



THE RIVER WEEKLY NEWS

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Vol. 21, No. 22

From the Beaches to the River District downtown Fort Myers

MAY 27, 2022



Melanie Daniels (Steven Michael Kennedy) being attacked by a murder of crows
photo provided

Premiere Of Hitchcock Parody

The Laboratory Theater of Florida will present the world premiere of *The Birds: A Parody* from Friday, June 3 to Saturday, July 2.

This laugh-out-loud parody features heroes battling evil birds with plans to

terrorize humans based on the classic Hitchcock film.

Wealthy San Francisco socialite Melanie Daniels pursues potential suitor Mitch Brenner to a quaint seaside town where all manner of mayhem begins to take over, most notably bizarre behavior from all types of birds, from crows to gulls to, sugar-coated Peeps, which begin to
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Scavenger Hunt At The Estates



Families visiting the estates can try to find Jerry, the pelican, hidden throughout the site
photo provided

A new scavenger hunt for families is available at Edison and Ford Winter Estates. The main character in the game is Jerry, the pelican, who is hidden in multiple places around the site. The goal of the scavenger hunt is to find Jerry in eight different places,

including the Edison caretaker's house, the Moonlight Garden (back side of the study), main house, Thomas and Mina's master bedroom, guest house, the Ford car exhibit, the secretary's bedroom in the Ford house and in the Ford house dining
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Victor Legarreta as Dennis and Matt Michael as Lonny
photos provided

Revisiting A Classic Rock Era

by Di Saggau

The moment the introduction began for *Rock of Ages* at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, I knew it was going to be a different kind of musical. What a warm-up. It was obvious that most of those in the audience loved the '80s music and it brought back memories for them. Several people came dressed in fashion

from the decade.

The show has many moving parts and characters telling two love stories. One involves a young man and woman, and the other one involves saving The Bourbon Room, the beloved home of rock and roll. The Bourbon Room is being threatened with destruction and the rockers are promising to do everything they can to save it and keep the music alive. The show features over 30 songs, including *We Built This City*, *The Final Countdown* and *Here I Go Again*.

Small town sweetheart Sherrie (Ellie



Dale Obermark as Drew

Roddy) has big dreams of being an actress in Los Angeles, and Drew (Dale Obermark) is also trying to make it with his rock band. We watch the ups and downs of their relationship, including a love rival rock star Stacey Jaxx (Justin Wolfe Smith) who is focused upon his own ego no matter who he hurts, including Sherrie. These three have their roles nailed down tight with voices to match.

The narrator Lonny (Matt Michael) is a hoot as he hops about the stage throwing magic dust, and tying up all the loose

ends in the story. His actions were very entertaining, and the first act ends up with a rousing finale.

A great deal of humor is included in the writing and performance throughout the entire musical. Regina (Caitie L. Moss), the Berkeley educated hippie, had us in chuckles with her cartwheels and when she threatened to light herself on fire in a protest. Don't worry, no one gets burned. The show delivers a relationship with the audience creating a special, personal,

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Historic Downtown Fort Myers, Then And Now:

Multipurpose County Barn

by Gerri Reaves, PhD



Soon after Lee County was carved from Monroe in 1887, and it was later determined that Fort Myers would be the county seat, the county commissioners set out to build a courthouse.

County government had necessarily been taking place in rented space at First and Jackson. Bonds were issued, and about two acres were purchased from Charles W. and Jane L. Hendry in 1889. That site became today's Courthouse Square, bounded by Main and Second streets on the north and south and by Monroe and Broadway on the west and east, respectively.

For economic reasons, the county had to downsize its grand plans for courthouse but, in 1895, a graceful frame structure was erected for \$3,640 in the square's northwest quadrant.

Over the next several years, three other buildings were constructed on the square, each in its own corner. One was the county barn, pictured here. The other two buildings on the square were the 1895 one-story Lee County Clerk's Office Building near the northeast corner and the 1892 two-story concrete County Jail near the Monroe corner.

The two-story concrete county barn stood at the southeast corner at Garrett Street (now Broadway) from 1908 until 1929. The ground floor housed the mules, wagons and road equipment, according to the late Gordon "Booch" DeMarchi's history of Courthouse Square. The second floor contained two large meeting rooms, or classrooms, which explain the presence of a first-grade class and their teacher in the undated historic photo of the barn.

As Lee County's student population burgeoned in the early 20th century, the county barn served as "spill-over" classroom space.



Today, the Lee County Administration Office Building spans the southern half of the square photo by Gerri Reaves

For some perspective on the growth of the student population and how students ended up in a barn, consider that by 1909 or so, Fort Myers had become the third largest school system in the state, after Miami and Key West.

In 1908, the school system had been compelled to rent a nearby Holiness church for primary grades.

At the beginning of the 1909 school year, the county barn was rented for Mrs. Wiggins to teach the primary grades. The *Fort Myers Press* noted that "it is not as convenient as desired, but it is a great help."

In 1910, the barn, aka stable, at the square was rented for grades seven and eight. Meanwhile, the ultra-modern Andrew D. Gwynne Institute at First and Jackson had been built to alleviate crowding, but no sooner had it opened in October 1911 than it was deemed inadequate, or bursting at the seams, to echo the comments of the time.

Plans began for yet another school, the Gwynne High School at Second and Royal Palm Avenue, but it wouldn't open until 1914.

In the 1912-13 school year, 86 primary students attended school in the county barn and, in August 1914, it was anticipated that number would increase to about 100, quite a few for one floor of a modest-sized building.

The *Press* stated in April 1914 that Mrs. Odom was holding primary classes on barn's upper floor. The oh-so-useful barn also functioned as a summer school classroom. For at least two years in the early 19-teens, Mrs. Mollie George Adams, a Gwynne Institute teacher, operated a private "expression" school in the barn. With a background as head of the department of expression at the Gwynne Institute in 1913, she taught English and performative arts such as readings and impersonations.

But the barn did have government functions too, such as a voting location in November 1914. At a county commission meeting in following February, the board designated the barn as the location where circuit court could convene and hold court while a new county courthouse (the current one) was being constructed.

The handy county barn has been gone for almost a century. Today, the entire southern half of Courthouse Square is occupied by the Lee County Administration Office Building.

Visit Courthouse Square and imagine a plain county barn that proved useful to mules, students, voters, court personnel, and others. Then visit the following two research centers to learn more about how the square has evolved since 1895.

The Southwest Florida Historical Society is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization

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First-graders pose with their teacher at the "county barn" at Courthouse Square. The barn stood near the southeast corner at Second and Broadway from 1908 to 1929.

photo courtesy SWFL Historical Society

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Visual Art And Strings Summer Camp Offered

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center (SBDAC) will open its doors to students for four week-long summer camps featuring art for ages 6 and older and strings for ages 9 and older. Camps run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Art camp will be offered for ages 6 to 8 from June 27 to July 1; ages 9 to 12-plus from July 11 to 15; and ages 12 to 15-plus from July 25 to 29. Create-ED is dedicated to the diverse art program designed to develop individual skills, creativity and teamwork through exploration, collaborative group projects and installations designed to enrich students' visual art appreciation using a variety of media.

Strings Camp for intermediate and advanced string players will be offered for violin, viola, cello and bass students age 9 to 17 from July 18 to 22. Young musicians will be divided into two classes with solo and ensemble opportunities, guest teachers, music history, and theory and games, culminating in a final concert.

Art instructors are professional artists and educators that have been a part of the local arts community of Southwest Florida for many years. Cesar Aguilera, an artist and curator of the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center, combines



Kara Griffith photo provided

mechanical and sustainable mixed media to make elaborate portraits and intricate pieces of art. Angela Hicks, an instructor and professional artist, has a passion to teach all media of art while integrating science and history.

Strings week is led by SBDAC education director and long-established Davis School of Music violin instructor Kara Griffith. She is joined by Cypress Lake Center for the Arts orchestra instructor Kayla Lisa and Edison Park Creative Arts Magnet School Violin Instructor Lisa James. A variety of guest instructors, including area favorite Roland



Artwork by Cesar Aguilera image provided

Forti and local alum Vinny Conrod, will also join in to add fun and inspiration throughout the week. String players are encouraged to register for the camp and must have at least one year of ensemble experience with comfortable note reading skills and a teacher recommendation. Concentrated instruction for these dedicated students will include large and small group divisions, music history and music theory classes, multiple rehearsals, daily guest instructors, games and daily solo opportunities culminating with a Friday afternoon showcase concert for parents and the public held in the Grand Atrium on July 22 at 3 p.m.

Tuition cost for each camp is \$350 (due at registration), with partial tuition assistance available in the sign-up link. Extended day (8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) is available for an additional \$25 per day.

Students are required to pack a lunch and a snack each day.

The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center is located at 2301 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. To register, visit www.sbdac.com/created-form. For more information and questions, call 333-1933 or email kara@sbdac.com.

Dean's List

Daniela Hechavarria of Fort Meyers has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2022 semester at University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

To be eligible for the dean's list, students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours (a full course load), maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 and be in good academic standing.

College Graduates

McKenzi Massey and Amanda Oleksa, both of Fort Myers, recently graduated from University of Mississippi in Oxford.

Massey received a bachelor of fine arts degree in theatre and a bachelor of arts in English from the College of Liberal Arts.

Oleksa received a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the School of Engineering.



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Fort Myers Art:

Spotlight On Grant Recipients



by Tom Hall

The City of Fort Myers Public Art Committee recently exhibited its 2022 Biennial Individual Artist Grant Recipient Show at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center in

downtown Fort Myers. Through May 26, the exhibition showcased the work of visual and performing artists who received grants from the City of Fort Myers in 2020 and 2021. The following are a few spotlights.

Isabella Baquerizo is a digital illustrator who was born in Ecuador and currently splits her time between Naples and New York City. Baquerizo graduated summa cum laude from Florida Gulf Coast University with a bachelor of arts degree in art and graphic design. Before graduating, she was an intern at the Rauschenberg Residency on Captiva. She currently works as a graphic designer for B3 Marketing, based in Naples. Baquerizo is passionate about sustainability, social causes and being active in her community.

Filmmaker Connie Bottinelli is a



Lily Hatchett with her art happening, Paper Grotto Live! photo courtesy www.artswfl.com

multiple Emmy recipient and nominee, with international awards for producing, directing and writing in documentary and series for broadcast and cable networks. Her career began at CBS Entertainment in New York City and documentary unit in Philadelphia. In 1995, she co-founded Grinning Dog Pictures, breaking ratings records for Lifetime Television with the one-hour special *Jessica Savitch: An Intimate Portrait*. She created and contributed to award-winning documentary series for Discovery, TLC, Ch4 UK, CBS, NBC, Lifetime, *The New York Times*, Discovery Health, GreenPlanet, Fox,

Hearst Entertainment, CourtTV and others.

Pop artist Pat Collins creates mixed media works with a focus on painting and printmaking, including murals and interactive mixed media constructions/installations. Many of her artworks comment on current issues and human rights. For example, the pieces in her March 2022 solo show, *Action Reaction Interaction* in the Florida Gulf Coast University ArtLab, combine those interests with social commentary on life during current times.

Kat Epple provided musical accompaniment for Lily Hatchett's Paper Grotto Live! performance during the opening reception of the grant recipient show. Epple is a Peabody, Edward R. Murrow and Emmy Award-winning composer and flutist. Over the course of her storied musical career, she has released 42 original music albums, composed film scores for *National Geographic*, *Nova* and Valentino Fashions, and has performed at the United Nations and museums around the world including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Guggenheim and Bob Rauschenberg Gallery. For over 20 years, Epple performed at legendary visual artist Robert Rauschenberg's international art openings.

Whitney Hackett grew up in Fort Myers, where she currently lives and works as an artist. She has a bachelor of fine arts degree from University of Florida. Hackett explores memory and nostalgia through her body of dreamy and celebratory paintings. Her innocent appreciation for everyday life encourages a childlike playfulness in her work. Through the enshrinement of simple things, she elevates the ordinary to the extraordinary.

Artist Lily Hatchett opened the exhibition with a performance of her Paper Grotto Live! with musical accompaniment by Epple. Paper Grotto is an art happening that combines sculpture, drawing, video and live performance. As the name implies, Hatchett's grotto is fashioned from paper, or to be more precise, seven totem-like white paper sculptures that range in height from six to eight

feet. She arranges them in a way that resembles a cave or grotto.

The City of Fort Myers strives to encourage artistic quality and program innovation, to develop new audiences and to challenge existing audiences through its annual individual artist grants. This valuable grant opportunity encourages art and culture in all Fort Myers' communities, creating a nurturing environment in which artists can flourish.

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.*

President's List

Ten students from Southwest Florida were named to the president's list for the winter 2022 semester at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester.

The honorees are Meghan DeLuca of Cape Coral, Elizabeth Perry of North Fort Myers and Jeremy Nichols, Diana Karadas, Alison Lanoie, Shauna Mazak, Bassandre Villard, Reymundo Portalatin, Kamrin Hazelwood and Timothy Kabiga, all of Fort Myers.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the president's list.*

Dean's List

Nathaniel Riley and Jordan Miller, both of Fort Myers, were named to the dean's list for the spring 2022 semester at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours (exclusive of audit and pass/fail courses this semester) and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C (inclusive of audit, pass/fail courses and zero-credit courses).*

From page 2

Historic Downtown

open Wednesday and Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon. It is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard on the campus of the Lee County Alliance for the Arts. Call 939-4044 for more information.

