✪

From page 18

## Water Quality

Total Nitrogen and is partially funded by two grants from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), totaling \$992,000.

The \$155,000 contract is with Fort Myers-based Barraco and Associates and is for construction engineering inspection services on the Yellow Fever Creek/Gator Slough Project.

Construction is expected to begin in January 2021 and take an estimated six months to complete. Construction is budgeted at \$1.5 million.

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).✪

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## Love And Justice In An Estate Plan



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

So much goes into the making of an estate plan beyond the technical. Obviously, love is a major element. We want to provide for our loved ones we leave behind.

But how do we feel about various injustices? For this article, I define injustice as not treating our loved ones fairly. The feeling of fairness can arise from any number of circumstances.

As one example, Diane and I were engaged in a Zoom conference the other day where she recalled a conversation she had with her son, Brad. Diane made disproportionate

monetary gifts over the years to another son and a daughter, Brad's siblings. Brad's brother was in and out of jobs over the years. He just can't seem to hold onto a job, so Diane made substantial gifts to keep him afloat. Diane's daughter was a spendthrift. If the daughter had \$1,000 in her checking account, she charged \$2,000 on her credit card. Again, Diane came to the rescue many times over the years.

Brad, on the other hand, never asked Diane for anything. He was always there for her emotionally when she needed him, particularly when her husband, the children's father, passed away.

Diane naturally wanted to even things out, taking into consideration the vast sums she had gifted to her other children, as well as give extra to Brad because of his own generous nature. She therefore directed me to amend her trust, bequeathing a larger portion to Brad than to his siblings.

Less than a week after Diane signed the amendment, I received a call. "I need you to reverse the plan to make them equal beneficiaries," she directed.

"May I ask why you have the change of heart?" I responded.

"I had a long conversation with Brad, and here's what he said: 'Mom, it's not worth it to me to alienate my brother and sister over an inheritance.'"

Love and justice, it seems, don't necessarily work together. As Niels Bohr, the

Nobel Prize-winning physicist put it when he discovered that his son had stolen an object from a local shop: he could look at him from the perspective of a judge (justice) and as his father (love) but not both simultaneously.

This, it seems, is true for many families. At the heart of these estate plans is a conflict with no simple resolution. There isn't a general rule to tell us when love is the right reaction and when justice is. We may spend much more educating one child than another or, like in Diane's case, one child may have greater needs than another, whether by happenstance or from personal shortcomings.

What of the child who has a drug, alcohol or gambling problem? It isn't smart to turn over an inheritance to that child. There are solutions other than writing the child out as a beneficiary altogether, such as imposing a gatekeeper trustee over the inheritance. But what will that child's reaction be when he learns that his siblings have no gatekeeper? What if he's been dependency free for years at the time of his parent's death, but the trust was never changed? Would your answer change if he had been in and out of rehabilitation several times?

"You liked brother best!" is a phrase no parent wants to hear. Yet, there are valid reasons for treating our loved ones differently.

You might find it interesting to learn that love and justice do intersect under criminal law. A "crime of passion" is one committed in the "heat of the moment." It is usually an immediate response to a provocation, such as a husband murdering another man he finds in bed with his wife. Penalties for committing crimes of passion are usually less severe than those that are premeditated, or planned.

In other words, justice is tempered when love burns immediate and bright.

In the estate planning arena, decisions tend to be made more deliberately. Circumstances prompting a revision to wills and trusts percolate over time, often over many years. The client doesn't want to overreact but feels that fairness mandates action.

So where might you leave it? There are strategies available where the disclosure of separate treatment isn't readily apparent. Is it safe to rely on them? Probably not. It's said that a secret known by more than one person won't be kept a secret for long.

Which brings us back to love and justice. Whether or not they're in equilibrium depends on your family's dynamic, your fortitude and the consequences your idea of fairness may have on your loved ones' relationships with one another.

©2020 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at [www.sbshlaw.com](http://www.sbshlaw.com).✪

## Registered Nurse Joins Medical Care Team

Tyson Hutchison will join the Medical Care by Cypress at Home team as an advanced practice registered nurse on December 1.

Hutchison, who for the past five years has served as a nurse practitioner with Lee Health, "brings extensive experience in primary care, emergency medicine as well post-acute care," said Cypress at Home Medical Director Dr. Bob Rahmanian.

Hutchison, explains Rahmanian, will be an integral provider for supporting all facets of the Medical Care team with his main focus on primary care services within the Cypress at Home program and also at their affiliate continuing care retirement community, Cypress Cove.

Hutchinson is a graduate from Florida Southern College in Lakeland and from West Liberty State College in West Liberty, West Virginia, where he earned a master of science in nursing and bachelor of science in nursing degree, respectively. He began his nursing medical career in 2010, first working in the emergency department at Lakeland Regional Medical Hospital.

Medical Care by Cypress at Home is a team made up of physician assistants and nurse practitioners who are supported by medical assistants and led by a medical director who provide facility, in-home and virtual based care. Cypress at Home has seen a precipitous growth in the past year within its suite of services including Aging Life Care Professionals that are

nationally certified and credentialed with the Aging Life Care Association who provide professional care coordination and assessment program. Choices by Cypress at Home; its Home Care by Cypress at Home which provides non-Medicare, private duty home care support; and a newly launched Home Health by Cypress at Home which provides Medicare reimbursable, short-term skilled services including nursing and therapy care.✪

## Bank Promotion

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank promoted Jeanette Michaels from senior loan closer to assistant vice president.

Michaels is responsible for the assembly, preparation and verification of closing documents as well as coordinating all aspects of the loan closing process. One of the bank's original employees, she works out of the Downtown Branch, located at 1533 Hendry Street.✪

## Help Loved One With Addiction

Narconon reminds families that drug abuse is on the rise in almost every community nationwide. Many families don't know where to turn or what to do about their loved one who is suffering from addiction.

To learn more about how to help your loved one, visit [www.narconon-suncoast.org/blog/a-letter-to-any-family-dealing-with-addiction.html](http://www.narconon-suncoast.org/blog/a-letter-to-any-family-dealing-with-addiction.html). Call 877-841-5509 for free screenings or referrals.✪

## Construction Program Growth Presentation

The growth of the Construction Management program at Florida Gulf Coast University and its role in the region's development industry will be presented at the Real Estate Investment Society's (REIS) luncheon meeting in the Osprey Room at Pelican Preserve's Clubhouse on Tuesday, December 8 at 11:45 a.m.

Craig Capano, PhD, CPC, founding chair/professor with Florida Gulf Coast University's (FGCU) Construction Management Department, will explain the program and its relationship with Southwest Florida's real estate development industry. The program will look at sustainable construction methods, new techniques and interaction with real estate, finance, design and management disciplines. Following his presentation, Dr. Capano will respond to questions of specific interest to the real estate investment and development industry.

Dr. Capano has started similar programs at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, Western Carolina University and Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston. He has more than 40 years of experience in the construction industry and currently serves as principal of The Capano Group, a consulting firm for contractors and construction education. His research interests are in construction technologies, prefabrications and construction analytics.

The meeting is sponsored by Chris-Tel Construction. Admission is \$30 for

members and \$40 for guests, which includes lunch.

Pelican Preserve's Clubhouse is located at 9802 Pelican Preserve Boulevard in Fort Myers. Reservations are required by Thursday, December 3 and may be made at [www.reis-swf.org](http://www.reis-swf.org). The program will also be provided as a live webcast on the REIs website at 12:10 p.m. that day at no charge.✪

## Airport Reports October Traffic

During October, 417,305 passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport in Fort Myers. This is a decrease of 34.7 percent compared to October 2019; however, it is a 63.1 percent increase compared to September 2020.

The traffic leader in October was American Airlines with 91,020 total passengers. Rounding out the top five airlines were Southwest (84,225), Delta (68,830), United (50,131) and JetBlue (44,011).

In October, 3,516,841 pounds of air freight were carried through the airport, which was a record-breaking number for that month. Air freight for the year is currently up 1.4 percent.

Southwest Florida International Airport had 5,384 aircraft operations, a decrease of 1.2 percent compared to October 2019. Page Field saw 12,391 operations, a 15.9 percent increase compared to October 2019.

No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction. For more information, visit [www.flylcpa.com](http://www.flylcpa.com) or [www.facebook.com/flyRSW](http://www.facebook.com/flyRSW).✪

## Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



For the Thanksgiving holiday, I asked some of the people I interviewed what their Thanksgiving sports wish is this year.

Pat Hughes, Chicago Cubs broadcaster, said:

"I just want everyone to stay out of harm's way in these dangerous days. And here's hoping for a peaceful 2021 when people start treating others with more compassion and friendship. Let's all smile more often."

Judd Loveland, general manager of the Fort Myers Mighty Mussels, said: "We are thankful to be a part of the Southwest Florida community and are wishful for a happy and healthy 2021! Thanks and hope to see you at a ballgame at Hammond in the near future."

Jeff Wilder, baseball analyst, said: "My Thanksgiving sports wish is for things to return to normal in 2021. While there are so many things to be thankful for in sports, and especially baseball, it's the sheer entertainment and each team's traditions that are missed. We can marvel at Statcast numbers, and crunch sabermetrics to our hearts content, but it's the intangible fan experience and crowd camaraderie that is so needed. We're all missing that, even if it's on a subconscious level. I miss entrance music as each player steps to the plate. To hear a Wrigley Field crowd sing 'Go Cubs Go' or a Fenway Park crowd sing 'Sweet Caroline' or a Yankee crowd sing 'New York, New York' after a win. It's these types of intangible moments that I'm wishing will resume in 2021."

Paul Sullivan, president of the Baseball Writers Association of America and *Chicago Tribune* columnist, said: "I'm just thankful no one close to me has COVID and a vaccine is closer to being distributed to those who are in dire need."

Doug Plank, former all-star safety of the Chicago Bears, said: "I am selfish on my sports wishes. I wish for Ohio State to win another national championship. I wish for the Chicago Bears to win another game." (Yes Bear fans, the team is that bad again, especially on offense.)

Here are my wishes. First, that a year from now, sports is back to normal in

whatever that will look like. I'm expecting there to be some changes going forward to keep us all safe. Second, until then, may athletes, coaches, staff and fans all take proper precautions. Third, may my 5-0 Northwestern Wildcats keep winning, find some magic to beat the Buckeyes in the Big Ten title game and make it to one of the top bowl games. Fourth, that sports does what it does best and bring us all together as one people and one country, enjoying our alma mater, hometown team or team we cheer for. And that we all enjoy exciting, fair and well-played games. And fifth, my thanks to you, all of my readers. Stay safe, enjoy my musings, and let me know from time to time what's on your mind. I'll try and keep looking at sports from different angles. Which leads me to the good news story of the week from the Good News Network. This couldn't be more timely or appropriate.

"Just 14 minutes shy of the 17-hour cutoff time, triathlete Chris Nikic, a 21-year old Floridian didn't finish with the fastest time when he recently completed his first Ironman race. But he did set a new triathlon world record. After swimming 2.4 miles, cycling 112 miles and running a 26.2-mile marathon, he became the first competitor with Down's Syndrome to successfully complete an Ironman race. "You have shattered barriers while proving without a doubt that anything is possible," tweeted the official Ironman Triathlon Organization. "We are beyond inspired, and your accomplishment is a defining moment in Ironman history that can never be taken away from you." Chris himself tweeted: "Goal set and achieved. Time to set a new and BIGGER Goal for 2021. Whatever it is, the strategy is the same. One percent better every day. Yes, I did the work but I had angels helping me. God surrounded me with angels. Best part of all, new family and friends. All about awareness and inclusion. Awareness for Down Syndrome and Special Olympics. Inclusion for all of us with all of you. It's amazing but overwhelming because I got 33,000 new followers and messages since yesterday. If you want to support my mission for Down Syndrome and Special Olympics, go to my website [www.chrisnikic.com](http://www.chrisnikic.com) because 100 percent of the donations go to my charities. I achieved my goal and now I want to help others like me." For his awe-inspiring efforts, Nikic also earned himself a place in the Guinness Book of World Records as the first person

with Down's Syndrome to become an official Ironman. I think Nikic achieved far more than that distinction. What a great example and caring story to share at your Thanksgiving table this year.

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

## Snook Seasonal Closure Begins December 1

The recreational harvest season for snook closes December 1 in Gulf state and federal waters, including Monroe County and Everglades National Park. It will remain closed through February 28, 2021, reopening to harvest March 1, 2021. Anglers may continue to catch and release snook during the closed season.

Snook remains catch-and-release only in state waters from the Hernando/Pasco county line through Gordon Pass in Collier County (includes Tampa Bay and Hillsborough County) through May 31, 2021, in response to the impacts of red tide. Snook also has a regular season closure in the Gulf that runs May 1 through August 31.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is expected to review updated monitoring data and consider future management options for this area in early 2021.

Regular season closures are designed to help conserve the species during vulnerable times such as cold weather. Atlantic state and federal waters, including Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee River, will be closed December 15 through January 31, 2021, reopening to harvest February 1, 2021.

Visit [www.myfwc.com/marine](http://www.myfwc.com/marine) and click on "Recreational Regulations" and "Snook" for more information on snook. Improve data and report your catch on the Angler Action Foundation iAngler app at [AnglerActionFoundation.com](http://AnglerActionFoundation.com).✪

## College Football Prospects Rolled Out In Classic

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers South is presenting the 32nd annual All Star Classic (ASC) at Fort Myers High School on Wednesday, December 9. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. The classic, supported by title sponsor Acentria Insurance and Tower Hill Insurance Group, highlights 78 players from Lee County high schools.

It is designated as one last chance to see some of Lee County's most talented high school football players before they move on to college. But the players are not the only all-stars on the field, as 37 cheerleaders will represent their schools as well. Each participating school was invited to send two cheerleaders, and every all-star player and cheerleader participant gets a customized commemorative ring or charm. Game tickets are just \$10 and they are available at the gate. Parking is \$5 per vehicle.

The ASC banquet to recognize the participating student-athletes and cheerleaders will take place at the Alliance for The Arts on Monday, December 7 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. CDC guidelines will be followed, and the event will be hosted outside to allow for ample social distancing.

The all-star classic was the first countywide high school football all-star game in Florida when it was founded in 1989. John Carrigan, a Sanibel resident, teacher and referee, wanted to provide a showcase for talented players who weren't getting their due. Since then, it's grown into a hotbed of top-level prospects, and nearly two dozen players who have taken part in the game have gone on to NFL careers. This list includes Sammy Watkins, Tommy Bohanon, Phillip Buchanon, Nate Allen and Jevon Kearsse.

The Rotary Club is seeking donations and sponsors to help cover the cost of the event. Businesses and individuals can sponsor the event, a team, player, or cheerleader. Visit [www.rotarysouthallstarclassic.org](http://www.rotarysouthallstarclassic.org) or contact event chair Read Sawczyn at 461-3820 or [rsawczyn@finemarkbank.com](mailto:rsawczyn@finemarkbank.com) for more information.✪

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. Running back Curtis Enis rushed for 1,363 yards and 19 touchdowns in 1997 as a member of what college team?
2. NHL right winger Claude Lemieux won four Stanley Cup championships playing for three different teams. What were they?
3. What piece of sports equipment did Rev. Robert Adams Paterson revolutionize in 1848 when he made it out of a latex called gutta-percha?
4. What was the name of the 1996 inspirational film that starred Green Bay Packers defensive end Reggie White and actor Pat Morita?
5. Name the Cleveland Browns quarterback and Pro Football Hall of Famer who was NFL MVP in 1951, '53 and '55.
6. What 10-time NBA All-Star and Basketball Hall of Famer is known as "The Glide"?
7. What Brazilian footballer twice won FIFA World Player of the Year (2004-05) and won the Ballon d'Or in 2005?

## ANSWERS

1. The Penn State Nittany Lions. 2. Montreal Canadiens (1986), New Jersey Devils (1995, 2000) and Colorado Avalanche (1996). 3. The golf ball. 4. Reggie's Prayer. 5. Otto Graham. 6. Clyde Drexler. 7. Ronaldinho.

From page 1

## Broadway Palm

dancers who are aiming for the big time. As always, the choreography by Amy Marie McCleary is a standout with glorious costumes to match every holiday. The tap dance number with jump ropes is one to remember.

Bonner Church as Louise, along with Victor Legarreta as Danny, add humor to the show. The entire ensemble is right on target singing and dancing their way through such songs as *White Christmas*, *It's a Lovely Day Today*, *Cheek to*

*Cheek*, *Shaking the Blues Away* and many more.

All the performers wear clear plastic face masks and audience members are asked to wear masks except when eating or drinking. Broadway Palm is operating at 50 percent capacity with social distancing between tables and throughout the building.

*Holiday Inn* is a joyous musical to please the entire family. It runs through December 26 at Broadway Palm, located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. Tickets are available at the box office, at [www.broadwaypalm.com](http://www.broadwaypalm.com) or by calling 278-4422.✪



Hope Hospice Tree of Lights

photo provided

## Honor A Loved One With A Tree Of Lights

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

Hope's Care Centers in Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Cape Coral and Lehigh Acres will each feature a Tree of Lights adorned with white paper butterflies. With a \$30 gift, Hope will customize a butterfly with the name of your loved one. Along with having a butterfly placed on the tree of their choice, \$60 donors

will also receive a 2020 keepsake metal ornament engraved with the Hope Hospice logo. With a gift of \$300, an 8-by-4 inch dedication stone will be engraved with the donor's personal message and placed in one of Hope's Tribute Gardens.

To learn more about honoring a loved one this holiday season, visit <https://donate.hopehcs.org/treeoflights> or call 482-4673.

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

For more information, visit [www.hopehcs.org](http://www.hopehcs.org).

## Medicare Open Enrollment Period Ends December 7

Medicare's Open Enrollment Period will end on December 7 – will you be one of the millions of Medicare beneficiaries who leave money on the table by not reviewing your plan?

The Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida's SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) counselors are here to help. There are several things you can do to ensure a smooth open enrollment period.

First, study up! If you have a Medicare Advantage plan or a stand-alone Part D plan, read the Annual Notice of Change (and/or your Evidence of Coverage statement). You should already have received these, as your insurance company is required to mail these notices to you every year in September.

Review these notices carefully. Check them to see if your plan's costs have changed, if there have been updates to the plan's benefits and coverage rules, and if the prescriptions you need are still going to be covered and at a price that fits your budget. Make sure that your providers and pharmacies are still in the plan's network, too. If you are unhappy with any of your plan's changes, you still have time to make a switch.