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

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

Sources: Archives of the Southwest Florida Historical Society, the *Fort Myers Press*, *The Lee County Courthouse Through the Years* by Gordon "Booch" DeMarchi, and *The Story of Fort Myers* by Karl H. Grismer.*

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Tournament Surpasses Million Mark In 10th Year

The “Ding” Darling & Doc Ford’s Tarpon Tournament on May 13 pushed historical earnings for the decade to more than \$1 million. The 10th anniversary tournament netted \$260,000 from sponsorships and donations to support conservation at the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

The “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) organizes the tournament with Doc Ford’s Rum Bar & Grille of Sanibel, Fort Myers Beach, Captiva and St. Petersburg as the title sponsor. The captain’s meeting and Silver King Awards ceremony took place at the Fort Myers Beach location.

The 2022 tournament paid out a total of \$60,000 in prizes to five winning teams out of 58 registered teams. Anglers photo-recorded 54 tarpon catches this year, the second highest number of catches since the tournament’s inception in 2012. The first place prize of \$27,000 went to Team Blackwater, including captain Henry Frazer and team members Matt Hereld and Scott Hughes. The team caught and released a total of six fish.

“Congratulations to Henry. He now wears the coveted pink tarpon jacket,” said Marty Harrity, co-owner of Doc Ford’s, who introduced the jacket in 2017 as an added incentive for taking first place in the tournament. “It’s kind of like the green Masters tournament jacket in golf. The winning captain gets the honor of wearing the pink tarpon jacket each year.”

Second place Team Spartan Stix, led by captain Cory McGuire, caught five fish and won \$15,000. In third place, captain Cliff Utt’s Team Sun Country caught four and took home \$9,000. Fourth place winners Team Two Lane Lager, with captain Patrick McCafferty, won \$6,000 with three fish (the first caught at 7:47 a.m.); fifth place winners Team Fischer Kings, with captain Ozzie Fischer, took home \$3,000 also for three fish (the first caught slightly later at 7:52 a.m.).

Awards were also presented for female angler to Stephanie Miller from Team Tarpon Time, senior angler to Mary Laser with Team Chasin’ Poon and amateur team to Team Kollman, with captain Will Kollman, Kevin Kollman, Tim Byal and Patrick RicVert.

“Because all boat registration fees go into the awards purse, sponsorship partners are extremely important to this



From left, “Ding” Darling Refuge Biological Science Technician Avery Renshaw, DDWS Development Officer April Boehnen, Doc Ford’s co-owner Marty Harrity, Team Blackwater captain Henry Frazer and teammates Matt Hereld and Scott Hughes, and DDWS Executive Director Toni Westland photo provided

tournament,” said Birgie Miller, executive director of DDWS. “They make it possible to raise vital financial support for the conservation mission of DDWS and the refuge.”

To date, the tarpon tournament has raised \$1,015,000 for refuge water research, wildlife research and education. It has awarded \$321,125 to tournament winning teams during its 10-year history. The first-of-its-kind tournament to benefit conservation and award 100 percent of its fees to winners, the competition began to support local professional fishing guides and connect with anglers to educate and make them part of conservation efforts.

“We can’t thank Doc Ford’s enough for their incredible show of support these past 10 years,” said DDWS Development Officer April Boehnen, who organized and led the 2022 tournament. “They’ve already committed for the 2023 tourney, which will take place in May 2023, the date to be announced soon.”

Team captains met the night before the tournament to receive rules and socialize. They were surprised by a short video from country singer and songwriter Luke Bryan, whose Two Lane Lager beer was a tournament sponsor. He wished the anglers good luck and recognized the tournament’s important mission.

“We are so grateful for this fundraiser, because not only does it add much-needed dollars to the ever-shrinking refuge budget, it also supports our conservation mission,” said “Ding” Darling Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland. “Plus, it is an opportunity to remind anglers, both professional and

amateur, about the importance of ethical and responsible fishing.”

For more information on the tournament and this year’s winners, visit www.dingdarlingtarpontourney.org.

Tournament sponsors for 2022

include: Title Sponsor: Doc Ford’s Rum Bar & Grille; Silver King Anniversary Sponsors: Bill and Laurie Harkey, Raiser’s Edge, The Szymanczyk Family; Premiere Sponsor: Cast About Charters;

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From left, Mike Bortz, Amy Ginsburg and Ernie Toplis

photo provided

Symphony Receives Gift For Music Education

Some Lee County fifth graders will have the opportunity to attend a Southwest Florida Symphony performance in the coming school year, thanks to the unexpected generosity of a fellow local music group and nonprofit organization.

The Southwest Florida Symphony was awarded a \$500 gift from the German

American Social Club of Cape Coral to support the symphony's education initiatives. Educational programming includes youth orchestra ensembles, The Young People's Concert, Discovery Club, Student Rush, Music for Life and Majors for Minors.

The foundation's gift will help cover some of the cost of delivering a Young People's Concert, a field trip for fifth graders to attend a full symphonic performance, uniquely designed for young people. This concert will serve approximately 1,000 youths in Southwest Florida. The program treats the students

to the thrilling sounds of the Southwest Florida Symphony, which provides this performance to students, teachers and chaperones admission free, so gifts like this make the experience possible.

"Our group has been impressed with the work of the Southwest Florida Symphony, and it is our hope that our partnership will significantly boost the symphony's programs which support the underserved communities of Southwest Florida," said Mike Bortz, treasurer and trumpet player with the German American Social Club. "As musicians ourselves, we realize the costs involved with instruments, instrument upkeep and learning materials."

The German American Social Club is also home to and sponsor of The Hofenkapelle Band (haf-en-ka-pell-la), a typically costumed German band and also a community band, having been proclaimed by locals as the "Official Band" of the City of Cape Coral.

For more information on the symphony, visit www.swflso.org.*

Lionfish Challenge Begins

The 2022 Lionfish Challenge tournament kicked off May 20 and will go through September 6, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

The Lionfish Challenge is a summer-long lionfish tournament open to competitors around the state of Florida.

This is the seventh year of the challenge and the goal is still the same: remove as many lionfish as possible in just 3.5 months. Are you up for the challenge?

Participants will compete in either the commercial or the recreational division.

Prizes will be awarded in tiers as follows:

Tier 1 – Harvest 25 lionfish (recreational category) or 25 pounds of lionfish (commercial category).

Tier 2 – Harvest 100 lionfish (recreational category) or 250 pounds of lionfish (commercial category).

Tier 3 – Harvest 300 lionfish (recreational category) or 500 pounds of lionfish (commercial category).

Tier 4 – Harvest 600 lionfish (recreational category) or 1000 pounds of lionfish (commercial category)

FloGrown is the presenting sponsor for this year's Lionfish Challenge. FloGrown is a Florida-based fishing and outdoor apparel company that supports the organizations and divers that work to fight the lionfish invasion. This year's tournament shirt was custom-designed and printed by FloGrown and will be awarded to participants who reach the first prize tier.

Additional prizes will be provided by FloGrown, Neritic, ZooKeeper, Divers Alert Network, Shearwater, Smith Optics, GoPro and YETI.

To read the full tournament rules or register, visit www.fwcreefrangers.com/lionfish-challenge. Keep up with the challenge at www.facebook.com/fwcreefrangers.*

Churches/Temples

ALL FAITHS UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

Service 10:30 a.m. in house and live on Facebook. Adult Ed Forum 9:15 a.m. in Sanctuary, www.allfaithsuu.org, 2756 McGregor Boulevard, 226-0900.

ALL SAINTS BYZANTINE RITE CATHOLIC

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

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

BETH YESHUA MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

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

BIBLESHARE

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

CHABAD LUBAVITCH ORTHODOX

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

CHAPEL OF CYPRESS COVE

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

CHAVURAT SHALOM

Friday Shabbat services every week 7:30 p.m. Other programs on vacation. ChavuratShalom@gmail.com.

CHURCH OF THE CROSS

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

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

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

CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Sunday 8 and 10:45 a.m. Jan 1 – Easter; 9 a.m. after Easter – Dec 31. www.crownoflifelutheran.com.

5820 Daniels Pkwy, 482-2315.

REDEEMER CHURCH

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

CYPRESS LAKE PRESBYTERIAN

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

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

FAITH UNITED METHODIST

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

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

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

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

FORT MYERS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

FORT MYERS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST;

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT MYERS

11 a.m. Sunday, www.fpcfortmyers.org, 2438 Second Street, 239-334-2261

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.lambofgodchurch.net, 19691 Cypress View Drive, 267-3525.

NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN

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

PEACE COMMUNITY

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

PEACE LUTHERAN

Sunday 8 and 10 a.m., www.peaceftmyers.com, peace@peaceftmyers.com. 15840 McGregor Boulevard, 437-2599.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN

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

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

SAMUDRABADRA BUDDHIST CENTER

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

SAINT COLUMBKILLE CATHOLIC

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

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC

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

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE METROPOLITAN

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

SAINT MICHAEL LUTHERAN

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

SAINT NICHOLAS MONASTERY

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

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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC

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

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST

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

TEMPLE BETH EL SYNAGOGUE

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

TEMPLE JUDEA (CONSERVATIVE)

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

THE FAITH CENTER

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

THOMAS A. EDISON CONGREGATIONAL

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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

UNITY OF FORT MYERS

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

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WORD OF LIFE

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

ZION LUTHERAN

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

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



Babcock Ranch Water Utilities' three first-place awards for outstanding accomplishments in water reclamation, operational performance and safety from the Florida Water Environment Association photo provided

Babcock Ranch Water Utilities Wins Top Awards

Babcock Ranch Water Utilities (BRWU) won three first-place awards for outstanding accomplishments in water reclamation, operational performance and safety from the Florida Water Environment Association. The awards, presented April 26, recognize the BRWU wastewater treatment facility's excellence in transforming wastewater into reusable water for irrigation.

Operated by Town & Country Utilities, BRWU received the first-place Earle B. Phelps Award for maintaining the highest removal of major pollution-causing components from treated wastewater, the Safety Award for its stellar safety program and the Municipal Utility Operational Performance Excellence Award. BRWU also received the Earle B. Phelps Award in 2019.

BRWU/TCU has also been honored as a 2021 Water Resources Utility of the Future Today for innovative and forward-thinking practices in recycling water; received the Florida Water

Environment Association's 2019 David W. York Award recognizing outstanding water reuse projects in Florida; and earned the Department of Environmental Protection's 2018 Domestic Plant Operations Excellence Award for Drinking Water that recognizes outstanding treatment water and wastewater plant operations, maintenance and compliance.

Babcock Ranch is located at 42850 Crescent Loop in Punta Gorda. For more information, visit the Woodlea Hall Discovery Center in Babcock Ranch, call 877-709-6620, or visit www.babcockranch.com.*

County To Pursue Land Purchases

The Lee Board of County Commissioners voted on Tuesday to pursue the purchase of two parcels through the Conservation 20/20 program, each of which is adjacent to already preserved land.

The parcels are: 3.42 acres within the Greenbriar Flowways area and north of the Conservation 20/20 GS-10 Preserve, a 625-acre preserve located west of Joel Boulevard and north of Greenbriar

Boulevard in Lehigh Acres; and 1.99 acres immediately adjacent to the five-acre Heron Pond preserve and near the 400-acre Buttonwood Preserve, a Conservation 20/20 preserve. The parcel is south of Pine Island Road in Bokeelia and west of Little Pine Island Mitigation

Bank.

For more information, visit www.Conservation2020.org. To receive updates from Lee County government, sign up for the newsletter online at www.leegov.com/resources/newsletters.*

Plant Smart

Yellow Butterfly Vine

by Gerri Reaves

Yellow butterfly vine (*Callaeum macropterum*) is a member of the Barbados cherry family and native to parts of Mexico and Central and South America.

Also called yellow orchid vine and hillyhock, it grows 15 feet or more long.

This erect readily twining vine has pale smooth bark and leaves that are generally oval or oblong with pointed tips.

Opposite and evergreen, they measure up to three inches long and about two inches wide.

They have short petioles, or leaf stems, and two small glands at their bases.

The plant's ornamental value is in the clusters of yellow five-petaled flowers, which are about an inch across. Petals are broad with fringed edges.

Winged papery seed pods, or samaras, are chartreuse but fade to tan with time. They resemble butterflies, thus the vine's



Nonnative yellow butterfly vine is a member of the Barbados cherry family

photo by Gerri Reaves

common name.

This plant prefers full sun and well-drained soil.

Sources: www.davesgarden.com, www.inaturalist.org, and www.southwestdesertflora.com.

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

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One Cast Away From Being A Rockstar



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

I have been a full time guide for more than 20 years, and the more time I spend tarpon fishing the more unknowns there are. After a full week of chasing this king of all gamefish during

both challenging windy conditions and perfect slick calm conditions, it boils down to one bite making a trip.

Early in the week, I had long-time clients down from Minnesota to tarpon fish for their very first time. Due to slick conditions along with an early morning pickup, we headed to a better known spot. With just enough light, we slowly moved in with a trolling motor as we watched happy tarpon surface to gulp air. Within 10 minutes of arrival, I set up the boat on the line that the fish seemed to be traveling and pitched a crab under a float. Before I could get another rod down from the tower, we were on. The estimated 60-pound fish made some crazy runs and trademark jumps before coming boatside.

Returning to our mark, we could still see tarpon everywhere. We made long casts and drifted both pinfish and crabs as we watched hundreds of tarpon slowly making their way through this gap. The



Max from Minnesota got his first tarpon this week while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell

photo provided

wait for the second bite took roughly 20 minutes as another tarpon exploded on the pinfish suspended under a float. There were wild jumps and long runs as we gave chase before a quick face grab of a roughly 50-pound fish. By 7:41 a.m. we were two for two, and I had extremely happy clients.

The very next day, I was fishing with another long-time client who had caught

a big tarpon with me five or six years ago on his very first tarpon trip. Since then, we tried every year and couldn't get it done for one reason or another. Leaving the dock at zero dark 30, I had a plan and even a little swagger as conditions could simply not be any better. Pulling into the same place as the day before, we were greeted with lots of rolling fish.

We sat for almost three hours and, despite having these fish roll over our baits, simply could not get a bite. At one point, I called in a fellow guide who sat up behind me and, while throwing the exact same bait, caught one right next to me. We moved up towards Captiva Pass for the last hour, danced around pods of 20 to 40 fish and landed baits right on their track without success. We saw many more fish than even the day before, but in one day these fish had developed all that can be described as lock jaw.

Fast forward a few days and the mornings gave us that dreaded 15 to 20 mph winds to make tarpon fishing that much tougher. Even during near perfect conditions catching a tarpon is not a sure thing. Throw in high winds to make them difficult to locate and your odds drop even more. Jeff, one of two clients on this trip, had been out tarpon fishing over a dozen times and never caught one. After spending most of the morning running all over the sound, I had not seen a single fish by 10 a.m. and really thought it was going to be another one of those days for him. Making a Hail Mary move, I set up in a confident spot to soak cut baits for the last hour in hopes of finding a bite.

About 10 minutes in, we hooked and did battle with a big shark before it parted ways. I reset the cut baits and, after about 15 minutes, I noticed one line slowly moving against the tide and lifting out the holder. As the line came tight, I handed the rod off to Jeff just in time to see a 100-pound-plus tarpon sky. I dropped the float buoy and we gave chase as this fish put on an awesome ariel display. Thirty minutes later after a few pictures, Jeff could mark tarpon off his bucket list.

After all the days we spend chasing the magnificent tarpon, the success of a entire trip can often come down to the matter of getting one single bite. In a perfect world, it would always be calm conditions and endless sight fishing opportunities. Lots of days we tarpon fish is far from perfect and getting one bite is what its all about. You see both disappointed and extremely happy clients based on that one thrilling bite. When tarpon fishing, you are only ever one cast away from being a rockstar.

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been fishing local waters since he moved to Sanibel in 1980. He now lives in St. James City and works as a back country fishing guide. If you have comments or questions, email captmattmitchell@aol.com. ✨

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Dave Doane with his co-worker Jesse

CROW Case Of The Week:

North American River Otter

by Bob Petcher



The North American river otter (*Lontra Canadensis*) is a semi-aquatic mammal that has short legs and webbed feet. Its long narrow body enables it to streamline fast



Patient #22-2279 may be unsuitable to return to the wild

photo by Allie Newhart

through the water.

At CROW, an adult male North American river otter was admitted from Cape Coral after being hit by a car. Upon further examination, the otter had severe head trauma, tremors and a wound behind the left ear that, when radiographed, turned out to be an old, healed wound from a pellet lodged under the patient's skin.

"This otter sustained severe injuries resulting in traumatic brain injury – head trauma. On admission, the otter was not responsive to its surroundings. We had to express its bladder for a few days because it was unable to do this on its own. Although it slowly regained consciousness, it still exhibits abnormal behavior – periods of lethargy alternating with periods of walking in an uncoordinated manner and

muscle tremors," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW staff veterinarian. "The muscle tremors are mild; appear as twitches for intermittent periods of time. These have become less frequent over time, but are still occasionally observed during periods of stress – such as handling for treatments."

It is clear the patient will need to stay at the clinic for some time.

"The otter was in critical condition, and it has now stabilized but remains in extremely guarded condition," said Dr. Bast. "It has a long road of recovery ahead, and we don't know if it will fully

recover back to the point of being able to survive on its own in the wild."

Dr. Bast said the patient "received antibiotics due to gastrointestinal bleeding, so that would also treat any infection associated with the pellet wound." The antibiotics and pain medications were given via intravenous therapy.

"The otter kept the IV catheter in for three days before it was alert enough to pull it out on its own. This allowed us to stabilize the otter by providing hypertonic saline, a type of fluid that can help reduce intracranial pressure around the brain that occurs from trauma," Dr. Bast said.

"The otter also received maintenance fluids to maintain normal blood pressure and hydration. It received intravenous antibiotics and pain medications through the catheter for the first few days and, once it regained consciousness, it was given injections of those medications under the skin – subcutaneously – including a long-acting antibiotic that provides coverage for two weeks."

The patient has continued to be monitored under supportive care.

"Initially, the otter was not aware enough to find its food, so it had to be hand fed until it was stable enough to eat on its own," said Dr. Bast. "The patient's condition has stabilized to the point where it is no longer in life-threatening condition."

"However, it remains to be seen if the traumatic brain injury will have permanent effects. It can take months until we know if this patient will regain enough function to be able to be released back into the wild."

"If it is unable to survive on its own but has a good quality of life, we will consider placing it in an educational facility such as a zoo to live out the rest of its life."

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



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Corey Vertich as Doc Brown and Noelle Branning as Marty McFly photo provided

United Way Hits Campaign Goal 29 Straight Years

The United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades has concluded the 2021-22 campaign, and met the campaign goal of \$11.1 million. This is the 29th consecutive year that the goal has been met or exceeded.

Campaign Chairs Noelle Branning (Lee County Tax Collector) and Corey Vertich (Uhlher & Vertich Financial Planning) announced that local residents and companies contributed a record amount of \$11.1 million to the campaign. The theme of the 2021-22 United Way Campaign was Back to the Future.

"The United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades met its fundraising goal of \$11.1 million despite an economy devastated by COVID-19 and rising inflation. It is stunning and speaks volumes about the generosity of our community," said Branning.

"Seeing how many people are so committed reach this essential goal shows just how much our community cares. Now that we have met it, our United Way can help our 90 partner agencies look forward to doing their important work by going Back to the Future," said Vertich.

Alexis de Tocqueville donors are those that donate over \$10,000 to United Way. This year, Alexis de Tocqueville donors, led by the esteemed David Lucas, comprised 46.8 percent of the campaign. Lucas has a 32-year history of fostering philanthropy among his United Way peers resulting in almost \$53.3 million going back to the community. This year, with his encouragement, there was an additional \$670,382 donated to the campaign; a 10.5 percent increase over last year's totals. Lucas brought in an additional 32 members to the group, which brings this year's total to 217 members, and a record-shattering \$5,193,688.

Making the goal means United Way partner agencies will receive their share

of funding for the coming year. Long standing United Way partners like Harry Chapin Food Bank, Community Cooperative, Abuse Counseling and Treatment (ACT) and Children's Advocacy Center will be able to continue their vital programs because of the support provided to United Way by the community in surpassing the goal. Because of the generosity of Southwest Florida, hungry families will receive food, veterans will find support through Mission United, abused children will find safety and shelter, older people can find assistance to remain in their own homes, and thousands of lower income families can get their taxes done free through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). Donations and support help others live a better life.

"A very sincere thank you to all of the individuals, companies, communities and partner agencies for your generous contributions. You all prove time and again what an incredibly caring community this is," said United Way President and CEO Jeannine Joy.

The top local contributing companies and communities are as follows:

Million Dollar Circle of Excellence – Bonita Bay Community; Publix
\$500,000 Circle of Excellence – Islands of Sanibel & Captiva; Bonita Bay Group
\$300,000 Circle of Excellence – Beesley's Paw Prints
\$200,000 Circle of Excellence – FineMark National Bank & Trust; Pelican Landing Community; Grandezza Community; Fiddlesticks Community; LCEC

\$100,000 Circle of Excellence – Lee Health; Lee Board of County Commissioners; Shell Point Community; Gulf Harbour Community; The Brooks Community; Lee County School District

All money raised in the United Way Campaign stays in the local community to help support the local human service network. United Way partner agencies and initiatives serve a diverse range of needs in our community such as nurturing children and youth, strengthening families and meeting critical needs such as helping

the elderly and disabled live independently and empowering communities by bringing health and human services to neighborhoods.

In addition to supporting 90 partner agencies and over 260 programs, United Way provided (in 2021):

85,213 articles of clothing, hygiene products and school supplies to students in need through the United Way School Resource Center, over \$2.4 million impact.

1,608 veterans with resources for housing, counseling and care coordination.

Tax returns for 6,800 individuals and families resulting in \$10.8 million from refunds and fees going back into the Southwest Florida economy.

Response to 76,370 United Way 211 calls directing families and residents to much needed services.

The United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades has raised and distributed over \$210 million since it was established in 1957. For more information, call United Way at 433-2000 or visit www.unitedwaylee.org.

Library System To Offer Summer Reading Program

Dive into an Ocean of Possibilities this summer with the Lee County Library System's Summer Reading Program for all ages. The program runs from June 1 through August 1 and features special events, an all-ages reading challenge and phenomenal prizes.

The goal of the annual summer reading program is to nurture and grow a lifelong love of reading and learning. The Oceans of Possibilities summer program is divided into four age categories: birth to pre-k, kids, teens and adults. This enables the program to be tailored to all types of learners with a variety of interests. While the summer reading program is for everyone, the library system places a special emphasis on supporting young readers. Every child and teen can pick up a brand-new, free book at their closest branch while supplies last.

"The summer reading program supports the development of daily reading habits and is one of the many ways the Lee County Library System helps students avoid summer slide by maintaining the learning gains achieved during the school year," said Amy-Jane McWilliam, youth services coordinator.

Free, weekly special events for children and teens are back in the branches

this summer. Adult programs will be presented regularly as well. Local Lee County performers and educators will be entertaining children this summer across the library system, including Adam's Animal Encounters, Sanibel Sea School, Joey Evans Magic, and fishing guide and podcast host Capt. Debbie Hanson. All programs are free to the public. Note that due to the popularity of summer programming, advance registration may be required for some events.

Program participants can log their reading and complete fun missions through the READSquared app or website to earn points toward prizes.

The following are three prize categories for each age group:

Complete activities and accomplish the mission for your age group to earn an entry into the Mission Prize drawing for a chance to win puzzles, games, books and more;

Earn a total of 300 points for an entry to win the Branch Prize Basket filled with a variety of books and prizes for the perfect summer. There is one winner, per age group, per library location; and

Participants who earn 500 points will be entered automatically into the system-wide Grand Prize drawing. This year's prizes are: a Little Tikes 4-in-1 Playhouse for birth to pre-k, a Nintendo Switch with Super Smash Brothers game for kids, an Oculus Quest 2 Virtual Reality Headset for teens and a Kindle Fire digital tablet for adults.

The last day to log reading and complete a mission online is Monday, August 1.

To find out more about the Lee County Library System's Oceans of Possibilities Summer Reading Program, visit www.leelibrary.net/summer.

Youth Basketball League At Center

The Jr. NBA Basketball League, in partnership with Lee County Parks & Recreation, will hold a summer basketball league from June 11 to July 31. All practices and games will be held Saturdays and Sundays in the gymnasium at Veterans Park Recreation Center, 55 Homestead Road South in Lehigh Acres.

The Jr. NBA is for kids age 5 to 14. Registration cost is \$60 per participant. A \$10 individual facility membership is required to participate in this program.

The league is looking for volunteer coaches. Contact Quran Pettyjohn at 603-9257, quranpettyjohn@gmail.com or contact the Veterans Park Recreation Center at 369-1521.

From page 5

Tournament

Presenting Sponsors: David and Judy Baum, Captiva Divas, Two Lane Lager; Platinum Sponsors: Diversified Yacht Services, Capt. Shawn Kelly Fishing Charters, CustomTeesNow, Law Office of Christopher Hill, Organized Chaos, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Whitney's Bait & Tackle, Yeti; Gold Sponsors: Anisa Stewart Jewelry, Bay

Marine, Dave and Denise Bunning, Congress Jewelers, Fort Myers Brewing Co., Fort Myers Marine, Jeff and Toni Kordell, Mabry Brothers, Milestone Auctions, Capt. Matt Mitchell Fishing Charters, On Island, RS Walsh Landscaping, Trophy Case of Fort Myers; Silver Sponsors: Bailey's General Store, Captiva Cruises, Costa Del Mar, Florida Weekly, Grandstand, Jensen's Marina & Cottages, Taylor and Betsy Hay, Island Sun, Law Office of Janet Strickland, Over Easy Café, and Peter and Barb Rogers.

Foundation Marks Sixth Anniversary

The Jordan Ashley Gutheim Foundation recently marked its sixth year of philanthropy. Jordan Ashley Gutheim was a 20-year-old Evangelical Christian School graduate and junior at Florida State University (FSU) when she and her boyfriend Benji Piechoczek were killed in a car accident on May 12, 2016 by a careless truck driver.



Jordan Gutheim

Now, "Jordan's Blessings" are presented annually every May to honor Jordan's life. Jordan was passionate about animal safety, family, the elderly, children and serving the needy in impoverished countries. The fund supports efforts including no-kill animal shelters, elderly health and wellbeing, humanitarian mission trips, driver safety, family services and an annual four-year scholarship to FSU.

Born in Fort Myers, Jordan was known for her kind and loving spirit, her joyful personality and her willingness to go out of her way to help others.

This year, the Jordan Ashley Gutheim Foundation pledged a total of \$120,500.

This year's recipients include: PACE Center For Girls (Lee County) with a three-year pledge totaling \$64,000 to support the Reach Program Services which offers social, emotional, behavioral and mental health counseling to girls ages 11 to 17 and their families. The funds will be specifically used to expand the counseling suite which will be named after Jordan.

Our Mother's Home will receive a two-year pledge totaling \$25,000 to fund the Early Childhood Learning Center which will be named after Jordan. Our Mother's Home provides a safe and nurturing environment for young moms (ages 11 to 21) in foster care and their babies.