Second, call to schedule a counseling appointment by phone. Open Enrollment runs from October 15 through December 7 every year. For

many beneficiaries, these 54 days will be your only opportunity to change plans for 2021.

That is where SHINE counselors come in. The Area Agency on Aging's SHINE volunteers provide free, unbiased, one-on-one counseling and education about Medicare. SHINE experts help educate and empower Medicare beneficiaries, their families and caregivers to understand their health care options, so everyone can make the best decisions to complement their health care needs.

Third, be prepared. When you speak with a SHINE counselor, make sure to have your red, white and blue Medicare Card available. This card not only includes your unique Medicare ID number, but also your coverage start dates. If you do not have a Medicare card yet, you can find your Medicare ID number on your enrollment letter from Social Security or visit [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) to create an account and print a copy of your card. If you have other health insurance, you should have those cards available as well.

If you have Internet access, you will also want to create a Medicare account. This is an important tool that you and your SHINE counselor will use to evaluate your options for 2021. Creating an account is easy – just visit [www.medicare.gov/plan-compare](http://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare) and enter some basic information about yourself. From there, you'll create a username and password. You will want to have that login information available for your SHINE counseling session. And do not fret if you do not have internet access – a SHINE counselor should be able to help you create an account if needed.

## WANT TO AVOID SURGERY, JOINT REPLACEMENT, OR SPINAL FUSION?



**CONTACT OUR TEAM TO REVIEW YOUR CASE AND GET BACK TO WHAT YOU LOVE TO DO!**

Caring Medical Florida specializes in unique regenerative treatments to strengthen the damaged joint structures that cause chronic pain and osteoarthritis. We also help patients who have already had surgery but have ongoing or worsened pain and symptoms, including complex neck and neurological issues.

- **COMPREHENSIVE H3 PROLOTHERAPY, PRP, & STEM CELL THERAPY**
- **DIGITAL MOTION X-RAY • NERVE RELEASE INJECTION THERAPY**



Ross Häuser, MD

Danielle Matias, MMS, PA-C

Brian Hutcheson, DC

9738 Commerce Center Ct., Fort Myers, FL 33908 | (239) 308-4725 | [CaringMedical.com](http://CaringMedical.com)

## Health Needs Assessment Report

Lee Health is releasing the 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), a systematic data-driven report that studies the health status, behaviors and needs of people living in Lee County. The purpose of the assessment is to identify major health concerns, gaps in services and other factors that may contribute to less than optimal health status for local residents.

The assessment was conducted on behalf of Lee Health in partnership with Florida Department of Health in Lee County by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., a nationally recognized healthcare consulting firm with extensive experience conducting Community Health Needs Assessments in hundreds of communities across the United States.

"Approximately every three years, Lee Health performs a health needs assessment to evaluate the health status of the communities we serve, identify issues of greatest concern and develop a strategy to most effectively use our resources to address identified

health issues," said Larry Antonucci MD, MBA, Lee Health president and CEO. "The information is key to make informed decisions and guide our efforts to improve overall community health and wellness."

Lee Health's CHNA was developed alongside community stakeholders. To get a snapshot of the overall health of the community, the survey asked residents about topics such as nutrition, chronic diseases, ability to obtain health care, substance abuse, vaccinations and injury and violence, just to name a few.

Results yielded significant health needs for Lee County in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, nutrition, physical activity and weight; diabetes, heart disease and stroke, access to health care services, infant health and family planning, tobacco use and cancer, among others.

Not-for-profit hospitals and health systems are required to assess community health needs and provide community benefit reports annually every three years. Lee Health has been doing this for many years prior to such a requirement. The full report is available at [www.healthylee.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/final-2020-chna-report-lee-county.pdf](http://www.healthylee.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/final-2020-chna-report-lee-county.pdf).

For more information, visit [www.leehealth.org/community-affairs](http://www.leehealth.org/community-affairs).

## Partnership To Enhance Healthcare

Lee Health and Cleveland Clinic will enter into an agreement to share best practices that will optimize patient-centered care for residents of Southwest Florida.

The two healthcare systems have established a strategic alliance to enhance and improve care in Southwest Florida. Collectively, the two organizations will explore opportunities for service line affiliations and strategic initiatives that can improve quality and efficiency of care through clinical and operational enhancements.

This strategic alliance establishes a framework for how the two health systems will work together as they assess opportunities to share best practices and enhance existing clinical or operational projects or establish new ones. As the two organizations move forward, they will lay groundwork for potential further areas of collaboration in the future.

"The alliance with Cleveland Clinic opens up many possibilities for future collaboration, programs and activities that will enhance the excellent care we are already providing to our patients," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, president and CEO of Lee Health. "Together with the physician community we will establish new ways to elevate the medical care available throughout Southwest Florida."

Cleveland Clinic is consistently recognized internationally for its quality of care. Recently, *U.S. News & World Report* named Cleveland Clinic the



Golisano Children's Hospital Exterior

file photo

No. 2 hospital in the nation and the No. 1 hospital for heart care in its 2020-21 Best Hospitals rankings. It is the 26th consecutive year that Cleveland Clinic has earned the No. 1 ranking in cardiology and heart surgery, and the 22nd year in a row it has earned a Top 5 overall ranking.

Cleveland Clinic was also ranked in the Top 10 nationally by *U.S. News & World Report* in 13 specialties. Cleveland Clinic Florida's Weston Hospital has held the top ranking in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale metro region for three consecutive years, and was No. 5 overall in the state.

"Cleveland Clinic is excited to enter

into this strategic alliance with Lee Health, which has a reputation for high-quality care," said Conor Delaney, MD, PhD, CEO and president of Cleveland Clinic Florida. "We look forward to the collaboration between teams and to continue the excellent outcomes for the patients of Lee Health."

Lee Health has been a health care leader in Southwest Florida since 1916. Today, it is one of the largest not-for-profit public health systems in the U.S. Lee Health operates four acute care

and two specialty hospitals, including the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

Lee Health also provides an array of specialized programs and services vital to the community, such as comprehensive primary and specialty care physicians, outpatient services, home health and skilled nursing. The health system provides several services unique to the region, including a trauma center, regional cancer center, regional perinatal intensive care center and neonatal intensive care unit.

Lee Health is recognized nationally and in Florida for its high-quality care. In April 2020, all four of its adult acute care hospitals earned A grades from Leapfrog, which publishes safety grades for hospitals across the country. Leapfrog also recognized Gulf Coast Medical Center as a Top Hospital in 2020 and Golisano Children's Hospital as a Top Children's Hospital three years in a row. Cape Coral Hospital is a Sterling Council Award recipient, the highest quality award in Florida.

"It is exciting to have these two high-quality organizations team up in this innovative alliance to advance health care in this region in a way that neither party can achieve on its own," said David Collins, chairman of the Lee Health Board of Directors. "The board of directors is eager to see what emerges as Lee Health and Cleveland Clinic begin to collaborate and is looking forward to providing strategic oversight to the projects that will be brought forward."✪

## Support Seniors Mental Health This Holiday Season

Across the state, local Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) are working together to promote mental health resources and programs for seniors through the Together Apart: Holidays at Heart campaign. While many older adults choose to stay safer at home and isolate themselves to prevent exposure to the coronavirus, Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida, Inc. (AAASWFL), in partnership with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), are ensuring that no senior feels alone during the holiday season.

From November through January, AAASWFL will be reaching out to local seniors in the Southwest Florida area to conduct mental health checks and ensure they are aware of the resources available to them.

"Although we provide these services to our seniors year-round, it feels especially important to connect with them during the holidays," said AAASWFL CEO Norma Adorno. "We must do our part as a community to

protect the physical and mental health of our most vulnerable population by spreading holiday joy and cheer in the safest ways possible."

Resources offered locally include:

Programs to cope with mental health issues and feelings of depression

Magic and Mindfulness – virtual magic shows for seniors featuring magicians on Zoom

Magical Winter Wonderland – magician shows for seniors taking place in November and December

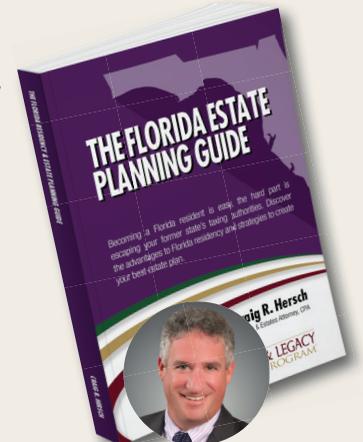
"This year has presented numerous challenges for everyone, but we know Florida's older population has been disproportionately affected," said DOEA Secretary Richard Prudom. "We want to make sure the holidays remain a time of joy and connection for our seniors by reminding them that even though they might be apart from loved ones, there are many ways to reach out and stay connected. The services provided through local AAAs give individuals a way to identify and meet these needs."

For more information about Together Apart: Holidays at Heart, visit [www.holidaysatheart.org](http://www.holidaysatheart.org). To learn more about AAASWFL, visit [www.aaaswfl.org](http://www.aaaswfl.org). If you or a loved one are living with feelings of depression and loneliness this holiday season, call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-963-5337.✪

## FREE ESTATE PLANNING GUIDE

### Is Your Plan:

- maintaining CONTROL over your assets while you're alive
- offering PROTECTION for you and your loved ones in times of incapacity or uncertainty
- providing the PEACE OF MIND knowing everything goes where you want when you pass
- Most importantly, is your plan up-to-date and Florida-compliant?



by **Craig R. Hersch**  
Florida Bar Board Certified Wills,  
Trusts & Estates Attorney, CPA &  
Island Sun Columnist

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dearRPharmacist

## Pros And Cons Of Amazon Pharmacy



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

**Dear Readers:** Just when you thought Amazon had enough money and had crushed enough small businesses, in comes Amazon

Pharmacy. On Tuesday, November 17, the e-commerce giant debuted its own drugstore and successfully tanked the stocks of several big, reputable pharmacies.

All those big retail pharmacies will take a hit in sales because consumers can now buy their drugs online using their Prime membership benefits. This whole “mail order pharmacy” is nothing new, it’s just getting a face lift because Amazon is going to be very efficient with it. They’re good at everything! Amazon is easy, convenient and cheap. You can sign up in five minutes or less, and they work with many insurance companies.

Do you love the idea of that?

It may come as a surprise to you, but this same, exact service is available right now at all major chain drug stores. Some offer same day delivery, depending on where you live.

Amazon is not warm and fuzzy, meaning there are no pharmacists to chat with about your interactions and side effects. If Amazon becomes the biggest pharmacy retailer in the United States, we can safely assume many retail pharmacists will face layoffs, reduced hours and diminished store sales in the front end of the stores. I’m not assuming that will happen, I’m sure of it. Amazon is very good at scooping up swaths of sales and crushing the little guy!

Drug prices may be lower for people

who are uninsured, but for those with insurance, it will not matter. Insurance copays and deductibles will remain the same. As for generic prices, they are very inexpensive to begin with. Prices are comparable across all pharmacies, including Amazon’s. If this topic interests you, sign up for my free newsletter at [www.suzycohen.com](http://www.suzycohen.com).

Here are some other reasons why Amazon may not be right for you:

1. Trust – You like your pharmacist and staff because you have cultivated that relationship for years.

2. Security – Private information is required to sign up with Amazon Pharmacy. Many Americans today are nervous about Big Tech, and what they might do with this private data that includes your drug list.

3. Availability – You have an urgent need, for example, you have food poisoning, a poison ivy reaction, a UTI or yeast infection. The discomfort of these conditions will prompt you to use a local pharmacy.

4. Age – You are not 18 years old. Amazon requires you to be age 18 or older to use their pharmacy.

5. Residence – You live in Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, or Minnesota. Those five states do not permit Amazon Pharmacy as of yet. You’re stuck with the little guys.

6. Specialty Items – You need a compounded medication such as a special ointment, pill or cream-based bio-identical hormone.

7. Schedule II Drugs – You need a Schedule II drug such as Ritalin for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or Dilaudid for pain or many others. You cannot get those from Amazon. In fact, it’s hard to get those from any pharmacy, but you still can. However, if you want heroin or cocaine, move to Oregon where those have recently been decriminalized and are widely available with no prescription or pharmacist needed. Oh man, we live in a very weird world!

*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).\**

room. Another example of grace is the letting go of a past wrong done to you. One of my favorite examples of grace is the prayer said at the beginning of a meal.

I do believe that we learn how to have grace and show grace to others as we continue to live out our lives. As we age, we learn more and more about how important it is to stay calm, cool and collected. We also learn how imperative it is to let the little things go, to forgive and to move through our life’s moments with faith, knowing all will workout.

Following are some of the ways you can continue to have grace and to show grace to others:

Carry yourself with poise and confidence knowing that you are not in this world to please others, but to be an example of true grace.

Inspire those around you to be

Doctor and Dietician

## Love, Caring, Kindness This Holiday Season



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

We read a recent article from Dr. Joseph Mercola’s website ([www.mercola.com](http://www.mercola.com)) on the rising incidence of loneliness all over the world. He discussed the fact that none of us can know for certain what tomorrow may bring. “The hard truth is that we do not know who will be around for Thanksgiving next November. What we do have is right now – this moment – today. We are not promised one second more...” The article was encouraging people not to live in a vortex due to what is going on in the world. We can still interact with people, including family for the holidays. Do we want to be “grappling with regret” if, God forbid, one of your family/friends is not at the Thanksgiving table next year?

The article goes on to quote an AARP report stating that isolation could be a fate worse than death. Since October 2019, increasing numbers of seniors report that they struggle with loneliness and depression. Many are frustrated trying to navigate uncharted territories, making previously simple things like going to the store or to a medical provider increasingly challenging. Not everyone is cut out to handle “virtual” doctor visits and online grocery shopping.

We must remember those who are alone may be feeling even more isolated

now, lacking motivation to do just about anything, including trying to connect with friends or family. Many are saying, “it’s just not worth it.” These are signs of depression. Social distancing and other regulations have led to an epidemic of loneliness, depression and anxiety that has significant emotional and health risks in and of themselves. Do you realize that many people are going months without interacting with any others outside of their homes or work? Women over age 50 are especially vulnerable to feelings of being overwhelmed, anxious and stressed.

A study in 2019 by the American Cancer Society, stated that social isolation increases mortality from every cause. Cassandra Alcaraz reported, “Our research really shows that the magnitude of risk presented by social isolation is very similar in magnitude to that of obesity, smoking, lack of access to care and physical inactivity.” The article goes on to say that “the reason this happens is because prolonged social isolation physically changes the shape and function of your brain. The hippocampus, the region responsible for learning and memory, not only shrinks in size in response to long-term isolation, it loses its plasticity and may eventually shut down altogether. At the same time, the amygdala, which regulates your fear and anxiety response, goes into overdrive.”

What can we do? Before cancelling your holiday plans with loved ones, consider figuring out a way to be together, make new memories and enjoy time spent together. None of us knows what tomorrow may bring. Let’s consider the mental (and physical) health of those who may be more isolated than others. Invite someone over to your home or to take a walk on the beach. Let’s choose the way of love, caring and kindness this holiday season.

*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).\**

Beautifulife:

## Grace



by Kay Casperson

I have to say that this is one of my favorite words for many reasons. I love the word so much that it is my oldest daughter’s middle name. It is a word that we all need to have at the forefront of our

lives in order to continue living our best and most beautiful life.

The definition of grace is poise, elegance, forgiveness, or a blessing. An example of grace is the way a beautiful, stylish person easily walks across a

better and to always look for the rays of sunshine through the clouds and the rain.

Let go of any discouragement or disappointment and instead, cherish your many beautiful moments, achievements and memories.

Give out the abundance of your heart. The fulfillment of being a giver as well as giving back to your community and your world will make your heart sing.

Look forward to the promises of a better tomorrow, a bright future and know that you have the power to control your destiny.

Show kindness towards others with a simple smile, a warm embrace and softly spoken words, which can greatly impact a person’s day.

Pray and be thankful for the abundance of blessings in your life including your health, your happiness

and your loved ones.

I believe that having grace and being graceful impact not only who you are but how others view you. Graceful individuals seem to age better and stay younger looking because they tend to manage the stressful situations with ease. We all need to work on this for a better, healthier and happier life today and every day.

My affirmation for you this week is:

“I am living a life full of grace and will let go of anything that does not inspire me to be better.”

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

# PETS OF THE WEEK photos provided



Chester ID# A833872

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

## Chester And Turbo

Hello, my name is Chester. I am a 1-year-old male labrador retriever mix who is a beautiful boy with great manners for my young age. I have lots of energy that would be great for someone looking to get into agility training with a canine, and I am also quite intelligent. Give me a challenge and I will take it on with zest. I would be a good dog for an active family. My adoption fee is \$25.

Hi, I'm Turbo. I am a 4-month-old male domestic shorthair who is aptly named after my style of play.

Turbo ID# A829890

I am an absolute whirlwind with a pen light or even just a feather. I am easily amused and will play for hours. Take me home with a feline friend for hours of entertainment. Once I am played out. I like to curl up beside you (or in your lap) for cuddle time. My adoption fee is waived.

Lee County Domestic Animal Services is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available by appointment Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com) to complete an online application. As always, cats and kittens are adopted one and get a feline friend at no additional charge. For more information, call 533-7387.✧

From page 1

## Ocean Treasures



Artwork from Rachel Pierce's Ocean Treasures collection

photo provided

first painting, the hobby became a second career, with Pierce selling dozens of pieces and donating dozens more. A few months later, she decided to make art her job, leaving TV news.

Pierce's Ocean Treasures collection focuses on the wonder found in local waters and draws one's attention to the fantastic creatures that are all around. Her realistic sea turtle, fish, dolphin, manatee and octopus subjects come to life on her modern flowing backdrops. Pierce's use of bright colors seeks to share the emotions of joy that she feels when she paints.

On Saturday, December 5, Pierce will also offer art demonstrations and an art talk at 2 and 6 p.m. upstairs in The Capital Gallery during the Festival of Trees. The exhibition will close on December 21 at 3 p.m.