Valerie's House is receiving a two-year pledge totaling \$15,000 to fund the art shack in their new facility, which will be

constructed in late 2022 to early 2023. The art room is already named after Jordan. Valerie's House supports children who have lost a parent and the surviving spouses.

CROW will receive \$2,500 and United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee Counties received \$1,000.

In addition to the above mentioned blessings, congratulations go to Jalis Rodriguez who was selected for the sixth annual Jordan Ashley Gutheim four-year FSU scholarship totaling \$8,000.

For the fifth year, \$5,000 was presented to the Lee County Sheriff's Youth Activities League for the Teen Driver Challenge class. The Jordan Ashley Gutheim Foundation donated the blessing in loving memory of three of her classmates - Jordan Sadler, Jon Valentin and Joe Marcelek - who died in a car crash in June 2014.

Over the last six years, Jordan's foundation has pledged \$395,561 of which \$335,561 has already been funded.

Jordan's family is grateful to everyone who has donated to help keep Jordan's memory alive and support all that she loved. To contribute, visit <http://bit.ly/JordanAshleyGutheim> or send a check to the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. To learn more and get involved, call 274-5900 or visit www.collaboratory.org.

County Holiday Operations

Most Lee County administrative operations will be closed Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day. The county's holiday schedule adjustments are as follows:

Solid Waste - All garbage, recycling and yard waste collections in unincorporated Lee County, the City of Bonita Springs, the Village of Estero and the Town of Fort Myers Beach will take place one day after the regularly scheduled collection day for the entire week beginning May 30. This means that if your regular collection day is Monday, the collection truck will pick up that material on Tuesday. Tuesday's regularly scheduled pickups will occur on Wednesday and so on for the rest of the week through Saturday, June 4. Regular

collection schedules resume on Monday, June 6.

Lee County Solid Waste facilities and offices are closed on Monday, May 30, in observance of the holiday. This includes operations at the Household Chemical Waste Collection Facility, 6441 Topaz Court, the Resource Recovery Facility on Buckingham Road and the Lee/Hendry Regional Solid Waste Disposal Facility.

Solid Waste urges all residents to recycle plastic, metal and glass containers from Memorial Day weekend activities.

Lee County Utilities - The offices of Lee County Utilities, the call center and drive-thru window will be closed on Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day. A drop-box is on-site at the front door and another accessible via the drive-thru for payments by check.

Libraries - All library locations will be closed on Monday, May 30. Each branch will resume regular operating hours on Tuesday, May 31. The online library is available at www.leelibrary.net/online.

Domestic Animal Services - LCDAS, 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, will be open for the Lost & Found Pet Center on Saturday, May 28 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the Pet Adoption Center. Animal Services from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. LCDAS will be closed for the holiday on Monday, May 30, but will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, May 31.

LeeTran - LeeTran will not run bus, trolley or paratransit service on the holiday, Monday, May 30. Service resumes Tuesday, May 31. Route schedules and maps are at www.rideleetrans.com.

Parks & Recreation - Lee County Parks & Recreation beaches, parks, preserves, swimming pools and boat ramps are open on Monday, May 30. Recreation centers and administrative offices are closed and reopen on Tuesday, May 31.

The county asks park patrons to remember no alcohol is permitted in county parks.

For people who plan to visit the

Causeway Island Park, staff reminds them to stay safe and be courteous. Lee County Sheriff's Office deputies will be enforcing the county's noise ordinance; please keep music volumes reasonable. No motorized vessels, such as personal watercraft, can be launched from causeway beaches; boat ramps are available on both sides of the causeway. Park hours are dawn until dusk, and deputies and rangers will be enforcing hours for safety. Increased staffing is planned to help with park-rule enforcement in the interest of safety for all park patrons.

Visit www.leeparks.org for more information.*

Lee County Group To Meet

The Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization will hold a meeting at the Cape Coral Public Works building on Thursday, June 2 at 3 p.m.

Learn about the latest transportation planning in Lee County. Agenda topics include the review and approval of the fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), updated Lee/Collier Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) priorities and Multi-modal priorities. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will also present an update on the Old US 41 Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study.

Cape Coral Public Works is located at 815 Nicholas Parkway East in Cape Coral. For more information, visit www.leempo.com.

College Graduate

Jyotsna Pogaku of Fort Myers recently graduated from Campbellsville University in Kentucky.*

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Book Review

Hour Of The Witch



by Di Saggau

The main character of Chris Bohjalian's new novel, *Hour of the Witch*, is Mary Deerfield, a young girl who moved to Boston in 1662 as a teenager with her wealthy

Puritan parents. She marries a widower Thomas Deerfield, twice her age and it's not a happy union. Thomas seems pleasant at first, but he soon becomes mean and physically cruel as he is given to drink. To make matters worse, he can't get her pregnant.

Mary remains a dutiful wife, hiding her bruises until one night Thomas grabs one of the new three-tined forks that Mary's father has given her and stabs it through her hand. Shocked and enraged, she decides to divorce her husband.

Surprisingly, the community has a judicial system that gives voice to abused or neglected wives. While divorce wasn't common in 17th-century Boston, it was possible. However, we see in detail just how evidence can be manipulated and ignored, and the laws

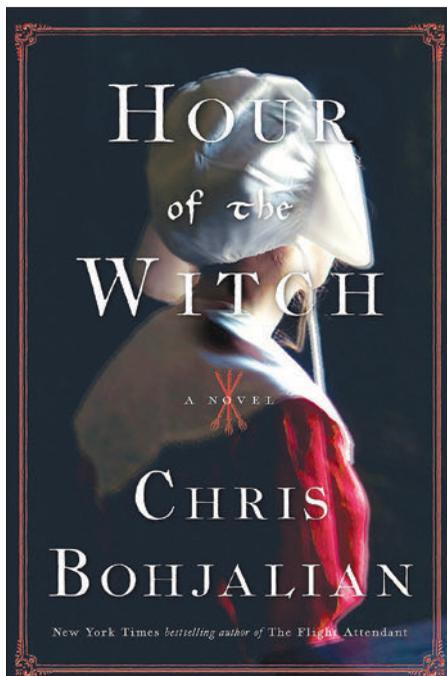


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be twisted and turned into untruths. Soon whispers accuse her of witchcraft, her divorce is denied and she is sent back to live with her husband.

Mary does not know whom she can trust, and she fears she may not stay alive due to her husband's temper. The suspense as she races against time to prevent hanging for her supposed crimes is believable, and the ending is quite satisfying. *Hour of the Witch* is

a timely and terrifying story of socially sanctioned brutality, a twisting, tightly plotted novel of historical suspense from one of our greatest storytellers.

Bohjalian's research and his sense of humanity shows the reader a real world and the people who live in it. He also understands women, handling the

specifics in the book with great skill and delicacy. Mary is to be admired for her determination, independence and clear headedness. She is a person of her own time, and Bohjalian makes it clear how the systems of that time work. *Hour of the Witch* is a riveting and propulsive historical thriller.*

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, I have two children in kindergarten and first grades whose motor skills seem slower than their friends. With summer

almost here, we'll have more time to play outside. What games are good for developing better coordination and muscle skills?

Alyssa G, Cape Coral

Alyssa,

A typical playground provides lots of opportunities for great fun as well as for physical and intellectual development of your children. You don't need to spend hours and hours there, but a 30-minute visit two to three times a week should help your children develop their motor skills more effectively. Below is some information about play and the developmental process.

Swinging, a basic playground activity, is one of the very best activities for children's development in many areas. It helps with balance and teaches them to know where their body is in space which is important for successful vestibular development. It also provides practice with fine motor skills like gripping the chain, gross motor skills such as pumping their legs to swing higher and coordination. Swinging helps the brain to figure out speed and direction.

Climbing playground equipment and even climbing trees can help with children's motor planning and flexible thinking (to think about something in a new way). To climb, children need to build an awareness of where their body parts are and what they can do with them. Climbing helps them understand and experience spatial directions like up, down, left and right. Climbing also encourages problem solving and predicting what's going to happen. For example, your child may wonder, "Where should my right foot go next?" or "How will I get down from the top?" This kind of problem solving can help on the playground and in the classroom.

Playing on overhead equipment, like monkey bars, helps children develop both fine and gross motor skills. Practicing small movements like gripping the bar as well as big movements such as swinging from one bar to the next develop strength,

balance and practice coordination.

Free play from organized games to just running around with other kids is great. Free play helps children learn to communicate with other kids and practice conversation and vocabulary. Playgrounds can teach children how to follow and change rules, share and take turns. Social interactions on the playground can help children learn and practice social cues like body language and tone of voice.

No matter the game like kickball and tetherball, or activity like swinging, climbing or just free play, a great deal of children's development occurs through play. As children figure out how to hold on to and climb playground equipment, manipulate, throw or kick a ball, they are practicing very important fine and gross motor and coordination skills. As they develop strategies about play, where to put their feet next or whether it's time to run to the next base, they're working on critical thinking and problem solving.

Learning through playing is a great way to help your child develop. Have fun at the playground this summer.

Shelley Greggs is former faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she taught psychology and education courses. She is also a nationally certified school psychologist and consultant for School Consultation Services, a private educational consulting company. To contact her, email smgreggs@gmail.com or visit www.schoolconsultationservices.com.*

From page 1

Scavenger Hunt

room. Children will receive a prize when they find all eight hidden pelicans.

Thomas and Mina Edison had many unusual pets, including alligators, monkeys and a peacock. There was also a pelican that spent time on the property, and the Edison family named him Jerry. That pelican was the inspiration for the scavenger hunt.

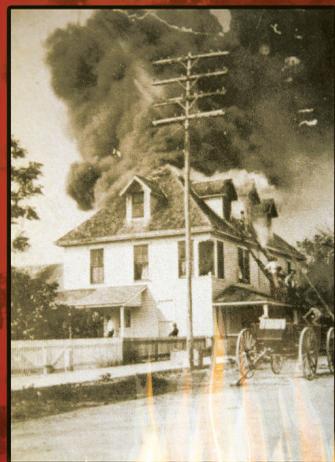
The scavenger hunt is included with admission and available through the app at www.edisonfordestates.oncell.com/en/help-find-jerry-313424.html. Visitors can ask for a printed version at the ticket counter.

Families are invited to post their scavenger hunt success at www.facebook.com/edisonfordfl.

Edison and Ford Winter Estates is located at 2350 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit www.edisonford.org.*

EPIC FIRES OF FORT MYERS

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



THOMAS P. HALL
ROBIN C. TUTTILL, EDITOR

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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

Congressman Meets With Bank Staff



From left, John Wright, Allison Norris, Kyle DeCicco, Beth Countryman, Lisa Foskey, Laura Marsh, Congressman Byron Donalds, Brian Terrell, Mike Hartman, Lee Golden and Puja Romero photo provided

Congressman Byron Donalds recently visited Sanibel Captiva Community Bank's operations center at 9311 College Parkway to participate in an open discussion with members of the bank's executive management team.

Congressman Donalds' meeting included President and Senior Loan Officer Kyle DeCicco and Executive Vice President, CFO and COO John Wright. They discussed the rapidly changing

community banking industry and how federal policy affects local financial institutions and its ability to effectively do business in Southwest Florida.

"We appreciate Congressman Donalds' time and interest in meeting with our team learning more about community banking," said DeCicco.

"I hope the shared insights can help make a positive impact on our evolving industry." ✨

Grants Available To Manufacturers

The Southwest Florida Manufacturers Association (SRMA) in collaboration with Lee County Economic Development Office is offering a small business technical assistance program to assist manufacturing businesses in response to COVID-19 and their continuing efforts to recover from the negative impact. The program was developed under the direction of the Lee

Board of County Commissioners and is funded through the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The assistance program will provide ARPA funds to the SRMA, helping them target manufacturers in qualified census tracts and low to moderate income designated areas. The SRMA will provide free assessments to identify the root cause(s) of the manufacturer's challenges and offer resources to help bring them back to pre-COVID-19 levels or exceed them. The SRMA will assist with the application process for need-based grants

to help pay for those resources.

The menu of services offered to over 90 identified manufacturers are as follows: assessment of business needs; strategic planning; performance optimization; business continuity; data and business intelligence; growth acceleration; and international trade.

For more information or to find out if you qualify, visit www.srma.net/arpa-lee-county. ✨

Administration Building To Close For Renovations

The Lee County Parks & Recreation administration office building at Terry Park (3410 Palm Beach Boulevard in Fort Myers) will close Monday, May 23, for routine maintenance and renovations. The renovations are expected to be completed by mid-August.

The Lee County Parks & Recreation administration office will relocate to the annex building next door to the main building. Signs will be posted directing patrons to the temporary office. The office is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Lee County Extension Service Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic located inside Terry Park will relocate to the Lee County Extension 4-H building located near the football fields at North Fort Myers Park, 2000 North Recreation Park Way in North Fort Myers. The clinic hours are 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The four community recreation centers located in North Fort Myers, Fort Myers, Estero and Lehigh Acres will be open for assistance regarding Lee County Parks & Recreation information. To locate a center near you, visit www.leeparks.org.

For more information about Lee County Extension Services visit www.lee.ifas.ufl.edu or call 239-533-4327. ✨

Free Mobile Challenge App

The new Fort Myers Discovery Challenge app gives residents and visitors a unique way to discover arts as well as historic and nature attractions throughout Lee County.

The free mobile challenge app, launched by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB), includes about 100 Lee County attractions, some offering discounts on admission and exclusive deals to challenge participants.

Simply follow the directions at www.visitfortmyers.com/challenge to download the challenge app to any mobile device. The challenge app can be used to check in at participating locations to earn points toward a variety of prizes, including:

Fort Myers Tervis Tumbler (15 check-ins);

Fort Myers specialty T-shirt (30 check-ins); and

A chance to be entered into a drawing for a stay at the Luminary Hotel & Co. in downtown Fort Myers (50 check-ins).