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



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

### ARTS

Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio	337-5050
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall	481-4849
BIG ARTS	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Cultural Park Theatre	772-5862
Edison Festival of Light	334-2999
Florida Repertory Theatre at the Arcade	332-4488
Florida West Arts	948-4427
Fort Myers Harmonica Band	610-653-7940
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	489-1800
Harmony Chorus, Charles Sutter, Pres	481-8059
Naples Philharmonic	239-597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Theatre Conspiracy	936-3239
Young Artists Awards	574-9321

### CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion Post #38	239-332-1853
Angel Flight	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Animal Refuge Center	731-3535
American Business Women Association	357-6755
Audubon of SWFL	<a href="https://www.audubonswfl.org/">https://www.audubonswfl.org/</a>
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

### AREA ATTRACTIONS

Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
Burrough's Home	337-9505
Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium	275-3435
Edison & Ford Winter Estates	334-7419
Fort Myers Skate Park	321-7558
Imaginarium Hands-On Museum & Aquarium	321-7420
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To be listed in calling card email your information to: [press@riverweekly.com](mailto:press@riverweekly.com)

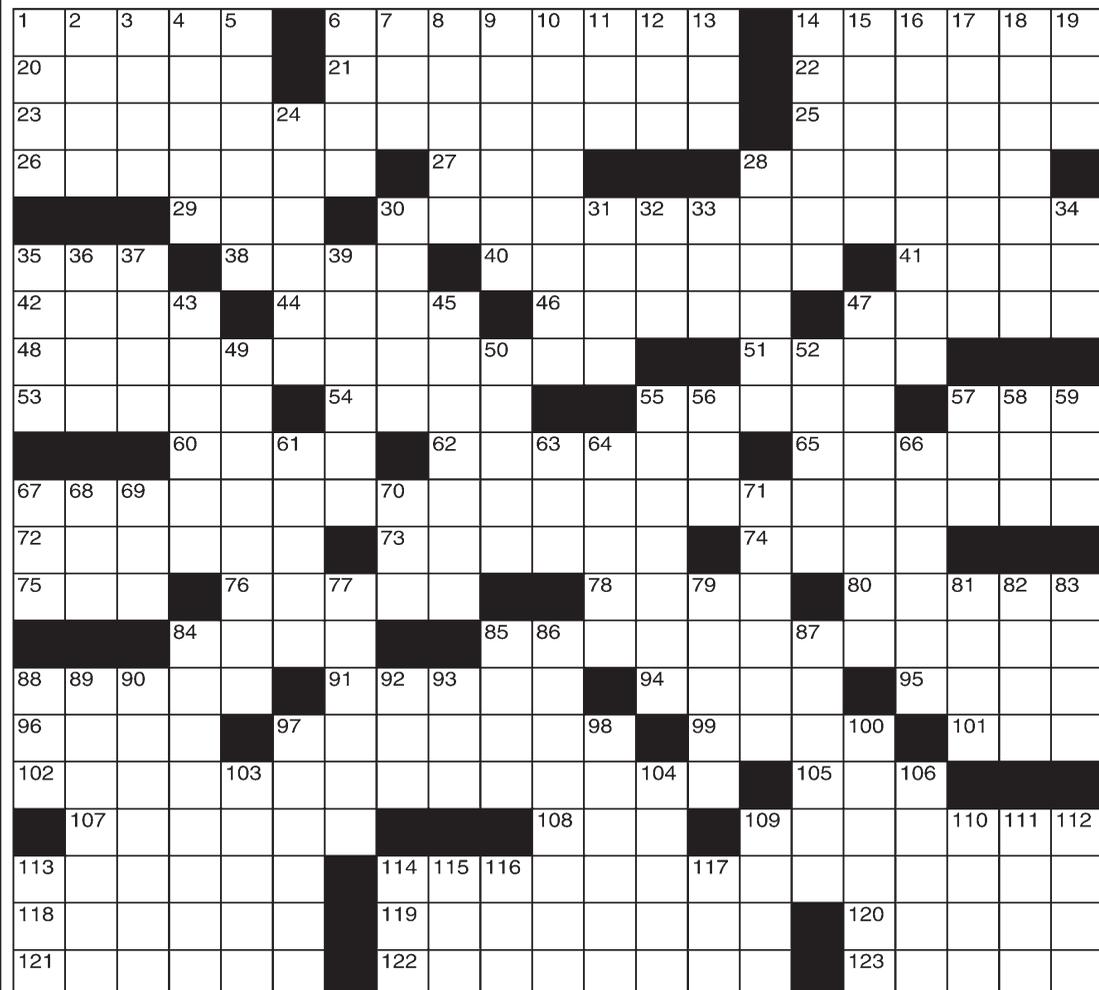
# PUZZLES

Answers on page 31

## Super Crossword

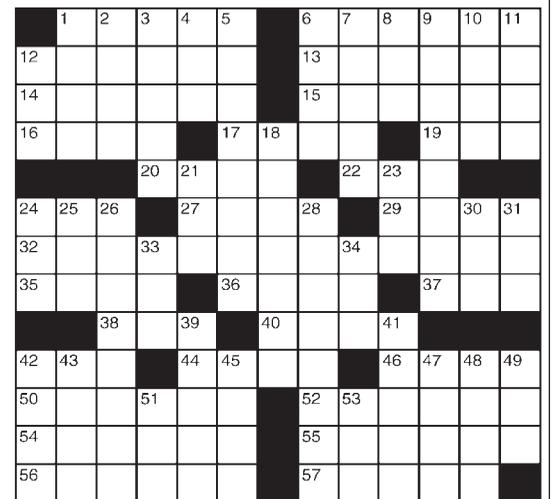
### POMES FOR BEGINNERS

- ACROSS**
- 1 No-frills
  - 6 Very cloying things
  - 14 "Li'l Abner" drawer
  - 20 Fast Amtrak choice
  - 21 Industry of a merchant marine
  - 22 Not as fatty
  - 23 1987 Steven Spielberg war film
  - 25 Rubble on "The Flintstones"
  - 26 Hangs on to
  - 27 Start to doze
  - 28 Herb that tastes like anise
  - 29 Pixel, e.g.
  - 30 1930s coalition between Italy and Germany
  - 35 Suffix with Method
  - 38 — Major (Great Bear)
  - 40 Called off the relationship
  - 41 Cacklers with clutches
  - 42 Neophyte, in modern slang
  - 44 — Harbor (Guam port)
  - 46 Longtime name in restaurant guides
  - 47 Mooch
  - 48 Racecar track near a Japanese mountain
  - 51 Has begun, as a TV show
  - 53 Suffix with method
  - 54 Ontario tribe
  - 55 Put on one's big-boy pants
  - 57 Rock's Reed
  - 60 — Spumante (Italian wine)
  - 62 "— lizards!"
  - 65 Specialists in stone
  - 67 What you do when you read the first words of 23-, 30-, 48-, 85-, 102- and 114-Across?
  - 72 Like gluttons
  - 73 "That so?"
  - 74 Bruins' sch.
  - 75 I, to Kant
  - 76 Metric "thousand"
  - 78 Lie dormant
  - 80 Rub clean
  - 84 Venue
  - 85 Festive affair
  - 88 Japanese noodles
  - 91 Half of a 45
  - 94 — avis
  - 95 Whirlpool
  - 96 Had a debt
  - 97 Mosque turret
  - 99 Fire: Prefix
  - 101 Drivers' org.
  - 102 Gratifying wry twist
  - 105 Brand of TVs
  - 107 Pago Pago islander
  - 108 Aussie jumper
  - 109 Things worth saving
  - 113 Dearies
  - 114 Composer of the musical "Rent"
  - 118 "Encore" rapper
  - 119 Invitation for radio call-ins
  - 120 Mafioso Frank
  - 121 Longtime Nissan
  - 122 It helps pay for roads and schools
  - 123 Lie dormant
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Boxer Max
  - 2 Vertex
  - 3 30-day mo.
  - 4 24-book epic
  - 5 Actor Len
  - 6 General — chicken
  - 7 Arena arbiter
  - 8 "Jack Sprat could — fat"
  - 9 In the house
  - 10 Legless sideboard
  - 11 — Vegas
  - 12 Univ. URL ender
  - 13 VIP in D.C.
  - 14 Even though
  - 15 "Big Deal" singer Rimes
  - 16 "The A-Team" director Joe
  - 17 Appended
  - 18 Stripping off
  - 19 Nose about rapper
  - 24 Snare
  - 28 Enter like a butterfly
  - 30 Less usual
  - 31 Time to wear a conical party hat, for short
  - 32 Brain wave test: Abbr.
  - 33 Nutrition std.
  - 34 Vancouver-to-Seattle dir.
  - 35 Facts, briefly
  - 36 Inner self
  - 37 Magic charm
  - 39 Coin money
  - 43 Galoot
  - 45 Long Island university
  - 47 Do some dickering in court
  - 49 Net message board operator
  - 50 Tearful
  - 52 Rash-causing plant
  - 55 Perceive in error aurally
  - 56 Kitchen pest
  - 57 IM chuckle
  - 58 Two halved
  - 59 Navy vessel inits.
  - 61 "Give this a shot"
  - 63 Bristol beer
  - 64 Oyster find
  - 66 Not crowded
  - 67 Hi-tech special FX
  - 68 Tolkien menace
  - 69 "Ho-hum"
  - 70 Yahoo! rival
  - 71 Big public protest
  - 77 Tissue injury
  - 79 Lathered up
  - 81 Verdi's slave
  - 82 Bar mixer
  - 83 "River" New Age artist
  - 84 Delta deposit
  - 85 Halliwell of pop music
  - 86 Not normal
  - 87 Library stall
  - 88 Reel partner
  - 89 Fantastic
  - 90 Skin colorer
  - 92 Shiba — (spitz breed)
  - 93 "— Boot"
  - 97 Foul vapor
  - 98 Play on a fife
  - 100 Briny bodies
  - 103 More bashful
  - 104 Pitch-perfect?
  - 106 30-day month
  - 109 Construction toy brand
  - 110 Villa d'—
  - 111 Learning by memorizing
  - 112 Short cut
  - 113 "— So Fine"
  - 114 "— Boys" (Louisa May Alcott novel)
  - 115 Decide (to)
  - 116 Tchr.'s union
  - 117 Santa — winds



## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Flourish
  - 6 "Rabbit, Run" author
  - 12 Tearjerker
  - 13 Construction piece
  - 14 "Anna Christie" playwright
  - 15 Coats
  - 16 Lima's place
  - 17 Father of Thor
  - 19 Away from WSW
  - 20 Style
  - 22 LummoX
  - 24 Most Wanted List org.
  - 27 Elite alternative
  - 29 Bart's sister
  - 32 Lincoln's election year
  - 35 Region
  - 36 Location
  - 37 Storm center
  - 38 Inseparable
  - 40 Osso buco base
  - 42 A cont.
  - 44 Level
  - 46 Apiece
  - 50 Boardroom props
  - 52 Prophet
  - 54 Half a story-book duo
  - 55 "My heavens!"
  - 56 Clothing
  - 57 Unlike a rolling stone?
  - 11 Gaelic
  - 12 Doo- — music
  - 21 Make a choice, with "for"
  - 23 "The Greatest"
  - 24 Shriner's chapau
  - 25 Life story, for short
  - 26 Unknowing
  - 28 Waiting area
  - 30 Pigpen
  - 31 Nay canceler
  - 33 Coop denizen
  - 34 Multitude
  - 39 Old anesthetic
  - 41 Starts
  - 42 Turkish potato
  - 43 "Animal House" group
  - 45 Capri or Wight
  - 47 Dogfight participants
  - 48 23-Down's old name
  - 49 The lady
  - 51 Sixth letter after 53-Down
  - 53 See 51-Down
- DOWN**
- 1 Part of N.B.
  - 2 Lecherous look
  - 3 Poppy drug
  - 4 Lubricate
  - 5 Tunes
  - 6 Wrinkly fruit
  - 7 Challenge for Laurel and Hardy in "The Music Box"
  - 8 Saharan
  - 9 Obsession
  - 10 "Show Boat"



## MAGIC MAZE • MAY WORDS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
 Unlisted clue hint: HEAD OF A CITY GOVERNMENT

- Cape May
- Mayan
- Mayenne
- Mayhem
- Dismay
- Mayapple
- Mayfish
- Mayonnaise
- Karamay
- Maybe
- Mayflower
- Maypole
- LeMay
- Mayday
- Mayfly

# PUZZLES

Answers on page 31

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

**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.

## HOCUS-FOCUS

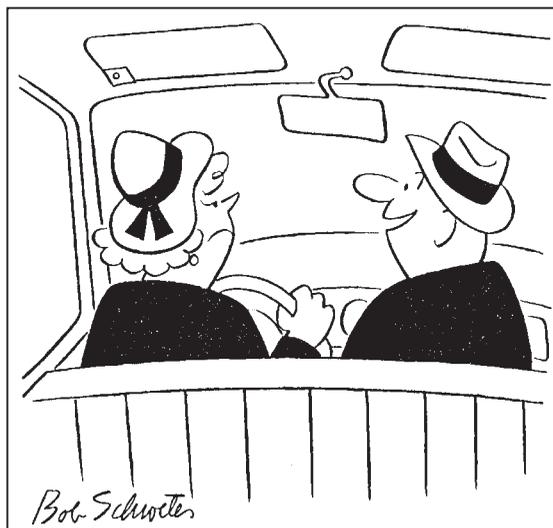
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy is taller. 2. Picture is vertical. 3. Chair back is different. 4. Fewer papers on floor. 5. Boy's collar is different. 6. Two checks on book.



"Well, if you're such a good driver, how come Joe's Auto Body Shop gives you a \_\_\_\_\_?"

## SCRAMBLERS

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

Smart  
**STATUE**    \_\_\_\_\_

Empty  
**INARD**   \_\_\_\_\_

Close  
**BRANEY**  \_\_\_\_\_

Berate  
**CLODS**   \_\_\_\_\_

### TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_



### Turkey with Citrus Brine

1 turkey  
 3 oranges, halved  
 1 cup honey  
 2 cups orange juice  
 2 lemons, halved  
 2 limes, halved  
 1-2 gallons warm water  
 4 cups ice  
 1 ½ cups sea salt  
 Fresh herbs (such as sage, rosemary, and thyme)  
 2 dried bay leaves  
 1 stick unsalted butter, room temperature  
 Butchers twine  
 Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

### Brine

In a large container or cooler, prepare brine by combining warm water, orange juice, 1 ½ cups sea salt, honey, bay leaves and fresh citrus. Whisk until the honey and salt are dissolved and add ice to cool the mixture. Place the turkey in the brine for 12-24 hours. Keep cool by storing in the refrigerator, or if using a



Turkey with Citrus Brine

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

cooler continually add ice to keep cold. To cook, remove the turkey and dry the skin thoroughly. Discard used brine.

### Turkey

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Using your hands or a barbecue brush, cover turkey with softened butter. Generously

season the outside and inside of the bird with salt and pepper. Place fresh herbs inside turkey and tie legs together with butcher's twine (this will ensure turkey cooks even). Roast for 2 ½-3 hours, basting every 30 minutes, or until a digital food thermometer reads 160 degrees.

Remove from oven and allow to rest for at least 20 minutes before carving.

"Fresh" tip: Brines are versatile! Experiment by using different combinations of herbs and spices. Brines can be used with poultry and pork products to enhance flavor.\*

## My Stars ★★★★★

### FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 2020

**Aries** (March 21 to April 19) This year, instead of jumping into the whole holiday prep scene, move in a little at a time. You'll appreciate the sense of control you're more likely to enjoy.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) The separation between the Bovine's head and heart is never as far apart as it seems. Both senses work best when they come out of logic and honesty.

**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) The best way to keep those pre-holiday pressures under control is to just say no to taking on new tasks while you're still trying to work with a heap of others.

**Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) News means a change might be on its way, but what does it hold? Don't just ask questions; make sure you get answers you can trust.

**Leo** (July 23 to August 22) Old friends and new have one thing in common: Both your longtime and newly minted pals have much wisdom to impart.

**Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) With time running out, this is a good time for you to show 'em all what those Virgo super-organizational skills can do.

**Libra** (September 23 to October 22) Librans and holidays are made for each other, especially if children and animals are going to be part of your joyous season.

**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) Time is getting too short to allow a spat to taint the holiday season. Restart your relationship and reschedule holiday fun times.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) Seeking advice is laudable. You might learn far more than you

thought you could. Stay with it.

**Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) Continuing to assess changes works toward your getting your new project up and ready. Trusted colleagues remain ready to help.

**Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18) That new situation needs a lot of attention, but it's worth it. This is a very good time for you to involve the arts in what you do.

**Pisces** (February 19 to March 20) It might be a good idea to slow your hectic holiday pace so that you don't rush past what – or who – you're hoping to rush toward.

**Born This Week:** Others pick up on your confidence in yourself, which inspires them to believe in you and your special gifts.

### MOMENTS IN TIME

• On Dec. 6, 1884, in Washington, DC, workers place a 9-inch aluminum pyramid atop a tower of white marble, completing the construction of a monument to the city's namesake and the nation's first president, George Washington.

• On Dec. 4, 1928, "Dapper Dan" Hogan, a St. Paul, Minnesota, saloonkeeper and mob boss, is killed when someone plants a car bomb under the floorboards of his new Paige coupe. The first car bomb was a horse-drawn-wagon bomb that exploded in 1920 outside the JP Morgan Company's offices in New York City.

• On Dec. 5, 1933, the 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is ratified, bringing an end to the prohibition of alcohol. Prohibition did little more than slow the flow of booze, and bootleggers like Al Capone had built criminal empires

out of illegal distribution.

• On Dec. 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks is jailed for refusing to give up her seat on a public bus to a white man, a violation of the city's racial segregation laws. Parks' refusal was not merely brought on by her tired feet, as is the popular legend. Local civil-rights leaders had been planning a challenge to Montgomery's racist bus laws for several months.

• On Nov. 30, 1965, lawyer Ralph Nader publishes the muckraking book *Unsafe at Any Speed*. The book became a bestseller and prompted the passage of seat-belt laws in 49 states (all but New Hampshire).

• On Dec. 3, 1979, the last AMC Pacer rolls off the assembly line at the American Motors Corporation factory in Kenosha, Wisconsin. It was hailed as the car of the future when it debuted in 1975.

• On Dec. 2, 1997, *Good Will Hunting*, a movie that will earn childhood friends Ben Affleck and Matt Damon a Best Screenplay Oscar and propel them to Hollywood stardom, premieres in Los Angeles.

### NOW HERE'S A TIP

• "At a home center recently, I saw a zip-up bag to store artificial Christmas trees in. This bag looked like luggage, with wheels on one end. I have purchased two, and I use them under my bed to store off-season clothes. I can pull the handle and they wheel right out, and I no longer have to get down on the ground and tug them out as I used to do. It's a back saver." – IW via email

• If you get a scratch in a white enamel sink or other white enamel surface, try touching it up with white

finger nail polish.