"From inspiring art galleries and breathtaking nature preserves to varied historic sites, there is so much to discover in our area," said Tamara Pigott, VCB executive director. "Both longtime locals and first-time visitors can participate in this challenge and discover all the hidden gems Lee County has to offer."

The 100 locations include Alliance for the Arts; Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum; Fort Myers Beach Art Association & Gallery; Four Mile Cove Ecological Preserve; Gasparilla Island Lighthouse; Koreshan State Park; Randell Research Center & Calusa Heritage Trail; Sanibel Historical Museum and Village; and Williams Academy Black History Museum.

The challenge will end December 20. For a complete list of locations and prizes, visit www.visitfortmyers.com/challenge. ✨

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Will Power

Is Insurance A Wise Purchase For Estate Liquidity?



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

When I started practicing law more than 30 years ago, the federal estate tax exemption amount was only \$600,000. Nearly everyone with any means bought life insurance to cover estate taxes. To exclude the insurance from the estate, clients typically created an irrevocable life insurance trust (ILIT) to own the policy. When the client passed away, the insurance provided liquidity to pay estate taxes so the family wouldn't have to sell off other assets such as homes, stocks, land and family businesses.

Today, the federal estate tax exemption is \$12.06 million so only those with significant wealth believe it necessary to provide liquidity to pay estate taxes.

Two questions – will the exemption remain this high? Are there other reasons besides estate taxes to purchase insurance?

While it's true that today's federal estate tax exemption exceeds \$12 million, without further legislation enacted by Congress and signed by the president, the law sunsets on December 31, 2025. Consequently, in 2026 the exemption will fall to \$6.5 million. Whether new legislation is enacted is anyone's guess and largely depends upon the political situation between now and then.

Even if the estate tax is not a liquidity problem for your estate, there are other reasons to purchase insurance to provide much needed liquidity. Retirement accounts such as IRAs and 401(k)s are frequently a large portion of a client's net worth. Withdrawals from those accounts are taxed as income to the account owner. When you die and leave your retirement account to your beneficiaries, the same holds true.

If you're one of the lucky ones who don't need your IRA for living expenses,

it might make sense to use your required minimum distributions to pay for a life insurance policy. That way, you're converting dollars that will be taxed into tax-free distributions for your loved ones.

Those in blended families may also consider liquidity needs. Assume that Joe is married to Nancy. This is the second marriage for each. Nancy is not the mother of Joe's children. If Joe leaves Nancy his assets in a marital trust for the rest of her life, and Nancy lives to be 90 years old or more, Joe's children may be in their 70s before they inherit anything from Joe's estate.

The marital trust ties Nancy to Joe's children economically for the rest of her life. Every dollar she spends is one less dollar that Joe's children will receive. Joe may wish to consider a life insurance policy that pays his children when he dies. This way, they inherit something at his passing, and he can leave Nancy his assets outright so that there's no tug of war over his estate.

This is especially true when Joe's estate consists mainly of qualified retirement accounts like IRAs and 401(k)s. When Joe names Nancy as his primary beneficiary, Nancy rolls over the account into her own name. She can then choose the beneficiary of the account. If Nancy has children and names them, Joe's children will not inherit unless Joe leaves them other assets, such as life insurance.

Other reasons to consider life insurance is when most of the estate is illiquid, such as real estate investments, business interests and home values. Here, the surviving spouse may have a healthy balance sheet, but her liquidity needs may surpass the income that she receives, especially if her decedent spouse's pension is reduced or even eliminated entirely on his death. Often, I've seen circumstances where the decedent thought that he was leaving his spouse a healthy retirement only to find that she doesn't have the liquidity necessary to support her lifestyle.

One last thought. If you own a life insurance policy through an ILIT and it doesn't make any sense to do so, are there options available to you? Yes, there are many. This depends largely on the terms of the policy itself, its current cash value, the terms of the trust and your current estate planning goals. So, if you're reluctantly paying premiums because you feel you don't have any other choice, or if you have a paid-up policy that languishes inside of an old trust that isn't relevant any longer, that's something that can be explored and often rectified.

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Public Relations Accreditation

Evelyn Longa, APR, of the Southwest Florida Chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA), recently earned her professional public relations accreditation, and received the designation of Accredited in Public Relations (APR).



Evelyn Longa

Longa joins the more than 4,300 active public relations professionals worldwide who represent an elite group of skilled professionals committed to practicing with high ethical standards, including 40 currently in Southwest Florida.

As the public information officer at Collier County Public Utilities, Longa leads the communications program to strengthen relationships with employees, customers and community organizations. She provides strategic PR counsel, manages media relations and directs brand storytelling across all social media, website and advertising channels. Her 20 years of experience in PR include managing global communications at IBM and overseeing community relations at the American Cancer Society. Longa also worked as a journalist at *The News-Press* where she wrote feature stories and a popular column about America's favorite pastime – shopping. She holds a bachelor's degree in English

from Loyola University and a master's degree in public relations from Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications.

To earn public relations accreditation, candidates must pass an oral presentation and rigorous written examination administered by the Universal Accreditation Board (UAB), which is an alliance of eight national and statewide professional associations dedicated to furthering the field of public relations and the development of public relations professionals. FPRA is a member of the UAB.✪

Marketing Firm Hires Designer

Kate Kintz joined Priority Marketing as a senior graphic designer after spending the past 15 years creating award-winning designs for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

In her new role, Kintz will develop digital and print designs.

Kintz was the marketing and creative director at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. She also has experience as an art director for an upscale lifestyle magazine, health center and business journal, and graphic designer for a large design firm.

Her creative designs resulted in numerous awards through the American Advertising Federation, Florida Public



Kate Kintz

Relations Association, Florida Magazine Association, Graphic Design USA and other organizations.

Kintz received a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where she also minored in business.✪

Digital Advertising Analyst Hired

Nathaniel Fullen has been hired to the newly created position of digital advertising analyst at CONRIC PR & Marketing. In his role, he will develop, implement and manage digital advertising campaigns on Google and across various social media platforms.

Fullen has worked as a digital marketing and advertising specialist for a national company where he was responsible for all functions related to new marketing strategies, increasing their return on investment by 400 percent.

He will oversee online advertising initiatives and analytic reports; work directly with the digital marketing team and clients to develop strategies; create engaging ads; manage campaign performance; and provide detailed analytic reports that measure campaign results and track conversions.

As a graduate of the University of North Carolina Wilmington with a



Nathaniel Fullen

bachelor of arts degree in management information systems, Fullen has studied how technology can be used to access, store and share information.✪

Dean's List

Michael Schuhler, Sarah Treida and Brett Weathers, all of Fort Myers, were named to the dean's list for the winter 2022 semester at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester.✪

From page 1

Classic Rock

entertaining spontaneity.

There are many standout moments, including Dennis (Victor Legarreta) doing some famous movie quotes, and Obermark's holding of a high note for longer than most, brought loud applause. The dance numbers are extremely energetic and fun to watch. The show comes together in the second act with more plot and humor – and another rousing finale – that had everyone clapping and jumping for joy as Lonny thanked the audience for letting them perform once again.

The entire cast is to be applauded, and a shout out also goes to the props and costume department for their creativity in making us feel like we actually stepped into the world of rock in the 1980s.

Rock of Ages plays through June 25 at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, located at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers. For tickets, call 278-4422, visit www.broadwaypalm.com or stop by the box office.✪

Superior Interiors

How To Style A Bookshelf



by Trinetta Nelson

A bookshelf says a lot about your personality, from the books to the shelves themselves. Why not have fun and express your personal style through this home staple? Get inspired. Read on

and discover unique ways to style your bookshelf so that it is a beautiful addition to your space.

Although the classic rule of thumb is to place your books side-by-side (think library-style), a simple way to break up the shelves is to stack some of your books. To

ensure it looks purposeful, be sure to leave space on either side of the stacked display or choose books that have the same colors on their spine.

Try to match your favorite books with the color palette of your living area. If you love bright, fun colors, put your books with bold-colored covers on the bookshelves. Similarly, if you love a neutral color palette, place matching books on your shelves. If you love a book that has a clashing cover, simply remove the book jacket, or create your own to personalize it.

Although bookshelves are mainly for books, a great way to add personalization is to leave space for art. Between your favorite classics and prized bestsellers, place your favorite framed print or stylish vase. This will help create the display of your dreams.

Be sure to consider the aesthetic of the home. Are you a committed minimalist? Opt for the "less is more approach" and make sure your bookshelves have space to breathe. This will highlight your prized collection while fitting cohesively with your

room. Meanwhile, if you love maximalism, don't be afraid to add knick-knacks between your wide variety of books. This can break up the clutter while still filling the space.

A great way to add color to your shelves is through plants and flowers. Add potted succulents as bookends or place a hanging plant from the top shelf. This will create a warm, welcoming shelf that will brighten any room. If you're worried about maintenance or keeping moisture near your books, opt for faux plants that will add the same effect without all the upkeep. A small potted succulent is the perfect decor addition to any bookshelf.

To keep your bookshelf from looking top-heavy, make sure to place your heaviest and sturdiest books on the bottom shelves. Meanwhile, your lighter reads should be positioned near the top. This creates a balanced bookshelf that won't look cluttered or like it's about to topple over.

Want to play with color, patterns or metallic shades? Simply add a trim to

your shelves to personalize the look of any bookshelf. This can be done with paint or wallpaper, depending on the material of your shelf. If your bookshelf has back paneling, get inspired and paint it a different color. This will help your books stand out from the background, especially if it was originally a neutral color. If your bookshelf is in your living room, try matching your color to an accent color in the room (like colorful throw pillows or a patterned carpet).

Atmospheric lighting can make all the difference. Add a small lamp, twinkle lights or hidden LED strips into your shelf to highlight your one-of-a-kind bookshelf. Not only will it make finding your go-to read easier, but it'll add a bright warmth to your room. Styling your bookshelf is an exciting and easy way to change up your space, it might even inspire you to upgrade the rest of your interior design.

Trinetta Nelson is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands and can be reached at trinetta@coindcedden.com. ✨

Latest Homeless Count Estimates In Lee County

The Lee County Homeless Coalition, in partnership with Lee County Human and Veterans Services and many volunteers, recently conducted the annual Point in Time (PIT) census to count the homeless and provide data to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The PIT count documented 560 homeless persons, of whom 47 (8.39 percent) were chronically homeless, according to the HUD definition. HUD defines chronic homelessness as "an unaccompanied adult homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either continuously been homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years."

Among the 560 were 49 families with 86 children. There were 24 veterans recorded in the PIT count, 21 of which were active in a rapid rehousing program working with a case manager to obtain housing.

The total number of persons estimated to be experiencing homelessness on the single night of January 26 was an increase from 2020 and 2021, which had 444 and 394 respectively. The lower estimate in 2021 is reflective of a modified counting methodology due to the pandemic. In 2022, the PIT count was conducted as it had been prior to the pandemic. Volunteers and staff from homeless service providers conducted in-person interviews with those who were encountered across Lee County on January 26. In addition to the change in methodology, the current economic conditions in the county have contributed to the increased estimates in 2022.

The PIT count is also used to gather the information that allows local service providers to target services to meet the specific needs of the homeless in local communities. The count, which asked people where they slept the night of

January 26, included both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families.

Housing and service programs for the homeless are provided in part through Continuum of Care funds from HUD. The 2021 Continuum of Care funding announcements were made in March 2022. Lee County was awarded funding to sustain existing programs and begin new programs that provide housing and services to persons experiencing homelessness. These programs are operated by Lee County Human and Veterans Services, Community Assisted and Supported Living, Lee County Housing Development Corporation, Jewish Family and Children Services, Saint Vincent de Paul, Goodwill Industries of SWFL and The Salvation Army. The total awarded amount was \$2,046,670.

The Lee County Homeless Coalition extends its thanks to the volunteers that assisted with this year's PIT count. ✨

Lee Health Hospitals Again Earn Top Grades

The Leapfrog Group released its Spring 2022 Hospital Safety Grades, and four Lee Health hospitals continue to be recognized.

HealthPark Medical Center earned an "A" grade for the sixth straight reporting period, and Gulf Coast Medical Center advanced to an "A" from the last reporting period. Lee Memorial Hospital retained its "B" grade but increased its numeric score from the last reporting period, and Cape Coral Hospital retained its "B" grade.

"I want to thank the entire Lee Health team for continuing to provide the safest and highest quality of care to the patients we serve. Every day, I am proud of the incredible work our team does," said Dr. Stephanie Stovall, chief clinical officer of quality/safety and hospital-based care for Lee Health.

The Safety Grade assigns letter grades of "A," "B," "C," "D" and "F" to

hospitals across the country based on their performance in preventing medical errors, infections and other harms. Every Lee Health hospital earned a raw score over 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and the hospitals that earned a "B" grade were within only six percent of the 3.202 threshold of earning an "A" grade.

Developed under the guidance of a national expert panel, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses 22 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign grades to more than 2,700

U.S. acute-care hospitals twice per year. The Leapfrog Group's grading system is peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public.

Children's hospitals are not included in The Leapfrog Group's Spring grades, but Golisano Children's Hospital has been named as a Top Children's Hospital by The Leapfrog Group four times.

To learn more about Leapfrog's Spring 2022 Hospital Safety Grades, visit www.hospitalandsafetygrade.org. ✨

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Frankly Speaking

by Howard Prager



“The Summer Game, Chapter 14, The Interior Stadium. The last dimension is time. Within the ballpark, time moves differently, marked by no clock except the events of the

game. This is the unique, unchangeable feature of baseball, and perhaps explains why this sport, for all the enormous changes it has undergone in the past decade or two remains somehow rustic, unviolent and introspective. Baseball’s time is seamless and invisible, a bubble within which players move at exactly the same pace and rhythms as all their predecessors. This is the way the game was played in our youth and in our fathers’ youth and even back then – back in the country days – there must have been the same feeling that time could be stopped. Since baseball time is measured only in outs all you have to do is succeed utterly; keep hitting, keep the rally alive and you will have defeated time. You remain forever young..” This excerpt is from *The Summer Game* by Roger Angell, who passed away last week at 101. There is no writer that captures the essence of the game as poetically as Angell. I spoke to baseball historian Ralph Moses who describes Angell in this way. “He’s such a good writer because unlike a beat writer, he’s a feature writer and takes an aspect of the game – a player,

a team, a series, some historical aspect, fans or a position – where he will talk to different players who have played that position and will focus on that aspect and provide insights that perhaps no one has ever done before. In 1981, the year of the player’s strike, he wrote *The Web of the Game*. No MLB going on. Angell took in a college game between St. John’s University and Yale. Pitching was Frank Viola for St. John’s and Ron Darling for Yale. The scoreless game went into extra innings and Darling had a no-hitter going. What made the game most unique was that Roger chose to have Smokey Joe Wood sitting next to him talking about that game and a game from 1912 when Wood went 34-5 for the Boston Red Sox in his rookie season and the first year of Fenway Park. Wood was later a coach at Yale from 1923 to 1942. Angell tied the generations together and you don’t see that necessarily from other writers.”

We may be experiencing more sweeps in the playoffs as the Tampa Bay Lightning swept the Panthers four games to none in the NHL, and Golden State could be doing the same in the NBA. From the *USA Today* “Coming into the playoffs, the Panthers had the NHL’s best offense and won the Presidents’ Trophy for having the best record in the league by season’s end. And yet, the Panthers scored just three goals in four games in the series, not nearly enough at all to best the reigning Stanley Cup champions and Andrei Vasilevskiy in net.” The Lightning now moves on to the conference finals and then a chance for a Stanley Cup threepart. The Golden State Warriors can sweep and propel themselves back to the NBA Finals by eliminating Dallas

on Wednesday. You’ll know the results after this column is in print. Both of these teams had challenges in earlier rounds and now seem to be clicking on all cylinders.

In a first for sports, the US Soccer Federation is paying the same salaries to both men and women, with milestone agreements reached just last week after years of difficult negotiations. The agreements go through December 2028. Said U.S. forward Margaret Purce, “I feel a lot of pride for the girls who are going to see this growing up and recognize their value rather than having to fight for it.” “This agreement ended 20 years of federation discrimination against the U.S. Women’s National Team,” said Men’s Union Counsel Mark Levinstein. “They achieved what they said was impossible – an agreement that provides fair compensation and equal pay and working conditions. The new federation leadership should get tremendous credit for working with the players to achieve these agreements.”

Our good news story, courtesy of the Good News Network, happened earlier this year in Africa. “For the first time in their country’s history, the talented footballers of Senegal won the African Cup of Nations in thrilling overtime fashion, defeating Egypt 4-2 on penalties after extra time in the final. Their success throughout the prestigious AFCON tournament has been marked with scenes of extreme joy and inspiration – but also generosity.

Senegal’s top goal-scorer Sadio Mané was named The Player of the Tournament. He scored three goals and assisted on two others – and scored the penalty to win the shoot-out. And

it couldn’t have happened to a nicer man. A Premier League and Champions League winner playing for Liverpool, Mané has taken every opportunity to use his world-class paycheck for acts of generosity, both at home in England and more recently during the AFCON. During the tournament, he personally paid for airline tickets so that 50 Senegalese fans could fly to Cameroon to watch the games. After the first knock-out round game against Cape Verde, Mané was hospitalized with a concussion and, whilst being treated, discovered that a local boy arrived in critical condition after being struck by a motorcycle. After Mané heard the story, he paid the boy’s entire bill, which the parents were unable to afford. This was not the first time Mané has lent a helping hand in West Africa. He has donated more than \$1 million to build a school, a hospital and soccer academy in his home village of Banbali, where he grew up playing soccer bare-footed. “Why would I want 10 Ferraris, 20 diamond watches, or two planes?” says the man who will become a forever-legend in African football. “I built schools, a stadium, we provide clothes, shoes, food for people who are in extreme poverty. I prefer that my people receive a little of what life has given me.”

Congratulations to Senegal. It’s always nice to see a leader in sports also be a mensch and leader in humanitarianism.

Howard Prager is the son-in-law of longtime columnist Ed Frank. Prager is a sports enthusiast from the Chicago area who also writes and blogs about leadership. Email comments to press@islandssunnews.com. ✨

Atlantic Snook Season To Close

The recreational harvest of snook in Atlantic state and federal waters has a regular season closure that starts on Wednesday, June 1.

Snook are one of the many reasons Florida is named the fishing capital of the world. Seasonal harvest closures and anglers using proper handling methods

when practicing catch-and-release methods help conserve Florida’s valuable snook populations and can ensure the species’ abundance for anglers today and generations to come. To learn more and see a video about catch-and-release fishing and the best way to handle a fish, visit www.myfwc.com/marine and click on “Recreational Regulations” and then “Fish Handling Tips.”

If you practice catch-and-release fishing during the closed season, you can still

contribute to data collection by submitting your catch information for this and other species through the iAngler app. Learn more on the Angler Action Foundation’s website at www.angleractionfoundation.com. ✨

Golf Outing Fundraiser

The Gulf Coast Humane Society (GCHS) golfing fundraiser will be held at Top Golf on Sunday, July 24 from 2 to 5 p.m. It includes a golfing bay for six players, computerized scoring, TV screens and an old-fashioned backyard barbecue buffet. Cost for the six-player bay is \$500, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the GCHS shelter animals.

The bay team with the highest score will earn a prize and crowned the winner of Golfing for the Gulf Coast Humane Society. The event is ideal for businesses or corporations to put together a team, employee recognition, an inner-office competition, a team of golfing buddies or even a bachelor party.

Contact GCHS Event Coordinator Lori Hardacker to sign up a team by calling 332-0364, ext. 321 or emailing events@gulfcoasthumanesociety.org.

Top Golf is located at 2021 Top Golf Way in Fort Myers. For more information about GCHS, visit www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org. ✨

From page 1

Hitchcock

attack the town.

The theater intends to set a new world record for the most Peeps used in a live performance and the most Peeps used during an entire production run.

“*The Birds, a Parody* is our most over-the-top campy summer show yet. It’s an extravaganza,” said Director Annette Trossbach, who adapted the film. “Whether you remember the Hitchcock film or not, you’ll love Melanie Daniels talking back to the audience, and this cast of zany townspeople and attack birds.”

Workshopped by the tight-knit ensemble cast and crew, *The Birds: A Parody* is a Lab Theater original. The show features Steven Michael Kennedy, Steven Coe, Sue Schaffel, Todd Lyman, Adrial McCloud, Heather Johnson, Jo Reed, Zach Hendra, Daniel Sabiston, Mark King, Holly Zammerilla and Lorelei Davis.

The Birds: A Parody is sponsored by Art Zupko and Hulett Environmental Services.

Tickets are \$30 each or \$10 for students with valid student IDs. Socially distant seating may be available and must be scheduled through the box office.

The Laboratory Theater of Florida is located at 1634 Woodford Avenue in Fort Myers. For tickets, call 218-0481 or visit www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com. ✨

SPORTS QUIZ

1. What three-time Norris Trophy winner and four-time Stanley Cup champion holds the single-season record for the most goals scored by a defenseman with 48 in 1985-86?
2. Name the British racing pioneer who held the land and water speed records simultaneously in 1930.
3. What French Formula 1 driver crashed into a recovery vehicle at the 2014 Japanese Grand Prix and died from his injuries nine months later?
4. What 1981 song by Terry Cashman included the lyrics “Willie, Mickey and the Duke” in the refrain?
5. Which Pro Football Hall of Fame running back had the higher career average yards per carry in the NFL regular season: Emmitt Smith or Walter Payton?
6. In 1960, team owner Bill Veeck installed Major League Baseball’s first “exploding” scoreboard – complete with flashing lights, pinwheels and pyrotechnics – at what stadium?
7. Name the Oscar-winning biographical film from 2021 that was executive-produced by tennis stars Venus and Serena Williams.

ANSWERS

1. Paul Coffey. 2. Sir Henry Seagrave. 3. Jules Bianchi. 4. Talkin’ Baseball. 5. Walter Payton had 44 yards per carry. Emmitt Smith had 42. 6. Chicago’s Comiskey Park. 7. King Richard.

Doctor and Dietician

Look Up Child



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

We were recently listening to favorite artist Lauren Daigle's *Look Up Child* – and we thought to ourselves, this should be our theme song for Caring Medical Florida. For more reasons than one, this song is appropriate now. “Where are You now, when darkness seems to win, where are You now, when the world is crumbling?” She goes on to say, “Oh, I hear You say, look up child...” Further on in the song, “You're not threatened by the war, you're not shaken by the

storm, I know You're in control, even in our suffering, even when it can't be seen, I know You're in control.”

For two reasons, we just want to encourage our readers to look up. It is certainly easy to start feeling down regarding the happenings in the world today. But God is in control. We are still blessed. During these uncertain times, people feel more isolated, lonely, anxious and depressed, causing even more stress, which in turn can weaken the immune system, causing people to feel unwell – and the cycle builds and repeats.

Love and relationships can break this cycle. Our good friend Marylou reminded us the other day, “You will always be filled by whatever you are hungry for...and eventually you will be consumed by whatever has filled you.” Let's focus on the good. We can still show love, kindness and compassion to each other. Let's be intentional. Let us be the lights in the darkness. Share a smile, talk to someone you encounter at the grocery store or on the beach. Look up, child!

The second way we encourage our readers to look up is by actually – looking up. As you know, we run The Hauser Neck Center as a

branch of Caring Medical FL. What we discover every day using our dynamic testing procedures is quite astounding. Dynamic tests mean that we are analyzing symptoms while a patient is in motion, not just lying flat (when the symptoms do not present themselves.) We utilize digital motion x-ray, cone beam CT scan, and high velocity ultrasound to assess blood flow to the brain, heart rate variability and more. Patients with seemingly bizarre, transient and often horribly disabling symptoms finally find answers.

One of most disturbing and widespread symptoms we find is related to what we call “Brain Toilet Obstruction.” In short, it often goes like this – sudden anxiety develops; depression, lethargy and emotional numbing creep in; cognitive decline follows, resulting in loss of focus and inability to work. Why? The short answer is that the stretching of the posterior cervical ligaments that hold the facet joints, the spinous process of each vertebrae leads to instability in the cervical spine and neck pain, which leads to loss of the natural curvature of the neck which pushes the head forward. Compression of the arteries and veins in the cervical spine is what

causes the brain obstruction. These structures are too loose and move where they are not supposed to move. Tightening them using proliferative injection treatments can be curative, but the process is more complex.

People must change their habits to change their lives. If they continue to look down (specifically at the cell phone or computer) for many hours per day – this problem will never stop and will only further accelerate. So when we say, “look up, child” we mean it. Constant scrolling for hours each day, coupled by many hours of TV or computer watching is killing our brains. Work to reduce or eliminate social media scrolling, put your phone away. Develop proper ergonomics for your computer set up – feet flat on the floor, abdominals contracted, shoulders back, chin slightly up. Look up, child. Your brain with thank you.

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

dearPharmacist

How Lavender, Rosemary And Peppermint Heal



by Suzy
Cohen, RPH

Dear Readers:

Since the dawn of time, give or take a few thousand years, civilizations across all continents have been learning how to heal their

people. We figured out that we could reduce, heal, alleviate – dare I use the word “cure” – ailments with certain plants.

With time, the awareness of what specifically could be used to heal has evolved, as science allowed us to find active components within the leaf, stems, root or flowers. Perhaps some of this occurred by accident, or through trial and error.

Nowadays, when you're not feeling well, you call your doctor in order to receive a prescription for relief. But I think you would agree, there are plenty of mild health concerns that can easily be remedied at home. Let's take a look at three popular plants you can grow at home. These will give you plenty of health benefits.

1. Lavender – An antimicrobial best recognized by its beautiful violet-colored florets. This common herb makes for a fragrant and colorful addition to any home or garden. It's great at reducing stress and insomnia, healing skin wounds and reducing pain/itching from

bug bites.

Growing Tip: Lavender likes sunlight and a quick-draining soil. I have it growing in my backyard as a perennial. I suggest a pot with drainage holes at the base so any excess water can be flushed away. When those pretty flowers start showing, handle them with care and shape your plant to keep it happy.

2. Rosemary – Not just a pretty name, this little plant is hardy and bushy, plus it's a perennial. If you can't grow it, buy some fresh herb in the produce section to include in recipes. Rosemary is a wonderful anti-inflammatory, anti-cancer compound plus it's a strong antioxidant. Studies show it improves circulation and immunity.

Growing Tip: I have this in my garden, it is frost tolerant. Do not overwater it. It needs at least six hours of sunlight each day. If you get it right, this plant will bring you joy (and healing) for up to 30 years.

3. Peppermint – Commonly used as an ingredient with food and drink, tea and in sweets, peppermint might surprise you with how many healing qualities it offers beyond your seasonal peppermint mocha latte. Peppermint can be used dried, fresh, as an oil or as an essential oil. It can lift depression, soothe anxiety and, in some cases, help with gastrointestinal issues such as nausea, diarrhea and flatulence.