• "Try soaking an ink stain in rubbing alcohol for a few minutes before putting the garment in the wash." (Test first on a scrap.) – BD in Virginia

• "If you have a picture frame that just won't stay straight, cut the eraser tip off of a pencil and glue the flat (not the domed) side to the back of your frame at the bottom. For stubborn frames, use one at each corner. Then re-hang. Once you situate it on the wall, the erasers keep the frame from slipping to either side. It works great." – RI in California

• Don't just move dust around with that feather duster. Reserve it for dusting delicate items in a designated space (outdoors, preferably). Get a microfiber cleaning cloth instead. It catches dust and holds it.

• To make your own special flavor of coffee creamer, use a pint of fat-free or low-fat half and half and add the extract or spices of your choice. Some ideas: peppermint extract, chocolate syrup, almond extract, cinnamon, nutmeg or vanilla extract.

### STRANGE BUT TRUE

• The weight of all the ants on earth is greater than that of all humans.

• Doctors who perform laparoscopic surgery, which involves inserting a tiny camera into a patient's body through a small incision, have better coordination if they play video games at least three hours per week. According to a 2003 study, gamer surgeons made 37 percent fewer errors and worked 27 percent faster than those whose only "video game" experience was the surgery itself.

• The ancient Romans used swan fat or donkey milk to soften wrinkles, while

continued on page 30

 <b>FRIDAY</b> Sunny High: 78 Low: 67	 <b>SATURDAY</b> Sunny High: 77 Low: 68	 <b>SUNDAY</b> Partly Cloudy High: 76 Low: 65	 <b>MONDAY</b> Mostly Cloudy High: 71 Low: 62	 <b>TUESDAY</b> Cloudy High: 70 Low: 59	 <b>WEDNESDAY</b> Sunny High: 72 Low: 63	 <b>THURSDAY</b> Partly Cloudy High: 77 Low: 66
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**Redfish Pass Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:15 pm	5:17 am	10:44 pm	4:27 pm
Sat	1:04 pm	5:52 am	11:02 pm	4:49 pm
Sun	1:50 pm	6:26 am	11:24 pm	5:07 pm
Mon	2:34 pm	6:59 am	11:51 pm	5:23 pm
Tue	3:17 pm	7:35 am	None	5:41 pm
Wed	12:23 am	8:13 am	4:04 pm	6:04 pm
Thu	1:00 am	8:56 am	None	None

**Point Ybel Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	11:20 am	5:19 am	9:49 pm	4:29 pm
Sat	12:09 pm	5:54 am	10:07 pm	4:51 pm
Sun	12:55 pm	6:28 am	10:29 pm	5:09 pm
Mon	1:39 pm	7:01 am	10:56 pm	5:25 pm
Tue	2:22 pm	7:37 am	11:28 pm	5:43 pm
Wed	3:09 pm	8:15 am	None	6:06 pm
Thu	12:05 am	8:58 am	None	None

**Punta Rassa Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	11:37 am	5:22 am	11:10 pm	5:09 pm
Sat	12:13 pm	6:01 am	11:34 pm	5:43 pm
Sun	12:47 pm	6:38 am	11:52 pm	6:11 pm
Mon	1:23 pm	7:14 am	None	6:35 pm
Tue	12:04 am	7:52 am	2:04 pm	6:56 pm
Wed	12:20 am	8:30 am	2:53 pm	7:21 pm
Thu	12:47 am	9:09 am	3:46 pm	7:55 pm

**Cape Coral Bridge Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:37 am	8:33 am	2:25 pm	7:43 pm
Sat	12:54 am	9:08 am	3:14 pm	8:05 pm
Sun	1:12 am	9:42 am	4:00 pm	8:23 pm
Mon	1:34 am	10:15 am	4:44 pm	8:39 pm
Tue	2:01 am	10:51 am	5:27 pm	8:57 pm
Wed	2:33 am	11:29 am	6:14 pm	9:20 pm
Thu	3:10 am	12:12 pm	None	None

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## Food Bank Sets Meals Goal For Giving Tuesday

With Giving Tuesday 2020 on December 1, Midwest Food Bank (MFB) is focusing donations on Tender Mercies meals, MFB's nutritious rice and beans meal. The goal is to provide 200,000 Tender Mercies meals to MFB's partnering nonprofit agencies.

Tender Mercies meals have been a vital part of the COVID-19 and disaster relief efforts. Some 3.49 million meals have been packaged in 2020, up from 1.45 million meals last year. They are produced and packaged at the Morton, Illinois division of Midwest Food Bank.

"Giving Tuesday offers a respite from the days of shopping following Thanksgiving," said Karl Steidinger, executive director of Midwest Food Bank-Florida. "It's an opportunity to refocus and think about the needs of others."

Visit [www.midwestfoodbank.org](http://www.midwestfoodbank.org) for more information and to donate online. Midwest Food Bank is also accepting Giving Tuesday donations by mail.

Midwest Food Bank has 11 locations, including nine in the U.S., and one each in East Africa and Haiti. The private,

non-profit 501(c)3 charity is a faith-based organization with a mission to share the love of Christ by alleviating hunger and malnutrition locally and throughout the world and providing disaster relief; all without discrimination. MFB's vision is to provide industry-leading food relief to those in need while feeding them spiritually.\*

## Junior Achievement Receives Grant

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida, Inc. has received a \$5,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Collier County. These funds will support vital Junior Achievement educational programs that provide students lessons on career/work readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurial skills.

These funds invest in the infrastructure of the organization, to build sustainable growth throughout these challenging times. Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida is committed to continuing to impact thousands of students with financial literacy programs, economic education, work readiness preparation and entrepreneurial education, inspiring students to realize a brighter tomorrow.

"Whether in-person or through virtual learning, we will continue to provide these essential programs. Understanding money, finances, budgeting, preparing for a future career and exploring an entrepreneurial spirit are skills that employers seek, and Junior Achievement can help provide that for our students," said Angela Fisher, president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida.

The Community Foundation of Collier County awards annual grants through a competitive application and review process. Selected organizations receive grant dollars from the Changing Needs Fund, which is made up of donors who believe in the Community Foundation's ability to identify and grant to the community's most current needs.\*

From page 28

## Strange But True

sores and freckles were treated with the ashes of snails.

- Eskimos use refrigerators to stop their food from freezing.

- Disney's musical fantasy comedy *The Princess and the Frog* led to an unexpected salmonella outbreak in the United States. More than 50 children were hospitalized after the film's release when they attempted to free handsome

princes with a kiss from what turned out to be perfectly ordinary, definitely non-prince frogs.

- Redheads produce more vitamin D than other hair colors.

- Bao Xishun, a Mongolian herdsman, saved the lives of two dolphins by using his incredibly long arms to remove plastic from their stomachs. Bao stands nearly 8 feet tall and each arm extends more than 3 feet. All other attempts at saving the dolphins had failed.

- Watermelons may be a tasty treat today, but that wasn't always the case. Originating in Africa, they were first cultivated solely for their water content – their flavor was very bitter.

- In Sweden, the body warmth of more than 200,000 commuters passing through Stockholm's Central Station is harvested to provide heat for an office building across the road.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"When I was young, I admired clever people. Now that I am old, I admire kind people." – Abraham Joshua Heschel

### TRIVIA TEST

1. **Measurements:** How many tablespoons are in 1/2 cup?
2. **Television:** Which 1990s sitcom featured the theme song *I'll Be There for You*?

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### BOATS-CANOES-KAYAKS

#### BOAT LIFT RENTAL WANTED

Looking for long-term rental of a boat lift on Sanibel or Captiva with direct ocean access.  
Call Jim at 603-930-4549.  
10/30 \* TFN

### COMMERCIAL RENTAL

#### PELICAN PLACE SHOPPING CENTER

Palm Ride Road on Sanibel  
3 units available or combined 2,400 sq. ft. (2 at 700 sq. ft., 1 at 1,000 sq. ft.)  
Call 703-593-7024  
6/21 \* TFN



**Cottages To Castles**  
Unique Vacation Rentals  
2427 Periwinkle Way  
Sanibel, FL 33957  
Local: (239) 472-6385  
Toll Free: (800) 472-5385  
Fax: (239) 472-5858  
[www.cottages-to-castles.com](http://www.cottages-to-castles.com)  
1/26 \* TFN

#### ROGER NODRUFF ELECTRIC

Dock Lighting, affordable LED conversion. FPE panel replacement, Landscape Lighting. Generator Sizing, etc, etc. Call or text Roger 239-707-7203  
State License #13002788  
4/20 \* TFN

### AUTO FOR RENT

#### - RENT A LEXUS -

By day, week or more. Call for rates and web site. Off Sanibel, Ft. Myers location.  
Pick up or drop off.  
2 days notice, 2 days min.  
239-202-0700, 25 yo plus & cc.  
11/27 \* 12/11

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The below listed vehicle(s) will be offered for sale by Friendly Auto Finance at Manheim Ft. Myers 2100 Rockfill RD Ft. Myers FL 33916 on 12/2/20 @ 3pm  
2013 NISSAN ALTIMA VIN #1N4AL3AP3DN403946  
By virtue of security interest, the above vehicles will be offered for sale. Seller reserves the right to withdraw vehicle(s) from sale if adequate bids are not received. Vehicles are sold as is. Terms: cash and bank-certified funds.  
11/27 \* 11/27