Growing Tip: It is very easy to grow and easy to propagate. This will overtake your garden really fast so be careful with it. Partial shade will be the ideal location.

Not only does tending to a garden (or a single pot if that's all you desire), keep us more active, but it's kind of like therapy. What comes around, grows around. This peaceful hobby provides

glorious health benefits as you can see from the three herbs I covered already. When you're kind to your plants, they are terribly generous in return.

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.**

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THE RIVER

WEEKLY NEWS
FROM THE BEACHES TO DOWNTOWN FORT MYERS

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

ARTS

- Alliance for the Arts 939-2787
- Arts For ACT Gallery & Studio 337-5050
- 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 <https://www.audubonswfl.org/>
- 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 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
- Navy Seabees Veterans of America 731-1901
- Paradise Iowa Club of SWFL 667-1354
- Sons of Confederate Veterans 332-2408
- Southwest Florida Fencing Academy 939-1338
- Southwest Florida Music Association 561-2118
- Kiwanis Fort Myers Beach 765-4254 or 454-8090
- Kiwanis Fort Myers Edison 694-1056
- Kiwanis Fort Myers South 691-1405
- Iona-McGregor 482-0869
- Lions Club Fort Myers Beach 463-9738
- Lions Club Fort Myers High Noon 466-4228
- Lions Club Estero/South Fort Myers 898-1921
- Notre Dame Club of Lee County 768-0417
- Organ Transplant Recipients of SW Florida 247-3073
- POLO Club of Lee County 477-4906
- Rotary Club of Fort Myers 332-8158
- Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society 472-6940
- United Way of Lee County 433-2000
- United Way 211 Helpline (24 hour) 211 or 433-3900

AREA ATTRACTIONS

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

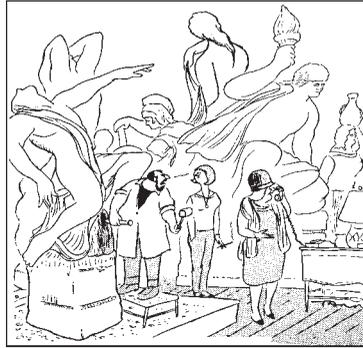
To be listed in calling card email your information to:
press@islandnews.com

PUZZLES

Answers on page 23

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!



"I wish your mother would stop referring to me as her son-in-law, the _____."

Rift

SCHAM

Fine

LACER

Legend

BAFEL

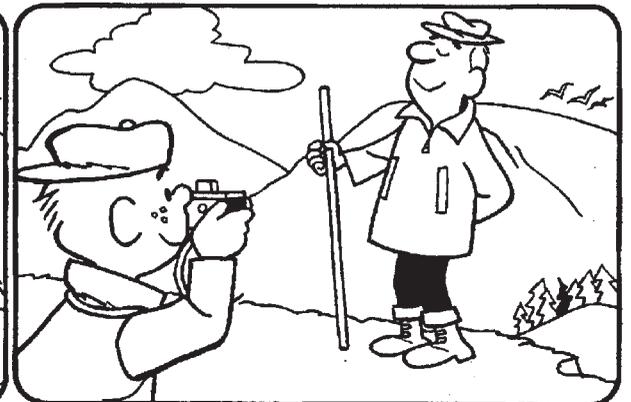
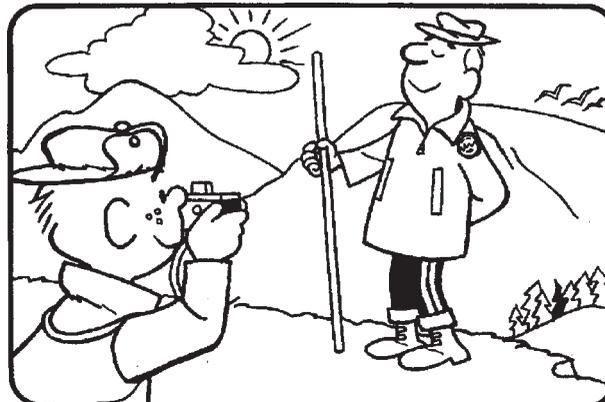
Whisker

BLISTER

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sun is missing. 2. Ear flap is missing. 3. Camera cord is shorter. 4. Stick is shorter. 5. Arm patch is missing. 6. Stripe is missing.

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

To Play Sudoku:

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

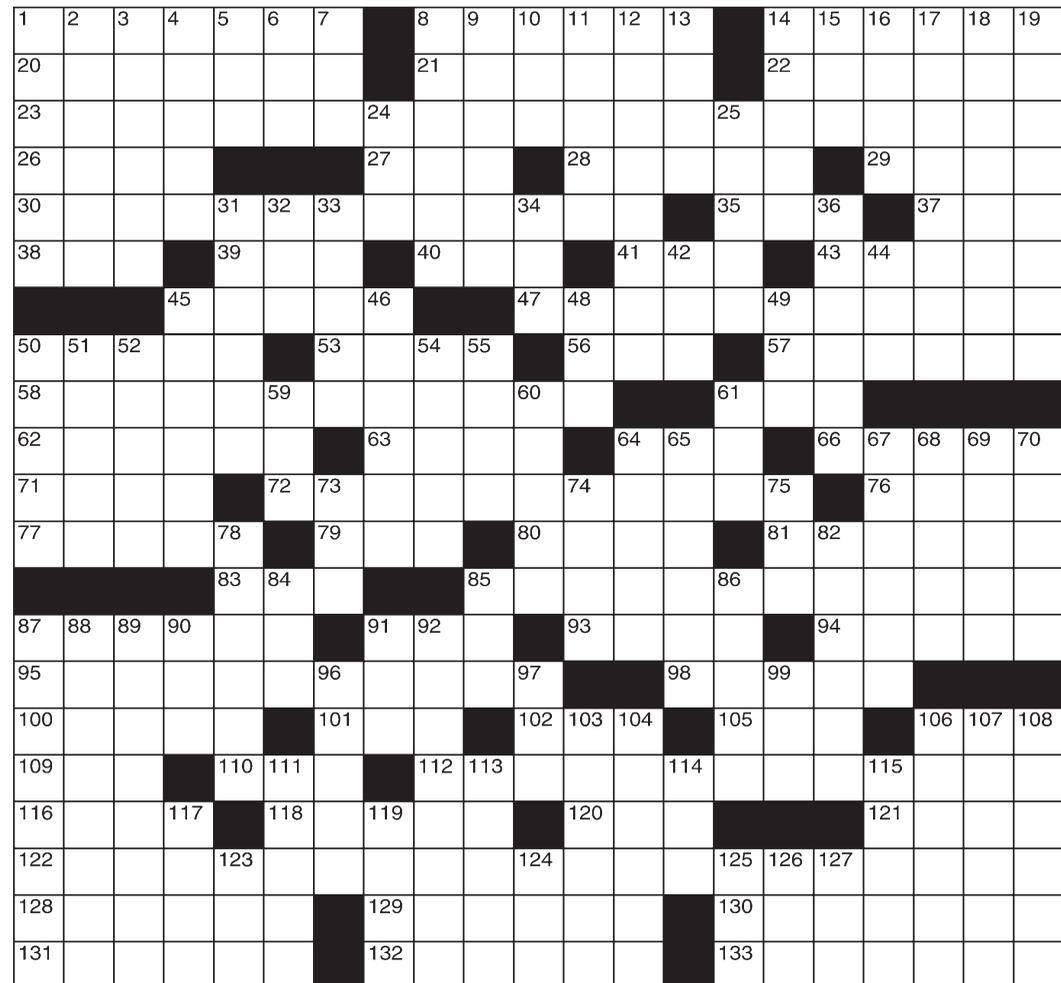
PUZZLES

Answers on page 23

Super Crossword

COUNTRY MUSIC

- ACROSS**
- 1 Chartbusters
 - 8 Farthest point in an orbit
 - 14 Uncommon
 - 20 Salary reductions
 - 21 Child raiser
 - 22 Add insult to injury, maybe
 - 23 Question in 1 Corinthians 15:55
 - 26 Europe-Asia border river
 - 27 Wood splitter
 - 28 Ski lift part
 - 29 Prefix with lock
 - 30 Supplicate on behalf of
 - 35 — polloi (commoners)
 - 37 Sermon topic
 - 38 Suffix with Sudan
 - 39 Massage
 - 40 Old booming jet, for short
 - 41 — changed man!
 - 43 Designer Geoffrey
 - 45 Salon colorists
 - 47 "Is this actually happening?"
 - 50 Oviedo locale
 - 53 Situated over
 - 56 Brine source
 - 57 New Hampshire academy
 - 58 "I'm going through the same thing!"
 - 61 Shipping charge, e.g.
 - 62 Steering part on a ship
 - 63 Long (for)
 - 64 Vikings' org.
 - 66 Refusing to be cheerful
 - 71 Regarding
 - 72 Agree
 - 76 Pop's mom
 - 77 Actress Amy
 - 79 SSNs, e.g.
 - 80 Pressing tool
 - 81 Fig treat from Nabisco
 - 83 Seeming eternity
 - 85 DNA-studying partner of James Watson
 - 87 "My turn is coming right up"
 - 91 He KO'd many rivals
 - 93 Ball- hammer
 - 94 Forrest Gump player
 - 95 "Quantum Leap" actor
 - 98 Bend down
 - 100 Abrupt
 - 101 Body pouch
 - 102 Secretive U.S. gp.
 - 105 She bleats
 - 106 Part of UCLA
 - 109 33rd prez
 - 110 Restaurant bill addition
 - 112 Crucial component
 - 116 Long (for)
 - 118 Boyfriends, in Paris
 - 120 Dir. opposite 7-Down
 - 121 Viking org.
 - 122 Tune whose opening lyric, and lyricist, begin eight answers in this puzzle
 - 128 Motion detector part
 - 129 Agee of the old Mets
 - 130 Small eating alcove
 - 131 Waiters take them
 - 132 Like training at the location itself
 - 133 Occupy fully
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Wedded partner
 - 2 Chennai, before 1996
 - 3 "Sure thing, cap'n!"
 - 4 La — (Milan opera house)
 - 5 Crude abode
 - 6 Biblical verb suffix
 - 7 NYC-to-Miami dir.
 - 8 High points
 - 9 Peeling tools
 - 10 Raw metal
 - 11 Allstate rival
 - 12 Put into a hall of fame
 - 13 Kett of old comic strips
 - 14 — Gyra (jazz fusion band)
 - 15 Prefix with gender
 - 16 Utah ski spot
 - 17 Slide in again
 - 18 Go on with
 - 19 Train operator
 - 24 Barn feed
 - 25 Cymbal pair in a drum kit
 - 31 Nathaniel Hawthorne's Hester
 - 32 Feel remorse over
 - 33 James — Garfield
 - 34 Consumer protection agcy.
 - 36 Wild Alpine goats
 - 42 Soccer great Hamm
 - 44 Summer, in Soissons
 - 45 Royal crown
 - 46 Worried
 - 48 E-cig's lack
 - 49 Busy insect
 - 50 Its capital is Damascus
 - 51 16 ounces
 - 52 Lindley of "The Ropers"
 - 54 NYC stage awards
 - 55 Small bunch of flowers
 - 59 Spock and Seuss: Abbr.
 - 60 Alternative to "his" or "her"
 - 61 Go by plane
 - 64 Nary a soul
 - 65 Backyard borders
 - 67 Open, as a present
 - 68 Language of "mea culpa"
 - 69 Be a rapper?
 - 70 BoSox rivals
 - 73 Freud's "one"
 - 74 Ensnare
 - 75 "Cannon" has three
 - 78 The Brady kids, e.g.
 - 82 Restated
 - 84 Gambling parlor, briefly
 - 85 Chick- — A
 - 86 Prefix with lock
 - 87 "No kidding?"
 - 88 Artist known for illusions
 - 89 Boston area with the Paul Revere statue
 - 90 UFO crew
 - 91 Alias abbr.
 - 92 Find by chance
 - 96 In line with
 - 97 One or more
 - 99 Be indebted
 - 103 "Belt out that tune!"
 - 104 She founded the U.S. Shakers
 - 106 Crude abode
 - 107 First phases
 - 108 Long looks
 - 111 Letter-shaped girders
 - 113 PSATs, e.g.
 - 114 "No kidding!"
 - 115 Deep-seated
 - 117 To be, to Claudius
 - 119 Regarding
 - 123 Blue Jays, on scoreboards
 - 124 Abbr. for someone with only one given name
 - 125 34th prez
 - 126 Firewood box
 - 127 Repub. west of Zambia



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Battery fluid
- 5 Sandwich meat
- 8 Barks
- 12 Leaf
- 13 Out — limb
- 14 Ganges wrap
- 15 Warner —
- 16 Naughtiness
- 18 Flashing disco light
- 20 Trumpet's cousin
- 21 Legal wrong
- 23 Wee dollop
- 24 Sushi bar bowlful
- 28 NYC gallery
- 31 Dos Passos trilogy
- 32 Fizzy drinks
- 34 Bankroll
- 35 Humorist Sahl
- 37 Chooses the wrong actor
- 39 Prattle
- 41 Unpaid TV spots (Abbr.)
- 42 John of "Full House"
- 45 Morals
- 49 Blunders
- 51 "Damn Yankees" vamp
- 52 Celestial bear
- 53 Hosp. section
- 54 McGregor of film
- 55 Euclidean subj.
- 56 Burst
- 57 Orange veggies
- 7 Fem. counter-part
- 8 Hindu retreat
- 9 Colorful arcs
- 10 Gratis
- 11 Winnow
- 17 Massachusetts cape
- 19 Pear choice
- 22 Dutch bloom
- 24 Silent
- 25 Equal (Pref.)
- 26 Sea of the North Atlantic
- 27 Refuses, as an offer
- 29 Wrestling sur-face
- 30 Billboards
- 33 "Shoo!"
- 36 Large gong
- 38 Actress Judd
- 40 Fluffy neck-piece
- 42 Overconfident
- 43 Lose energy
- 44 Omit
- 46 Hawkeyes' home
- 47 Chowder morsel
- 48 Without Umberto

DOWN

- 1 LAPD alerts
- 2 Shopper's aid
- 3 Mr. Stravinsky
- 4 Explorer Hernando
- 5 Where the school day starts
- 6 Blackbird

REMOVE THE MAGIC MAZE ● A'S TO MAKE A NEW WORD

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: A NUCLEAR —

Baiter	Imperial	Praying	Rotated
Bloat	Launch	Predication	Twain
Chain	Laying	Raider	Wheat
Fallings	Loaner	Roads	



Shrimp and Beef Tacos

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida



Shrimp and Beef Tacos

- 24 ounces beef (tenderloin, sirloin or your favorite cut of beef), cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined with tail on
- 4 large bell peppers (your favorite color), cut into 1-inch squares
- 4 large onions, cut into 1-inch squares
- 16 bamboo skewers (soaked in water for 1 hour) or metal skewers
- Cooking oil spray for grilling
- Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

- Skewer Marinade and Sauce**
- ½ cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons fresh garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- ¼ cup fresh cilantro
- Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste
- Combine olive oil, garlic, cumin, chili powder, cilantro and lime juice in a blender and puree until smooth. Taste and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Set aside.
- Assemble skewers by alternating beef or shrimp, peppers, and onions. Do not put beef and shrimp on the same skewer since they have different cook times. Cover the skewers with half of the marinade. Reserve the remaining half for sauce. Lightly season

the assembled skewers with salt and pepper.