#### OFFICE/COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT



**Palm Court Center**  
2424 Palm Ridge Road, Sanibel, FL 33957  
Highly visible ground floor space, 534 square feet. Move in condition. Formerly Buyer's Choice Realty.  
\$ 900 per month.  
Landlord pays all common. Area Maintenance.  
Call 973-726-3213  
7/31 \* TFN

### ANNUAL RENTAL

#### RENTING FOR OVER \$1,500?

Inbox me your monthly rent amount and I'll send you 3 houses you could OWN for the same monthly payment.  
[chip@chipwolfe.com](mailto:chip@chipwolfe.com)  
[chipwolfe.com](http://chipwolfe.com)  
239-848-0906  
REMAX OF THE ISLANDS  
6/5 \* TFN

#### HELPER

Are you elderly, disabled or just don't have free time?  
I can help!  
Just give me a call...  
973-919-2116  
11/20 \* 11/27

#### SCARNATO LAWN SERVICE

Lawn Service, Shrubs and Tree Trimming Weeding, Installation of Plants, Trees and Mulch (one month free service available)  
Joe Scarnato (239) 849-6163  
[scarnatolawn@aol.com](mailto:scarnatolawn@aol.com)  
1/25 \* TFN

### HELP WANTED

#### SANIBEL SPIRITS

Part-time Liquor Store Cashier in Jerry's Plaza. Fun work environment, tolls paid, employee discount. Retirees welcome. \$12 hr.  
Call John 472-8668.  
11/27 \* 12/4

#### MARINA HELP WANTED

Full or Part Time position available on Captiva. Must have boat handling experience and able to work with general public and customers. Email [John@gocaptiva.com](mailto:John@gocaptiva.com) or call 239-770-4832.  
11/27 \* TFN

To advertise in the Island Sun and The River Weekly News  
Call 395-1213

3. **Geography:** Where is the city of Timbuktu located?
4. **Games:** How much money does each Monopoly player get at the start of the classic game?
5. **Science:** How much of the Earth's surface is covered with water?
6. **Movies:** Which 2004 animated movie featured the character Edna Mode?
7. **U.S. States:** What is the capital of Michigan?
8. **Comics:** Which comic character's favorite exclamation is "Good grief!"?
9. **Psychology:** What fear is represented in the phobia cynophobia?
10. **Anatomy:** What is the condition of "pes planus" more commonly called?

**TRIVIA ANSWERS**

1. Eight 2. Friends 3. Mali in west Africa 4. \$1,500 5. About 71 percent 6. The Incredibles 7. Lansing 8. Charlie Brown in Peanuts 9. Fear of dogs 10. Flat feet

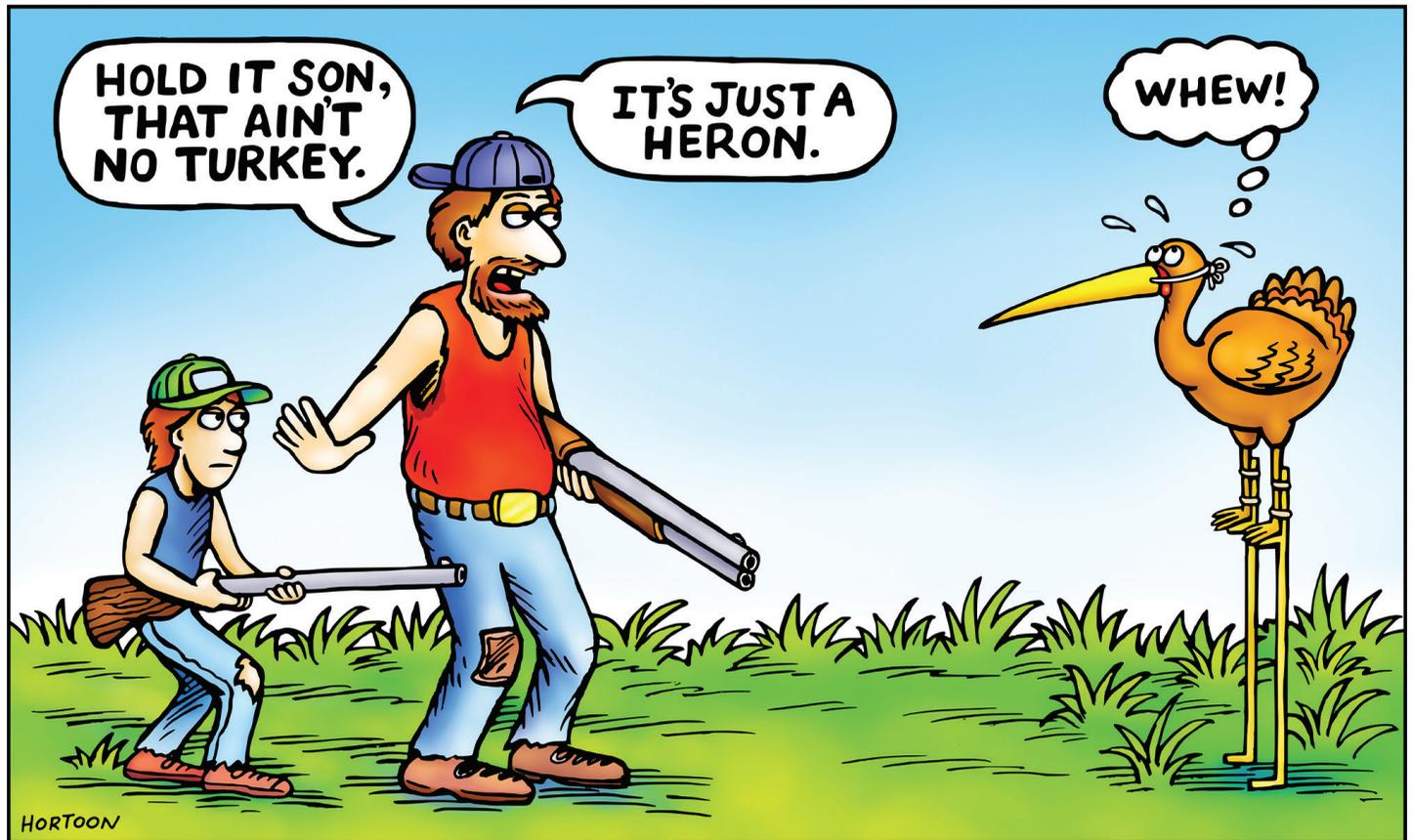
**SCRAMBLERS ANSWER**

1. Astute 2. Drain;  
3. Nearby; 4. Scold

Today's Word

**DISCOUNT**

**HORTOONS**



**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

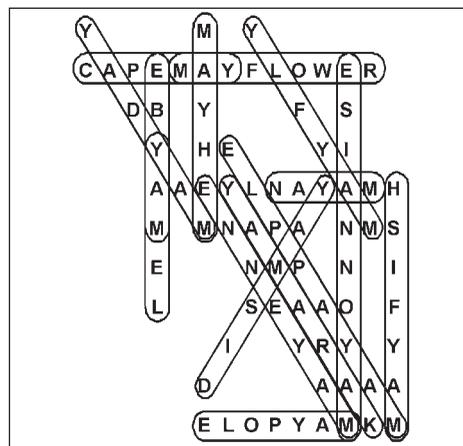
**SUPER CROSSWORD**

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

**KING CROSSWORD**

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

**MAGIC MAZE**



**SUDOKU**

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

**Top 10 Real Estate Sales**

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Bonita Beach	Bonita Springs	2020	5,670	\$5,995,000	\$5,995,000	11
Metes And Bounds	Captiva	1996	6,303	\$3,995,000	\$3,850,000	1,285
Turtle Walk	Fort Myers Beach	2015	3,474	\$3,675,000	\$3,600,000	5
Tuscany Isle	Bonita Springs	2012	6,397	\$3,225,000	\$3,225,000	1
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2018	3,728	\$2,950,000	\$2,699,900	244
Imperial Shores	Bonita Springs	2006	5,235	\$2,345,000	\$2,250,000	633
Winklers Subdivision	Fort Myers Beach	1982	1,635	\$2,395,000	\$2,200,000	78
Sanibel Isles	Sanibel	1996	3,060	\$1,575,000	\$1,400,000	19
Sanctuary At Wulfert	Sanibel	1995	4,046	\$1,420,000	\$1,390,000	16
Bayview Acres	St. James City	1983	3,483	\$1,399,000	\$1,300,000	14

From our family of restaurants to you  
**Happy Thanksgiving!**

Our Captiva Location will be open, call for reservations!



Sanibel • Captiva • Ft. Myers Beach • Downtown St. Pete Pier



[WWW.DOCFORDS.COM](http://WWW.DOCFORDS.COM)

A close-up photograph of several large, succulent shrimp, likely Yucatan shrimp, garnished with fresh herbs and a red sauce. A slice of lime is visible in the foreground on the left. The shrimp are piled on a white plate, with a piece of bread visible in the background.

THE ORIGINAL  
**YUCATAN SHRIMP!**

Visit Our Sister Locations on Ft. Myers Beach  
**The Dixie Fish Co. & The Whale**