Preheat the grill to medium-high heat. Place beef skewers on the grill; cook to desired temperature. When done, remove from grill and let rest for five minutes. While beef skewers are resting, place shrimp skewers on

the grill; cook until the shrimp are just done.

To serve as tacos, remove meat and vegetables from skewers and place into corn or flour tortillas. Serve with Florida avocado, shredded cheese, lettuce, and sauce.✱

PETS OF THE WEEK

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Chloe, Zoey And Lindsey

Hello, we are Chloe and Zoey, a bonded pair of sisters that are the definition of “two peas in a pod.” We are both black 3-year-old female lab mixes possibly blended in with some corgi if you were to go by our legs. Where one girl goes the other is sure to follow. We have been a joy to have at the pet shelter and would be a great addition to any home.



Chloe and Zoey ID# A920506 and A920507

photos provided

Our adoption fee is \$75.

Hi, I'm Lindsey. I am a brown tabby 2-month-old female domestic shorthair and cute as a button.

Kitten season is in full swing at Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS), and I am just one of the adorable kittens that are currently available.



Lindsey ID# A922134

The (LCDAS) adoption package also includes rabies and a county license at four months of age. Just call the clinic and schedule an appointment.

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 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit www.leelostpets.com to complete an online application. As always, cats and kittens are adopt one and get a feline friend at no additional charge. For more information, call 533-7387.✱

My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF MAY 23, 2022

Aries (March 21 to April 19) You might have to turn your Arian charm up a few degrees if you hope to persuade that persistent pessimist to see the possibilities in your project. Whatever you do, don't give up.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) A tip about a co-worker's betrayal might well raise the Bovine's rage levels. But before charging into a confrontation, let an unbiased colleague do some fact-checking.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Although a relationship still seems to be moving too slowly to suit your expectations, it's best not to push it. Let it develop at its own pace. You'll soon get news about a workplace change.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) A continually changing personal situation makes you feel as if you're riding an emotional roller coaster. But hold on tight; stability starts to set in early next week.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Believe it or not, someone might dare to say “No!” to the Regal One's suggestion. But instead of being miffed, use this

rebuff to recheck the proposition and, perhaps, make some changes.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) You might find it difficult to make a decision about a family matter. But delay can only lead to more problems. Seek out trusted counsel and then make that important decision.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) Concentrate your focus on what needs to be done, and avoid frittering away your energies on less-important pursuits. There'll be time later for fun and games.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Although the conflicts seem to be letting up, you still need to be wary of being drawn into workplace intrigues. Plan a special weekend event for family and/or friends.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Your quick wit helps you work through an already difficult situation without creating more problems. Creative aspects begin to dominate by the week's end.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Be patient. You'll soon receive news about a project that means so much to you. Meanwhile, you might want to reconsider a suggestion you previously turned down.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) There are still some aspects about that new job offer you need to resolve. In the meantime, another possibility seems promising. Be sure to check that out as well.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Opening up your emotional floodgates could leave you vulnerable to being hurt later on. Watch what you say, in order to avoid having your words come back to haunt you.

Born This Week: You're usually the life of the party, which gets you on everyone's invitation list. You also have a flair for politics.

MOMENTS IN TIME

- On May 30, 1593, playwright Christopher Marlowe, 29, is killed in a brawl. He was nearly denied his master's degree in 1587, until advisers to Queen Elizabeth intervened, referring to his services for the state. Historians later documented Marlowe's activities as a spy for the queen.

- On June 2, 1865, Confederate Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, commander of Confederate forces west of the Mississippi, signs surrender terms offered by Union negotiators. The event is regarded as marking the end of the

Civil War.

- On June 4, 1896, Henry Ford unveils the Quadricycle. The 500-pound vehicle had two driving speeds, no reverse, no brakes, rudimentary steering ability and a doorbell button as a horn. It could reach about 20 mph.

- On May 31, 1929, Ford Motor Company signs an agreement to produce cars in the Soviet Union. In return, the USSR agreed to buy 72,000 unassembled Ford cars and trucks and all spare parts required over the following nine years.

- On June 5, 1933, the United States goes off the gold standard, in which currency is backed by gold. All gold coins, gold bullion and gold certificates were to be turned over to the Federal Reserve for the set price of \$20.67 per ounce.

- On June 1, 1942, a Polish underground newspaper makes public the news of the gassing of tens of thousands of Jews at Chelmno, a Nazi-operated death camp, as told by a young Jew, Emanuel Ringelblum, who escaped after being forced to bury bodies at the camp.

- On June 3, 1956, in Santa Cruz, California, city authorities announced

continued on page 22

 FRIDAY Sunny High: 84 Low: 74	 SATURDAY Sunny High: 85 Low: 76	 SUNDAY Partly Cloudy High: 87 Low: 77	 MONDAY Partly Cloudy High: 88 Low: 79	 TUESDAY Mostly Sunny High: 91 Low: 81	 WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 92 Low: 83	 THURSDAY Partly Cloudy High: 91 Low: 81
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Redfish Pass Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	12:39 am	5:01 am	11:39 am	6:42 pm
Sat	1:41 am	5:23 am	11:58 am	7:20 pm
Sun	2:37 am	5:41 am	12:19 pm	7:56 pm
Mon	3:31 am	5:55 am	12:42 pm	8:31 pm
Tue	4:24 am	6:06 am	1:10 pm	9:07 pm
Wed	1:43 pm	9:47 pm	None	None
Thu	2:21 pm	10:29 pm	None	None

Point Ybel Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	10:44 am	5:03 am	None	6:44 pm
Sat	12:46 am	5:25 am	11:03 am	7:22 pm
Sun	1:42 am	5:43 am	11:24 am	7:58 pm
Mon	2:36 am	5:57 am	11:47 am	8:33 pm
Tue	3:29 am	6:08 am	12:15 pm	9:09 pm
Wed	12:48 pm	9:49 pm	None	None
Thu	1:26 pm	10:31 pm	None	None

Punta Rassa Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	11:43 am	5:32 am	None	6:25 pm
Sat	12:41 am	6:12 am	12:12 pm	7:07 pm
Sun	1:19 am	6:47 am	12:36 pm	7:48 pm
Mon	1:56 am	7:17 am	12:54 pm	8:31 pm
Tue	2:37 am	7:39 am	1:09 pm	9:15 pm
Wed	3:27 am	7:49 am	1:31 pm	9:59 pm
Thu	4:25 am	8:04 am	2:04 pm	10:42 pm

Cape Coral Bridge Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	2:49 am	8:17 am	1:49 pm	9:58 pm
Sat	3:51 am	8:39 am	2:08 pm	10:36 pm
Sun	4:47 am	8:57 am	2:29 pm	11:12 pm
Mon	5:41 am	9:11 am	2:52 pm	11:47 pm
Tue	6:34 am	9:22 am	3:20 pm	None
Wed	3:53 pm	12:23 am	None	None
Thu	4:31 pm	1:03 am	None	None

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Beat The Heat Tips

Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC)'s steps to beat the heat:
 Set the thermostat at 78 degrees Fahrenheit. Each degree below adds eight to 12 percent to the cooling costs;
 While away, set thermostat at 83 degrees Fahrenheit. If there is a pet in the home, leave at 82 degrees Fahrenheit;
 Install a smart thermostat that raises and lowers temperature at certain times;
 Set thermostat fan switch on "auto;"
 Do not close A/C vents or interior doors when A/C is running;
 Repair duct leaks using metal foil tape reinforced with mastic adhesive;
 Check or change A/C filters monthly;
 Fans off when room is unoccupied;
 Run pool pumps for maximum of eight hours a day in the summer, and six in the winter, unless heating the pool; and
 Install reflective window tint/film that will reflect 65 percent or better on windows facing east, west or south.
 Visit www.lcec.net/energy-efficiency for simple and free ways to save on your energy usage.*

From page 20

Moments In Time

a total ban on rock and roll at public gatherings, calling the music detrimental to both the health and morals of our youth and community. Similar bans were

enacted in Asbury Park, New Jersey, and in San Antonio, Texas, where the city council was fearful of undesirable elements.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

- Need a patch for old woodwork? Try mixing paint (whatever color you're using) and flour. Make a paste, fill in the holes and let dry. It's hard like cement, and can be sanded into shape if necessary.
- Use baking soda to scrub away stuck-on food on your grill. Sprinkle it on the metal brush, and scrub away. If your grate is beyond the power of fire and baking soda, remove it and lay it on the ground on some newspaper. Spray with oven cleaner and let sit (keep pets and kids away from it). Rinse with a garden hose and replace on the grill.
- When you get near the end of a roll of paper towels, save it to put in your car. Put together a kit with the following items: a small bottle of Windex or other cleaner, a squeeze bottle of water, some wet wipes and the short roll of paper towels. Now you'll always be ready for a quick on-the-road cleanup.
- "I have a plastic cup that changes color when the drink is hot. Oddly enough, it changes at the perfect temperature for my baby's bath. So, I fill the tub and toss in the cup. When the cup starts to change back to its original color (blue), I know the bathwater is not too hot." – P in Idaho

- "To remove muffins or rolls from a pan, set it on an old, damp towel for a minute. The steam must loosen the bottoms, because they just slide right out. I thank my mom for this tip."
 – JR via e-mail
- Sprinkle baby powder in dish gloves to help them slide on in an instant.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- During World War II, French actress/dancer Leslie Caron's wealthy family suffered such severe financial reversals that she was once forced to make shoes out of her grandmother's opera gloves.
- Until 1937, it was illegal for men to be topless in the U.S., even on beaches.
- Is there a junk drawer in your house? If so, you're in good company, as a whopping 80 percent of Americans have at least one, but the average household actually boasts three. The most common items found in these catchalls are super glue (57 percent), writing utensils (also 57 percent) and duct tape (51 percent). What's in yours?
 • Gary Kremen, the founder of Match.com, one of the world's largest and most popular online dating websites, lost his girlfriend to a guy she met on Match.com.
- The origin of the phrase "in the limelight" comes from the early days of theater, when spotlights were produced by directing a flame at calcium oxide, or quicklime.
- In 1922, Americans consumed

around 1,000,000 Eskimo Pies a day, which not only hiked up the cost of cocoa beans by 50 percent, but also single-handedly lifted Ecuador's economy out of a depression.

- According to the market research firm Euromonitor International, worldwide chewing gum sales have declined by 15 percent since 2007, the same year that the iPhone came out. The firm attributed the decrease to consumers distracted by their phones in checkout lines, where most gum purchases are made.
- Ichiro Suzuki, baseball's all-time hits leader, learned Spanish solely for the purpose of trash-talking opponents.
- An "endling" is a term used for the last animal of an entire species. When an endling dies, the species is considered extinct.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Respect your efforts, respect yourself. Self-respect leads to self-discipline. When you have both firmly under your belt, that's real power."

– Clint Eastwood

TRIVIA TEST

1. **Geography:** Which country in Africa is the largest in land area?
2. **Music:** What was the original name of the punk rock band Green Day?
3. **U.S. Presidents:** Which president formally declared the executive mansion to be the White House?

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 Contact Lisa 239-395-0153.
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PSA

AL-ATEEN HELP LINE

Are you concerned with a friend or family member's drinking? Call the 24-hour help line of South Florida Al-Anon at 941-564-5098 or visit www.southfloridaal-anon.org.
 4/24 * TFN

Shore Fishing:



Don't Harm The Fish
 by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Landing a big fish from the beach can be hard on the fish. Dragging a fish up onto the sand if you're going to release it is not an option as it usually damages or kills the fish.
 Hold the fish in the water while you unhook it if you're going to release it.
 The less you can touch a fish before release the better for the fish.

If you want a picture with the fish, support it as you lift it out of the water – and do it quickly.

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

Florida residents as well as out of state visitors need a fishing license to fish from shore.

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